



Issue 197

NKRS Newsletter

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Our next meeting will hopefully be at :
The Hurst Community Centre, Room 15, Hurst Place, Bexley, Kent, DA5 3LH



Merry Christmas

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year To all the readers of the NKRS newsletter

2022 Events so far

Date	Event
4th January 2022	Natter Night
18th January 2022	Talk by Robin M0RJY subject TBA
1st February 2022	Chris G0FDZ on his 30 Terahertz (THz)
15 February 2022	To Be Agreed

Welcome to the NKRS Christmas Edition Newsletter

There is not going to be much in this edition but I wanted to get something out for you to read over Christmas to distract you from turkey, mince pies and the terrible Christmas TV programs.

That is if anyone takes the trouble to read this.

NKRS 2021 Christmas Curry

The Christmas curry went well.

Eight of us attended the appointed restaurant and had a very pleasant evening with an excellent meal and good company.

Thanks to all who attended for a great evening.

Christmas Distraction Part 1

Forwarded from John Moore G8DOG with thanks to VMARS

If you can drag yourself out of bed early on Christmas Day, there's a chance to see the International Space Station flying over London.

Look to the west, at around 6:52am, you may spot a single bright star appearing in the sky, and moving fast towards you. It might take a bit of effort to spot it, but once you have, it becomes very obvious in the sky as it races over London.

The reason that you can see the space station at this time of the morning is because the rising sun is still low enough to leave the sky in near darkness and but the space station is high enough to already be reflecting the sunlight making it appear like a small star in the sky.

It'll be pretty much directly overhead for anyone in the southeast, but if you are north of London, you may need to look a tiny bit to the south of the sky above.

It will only be visible for a couple of minutes leaving you time to enjoy Christmas for the rest of the day.

Christmas Distraction Part 1

Received from Nicholas Wilkinson G4HCK of Thurrock Acorns

Good morning

[ARISS end of year SSTV](#) (ARISS Blog Spot link)

The ARISS team will be supporting SSTV operations from the ISS during the period of Dec 26-31. The images will be related to lunar exploration. The transmissions should be available worldwide on 145.800 MHz. The planned mode is PD 120.

Planned start and stop times are currently listed as:

Start - Dec 26 about 18:25 UTC

Stop - Dec 31 about 17:05 UTC

Regards

Eddie G0BKL

Did you ever go to a party an No-one turned up.

Well I never did until now.

Tuesday 21st December was the date of our annual NKRS Xmas get together.

My day started early for me (6.30) as I had a lot to do but one of my "important" jobs was to go to Brick Lane a centre of excellence for Indian food to buy Samosas for the evenings NKRS event. Something I have done now for several years.

After travelling there and back using train foot and underground I then had to go to Downe (Kent) for an important meeting. I then had to meet my daughter in the middle of the surrey countryside for a meal she had arranged.

This was followed by an urgent dash round the A25, M25 and A2 to get to the NKRS meeting place in Sidcup.

There I met Steve G8JZT who had laid out tables ready for people to turn up, Frank G3WMR arrived with biscuits, we were joined by Chris G0FDZ, the tea urn was fired up in anticipation of making everyone tea and coffee, the food was laid out **and no-one turned up.**

This was very disappointing as this has always been well attended in past years.

There had been a few apologies for absence but that was it.

The following 2 pages are from Tony Fishpool G4WIF

As you may be aware Tony has relocated to another area.

Thank you Tony for re-joining the club and the articles you have submitted in the past (and now).

So why would you want a 3D printer? – Tony G4WIF

The answer to that is that right now, I probably don't want one. They aren't quite as "plug in and go" as your modern laser or inkjet printer. The budget 3D printers probably need a whole lot more "fettling" than a really good one (i.e. expensive).

