

N.Z. RADIO



LEAGUE

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N.Z. RADIO



LEAGUE

GROOVE 107.7 FM
cafe style radio

Deadline for next issue is Wed 2nd April 2008 . P.O. Box 39-596, Howick, Manukau 2145

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FRONT COVER

Groove FM sticker from the Low Power FM
Pages at the Radio Heritage Foundation
<http://www.radioheritage.net>

League 60th Anniversary Celebrations

**See page 50 of last months (February) DX
Times** for more information
on this important celebration

As mentioned last month (The New Zealand
Radio DX League) has an exchange arrange-
ment with the ODXA (Canada) and ARDXC
(Australia)

If you are a financial member of the NZRDXL
you can receive an email (electronic pdf) version
of the ODXA and ARDXC's monthly magazine.
For more information contact me
editor@radiodx.com

CLOSING DATES FOR THE NEXT 3 MONTHS (2008)

**You can send your contributions to the
NZ Radio DX League at**

PO Box 39-596

Howick

Manukau 2145

**or use the email or postal addresses
given by the section sub-editors.**

April
May
June

Wednesday 2nd April
Wednesday 7th May
Wednesday 4th June

BANDWATCH UNDER 9 MHZ



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Please add the date, language in full, and country of transmitter origin of your logging to your report, and keep the reception details short.

indicates overseas contributor.

- | kHz | UTC | Country, Station, Programme, & Reception Details |
|---------|------|--|
| 3205 | 1042 | PNG, R West Sepik poor in vernac – DD 15/2 |
| 3215 | 0645 | USA WWCR talk program about election US candidates 0659 male ann
Stn ID EE WWCR Nashville Ten USA S 3/4 4/3 RP |
| 3235 | 1044 | PNG, R West New Britain poor in home service – DD 15/2 |
| 3240# | 0331 | SWAZILAND, Trans World Radio – Manzini, 0331-0345* Jan 25, man with
ID and talk in Ndaу language followed by choir vocals and religious
talks. English ID at closedown followed by IS. Carrier remained on for
another two minutes before being terminated. Fair to good. (D'Angelo-PA) |
| 3275 | 1049 | PNG, R Southern Highlands good but noisy – DD 15/2 |
| 3279.9# | 1056 | ECUADOR, La Voz de Napo, 1056-1116 Jan 26, music ending program.
Man with Spanish religious talk and several IDs at 1100. Vocal at 1105
followed by more religious talks. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA) |
| 3290 | 1050 | PNG, R Central good with music – DD 15/2 |
| 3325 | 1053 | PNG, R Bougainville good but very noisy – DD 15/2 |
| 3345# | 0352 | SOUTH AFRICA, Channel Africa, 0352-0413 Feb 2, lively African vocals
with drums hosted by a man announcer with English talk. 5+1 times
pips at 0400 followed by a man announcer with ID followed by another
man with the news. Fair but somewhat noisy conditions. (D'Angelo-PA) |
| 3345# | 0357 | SOUTH AFRICA, Channel Africa (Meyerton). English. Pips and ID as
"This is Channel Africa calling from Johannesburg." Fast paced Afropop
followed by program "Hello Africa." Fair. 03/01 JW. |
| 3435 | 2140 | NEW ZEALAND, ZLXA, Reading Service, fair in EE, fading, - DN 16/2 |
| 3560 | 1055 | Nth Korea, V of Korea fair but noisy in English – DD 15/2 |
| 3925 | 1113 | JAPAN, R Nikkei poor in Japanese – DD 15/2 |
| 3935 | 1140 | NZ, Radio Reading Service good with reading in English – DD 15/2 |
| 3935 | 2140 | NZ, Radio Reading Service, fair and fading – DN 16/2 |
| 4052.5# | 0424 | GUATEMALA, Radio Verdad, 0424-0512 Feb 14, man with Spanish
language religious talks, organ music and choir vocals. ID at 0500
followed by religious program in English. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA) |
| 4052.5# | 0438 | GUATEMALA, Radio Verdad, 0438-0520 Jan 14, program of soft |

religious vocals to 0500 Spanish ID and announcements by a woman announcer. After a brief instrumental music segment, a man announcer gave the station ID in English as "Radio Truth." A couple of English language religious vocals followed with an English talk at 0514. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA)

- 4460 1020 CHINA, CNR-1 Beijing poor in Chinese // 4750 – DD 15/2
- 4770# 0435 NIGERIA, Radio Nigeria, 0435-0516 Feb 7, choral singing followed by a man with prayer in English. Appeared to be a religious program with other choral selections and religious talks. ID at 0500 followed by news with numerous remote reports. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4775# 0407 SWAZILAND, TWR. German. OM with religious talk and music ranging from very "High Church" to contemporary Christian. Fair. 03/01 JW.
- 4777# 0535 GABON, RTV Gabonaise (Moyabi). 0535-0607. 16 Feb 08. French. Armchair quality signal for early morning Saturday risers in Gabon. Lots of patter, ID's and Afropop music. S9+20/Exc. 16/02 JKW
- 4780# 0235 GUATEMALA, Radio Coatan, 0235-0259* Jan 25, program of vocals and marimba music hosted by a man with Spanish talk and periodic IDs. Close down at 0258 with man announcer providing several IDs while instrumental music played in background. Poor to fair signal but a growling noise in channel and CODAR made a mess of things. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4790 1135 INDONESIA, RRI Fak Fak good but clashing with AIR Chennai in Hindi – DD 15/2
- 4799.8#0417 GUATEMALA, Radio Buenas Nuevas, 0417-0437* Feb 16, nice program of marimba music and other Latin stuff hosted by a man announcer with Spanish talk and TCs. Formal ID at 0433 before canned sign off routine with another ID and frequency announcements. No anthem at closedown. Fair signal with some CODAR QRM. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4800# 0418 GUATEMALA, Radio Buenas Nuevas (San Sebastian). . Spanish. LA music with OM announcer. Fair. 03/01 JW.
- 4815# 0257 ECUADOR, Radio El Buen Pastor, 0257-0302 Feb 2, noted with a man announcer in Spanish with talk and eventually ID and closedown announcements. Off without an anthem. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4828# 0322 ZIMBABWE, Radio Zimbabwe, 0322-0420+ Feb 16, program of continuous highlife music with numerous short transmission breaks. Fair signal but moderate CODAR QRM. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4845 0606 MAURITANIA Nouakchott very good with Quran 24/2, later talks in AA. Still good at 0845. Sign-on time seems to vary between 0600 and 0630. BCM
- 4845# 0632 MAURITANIA, . French. Barely audible with OM mixing French and Arabic. The programming sounded like prayers. Poor. 03/01 JW.
- 4895 1036 INDIA, AIR Kurseong poor in Hindi – DD 15/2
- 4905# 0425 CHAD, Radio Chad, *0425-0506 Feb 14, open carrier until orchestra National Anthem at 0428. Man announcer with ID and opening

- announcements in French. Music program from 0432 until 0500 ID followed by the news. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4905# 0431 CHAD, RN Chad. French. National Anthem and ID by OM. Mentions of upcoming programming, many "Bon Matins" and into Afropop. Fair. 03/01 JW.
- 4905# 0516 CHAD, RN Tchadienne (N'djamena). 0516-0532. 16 Feb 08. French. OM with long discourse on what sounded like a local night spot. Slow tempo Afropop. Into news at BOH with talk of the recent unpleasantness in Chad. S9/Good. 16/02 JKW.
- 4930# 0422 BOTSWANA, VOA. English. ID and talk of US primary elections. Fair. //4960 via Sao Tome poor. 03/01 JW.
- 4950# 0258 ANGOLA, Radio Nacional da Angola, 0258-0325 Jan 25, man with pop vocal until time pips at 0300 followed by a man announcer with ID and news in Portuguese. Another ID at 0306 and jingle at end of news. Back into music programming at 0310. Fair. Usually hearing a het on this channel but rarely getting any audio much less at this respectable level. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4985 0825 BRAZIL, R Bras Central fair in Portuguese with OM speaking and Latin music, some QRN // 11815 much weaker – CC 5/2
- 5010# 0258 MADAGASCAR, Radio Nationale Malagasy, *0258-0320 Jan 18, orchestra National Anthem followed by a man announcer with opening ID and announcements in Malagasy, segment of music followed by a discussion with two woman. Mainly talk features with some music. Poor and lost in the noise by tune out. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 5010# 0302 MADAGASCAR, Radio Nationale Malagasy, 0302-0347 Jan 26, missed opening but heard a man with Malagasy talk and ID, short talks and musical selections. At 0321 familiar whistling introduction for a talk feature which ended at 0327. Series of promo announcements with ID and news at 0330. Fair and much better than last week. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 5025 0740 CUBA, R Rebelde fair with Spanish music – DD 6/2
- 5035 0735 BRAZIL, R Aparecida poor in vernac. – DD 6/2
- 5070 0730 USA, WWCR good with commercials – DD 6/2
- 5830 1950 UKRAINE, R Ukraine Intl v good with music – DN24/2
- 5835 0720 ??? VOA poor with count down in English – DD 6/2
- 5850 0535 USA, WEWN good in English with Catholic relig prgm – KAB 18/2
- 5850 0940 USA, WEWN poor in English – DD 15/2
- 5875 0650 ??? BBC WS poor in English, closed at 0700 – DD 6/2
- 5890 0700 USA WWCR Pastor Peter J Peters Presenting Scriptures for America EE S/4 25/2 RP
- 5910# 0448 COLOMBIA, Marfil Estereo, 0448-0521 Feb 2, lively Latin vocals followed by a man in Spanish with a brief religious talk. At 0500 another man with an ID followed by another short talk before returning to

lively music. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA)

5910 0638 COLOMBIA, Marfil Estero, Fair in Spanish, mx, MA ID 0648 – KVB 2/2

5955 1015 CHINA, CRI fair with China Drive in English – DD 15/2

5955 1910 CHINA, CRI v good with news in English – DN 24/2

5975 0440 N ANTILLES, RN good in Dutch with talk // 6165 weaker – CC 24/2

5975 1403 SINGAPORE, BBC, Poor in English nx ID 1406 – KVB 1/2

5986 1549 MYANMAR Yangul assumed the station with EZL western orchestrals through to closing anncts in EE at 1558 and anthem 1/3. Frequency measured as 5985.84. BCM

5995 0920 AUSTRALIA, R Australia fair but noisy with PNG service – DD 8/2

6000 0530 CUBA, R Havana poor in English with C Am news comment // 6060 QRM – KAB 18/2

6000 0640 USA, WYFR poor and very noisy - DD 6/2

6005 0608 ASCENSION, BBC, Fair in English nx/comment ID 0615 – KVB 16/2

6020 0418 TURKEY, V of Turkey fair in English with talk about Kosovo, ID 0423, a little scratchy // 7240 the same – CC 24/2

6020 0920 AUSTRALIA, R Australia v good in English with PNG service – DD 15/2

6055 0436 SPAIN, REE good in Spanish with talk // 6125 the same – CC 24/2

6055 1741 SLOVAKIA, R Slovakia Intl good in English with mail- in prgm, refs to Slovakia. Not so clear 1740 13/2 – CC 3/2

6060 0409 CUBA Radio Habana SS service fair on LSB to avoid co-ch DRM. // 5965 & 6140 good, 9600 poor due co-ch & Mexico 9599.3 QRM, 11760 weak under Chinese 26/2. Speech about Cuban/Venezuelan relations, BCM

6060 0742 BRAZIL, R. Tupi, Poor in Portugese relg //9565(Fair) – KVB 16/2

6070 0805 CHILE, CVC good with modern Spanish music – DD 6/2

6075 0750 ??? D Welle fair in German – DD 6/2

6105 0756 USA, WYFR fair in English – DD 6/2

6120 0650 NETHERLANDS, RN good in Dutch // 6165 Bonaire v good – DD 6/2

6120 1820 UNKNOWN, Family R. Fair in English, co-chan QRM, ID 1845 – KVB 1/2

6125 0900 ECUADOR, HCJB v good but noisy in Quechua at sign on – DD 15/2

6140 0415 CUBA. RHC. Fair in SS. – IC 3/2

6155 0430 GERMANY. VOR via DTK. Good in EE. – IC 3/2

6155 0845 RUSSIA, V of Russia fair in English – DD 6/2

6180 0855 BRAZIL, R Nacional Da Amazonia fair in Portuguese with music – DD 15/2

6185 0625 MEXICO, R. Educacion, Fair in Spanish, class mx instr & vocal, FA tent ID 0658 - KVB 16/2

