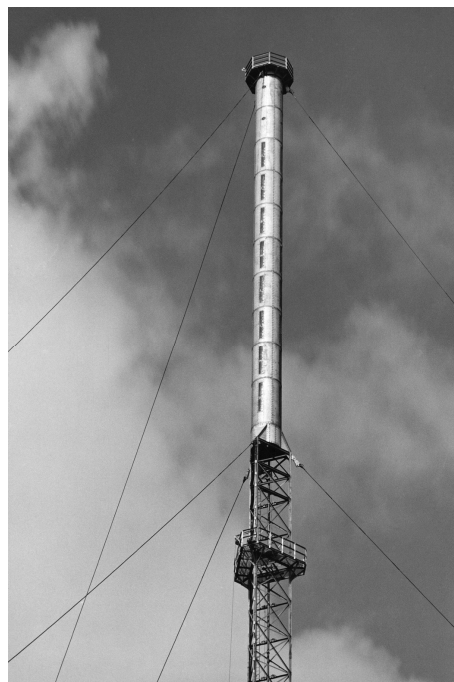


19 May 2010 at 13:00 in SB329

History! the Introduction of Frequency Modulation for Sound Broadcasting in Britain

Tony Davies (visiting professor)

Britain played a pioneering role in the development of television, with the introduction of the world's first high-definition (405-line) broadcast service in 1936. This was a major advance over many competing systems in USA, Germany and Britain. By contrast, FM sound broadcasting in Britain did not begin until 1955, initially only for listeners in the south-east of England, long after its introduction in USA and some countries in continental Europe. The talk will review the background to this introduction to FM in Britain, illustrated by photos of transmitting and receiving equipment, and the subsequent developments and impact.



Initial Wrotham VHF antenna for VHF sound broadcasting

2m diameter, 32 metre long cylinder, 32 vertical slots, Horizontally-polarized, 25kW
Band II (87.5-108 MHz)



Typical receiver valve of the time