

N.Z. RADIO



LEAGUE

# New Zealand DX Times

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New Zealand Radio DX League (est 1948)

July 2006 Volume 58 Number 8

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## QSL Verification Card



Photo: T2F Dipole Antenna for Remote Monitoring System, TWR- India, Kohima, Nagaland



*Txn*

*July 18th 2006*

*Tx*

*Alma Aty*

*Freq*

*9380 kHz*

*@*

*0000 - 0015 UTC*



**Report by:**

**Ian Cattermole**

**Confirmed by:**

**E. Daniel Devadoss**

**Dated: 180706**

Contribution deadline for next issue is Wed 2nd Aug 2006 . P.O. Box 3011, Auckland

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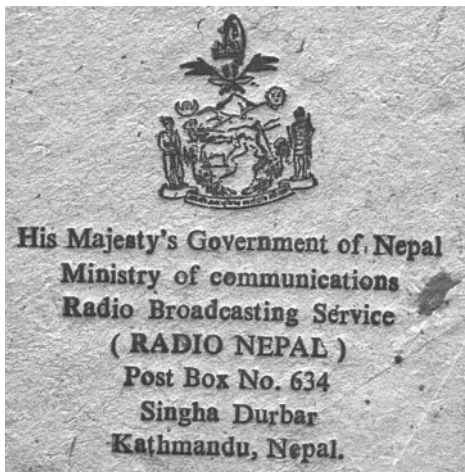
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## FRONT COVER

QSL received via email by Ian Cattermole  
for an email Reception Report of  
a TWR-India transmission





Please note that all frequencies should be in Kilohertz and time in UTC (= GMT = UT), # indicates reception out of the Sth Pacific area, initials in Bold indicates report sent. Also, would you please add the date of logging to your information.

- | KHz     | UTC  | Country, Station, Programme, & Reception Details   |
|---------|------|--|
| 3220    | 0929 | ECUADOR HCJB Quito with callsign in Spanish, time pips on the half hour, then anncts in Quechua language, fair 16/6. BCM   |
| 3240#   | 0324 | SWAZILAND, Trans World Radio, 0324-0345* Jun 16, man with religious talk in listed Shona language. Brief instrumental music at 0328 followed by another man with ID. Apparent language change at 0330. English ID at 0345 sign-off. Poor to fair. - RDA      |
| 3291.2# | 0245 | GUYANA, Voice of Guyana, 0245-0316 May 17, pop vocal program with oldie hits (Young Girl, Will Power Whiter Shade of Pale Crimson and Clover, etc.). ID between music selections. Fair. - RDA  |
| 3310#   | 0112 | BOLIVIA, Radio Mosoj Chaski, 0112-0132* May 19, man with religious talk in Quechoa followed by rustic vocals. Talk by a man and woman in Quechoa and Spanish with ID and closedown announcements. Brief rustic vocals until carrier cut. Poor to fair - RDA. |
| 3325    | 0936 | PAPUA NEW GUINEA Radio North Solomons Kieta strongest PNG at this time with speech in English about Bougainville peace and presentation of cheque for 250,000 kina by Australian government, 16/6. BCM   |
| 3329.60 | 0939 | PERU Ondas del Huallaga in Spanish with promo ident 0945 16/6 as "la emisora mas populares.. en el pais", hetting against 3330. BCM  |
| 3375    | 0948 | BRAZIL Radio Educadora vgd with popular songs in Portuguese, ident 0956 16/6. Signal had a distinct echo on anncts and music, so not announcer gimmick. BCM  |
| 4052    | 1113 | GUATEMALA??? R Verdad (tent) weak in Spanish rlg talk, country mx, cuckoo; pipes & marimba from 1200. Ute QRM. 18/6 KVB  |
| 4052.5# | 0226 | GUATEMALA, Radio Verdad, 0226-0310 Jun 8, inspirational vocals followed by a man with Spanish religious talk. ID at 0302 followed by announcements and another religious program in Spanish. Poor to fair. - RDA   |
| 4319    | 1925 | DIEGO GARCIA, AFN, Fair in English on USB. Welcome to 4000 soldiers of WA 'Striker Bde' in Iraq. ID 1929 24/6 KVB  |
| 4319U   | 1540 | DIEGO GARCIA, AFN fair in English with phone-in on legal advice, a little noisy - CC 17/6  |
| 4716.7  | 1057 | BOLIVIA??? R.Yura (tent) Poor in Spanish with bracket of serious songs and Andean mx - MA poss ID 1057 29/5 KVB  |
| 4747    | 1033 | PERU, R.Huanta 2000 Poor/Fair in Spanish & Quechua, MA, lively format, Andean mx, TC, ID 1035 29/5 KVB   |
| 4750    | 0905 | INDONESIA, RRI Makassar, Poor/Fair in Indonesian discussion/phone-in,  |

- Indonesian ballads, advts, 0954 Azan, drums, Islamic mx. Weak by 1100 15/6 KVB
- 4770# 0427 NIGERIA, Radio Nigeria – Kaduna, \*0427-0441 Jun 10, open carrier until drum IS at 0430. Choral anthem followed by a man with ID and opening announcements in English. Vocals followed. Poor. - RDA
- 4775 0353 PERU, R.Tarma, Poor in Spanish, insp mx, MA w/echo, s/off ID 0402 & exits on old-time waltz tune. TX off 0406 24/6 KVB
- 4775 1108 PERU, R.Tarma, Fair in Spanish, anim MA, police sirens, recorded O/B, ID 1110 29/5 KVB
- 4780# 0153 GUATEMALA, Cultural Coatan, 0153-0236 Jun 11, man announcer with Spanish talks hosting a program of rustic vocals and nice marimba instrumental music. ID at 0158 and again at 0234 as part of sign off routine. Carrier cut without national anthem. Poor to fair.- RDA
- 4780 1141 GUATEMALA, R.Cultural Coatan Fair in Spanish/vernac, OM w/clear slow speech, marimba mx, then "London Bridge is Burning Down". ID 1157 29/5 KVB
- 4780 1928 DJIBOUTI???, RdifTV de Djibouti (tent) Fair in vernac, upbeat ethnic mx, 2000 off air, no anncmnt. 2/6 KVB
- 4789 0825 INDONESIA. RRI Fak Fak. Weak but clear in Indonesian - IC. 14/6
- 4790# 0240 PERU, Radio Vision, 0240-0431 Jun 18, finally some audio out of this one and an ID. Program mainly of long talks but did get some Peruvian vocals in the mix. I was ready to give up but a man finally ID'd at 0349. Poor to fair with CODAR QRM making listening exhausting. - RDA
- 4790 0858 INDONESIA, RRI FakFak (tent) Poor in Indonesian, Azan, drums, trad mx, then pops, FA, 'Indonesia' refs. 21/6 KVB
- 4810 1835 ARMENIA, V of Armenia fair in English with news, scratchy // 9965 weaker – CC 29/6
- 4845 0657 MAURITANIA, R.Mauritanie (tent), Poor in Arabic, Azan, Ethnic mx, discussn, 25/6 KVB
- 4856 1126 PERU, R. LA Hora, Fair in Spanish, MA, O/B sirens in b'ground, interview, 1136 return to studio, advts. ID 1128 29/5 KVB
- 4885 0858 BRAZIL Radiodifusora Acreana mixing with Radio Clube do Para, boyth at good strength. Idents heard for both stations around 0903 16/6. BCM
- 4890 1942 PNG, Port Moresby good with music prgm in English – KAB 18/6
- 4915# 2253 GHANA, GBC, 2253-2307 May 18, group tribal vocals with drums. At 2257 a woman spoke in English mentioning end of program and ID followed by more tribal vocals until 2300. A man gave ID and news. Fair but choppy reception. - RDA
- 4930 0458 BOTSWANA, VOA, Poor in English, 'World Nx Now'. 0500 TC ID 18/6 KVB
- 4961.070838 PAPUA NEW GUINEA Catholic Radio Network with religious talk in Tok Pisin 15/6. Poor signal, much reduced in quality these days. BCM
- 4965 1905 ZAMBIA Christian Voice with religious talk in English. Poor signal, only audible in LSB mode due co-channel utility QRM 25/6. BCM
- 5005# 2255 EQUATORIAL GUINEA, Radio Nacional, 2255-2301\* Jun 9, vocals followed by Spanish talk and long national anthem. Poor. - RDA
- 5025 0520 CUBA, R Rebelde fair in Spanish with Latin music, OM with refs to Cuba, some QRN – CC 16/6

5030 0512 COSTA RICA, University N/W v weak in English – DD 29/5  
5070 0510 USA, WWCR fair in English – DD 28/5  
5110.1 0855 USA WBCQ Montecillo Maine with “Science Rocks Archaeology” prgm,  
fair 16/6. BCM  
5400 0338 ARGENTINA, LTA, Armed Forces Svc, Poor/Fair LSB in Spanish, discussn,  
advts, variety of mx, (incl US pops) ‘Argentina’ refs, World Cup report,  
programa politica, TCs 3/6 KVB  
5487 1002 PERU, La Reyna de la Selva, Poor in Spanish, MA, talk & Andean mx.  
Some R/T QRM. Tentative IDs 1023/1035 1/6 KVB  
5770 1330 MYANMAR Defence Forces Broadcasting station in Shan State. Opens  
around this time with some interesting local Mx. Poor to fair signal. - JD  
5775 1900 BULGARIA Radio 6 International via IRRS facilities, opening with full ident  
& Glasgow mailing address. At 1942 “Dxtra” prgm with listening tips and  
Andy Sennitt interview, fair 15/6. IRRS ident and address at 2000. BCM  
5850 1945 SWEDEN, RCI fair in French with comment – KAB 18/6  
5850 0745 USA, WEWN fair in English – DD 31/5  
5850 0550 USA, WYFR fair in English – DD 11/6  
5905 2000 MADAGASCAR. RN. Fair in English - IC  
5910 0720 COLOMBIA Marfil Estero. Poor but improving slightly by 0740 in Spanish. JD  
5910 0330 UK, Radio Republica probably via Woofferton. Good in Spanish. – IC 20/6  
5920# 0042 USA, WBOH (Newport, NC). “Wonderful Words” and other inspirational  
music in English with YL announcer in Spanish. Good. 01-07-06 JW  
5930 0101 SLOVAKIA. Radio Slovakia via Rim.Sobota, p in English at sign on, but  
good by 0120. Mailbag prog and abt restructuring. 12/6 RFK  
5930 0115 SLOVAKIA. Radio Slovakia Int. Weak in English./9440 much better, - IC 12/6  
5950 0700 USA, R Taiwan Intl fair in English – DD 31/5  
5955.060730 BRAZIL Radio Gazeta Sao Paulo with lively anncts in Portuguese, ident  
and station jingle 18/6. BCM  
6011 0700 COLOMBIA La Voz de Concencia. Poor peaking to fair with religious prg  
in Spanish. Occasional mention of Colombia. JD  
6019.620644 BRAZIL Radio Gaucha presumed the source of Portuguese religious prgm  
at strong level 18/6, parallel 6060. BCM  
6020 0745 PERU Radio Victoria.Poor to fair in Spanish with usual religious prg. JD  
6020 0400 CHINA, PR. CRI via Beijing? g in English at sign on, vg by 0415. News  
and Report prog. 0350 CC prog via Cerrick loud and clear and appeared  
to be a different outlet to the English on. 16/6 RFK  
6020# 0055 ALBANIA, China Radio Intl.. YL in English with ID followed by Chinese  
language lessons. Good. 01-07-06. JW  
6020 1020 AUSTRALIA, R Australia fair in English – DD 17/6  
6040 1000 CANADA, CRI poor in English – DD 17/6  
6055 0515 SPAIN, REE v good in Spanish – DD 9/6  
6065 1945 SWEDEN, R Sweden fair in English with item on Roma – KAB 18/6  
6070 0905 CHILE, Voz Critiana poor in Spanish – DD 6/6  
6070 1955 SRI LANKA, D Welle poor in German – DD 12/6  
6075 2002 GERMANY. DWR via Wertachtal. vg in German, with lots of world cup and

other sports news. 04/6 RFK

6075 0435 GERMANY, D Welle v good in German – DD 19/6

6080 1000 BRAZIL Curitiba Radio Novas de Paz. ID in Portuguese at this time then continues with religious prg. JD

6080 1920 AUSTRALIA, R Australia good in English with comment on visas // 11880 – KAB 18/6

6110 0502 CANADA, R Japan good in English with news about Japan, ID 0508 – CC 16/6

6110 0525 ??? BBC WS poor in English – DD 9/6

6114.87 0722 PERU Radio Union, Lima good in Spanish with lively music prgm 18/6. BCM

6140 0800 COLOMBIA Bogota Radio Lider. ID in Spanish followed by Nx.Fair to good. JD

6160# 0352 CANADA, CKZN St. John's, 0352-0413 Jun 9, classical music on Northern Lights program hosted by a woman announcer. Series of announcements and CBC Radio Overnight IDs followed by news. At 0406 another CBC Radio Overnight ID followed by a Radio Nederlands program "Reflections from the Netherlands." Fair signal with deep fades- RDA.

6185# 0058 MEXICO, Radio Educacion (Mexico City).. ID by YL in Spanish, English and other languages at TOH followed by announcements by OM in English then back into Spanish. F-G. 01-07-06. JW.

