

# UK Microwave Group

## Spectrum Report - 2007



### Forum Membership

Julian G3YGF joined the Spectrum Forum around Xmas 2006. We would like to record our thanks and congratulations to Mike, G3PFR, on being made an RSGB Vice President for his lifetime of service to Microwaves.

### Successes

#### Beacons

UKuG has made special efforts to improve service levels on a number of beacons. We also welcome the recent improvement in beacon licence approvals.

The Microwave Beacon Engine (MBE-21) project is progressing. An early demonstration board has been trialled at Martlesham and further work is underway to improve its phase noise as well as bolstering the team. It is hoped to have fuller demonstration at the next Martlesham roundtable in Nov-2007. It is quite an ambitious and complex design, so UKuG are considering making a more basic option available in the short term.

#### Beginners Workshops

Following the first workshop in May 2006 this has proven to be very successful. Additional workshops have been held as follows

- 30-Sep-2006: Microwave Beginners Workshop-2 - FRARS, Dorset
- 11-Nov-2006: Microwave Beginners Workshop-3 - Martlesham
- 3-Mar-2007: Microwave Beginners Workshop-4 - Telford
- 9-Jun-2007: Microwave Beginners Workshop-5 - Torbay

#### Round Tables

In the period well attended Roundtables have been held at Crawley, Martlesham and RAL.

#### Radcom

It is pleasing to see a reasonable amount of space (every two months) available to Sam Jewell's microwave column – much appreciated

### Opportunities

A more northerly venue is under consideration for an additional Roundtable/workshop. We believe there is also scope for closer collaboration with other microwave groups.

### Failures

Winter Contests - These were introduced into the 2007 programme as an experiment. The Jan/Feb ones did not attract much activity. It remains to be seen if the Nov/Dec-2007 ones will fare any better - this contrasts with the general rise in activity at other times.

### Threats

Quite a number of members are concerned by the uncertainty and potential impact of the 2012 Olympics on Spectrum. – not just for the period but in respect of retention afterwards.