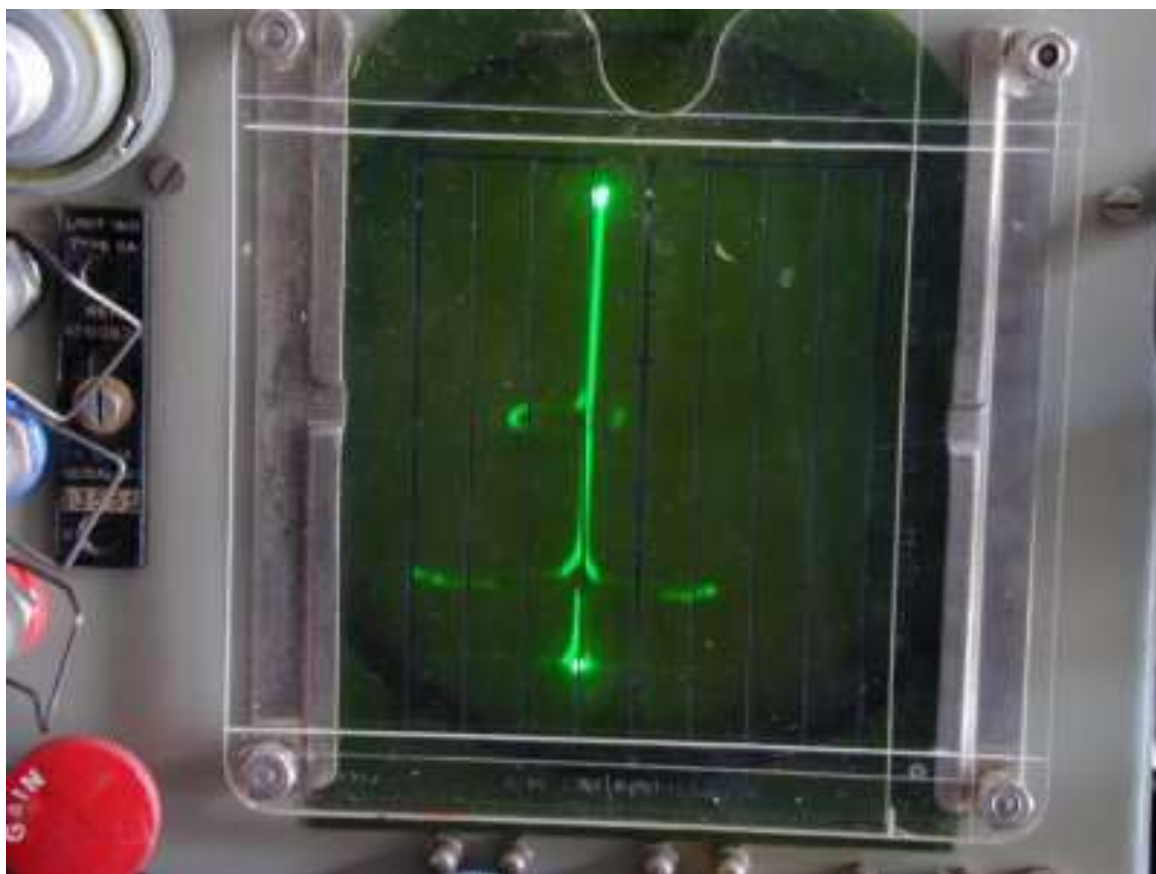




e-DEFENCE ELECTRONICS NEWSLETTER

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EARLY ASV AND AI EXHIBITS “IN STEAM” AT STEAM! LAST CHANCE TO BOOK FOR BURNS LECTURE