6190 0415 GERMANY, Deutscheland Radio Berlin. Good in German - IC. 11/6

6190 0645 CANADA, CRI fair in English – DD 14/6

6195 1045 SINGAPORE, BBC WS fair in English – DD 17/6

6195 0420 SINGAPORE, BBC WS fair in English – DD 19/6

6200# 0102 CZECH REPUBLIC, Radio Prague. YL in English with news items about flooding in the Czech Republic followed by weather and bit about a bank losing a large sum of money. Good. 01-07-06. JW

6220.3#0304 PIRATE (Euro), Mystery Radio, 0304-0348 Jun 10, continuous rock music with "Mystery Radio" jingle at 0320 followed by more music. Poor. - RDA

6350 0850 HAWAII, AFN on USB fair in English with Sports – DD 28/5

6890 0317 USA; The Overcomer via WWRB, poor in English, but by 0330 became readable, to close (some days) 0400. 21/6 RFK

6925# 2344 PIRATE (No. Am.), WMPR, 2344-0025 Jun 10, continuous techno/dance music program with "WMPR" IDs every once in a while. No mailing address noted. Fair. - RDA

6950.4#0240 PIRATE (No. Am.), MAC Shortwave, 0240-0254\* May 29, man announcer with ID and QSL address (macshortwave@yahoo.com), Star Spangled Banner, rock vocals. Poor signal. - RDA

6955# 0045 PIRATE (No. Am.), Radio First Termer, 0045-0217 May 30, rock music (Three Dog Night with "Momma Told Me Not to Come", Beatles with "Taxman", The Byrds with "Eight Miles High", The Who with "Overture from Tommy", Jimi Hendrix with "Purple Haze") and man with many IDs but reception was very poor at first but improved significantly after 0110. Please QSL! - RDA

6973# 0110 ISRAEL, Galei Zahal. YL singing blues music in the style of Billie Holiday. Fair. 01-07-06 JW.

7105 0358 GERMANY, D Welle good in Russian with repeated ID, off 0400 – CC 22/6

7110 0348 UK, R Republica good in Spanish with comment and ID 0355 – KAB 21/6

7120 0840 PNG, Wantok Radio Light poor in English – DD 6/6

- 7120 0445 STH AFRICA, BBC WS fair in English – DD 19/6  
7135 0408 FRANCE, RFI good in French with discussion //15120 much weaker – CC 22/6  
7135 0450 FRANCE, RFI fair in French – DD 20/6  
7145 0940 NZ, RNZI fair in English – DD 13/6  
7155 1915 THAILAND, R Thailand good in English with comment by King followed  
by tourist info – KAB 18/6  
7155 2040 TURKEY, VOT good in French with great music – KAB 21/6  
7170 2030 TURKEY, VOT good in English with comment on Greek/Turkish relations – KAB 18/6  
7210 0215 BELARUS. Radio Minsk. Fair in Belorussian. English ann. at 0229.// 5970. – IC 13/6  
7210 2125 EGYPT, Radio Cairo. Good in Arabic. After 2130 has Arabic/English  
language lessons – IC .20/6  
7235 2035 UK, RCI via Skelton good in French – KAB 20/6  
7235 0458 ITALY, RAI fair in English – DD 20/6  
7240 2035 AUSTRALIA, R Australia poor in English with news and comment – KAB 20/6  
7250 0525 VATICAN, Vatican Radio good in English – DD  
7250 0515 VATICAN, Vatican Radio, good in English – DD 18/6  
7260 0305 VANUATU, Radio Vanuatu. Fair in English - IC. 16/6  
7260 1925 NTH MARIANAS IS, V of Free Asia buried under Chinese jamming, just  
audible in Chinese – KAB 18/6  
7270 0235 EGYPT, Radio Cairo. Fair in English. Blocked by VOT at 0300. – IC 16/6  
7270 0300 TURKEY, VOT. On in English at this time blocking Cairo. – IC 16/6.  
7280 2035 VIETNAM, V of Vietnam good in English with SE Asian news – KAB 18/6  
7305 0335 VATICAN, Vatican Radio good in Spanish with comment. Many mentions  
of Pope – KAB 21/6  
7315 1349 CHINA, CRI fair in English – DD 12/6  
7330 2031 SRI LANKA, D Welle good in German with news of Nokia-Siemans  
partnership – KAB 20/6  
7345# 0003 CZECH REPUBLIC, Radio Prague. YL in English with weather followed by  
general interest news. Good // 9440 Good. – JW 21/06  
7345 2015 CHINA, Central Peoples PBS Beijing fair in Chinese with Classical music  
and Chinese announcements – KAB 20/6  
7410 2040 INDIA, AIR Delhi fair in Hindi with Indian music. Into English at 2045 with  
ID and freq schedule followed by press review – KAB 18/6  
7415 0530 USA, WBCQ fair in English – DD 28/5  
7440# 0003 UKRAINE, Radio Ukraine International. YL in English with news of  
Ukrainian parliament. Program "Ukrainian Diary" about the week's  
headlines. Good. 18-06 JW.  
7455 0000 ALBANIA, Radio Tirana. Fair in Albanian to NA. On again in English at  
0145.- IC 16/6  
7465 2000 ALBANIA. Radio Tirana. Good in English. – IC 14/6  
7475 0340 GREECE, Foni Tis Helladas good in Greek with comment and great Greek  
music – KAB 21/6  
7475 0426 GREECE, FTH good in Greek with vocalist // 17520 much weaker – CC 22/6  
7540 2010 IRAN, VOIRI. Poor in EE. New freq for Europe. Requests reception reports  
for this service.- IC 14/6  
7540 1930 IRAN/LITHUANIA Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran opening in English

on this unannounced freq 1/7 with good signals. Also audible on 6205 good, 7205 poor, 9925 weak. Spanish broadcast followed at 2030. Transmission from Lithuania according to Glenn Hauser's DXLD. BCM

7540 0930 USA, WEWN good in Spanish – DD 13/6  
7555 2040 USA???, VOA good in English with news and "News in Special English" – KAB 18/6  
7570 0735 USA, WEWN good in English – DD 5/6

### Logging of the month

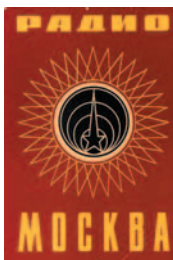
is awarded to **Kelvin Brayshaw** for  
LTA Armed Forces Service, 5400kHz, ARGENTINA, at 0338utc.

My thanks to all the contributors for this month.  
Ken Baird

### CONTRIBUTORS FOR THIS MONTH

**BCM** Bryan Clark, Mangawhai Northland AOR7030+ and 100m BOG antennas to East & Northeast  
**CC** Cliff Couch, Paraparaumu, ATS 803A, 60m horizontal loop  
**DD** Des Davey, Te Kuiti, FRG 7000, JRC NRD 535, 100ft wire  
**IC** Ian Cattermole, Blenheim, JRC 535, T2FD, Alpha Delta.  
**JD** John Durham. Tauranga, JRC 535Db with a Eavesdropper trap dipole antenna.  
**JW** Joe Wood, Greenback, TN USA., DX 390 and whip  
**KAB** Ken Baird, Christchurch, Kenwood R5000, R1000, 18m Wire, SW Eavesdropper  
**KVB** Kelvin Brayshaw, Levin, R1000, 4.7 & 7.2 MHz dipoles  
**RDA** Richard D'Angelo Wyomissing USA, Ten-Tec RX-340, R8B, Lowe HF 150, Alpha Delta sloper, RF Systems mini windom, Datong FL3, JPS ANC4  
**RFK** Ron Killick, Shag Valley, 100m wire, ICF 6800W, FRG7

Contributions to this column may be sent to  
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**Radio Rumbos**  
la emisora de Venezuela





Please add the date of your loggings to your report and keep reception details short.  
# indicates overseas contributors.

khz	UTC	Country, Station, Programme & Reception Details
9355	0500	USA, WYFR, poor in EE, 11/6, DD
9430	0510	GERMANY (Ed), CVC Int, poor in EE, 11/6, DD
9440	2100	GERMANY, DW, moderate (S5) in EE. 4/7 MB
9475	1825	AUSTRALIA, R.Austr.Int., poor in EE, also at 1130, gd in EE, 10/6, DD
9490	2330	GERMANY. Democratic Voice of Burma via Wertachtal, vg in Burmese, with some EE excerts, Norwegian address given. 03/6 RFK
9535	2324	SPAIN, REE, OM & YL speaking. Gd in SS, // 9620 the same, //11680 noisy, 11/6, CC
9555	1855	S.ARABIA, BSOTK, OM speaking, light QRM, //9870 same, f/gd in AA, 13/6, CC
9560	0255	CANADA, KBS World Radio, YL vocalist, OM anncing, light QRM f/g in EE, // 15575, weaker, 5/6 CC
9580	0800	AUSTRALIA, R.Austr., v/gd in EE. 5/6, DD
9580	0930	AUSTRALIA, R.Austr., Exc.in EE, 29/5, DD
9580	1145	AUSTRALIA, R.Austr.Int., fair in EE, 11/6, DD
9580	1800	AUSTRALIA, Rad.Austr., Nx in EE, Exc. 10/6, DD
9590	2105	FRANCE. Voice of Africa via Iss. Good in AA. News in EE at 2127. 18/6, IC
9600	1815	CHINA, CRI, good in EE, 10/6, DD
9600	2100	CHINA, CRI, fair in EE. 4/7 MB
9610	0800	TAIWAN, R Taiwan Intl. Moderate in EE. 3/7 MB
9645	1210	THAILAND (Ed), VOA, with news, f/gd in EE, 12/6, DD
9660	2100	AUSTRALIA, R New Zealand Intl. Fair in EE. 4/7 MB
9675	0250	SAUDI ARABIA. BSKSA-Riyadh, s/on for prog commencing 0300 vg in AA. Some ID's but little else understandable. 19/6 RFK
9695	1716	CHINA, CRI, Nx in EE, poor, 10/6, DD
9700	0200	BULGARIA, R Bulgaria. Moderate in EE. 10/6 MB
9710	1915	AUSTRALIA, R.Austr., with nx in EE, Exc., 25/6 DD
9715	0416	USA, WYFR, fair in EE, 24/6, DD
9740	0955	SINGAPORE, BBC, fair in EE, 9/6, DD
9785	1840	TURKEY, V.of Turkey, YL with ID & anncmt re essay competition, Gd in EE, 29/6, CC
9785	2100	AUSTRALIA, R NZ Intl. Moderate in EE. 4/7 MB
9790	2035	FRANCE, RFI, fair in FF, 12/6, DD
9855	0815	NETH.ANTILLES, DW, v/gd in GG, 5/6, DD
9905	0400	INDIA, AIR. Good strength in EE. 20/6 MB
9910	2100	INDIA. AIR. Poor in EE. 20/6, IC

9960 2105 SRI LANKA, Radio Farda. Fair in Farsi? 20/6, IC  
 9985 0950 USA, WWCR, f/gd in EE, 29/5, DD  
 11500# 1730 BULGARIA, Radio Bulgaria (Plovdiv). Mx by The Ventures. IS, skeds, freqs,  
 and ID by YL in EE as "This is Radio Bulgaria in English." Good. 30/6 JW  
 11560 0920 ??? WYFR, gd in EE, 29/5, DD  
 11565 0828 HAWAII, WHR, gd in EE, 5/6, DD  
 11600# 2145 CZECH REPUBLIC, Radio Prague. YL/OM with talk about Romanian  
 vacation habits followed by item on biofuel. Poor // 15465 VP. 23/6, JW  
 11660 2040 AUSTRALIA, Rad.Austr., fair/gd in EE, 12/6, DD  
 11675# 1740 RUSSIA, Voice of Russia. YL in EE with talks concerning the spiritual aspects  
 of classical mx throughout the world. ID as Voice of Russia WS, TC,  
 skeds, freqs, and IS at TOH. Fair.17/6 JW.  
 11700 0408 FRANCE, RFI, poor in FF, 4/6, DD  
 11700 2339 BULGARIA, R. Bulgaria, OM speaking, ID 2340 then mx, Gd in EE,  
 // 9700 weaker,11/6 CC  
 11740 0350 ??? WYFR, gd in EE, 4/6, DD  
 11740 0956 SINGAPORE, NHK, gd in JJ, 5/6, DD  
 11750 0835 AUSTRALIA, HCJB, Gd in EE, 5/6, DD  
 11760# 1736 CUBA, Radio Habana.. 2 OM in SS with what sounded like an edited  
 replay of a futbol game involving Argentina. VG. 30/6 JW  
 11775 0205 USA Radio Marti via Greenville good in SS over bubble jamming with  
 "Radio Marti presentar.." Also audible on 7365 via Greenville, poor but  
 clear. 18/6 BCM  
 11805# 0015 BRAZIL, Radio Brasil Central OM with PP talk and futebol coverage. Ad  
 string at 0018 followed by nice ID mentioning mx and nx. Fair to good. 24/5 RDA  
 11850 0400 ??? KTWR, gd in SS, 4/6, DD  
 11875 2055 ITALY, RAI, v.poor in PP? (Ed)  
 11880 0910 AUSTRALIA, R.Austr., gd in EE, TX hours 0900-1300 (Ed), 29/5, DD  
 11880 1727 AUSTRALIA, R.Austr., Exc.in EE, TX hours 1700-2100 (Ed), 5/6, DD  
 11920 0914 JAPAN, NHK, gd in JJ, 29/5, DD  
 11940# 2130 ROMANIA, Radio Romania International. YL in English with talk about  
 Romanian homeless people. ID and into news. Poor.23/6 JW.  
 11975# 0351 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, Adventist World Radio via Dhabbaya, OM with  
 religious talk in UNID language followed by vocal at 0356.ID by OM 17/6 RDA  
 12005 0238 TUNISIA, RTV Tunisienne, Pleasant mx, OM ancing, Gd in AA, //9720 not  
 so clear, 5/6 CC  
 12045 1705 SINGAPORE, NHK, poor in JJ, 5/6, DD  
 12070 0100 UZBEKISTAN. CVC. Good in Hindi. 18/6, IC  
 12095 1735 UK, BBC, poor in EE, 6/6, DD  
 13630 0600 JAPAN, R Japan. Fair in EE. 4/7 MB  
 13630 2100 AUSTRALIA, R.Austr., with nx, v/gd in EE, 12/6, DD  
 13695 2015 FRANCE, RFI, with soccer cmtry, good in FF, 26/6, DD  
 13790 1240 CHINA, CRI, fair/gd in EE, 12/6, DD  
 15140# 2147 OMAN, Radio Sultanate of Oman, OM with dramatic discussion in AA.  
 Some announcements at 2154 followed by YL vocal selection. Big Ben

type bells at 2200 followed by a gong and OM with ID and nx. Carrier cut during mid-sentence. Fair to good signal with moderate fading 29/5 RDA