6185 0800 CHILE. CVC La Voz. Good in SS. Over Mexican.- IC 11/2

6195 1427 SINGAPORE, BBC, Fair in English nx Microsoft to buy Yahoo, ID 1429 – KVB 1/2

6195 2045 SINGAPORE, BBC WS fair with news in English – DN 24/2

6200 0401 CZECH REPUBLIC Radio Prague fair with news in EE 24/2. BCM

- 6225 1435 UNKNOWN, Family R. Good in English relg & request for speakers of Amharic for bcst to Ethiopia, ID 1459 I/S, off air – KVB ½
- 6240# 2120 MOLDOVA (Pridnestrovie), Family Radio, 2120-2139 Jan 29, Open Forum program with Harold Camping answering questions from listeners. Promo announcements at 2128 and several IDs. Fair to good. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6300# 0849 CLANDESTINE (Western Sahara), Radio Nacional/RASD, 0849-0907* Feb 16, music program hosted by a man with brief talk in Arabic. Apparently closing announcement at 0900 with programming ending at 0901 followed by 6 minutes of dead air before the carrier was terminated. Poor. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6307 0453 CHILE tentatively South American pirate Radio Cochiguaz 17/2 with Andean flute music, occasional EE annc. Audible past 0815 and again 0629 18/2. Poor signal, too weak to positively identify. BCM
- 6335 1835 IRAQ. Voice of Kurdistan. Strong but noisy in AA/Kurdish. Good IDs at 1840. Quick QSL by e-mail from party@kdp.se - IC 24/2
- 6350 0655 USA, AFRTS Pearl Harbour, Fair in English, nx, notices, sport Patriots/Giants preview ID 0700 – KVB 3/2
- 6915 1200 ALASKA. KNLS. Poor in EE. – IC 18/2
- 6973# 0455 ISRAEL, Galei Zahal (Tel Aviv). Hebrew. Classical music featuring duets of piano and harp. Fair. 03/01 JW.
- 6985 1900 ISRAEL. KOL. Weak but clear in Amharic.- IC 24/2
- 7110# 0418 ETHIOPIA, Radio Ethiopia, 0418-0505 Feb 6, conversation by two men in Amharic followed by a brief segment of Horn of Africa vocals. ID at 0430 followed by more talk and some regional vocals. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 7110 2007 GERMANY, AWR good in Farsi to Iran with comment – KAB 6/2
- 7130 1828 FRANCE, Radio Poland (Pol R E S) good in English with ID and Valentines Day discussion – CC 10/2
- 7130 1930 FRANCE, Polish Radio v good in English with Mailbag prgm – DN 28/2
- 7135 1927 FRANCE, RFI good in Russian with French songs – KAB 7/2
- 7160# 0143 IRAN, VOIRI (Tehran). 0143-0200. 16 Feb 08. English. Best log of this station in recent memory. OM announcer with talk on the peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear program. Mentions of US presidential primaries and the shootings at Northern Illinois University. S7/Fair. 16/02 JKW.
- 7170 1600 GERMANY. Polish Radio. Good in Ukrainian.- IC 4/2
- 7175# 0503 MOROCCO, Radio Liberty - Briech, 0503-0520 Jan 17, new sin Russian read by a woman announcer. Man with "Radio Svoboda" ID at 0506. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 7180 1932 UNID Site??? CRI in unid language to Africa with comment after ID – KAB 7/2
- 7190 1940 TUNISIA, R Tunis good in Arabic with comment by YL, ID 1953 then

- new prgm by OM – KAB 6/2
- 7200# 0503 SUDAN, Republic of Sudan Radio. . Arabic. First log of this country and station. OM with ID and freq. announcements followed by news and ME pop music. Good. 03/01 JW.
- 7230 0801 BURKINA FASO Radio Burkina opening abruptly with ident in FF, African instrumentals 25/1. Fair strength over or mixed co-channel Asian. Sign on time varies from day to day. BCM
- 7235 1957 MOROCCO, VOA good in unid language with comment, ID 1959 then off – KAB 6/2
- 7275# 0514 TUNISIA, RTV Tunisienne (Sfax). Arabic. ME music. Good. 03/01 JW.
- 7285 0340 GERMANY, V of Croatia fair in Spanish with comment, ID 0345 then into unid language – KAB 6/2
- 7285 0520 UK, D Welle poor in English with sports comment // 9755 Rwanda fair, ID 0530 – KAB 18/2
- 7335 1530 GERMANY. Polish Radio. Fair in RR. – IC 26/2
- 7350 0520 VATICAN, V of Russia good in English with talk on music training , ID 0530 with URL // 7150 good also – KAB 18/2
- 7350 1930 CHINA, CRI good in French with music and comment – KAB 21/2
- 7365 1940 VATICAN, Vatican Radio with Mass after IS, ID in Italian, good – KAB 21/2
- 7370 1912 MOLDOVA RADIO PRM male ann EE ID at 1414 Stn Info frequencies / times 1915 lady ann spks in Language S 3/4 1/3 RP
- 7375 2015 ??? R Farda good in Farsi with comment and pop music, ID 2030 – KAB 21/2
- 7400 1836 BULGARIA, R Bulgaria good in English with weather forecast, ID, news of Bulgaria – CC 10/2
- 7410 2017 CYPRUS BBC NEWS HOUR EE male ann talks about the Pentagon S 3/4 26/2 RP
- 7420 1342 SWEDEN, R Sweden fair in English with weather in Stockholm, a little distorted – CC 26/2
- 7420 2036 SWEDEN Radio Sweden EE male ann music by Pink Floyd S 3/4 16/2 RP
- 7420 2145 AUSTRALIA, R Australiav good in English with news – DN 172
- 7440 0413 UKRAINE, R Ukraine Intl good in English with music and ID – CC 24/2
- 7445 1945 CHINA, Firedrake jamming of RFA, good signal with RFA completely blotted out – KAB 21/2
- 7450 2130 GREECE, ERT3, News, v/gd in Greek - DN 16/2
- 7475 1945 GREECE, Foni Tis Helladas good in Greek with music and comment about Kosovo – KAB 21/2
- 7510 1955 TAJIKISTAN, V of Russia fair in Arabic with comment, off at 2000 – KAB 21/2
- 7520 0530 USA, WYFR fair in English with relig prgm – KAB 18/2
- 7520 2040 USA WHRI in EE, male ann mailbag prgm S 2/3 4/2 RP
- 7520 2100 USA, WHR, singing, v/gd in ?? - DN 16/2

- 7540 2002 LITHUANIA, VOIRI fair in English with comment on labour regulations in Iran – KAB 6/2
 7580 1920 SRI LANKA. Radio Farda. VG in Farsi. Reports to RFERL – IC 22/2
 7595 1950 KUWAIT, VOA good in Pashto with pleasant ME singing – KAB 21/2
 7595 2130 KUWAIT, VOA v good with news in special English – DN 24/2
 7620 0800 CHINA, CNR-5, singing, fair in Chinese - DN 16/2

Logging of the Month

goes to

Bryan Clark

for **CHILE, Tentative Radio Cochiguaz (Pirate) on 6307kHz** at 0453

with a power of 100watts, on 17/2

Congratulations also to **Des Davey**

for PNG, Radio West Sepik 3205, Radio West New Britain 3235,

Radio Southern Highlands 3275, Radio Central 3290, and Radio Bougainville 3325, a good line-up of PNG Stations on his Eton E5 portable.

My thanks to all the contributors for this month.

Ken Baird

CONTRIBUTORS FOR THIS MONTH

- BCM** Bryan Clark at Mangawhai with AOR7030+ and Alpha Delta Sloper, EWE to NE and various 100 metre BOGs to the Americas .
- CC** Cliff Couch, Paraparaumu, ATS 803A, 60m horizontal loop
- DD** Des Davey, Te Kuiti, ZC1 Mk11, Eton E-5, 50m & 120ft wires
- DN** Daryl New, Lower Hutt, Realistic DX302 and Sangean ATS 505 receiver, Alpha Delta sloper antenna and 150M longwire EW/NS L shape and 19-21-25 and 31M dipoles, EW direction.
- IC** Ian Cattermole, Blenheim, JRC 535, T2FD, Alpha Delta.
- JKW** Joe Wood, Greenback, TN USA, Eton E1, Radio Shack DX 390, Grundig Mini 100 PE. FlexTenna, 7 metre random wire.
- KAB** Ken Baird, Christchurch, 8051, Kenwood R5000, R1000, 18m Wire, SW Eavesdropper
- KVB** Kelvin Brayshaw, Levin, R1000, horizontal delta loop
- (D'Angelo-PA)** Richard D'Angelo Wyomissing USA, Ten-Tec RX-340, R8B, Lowe HF 150, Alpha Delta sloper, RF Systems mini windom, Datong FL3, JPS ANC.
- RP** Roger Pryde Dunedin, Receivers SANGEAN ATS 803A, YAESU FRG7000, Aerial 100 ft / 30 mtr long wire, East West direction.

Contributions to this column may be sent to

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BANDWATCH OVER 9 MHZ



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Please add the date, language and country of origin of your loggings to your report and keep reception details short. Check that your logging has not already appeared in one of the last three issues of the DX Times.

indicates overseas contributors

Freq	UT	Country, Station, Programme & Reception Details
9365	1930	TAIWAN. RTI. VG in FF. 14/2, IC
9420#	0437	GREECE, Foni tis Helladas (Athens).S9/gd in GG,.Greek folk music.16/2 JKW.
9440	1902	CHINA. CRI-Kunming, vg in EE, News & report prog, News, selected weather 1923, 3/2 RFK
9455	0100	RUSSIA. TWR-India via Novosibirsk. Weak in Nepali. 4/2, IC
9475	1108	AUSTRALIA, Rad.Austr, with sports nx, v/gd in EE, 5/2, DD
9480	1900	GERMANY. Family R-Nauen, vg in EE to past 2020, Bible Fellowship prog from Numbers. 10/2 RFK
9500	2150	AUSTRALIA, Rad.Austr, Country & Western singing & nx, v/gd in EE,16/2,DNW
9535	0200	SPAIN. REE. VG in SS. // 9620. 4/2, IC
9595	2000	GERMANY.Fam. R-Wertachtal,vg in FF, id's,mailing and www understandable, off 2100, 2/2 RFK
9599.3	0720	MEXICO. Radio UNAM XEYU. Poor in SS. (been chasing this one for a long time) 6/2, IC
9600	1620	CHINA, CRI, fair in EE, noisy, 12/2, DD
9635	2223	TAIWAN. Sound of Hope. Weak in Mandarin. 12/2, IC
9690	1345	INDIA, AIR, OM with prg details, fair/gd in EE, a little distorted, //11620,13710 weaker, 26/2, CC
9720#	0325	TUNISIA, RTV Tunisienne (Sfax), s9/gd in AA. Very clear signal with program of ME music.16/02, JKW.
9870	2123	S.ARABIA, BSOTK, OM chanting & indigenous mx, fair/gd in AA, a little scratchy, //9555 weaker, 30/1, CC
9898v	0304	IRAN IRIB Teheran very strong in AA with Quran, "Huna Tehran" ident at 0325. Very unstable transmitter so 'warbles' when listening in SSB. // 7350 weak under Voice of Russia 3/3. BCM
9975	2005	USA. WWCR. fair in EE. 19/2, IC

