



e-DEFENCE ELECTRONICS NEWSLETTER

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RUSSELL BURNS LECTURER 2018: PROF SIMON WATTS

In wishing all DEHS members and their projects every success in 2018, I am especially delighted to announce that the Russell Burns Lecture for 2018 will be delivered by DEHS member **Professor Simon Watts**. Simon graduated from the University of Oxford in 1971, obtained an MSc and DSc from the University of Birmingham in 1972 and 2013 respectively, and a PhD from the CNA A in 1987. He was deputy Scientific Director and Technical Fellow in Thales UK until 2013 and is a Visiting Professor in the department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering at University College London. He joined Thales (then EMI Electronics) in 1967 and worked on a wide range of radar and EW projects, with a particular research interest in maritime radar and sea clutter. He is author and co-author of over 80 journal and conference papers, a book on sea clutter and several patents, and was chairman of the international radar conference RADAR-97 in Edinburgh UK. Professor Watts received the IEE JJ Thomson Premium Award in 1987 and the IEE Mountbatten Premium Award in 1991. He serves on the IEEE AESS Radar Systems Panel, is an Associate Editor for Radar for the IEEE Transactions AES, and a member of the Editorial Board of IET Radar, Sonar & Navigation. He was appointed MBE in 1996 for services to the UK defence industry and is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, Fellow of the IET, Fellow of the IMA and Fellow of the IEEE.

Two members have come forward to organise events both for 2018 and for 2019. Our President, **Keith Thrower**, well deserves our most grateful thanks for undertaking the task of organising 2018's Russell Burns Lecture, which will take place at **STEAM, Swindon on Wednesday 30 May**, when, in

addition to Simon, both **Keith** and **Peter Butcher** will also provide lectures; we look to your full support – **the booking form is attached, fill it in NOW before 2018 gets in the way!**

For 2019, **Dr Mike Diprose** is arranging a Conference devoted to very long-term conservation both of our artefacts and of our records of them. This is a subject about which your Editor is asked more than any other – “What will happen to all this after the present generation?” - and several articles in this issue are devoted to stimulating your thoughts and discussion as preparation for this 2019 event – so please think about it and ideally, write or present a paper there.

In January 2018, our good friends in **MRATHS, the Malvern Radar and Technology History Society**, have two particularly interesting talks, featured in Ops Board; make your way to Malvern, where they promise a warm welcome and intriguing discussions on the **U-2 spy plane** and on the earliest, **prototype, ROTOR building**.

eDEN this month opens with the answers to our 2017 Christmas Quiz (how many did you get right?) followed by news on one of the featured Quiz pictures – a plaque at **Cologne/Koln’s Hohenzollern Bridge** in honour of **Christian Hülsmeier**, in which DEHS member **Prof. Hugh Griffiths** has been a prime mover. We then feature the DEHS visit to the **Science Museum Store, Blythe House** (many thanks to **Liz Bruton** and **John Liffen**), and two articles take up the theme of addressing the challenges to conservation of collections, both of artefacts and of papers - “**After We’re Gone**” and “**The Hewlett Packard Archive**” both stimulated by information via DEHS Australian member **John Kaesehagen** – before turning to consider the projected very long-term conservation conference in 2019, to be organised by **Dr Mike Diprose**, aimed at identifying some answers.

John “Jacey” Wise next continues his fascinating study of **Royal Naval Radio Warfare 1900 – 1945**, followed immediately by the second of **Peter Marland’s** outstanding papers, this time on **Postwar Weapons in the Royal Navy**. We then come right up to the minute with a series of extracts from the official reports on **recent US Navy Collisions** (many thanks to member **Antony Devereux**). **Thales** has announced contracts for its **AN/PRC-148C Improved Multiband Inter-Intra Team Radio (IMBITR)**, and an “old friend” rises again in **Tailpiece - Saxa Vord returns!**

Part II this month focusses on **Jamming and Window**, the province of our good friends and colleagues in the **Association of Old Crows**, whose work we celebrate. We open with a 1990 article from the AOC’s **Journal of Electronic Defense** on **Radar ECCM in World War II** by **Stephen L Johnston**, which, in presenting a US view, reminds us that *eDEN* should give rather more space than it has so far to matters in the Pacific in World War II, and this we will try to rectify in 2018. Next, we look at the **briefing paper on Jamming** prepared by Britain’s TRE for a visit by the renowned **Dr Fred Terman**, and its supporting TRE Report on **Performance Specification for Receivers to Minimise Jamming Effects** by **Sidney Jefferson**, one of the earliest pre-war radar receiver specialists. We pause for a quick explanation of **how searchlight detachments were organised to make best use of radar**, before plunging into **British Army Notes**, the first on **Jamming and Anti-Jamming**, and the second a more technical look at **Jamming and Interference**, the aim being to understand what the people on the ground were told about EW. We round off by one answer from contemporary Air Ministry files to a question I am often asked - **How Many Types of Window?** Tailpiece II draws from the recent obituary to one of the participants in the **D-Day EW Operation Glimmer**, that of **Phil Brentnall of 218 Squadron**.

As always, suggestions for improvements, offers of articles and all general comments to me at philjudkins@btinternet.com or info@dehs.org.uk – and once again, a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

Dr. Phil Judkins, DEHS Chairman.

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