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Shuttle Success On Slow Scan TV

During the recent Space Shuttle 'Challenger' flight, astronaut Dr Tony England, WOORE successfully transmitted slow scan TV pictures to earth. Despite the problems at the start of the mission, some very good pictures were received.

S22 or 145.550MHz was kept fairly quiet by the 'policemen' during the Shuttle passes so most of the country had good reception. The pictures were transmitted using the three slow scan systems: 36 second line sequential colour, 24 second colour and 8 second black and white. Five different pictures were seen at the G4TVC QTH, either direct on an 8s system or QSP'd from Roddy, G3CDK. By far the best picture seen was of WOORE sitting (or floating) on the right of the frame. The badges on his shirt were quite visible. This was a good colour picture using the 36s system. The final picture was an outside view looking over the tail of 'Challenger' with the cloud formations on earth showing up well.

Although some of the experiments on Challenger were a bit of a flop, the amateur SSTV transmissions were very successful and we hope NASA will continue these amateur radio exploits.

Jack Darby.

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73's Dave Gadsden, G4NXV, Advertisement Manager