11530 0630 USA. WYFR. fair in EE. 4/2, IC
 11625 1750 VATICAN CITY, Rad.Vat, OM re danger of smoking, ID 1756 & off, gd in EE, 13/2, CC
 11640 0015 TAIWAN, Rad.Taiwan Int, with nx, v/gd in Mandarin, 15/2, DNW
 11675 0650 KUWAIT. Radio Kuwait. Fair in AA. 5/2, IC
 11700 0715 FRANCE, RFI, with nx in FF, f/gd, 17/2, DD
 11725 0030 SEYCHELLES, VOA, with nx, v/gd in EE, 15/2, DNW
 11780 0300 BRAZIL Radio Nacioanl da Amazonia good & clear in PP with idents for Amazonia and Radio Nacioanl Brasilia, then news 29/2. Gone at 0331 recheck. BCM
 11815 0900 JAPAN,NHK Tokoyo gd in EE, OM with news 1/3 RP
 11880 1020 AUSTRALIA, Rad.Austr, nice progr of music, gd in EE, DD
 11910 1600 AUSTRIA. AWR via Moosbrunn. VG in Urdu. 10/2, IC
 11915v 0003 BRAZIL Radio Gaucha poor with time check, idents as just "Gaucha" 1/3. No real improvement in signal past 0110. Measured freq 11915.11. BCM
 11925v 0305 BRAZIL Radio Bandierantes in PP with "Boa dia, boa dia, boa dia Bandierantes", good signal 29/2. Measured freq 11925.05. // freq 9645.24 fair. BCM
 11990 1832 KUWAIT, Rad.Kuwait, OM with nx, ID at 1833, a little scratchy, fair/gd in EE, 10/2, CC
 12010 0005 AUSTRALIA, Rad.Austr, with nx, v/gd in EE, 15/2, DNW
 12010 0800 GERMANY. AWR via DTK. Good in FF after EE IDs. 3/2, IC
 12010 1615 UAE, WYFR, poor/fair in EE, 12/2, DD
 12080 0030 AUSTRALIA, Rad.Austr, with nx & wx, v/gd in EE, 15/2, DNW
 12080# 2038 BOTSWANA, VOA relay. FF/EE Program featuring English language lessons in French. S7/G-VG. 16/02 JKW.
 13570 2130 USA WINB Red Lion PA with religious talk. At 2157 prgm details, station ident for WINB broadcasting to Europe & website as winb.com. Transmitter off 2158 18/2. BCM
 13630 0813 AUSTRALIA, Rad.Austr, with cricket comm..f/gd in EE, 17/2, DD
 13650 1821 CANADA, RCI, Two OM's discussing film Oscars, gd in EE, //15365 weaker, 10/2, CC
 13675 0809 FRANCE, RFI, v/gd in FF, 15/2, DD
 13695 0720 FRANCE, RFI, poor in FF, 17/2, DD
 13700 0800 RUSSIA, Rad.Netherland, poor/fair in DD, 15/2, DD
 13820 0750 UK, BBC, fair in EE, 15/2, DD
 15075 0350 INDIA, AIR, with nx in Hindi, v/gd, 24/2, DNW
 15160 0720 AUSTRALIA, Rad.Austr, with sport nx, v/gd in EE, //15240-15415, 17/2, DD
 15160 1500 AUSTRIA. AWR via Moosbrunn. Fair in Turkish. 9/2, IC
 15210 1000 CHINA, CRI, exc.in EE, 5/2, DD
 15240 0415 AUSTRALIA, Rad.Austr, cricket Austr/India, v/gd in EE, 24/12, DNW

15270 0249 CHINA. CNR. China Business Radio. Fair in CC with some EE IDs. 11/2, IC
 15300 0808 FRANCE, RFI, with nx in FF, fair, 17/2, DD
 15320 2355 GUAM, AWR, with songs, v/gd in Vietnamese, 24/2, DNW
 15345 2335 ARGENTINA, RAE, with nx in SS, gd, 24/2, DNW
 15350 1040 CHINA, CRI, fair in EE, 5/2, DD
 15400 2101 ASCENSION ISLAND, BBC, news in EE read by Jonathon Izard gd, 26/2 RP
 15415 0230 AUSTRALIA, Rad Austr, Rugby progr, v/gd in EE, 23/2, DNW
 15440 1400 AUSTRIA. AWR via Moosbrunn. VG in Urdu. 8/2, IC
 15445 2355 USA? VOA, music, v/g in EE, 15/2, DWN
 15540 1159 AUSTRALIA. HCJB. Fair in Indonesian. after EE IDs. 6/2, IC
 15575 1100 CYPRUS, BBC, nx in EE, poor/fair, 5/2, DD
 15610 1105 SRI LANKA, DW, with nx in GG, Exc, 5/2, DD
 17525 0930 HAWAII, WHRI, poor/fair in GG, 17/2, DD
 17695 0400 RUSSIA. VOR. Good in EE. 13/2, IC
 17710 0950 CEYLON, DW, with talk on Islam, fair in EE, 17/2, DD
 17715 0105 AUSTRALIA, Rad Aust, TX Shep Stn ID English News ending gd, 26/2 RP
 17785 2400 AUSTRALIA, Rad Austr, with nx and ID, v/gd in EE, 17/2, DNW
 17820 0130 MARIANA. R.Free Asia-Tinian, gd in Burmese, EE id at s/on, some music and www's and Bangkok mailing, off 0230 after many EE ids. 10/2 RFK

Logging of the month

Goes to **Ian Cattermole, MEXICO, Radio UNAM XEYU on 9599.3 kHz.** at 10KW
 and **Bryan Clark, BRAZIL Radio Gaucha on 11915.11 kHz** at 7.5 KW

Contributors this month

BCM Bryan Clark, Mangawhai Northland with AOR7030+ Alpha Delta sloper, EWE's to NE and E, plus various 100M BOGs to the Americas
CC Cliff Couch, Paraparaumu, Sangean ATS 803A, 60 m horiz.loop
DD Des Davey, Te Kuiti, Eton E5, restored WW2 ZC1 field whip antenna 16ft high.
IC Ian Cattermole, Blenheim, JRC NRD535, Antenna T2FD, Alpha/Delta
JW Joe Wood, Greenback TN, USA, DX 390 and 8m wire
RFK Ron Killick, Christchurch, Sony ICF6800W, 40m longwire.
RP Roger Pryde, Dunedin, Sangean ATS 803A, Yaesu FRG 7000, 30m longwire
DNW Daryl New, Wellington, Realistic DX302, Sangean ATS505, Alpha Delta sloper, 150M longwire EW and Nth-Sth directions, 19,21,25,31M dipoles EW directions

Please send your contributions to:

Bandwatch.over9@radiodx.com

By mail to PO Box 39596, Howick, Manukau 2145 or

Fax to +64-9-5346237.

SHORTWAVE RECEPTION FORECAST

FOR APRIL 2008

Editor Mike Butler
Auckland

email propagation@radiodx.com

The Shortwave Bands below have given good reception in NZ within the recent Solar Flux Index range of 68-73. An * = good reception only above Index of 75. To illustrate changes in European reception-allot one point for each available band in our forecasts-0.5 for * ones. From 22-5UTC: March 15, April 20, May 30.5. From 6-9UTC: March 25, April 18, May 5.0

Times-Shortwave Bands:

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

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

x=not Hawaii. The Feb. average Solar Flux was 71 - down from Jan's 74.

SHORTWAVE REPORT

Editor Ian Cattermole
Blenheim

email shortwave.report@radiodx.com

BURKINA FASO.

Radio Burkina transmissions.

In a recent e-mail verification Pascal Goba advises that Radio Burkina transmit daily from 0530 to 2400utc.

0530-0800 and 1700-2400 on 5030khz.

0800-1700 on 7230khz. (Cattermole)

CHAD:

Radio Nacional Tchad frequencies. Usually in the past, ex-6165:

4905 0430-approx.0730 + 1800-2300

7120 0730-1030 Fri/Sat. and 1030-1800 daily This seems to have replaced 6165khz. (Wolfgang Büschel, via DXLD)

CUBA.

New frequency to Europe for RHC

Starting Jan 21st on 11750khz is a new frequency for Radio Habana to Europe 2000-2300utc. Reports welcome to > inforhc@enet.cu (Arnie Coro-RHC)

ETHIOPIA:

R Ethiopia is a commercial government station. Re. 5990/7110/9704: From 1400 hours onwards I noted that 5990 first mixed with co-channel VOIRI and is then completely lost under them. I never managed to hear 9704 during my trip, probably due to skip.

The new Oromo Service on 6030, identifying as "Radio Oromia", is on the air daily at 0400-0600, 0900-1100 and 1600-1800. Excellent reception everywhere, must be 100 kW.

The English programme in the Home Sce is now a full hour, viz. Mo-Fr 1400-1500.

In the course of 2008, new MW relays are planned at Nazret (10 kW on 1035) and Nekemte (100 kW on 1053). The Robe relay will be completely rebuilt and the new 100 kW transmitter will shift from 972 to 837 kHz after completion. The antennas will be built by Colton Tower Consultants Inc., and Harris will supply the transmitters.

Mr. Melesse Edea Beyi is the head of the English language programme in the Home Service as well as the programmes in English, French and Arabic of the External Service. Somali is now aired at 0700-0800 and 1200-1300, Tigrayan at 1500-1530 and Arabic at 1400-1500 and 1530-1600. The Afari, English and French programmes are still broadcast as per schedule. In addition to 7165 and 9560, 989 MW is also used for the Addis Ababa region.

R Fana now has two 100 kW transmitters, both on 6110 and 7210. Their 5970 appears to be inactive. In a month or two, the station will increase its broadcasting time to 18 hrs daily. (Van Delft via DSWCI)

ETHIOPIA [non].

Some VTCommunications changes: Radio Mustaqbal in Somali to EaAf again on short waves: 0545-0615 on 15510 MEY 250 kW / 019 deg Mon-Wed
0545-0615 on 15510 DHA 250 kW / 225 deg Sat
0620-0650 on 15510 DHA 250 kW / 225 deg Mon/Tue/
0730-0800 on 15485 DHA 250 kW / 225 deg Mon-Wed/Sat
0805-0835 on 15485 DHA 250 kW / 225 deg Mon/Tue/Sat
1130-1200 on 15485 DHA 250 kW / 225 deg Mon-Wed/Sat
1205-1235 on 15485 MEY 250 kW / 019 deg Mon/Tue/Sat
(DX Mix News, Bulgaria, Feb 19 via DXLD)

FINLAND.

Additional transmissionns for Brother Stair TOM via PORI in English from Feb.19:
1500-1700 9595 POR 250 kW 160 deg to SoEaEu/ME
1900-2100 6060 POR 250 kW 220 deg to SoEu/NoAf,
(R BULGARIA DX MIX News, Ivo Ivanov, via HCDX)

HONG KONG:

Yacht race weather transmission details as received by M Schiefelbein from Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club

"Many thanks for your e-mail. Up until 2 years ago, we did indeed broadcast the weather forecast to the fleet in the manner described, however, PCCW has shut down the Ship to Shore radio service so we now e-mail the weather to the lead radio boat, which then broadcasts that to the fleet on SSB.

I am not sure that the strength of signal from the yachts will be strong enough for you to pick up, however you are correct that the broadcast will be at 0903 and 1903. The position reports will be communicated to the lead radio boat at 0803 and 1803utc. on the same SSB channel.

Depending on the wind conditions, we would expect most of the competing boats to be finished in 3 days (**by mid-day 23 March**) and once our back up radio boat (with sat-comms) has finished, the weather broadcasts will cease.

I hope this answers your query? Please do let us know if you manage to pick up the SSB radio traffic of the competing yachts,

Kind regards,
Lindsay Lyons,

Sponsorship and Promotions Manager, Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club"

Frequency will be 4060khz and back-up frequency 2368khz SSB. (via CUMBRE)

U S A [non].

Family Stations, Inc., A08 Shortwave Schedule aired from Taiwan, 30 March to 26

October 2008 Burmese 1200-1300 11560 Burma

English 0100-0200 15195 India
0900-1100 9465 Philippines
1300-1400 11520 Indonesia
1300-1500 11560 India
1500-1600 6280 India

Hindi 0000-0100 15195 India

	1500-1600 11560 India	
	1600-1700 6280 India	
Indonesian	1100-1200 11550 Indonesia	
	1200-1300 11520 Indonesia	
	0000-0100 11865 Indonesia	
Korean	0800-0900 11895 Korea	
Mandarin	1100-1600 6240 China	
	1100-1600 9280 China	
	2100-0000 9280 China	
	2100-2200 7435 China	
	2200-0000 6230 China	
Russian	1500-1700 9955 Eu/CIS	
Tagalog	1100-1200 11520 Philippines	
Vietnamese	1200-1300 7460 Viet Nam	
	1400-1500 9585 Viet Nam	
	0000-0100 11630 Viet Nam	(Evelyn Marcy, WYFR, Feb 28, via DXLD)

THAILAND:

New Frequency for VOA English
 VOA in English is changing one frequency at 0100-0200 hrs from 9865 to 9740 kHz effective 05 March 2008 from their Thailand relay station. Parallel channels at this times are 7205 and 11705 kHz.
 (Alok Dasgupta via www.dxasia.info)

TURKEY.

