

**Thurs 25 Jan 2024,
19:00 for 19:30**

FREE ENTRY

Venue

**Van Emden Theatre, Edith Morley
Building (No 1)
Whiteknights campus, University of
Reading
RG6 6UR**

Contact

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Berkshire

Maritime Surveillance Radars for the RAF after 1945 Hunting submarines and ships

Simon Watts

Lecture starts at 19:30

Tea/coffee available from 19:00.

At the end of World War 2 the Royal Air Force and Fleet Air Arm were using a large number of difference radars for airborne maritime reconnaissance, known as ASV. These were a mixture of US and British designs and were used on many different aircraft.

After the end of the war, the emphasis was on providing British radars for the new aircraft being developed for the RAF. Initially these were based on war-time designs, with ASV 7A in the Lancaster GR3 and ASV 13 in the Shackleton MR1. In 1959 the first newly developed post-war ASV radar, ASV 21, entered service in the Shackleton MR2 and MR3 and later in the Nimrod MR1. Then in 1980 the Searchwater radar arrived in the Nimrod MR2. This was a totally new concept in radar design for ASV, with digital signal processing and computer data processing. The final British ASV development for the RAF was for the Nimrod MRA4, but this was cancelled in 2010. The RAF now have the Boeing P8A Poseidon MRA1, with the AN/APY-10 radar.

This talk will describe the design and operation of these post-war radars, the aircraft they were used in and the performance they achieved, detecting ships and submarines.