- 15215 0300 TAIWAN, R Taiwan Intl. Fair in EE 22/6 MB
- 15230 2215 AUSTRALIA, R.Austr.Int., Nx in EE, good, 28/5, DD
- 15260# 0200 CLANDESTINE (Laos),Hmong Radio Them(presumed),opened with music fanfare, apparent opening announcements into OM and YL talking (nx?). Mostly talks with brief instrumental mx breaks. Closed with mx features from 0243 until 0247 when seemingly language lesson prior to closedown. Poor and choppy signal with splatter from WYFR on 15255. 25/6 RDA, 14/6 IC
- 15260 1314 CANADA (Ed), CRI, poor in EE, 12/6, DD
- 15345# 1859 MOROCCO, RTV Marocaine (Nabor). Instrumental version of what sounded like the American standard, "The City of New Orleans." Does anybody know of a Middle Eastern tune that sounds similar? Into nx in AA at TOH by OM and YL. Good. 23/6 JW
- 15380# 1850 ITALY, RAI (Rome). Middle of the road pop music in Italian. Good. 23/6 JW
- 15385# 0007 SPAIN, REE. OM in EE talking about Venuezual buying military hardware from Russia and mentions of saber rattling towards the US followed by Program "Visitors Book." VG.18/6 JW
- 15405 0005 AUSTRALIA. HCJB. Good in EE. 18/6, IC
- 15410# 1852 MOROCCO, VOA relay (Briech). . OM in English with talk of AIDS in Africa. Fair.23/6 JW.
- 15475# 1720 GABON, Afrique #1 (Moyabi). . OM announcer in FF with a sporting event presumed to be futbol and maybe the World Cup. Lots of crowd noise. VG. 17/6 JW
- 15505# 1855 KUWAIT, Radio Kuwait. . OM announcer with recitations of some type in Arabic with Middle Eastern music in the background. Good.23/6 JW
- 15515 2230 AUSTRALIA, R.Austr.Int. gd in EE, 2/6, DD
- 15640 0201 GERMANY. DWR-Trincomalee, prog of news in GG ex. Then some EE excerpts re water/pollution in Philippines, also RVeritas report and id. 16/6 RFK
- 15785 0135 CHINA. CRI. Good in EE. // 15115. 12/6, IC
- 15795 1400 GERMANY. CVC via DTK. Poor in EE. 16/5, IC
- 17765 0805 GUAM. KTWR. Poor in EE. 20/6, IC
- 17795 2002 USA. WYFR g in EE with Open Forum, some fades. Full WYFR Okeechobee id 2100. 05/6 RFK
- 17810# 1730 ASCENSION ISLANDS, United Nations Radio, opened suddenly with "its Monday the 29<sup>th</sup> of May ..UN Radio ...I'm Gerry Adams ..first the nx." OM followed with the nx before special features. Closed mentioning Monday through Friday in six languages. Good with //15495 from Skelton only poor to fair. 29/6 RDA
- 17830# 1726 ASCENSION ISLAND, BBC relay. Program in EE about Nigerian military and government. Fair. 30/6 JW
- 18910 2240 USA. WBCQ. Fair in EE. 13/6, IC
- 18930 2100 USA. R.Taiwan via Okeechobee, very variable poor to good in GG, plenty ids and text. Varies from day to day. 13/6 RFK

18930 2200 USA. WYFR poor to good over next 45 mins, Open Forum in AA. 2244  
WYFR Okeechobee sign off in AA. Best day out of 5. 13/6 RFK

## Contributors this month

- BCM** Bryan Clark, Mangawhai Northland with AOR7030+ and 100 metre BOG antennae
- CC** Cliff Couch, Paraparaumu, Sangean ATS 803A, 60 m horiz.loop
- DD** Des Davey, Te Kuiti, FRG 7000, Nat.Panasonic DR-48, 50M long wire.
- IC** Ian Cattermole, Blenheim, JRC NRD535, Antenna T2FD, Alpha/Delta
- JW** Joe Wood, Greenback TN, USA, DX 390 and 8m wire
- RDA** Richard d'Angelo, Wyomissing PA, USA Ten-Tec RX-340, Drake R-8B, Lowe HF-150, Alpha/Delta DX sloper RF systems Mini Windom, Datong FL3, JPS ANC-4
- RFK** Ron Killick, Christchurch, Sony ICF6800W, 40m longwire.

### Please send your contributions to:

Bandwatch.over9@radiodx.com or paverdp@xtra.co.nz

By mail to PO Box 3011, Auckland or

P van de Paverd, 62 O'Halloran Road, Howick, Auckland 1705

or

Fax to +64-9-5346237

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## **RNZI – BBC Programme Exchange**

Radio New Zealand International (RNZI) will launch a weekday 30-minute programme exchange with the BBC Pacific service today (Monday 17 July).

At 2030 NZ time (0830 UTC), the BBC's Pacific service will relay a bulletin of Pacific regional news and RNZI's Pacific current affairs programme Dateline Pacific which draws on the work of RNZI's staff and on stories filed by Pacific journalists from around the region.

In exchange, at 1pm NZ time weekdays (0100 UTC) RNZI will be broadcasting a BBC World news bulletin, followed by detailed BBC correspondents' reports on the latest global news and a round-up of the latest in international Sport.

RNZI manager, Linden Clark, says she is delighted with the launch: "This will allow us to get more listeners for our flagship current affairs programme across the Pacific. It's also recognition of the relevance of the Dateline Pacific programme which is already relayed by Radio Australia around the region."

The RNZI programme will be on the BBC's Pacific network of FM relays and satellite services.

RNZI's short-wave broadcasts cover the area from Papua New Guinea in the west across to French Polynesia in the east and all the countries in between. A new digital (DRM) short-wave service is just now being launched across the Pacific region with partner relaying radio stations in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga and Niue all now equipped with digital software receivers. More countries will be equipped so they can receive the new digital signal over the next few months. (Press release from RNZI)

# FORECAST SHORTWAVE RECEPTION FOR AUGUST 2006

WITH MIKE BUTLER

propagation@radiodx.com

The Shortwave Bands below have given good reception in NZ within the recent Solar Flux Index range of 72-88. An \* = good reception only above Index of 75. Although Europe at 0800UTC shows a chance of 15MHz reception, regular evening openings to Europe are not expected until some time in October.

### Times-Shortwave Bands:

UTC MHZ		UTC MHZ		UTC MHZ		UTC MHZ		UTC MHZ	
Europe		Africa		Russia		Australia		Cent America	
19	6-9 -21*	19	6-9 -15*	19	7-9	19	5-7-11*	19	-
20	6-13-21*	20	6-11-15*	20	13	20	5-11	20	-
21	6-15	21	7* -15*	21	-	21	6-15	21	-
22	11	22	-	22	-	22	6-17,21*	22	15
23	15*	23	-	23	-	23	9-17,21*	23	-
0	9*11-15*	0	-	0	-	0	13-17,21*	0	-
1	9, 15*	1	-	1	11	1	13-17,21*	1	-
2	6-9, 15*	2	9* 11*	2	9*	2	13-17,21*	2	-
3	7-9, 15*	3	9* 11*	3	7* 9-11	3	9-17,21*	3	-
4	6-11-15*	4	7* -11*	4	7*,9	4	7-17	4	6-9
5	6-9 -17*	5	7-9 -15*	5	7*	5	5-17	5	6
6	6-7 -21*	6	6* -9*	6	-	6	5-15,17*	6	6,11
7	9*,15*	7	7, 9*	7	15-17	7	5-11-15*	7	6-11
8	15+	8	-	8	9-11	8	5-9 -13*	8	5-9
9	-	9	-	9	6-15	9	4-9,11*	9	6-9
10	-	10	-	10	6-15	10	4-9	10	6-9

+ = end Aug only (\*)

Middle East		Asia		North Pacific		Nth America		Sth America	
19	6-7,9*	19	7-9	19	7*9*,13	19	6	19	-
20	6-9*	20	6-9	20	9*-13*	20	6-11	20	15
21	7-9	21	6-15	21	11-13-17*	21	9-11	21	-
22	9	22	9	22	11-15x17*	22	11-15	22	-
23	15*	23	9-15	23	15x17	23	13	23	-
0	-	0	11-17*	0	17	0	-	0	-
1	-	1	11-17*	1	17	1	13	1	9-15
2	9*	2	11-15*17	2	17 21	2	9-15	2	11
3	6-11-15*	3	13*-17*	3	15-17,21*	3	7-9,15	3	9
4	6-11-17*	4	9 -17*	4	15-17,21*	4	6-15	4	9
5	9*11-15*	5	13*-21*	5	6-17,21*	5	5-11	5	-
6	11	6	15*,17*	6	5-17,21*	6	5-11	6	-
7	-	7	15	7	5-11-17*	7	5-11	7	6-9
8	-	8	7-11-15*	8	5-11-21*	8	5-9	8	6
9	-	9	6-11-17*	9	5-11,13*	9	5-7	9	6-9
10	-	10	6-15,17*	10	5-11,13*	10	5-9	10	-

6-11-15\*=6-11,13\*15\* x=not Hawaii. Read across for the hour's best bands.

## ALGERIA/ UNITED KINGDOM.

**RTA Radio Algeria** in Arabic again on SW via VT Communications from June 12.

Rampisham 500 kW 190 degrees. Woofferton 300 kW 160 degrees:

0400-0600 7260 Rampisham, 9540 Woofferton.

1900-2000 9765 Rampisham, 11810 Woofferton.

2000-2100 9765 Rampisham, 12025 Woofferton.

2100-2300 7150 Rampisham, 9710 Woofferton. (Bueschel in Dexplorer, Jun 15)

The last listing for Algeria on SW in the WRTH was in 2002. They reappeared on the air via France in Jan 2006, then Merlin, then France again, now apparently via Merlin again. (Berg, Jun 15 via DSWCI)

*They seem to be all over the place of late. (ED) 7150 and 9710 both audible here right now at 2220utc on June 27<sup>th</sup>.(ED)*

## AUSTRALIA.

### ABC Northern Territory upgrade

The ABC advises that it is in the process of upgrading its Alice Springs, Katherine and Tennant Creek shortwave Local Radio services. This work is being undertaken to provide greater reliability of these services. Each service will be required to be switched off for an extended period while replacement transmitters are installed. The work on the Tennant Creek transmitter has now been completed and the service has recommenced broadcasting. The Alice Springs (Roe Creek) service is now being upgraded and is currently off and the Katherine service will also be turned off for an extended period from Tuesday 30 May.