Frequency change for VOT effective Jan 26th.
 1900-1925utc. Bosnian. 1930-2025utc. English on 6050khz ex 6055khz. (Alan Holder. DXLD via DSWCI)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

George McClintock tells me he has filed an application for a new SW station near Nashville, TN. He is the former GM and still a partner at WWCR, and also has been managing KAIJ near Dallas. On Jan 31, FCC accepted the application for filing, the first step. Studio will be in Murfreesboro TN, the same location from which KAIJ has been programmed; transmitter site at Lebanon TN. Lebanon and Murfreesboro form a triangle with Nashville, east and southeast of it.

The application calls for one Harris SW100 transmitter to a rhombic at 50 degrees, which will cover Europe as well as parts of Africa, and the USA. Further plans are for a total of two or three transmitters; the application can be amended if necessary.

The company is called Leap of Faith, Inc., get it? And the preferred call letters would be WLOF, altho these are currently held by a religious FM station in Attica, New York, on 101.7. They would have to agree to WLOF also being used by a station on another band, which

is technically allowed, but seldom authorized by FCC; or might be willing to relinquish the calls. It is difficult to predict exactly when the new station would start broadcasting, but it could take some three months to grant the CP and at least another two months to build it.

Some clients have already been lined up. `WLOF` would not be totally religious, but would have programming from political and other entities which have not been on SW before. Political programming would likely skew to the right of center, simply because there is not much money or interest on the Left in SW broadcasting. The station could be useful in the 2008 presidential campaign, as soon as it can be on the air. George credits his experience with KAIJ in developing new sources of shortwave programming and revenue, never explored before, a good experiment.

As for KAIJ itself, owner Mike Parker says it will definitely be returning to the air, but not known exactly when. Operational rather than technical problems are causing the delay. At least initially, it will probably resume programming as before, run out of the Murfreesboro studio, altho Parker will be taking care of further sales and programming development there, with George handling engineering. The Dallas lawyer's website gh uncovered mentioning KAIJ in a bankruptcy proceeding took place several years ago, not recently. KAIJ's webstream is supposed to be active again, following crashes of two computers handling it. (Hauser, via DSWCI)

FEATURED FREQUENCY.

This month it is 11750kHz.

How many of these are you able to hear and identify?

UTC	Station	Country	Days	Language	Power (kW)	Site
0100-0300	BBC Worldservice	United Kingdom		1234567	Unknown100	Kranji (Merlin)
0700-0900	Turkish Radio-TV Corp	Turkey		1234567	Turkish 500	Emirler
1000-1100	For new organization	United States		1234567	Unknown100	Taipei
1000-1200	Voice of Russia	Russia		1234567	Unknown500	Novosibirsk
1100-1200	China Radio International	Canada		1234567	Unknown250	Sackville
1200-1400	BBC Worldservice	United Kingdom		1234567	Unknown250	Nakhon Sawan
1600-1700	VOA - Voice of America	Sri Lanka		1234567	Uyghur 250	Iranawila
2100-2200	Adventist Broadcasting Service, Inc.	United States		1234567	Chi 100	Agat, Guam
2200-1000	China Radio International	China		1234567	Unknown100	Shijiazhuang
2300-0500	Voice of Russia	Russia		1234567	Unknown 250	Armavir

FM RADIO NEWS AND DX

Editor Adam Claydon
Te Awamutu

email fm@radiodx.com



MediaWorks Secures Mai FM

MediaWorks, New Zealand's leading private broadcast and online media company, has today confirmed its acquisition of the assets of Mai FM, jointly owned by Mai Media Limited and Te Runanga o Ngati Whatua.

The transaction includes the right to operate 88.6 Mai FM in Auckland and the purchase of associated assets including the studio in Auckland, two frequencies in Northland, as well as two unused frequencies in the Orewa region.

MediaWorks CEO, Brent Impey, said: "Mai FM is a very strong brand in two key markets, and we are delighted to have formed an agreement with Mai Media and Te Runanga o Ngati Whatua to take on the ownership and operation of Mai FM."

"Our message is that nothing changes for Mai FM, except a greater level of investment and support for the brand.

"We certainly recognise and appreciate the very important role Mai FM plays in the fostering, promotion and development of Maori language and culture, and we are committed to continuing the excellent model Mai has developed to perform this role," said Mr Impey.

"We are very pleased this agreement includes an ongoing relationship with Te Runanga o Ngati Whatua for their advice and guidance with the Mai FM operation, particularly on these important cultural matters.

"There will be no redundancies as a result of this acquisition, as we want to support the hardworking and dedicated team that has been running Mai FM. We warmly welcome all these people to the MediaWorks family," he said.

"This is a very important development in the MediaWorks radio strategy, and is the final piece of the jigsaw for our Auckland plans, complementing and strengthening our existing brands in the market."

The financial terms of the transaction are undisclosed, with settlement of the purchase of the assets on 31 March 2008.

MediaWorks NZ Limited is a subsidiary of HT Media Holdings Limited.

MediaWorks (website: www.mediaworks.co.nz) is New Zealand's leading private sector broadcast and online media company. Through its wholly owned subsidiaries and divisions – TVWorks Limited, RadioWorks Limited and NetWorks, it owns and operates the TV3 and C4 television networks, national radio brands The Edge, The Rock, More FM, Kiwi FM, RadioLIVE, BSport, Solid Gold and The Breeze, plus several local radio stations. (MediaWorks NZ, 29 February 2008,

<http://www.mediaworks.co.nz/Default.aspx?tabid=134&articleID=497>)

Nelson BSport change of frequency

From 20 February the Nelson outlet of Radio BSport/Trackside has changed from 97.6 FM to 990 AM.

(Jim Benzoni)

Here are BSport's current FM frequencies:

Alexandra 107.1, Bay of Islands 94.8, Central Northland 92.4, Cromwell 107.1, Greymouth 89.1/93.9, Hokitika 89.1, Invercargill 91.6, Kaitaia 95.2, Kapiti Coast 93.5, Oamaru 89.6, Queenstown 93.6, Taranaki 97.2, Taupo 91.1, Wairarapa 91.1, Westport 93.3, Whakatane 94.5, Whangarei 92.4

(BSport, <http://www.bsport.co.nz/Frequencies/tabid/91/Default.aspx>)

FM Stations at Waihi

- 88.2 3ABN, one of the numerous low power transmitters around NZ, connected with the Seventh Day Adventist organisation, this one's local ID is "you're listening to 3ABN on 88.2 in Waihi, on the low power FM band", and enquiries can be made to Tony Atkinson on 07 863 6415.
- 90.8 Waihi Community Radio, has been in existence since 1995 when it broadcast from 1107kHz, then moving to the FM band in 2000, using 96.4, but is now on 90.8
- 96.4 Vacant since WCR moved in 2005 to 90.8, "Gold FM" now uses this frequency
- 97.5 Local Coromandel FM transmitter, one of 10 around the Thames Valley-Coromandel Peninsula. Originates from 418 Pollen Street, Thames

(Gordon Mathieson)

FM Stations at Whangamata

- 88.2 ZM – relayed from ZM Tauranga 89.8
- 89.1 Coromandel FM
- 90.3 The Edge – relayed from The Edge Tauranga 99.8
- 97.9 Kool FM (details in November 2007's DX Times – page 28)
- 107.0 Radio Fred – hard rock

(Gordon Mathieson)

Ngatea's Unforgettable Music

- 107.0 3NZ, operated by Mr Rob Germon, plays oldies, is allied to the Unforgettable Music organisation. ID as "Radio 3NZ, Ngatea's Unforgettable Music".

(Gordon Mathieson)

Manukau City's 88.1

Manukau City's 88.1 Retro Hit Radio has gone, and the frequency has been replaced with a religious broadcaster, "Beacon Radio". (Gordon Mathieson)

Yamaha Battle of the Streets

The usual one-day broadcast from the annual Yamaha "Battle of the Streets", held at Paeroa on Sunday 17th February 2008, on 107.0. ID as "Special Pits Radio 107FM".

(Gordon Mathieson)

Questions about some South Island FM stations

Douglas Johns was wondering if anyone might have the following info:

- 1) An address for Classic Gold Mosgiel on 107.3. Interestingly this was heard in Corstorphine, but none of the other 2 supposedly on 107.3 in Dunedin proper could be heard, and yet there is a range of hills between Mosgiel and Corstorphine.
- 2) Heard in Westport with continuous music and no ID's was a station on 88.5 – good strength. Any ideas on who this might be?
- 3) And also do you have an address for Blackball FM, which is still on 100.2. Good strength at one end of the township (furthest away from the Grey River), but not the other end of town.
- 4)

Got an interesting QSL (pc) the other day – from Pacific Lights FM at Bexley (Christchurch) on 88.1 which was a light display on a house synchronised with music. Also got one from Triple C Scout Jamboree which looked like it had been through the confidence course, but at least they replied. Funnily enough the Guide Jamboree which followed the Scout one didn't have a radio station.

FM Trail – Te Awamutu – 21 February 2008 – Adam Claydon

- 89.0 BackBeat FM (Hamilton)
- 89.3 More FM (Rotorua)
- 89.4 Newstalk ZB (Auckland)
- 89.8 ZM (Waikato)
- 90.0 Classic Hits (Taranaki)
- 90.2 The Rock (Auckland)
- 90.6 Raukawa FM (Tokoroa)
- 90.9 Classic Hits (Rotorua)
- 91.4 RNZ Concert (Waikato)
- 91.6 RNZ Concert (Taranaki)
- 92.0 More FM (Waikato)
- 92.2 Nga Iwi FM (Paeroa)
- 92.5 ZM (Does anyone know where this is?)
- 93.0 The Rock (Waikato)
- 93.4 More FM (Tauranga)
- 93.8 Solid Gold (Waikato)
- 94.2 The Rock (Tauranga)
- 94.6 Life FM (Waikato)
- 95.0 Classic Hits (Tauranga)
- 95.4 Radio Tainui (Ngaruawahia)
- 95.7 Raukawa FM (Tokoroa)
- 96.0 Radio Hauraki (Waikato)
- 96.4 Classic Hits (Tokoroa)
- 96.5 Maniapoto FM (Te Kawa)
- 97.0 Newstalk ZB (Waikato)

- 97.3 Coast (Tauranga)
- 97.4 Classic Hits (Auckland)
- 97.8 The Edge (Waikato)
- 98.2 Easy Mix (Auckland)
- 98.6 Classic Hits (Waikato)
- 99.0 Radio Hauraki (Auckland)
- 99.3 The Breeze (Waikato)
- 99.6 NZ's Rhema (Tokoroa) / Maniapoto FM (Te Kuiti)
- 99.8 The Edge (Tauranga)
- 100.0 Radio Live (Waikato)
- 100.6 Radio Live (Auckland)
- 101.0 RNZ National (Waikato)
- 101.5 RNZ National (Rotorua)
- 103.4 Niu FM (Waikato)
- 103.9 Niu FM (Rotorua)
- 105.4 Coast (Auckland)
- 107.0 3ABN (Te Awamutu) – I'm not sure exactly where the transmitter is as the signal is quite weak around most of the town.

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TV AND SATELLITE NEWS AND DX

Editor Adam Claydon
Te Awamutu

email tv@radiodx.com



New Maori Channel named

New Zealand's first television channel transmitting its programmes fully in the Maori language will be known as Te Reo.

Maori Television says the new channel will initially broadcast three hours a day seven days a week, from 8 till 11 at night. CEO Jim Mather says it will launch on March 28 on Freeview 24 and SKY Digital.

He says it is an initiative to secure the future of the Maori language.

(Newstalk ZB, 9 March 2008,

<http://www.newstalkzb.co.nz/newsdetail1.asp?storyID=133666>)



TVNZ 7 launches Sunday March 30

Six months after launching its first digital channel TVNZ 6, TVNZ is shortly to launch its second digital channel.

Advertising-free digital channel TVNZ 7 will launch on Sunday March 30 2008 with an event and live broadcast from Parliament.

TVNZ 7 is New Zealand's first local free-to-air factual channel. It will screen a broad range of news, current affairs, documentary and commentary shows.

Freed from the constraints of commercial scheduling, it will offer New Zealanders more access to fresh and engaging local content in prime time.

TVNZ CEO Rick Ellis says that TVNZ 7 will have a distinctive New Zealand flavour.

"We want TVNZ 7 to be a place where New Zealanders come to be informed and to form their views on the issues of the day. We want TVNZ 7 to be a place that expresses the diversity of perspectives in New Zealand today".

