

5 March 2019, Rome, Italy

To the kind attention of the AESS QEB Editorial Board

## Celebrating the UNESCO RADIO DAY 2019 in Italy

The Italian AES Chapter is proud to share with the AESS community the project to rebuild the Chiaruccia Tower in Santa Marinella (Italy) along with its Marconi Radio Stations under the patronage of Princess Elettra Marconi.

Indeed, the Chiaruccia Tower and the Marconi Labs were destroyed in 1944 during WWII with a significant historical loss of the heritage on radio communications.

Yet, this past February 2019, shortly beforehand the 2019 2nd QEB, the town Mayor and the President of CReSM Marconi Radio Electric Experimental Center announced the aforementioned remarkable program.

The excerpt reported hereafter has been provided by Prof. Livio Spinelli, Advisor of Princess Elettra Marconi and Head of the Project Science Park G. Marconi.

Best regards,

Alfonso Farina- Italian AES Chapter Chair

Marco Maffei – Italian AES Chapter Vice Chair & Treasurer

## WORLD RADIO DAY UNESCO, Feb. 2019

## PROJECT TO REBUILD MARCONI'S CHIARUCCIA TOWER DESTROYED IN WWII

Livio Spinelli \*

## **MARCONI CHIARUCCIA TOWER**







1935 Now

**Project to rebuilt** 

The "Science Park Guglielmo Marconi" - Santa Marinella (Rome) Italy, that was inaugurated last October 2018 (1) inside the base of the Italian Air Force, organized for the UNESCO World Radio Day (2) a programme to honour Guglielmo Marconi under the patronage of Princess Elettra Marconi and in cooperation with ARI (Italian Radioamateurs Association), CSMI (Italian Association of Marconi Radio Stations), YOTA Italy Youngsters (Radioamateurs On The Air of from) IARU \*\*\*\* Region 1.

In 1932 Marconi established in Santa Marinella at Chiaruccia Tower the Radioelectric Experimental Centre where he was the first in the world to do researches and experiments about microwaves applied to mobile phones, RADAR and TV until 1937. In April 1935 in this lab Marconi successfully tested his first RADAR station. According to the Marconi Company Archives in Britain (3): "...Marconi had asked the company's factory in Genoa to build him a small transmitter of 50-centimetre wavelength, with a receiver to match. In April, while testing them at Torre Chiaruccia in Santa Marinella, he bounced radio waves off his car, driven back and forth by his chauffeur, and then off a circling aircraft. At every stage, the British parent company was kept informed of these experiments. In December 1935 the British government asked the Marconi company to design and manufacture the transmitting 'curtain' antenna arrays for the first five 'Chain Home' radar stations, covering the Thames Estuary and approaches to London. The transmitter was designed by Metropolitan Vickers and the receiver and display unit by A.C. Cossor Ltd. In May 1937 came an order for providing similar arrays for 20 additional stations. Without the protection given by these radar stations, the Battle of Britain three summers later would almost

certainly have been lost." During WWII the Chiaruccia Tower and the Marconi Labs were destroyed in 1944, now for the UNESCO RADIO DAY 2019 the Mayor of the Town of Santa Marinella and the President of CReSM Marconi Radio Electric Experimental Center presented to Princess Elettra the project to rebuild the Chiaruccia Tower and its Marconi Radio Stations and invited the radio amateurs from all over the world to support this project and upon each stone there will be engraved the call sign of the radio amateurs who will help to rebuild the tower.

The venues were Chiaruccia Tower and the Santa Severa Castle where the Mayor of Santa Marinella signed an agreement with the President of the TITANIC Fundacion from Spain Mr Jesus Ferrero Rua who built up a huge model of the TITANIC ship and its radio cabin, and they want to make a joint venture to rebuilt Marconi's Yacht Elettra.

\*Prof. Livio Spinelli is advisor of Princess Elettra Marconi and Head of the Project Science Park G. Marconi

- (1) http://italyunzipped.blogspot.com/2018/10/guglielmo-marconi-22-ott-inaugurazione.html
- (2) https://www.diamundialradio.org/node/1935
- (3) Excerpts from the Marconi Company Archives <a href="http://www.marconicalling.co.uk/">http://www.marconicalling.co.uk/</a>