From this date those listeners who usually tune to the Alice Springs and Katherine shortwave services will need to retune to the Tennant Creek service to continue to receive ABC Local Radio. The ABC has also provided an additional service, which will broadcast into the Northern Territory from Shepparton, Victoria on 11880 during the day and 6080 in the evening. Those listeners who have problems tuning to the Tennant Creek service, particularly if you live in the Katherine region, should attempt to tune to these additional frequencies.... (ABC via Padula, via DSWCI)

## EGYPT:

### Radio Cairo English transmissions.

0000-0030 NA	11950.	0200-0330 NA	7270
1215-1330 As	17835	1600-1800 Af	11740
2000-2130 Af	15375	2115-2245 Eu	9990
2300-2400 NA,	11950. (PTSW)		

*Note. Radio Cairo have been difficult to obtain verifications from over recent years but recently I tried again and did get a nice friendly e-mail reply from Marwan Khattab at Radio Cairo thanking me for my reception report for 7270khz and promising that a QSL card will be sent soon. His address is> egyptianoverseas\_english@hotmail.com (ED)*

## **GERMANY:**

### **CVC International has some new broadcasts via DTK.**

1200-1400 Asia on 17860;

1400-1700 Asia on 15795. (DX Mix News, Bulgaria, via WOR, DXLD)

## **GREECE.**

### **Voice of Greece. English language transmissions.**

Voice of Greece now broadcast to NAm and Australia as follows:

0000 - 0100 NA, Oc, M 7475, 9420, 15650

0200 - 0300 NA, Oc, Su 7475, 9420, 17520

(Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

The broadcast to Europe remain

0905 - 1000 Eu, Su 9420, 12120, 15630

1400 - 1500 Eu, Sa 9420, 15630

(Dave, BCDX and Mike Barraclough, via DXLD)

## **GUAM:**

### **KTWR frequency change.**

0730-0900 Oc, Sa-Su 17665; 0740-0900 Oc, M-F 17665. (DX Mix News, Bulgaria, via DXLD)

## **IRAN:**

### **Message taken from VOIRI website:**

New Frequency: Dear Listeners a new short wave frequency will be launched for Europe at 19:30 to 20:30 UTC from June 10 on 7540 KHZ frequency. We would be very pleased to have your reception reports. (Dan Malloy, via PTSW)

## **JAPAN:**

### **Shiokaze (Sea Breeze) on new frequency 9855,**

Shiokaze (Sea Breeze), \*1030-1057\*, programmes entirely in English, several IDs "This is Shiokaze, from Tokyo, Japan", new schedule, reading names and birth years of Japanese abducted by N. Korea (read along with piano music). All the programs heard this week had different formats. Nice to hear so many English programs. Fair. On Tu, We, Fr and Sa same station was heard in either Japanese or Korean. Ex 5890. (Howard, Jun 26, and Slaen via DSWCI).

Investigating Commission of Missing Japanese Probably Related to North Korea announced that they have changed the schedule of "Shiokaze" broadcast directed to North Korea since Jun 15. The new schedule is as follows:

9785, 1st broadcast 2000-2100, reading of the details of the kidnapped or missing Japanese, reading of the letters from the bereaved families, direct recorded messages from the bereaved families, all in Japanese;

9855, 2nd broadcast, 1030-1100, reading of the details of kidnapped or missing Japanese in Korean, English, Chinese, news and commentary about the kidnapped Japanese by North Korea in Japanese, Korean, English (Akabayashi in BC-DX Jun 18)

## **LITHUANIA:**

### **Radio Vilnius on 9875khz.**

Radio Vilnius at 2330-0030 is listed for 7325; it is using 9875 (with great results of late!) (Bill Bergadano via PTSW)

## **LUXEMBURG:**

### **RTL may soon be back on Shortwave.**

Boocasting Centre Europe (BCE) has registered a number of frequencies for mainly French and English broadcasts analogue and DRM. Seemingly the old 10KW unit on former 15350 channel is registered again, at least two additional directional antennas at 220 and 300 degrees needed in Future.

Registrations for LUX BCE via Junglister are:

5925. 0800-1000. 10KW. English

5935. 0800-1500. 10. French

5945. 0400-0600. 10. French.

5990. 0000-2400. 50. French. DRM.

6035. 0400-0800. 10. English. 1000-1800. 10KW. English

6055. 0600-0800. 10. French.

6095. 0000-2400. 50. German. DRM.

25795. 0000-2400. 1. English. DRM.

Via Julich and Nauem.

7145. 0800-1900. 40KW. DTK. Tent. DRM.

7295. 0800-0900. 40. DTK . Tent. DRM.

7295. 0900-1700. 40. DTK . DRM. (Wolfgang Buschel via WWDXC)

## **MADAGASCAR:**

### **Frequency change for Family Radio via Madagascar**

There has been a frequency change for the 1800-1900 UTC transmission of Family Radio in Swahili via Madagascar. 5905 kHz has been replaced by 5870 kHz. (RN NEWS)

## **PAKISTAN:**

### **New broadcast in English.**

A new broadcast in English of Radio Pakistan can be heard from 0730 to 0830 on 15100 and 17835KHZ. Fifteen minutes of news at 1600 on 4790, 5022, 9375, 11570, 12105 and 15725 and there is an English programme on Saturdays from 1530 to 1600 on 4790. (John Norfolk via DXLD)



## **PHILIPPINES:**

### **FEBC back in English.**

FEBC is once again broadcasting in English from the Philippines

1000 - 1030 As 15325

1430 - 1500 As 12130

(WRTH supplement via Glenn Hauser via PTSW)

## **PHILIPPINES:**

### **Radio Pilipinas schedule:**

1730-1930utc. 11720, 15190, 17720. Vernaculars and some English.

0200-0330utc. 11885, 15270, 15510.

QSL address is> Radio Pilipinas, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, P.I.A Building, Visayas Avenue, Quezon City 1100, Metro Manila, Philippines. (DSWCI)

## **POLAND:**

### **Radio Polonia English language transmissions:**

1200-1259 Eu 9525, 11850. 1700-1759 Eu 7220, 7265

(PTSW)

## **ROMANIA:**

### **RRI frequency changes:**

Radio Romania International frequency changes from May 21. 0400-0456 NA,As 11795, ex-11820; 1300-1356 Eu 11845 ex-11830; 1800-1856 Eu 11730 ex-11830. (DX Mix News, Bulgaria, via DXLD)

## **SERBIA.**

### **SERBIAN EXTERNAL SERVICE CHANGES ITS NAME TO INTERNATIONAL RADIO SERBIA .**

Following the formal recognition by the Serb government of the independence of Montenegro, the Belgrade-based international broadcaster has changed its name to `International Radio Serbia`. Both the radio broadcasts and website are now using this name, though some pages of the website haven't yet been updated ( Andy, Media Network via DXLD)

## **SWAZILAND:**

### **Daily TWR English transmissions:**

0430-0500 Af 3200, 4775

0500-0700 Af 3200, 4775, 9500

0700-0900 Af 6120, 9500

1600-1700 Af 6130

1700-2030 Af 3200

1730-1900 Af 9500 (PTSW)

## USA:

### WWCR schedule:

WWCR schedule has been updated from June 1-August 31 tentative

WWCR1 0000 - 0100 NA 7465

WWCR1 0100 - 0900 NA 3215

WWCR1 0900 - 1000 NA 9985

WWCR1 1000 - 2200 NA 15825

WWCR1 2200 - 2400 NA 7465

WWCR2 0000 - 0200 NA 13845

WWCR2 0200 - 1200 NA 5935

WWCR2 1200 - 2400 NA 13845

WWCR3 0000 - 1200 NA 5070

WWCR3 1200 - 1400 NA 9985

WWCR3 1400 - 2300 NA 12160

WWCR3 2300 - 2400 NA 5070

WWCR4 0000 - 0100 NA 9985

WWCR4 0100 - 1100 NA 5765

WWCR4 1100 - 1400 NA 7465

WWCR4 1400 - 1800 NA 9985

WWCR4 1800 - 2200 NA 9975

WWCR4 2200 - 2400 NA 9985

(John Norfolk, via DXLD via PWS)

## USA:

### Radio Republica schedule all in Spanish.

All times are Cuban times. Cuba = UTC -4 midyear.

Monday-Friday.

5.00am-9.00am. 11.00am-5.00pm. on 9955.

Saturday/Sunday.

4.00am-6.00am. 11.00am-5.00pm. 10.00pm-12.0am. on 9955.

Monday-Sunday.

6.00pm-8.00pm. on 6135. 8.00pm- 10.00pm. on 7205. 10.00pm-12.0am. on 7110.

(Maria Lima at Radio Republica)

*Schedule makes no mention of 5910khz which is currently very strong here 0300-0400utc (ED)*

## UZBEKISTAN:

### Radio Tashkent International.

From April 1<sup>st</sup>. Radio Tashkent International ceased all foreign services of RTI, also on internet. All appeals and protests from the international RTI audience were unsuccessful.

Closure of RTI is a bitter reality.

Via a letter from Mrs. Raisa Chismatulina—UZB, Summer A06 schedule for CVC

International via Tashkent is:

English to India.

0100-0300. 7355.

0300-0600. 13685.

Hindi to India:

0100-0400. 12070.

0400-1100. 13630.

1100-1400. 13820.

1400-1700. 9855. (DX Miz News, Bulgaria via DXLD)

## **LATIN CORNER.**

### **PERU:**

#### **Radio Vision on 4790.25khz**

4790.25, Radio Visión, Distrito José Leonardo Ortiz, Chiclayo, ex-Radio Imperio on 4386v, Andean songs, Spanish ann, long religious talks 0307-0358 and 0401-0420 mentioning "Radio Visión", 0358 ann, hymn, 0415 another hymn, recordings of la Iglesia Pentecostal La Cosecha. They are the new owners of the station. I talked with Mr. Jorge Tesen and he said all the DXers can write to the radio at <http://www.iplacosecha.org/sugerenciasadd.php> and in the message indicate "Atencion Sr. Jorge Tesen", . Also heard 0930-0935, May 27, beautiful campesino music, easy canned ID:"Buena la cuidada Chiclayo, en los 1350 kilocyclos en amplitud modulada, transmite Radio Vision". Then intro for "La Voz Salvacion" program and said program. Decent strength but audio a little distorted like a variable speed recording when the recorder motor is faulty. I have discovered this is a good time to ID the station as they usually go into "La Voz Salvacion" at 0930 daily. (Valko via DSWCI)

## **branch news**

**Compiled by Chief Editor, Wellington**



### **NORTH OTAGO BRANCH**

Meeting was held at Emma's Café on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July @ 10am, 8 members attended including from the Deep South Paul Arenson of Invercargill.

A lengthy discussion about Radio St. Helena and its fund raising thus far. Mention of its hopeful broadcast in November, which we all look forward to.

### **WELLINGTON BRANCH**

Wellington area members, friends and visitors from all radio clubs are invited to the next social get-together at 1.30pm, Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> in the upstairs cafe lounge at Te Papa National Museum, Cable Street, Wellington. Undercover parking onsite, public transport to the door. All welcome for DX chat, show and tell and tall stories!



### **Solid Gold makes way for The Breeze**

Bryan Clark, Auckland advises that local Solid Gold FM 93.4 has moved to 93.8 to accommodate the arrival at last of The Breeze format in Auckland. Music and test announcements noted on 8 June advised that Auckland's Breeze will open on 93.4 on Monday 12 June.

### **Kiwi off Air from End of May**

The Breeze Auckland is expected to hit the Auckland airwaves in the first or second week of June, meaning a hiatus for Kiwi while it awaits the go-ahead to begin broadcasting on the upper band frequencies recently awarded to CanWest by the government. Kiwi is due to vacate its current Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch frequencies on Sunday, May 28, not quite seeing out the end of NZ Music Month,

The Breeze likely to begin broadcasting shortly after, though possibly initially running some kind of lead-up promotion before the fill on-air line-up goes live. Kiwi's Christchurch FM frequency is likely to be adopted by Radio Live, staff there having been told last week that the station will be moving to FM there shortly.

Use of the Wellington one is not yet clear, but the best odds would be on a shift to FM for Solid Gold (currently 1233AM). ([www.radioscope.co.nz](http://www.radioscope.co.nz) 14 May 2006)

### **The Breeze FM to launch into Auckland**

RadioWorks has confirmed that The Breeze radio station will launch into the Auckland market on Monday, June 12, 2006.

The Breeze will broadcast on the full powered 93.4 frequency in Auckland, which was previously the broadcast platform held by Solid Gold FM.

On May 28, Solid Gold FM will move to 93.8FM, Kiwi FM's previous broadcast frequency.

The frequency change will allow RadioWorks to pursue the option of providing a broadcast service which gives full Auckland coverage by synchronising Solid Gold on 93.8 in Auckland and the Waikato.

Brent Impey, CanWest MediaWorks CEO, comments: "As things currently stand, with different radio stations on 93.8 FM in Auckland and the Waikato, we are only able to broadcast on 93.8FM at a lower power, which leaves some areas of Auckland unable to receive the signal. This move may give us the option to provide a full coverage service to our listeners." ([www.mediaworks.co.nz](http://www.mediaworks.co.nz) 15 May 2006)

### **New Kiwi FM frequencies**

On air in July:

Auckland 102.2, Wellington 102.1, Christchurch 102.5

([www.kiwifm.co.nz](http://www.kiwifm.co.nz))

### **Radio Live Launches in Whangarei**

Radio Live has commenced broadcasting in Whangarei on 90.6FM, boosting coverage already provided by its mid-North frequency 95.6FM which came into operation in March. "We're delighted to have finally arrived in the North which virtually completes our national coverage," says Programme Director Mitch Harris.  
(www.radioscope.co.nz 9 June 2006)

### **Fresh in Blenheim**

Nelson-based Access station Fresh FM is to begin broadcasting into neighbouring Marlborough after securing the right to use 89.2FM in Blenheim. The station can currently be found on 99.4FM and 95.4FM in the Nelson area.  
(www.radioscope.co.nz 16 June 2006)

### **SKY to Launch MTV New Zealand**

SKY TV is to launch a "wholly-owned and operated localised MTV" in New Zealand on August 19.

MTV New Zealand (on SKY digital channel 35) will launch as a 24-hour network, with localised and signature MTV programming, going up against CanWest's free-to-air music channel C4 and long-running local channels already on SKY, Juice and J2. It has been speculated recently that C4's broadcast hours (currently 4pm to midnight weekdays, midday to 5am on weekends) might be extended, a decision which may be given some extra urgency ahead of MTV's August arrival. C4 also currently carries programming content from the American MTV network - whether that is able to continue long term remains to be seen.