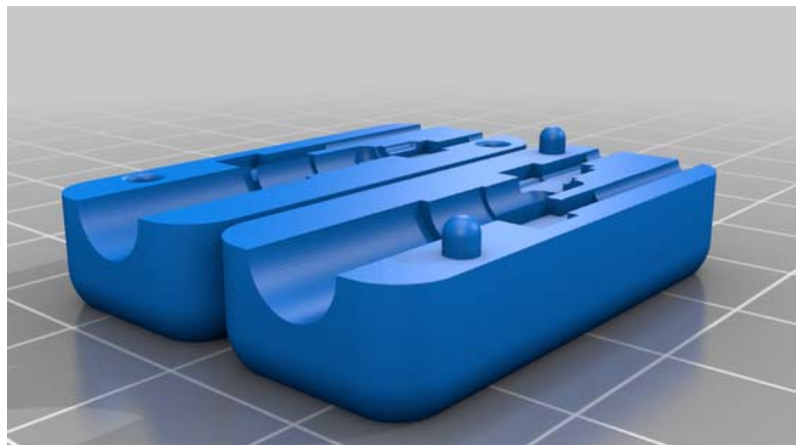
And a "really good one" is what my son has - and how handy that we have moved to within 20 minutes of his home in Wales! [So perhaps the *ideal 3D printer is one that a friend owns?*]

I am an avid reader of "Hackaday" (1). There are a lot of interesting electronics articles published on there. This is where I saw the design for a gadget that adapts your oscilloscope probe to something that you can easily connect into circuits built on a breadboard. These articles invariably point you to where the 3D printing files can be downloaded and which then give the printer the three dimensional instructions they need.

This then leads to my second site to visit. It's called "Thingiverse" (2) where I obtained the files for this adapter.

To the right is the predicted view before printing:-

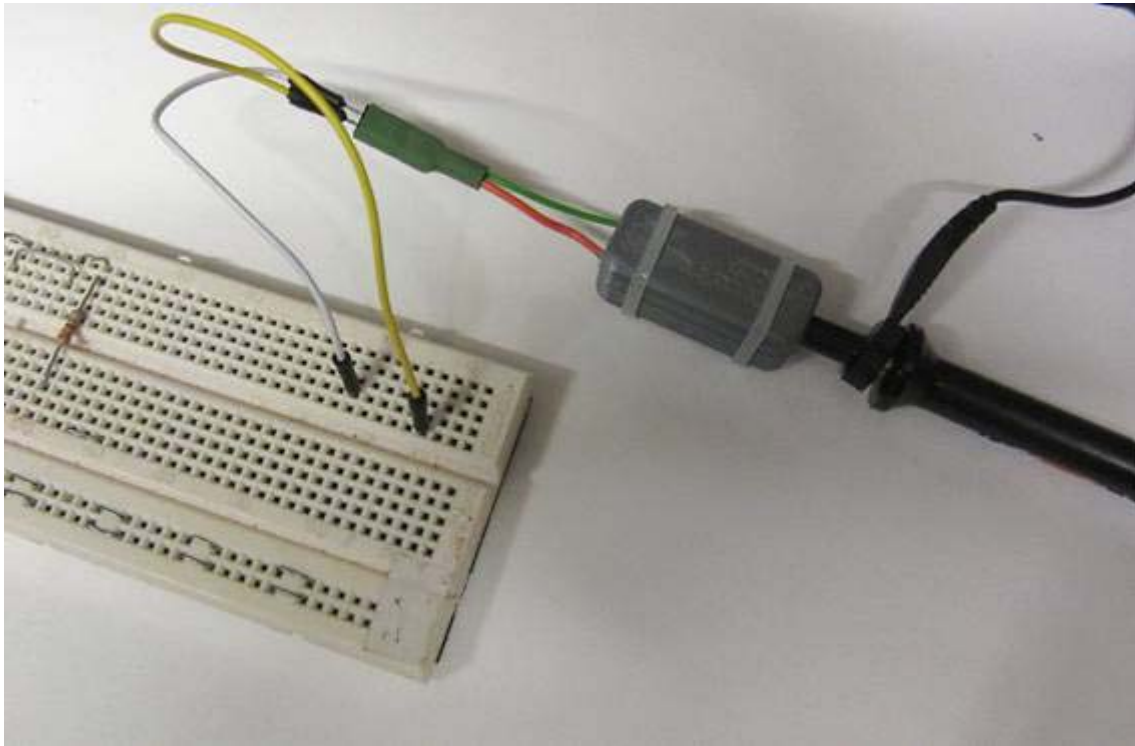
There are services online where you can send these instruction files that will 3D print and then post to you. This is very like the printed circuit fab houses that take your gerber files and send you the completed boards for so little money.



Here is a look at the inside of the printed object and how the probe connects:



Finally my adapter after my son had delivered the finished goods and all I needed to do was to wire up the contacts with bits from my junkbox.



You can see below that I now have a workshop again in our new home in Gloucestershire.

(one does need to get the priorities right!)

