

## **Astronomy Talk 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

### **The Story of Radio Astronomy**

This Zoom hybrid talk was given in the hall by the chairman. 41 attended online with 21 in the hall.

We started with the nineteenth century and James Clerk Maxwell's equations that foresaw radio waves, and then to the pre-war history including Karl Jansky and Grote Reber.

The war helped develop some techniques, and both Jodrell Bank and the Cambridge group sprang out of this experience. We looked at Hey, Lovell, Ryle and Hewish's achievements, including interferometry, and then at techniques used to improve resolving power.

Then we looked at what radio astronomy has discovered, including CMB (cosmic microwave background) radiation, pulsars, quasars, blazars and AGN (active galactic nuclei). These include radio galaxies with all sorts of radio emission structures.

Lastly, we looked at the 21 cm hydrogen line, and what we can learn from the study of neutral hydrogen.