



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

Issue 200

NKRS Newsletter

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

| Date | Event |
|-----------------|--|
| 5TH April 2022 | Mystery night (can't tell you more because it's a mystery) |
| 19th April 2022 | Natter Night |
| 3rd May 2022 | USAF in East Anglia by Ian G7PHD |
| 17th May 2022 | Natter Night |
| 7nd June 2022 | Bring a Thing night (more information nearer the date) |
| 21st June 2022 | Natter Night |
| 5th July 2022 | Talk by Dave subject to be confirmed. |

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

Newsletter 200

So this is newsletter No. 200 since I started this numbering system. Prior to number 001 there were over 100 previous newsletters so that makes over 300 in total.

If I were to think about the number of hours that I have put into them it would probably depress me too much so I won't think about it.

I have tried to make the newsletter as interesting to the readers as possible. I realise that not much of it is about radio but I think for many people (myself included) being interested in radio is just part of my life so I write about other things that I hope others may also be interested in.

Going by the lack of response I get I guess that I have failed.

If I write something that you like or don't like some feedback would be appreciated even if it is negative.

More than that if you are working on a project of visiting somewhere others may find interesting how about writing an article on it for use in the newsletter.

I think it is important for a club to have a newsletter please help it even if that help is criticising what I have written.

Thank you to those that have given me articles and feedback over the years.

Your club needs you

To put it bluntly we need more people to attend meetings.

It may be that you think the meetings are not worth coming to and that may be the case but give us some feedback and tell us that.

One of the problems we have is that when attendance is so low it makes it difficult to ask visiting speakers to come along. Imagine we have a speaker travel 50 miles on a cold wet night to speak to 3 people.

Also it does not give a great incentive to our members to go to great lengths to prepare talks when almost no one comes to listen.

We have moved to a new room on the ground floor. Room 3

This means we now have good access for anyone disabled as it is even wheelchair accessible.

It also means if you want to bring anything along to the club you can do so without humping it up the stairs.

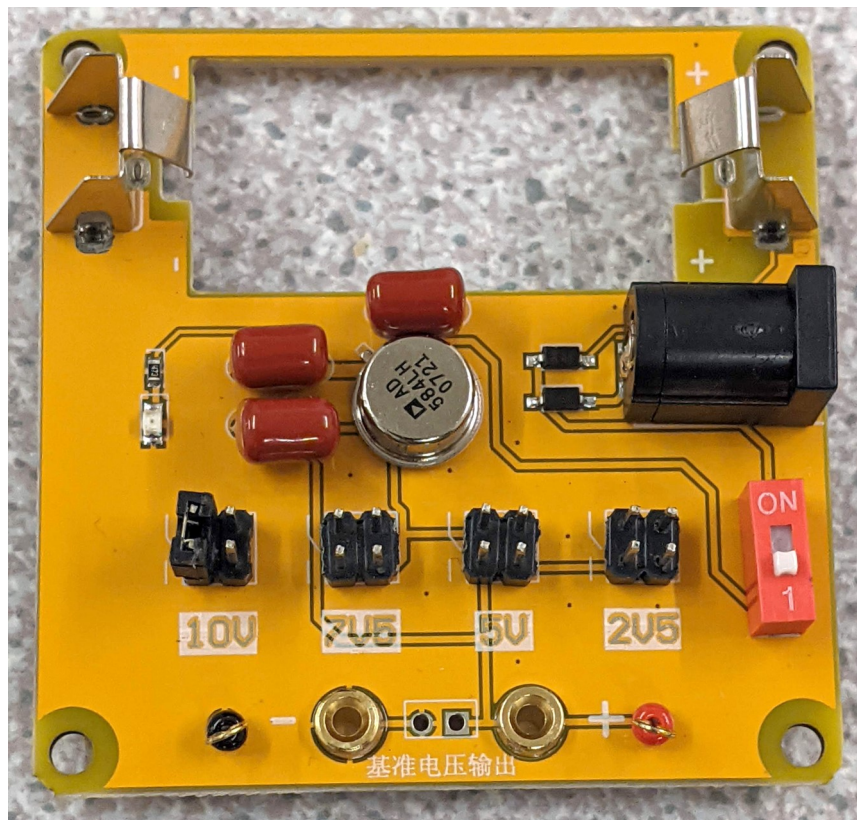
If you know anyone that may have been put off visiting because of the difficult access to our previous room please spread the word and remember **visitors are always welcome**.

The last meeting

Steve G8JZT gave us a talk of him following up an article in the February edition of Radcom regarding the calibration of multimeters.

The article was about the production of a device for producing reference voltages and Steve explained that the device in the article was obsolete and took us through the process of sourcing the right device.

The photograph shows the end result of his work and a number of multimeters were tested, including some almost historic ones.



Thank you Stephen for the interesting talk.

Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome

In August 2021 I visited Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome and wrote about it extensively in Newsletter 193 but I recently revisited it along with G4TNT and his partner.

Just to refresh you (From Wikipedia)

Stow Maries Aerodrome is a historical airfield located in the village of Stow Maries, Essex, England. The airfield was in use by the Royal Flying Corps (latterly the Royal Air Force) during the First World War. It has been given listed status on account of being the best preserved airfield complete with First World War era buildings and is open to the public as a visitor attraction.

Since I last visited, a number of changes have been made to their exhibits so I have included some photographs.