This month, our distinguished Burns Lecturer is **Professor Simon Watts**, who has chosen **RAF Airborne Maritime Surveillance Radar** as his theme. To accompany Simon, **Dr Mike Diprose**, **Tony Waller** and your Editor have joined to provide a unique display of early airborne radars, both **ASV – ASV II – and its sibling AI, with AI 4, AI 6, AI 8 and AI 10** – the aim being that, with crossed fingers, these will have **WORKING** display units (targets provided by simulators of course!). As far as we are aware, there is no other such display anywhere else in the world. The equipment was that of **Norman Groom**, who, now retired from Pitstone Green Farm Museum, passed across the ownership of these equipments, intending that they should be seen by as wide an appreciative audience as possible. A preview is provided in Part II, and simulations can be viewed on the Pitstone Museum website <http://www.pitstonemuseum.co.uk/> **Visit the website, see the animations, then come to STEAM, and see the real thing!**

This month's eDEN main articles open with a 1932 article on **early listening devices**, particularly the **Goertz sound locator**, by **Prof Dr Christian von Hofe** and **Dr Hans Raaber**. We follow this with the autobiographical account of the life of **John Scott-Taggart**, one of the best-known UK writers of home-constructural wireless articles of the 1920s and 30s, and in particular **his evacuation of his radar unit from France in 1940**, for which we also provide a copy of his original official report, complete with manuscript amendments; note that his transmitter unit then left behind was the unit investigated by German intelligence, on which they based certain views of British radar. **Scott-Taggart** will appear in a later role, in two articles on Part II of this issue of eDEN! We next look across to **Japan**, where **S/Ldr Mike Dean MBE** asks for our help in tracing **Japanese Type A radar**, and then come back to the UK, to read the first of two articles by **M B Scanlan of the GEC Labs**, this first article concentrating on his detailed experiences on **Chain Home** – one of the best articles your Editor has read on this subject. For those interested in **intercept**, we then move back to the Pacific War and the intriguing case of the **US Navajo code-talkers**, whose much-modified version of their Navajo language proved unintelligible to the Japanese during the island-hopping invasions of the hard-fought Pacific campaign. **Tailpiece** brings us back to the present, and to **Saxa Vord and its TPS-77**.

In **Part II**, we open with our description of the feast of talks which await us at **STEAM – last chance to book, form attached, fill it in NOW!** – and then **Norman Groom** describes his rebuild of the equipment you will find in our display there - in working order, last minute gremlins permitting! Next, we consider **World War II ASV radar** in terms of the investigations made into its performance by the **Operational Research teams of the RAF**, from the masterly Official History account by **C H Waddington**. We follow with the second article in this eDEN by GEC's **M B Scanlan**, this time into early **British RAF centimetric ground radars**, and an Army radar counterpart is given by **REME's Captain Pearson** on **coast artillery radars** and how they were maintained. Readers will observe how **John Scott-Taggart** appears in both narratives, setting a record for appearances in different articles in the same issue of eDEN! **Tailpiece** shows Norman Groom's full-size reproduction of a Lancaster bomber forward section - including pilot, nav, flight eng and wireless op's positions.

This month's **Operations Board** focusses on the IET, with something for everyone – but note in particular the visits to the radio station at **Baldock**, to **Air Salvage International** (what do they do with the radios?) and the two visits to **Farnborough**. Most of all, note the **MRATHS** lecture on **Satellite ID**, and **Mike Diprose's IET lectures and displays** at the **South Yorkshire Air Museum, Doncaster**, which will also display **the ASV and AI units to be shown at STEAM!**

Part III we devote to the life and career of **Philip Mayne Woodward** (1919 – 2018) with material created by **MRATHS** for the celebration of Philip's life, by kind permission of **Susan Bond**, Philip's executor; **David Whitaker**, who created the display posters reprinted here; and the ever-helpful **Hugh Williams** for added information. It would be wonderful if more followed this excellent example of celebration of our defence scientists' and engineers' lives and passed them to us for publication, for this is how true history is written!

On a personal note, a bad fall has left your Editor's wife with a spinal injury, so please bear with me as my ever-busy correspondence may be delayed (but keep it coming!). Huge help on this eDEN has been provided by **Mike Dean**, to whom, as ever, my most grateful thanks.

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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