Around 70% of the channel's content will be locally-produced, and around 40% of that will be programming made specifically for TVNZ 7.

News will make up 30% of the schedule.

TVNZ 7 will launch live from Parliament with The Kingmaker Debate - the first political debate this election year between the minor party leaders who will be crucial to the political landscape after the election later this year.

"As well as one-off TV events like The Kingmaker Debate, our commissioned local shows centre around providing New Zealanders with a forum to express their views and opinions on issues relevant to them. This is something that foreign news and factual channels cannot do," says Ellis.

Two new programmes on TVNZ 7 will be Back Benches, a weekly political review show, hosted by Wallace Chapman, and Media7, a multi-media news and commentary series hosted by Russell Brown.

The significant news component of the TVNZ 7 schedule extends the TVNZ News and Current Affairs team's commitment to providing the best news to New Zealanders across multiple platforms, anywhere, anytime.

Ellis says that news on TVNZ 7 will be complementary to TVNZ's flagship news product ONE News at 6, and the late night news bulletin, Tonight.

"The news on TVNZ 7 will run at different times to the ONE News broadcasts to fit in with New Zealanders' busy lives. There will be 10 minute bulletins called TVNZ News Now, which will go live on the hour, every hour, as well as a one hour news bulletin at 8pm, TVNZ News at 8.

TVNZ News Now will be fronted by the TVNZ 7 news team, which includes journalists new to TV, as well as some well-known ONE News reporters. TVNZ News at 8 will be hosted by Tonight's Greg Boyed and newcomer Geraline Knox.

(TVNZ, <http://tvnz.co.nz/view/page/497100/1604672>)

Digital TV, without the satellite

It's going to be a big year for digital broadcasting - starting next month, when Freeview begins terrestrial transmission of its dozen or so digital TV channels.

You could say the excitement kicks off sooner than that, on March 30, with the switching on of TVNZ 7 - the state broadcaster's second digital-only channel (TVNZ 6 went live about six months ago).

That means Freeview's fare will be TV One, TV2, TV3, C4, TVNZ Sport Extra, TVNZ 6, TVNZ 7, Maori Television, Stratos, Parliament TV, Cue and Radio New Zealand's National and Concert programmes.

And there's more. Last week, the Radio Broadcasters Association, representing commercial stations, agreed to join a digital radio trial in Auckland of DAB+, one of numerous options for moving radio out of the analogue era.

At the centre of all of this excitement is Kordia, the state-owned enterprise whose origins go back 60 years to when it built the national radio and television transmission network.

Kordia has spent about \$35 million on digital terrestrial television (DTT) equipment to enable 70 per cent of the population to watch Freeview's offerings using a UHF aerial. According to Freeview boss Steve Browning, 80,000 households are already watching Freeview via satellite, a service launched a year ago.

Both digital transmission methods deliver a better picture than analogue TV, but the terrestrial service will be better again than satellite. DTT can carry high-definition (HD) signals and some, but not all, of Freeview's channels will take advantage of that capability.

It's not entirely clear which will be HD but, according to Steven Ellis, technical director of set-top box-maker OpenMedia, TV One, TV2 and TV3 will be.

Geoff Hunt, head of Kordia, has been watching test DTT transmissions from his Mairangi Bay home and says the picture quality is much better than analogue.

One of the test channels was broadcasting high-definition content, whose quality Hunt describes as "startling".

"It was a bit like the first time I heard FM being broadcast in stereo - can radio be this good?"

The wonder of digital broadcasting is that it can squeeze many more channels, of better quality, into the same amount of spectrum as analogue. But you might be sceptical about whether it's worth making the shift, with much the same content on offer. Ultimately, we won't have a choice.

The Government intends switching off TVNZ's analogue signals by 2016 - or earlier, if digital catches on quickly. And there will be some new content.

At a public briefing on TVNZ 7 last week, the state broadcaster's head of digital, Eric Kearley, said part of the rationale for the new channel was to encourage viewers to wean themselves off analogue. TVNZ 7, like 6, is ad-free. It will have two new local shows, Media7 and Back Benches.

He didn't seem concerned that a possible change of government this year could cut off the channels' funding.

As the name implies, Freeview doesn't charge a subscription. But whether they get it by satellite or UHF, viewers need a set-top box.

These are different for the two methods of signal delivery and cost about \$200. They support another of digital's key features - an electronic programme guide.

Combined with a hard disk recorder like OpenMedia's myPVR, which works with Sky and Freeview's satellite services, and with a DTT version coming, the electronic programme guide makes recording digital content a piece of cake.

If you get good Prime reception, you should also receive Freeview loud and clear. But OpenMedia's Ellis says digital TV is less forgiving of aerial cable quality than analogue - so if your reception is poor, that's the first thing to check.

If you're thinking of upgrading your TV for the sake of digital, there's a baffling range in the shops.

Ellis says 1080i is as good as you need for HD TV; 1080p is only called for when watching Blu-ray disks.

Perhaps the best way to buy is to decide how much you want to spend, then choose the TV that gives you the most pleasing DTT picture.

There's no need to go shopping for a digital radio just yet, since the industry hasn't fixed on a broadcasting standard. More than ever, that standard looks as though it will be DAB+, with the RBA's decision last week to join a trial being run by Kordia.

Kordia is pushing DAB+ partly because the Australian Government has mandated its adoption. If New Zealand opts for the same standard, economies of scale should mean cheaper receivers than otherwise.

So while digital radio testing is gathering pace, a live service is unlikely this year. Not so DTT. Freeview's board meets today to fix on a launch date and Browning promises to go public with it on Monday.

(NZ Herald, 8 March 2008,

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/topic/story.cfm?c_id=260&objectid=10496825)

Freeview set to go high-definition

Digital television will go high definition next month with the launch of Freeview HD, but a dearth of programmes delivered in the high-quality format will likely limit early uptake.

Almost a year after launching satellite broadcasts of free-to-air digital TV, Freeview is using the nationwide network of transmission towers run by state-owned broadcasting infrastructure operator Kordia to deliver a second service that can be accessed by homes equipped with UHF aerials.

Freeview is already broadcasting a test channel in high-definition, but viewers will have to purchase an HD-enabled set-top box to access it and other HD content that will be broadcast.

The service will simply be branded Freeview HD.

Just what TV content will be delivered in the format, which offers better picture quality for people with high-definition flat screen television sets, is unclear.

An estimated 300,000 flat-screen TVs capable of displaying high-definition content are

believed to be in the market, over 100,000 of which were bought in the second half of last year.

TV3 is expected to unveil its high-definition programme line-up next week, while TVNZ has backed away from aggressive plans to show HD in primetime TV slots as it concentrates on upgrading its systems and launching its new digital channel - TVNZ7, which is exclusive to Freeview.

The first high-definition programming from TVNZ is likely to be coverage of the Beijing Olympic Games, which will be broadcast in HD during August and September.

"That's set in concrete as is the use of TVNZ's Sport Extra channel to run a second channel for the Olympics," said Freeview general manager Steve Browning.

TVNZ chief executive Rick Ellis said last year that up to 80 per cent of primetime content on TV2 would be available in high-definition while as much as 50 per cent of TV1 footage would be broadcast in the format.

"We've had second thoughts about that. We will do it properly which means we may travel more slowly," said TVNZ spokeswoman Megan Richards.

"The rest of the company has to have buy-in. It's going to be a longer proposition than originally we thought."

"It's an infrastructure issue, it's not about getting hold of material," added Browning.

TVNZ is undertaking a major technology upgrade budgeted at up to \$40 million to prepare for the high-definition era, though Richards said employees were still "trundling around with tapes" ahead of a new digital storage system being introduced.

Only one Freeview-licensed set-top box will be available when the service officially launches early next month from manufacturer Zinwell. It will cost around \$500, \$200 more than the two official receivers that hit the market with the launch of the satellite service last May. Over 78,000 homes now access free-to-air satellite broadcasts.

Browning said a number of other set-top boxes were being tested for certification.

While there were initial plans to launch a personal video recorder with the high-definition service, it is now unlikely to arrive before September.

Integrated digital TV tuners, which are built into TV sets, removing the need to buy a set-top box, are expected to debut later this year.

"All four of the top TV makers are working on it," said Browning.

UHF aerials grace tens of thousands of New Zealand homes as they are used to access Sky's TV channels. Internal UHF aerials that sit on top of the TV set sell for as little as \$30.

But the unofficial market for set-top boxes which flourished in the wake of the Freeview satellite launch last year is unlikely to be as active this time around.

Peter Escher of Auckland-based set-top box importer Satlink, said the use of the Mpeg4 video and AAC audio format made it harder to compete with Zinwell.

"Freeview has set the technical standards quite high, which is a good thing, but it has made it more difficult for us to get supply. The last thing I want is to import container loads of boxes that end up not working," he said.

Nevertheless Escher, who said demand for satellite receivers had slowed significantly since Christmas, expects to have a high-definition set-top box with Freeview electronic programming guide available early next month for around \$390.

(NZ Herald, 13 March 2008,

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/organisation/story.cfm?o_id=226&objectid=10497808&pnum=0)

UTILITIES



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In his interesting logging of 6792.5 khz John Durham lies the story of HAARP, a project of the US Navy/Air Force located in Gakona, Alaska. Imagine a transmitting station boasting over 150 aerial towers 12 feet high capable of beaming signals into the upper atmosphere using 3 billion watts power. The purpose is to observe the complex variations of Alaska's ionosphere so that new forms of communication and surveillance can be developed. Critics consider that the project has ulterior motives, eg disruption of third party communications, etc.

If you would like to know more about the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program go to [http://www.spinspace.com/biophysics/haarp .htm](http://www.spinspace.com/biophysics/haarp.htm)

- 3467 1743 Qantas 118/Auckland Climb to and maintain FL 340 Confirmed. RP
3467 1748 Air Canada 033/Nadi 3467 Primary 5643 Secondary Confirmed. RP
4426 1015 USCG Pacific Area Manager station radio check testing with
Neuromedical Voice count. RP
4426 1030 USCG male voice calling all stations Pacific high seas weather broadcast
at 1030 UTC on frequencies 4426, 8764, 13089, 17314 HF National Net
weather service issued from Washington with sea conditions, including
wind speed , air pressure and storm warnings for some areas. RP
4666 0930 Tokyo/Jetstar 17 Posn Secondary is 3455. NM
5450 1724 Architect Volmet for Gibraltar, Skopje (poor). NM
5505 1715 Shannon Volmet for Madrid, Lisbon. NM
5505 1720 Shhannon Volmet for Rome. NM
5547 1048 Delta 1050/San Francisco Go ahead. EM
5601 0915 Ezeiza Volmet for Cochamba. NM
5643 0902 Auckland/Bluebird 86 FL 350. EM
5655 1800 Manila/Japanair 710 Transmitting blind My SC is DGAE Rego JA 8701. NM
5647 0937 San Francisco/United 842 Posn 41N 170E at 1007 SC ASEJ Rego NI75UA. NM
5647 0937 San Francisco/Korean 17 Posn 34N 170E at 0959 SC ESCK Rego HL 7490. NM
5649 0913 Shanwick/N 874 PT FL 410 Posn 46N 010W. NM
5649 0914 Gander/Speedbird 102 SC FSHR. NM
5711 ? Liberty Star, USCG working Cape Radio re recovery of booster rocket
from Shuttle launch. DM
6604 0835 New York Volmet for Indianapolis, St Louis. EM
6604 0825 Gander Volmet for Calgary, Churchill. NM
6610 0824 VH VSN Brisbane No reported traffic. NM
6628 0756 Santa Maria/Unid Wx sought but not answered. EM
6628 0903 Monarch 3/Santa Maria When crossing boundary call Shanwick. EM