C4 Manager Andrew Szusterman declined to comment.

Juice TV boss Daniel Wrightson says the deal does not affect his channels' relationship with Sky, an announcement that their contract's extension out to 2009 expected to be made shortly. www.radioscope.co.nz 18 May 2006)

### **18 TV channels and it's all free**

New Zealand's move to digital television could give viewers the choice of up to 18 free-to-air channels.

The change is good news for people in areas with bad reception, where the only option so far has been to subscribe to Sky and receive a free-to-air package - for a monthly fee of \$18.29 and installation costs of \$99.

The digital system also means more channels. The satellite deal offers up to 18 different channels, and TVNZ and CanWest, which owns TV3 and C4, have taken up six of the channels each - giving them four extra on top of their two existing channels.

Prime could also sign up and some regional stations - such as Alt TV - are looking at buying in. www.nzherald.co.nz 16 June 2006)

### **BBC World Service**

Re query from Rajiv Thind (March Times). There is a BBC 107.8 (equally as good 107.7) in CH. VStrong SW part of the city, heard no ID, but sounds like the UK TV I once viewed, mostly serials. Will try and work out freq for next issue.

Here is correction ---

107.7 CD-FM "We play greatest in comedies and drama ....."  
(Noted plenty of Goons, Navy Lark and similar as well as odd US skit).

More changes:

96.1 Q96 FM, from School of Broadcasting, noted 27th May.

107.7 CD FM seems to of gone. My early Goon Show was not there at 6am 25th May.  
Just Country on the frequency and still there.

**(Ron Killick - Christchurch)**

**Brian Palamountain of Atawhai, Nelson** sends in his FM log for May:

90.8 Classic Hits 90FM Taranaki

92.4 More FM Taranaki

103.8 Niu FM Auckland

### Raglan Radio on the move

Raglan Radio/Irirangi o Whaingaroa 96.6 FM

Due to the first stage of our transmitter upgrade, the radio station will be going off air at lunch time on Saturday the 22nd of July and be back on air that afternoon on our new frequency 98.1 FM ([www.raglanradio.com](http://www.raglanradio.com))

**Recent photos of Raglan Radio 96.6 by Adam Claydon**



# Mailbag

Compiled by **Stuart Forsyth, Darfield**  
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Hello everyone and welcome to another month's worth of loggings, veries and musings. I don't normally start this column with a comment, as it is not a forum intended for me, rather it is intended for you. However, following a couple of comments made by members in their contributions, I am going to exercise an editorial privilege and have my say. DXing has changed hugely in the 30 odd years since I started. A look back through old copies of the DX Times is enough to make you realise the lack of participation these days. Thirty years ago the Mailbag page was full and the ladders almost needed a second page.

In days past stations all had engineers and were interested in receiving reports from listeners. There was no internet and computers were a rarity. The iron curtain was still in place and governmental opinion was expressed through its international service. How many of you remember Radio Peking castigating "imperialist paper tigers"? Listeners' letters and reports were an indication that stations were being listened to and provided an opportunity for them to send back their propaganda - be it religious or political.

The world has changed. The internet and live streaming means that for many stations their word can now get out for a fraction of the cost. Local radio stations have gone and have been replaced by national networks. Engineers now often work for a company and service transmitting equipment for a number of stations. Remember Alan Roycroft and the sterling work he did for us and for stations in Hawaii? That is now the norm rather than the exception.

Very often stations have never heard of DXers and DXing and what's more aren't interested. In many cases there is a very small staff doing a lot of work and they haven't the time to worry about QSLs.

In this day and age we are lucky to get QSLs back. Certainly we feel frustrated at not being able to verify that much-wanted station. I look at my own logbook - I logged 5 Uruguayans on Broadcast last year and have got none of them back. I logged 25 stations over Easter and have 7 veries only. It is frustrating, very frustrating, but it is the reality of DXing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

I think we should stop and reflect on this before criticising stations. Having said that I am still keen on chasing up reports and rejoice when I am successful. Perhaps it is time for the League to look at the question of verifying reports that stations won't verify.

I would welcome your feedback.

## Shortwave

**Barry Williams in Auckland** is first up this month. He says: 'I got off my backside and sent off a report. I have always had an interest in Russian transmitter sites. Still a few I have not got (if still active). I never thought I would see the day when Radio Moscow/Voice of Russia would be using Vatican Radio facilities.'

Veries are VOR 9665 via Kishinyov, 9860 via Vatican, and 9880 via Krasnodar.

*Thanks, Barry. It's good to see your name back in print and I hope you and Alice are both very well.*

**Ian Cattermole in Blenheim** has been down in the Garden City to celebrate a family event - the arrival in Lyttleton of his great grandfather James Cattermole on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1856. Meanwhile he has veries in from: IRRS 5785; RNZI 7145; Radio Tirana 7465, 6205; Gospel For Asia 9640; RDW 7350, 17860; CNR 9515; KTWR 9370; TWR St. Petersburg 7390; Radio Pilipinas 17655; CRI 17855, 11620, 15115, 15785; Radio Budapest 11695, 6040; RRI 9780; Bible Voice BC 15690; Radio TiKhiy Okean 6960; VOR 5945; RFA Sri Lanka 13865, 13820; Radio Bulgaria 5900; BBC Asia Relay 6195; Radio Republica 5910; RFA UAE 9805, 9875; RA 12010; CBS Taiwan 11940.

*Thanks, Ian, your usual impressive list.*

**Rich D'Angelo in Wyomissing, PA, USA** has had a quietish month, although he may be showing his age - he explains.

Things are relatively quiet on the shortwave frontier. Not much of interest happening either on the bands or in the mail. Oops! Let me take that back because I did verify a new country this month. Boy that must be a sign of age to forget something as important as a new country verified.

Heading off the QSL information for the month is my verification of All India Radio — Jammu, which is Kashmir on the NASWA list of radio countries. This would be c/v #224. Belarus offered an e-mail reply expressing puzzlement as to why I had not heard from them before. Interesting! Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty verified as Kavala not as the reported location of Thailand, a mild disappointment. However, since IBB is done using Kavala, this is will probably be my last "Kavala" verification. WYFR via Madagascar continues to verify the same report over and over again. Finally, Trans World Radio via the Meyerton Transmitting Station verified through the transmission provider, Sentech, with Kathy Otto of Broadcast Planning continuing to be very responsive to shortwave listener requests.

*Having senior moments is good, Rich - I have them all the time! Welcome to the club and congratulations on the new country. I'm not sure if it is a DX League country - but what the heck - let's celebrate it anyway!*

My good friend, **Joe Wood in Greenback, TN, USA** boasts a new QSL: RN via Madagascar 11655. The reply came directly from the relay site with nice stamps. V/S Rahamefy Eddy, Technical Department, Radio Nederland Wereldomroep Station Relais, BP 404, Antananarivo, Madagascar.

**Jerry Berg, Lexington, MA, USA** has veries in from: ABC Far North, Cairns, Queensland (via Shepparton) 6020 with a very nice letter from Richard Dinnen, Mgr, ABC Far North, for special cyclone coverage; with stickers and "ABC Far North Cyclone Tracking Map." Was especially appreciative of my CD: "We have had many hundreds of reception reports from all over the world, but there's nothing quite like hearing it for real. Your recording will be of great help to our transmission engineers who will use it to evaluate the performance of our transmitters." And he closed with a nice thought: "I am always inspired and encouraged by the commitment and fellowship of people in the shortwave radio scene. It is especially good to know that in this time of great fuss about the Internet, the original world wide web of shortwave is still strong and being heard by so many people."



*That's really good and positive.*

... and DSWCI 50th Anniv. QSL-cards, two received, one for Mystery Radio DSWCI special, the other for DSWCI segment of R. Japan via Sackville, both May 6. Good looking card without the computer look; prominent blue-and-black DSWCI logo, full-data, club name and address on back. Thanks, Anker Petersen.

Another overseas member, **Günter Jacob, Passau, Germany** has made contact. These verifications have arrived recently: R. Budapest 9690, R. Cairo 17595 (with support of Niveen W. Lawrence, after 1352 days), AWR via Meyerton 7180, DW via Alma Ata 7395 (after 216 days), IBB-Kuwait Transmitting Station 7555 / from George Miller, TX Plant Supervisor (Washington only sends promises, but no QSLs!), WHRA 5850 (after 235 days), RN via Bonaire 15540 (after 33 days), DW via Bonaire 15445 (after 212 days), Voz Cristiana Chile 11890/9780 (after 564/589 days and many reminders), La Voz de tu Conciencia HJDH 6010 (after 538 days).

*Radio Cairo is an example to us all in the value of patience! Well done.*

Local member, **Terje Neilsen, Christchurch** has a postwoman who smiles upon him! He has received veries from: Special 10 years QSL from Radio EDXP in Melbourne via KSDA Agat, Guam on 15320 kHz; DW 2 special World Cup QSL from Madagascar 15410, Neth. Antilles 9855, DW WC QSL and keyring from Irkutsk 17860; Voice of Russia from Moldova, Vatican , Krasnador 9665, 9860, 9880; RNW from Petropavlovsk on 12065; WYFR Florida 11855; R.Slovakia 9440 before closing down on 30th of June with a spec. trans on 1st of July; Ch.Africa 9685; R.Ukraine 7440; RNZ Int. 17675 answer in 5 months!!! and from 2ZH The Coast Hawera 1557.

*A good collection. The World Cup QSLs are good and worth keeping.*

**Des Davey in Te Kuiti** has QSLs to hand from CRI 9760, 11640, 11760, 11780, 11980 and 13645.

Reports are out to Radio Australia 5995, 6080, 9590, 13630, 15315, 15515, 17785; CRI China 11610, 15210; Radio Thailand World Service 9830.

*Good luck with getting them back. How about entering the ladders?*

**Ron Killick, Christchurch**, has 11 out for the month, all 2MHz Latins (I wish), and a few inbound: DW Petropavlovsk Köln scene card 7350, Wertachtel 6075 on World Cup card; BBC Nakhon Sawan 15510, aerial scene, but immaculate reverse with all details and more; Vatican 7305, 75th anniversary card of their Museum; R Roumania 15110 with "Moldovita Train" steam and 4 letter/email; Channel Africa 9685; Gospel for Asia via Wertachtel 9640; Croatian R via Wertachtel 9925 and Dem.Voice of Burma also Wertachtel 9490.

*A good healthy list. We can only hope for those 2 mHz Latins...!*

**Stu Forsyth, West Melton** reports loggings of Radio República via R Miami Int. 5910 and Mystery Radio 6220

## **Best QSL of the Month**

Terje Neilsen, Christchurch  
Channel Africa 9685

## Broadcast

League President, **David Norrie, Auckland**, took a trip south to DX (see below). Among his loggings were:

*It was great to see you again and I am not sure so much tea has been drunk at Ynak since your last visit!*

*Sutton Burtenshaw, Hamilton*, has contributed a mini-trail (see below). He comments that he still can't get the EWE in the correct position and needs to sell the caravan to do so! He is worried that his wife may think it is an extra clothes line when that occurs. *(You will have to educate her!!)*

The postman has not come to call of late, so follow-ups may be required.

*At least you are hearing things!*

**Steven Greenyer, Timaru**, has had fun with the recent snow. The fire engines in Timaru has trouble getting out of the station. The snow was deep and icy. He visited Ynak and logged Radio Salta, Argentina on 840.

*It was great to catch up, Steven. Hopefully no more snow for a long time!*

**Bryan Clark of Mangawhai/ Auckland** tells me that he has reports out to YVNZ Marabina 1420 and Tupi Brazil 1280.

*Tasty loggings and good luck with the Venezuelan!*

**Stu Forsyth in West Melton, near Christchurch** has veries in from: KUBA 1600; KOGO 600 and KFMB 760. I am getting ever nearer to 100 Yanks on MW.

Following the Ynak weekend, reports are out to LV9 Radio Salta, Argentina 840; WLAA 1680; HJIS La Cariñosa 1340; OAX4U Radio América 1010; WMLB 1690

## Best QSL of the Month

Stu Forsyth, West Melton (by default)

KUBA, Yuba City, CA 1600

### Sutton Burtenshaw & Stu Forsyth's Mini-trail

1380 0500 CHILE, R Coporación. Fair in SS with talk SMF  
1420 0630 AUSTRALIA, 3XY in Greek SB  
1460 0505 COLOMBIA Presumed R Nuevo Continente - Fair but hard to read. SMF  
1470 0500 PERU, CPN. Fair in SS SMF  
1570 0600 MEXICO, XERF SB  
1580 0545 KMIK, RDisney SB  
1580 0600 USA presumed KBLA in SS SB  
1660 0645 USA, KXOL "Oldies Radio" SB  
1670 0630 USA, KHPY in SS often mixed with other unident EE. SB  
1700 0607 USA, "Newstalk 1700 KVNS The Valley's Talk" SB  
1700 0515 MEXICO, XEPE "Cash 1700" SB

## Waianakarua DXpedition 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> July

League President David Norrie, desperate to get away from the DX noise of Auckland, flew to Christchurch and then went on Waianakarua to try out conditions there. July is not an ideal time for Broadcast band DX, but nevertheless things of interest were heard and some loggings made.

Steven Greenyer, Arthur De Maine, Peter Grenfell, David Headland, Arthur Finch and Stu Forsyth joined David and our host Paul Ormandy. Outside conditions weren't as cold as usual at this time of the year, although there was ice on the inside of the windows on Saturday morning.

