



<http://www.nkrs.org.uk/>

Issue 199

NKRS Newsletter

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

Date	Event
1st March 2022	Talk by Robin M0RJT subject TBA
15th March 2022	Natter Night
5th April 2022	Talk by Robin M0RJT on his Solar Telescope

Please note that Meetings are open to all, not just members of the NKRS

Congratulations

To our Committee member Ray Gilbert who has now obtained his callsign
M7CXY
Well done Ray !

The next meeting

A talk by one of our members Robin M0RJT.
Please try to attend to give him your support.

Sad News

An email from Dan Glover G6RMA advised me of the death of ex NKRS member Phil Willson G6GTC . Frank G3WMR provided me with more information and the photographs on Page 2.

It appears that Phil Willson died unexpectedly from an undisclosed cause on Tuesday morning, February 8, 2022. He was a very active member in the 1980s and was a committee member and treasurer.

He had a long connection with the RM8 Club and with the Routemaster Association and the link below (sent to me by Daniel G6RMA) shows him driving RM8. This is from the Facebook page of the Routemaster Association.

[Phil RM8](#)

Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.
Please see the photographs on Page 2

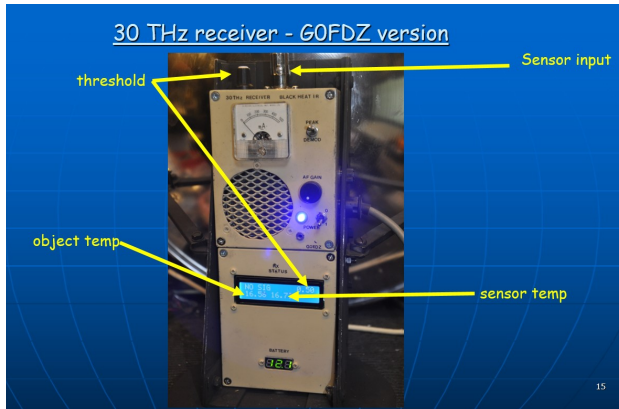
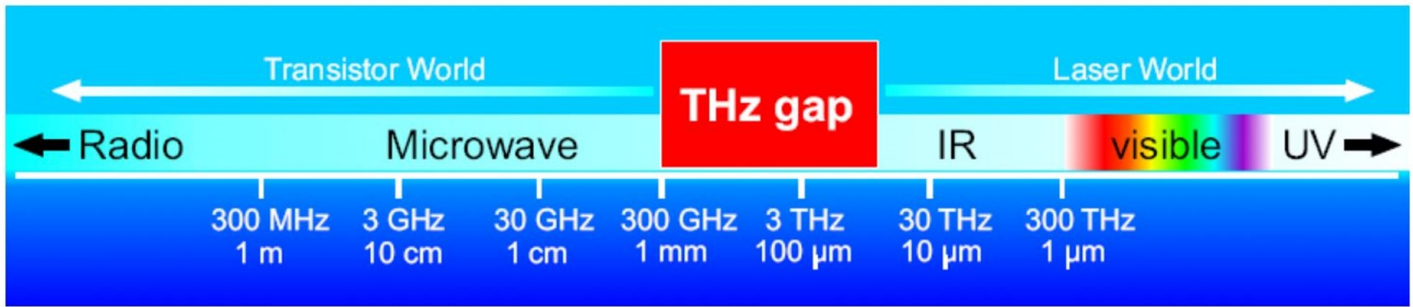


This shows Phil Willson G8GTC Kevin Packard G8MLO and Jim Frampton G6CUE



There are many faces in this one who are sadly no longer with us. Phil is in the front row between Mike Overton G6DBE and Dan Glover G6RMA

Thanks to Frank G3WMR for sending me these photographs.



Chris Whitmarsh G0FDZ gave us an excellent talk on his 30 THz system. He is well known for his innovative designs and his pushing at the barriers of technology so it is no surprise that he has sought new frequencies to explore as well as designing and building the equipment to carry out that exploration.

He started by explaining where the 30 THz section of the spectrum lies and explained that every object in the universe emits electromagnetic waves because its temperature is greater than absolute zero (-273.15°C or 0K = 0

Kelvin).