- 6628 0905 Turkish 131/Santa Maria Call Shanwick next. EM
6676 0834 Sydney Volmet for Sydney, Brisbane. DM
6679 1655 Honolulu Volmet for Anchorage, Cold Bay. NMN
8177 0415 Marine coastal weather Volmet for Inland Queensland waters including Frazer Island. DM
8221 0417 Unid male voice in Russian – Sounded like ship to ship or ship to shore. DM
8481 1259 Russian or Polish on CW. DM
8543 ? Ship to shore transmission with Indonesian voice over. DM
8566 0422 Antarctic or Mars network American voice no ID but said Jerry is behind me some 21 degrees. DM
8734 1730 Olympia Radio, Greece with continuous tape. NM
8736 0512 This is Olympia radio call on channels 806, 1253, 1640. DM
8764 0452 Marine weather from National Weather Hawaii 24 hour forecast and tropical predictions also North California mentioned. DM
8826 0454 Unid station with flight information in English drowned out by foreign voice. DM
8828 1730 Honolulu Volmet for Oakland, Guam. NM
8828 0435 Honolulu Volmet with volcanic ash warning. DM
8867 2210 Chathams 64/Auckland. DM
8867 2217 NZ 46/Auckland. DM
8867 2219 Pacific 414/Auckland with flight info. DM
8867 2310 Auckland/Unid US Military Call on 11256. DM
8867 0905 Bluebird 7/Nadi Posn. EM
8879 1408 Mumbai/Spainair 401 SC QRJM. NM
8879 1243 Gander/KFR 11 Posn 56N 30W SC GPCS (Kingfisher Airlines India). NM
8903 0910 Air Mike 855/Manila Unable FL 390 due traffic (Continental Micronesia) NM
8942 1440 Singapore/Gulfair 507 Posn SC AQCR. NM
8942 1450 Manila/SDM 9003 Esimated COT 1509 (State Transport Co Russia). NM
8942 1357 Singapore/Silkair 956 Rego 9VSET SC KSEM. (Silkair Singapore) NM
8942 1428 Singapore/Jetstar 594 SC KMAR. NM
8942 1428 Manila/China 7531 SC BRLM. NM
8942 0900 Cathay 102/Manila Calling but no reply. EM
10051 0739 New York Volmet for Atlantic City, Baltimore, Philadelphia. EM
11285 1052 Chennai/Iranair 840 Teheran to Lumpur SSC GJAE Rego EPIAB. NM
11300 0534 Mogadishu/SGL 47 Dakar to Hargeisa (Senegal Air). NM
11300 0726 Cairo/Tripoli Several calls but no reply. E M
13261 1319 Auckland/Magellan 705 Departed Pago Destination Honolulu SC ACFS (Aero Micronesia USA) NM

Contributors

- NM** Neville McKenty, Napier - NRD 545 with numerous antennas
DM Dallas McKenzie, Buller – Kenwood 1000 with 60 feet wire antenna
RP Roger Pryde, Dunedin – Sangean ATS 803A with 30 feet wire antenna
EM Evan Murray, Auckland – Kenwood 5000 with T2FD antenna

Contributions may be sent to

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Evan Murray 14 Kia Ora Road, Birkdale, 0626, Auckland
Phone (09) 4839543 Email varrision@paradise.net.nz

MAILBAG

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SHORTER DAYS HERALD BETTER DX OPPORTUNITIES

Well folks, by the time you read this the March equinox will be with us, and my experience is that on medium wave conditions will begin to favour Central and South America. Shortwave listening will improve between dawn and dusk, and on lower frequencies. We'd love to hear of your DXing experiences through this column – have a listen and let us know! But don't leave it too long –departures from the shortwave bands continue, the latest being KOL Israel, which will end its international shortwave broadcasts on 31 March 2008.

It is definitely harder to DX nowadays with dramatic increases in interference in suburbia, and many unable to have permanent longwire antennas. Later in this column I wax eloquent about the EWE antenna. With its earthing arrangements and coaxial lead-ins, the EWE is definitely less susceptible to local interference sources, and perhaps could improve reception for listeners in suburban locations. Use of battery power for your receiver may also help when interference is coming through the mains supply.

Which leads us on to a current craze in North American medium wave hobby circles for using 'shirt-pocket sized' mini-walkman type transistor radios for Ultralight DXing. The CXQ1129N IC chip has been found to be unusually selective and sensitive, with the following receivers benefiting:

- Sony SRF-T615-JE, SRF-59, SRF-M37V, SRF-M85V
- Sangean DT-120, DT-180V, DT-200VX, DT-210V, DT-220V, DT-300VW
- Eton e100 or Tecsun PL-200
- Ccrane SWP or Redsun RP300

These are relatively cheap radios (I saw a Sony SRF-59 sell for \$25 on TradeMe recently) yet have allowed North American DXers to hear MW stations many thousands of kilometres away. With their portability and ease of rotation to find the best null on a local station, they make an ideal radio to take away from man-made interferences (eg to the beach) in search of stations from Australia, the Pacific, or further afield. If you have access to one of these 'pocket rockets', have a listen and let us know how you go. Comprehensive information on Ultralight Dxing can be found on the Internet at www.dxr.ca in the Ultralight files. (Thanks to NRC DX News Feb08)

For those reporting US stations, Joe Wood advises us that postage will be going up in the States on 12 May 2008. All airmail letters, aerogrammes, and postcards will cost

\$0.94 to mail from the US to countries outside North America.

QSLs OF THE MONTH

Radio Burkina, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso 5030kHz 100kw
and

Voice of Kurdistan 6335

Congratulations to **IAN CATTERMOLE**, our King of the KiloHertz this month!

DES DAVEY from Te Kuiti leads our mailbag contributors this month with QSLs from HCJB Australia 15525, Radio Pakistan 9380, Voice of Russia 9660, Radio Prague 7345, CVC Chile 6070 and VOA 11975, 7220, 9864 & 9615. A report is away to Voice of Mongolia 12085. On mediumwave, Des has received a QSL letter from Access Radio Manawatu 999. Station Manager Frazer Craig wrote that the station began in December 1997 as Manawatu Sounds, becoming Access Triple 9 in 2003, and under the current name since 2007. The station is owned and governed by the Manawatu Access Radio Charitable Trust. Between 9am and 9pm programmes made by Manawatu residents are aired, together with music from a wide variety of genres and decades.

Des has just added a GME-GX300 Citizens Band (26mHz) set to his lineup. Its a digital model and very compact - the size of a 500 gram block of butter. With his Mobile Track antenna, he is able to talk with other CB enthusiasts in the district. [Thanks for your news Des. BC]

IAN CATTERMOLE in Blenheim has another bumper QSL crop - DW Sri Lanka 17520, AWR Moosbrunn 9535 & 9605, Radio Burkina 5030 (new country verified!), CVC La Voz 11970, RTI 11605, TWR 7165, 5950, 7170, Bible Voice 11895, 5960, Polish Radio 9760, 13840, Pan American BC 13750, AIR Bangalore 9870, WYFR 5745, RVI 13685, DW Rampisham 7210, VOA 15445 & 9785 and Voice of Kurdistan 6335 (excellent Ian!). [Thanks for comments Ian. Yes, we are looking forward to the 60th Anniversary gathering too. My EWE antennas and antenna amplifier combo have been a revelation for me – on mediumwave more gain and more directional than other current antennas, but also much quieter. In 95% of cases, it is also the best performer on shortwave too. All my DX successes since last November are thanks to the EWE. Whilst I now have space for big antennas, my EWEs are just 15 metres long and 5 metres high, so quite feasible in urban locations like yours I would think. Anyone seriously DXing these days must try a EWE! BC]

RON KILLICK of Christchurch has another colourful batch of QSL cards - CRI-Meyerton 6100 (Olympic card), VoRussia 7335-Chita, 6055-Krasnador, 13580-Khabarov (all on Moscow scene cards), AWR-Wertachtal 9595, Polskie Radio-Wertachtal 9760, Family Radio-Wertachtal 6175, 9696, 9595 (all on DTK aerial cards), RFA-Vladivostok 15565 (11 years card), RFA-Tinian 17820 and RFA-Saipan 13710 (both on Year of Rat cards). Ron is

'between' aerals at present with longwire down whilst house spouting is renewed, but says the temporary 4 metre wire in the roof is working OK with the Sony receiver. [Ron – see my EWE comments above. Could you fit one? BC]

RICH D'ANGELO of Wyomissing, Pennsylvania USA recently attended the Winter SWL Festival in Kulpville. He says that around 150 attend this annual NASWA-sponsored gathering. It is a good time with some interesting forums, exhibits, displays and general conversation making the trip a worthwhile experience.

Rich's postman has delivered some interesting mail over the past month. Rich writes "this month's QSL bag begins with China Radio International QSLing their relay from Cerrik in Albania with a Beijing 2008 Olympics card for 7285 in 21 days. I guess we will be seeing a lot of different Olympic themed cards over the next few months. I was pleased to receive a QSL from Open Radio for North Korea for a transmission via KWHR 9930 in Naalehu, Hawaii. The reply from verie signer Young Howard came in 50 days for a report sent to P. O. Box 158, Mapo, Seoul 121-600, Republic of Korea address. Kathy Otto of Broadcast Planning at Sentech in South Africa provided a verification of Radio Okapi 9635 via Meyerton Transmitting Station in 24 days. Trans World Radio via Wertachtal 6105 verified an electronic report sent to T-Systems with a second electronic reply in 7 days from Walter Brodowsky, T-Systems Media & Broadcast, Account & Product Manager for Short-wave Broadcasting. Walter noted that the program I heard was "broadcasted towards UK by using a 100 kW transmitter from Short-wave Radio Station Wertachtal." Radio Deutsche Welle via Sines 15275 verified an electronic report with a full data, including site, Digital Radio Mondiale card in 24 days from Horst Scholz, Transmission Management. Radio Deutsche Welle verified a broadcast via Sines in Portugal with a full data card for an electronic report. Finally BBC Indian Ocean Relay Station (Seychelles) 6005 verified a direct report to Victoria with a confirming e-mail including a JPEG picture of the relay station transmitting site in 29 days from v/s Irene Vidot, Secretary PA (Irene.vidot@vtcoms.sc)." [Thanks Rich for the detailed report – I hope to get to Kulpville one day. BC]

JOE WOOD Tennessee USA is very pleased to have QSLed his 73rd radio country – French Guiana. Radio France International 5995 sent a full data letter direct from French Guiana in 133 days, V/S Jean Francois LeCoeuvre. Address: Radio France International, TDF SAS, Boite Postale 7024, 97307 Cayenne Cedex, French Guiana.

Says Joe "It was an interesting QSL. I heard the station in Spanish and reported it as such, but the QSL lists English as the language, and it lists the Station as RFI-BBC World Service. Anyway, I heard them ID as RFI in Spanish so I guess it counts. The occasional QSL and new country keeps it interesting. I may make 100 yet." [I'm a fan of setting targets in any hobby Joe. Getting 50, then 75 & 100 countries QSLed was a great impetus to my early DXing efforts. BC]

MEDIUM WAVE TRAIL (all times UTC/GMT)

BCM = Bryan Clark at Mangawhai (Northland) NZ with AOR7030+ and 15 metre EWE aerials running Northeast & East.

DD = Des Davey at Te Kuiti (King Country) NZ with Yaesu FRG7700 and Kenwood R-1000 and 260 foot longwire antenna.