A great meal of blue cod, oysters and chips were had by the out of towners for Saturday lunch and then we settled down to some good DX.

Conditions, while not great, were still interesting, with the first Latins making it to our sets by 0230 on Saturday - pretty impressive!

Thanks, as ever, to Paul for hosting us.

### Freq Time Country and details

700	0847	ARGENTINA, R Córdoba. Good promoting CD by Plácido Domingo
750	0845	ARGENTINA, R Nacional, Córdoba. MA & FA with concert promo & tangos
770	0702	COLOMBIA, RCN Bogotá - Good but suffering from splash. Classical mx and talk
800	0913	NETH ANTILLES, PJB, R Transmundial - vg in SS
820	0902	USA, WBAP. News item on Dallas Mayoralty
840	0702	ARGENTINA, R Salta. FA with temp, wind speed etc. Mixed with unid.
850	0801	COLOMBIA, 'W' Radio. Up with id and soft mx.
870	0814	ARGENTINA, R Nacional. 'La Noticia nacional - Extra en Nacional;. Vg sig
880	0659	VENEZUELA, R Venezuela, Puerto Ordaz. Dominant over KRVN
930	0624	COLOMBIA, La Voz de Bogotá. Good with mx, ids and axmnts.
1010	0337	PERU, R América. Fair/ poor - pops played and interviews later.
1110	0711	COLOMBIA, R Reloj. Good with id, talk and ballad
1140	0737	CHILE (tent.) R Nac. De Chile - possibly hiring out txer to Christian stn. Lots of relig talk. Vg.
1220	0633	MEXCIO, XEB. Fair with talk and ids
1320	0443	PERU, La Cronica. Good with Andean trumpet mx and ids.
1340	0539	COLOMBIA, La Cariñosa. Good with full id at 5.48
1380	0230	CHILE, R Corporación. Gd - impassioned MA with religion
1460	0525	COLOMBIA, R Nuevo Continente - good with promo for open-air religious rally
1520	0545	COLOMBIA, R Vida AM - briefly with id and ads for Banco de Bogotá and Banco del Navado etc. pop mx
1540	0430	BAHAMAS, R Bahamas. Ma & FA chatting - fair
1610	0557	ANGUILLA, Caribbean Beacon. Fair but fading with contemp. mx and then relig readings
1680	0644	USA, WLAA. Poor - only stn on freq. SS tunes and talk.
1690	0815	USA, WMLB - 'Voice of the Arts' with harp and classical mx. V few axmnts. Fair

## Mangawhai Trail – May/June 2006

BCM = Bryan Clark at Mangawhai Northland NZ with AOR7030+ and 100m BOG aerials running East and Northeast.

Unidentified off-frequency stations (presumably Latin Americans) heard during this period on 1599.9, 1599.8, 1578, 1570.15, 1570.06, 1569.92, 1480.22, 1450.1, 1392 (maybe a spur), 1360.2, 1352, 1329.96, 1209.9, 1149.75, 1109.94, 869.97 and 669.85.

- 640 0838 USA KFI Los Angeles CA with Art Bell on 'Coast to Coast AM' talk 26/6 parallel to 600 (maybe KOGO San Diego?). KFI's signal is still much inferior to levels before tower mishap. BCM
- 670 0551 CUBA Radio Rebelde with varied music prgm, ident and cuckoo sounds just before the hour followed by 'comentario', fair and quite regular nowadays 13/5. BCM
- 860 0658 MEXICO XEMO Tijuana good over US station with SS idents as "La Poda rosa, Radio 860" and "XEMO, La Poderosa, 860 AM", 3/6. BCM
- 870 0543 CUBA/UNIDENTIFIED Radio Reloj time pips mixing station with tango music (possibly Argentina) 13/5. BCM
- 870 0602 USA WWL New Orleans LA with CBS News, reports on new hurricane season from WWL reporters 13/5. Mixed with marimba music by 0607. At 0634 16/6 had promo for "WWL, we grew up together, we suffered together". BCM
- 1050 0714 MEXICO XEG Monterrey usually dominating with music format, call sign ident and "Ranchera" slogan 16/6. BCM
- 1060 0753 MEXICO XEEP Radio Educación fair with jazz music prgm. SW // 6185 much stronger 15/6. BCM
- 1130 0433 USA KWKW Shreveport LA fair with politician's speech about hurricane aftermath 5/6 during news report. BCM
- 1140 0847 MEXICO XEMR Monterrey dominant talk format in SS with ident as "MR 11-40" and references to 'Monterrey Central' 3/6. BCM
- 1149.75 0535 UNID Latin with annct mentioning "La Voz de Salvador", instrumentals & vocals, mixed or over Los Angeles talker 2/6. BCM
- 1150 0703 USA KTLK Los Angeles with news then "AM 11-50 Traffic" report, mixing with 2 Latins this day 18/6. BCM
- 1160 0536 UNIDENTIFIED Latin 13/5 with fiery evangelist who sounds just like the 'La Voz de la Liberación' religious programme I'm hearing on Peruvians Radio Victoria 780 and Miraflores 1250. Internet search shows that Finnish DXers heard this prgm relayed on 1160 by Ecos de Colombia in Bogota back in December 2001. BCM
- 1170 0706 USA KFAQ Tulsa OK with ident as "11-70 KFAQ.com", then into Coast to Coast talk show. 2CH in background but soon on top 17/6. BCM
- 1200 0729 WOAI San Antonio TX good breaking from 'Coast to Coast AM' talk 3/6, ident as "The station you can depend on for weather, Radio 1200 WOAI", then news headlines and weather. BCM
- 1230 0535 ARGENTINA LT2 Radio Dos, Rosario up briefly with SS ident. Tango music also heard on 1120 and 870 around this time 13/5. BCM
- 1280 0518 BRAZIL Radio Tupi, Rio de Janeiro up at fair strength with news talk format in PP, frequent promo idents 18/6. My 'best log' for Mangawhai to date. BCM
- 1300 0436 COLOMBIA Unid in mix of Latins here 1/7, one with religious format, the other

- with Andean and Latin rhythms. Colombian national anthem heard at 0515. BCM
- 1310 0717 USA KMKY San Francisco CA up with Radio Disney music prgm, idents & promos for "Dot Com Top 3" BCM
- 1340 0514 COLOMBIA HJIS La Carinosa, Buenaventura up with station jingle, otherwise mixed another Latin tentatively Radio Maria in Venezuela 5/6. BCM
- 1380 0631 CHILE Radio Corporación good with guitar music, soft SS anncts 13/5. BCM
- 1400 0432 COLOMBIA HJ?? good, steady signal with football commentary 4/6, teams possibly from Barranquilla and Ecuador. Commercial breaks throughout and ident for "RCN Colombia" at 0451, later jingle for "La Voz de Colombia". BCM
- 1400 1118 MEXICO? Ident like "La Voz de Macale en Mexico" heard over several other stations 4/6. BCM
- 1400 0400 MEXICO XEAC tentatively the one with sung Mexican anthem 0414 followed by station annct mentioning Aguascalientes, 5/6 BCM
- 1400 0452 UNIDENTIFIED Latin with religious prgm 25/6, hymns, orchestrals, prayers with repetition of "Spiritus Sanctus", fair. Other times have been hearing non-stop inspirational orchestrals throughout evening. BCM
- 1420 0435 VENEZUELA YVNZ Radio Marabina good with popular songs past 0500 18/6/06. Regular time checks, idents and promos for 24 hour operation in SS throughout. Weak SS talker in background. Review of earlier tapes confirms that I first heard this 5/6 BCM
- 1460 0535 COLOMBIA HJJW Bogota over Hawaii & KABL Oldies with gospel comprehensive ident including frequencies & telephone numbers 2/6. BCM
- 1470 0600 PERU CPN Radio Lima still the most consistent Latin, audible as early as 0330 on good days, with spoken prgm. Ident as "CPN Radio, la Informar Mejor" 0604/6. BCM
- 1499.9 0451 PERU Radio Santa Rosa, Lima a regular nowadays with SS talk, 13/5. This and CPN Radio 1470 are the earliest South Americans heard. BCM
- 1540 0753 BAHAMAS ZNS1 Radio Bahamas dominant with music prgm, KMPC sports weakly in background 13/5. BCM
- 1570 0509 MEXICO XERF Ciudad Cohilla strong as usual with full ident — callsign, power and slogan 'La Poderosa' 18/6. Another Mexican in background with anthem — quite often audible but not yet identified. BCM
- 1660 0801 USA WCNZ Marco Island FL briefly dominant with News 13/5, apparent id as "This is CN Radio", Botox commercials, into 'Relevant Radio' Catholic talk from 0805. Within next 5 minutes, idents heard for Radio Visa (KTIQ) in SS and KXOL with oldies. BCM
- 1700 0414 MEXICO XEPE Cash Radio with EE talk of economics, peaking fair 13/5. BCM



## NORTH AMERICAN BROADCAST NEWS

From National Radio Club's "DX News" bulletin

- 730 CHMJ Vancouver BC format is Traffic and Talk.
- 870 KRLA Glendale CA - CP granted for U4 50/3kw. KRLA still has a pending application for U4 20/37kw, which was contingent upon the granting of an application of co-channel KHNR Honolulu, Hawaii to move to 880. Since KHNR has been heard on 880, but still nothing in the FCC records indicating that request has been approved, we have to assume the FCC's formal OK has not yet been given.
- 950 WPEN Philadelphia PA - License to Cover granted for U2 5000/21000 with the night facilities at the WWDB-860 site.
- 1270 WNOG Naples FL - CP granted to increase their nighttime power to become U4 5kw day & night and make adjustments to the night pattern, changing the heading from 193 to 180 degrees. The application was submitted in 1989!
- 1510 KYOL CO Littleton - CP granted for U4 9500/19000. KYOL still has two applications pending: one for U4 50/25kw; and one for U4 10/25kw.
- 1630 KKGW Fort Worth TX - License to Cover issued to move to shorter tower. KKGW remains U1 10kw day, 1kw nights.

## PACIFIC UPDATE

From National Radio Club's "DX News" bulletin

- 612 KUAM Agana, Guam - applies to change freq to 630 kHz with U1 10kw day & night.
- 648 WVUV Leone, American Samoa - Applies for Special Temporary Authority to be silent as they construct a replacement for their long wire antenna. The station has a pending application to move to 720 kHz with U1 5kw day & night.
- 690 KORL Honolulu HI per Honolulu Star-Bulletin, just a few weeks after Salem Communications' KHCM moved to 1180 from 1170 (see DDXD-W 73-26 Ed.-WII), Salem announced it would be swapping KHCM's facilities for KORL's sometime this summer. The move would put KHCM's country format back on a 10 kW transmitter (Salem sold KHCM's old channel of 940 in 2004 to Cox Radio), while the coverage area of 1180 would better serve KORL's audience (despite running only 800 watts). KORL recently reduced its Japanese output while adding more Filipino and Spanish programming. (Dale Park)
- 1180 KHCM Honolulu HI heard here for the first time 4/5, ex-1170, with regular sounding programming, C&W music and Classic Country songs. IDs between each selection are "AM 11-80 KHCM," "11-80 on your dial, KHCM" or "11-80 on your radio dial, AM Country KHCM." Poor signal, over/under KERI CA, KOFI MT, and possibly WHAM NY. Must be testing; heard only irregularly, not daily. The move from 1170 to 1180 seems pointless to me, as it brings KHCM closer to KZOO 1210, leaving a separation of 30 kHz when all other Honoluluans are at least 40 kHz apart. Also, KSSK 590 produces a 2nd harmonic on 1180 that is troublesome in some parts of Oahu. (Richard Wood)
- 1420 KKEA Honolulu HI station re-branded itself 31/5, switching from the slogan "Sportsradio 14-20" to "ESPN 14-20." Station also replaced TOH CNN radio newscasts with ESPN Radio SportsCenter. (Dale Park)