He went on to cover the design and construction of his 30THz system and explain how QRSS 3 is used as the transmission mode. This means a dot lasts for 3 seconds, so even a short message takes a long time to transmit.

New G0FDZ hot plate source (transmitter)

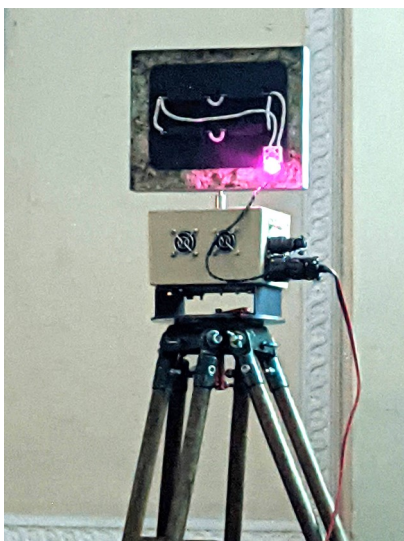
Heat source is four 50 watt 1 ohm resistors in a series /parallel configuration mounted originally on a 3mm thick ally plate

Reflector used now is a custom stainless sheet 'box' with rock wool insulation

•13.8v supply = 138 Watts DC input of heating

•13v 20A SMPU as power source

Source is rotated using a NEMA 17 stepper motor under Arduino control to produce QRSS3



There are new records to be achieved on 30THz. So far the DX is

- 60m (2020) VK3CV and VK3LN using Sun as a reflector source
- 130m (2021) one way G8AGN and G4APV using Sun reflector and QRSS (the site used did not allow a 2 way contact due to layout)
- 130m (2021) one way G8AGN and G4APV using Sun reflector and QRSS (the site used did not allow a 2 way contact due to layout)

Thanks to Chris for his excellent talk and providing me with his PowerPoint presentation to use for illustrations in the newsletter.

Swiss Radio Amateurs are Facing a Fee to Use the QO-100 Satellite

I read this article a few months ago and it seems that Switzerland's telecommunications regulator, Ofcom, **is charging the equivalent of £55** to issue special permits for radio amateurs to use the QO-100 (Es'hail-2) amateur satellite transponders.

According to the USKA website, (UKSA is Switzerland's IARU member-society) the regulator wishes to protect license-exempt users in the 2.4 GHz industrial, scientific, and medical (ISM) band, and Ofcom reserves the right to withdraw the special permit if problems arise.

Those holders of the special permit are entitled to use a transmitter with a maximum output of 100 W PEP for a satellite uplink in the 2400 - 2410 MHz band. As part of their application, radio amateurs must provide coordinates, antenna gain in dBi, antenna height above ground, antenna direction, and a telephone number where the radio amateur can be reached while operating, in addition to the usual name and call sign information.

In Switzerland £55 is not very much but it is perhaps a start for international regulators to investigate charging for other areas of amateur usage.

What is QO-100 satellite station?

QO-100 Satellite Station Amateur radio communication via a geostationary satellite
General info Official satellite name: Es'hail-2. The radio amateurs (AMSAT) designated it Qatar Oscar 100 (QO-100). Satellite built by Mitsubishi Electric Corporation. Weight: 5300 kg Launched: 15-November-2018 by SpaceX from Kennedy Space Center, Florida, USA.

RADIO HISTORY UK a site by G1JWG

While researching something recently I came across a site by G1JWG which gives information on the history and development of Mobile radio, Emergency services and Military radio in the United Kingdom.

He covers the history in 3 sections.

