

## End of the World Last Year

The International Space Station (ISS) sends out Slow Scan Television (SSTV) pictures on Amateur Band frequency 145.800 MHz FM so that anybody can receive the signal (you don't even need a licence) and process it through a computer program (eg MMSSTV) to view the picture.

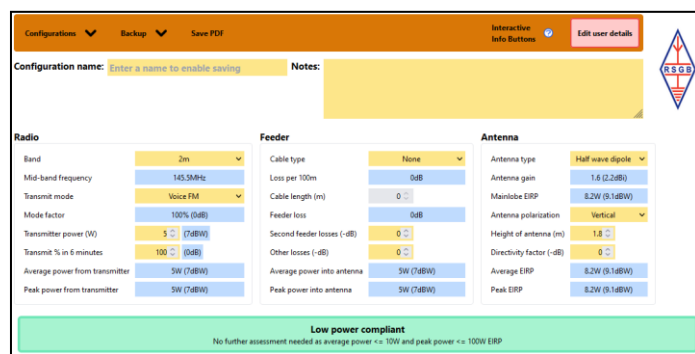
One such opportunity was between 26<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> Dec21. On checking the passes for this event I found that they were from midnight to 8am so I decided to just leave my radio and computer running overnight. Using just the collinear antenna the results the following morning were very poor. The Doppler shift is nearly 7k so leaving the frequency centred cut the reception time per pass. I needed to track the Doppler shift, in the end I used Gpredict tracking software driving OmniRig rig control to set frequency on the FT-991. Setup was tricky but I got there in the end. Over five nights I received 32 pictures of which 12 were reasonable and the one shown above was excellent quality. **Eddie G0BKL**



## What's On in 2022

As always, there is a lot happening at Acorns. Check out the website for the full itinerary of Zoom meetings and Nets. In this issue we focus on just one activity: The Morse (CW) class.

**Stella G0EKP** runs two sessions a week. The first session is on a Sunday at 17.00 hrs. **Daniel M7FDP** who started out with very little knowledge of CW is now nearly at 12 words a minute. The second session is held on Wednesday at 19.00 hours. Normally there are three or four students but with the Christmas holidays and workload issues for one, the number can fluctuate. **Simon M1GGY** who had an understanding of Morse is reaching the 10 words a minute. If you wish to know about "Lolly" ask Simon! Until now we have used mainly Zoom to practice but Stella has told everyone the airwaves must be used soon - just make sure you set the mode to CW Upper Side Band. The picture was taken during the Wednesday session and shows Stella G0EKP Simon M1GGY and **Nick G4HCK**.



## Don't Forget the Rules...

The latest version of the RSGB EMF calculator is here:

<https://rsgb.services/public/software/emccalculator/>

Calculations based on a previous version are still valid, but this one is a little more accurate and so the readings may be to your advantage.

Actually, working out your EMF limitation is not only a requirement, but good fun too.

As with many practical issues in Amateur Radio it can seem daunting or an inconvenience at first, but once you have understood what to do and got a result (rather like receiving a picture from the ISS) there is the reward of a personal satisfaction too.