## BROADCAST NEWS FROM THE AMERICAS

From IRCA's "DX Monitor" bulletin

### USA

- 570 KNRS Salt Lake City UT now 5kw day & night, applies for 25kw day/5kw nights.
- 730 CHMJ Vancouver BC format is now sports talk.
- 740 KCBS verified by prepared card, signed by Ed Cavagnaro, Director of News & Programming; 865 Battery St, San Francisco CA 94111. In 42 days after follow-up. (Martin Folz)
- 830 KMXE letter verie from Brian Clark, Director of Engineering; 15301 Ventura Blvd, Bldg D, Suite 200, Sherman Oaks CA 91403. (Martin Folz)
- 860 KTRB Modesto CA signed off 19 June after 73 years plus one day of service to the Modesto community. KTRB signed off in preparation for their move to the new location of San Francisco. Announced that KMPH-840 would be coming on to replace this station FCC database lists 840 facility as KPMP, but Pappas Broadcasting also owns KMPH-TV 26, so likely will change calls before commencing service. (Fred Eatlock & Rich Toebe)
- 1000 WMVP Chicago IL granted 50kw day & night
- 1150 XERM Mexicali BCN format changed from regional Mexican to Spanish hits
- 1190 XEMBC Mexicali BCN format is now Spanish hits 'R Hablado'
- 1200 WRTO Chicago IL granted increase in powers to 20kw days, 4.5kw nights.
- 1270 WNLS Tallahassee FL seeks 50kw DA2. Currently 5kw day & night
- 1280 KFRN letter verie from Suong Tran, Public Affairs Director; 3550 Long Beach Blvd, Suite D4, Long Beach CA 90807 (Martin Folz)
- 1290 KKDD verified by prepared card signed by Bill Georgi, Senior Operations Director; 2030 Iowa Ave, Suite A, Riverside CA 92507; P; 5; MF
- 1410 KTME Lompoc CA has changed call letters to KINF. (Dennis Gibson)
- 1510 KGA Dan Mitchinson, Program Director; 1601 East 57th, Spokane WA 99223 verified my report by email. (Martin Folz)
- 1610 CJWI verified after 11 months and several follow-ups by prepared card signed by Mr. Badiana Bazin, Director of Programming; 3733, Jarry Est, 2e Étage, Montréal PQ H1Z 2G1 Canada. (Jim Pogue)
- 1620 WTAW promptly verified by QSL card from Ben Downs, Chief Engineer; PO Box 3248, College Station TX 77805. (Greg Hall)
- 1630 KKGm promptly verified by letter from Jack Davis, Program Manager; 5787 S Hampton Rd, Suite 108, Dallas TX 75232 (Greg Hall)
- 1640 KDZR QSL response letter from Jacqueline ?; 3030 SW Moody, Suite 210, Portland OR 97201. (Martin Floz)
- 1640 WKSH finally verified after 3 follow-ups and 14 months, letter from Deb Bratel, Station Manager; W223 N3251 Shady Lane, Pewaukee WI 53072. (Jim Pogue)
- 1650 KCNZ replied by letter from Janelle Rench, Office Manager, PO Box 248, Cedar Falls IA 50613. (Greg Hall)
- 1660 KTIQ returned prepared card after follow-up, in 93 days. Address: 1020 West Main St, Merced CA 95340. (Martin Folz)
- 1690 WWAA verified by prepared card signed by John Ervin; PO Box 13087, Atlanta GA

30324. In 13 months after 3 follow-ups. (Jim Pogue)

1690 WWAA Avondale Estates GA has changed call to WMLB, format now Variety.

## ARGENTINA

Radio Bethel from Villa Caraza, Partido de Lanus, Provincia de Buenos Aires is a new religious station broadcasting on 1640 kHz. According to Arnaldo Slaen, who reported hearing the station first on May 8, the signal in Buenos Aires is strong, and the previous dominant on the frequency, Radio Bolivia, is off the air. Radio Bethel broadcasts programs by the Asamblea de Dios (Assembly of God) church. (DXing.info)

Radio Nacional, LRA, 870 in Buenos Aires, has just installed a new 100 kW transmitter, putting it back up to full capacity after many years running at only 20 kW, per press reports. (Glenn Hauser)

## COLOMBIA

1080 HJAX La 1080, Medellín, ex Radio Recuerdos

1530 HJDN La Voz de Jesucristo, Medellín, ex La Voz de Misericordia.  
(Héctor Arboleda, Arctic)

## CUBA

CMW 710 verified by QSL card from Jorge Luis Marfín Cuevas, J'Grupo Relaciones Públicas; Emisora Radio Rebelde, Apartado Postal 6277, La Habana, Cuba (Jim Pogue)

## HONDURAS

The government of Honduras approved a decree by which the country's official time will be moved forward by 60 minutes, that is, implementing a summer time or daylight time regime, as in other countries. The local time is then UT-5 and not UT-6 anymore, since midnight of Saturday May 6 to Sunday May 7, 2006. At 0000 local time we moved our watches forward one hour. The government said "indefinitely", but I would bet this schedule would be on at least until Sept 30. Also Guatemala and Nicaragua have adopted this measure. So "keep an ear out" for Central American stations (Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua) now to begin broadcasting one hour early, possibly increasing your chance of getting them in the local morning hours (from 10 to 11 UT) while we are entering the grey line. (Elmer Escoto, Honduras, May 9, DXLD)

**URUGUAY** returned from UTC-2 to UTC-3 hours on Mar 12 at 0400 UT.  
(Horacio Nigro, DXLD)







**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER ANDREW MacGOWAN**, 76 Elmslie Road, Pinehaven, Upper Hutt 5019. We trust you find membership of the DX League and the contributions of members through the 'NZ DX Times' helpful to your radio listening Robert.

**RADIO ST HELENA REVIVAL UPDATE** Further to last months report in this column, **PETER GRENFELL** has forwarded additional information from organiser **ROBERT KIPP**. Robert advises that the project to acquire a transmitter and antennas for the shortwave broadcast later this year is not just a short-term or one-off operation. The equipment will be permanently installed and under full control of Radio St. Helena (RSH). The station will decide how and when the shortwave broadcasts take place in future. In 2007 there will be a double anniversary at RSH that may result in another broadcast, however the focus at present is to get the equipment to the island and the station built.

Robert continues "we are within the time plan and intend to ship the entire station (except for the beam antenna) from England at the beginning of July. After the antenna tower arrives on the island, the foundation for the tower will be built. The beam will accompany me on the ship at the end of September. After I arrive on the island with the beam antenna, the entire facility will be put together and tested."

**Robert will be trying for the first weekend in November 2006 for the "revival" broadcast.** The plan is to revive the world-famous "Radio St Helena Day" shortwave transmissions in USB with 1 kilowatt on 11092.5 KHz on Saturday 4 November, 2006 at the "usual" UTC times with broadcasts first to Europe and then to North America. Further broadcasts are planned for Sunday 5 November, 2006 at about 0800 UTC. Robert says "we plan to first broadcast directly to Japan and then, immediately thereafter, to New Zealand. The exact UTC-times are not certain as yet. The exact beam directions (long or short path or both) are not certain as yet. These Sunday programs will be the usual complete programs and may be "one-time-only" programs. They will also be as a "thank-you" to the Japan Short Wave Club for their tremendous help in making these "RSH Day Revival" broadcasts possible and to the New Zealand Radio DX League for their support over the years."

A sponsor has been secured for the new RSH QSL cards. DXers will need to send at least 3 IRC's or 3 "Greenstamps" for a QSL response.

Donations are still being solicited for this project to revive Radio St Helena on shortwave, with some US\$10,000 all up being required for all the equipment and transportation costs. Donations to date are valued at \$2500. In NZ, Peter Grenfell is coordinating receipt of donations, including that from DX League branches and members. His mailing address is 1 Stour Street, Oamaru, and cheques should be made payable to "North Otago Branch NZRDXL" Peter will receipt all donations and provide donors with details of the funds collected and forwarded to the Robert and the project organisers in Germany.

More information on the project can be found on the Internet at [www.sthelena.se/radioproject](http://www.sthelena.se/radioproject). Be sure to look also at the other information on the "RSH History" page about past shortwave broadcasts from this remote South Atlantic island.

## **RURAL DXERS APPRECIATE RADIO** Former Taranaki farmer **ROBIN CHAMBERS**

comments on last month's item about the benefits of radio on a dairy cow's milk output. He agrees with much of the article but says there was something the cows didn't like – broadcasts from Parliament!

## **THANKING OUR VOLUNTEERS** Some words of appreciation from Te Kuiti

member **DES DAVEY** are a reminder of the volunteers who each month give of their time to ensure we have a stimulating magazine to read. Des writes: "Thanks guys; for a very interesting DX Times issue in June. Very interesting reading and plenty of goodies. Well done chaps, keep up the good work". You can show your appreciation of our Chief Editor **MARK NICHOLLS** and his editorial team by sending in a contribution to one or more of the columns in this magazine.

**From NZRDXL member Jerry Berg, 38 Eastern Avenue, Lexington, MA 02421, USA**

## **NEW HISTORY MATERIAL AT <http://www.ontheshortwaves.com>**

Under "Articles, Research, etc.," "Recordings": Those Central American clandestine recordings that we posted brought back some interesting memories from the 1980s, and here are some more: recordings of some of the U.S. shortwave stations that came on in that decade. Most were made while the stations were still testing. WRNO was the first commercial SWBC station approved by the FCC since WINB came on the air in 1962, and the others followed. The recordings are: WRNO, New Orleans, Louisiana, 11965 kHz., 1982; KCBI, Dallas, Texas, 11790, 1985; WHRI, Noblesville, Indiana, 11780, 1985; WCSN, Scotts Corner, Maine, 6160, 1987; KUSW, Salt Lake City, Utah, 15225, 1988; and WWCR, Nashville, Tennessee, 15690, 1989. Not real oldies, but fun.

Under "Articles, Research, etc.," "Pot Pourri," an interesting album created by Arthur L. Robb of Topeka, Kansas, the most distant attendee at the First Canadian DX Relay Convention in St. Catharines, Ontario on August 31, 1935. (The Canadian DX Relay was about three years old at the time and billed itself as Canada's only DX club.) Most of the album contains sightseeing photos, neatly mounted and labeled with white ink. However, there are some interesting radio-related items as well: a "Most Distant Visitor" card; an envelope from The Welland House, where the meeting took place; a newspaper article about the meeting; and a photo of CKTB, which provided a tour. The album also contains some post-convention items: 1936 and 1942 newspaper articles about BCB DX specials which Robb reported (KRNR and KRJF), a sheet of Canadian DX Relay stationery, and a "Radio DX Fan" card. The most interesting thing to me is that the authors of the newspaper articles never felt it necessary to explain what "DX" was! (Accompanying the album was the rest of the pack of NuAce photo mounting corners--15 cents for a pack of 60 in those days. The last time I bought them I paid \$4 for 240.)

Under "Articles, Research, etc.," "Philately," DXer Tetsuya Hirahara of Japan has sent along two first day covers, a postal card, and an explanation (in Spanish) from 1971 when Mexico commemorated 50 years of broadcasting. The relevant date is October 9, 1921, which is when engineer Constantino de Tarnava commenced operation of Mexico's first commercial station, CYO, which later became XEH. The station was located in his house. I have added a card from my own collection which, in 1996, celebrated the event's 75th anniversary with the issuance of a stamp showing Constantino de Tarnava.

# MEDIUM WAVE DXING

## AN INTRODUCTION

By Paul Ormandy

I've been asked a seemingly simple question: How do you DX mediumwave stations? Well, the answer proved more complicated than at first thought and worthy of sharing, so here goes!

Let's first look at what you'll need for a typical DX session.

### **Receiver:**

It's not just a matter of using any rig proclaimed to be a "DX machine" and flicking around the MW band! Because you'll be ferreting out signals in the presence of New Zealanders as little as 1kHz away, you need a receiver with excellent selectivity (i.e. the ability to provide the desired signal with a high degree of protection from adjacent signals). This requires a receiver with a narrow IF filter, something a bandwidth close to 2.4kHz and ideally with a shape factor of 1.6 or less, typically a crystal filter.

To define the shape factor in layman's terms, think of the filter shape as resembling a mountain, with a narrow, flat top and steep sides. The narrow peak is the bit that is ideally around 2.4kHz and the steeper the walls the better the shape factor and greater the ability to separate adjacent stations. Many receivers are fitted with ceramic filters, some around the 2.4kHz mark, though the flatter wall slopes on these filters will not suppress strong adjacent signals as well as a crystal filter. A number of receivers have narrow filter options that are only selectable in SSB mode, that's fine; the fidelity may not be as easy on the ear as AM mode and you will be confronted with whistles as you zero-beat signals but you can still work DX very satisfactorily.

Rather than tune MW in AM mode, by tuning in SSB, you can also select the best side-band for the situation, e.g. if you're on 1070kHz and the interference is coming from 1071kHz, use Lower Side Band. Similarly if you're on 1360kHz and the interference is coming from 1359kHz, use Upper Side Band.

If you have a receiver with multiple memory channels, you can program the best sideband for each frequency (you'll need 117 memories for each 10kHz channel of the MW band between 530 and 1700kHz).

Distant MW signals are frequently very weak; therefore you'll need a sensitive receiver, ideally one that can successfully provide an audible signal from stations that hardly move the S-meter.

Recommended models are (in no particular order): Drake models R8, R8A, R8B, AOR models AR7030, AR7030+, Kenwood R5000, Japan Radio models NRD535D, NRD 545, Drake SPR-4, Icom models IC-R71A, IC-R71E, IC-R75. If you're on a budget, look no further than the Palstar R30, and if price is no impediment the Ten Tec RX340 or Watkins Johnson HF1000.

A word of warning: some "high-end" receivers are down-graded by their manufacturers for MW use, ostensibly to prevent strong nearby mediumwave signals from overloading the set. This is accomplished by building in signal attenuation. In a number of cases, removing the attenuation can be easily performed by a competent soldering-iron welder (e.g. Kenwood R5000) or by using a manufacturer's solution to over-ride the factory setting. Similarly, many sets have preamplifiers, which are very useful on SW though disabled on MW; again, there are often ways around this problem too.

### **Aerials:**

Ideally, you need a Beverage antenna. Something at least 300 metres long, between 2 - 4 metres high, pointed at your target area, terminated to ground via a resistor of approximately 470 -560 Ohms at the far end, and fed with coax and an impedance matching transformer. There are few alternatives that come even close to a Beverage for MW DX.

