



e-DEFENCE ELECTRONICS NEWSLETTER

The e-NEWSLETTER OF THE DEFENCE ELECTRONICS HISTORY SOCIETY
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EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

eDEN 42 opens with this picture of a Chinook helicopter bringing emergency supplies past York Minster yesterday to aid the city's flood defences, a timely reminder of one of the themes of our forthcoming **Autumn Symposium on Thursday, 6th October**. This event will be held jointly with our Affiliated Society, the **Vintage and Military Amateur Radio Society, VMARS**, and together we are assembling an outstanding exhibition and an 'all-star' cast of speakers, including **Peter Butcher** covering **Emergency Services Communications**, HMS Collingwood's **Clive Kidd** on **Naval Mobile Communications from the Boer War onwards**, and **Wing Commander Jeff Jefford** on **'Blue on Blue'**, the fratricidal case when all communications prove futile.

Our **Burns Lecture** will take place on **Wednesday 13th April**, and we are delighted that the distinguished author and Institute of Physics Kelvin Medallist **Graham Farnelo** will address DEHS on **'Winston Churchill – A Nuclear Pioneer?'** Graham's book **'Churchill's Bomb'** about the early British development of nuclear weapons received huge international acclaim, and we are indeed fortunate to have secured such an outstanding speaker – **book now, on the form attached!**

DEHS members' responses to last month's **eDEN** generated more pages than the original 88 of our Xmas Bumper Number! I've therefore held material over to next month, to give a balance of new articles and replies. In this month's issue, we open with **Ops Board** which is extended to cover our own and Affiliate events, from **MRATHS** and from the **Newcomen Society**. Our feature article is provided by **David Robertson**, whose topic is **Alec Reeves of Oboe and PCM fame**, long a subject of David's interest and researches. David does not shrink from Alec's driving interest in spiritualism, a subject of considerable interest to many in the 1920s and 30s, with many distinguished scientists and personalities among its adherents; it is high time writers were more open about this topic. **Clive Kidd** provides a useful **website of WW1 sources**, and a reading of **James Halley's 'K File'** poses new questions on the **Daventry Experiment Heyford** and its **Marconi radios**. **Mike Dean** turns up a new **MB transmitter manufacture photo**, and in response to member pleas, I print the details of the **R1080 Beetle receiver!** **Derek Wood's 'Attack Warning Red'** and **Phil Racher** provide answers to last month's questions on the **'Darky'** system, and **Phil Racher** goes on to discuss, with photos and diagrams, the **avionics of the Avro Lancaster**. **MRATHS' Hugh Williams** responds to **Mike Dean's** challenge with information on the **Malvern dish of the 1960s**, and finally, **Tailpiece** poses a query on a mystery photo which might – or might not – be a photo of the **LOP/GAP missile**; and no, again we don't have the answer! More thoughts and input, please!

As always, suggestions for improvements, offers of articles and all general comments to me at philjudkins@btinternet.com or info@dehs.org.uk.
Dr. Phil Judkins, DEHS Chairman.

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