- 720 0652 USA KDWN Las Vegas NV with ident as "Newstalk 7-20, Kay-Dawn", all alone 25/2. BCM
- 790 0647 USA KABC Los Angeles CA with local adverts, "KABC Traffic Updates" over Radio Reloj Cuba 25/2, heavy splatt from 792. BCM
- 1060 0657 MEXICO XEEP Mexico DF with full ident in SS as "Radio Educacion, XEEP... watts de potencia... Mexico, Distrito Federale" 24/2. US talker in background. BCM
- 1160 0610 USA KSL Salt Lake City vgd with Billy Graham religious prgm, later "Someone Cares" Prison Ministry 25/2. Local ident 0700. BCM
- 1180 0558 CUBA Radio Rebelde strong in the clear Mondays during Radio Marti silent period. The 1181 carrier is no longer heard 25/2. BCM
- 1242 0815 NZ 1XX Whakatane/Murupara with Music of the 80s, fair 1/2. DD
- 1242 0820 NZ Trackside Timaru mixing 1XX, fair to good 1/2. DD
- 1260 0842 NZ Trackside Christchurch with race commentary replays good, 1/2. DD
- 1460 0857 HAWAII KHRA Honolulu presumed the Korean talk that faded up briefly over ever-dominant KION 12/2. BCM
- 1540 0559 USA KMPC Los Angeles CA in Korean, EE ident on the hour as "50,000 watts of absolute power, Radio Korea, AM 15-40 KMPC Los Angeles" very good 25/2. BCM
- 1575 1110 NZ Hills AM Dunedin relaying BBC News 2/2, good reception. DD
- 1620 1100 ARGENTINA Radio Vida, Monte Grande with a talk show, poor 1/2. [Des, assuming your reception times are UTC, this is 2 hours after local sunrise in Buenos Aires and thus propagationally unlikely for such low powers. BC]
- 1640 1030 ARGENTINA Hosana AM 1640, Isidro Casanova with modern Argentine music, poor/fair 1/2. DD
- 1660 1005 ARGENTINA Hosana AM, Ezeiza poor fair with Argentine mx 1/2. DD
- 1680 0930 ARGENTINA Radio Jetro, Lanus Oeste with Argentinian Home Service, music prgm poor-fair 1/2. DD [KDOW Seattle & WLAA Florida, both in Spanish with lively Latin format are regular up my way. BC]
- 1683 1031 AUSTRALIA 2ME Sydney poor-fair in Greek 2/2. DD [Likely Club AM in Greek per list in January DX Times. BC]
- 1690 0837 USA WMLB Atlanta with ident as "Hi, this is Scott... join me weekdays.. Voice of the Arts in Atlanta, AM 16-90" 15/2. BCM

INTERNATIONAL BROADCAST NEWS

(Thanks to IRCA 'DX Monitor' January 2008)

ARGENTINA

1620 R. Universo, Mar del Plata is new // 103.3 FM. (SC Martins via ConDig via Arctic)
A new MW station en Buenos Aires is "AM Mil Doscientos Diez" on 1210 Khz, with tropical music format and recorded identifications. (Arnaldo Slaen El Mundo De La Radio 2/08 via Glenn Hauser's DXLD)

BRAZIL

The 4th edition of the Brazilian Medium Wave list can be downloaded for free from the Dx Clube do Brasil website. http://www.ondascurtas.com/servicos/LISTA_OM_Brasil_2007.pdf (Rocco Controneo HCDX)

COLOMBIA

690 HJZ73 Radio Región Bananera, Apartado, Antioquia, 1 kW, new station
980 HJJV La 9-80, ex La Vallenata
1050 HJS62 Cusiana Radio, Yopal, Casare, 15 kW, new
1060 HJMG R. Litoral, ex Caracol Turbo
1160 HJZV RCN R. Las Lajas
1190.33HJCT La Voz de la Costa, Barranquilla is heard here (Mark Connelly)
1310 HJJZ R. Manantial, ex Colorincolor
1370 HJNI Radio Sabana, Calle 24 N° 18-31, Sincelejo, Sucre, 1 kW, new station
1380 HJJD R. Internacional, ex Armony
1400 HJHM La Cariñosa de Armenia, ex Antena 2
1490 HJAY R. Vida Nueva. Address: Calle 73 N° 40-47, Barranquilla, Atlántico
1550 HJQD R. Bésame, ex. Caracol Armenia
1580 HJQT R. Mar, Santa Fé de Bogotá, ex Candela Estéreo. (various)
(Rafael Rodríguez via Christer Brunström, via Arctic, except as noted)

CUBA

At the Isle of Youth, Radio Caribe is now with a new 5 kW AM transmitter operating on 1220 kHz.. At the same time, the Cuban Broadcast Institute implemented a modernization plan at the Radio Caribe studios using digital technology. The Radio Caribe studios are linked to the FM transmitter using a digital UHF link, and soon the analog UHF link to the AM site will be replaced by a new digital one too. Similar projects are in progress all along the Cuban archipelago, like for example in Matanzas province, east of Havana, where the old Radio Rebelde 30 kW Tesla transmitter that I helped to install in 1963 was replaced by a new solid state 25 kW transmitter capable of up to 125 percent positive peak modulation. Radio Rebelde's Matanzas relay is operating on 620 kHz, while at the same site, a new Radio Reloj network also solid state transmitter is running 5 kW on 860 kHz, improving the coverage of that news and information broadcast service." (Arnie Coro, RHC via HCDX 27.11.2007 via Arctic)

ECUADOR

HCDC1-530 AM, Quito, ex R. Iris, now belongs to Caracol América. ID: "...530 AM la radio del Ecuador para la programación de Caracol América...." (Rafael Rodríguez, Arctic)

FRANCE

Since November 1st, there is a new station on MW 1467 kHz from Col de la Madone (Monaco/France). It's RADIO MARIA FRANCE, from 0500-1900 UT on 1467 kHz. Address is: Radio Maria France, B.P. 42 F-06341 La Trinité Cedex, France. (Info @ radiomaria.fr <http://www.radiomaria.fr>)

1467 - TWR via Centre de Roumoules (France): 2000-2045 Slovak and Czech, 2045-2315 Arabic, 2315-2400 English. (Christian Ghibaudo, France, via Dario Monferini, DXLD)
RMC Info stop all MW relays in France. Now only on 216 kHz and FM. (Christian Ghibaudo, Nice, France, Nov 2, DXLD)

MARTINIQUE

1310 Radio Martinique, Fort de France - I received a very nice email last night, as a reply to my reception report sent via air mail five weeks ago. Désir Quiquely, Chef de fab. radio, confirms my 7 September 2007 (Smøla) reception of Radio Martinique 1310. The email also contains three mp3 and three jpg attachments - jingles and photos from the station. This was a very nice email reply, and of course it was a new country in my collection - the first so far this year. (Arnstein Bue, DX Paradise via finndxer/Arctic)
According to an e-mail from Désir Quiquely the power is 5 kW. E-mail: desir.quiquely@rfo.fr. (Bengt Ericson, ARC)

PÉRU

- 1600 R. Internacional – San Pablo, Cajamarca
- 1610 R. Sabor – Arequipa
- 1615 R. Luz y Vida – San Ignacio, Cajamarca
- 1630 R. San Juan – Centro Poblado El Tambo, Bambamarca, Cajamarca
- 1650 R. Ecológica - San Ignacio, Cajamarca

Note: These stations are using different frequencies since I presume the government does not authorise them, so they may be pirate stations. So one day we can listen to Radio Ecológica on 1640 kHz and the next day on 1650 kHz as I noted very often. These stations do not give a postal address for this reason. (César Pérez Dioses, Peru via Arctic)

VENEZUELA

Unión Radio, Venezuela is re-arranging its networks in the beginning of next year. Unión Radio, Puerto La Cruz on 640 AM that presently is part of the Unión Deportes network, will change into a 24h news radio as part of the Actualidad network. Unión Radio Puerto La Cruz

on 870 AM (ex-Radio Pueblo) is going to be a sports station in the Deportes network. (enoriente.com via finndxer/Arctic)

Venezuela apparently went to 4.5 hours back from GMT on 9 Dec which will move all the "top of the hour" IDs and sign-off's etc. (Mark Hattam, mwc 9 Dec)

NORTH AMERICAN BROADCAST NEWS

(from International Radio Club of America's "DX Monitor" February 2008)

- 1150 KKNW Seattle WA has changed format from talk to news/talk
1320 KCTC Sacramento CA granted reduction in night power from 5kw to 500 watts.
1470 KUTY Palmdale CA is regional Mexican as "Radio Lazer."
1550 KYCY San Francisco CA format changed from modern rock to business news
1590 WAKR Akron, OH format changed from adult standards to oldies
1630 KRND Fox Farm WY applies to change antenna pattern from non-directional to DA-2.



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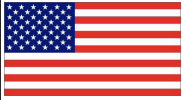
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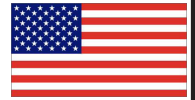
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US X-BAND AT A GLANCE

MARCH 2008



Compiled by Tony King
Greytown

Updates in Bold

1610	CHHA	Toronto ON	Rel SS
1620	WWLV	South Bend IN	AC:EZL "Love Songs 1620"
	KOZN	Bellevue NE	"ESPN 1620 Omaha's 'The Zone'"
	WTAW	College Station --Bryan TX	'Newstalk 16-20 WTAW' Takes C-to-C AM
	KYIZ	Renton WA	Urban, r & b, hip-hop //KRIZ " Z Twins"
	KSMH	West Sacramento, CA	Rel. ETWN Catholic. "KSMH West Sacramento"
	WNRP	Gulf Breeze FL	Now News/Talk Fox News "News Radio 1620"
	WDHP	St Croix, US Virgin Islands	BBC WS + Caribbean prgms overnight. Full ID :59
1630	KCJJ	Iowa City IA	Hot AC "16-30 KCJJ"
	KRND	Fox Farm WY	SS ID 'La Grande 1630'
	KKGM	Ft Worth/Dallas TX	Rel. Southern Gospel.
	WRDW	Augusta GA	Talk/Sport Sporting News Network & ABC News.
1640	WKSH	Sussex WI	Disney " AM 1640 WKSH Sussex-Milwaukee"
	KDZR	Lake Oswego OR	Disney 'KDZR Radio Disney Portland' "AM 1640 KDZR"
	KDIA	Vallejo CA	Talk/religious/life issues 10kw
	WTNI	Biloxi MS	Overnight: ESPN sport M-F; C2C Sat Sun
	KFXV	Enid OK	Fox Sports 'The Score 1640 KFXV Enid-Oklahoma'
	KBJA	Sandy UT	SS News/Talk
1650	WHKT	Portsmouth VA	Disney. "AM1650 WHKT Portsmouth, Radio Disney"
	KHRO	El Paso TX	Talk. "Air America Radio 1650 KHRO El Paso"
	KCNZ	Cedar Falls IA	Talk /Fox sports "The Fan KCNZ Cedar Falls-Waterloo"
	KWHN	Fort Smith AR	'Newstalk 1650 KWHN' Takes C to C
	KBJD	Denver CO	Talk. "KNUS-2"
	KFOX	Torrance CA	Korean/ EE ID on hour
	CINA	Mississauga ON	South Asian format
	CJRS	Montreal QC	1kw. SS FF and Yiddish Radio Shalom
1660	KTIQ	Merced CA	"Radio Visa" SS. EE ID "KTIQ Merced La Voz Christiana"
	WFNA	Charlotte NC	Sports ESPN " Charlotte's sports station1660 AM WFNA "
	WWRU	Jersey City NJ	Korean
	WCNZ	Marco IS FL	Rel. Catholic/Starboard Relevantant radio
	WQLR	Kalamazoo MI	Adult contemporary x WQSN
	KRZI	Waco TX	ESPN + local sport. Nx on hr/local ads .05 'ESPN 1660'
	KQWB	West Fargo ND	ESPN
	KXOL	Brigham City UT	SS. Sports Radio Unica ID in EE on hour " K X O L 1660"
	KXTR	Kansas City KS	Classical
	WGIT	Canovanas Puerto Rico	SS 'Tropical' format.
1670	WVVM	Dry Branch, GA	SS:AC
	WTDY	Madison WI	Talk ABC News. Overnight, Midnight Truckers Network
	KHPY	Moreno Valley, CA	Radio Catolica SS. Sung ID on hr. "KHPY Moreno Valley 1670"
	KNRO	Redding CA	"Sports. ESPN Radio 1670 KNRO"
1680	WTTM	Lindenwold, NJ	Ethnic - Asian "EBC Radio"
	WLAA	Winter Garden FL	SS "Alma Latina" EE; "WLAA Winter Garden-Orlando"
	WDSS	Ada MI	"R.Disney 'AM1680 WDSS Ada-Grand Rapids"
	KGED	Fresno CA	Nostalgia x KAVT Disney "Legends 1680"
	KDOW	Seattle WA	SS 'La Jefa AM 1680 KDOW Seattle'
	KRJO	Monroe LA	Urban Gospel. "KRJO Monroe"
1690	KDDZ	Arvada CO	"R.Disney AM 16-90 KDDZ Arvada Denver"
	KFSG	Roseville CA	Ethnic EE ID on hr "KFSG Sacramento"
	WVON	Berwyn, IL	Afro-American Urban Talk 'The Talk of Chicago'
	WMLB	Avondale Estates GA	News/Talk CNN. ID with birdsong hourly at 59.45
	WPTX	Lexington Park MD	Sports, Sporting News
	CJOL	Montreal QC	New
1700	WEUV	Huntsville AL	Black Gospel
	KKLF	Sherman TX	Talk// KLIF 570 "Talk Radio KKLF"
	KBGG	Des Moines IA	Sports ESPN. "ESPN 1700 The Champ, Iowa Sports Talk Station"
	KVNS	Brownsville TX	Oldies Radio
	XEPE	Tecate BCN MX	ID "San Diego 1700 The Talk of San Diego"
	WJCC	Miami Springs FL	SS religious.

