

## **Astronomy Talk 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

### **Meteor Recording**

This Zoom talk was given by Bill Coombes G4ERV, a BNSS member. 42 attended.

The subject is about seeing meteors using radio. However, Bill covered the differences between meteors, meteorites and meteoroids, and went on to look at all sky cameras as a way of seeing meteors. About 40,000 tonnes of debris is estimated to fall on Earth each year, and particles may be found when you clean your gutters.

There are several radio sources, and Bill talked about the GRAVES radar system in Dijon, which is designed to be a satellite tracker. Meteors reflect this signal with a bleep lasting up to 20 seconds.

Bill then went on to cover what equipment, including software and Yagi-Uda antennas, you need. He then demonstrated some of this working.

There are a number of groups you can join, e.g. The BAA Meteor Group. The best time for observation is around 6:00 a.m. when your location is at the front of Earth's movement round the Sun, thus increasing impact velocities. Bill sets a timer from midnight to 8:00 a.m. on his equipment.

Bill gave us a list of useful links for those interested in following up further.

Afterwards Kate Earl gave a short talk on "Moonbounce": bouncing radio signals off the Moon as a way of communication, and Bob Mizon gave a short talk on what's to see this month.