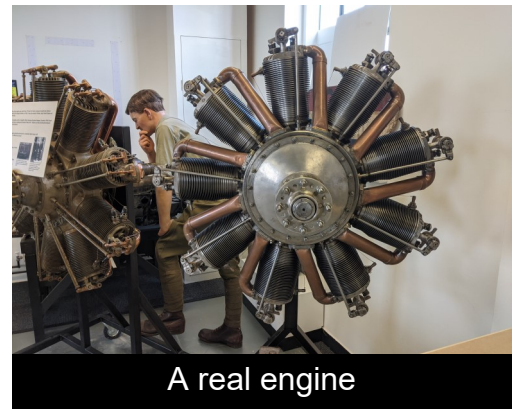
Motor pool



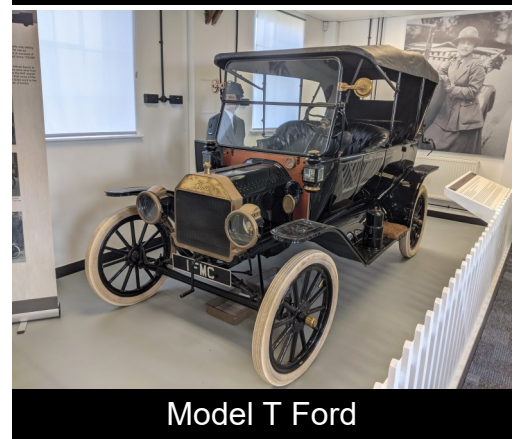
Nice selection of propeller's



Munitions worker



A real engine



Model T Ford

The aerodrome is a work in progress so even if you have been before it is worth another visit and ,according to our guide ,they are in the process of setting up a communications exhibit.

One great thing about visiting the site is how nice the staff are and I would recommend doing a tour with one of their guides who are excellent and well informed. The on site café provides excellent meals and snacks.

The London Canal Museum

Those of you who know me will realise that I have spent a lot of time around canals, from when I was at school to today when I walk around them.

When a friend called me and said that the London Canal Museum had an open day I considered all the things that I should have been doing and decided to go there instead.

The museum is located in the Kings Cross area of London just a short distance from Granary Square. It is between Battlesbridge Basin (off the Regent Park Canal) and New Wharf Road in and old Ice House that once belonged to Carlo Gatti but more about him later.

In Victorian times Ice Houses were a thriving business and there were many in this area of London where access to the Regent Canal was easy. Ice was imported from Norway and distributed around London as in those days ice could not be made in factories. Apart from rich households the ice was used by butchers, hospitals, fishmongers and ice cream makers.



Carlo Gatti born 1817 was of Italian Swiss descent and the story told is that he walked from Switzerland Paris to find work and not having any success he came to England in 1847 and lived in the Italian community in Holborn.

Initially he ran a stall selling waffles and chestnuts. In 1849 in partnership with some others he opened a cafe and restaurant which specialised in selling chocolate and ice cream. They took ice for the ice cream from Regent Canal under a contract with the Regent Canal Company. Their shop was the first to sell ice cream to the public; previously, ice cream was an expensive treat confined to rich people with access to an ice house.



ICE CART MODEL

This model dates from the 1890s. Gatti's yellow ice carts were a familiar London sight until the 1940s. Drawn by one or two horses, they distributed ice from depots all over London.

Later he moved into the music hall business and returned to Switzerland in 1871, leaving his businesses in the hands of members of his family and he died a millionaire. In 1849.

The museum has extensive information on the life of Mr Gatti.

One of the highlights of the visit was a trip through the Islington Tunnel which is the longest canal tunnel in London.

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The Battlebridge Basin from the museum

The Islington Tunnel takes the Regent Canal 960 yards (878 m) under The Angel Islington and opened in 1818. The pavements above are waymarked so the otherwise discontinued towpaths are connected. The canal runs under Chapel Street market and therefore under the well-known (to me at least) vegetarian Indian restaurant.

At its eastern end is the City Road Lock and the City Road Basin. I have often peered through the tunnel from the eastern end but never been into it before.

We finished with an excellent meal in a cheap café off Pentonville Road and a walk down Grays Inn Road. A good day out.



Left to Right
Battlebridge Basin



Entry from the West



In the tunnel



Left to Right
Entry from the East



City Road Lock



Exiting to the west

**“On hearing the all-clear...
you may resume normal activities.”**

(Page 24, 'Protect & Survive' The Home Office)



Protect and Survive !

The picture above is from a poster circa 1980 issued by the GLC to highlight the inadequacy of the government's advice to civilians in the event of a nuclear attack .It was (and may still be) reliant on a pamphlet called "Protect and Survive".

Protect and Survive was a document produced by the British government between 1974 and 1980 for civil defence purposes. It was intended to advise the population on how to protect themselves during a nuclear attack. I don't think there have been any further updates.

In college I studied radiation and our lecturer for the biological effects of radiation was one of the medical team sent to Hiroshima after the cessation of hostilities in that part of the world. We ended up knowing more than we wanted to know about the effects of being near to a nuclear strike.

What would happen to London in a nuclear attack

If you want to find out how London would survive after an attack you can.

Go to the following site

<https://nuclearsecrecy.com/nukemap/>

It defaults to Sheffield but you can use the drop down box to select London and all the other variants you require before pressing the red button. **Enjoy !**





Above is the tangle of lines that enter Victoria station with Battersea power station in the background.

On the right is a shop on the Pentonville Road that I thought looked rather attractive. Peering through the window it appears to sell only bottled beer.



That's all for this issue hopefully see you at the meeting but don't forget the room change.

We are now in Room 3 on the ground floor.

Any compliments or criticisms of the newsletter to the email address on page 1 of the newsletter please.

Stay safe and enjoy the sunshine.

Dave 25/03/2020



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