Emergency Services Radio

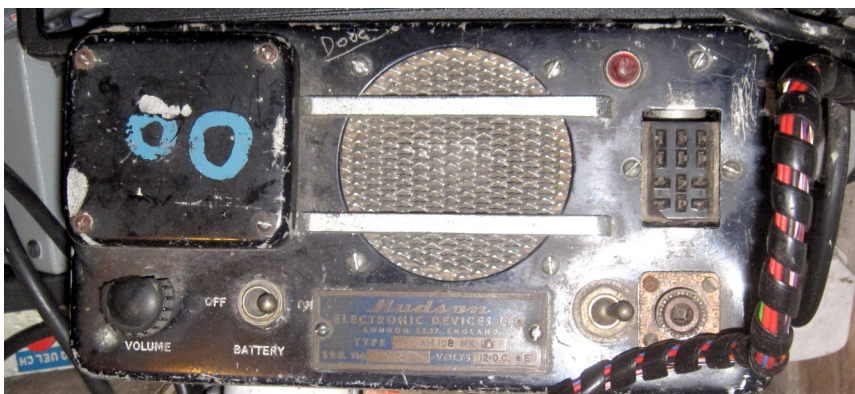
Where he covers the history and development of emergency services radio.

Mobile Radio in the UK

Especially for me an excellent insight into the history and development of Mobile Radio in the UK.

Military Radio

Again an area of special interest to me. The site can be found at <https://radiohistory.uk/index.html> and is very much worth a visit.



Hudson AM108 Mark 3
Dash mounted AM valved
mobile
5 - 7 watts
Circa 1955

This was part of the collection of the late G8EPR

When is a Canal not a Canal ?

When it has been drained.

From Wikipedia

The Hertford Union Canal or Duckett's Cut is just over 1 mile (1.6 km) long in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets in East London. It connects the Regent's Canal to the Lee Navigation. It was opened in 1830 but quickly proved to be a commercial failure. It was acquired by the Regents Canal Company in 1857, and became part of the Grand Union Canal in 1927.



I recently heard that part of the Hertford Union Canal was to be drained for maintenance purposes. As I am often to be found lurking around canals I thought I would take the opportunity to see what it looked like with no water.

There are some opportunities to actually walk along the bed of the canal but the days are limited and booking is required so we thought a walk along the tow path would be good enough. We started at Hackney Wick on the Lee Navigation cut but when we reached the area where the work is taking place

the towpath was closed. Fortunately Victoria park runs alongside the canal so we were able to continue our walk.



Before the drainage could be started, the fish had to be rescued. All fish in the section where the work is taking place had to be carefully recovered from the water and transferred in large buckets for prompt release in adjacent lengths of the canal.

Volunteers assisted in the recovery of debris which included motor bikes and historic artefacts (including a WWII helmet) from the dryish bed of the canal. I am sure dead dogs and mattresses also had to be removed and perhaps some human remains. At the time of our visit there were still a lot of old tyres littering the waterway.

The waterway wall repair work will typically involve the removal of loose and broken brickwork and masonry and replacing with either recovered (where available) or new materials on a like-for-like basis. Open joints will be repointed with lime mortar. The intention is that brickwork and masonry will match the original as closely as possible.



Nice to see signs of spring coming alongside the canal bank.



A bit of canal boat art on a boat moored in the section that still has water.



Left
Nothing to do with the chairs on P7 but these are in a brick lane coffee bar.



Right
A rather attractive Kingfisher carve into a bench on the river Crane



Left & Right
In the village of Beckley is this bridge built in Oak by a local craftsman who we met on our recent visit (see Page 7)



My latest project

Well it's not really my project but it's something I have been helping a friend with.

I have been photographing chairs. Not just any chairs that you could go to IKEA and buy but, I may have this wrong, chairs that come under the classification of historic English Country Furniture. This is to enable my friend to write a book and newsletter as well as cataloguing his collection.

So far I have photographed approaching 100 chairs many of which are from my friends collection but last week we travelled to the village of Beckley to photograph some chairs produced in the village probably around the mid 1800's.

We were met by the Chairperson of the Beckley Village History Society (BVH) and we converted the church hall into a photographic studio for the morning.



Above are the Beckley Chairs. One interesting point in their manufacture is that the curved knobby back (I am sure that is not a technical description) that is seen in number 2 and 6 is made by putting small cuts in the wood between the bulges and this can be seen in the photograph below.



The chair to the left is one of the more unusual ones in my friend's collection. **If you have any old chairs perhaps you could send me a photograph for me to let my friend have a look at.** Maybe you have something lurking in the loft or garage, and some of these can be quite valuable.

That's all for this issue thanks for reading it.