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone at North Kent. I hope that the curry was good.



(1) hackaday.com

(2) The probe adapter link: <https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:4935122>

Some local Christmas decorations



These are the Christmas lights on a house in Danson Crescent, in Welling, south-east London

Someone described it as being like Christmas threw up all over it, but I think that is rather unfair.

The lights have a greater purpose than just entertaining the public. The project is now actually in its 17th year of decorations, and remarkably the decorations have raised over £55,000 in total to supply a remote African village with water.

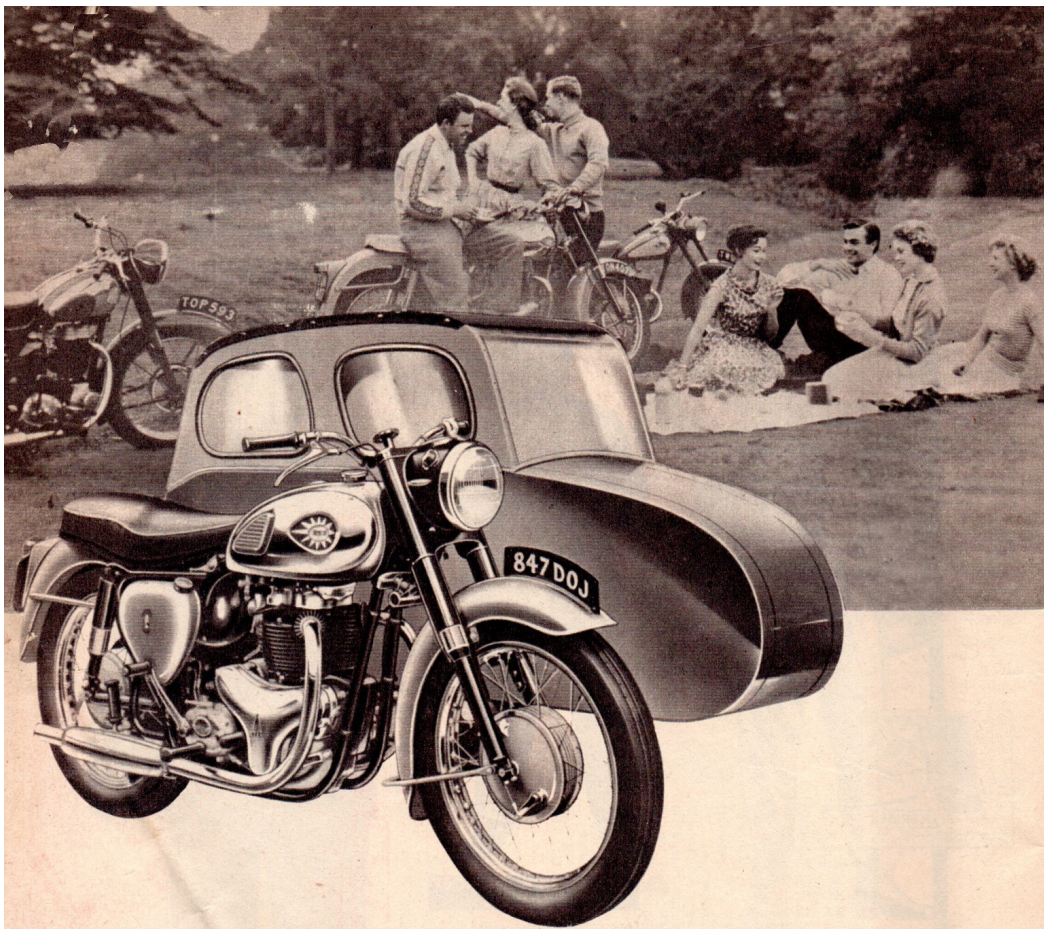
Animals waiting for Christmas



Left
Hungry goats on a farm in Kent.



Right
A robin on a cold frosty morning in Hall Place



ideal transport for the family



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NAME

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Above is just a bit of history for you to ponder over.

How many families would now consider this ideal transport ?

That's all for this issue so I would just like to wish you and your families all the best for a good Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sadly we don't know what the new year is going to bring but please stay safe and hope that we can still meet either physically or electronically in 2022.



The North Kent Radio Society Club Net

Since the resumption of meeting the club net will now take place every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month

Start at 8.30PM on 145.5 and then we move to a convenient clear channel.

Please feel free to join us whether you are a member or not you will be welcome