If you don't have the real estate for such a device, there are a number of aerials that take up a lot less room and deliver superior results to a random wire antenna. Slopers, K9AY, EWE, Kaz, Flag, Radial Wire and Pennant aerials all have directional properties and are worth exploring. Some of these will fit in an average back yard. More information can be found on the internet or in antenna handbooks. Even a simple half-wave dipole, fed with an impedance matching transformer and coax in an electrically quiet environment can produce reasonable results.

### **Earth:**

Make sure you go to the trouble of installing a good earth system. If you're fortunate to listen in an area where the soil has a high moisture content, a single earth rod is probably all you'll need. If your soil is dry or rocky and has little moisture retention, you'll need to go to more trouble, i.e. several earth rods, a buried wire, metal mat (copper is best), buried coax etc etc.

Another trick is to connect another aerial in place of your earth wire. This can be particularly advantageous if your earth is electrically noisy.

If you're listening from a place supplied with mains power, make sure your earth rod is well apart from the mains earth, otherwise interference being bled to ground via your mains may be picked up by your receiver's earth.

## **Coaxial cable:**

You can pretty much use any cable, whether it's 50 or 75 ohms and at MW frequencies, signal loss is negligible. I know of one DXpedition that ran 200 plus metres of coax to an aerial and achieved good results. If cost is a factor, then RG59 TV coax will probably be your best option. If you want to buy 50 ohm coax, go for RG58C (the one with just copper braid, i.e. not an additional aluminium foil) and if money's no object, RG213 50 ohm coax.

## **Tape-recorder:**

If you're using a tape-recorder for DXing, it should be AC/DC powered, have a tape-counter (essential), an earphone outlet and a mic recording jack (preferably a line-in connection). When running away from the mains, use alkaline batteries as they provide a good operating life and won't leak if left unused for some time. When you first put a new tape into the unit, set the counter at zero and jot the counter reading down against the time and event, e.g

031 0435:30 Station ID and commercial for Mortgage Wizz

034 0436:00 Song introduced, Dr Hook "Sylvia's Mother"

038 0439:30 Announcer gives time, id and weather brief.

Some DXers leave the recorder running all the time, this means they never miss recording what they hear, though does mean quiet a bit of editing later to skip songs etc.

After using portable cassette tape-recorders for many years, many DXers now prefer the mini-disk option. Mini-disks offer many advantages, namely -no loss of original recording even after multiple replays, quicker access to tracks (almost instant slipping between recordings).Mini-disks also automatically create an index point for every recording., e.g.

01 0435:30 Station ID and commercial for Mortgage Wizz

02 0436:00 Song introduced, Dr Hook "Sylvia's Mother"

03 0439:30 Announcer gives time, id and weather brief

## **Blank recording media:**

If using audio cassettes, C60s are recommended as they are less likely to cause problems than C90s and less time spent rewinding/fast forwarding.

## **Timer:**

Preferably, with a seconds display and an alarm for early-morning excursions. A dual-time option to display local and UTC time is very handy.

## **Log-book:**

There is a wide choice of material to use. School exercise book with ruled pages are eminently suitable and very cheap at around 40c each. The tape/disk number is written in the left-hand column and station on the left hand page, with announcements transcribed onto the right hand page. As a suggestion, number the books themselves sequentially and have the start and end dates on the front cover.

As we're dealing with domestic stations primarily, I don't use the SINPO code to describe reception conditions. Most MW broadcasters wouldn't know what it was and due to the non-repetitive nature of many DX catches, there's little point in telling a distant station what conditions were like. It's better to give them a comparison between their signal and others in the same geographical area.

## **Headphones:**

Go for full ear muff variety, not open-air (especially if you don't want to share your listening with others). Make sure the band isn't too tight and that they're going to be comfortable to wear for hours on end, i.e. have soft padding. Good quality 'phones produced by hi-fi brands such as Pioneer, Sony, Technics etc will do the job admirably though if you want the best, go straight to Sennheiser. Make sure the pads are large enough to cover your entire ear or they may become uncomfortable.

## **Patch cord:**

That's cable that connects your receiver to your recorder. If you're making your own cable, don't scrimp with el-cheapo wire, use good quality shielded microphone cable. Note: the line output level of most receivers will connect directly to the line input of a mini-disk recorder, however, if you're connecting the receiver into a mic input and your receiver doesn't have a variable line output level, then you'll need a patch cord with signal-dropping resistors to match the two together.

## **Reference material:**

World Radio TV Handbook  
Passport to World Band Radio

Atlas

Language dictionaries etc

Sunrise/sunset plotters (e.g. Xantek's "DX Edge") for determining likely signal-paths, fade-in and fade-out times.

## **Target lists:**

Here's an idea; maintain a list of target stations and update it periodically. A good media is a computer spread-sheet with worksheets for time blocks, e.g. 0200 - 0400, 0400 - 0600, 0600 - 0800 etc. Each sheet can then be printed out and taken on DXpedition with you.

You can also use lists of wanted stations, countries, states, etc with columns for frequency, time etc and all sortable by any of the columns. Because MW DXing is a lot more random than SW, it's difficult to plan what you're likely to hear in any great detail (and that can be the great thrill of MW!).

I'll define my target lists by keeping note of what other Dxers have heard or by type. Typically unheard US States, unheard countries, wanted stations etc, sorted into geographical regions. Then if propagation favours a certain area, e.g. the Caribbean, I can quickly turn to a list where all unheard Caribbeans are listed by frequency along with their hours of operation, power along with any other helpful info.

## **Computer :**

These days, especially with laptops/notebooks, many of the lists you need can be maintained on computer. A laptop/notebook is handy for remote DXpeditions though choose one that doesn't emit huge amounts of radio interference or you'll curse the thing!

## **Misc :**

Pens (that work!)

Spare batteries for the recorder.

An aerial switch.

An audio switch (so you can flick between the recorder and the receiver without disconnecting your headphones).

An aerial phaser, tuner, noise-canceller etc.

## **Power:**

If you're intending to run your receiver off battery, a deep-cycle lead acid battery, similar to

a standard car battery in size is strongly recommend. These are very much more powerful than a car battery and able to run heavy loads with little drop in voltage. Some receivers (e.g. Drake R8) run close to 2 amps. *(Paul has had experience with my early model Drake R8 draining all the batteries while we've been on a Dxpedition - A real power hungry set - Chief Editor)*

Over a week of listening, you'll need 2 fully charged standard car batteries at least. A deep-cycle battery also requires different care to a standard battery.

An auto-charger is recommended for keeping the deep-cycle battery in optimum storage condition. Typically, these chargers deliver around 4-6 amps initially, then as the charge in the battery builds up and resistance lowers, it flicks into trickle-charge mode to keep the battery in optimum condition. These batteries are 2 - 3 times the price of a regular car battery so deserve that extra care (though worth every penny!).

Now, if you're running your receiver off mains power, it is possible that noise is entering your receiver via the mains earth. Try running your set on batteries and see if the noise is reduced.

For prolonged operation on DC where battery life is a consideration, the low power-draw of the Drake SPR-4, Palstar R30 and AOR AR7030 and 7030+ are major considerations and all of these sets also provide excellent performance.

### **Here's how a typical DX-session unfolds:**

- Set up the radio, tape recorder etc at least an hour before you would expect distant signals to appear (i.e. up to 2 hours before sunset, depending on propagation).
- Make a test recording to verify that the tape/mini-disk is working OK. Check your timer against WWV to ensure it's accurate and have a spare tape/disk ready to slot into the recorder at a moment's notice.
- Begin tuning with a quick band-scan of the lower SW freqs to get some idea of propagation. In NZ, the first signals to arrive are from the East, rarely Europe and most likely from the Americas. During Summer (Oct-Feb) from North America; Winter (May - Aug) from South America and for the rest of the year, either region could be audible first. If signals are readable on the 60 meter band (4.75 - 5.1MHz), it's time to check for early arrivals on MW. The exact channels to monitor will vary due to your listening location and proximity to NZ-based transmitters, so frequencies quoted below are a guide.

First to be checked are the X-band freqs (1610 - 1700kHz), then the 50kW US channels,



1580, 1520, 1200, 1130, 1120, 1110, 1070, etc, and marker Latin channels like 1470, 1460, 1370, 1230, 1000 etc. Radio Marti 1180 is often the first to fade-in any time of the year and certain channels can produce both North and South America in the first hour or so, e.g. 1560, 1550, 1540, 1500, 1420, 1300, 1290, 1250, 1220, 1190, 1170, 1090, 1060 etc.

You'll note that many of the channels first checked are above 1MHz. Almost always, the higher MW freqs fire first. Don't neglect the lower channels though as on the rare occasion, they can be where all the action is. Usually, when they are the early starters, the dominant signals are from the East Coast of the US. Freqs to watch here for North America are 940, 890, 860, 830, 790, 740, 720, 710, 680, 670, 590, 580, 570, 560,

Additionally the following channels favour South America - 980, 970, 730, 620, 610 and deep South America (Chile, Argentina, Uruguay & Brazil) 960, 950, 930, 920, 910, 880, 870, 850, 840, 820, 800, 780, 770, 760, 750, 700, 690, 660, 650, 600, 550 and 540.

On the rare occasion when long-path Europeans are audible, there are several channels, bereft of New Zealanders to monitor. Namely 648, 684, 747, 936, 1107, 1323, 1377, 1422, 1467, 1485 & 1566. These are generally only productive a couple of years either side of the sunspot minima, e.g. 2005 - 2009, and often only heard when sunrise lift at the transmitter coincides with sunset in NZ. The propagation follows the "Greyline" phenomena, virtually travelling in the continuous twilight belt between the two points.

## **First Signals:**

Early tuning involves a helter-skelter approach, flicking between channels looking for signals of substance or something that sounds different to what you'd expect. Note any interesting freqs for subsequent re-checks and make sure that around the top of the hour, you're sitting on a channel in anticipation of an identification.

That's when a timer that displays seconds is handy, you can arrive on a channel to coincide with the top of the hour identification, not 5 seconds after! Same thing on the half-hour and in the couple of minutes after network news broadcasts as these are the most common times for local program content.

The best times for MW signals tends to be from first signal appearance to an hour or two after receiver sunset. This is also before Australian stations start to fade in and provide more interference to deal with.

## **The Second Wave:**

Then in the later evening after local sunset, things start to moderate and can be quite patchy. This is a good time to take a break, have a meal and sit on a channel that shows some promise. That is until stations on the Eastern edge of the America's approach daylight and can gain strength in a phenomena known as a "Sunrise Lift".

Sunrise lift can last from a couple of minutes to over half an hour as they enter the

twilight period. It's possible for different stations to peak on the same frequency one after the other as sunrise works its way from East to West.

For example on 1180kHz, WHAM Rochester NY can peak, followed by Radio Marti in Florida and then KOFI Kalispell, Montana and lastly KERI Wasco, California. progression of sunrise lifts sweeps westwards until dawn arrives here too though the peaks are more noticeable on East-West paths than North-South.

Additionally, stations can sign-on at local sunrise or increase power dramatically as sunrise approaches. Look for stations like KCTA Corpus Christi, Texas 1030 or KATL Miles City, Montana 770 and powerful Latins waking to spring into life.

Well, you have to sleep some time and when on a DXpedition, unless there is a good opening to a particular area other than the Land of Nod, it's lights out around midnight. If you do stay awake, look for the "midway midnight" phenomena, i.e when midnight is at a half-way point between you and your target. An example, a "midway midnight" opening from NZ to Japan may occur at midnight on a point half-way between the two, e.g. Papua New Guinea, so midnight in PNG, 1400z, could be a good time for a Japan-NZ path to open.

Additional over-night targets are mostly from Asia and latterly the Middle East. A "midway midnight" path into India would be centred on East Timor, i.e. 1500z.

Also, when sunrise hits the West Coast of the USA, pretty much any signal you'll hear on a 10kHz channel (other than NZ co-channels like 540, 630, 720, 810, 900, 990, 1080, 1170, 1260, 1350, 1440, 1530) will be from Hawaii or Alaska. Many Alaskans and Hawaiians share channels so you may hear either on channels like 620, 650, 670, 720, 750, 850, and 870. Alaskans are seldom heard above 1000kHz whilst Hawaiians are often good on 1040, 1210, 1270, 1460, 1500 and 1540.

### **Last Chance:**

The next phase of listening activity is around an hour before our sunrise. Propagation during this period is from Asia, Europe, Australia, Western Pacific and if you're very lucky, Africa. Channels to watch are those free from NZers, i.e. 648, 684, 747, 936, 1107, 1323, 1377 1422, 1467, 1485 & 1566, plus 1368 which has a NZer on daytime hours. Most of these channels are dominated by Aussies though target signals may also dominate our Tasman cousins on 657, 711, 760, 774, 1062, 1143, 1179, 1242, 1296, 1359, 1440, 1521, 1548 & 1557. Additionally, there are no Aussies on 909 so if there's something audible other than the usual NZer, stay tuned!

During this same period, longwave can provide a surprise. Look for Romania 153, France 162, Turkey 180, Germany 177 & 183, Algeria 198, Morocco and Jordan 207 and Russians on almost every channel. During the last sunspot minima (1997), longwave signals were still audible an amazing 2 hours after our sun-rise!

When only NZ signals remain on the dial, it's time to take a break, catch up on some sleep, prepare for the next assault on the air-waves and dream of QSLs.



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The New Zealand Radio DX League (Inc) is a non-profit organisation founded in 1948 with the main aim of promoting the hobby of Radio DXing.

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