ADCOM NEWS

Editor Bryan Clark email adcom.news@radiodx.com
Mangawhai (Northland)



THE DECLINE OF SHORTWAVE as a primary communications channel continues. **MARK NICHOLLS** has forwarded some comments from the **Hard-Core DX** Internet Newsgroup about the decision by the BBC to end its European Shortwave broadcasts. **SIMON SPANSWICK**, chief executive of the Association of International Broadcasters in London, said that the move by the BBC

"probably sounds the death knell for traditional analogue shortwave broadcasting in the developed world." Shortwave transmissions remain an important media outlet in Africa and Asia, he noted. Since 2006, the BBC World Service shortwave audience has grown by 7 million people, or 7 percent, to 107 million - about 58 percent of the BBC's total radio audience. But in developed countries, Spanswick added, "nobody really uses shortwave radio any more to listen to content produced on a big scale."

"Europe is very developed and so is America," said **MICHAEL GARDNER**, a spokesman for BBC World Services. "Shortwave is not the best way of reaching those audiences there. They all have FM, AM stations close by. Some of them have satellites or they can pull it down on their TV screens and there are alternatives on line. There are lots of ways of interacting with the BBC."

All of the world's largest international broadcasters, based in the United States, France, Germany, England and the Netherlands, are cutting back on shortwave or reviewing the deployment of their resources. **ANDY SENNIT**, a media specialist with the Dutch public broadcaster, Radio Netherlands Worldwide, said that he got his start 30 years ago working on BBC shortwave broadcasts and had mixed feelings about the end of the transmissions. "For die-hard shortwave listeners, this is negative," he said. "What they don't understand is the huge cost of powering transmitters. The cost of diesel fuel has doubled."

DXer **KAI WILLNER** in Munich responds that "I live in Munich, which has more than 1 million inhabitants, but BBC WS is not available on FM, neither on terrestrial FM nor on cable. And so far haven't found the courage to set up an ugly satellite dish at my flat (probably one is only allowed to set it up where it does not spoil the facade). To my understanding, the true aim is to transfer the cost to the listener (energy for a computer, money for new equipment). Does anyone on this mailing list has estimated energy consumption for internet broadcasting? My estimate goes as follows: Shortwave for Europe: 500 kW transmitting power plus negligible power consumed by transistor receivers, makes a total of 500 kW. Internet: 0 W transmitting power plus 5000 listeners times 100 W for each PC gives a total of: 500 kW. Probably there are even more than 5000 listeners at a time. Conclusion: total energy consumption could be of the same order for shortwave and Internet broadcasting.'

Well, what do League members think? Are we the last generation to value shortwave (and perhaps medium wave?) as mass communications tools? How many of us are 'listening' to our radio via the internet or satellite? Speaking for myself, I have access to 'free to air' services on 3 Optus satellites and have 45 audio channels to choose from including the state radio services of France, Croatia, Turkey, Belgium, Hungary, the Netherlands and Rumania, but the only English broadcasts heard to date have been Radio Netherlands. I think it will be a long time before the variety of broadcast services available to me on shortwave will be easily and readily available by other means.

NZ VINTAGE RADIO SOCIETY Some highlights from the February issue of the Society's bulletin: Documentation showing the discovery of Light Emitting Diodes in 1907, 40 years before Bell Laboratories patented the Transistor; photos of some awesome radio amateur antennas from the late 1920s. Contact NZVRS Treasurer and League member DAVID CROZIER at PO Box 13873 Onehunga Auckland 1643 for more information on the Society and membership.

60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS Its never too early to start making plans to attend the **DX League's 60th Anniversary celebrations 3 to 5 October 2008 in Oamaru**. The programme will include the 2008 Annual General Meeting, a celebratory lunch and opportunities for DXing. **See last month's (February 2008) magazine for more details.**

60 YEARS AGO In the lead up to celebrations of the DX League's 60th Anniversary in October, we note the following in the March 1948 issue of **DX BULLETIN (NZ)**, forerunner of the **NZ DX TIMES**:

A report from a radio conference in Melbourne on 10 March 1948 indicated the extension of the medium waveband for NZ out from 1500 to 1600 kilocycles. DXers were reminded to listen out for stations running all-night during state elections in Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Maryland. California had introduced Daylight Saving Time meaning its stations signed off an hour earlier to allow reception from other states. The DX Ladder of Fame made its first appearance in the magazine, listing NZ's leading broadcast DXers as **ALBIE STANTON** of Dunedin with 1112 verifications and **LES HOPKINS** of Waitoa with 807. On shortwave, listening highlights reported included Test Broadcasts by the International Committee of the Red Cross on 6345kcs most evenings, VLG11 Melbourne 15210 commencing broadcasts on 11 March, VLW5 Perth well received overnight on new 9610kcs, a new DX Session scripted by **ARNE SKOOG** starting from Radio Sweden, KOFA Salzburg Austria on 7220kcs with music requests and news at 6.30pm, heard by JACK FOX announcing as the 'Blue Danube Network' operated by the Armed Forces Radio Service. Jack also logged a relay of Ghandi's funeral via VUD11. **ARTHUR CUSHEN** was hearing CR7BV Mozambique 4920 in English at 7am, Portuguese on 4820kcs, and Pietermaritzburg 4875 in Afrikaans at the same time.

Adventist World Radio QSL Alphabet DX Contest 2008 information

Adrian Petersen/AWR advises that - In response to numerous requests from a multitude of listeners in many different countries throughout the world, Adventist World Radio is pleased to announce the re-introduction of our popular DX contests in association with our DX program, "Wavescan". It is planned that the DX contest for this year will be conducted during the month of April and it will be staged under the title, "QSL Alphabet DX Contest". In our 2008 DX contest, listeners are invited to search their own personal QSL collections and to choose 26 QSLs, one for each letter in the English alphabet. Listeners are also invited to submit at least 3 reception reports on AWR transmissions, and to provide at least 3 radio cards. Here are the full details for the four parts in this year's big DX contest.

PART A: Alphabet QSL List

Search your own personal collection of QSL cards and identify 26 QSLs, (preferably QSL cards, though QSL letters will also qualify), with each QSL representing the 26 consecutive letters in the English alphabet. These QSLs, all in your own personal collection, should confirm the reception of broadcasts from radio stations on shortwave, mediumwave, longwave, FM, TV and utility communications, but not amateur nor CB. For example, you can choose one QSL to represent the letter A, and it could be a QSL from Austria, or Australia, or Argentina, or Ahmedabad in India, or ABC Radio, etc, etc. Representing the letter B, you could choose for example, BBC, or Belgium, or Berlin, or 2BL, or Radio Butterworth, etc. And so on down through each letter of the alphabet. For the letter X for example, you could choose, CFRX, or XEW, or 3XY, etc; and for the letter Z, you could choose Zambia, or Zimbabwe, or 2ZB, or Zed Radio, etc. You should then make up a tabulated list of the 26 QSLs that qualify, giving the letters of the alphabet, the radio station, the station location, the year of the QSL, and a brief description. (Remember, in Part A, it is not necessary for you to send the QSLs to the AWR office, just your tabulated list.) Here is a sample for the tabulated list of QSLs:-

EXAMPLES ONLY

Letter	QSL	Station	Location	Year	Description
A	Austria	ORF	Vienna	1995	Color picture of Vienna palace
B	Bonaire	RN	Bonaire	1996	Photo of studio building
C	Canada	RCI	Sackville	1997	Old anniversary card
D					and all subsequent letters down to
X	CFRX	Toronto	Canada	1994	White card with large red letters
Y	YVTO	Caracas	Venezuela	1968	Light green card, black print
Z	2ZB	Wellington	NZ	1956	Old gray card, red flash

PART B: Copy 5 QSLs

Where possible, photo copy what you consider are the 5 best cards in your list, preferably

in color, though black & white from some countries is acceptable, and enclose these copies with your contest entry.

PART C: Submit 3 Reception Reports

Submit at least 3 reception reports on any AWR transmissions from any location in any mode.

PART D: Submit 3 Radio Cards

Where possible submit at least 3 radio related postcards for the Indianapolis Historic Collection, old or new, and these can be picture cards, text cards, QSL cards, etc. (Not valid are amateur QSL cards nor CB QSL cards.)

Things to Remember

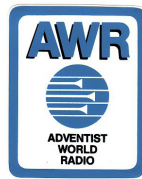
***1.** All entries must be sent by post and they should be postmarked during the month of April and received in Indianapolis by the end of May. In some cases, early entries will be accepted. Late entries will not qualify for the awards, but the reception reports will be verified with the special contest endorsement. Entries by email will not qualify for the awards, but the reception reports will be verified with the contest endorsement.

***2.** Where possible, please provide a strong self addressed envelope.

***3.** Where possible, please provide return postage, preferably in an acceptable form of international currency notes, though mint postage stamps or IRC coupons will also be appreciated.

***4.** The only valid address for contest entries is:-

Alphabet DX Contest
Adventist World Radio
Box 29235
Indianapolis
Indiana 46229
USA



QSL Alphabet DX Contest Awards

***1.** The world winner in our "QSL Alphabet DX Contest" will receive a copy of Jerry Berg's very interesting volume, "On the Short Waves".

*** 2.** Additional continental winners will be awarded a copy of their choice, "Passport to World Band Radio" or "World Radio TV Handbook", 2008 or 2009.

***3.** Additional awards will be sent to qualifying entries and these will include AWR souvenirs and other similar items.

Test transmissions from a temporary site Radio Australia Gngangara

Broadcast on AWR "Wavescan" DX Programme Feb 23 2003

Without prior notice, quite suddenly and unexpectedly, test broadcasts on behalf of Radio Australia were heard from a new location early in the year 1975. This is what happened.

In an endeavor to gain improved coverage into Asia, a beautiful new transmitter base was constructed for Radio Australia on Cox Peninsula, across the bay from Darwin in the Northern Territory. Three transmitters at 250 kW were installed and five log periodic antennas.

Test broadcasts from this new facility began in December 1968 and regular programming with all three transmitters in use began in March 1970. These three transmitters were given feed-line callsigns, VLK, VLL & VLM.

However, on Christmas Eve 1974, the worst cyclone in Australian history struck Darwin, destroying 80% of the city, though fortunately the death toll was quite low considering the circumstances. The large modern transmitter station near Darwin was seriously damaged by Cyclone Tracy and it was evident that it would be off the air for a long period of time.

A temporary new station was urgently needed and site investigations in Western Australia ultimately led to the quick installation for a new facility located near Carnarvon on the central coast. Preliminary test transmissions to assess the feasibility of the projected new station were conducted from another location, Gngangara just north of the state capital Perth.

The Gngangara facility was previously in use as an OTC station which had been erected for the purpose of shortwave communication with a satellite tracking station on the island of Mauritius. There were three transmitters at 7.5 kW and several rhombic antennas at Gngangara.

Thus it was that unexpected test transmissions were noted from Gngangara, using two of the low powered communication transmitters in parallel, feeding into directional rhombic antennas. The program tapes were prepared in the Melbourne studios of Radio Australia and consisted of the familiar melody, "Waltzing Matilda", long segments of recorded music, and test announcements in English.

These test broadcasts commenced on February 25, 1975 and concluded two weeks later on March 10. The schedule shows that seven different channels were in use during these two weeks of test broadcasts, ranging from the 31 metre band up to the 16

metre band. They were beamed towards Indonesia, South Africa and England.

This short series of test transmissions from Gngangara was considered to be a success and they demonstrated that signal propagation into the desired target areas would be adequate from Western Australia. Government approval was therefore granted for the erection of a new though temporary shortwave station at Carnarvon, further north in Western Australia.

A few QSL cards were issued by Radio Australia for these test broadcasts though they must be quite rare these days. It was just 28 years ago next Tuesday that these test broadcasts from Gngangara on behalf of Radio Australia were suddenly and unexpectedly heard on the shortwave bands.

Radio Australia Gngangara
Time Lines

Year	Date	Event
1975	Feb 25	Test transmissions began Gngangara on behalf of Radio Australia
1975	Mar 10	Test transmissions concluded March 10, 1975

This Week in Radio History

Radio Tonga A3Z, "The Call of the Friendly Isles"

Broadcast on AWR "Wavescan" DX Programme Feb 23 2003

It was just before sunrise on a pleasant cool morning back in the year 1974. I was standing out in the open near the "long house", a local tourist attraction, at the airport at Pago Pago in American Samoa. I tuned my portable radio across the almost empty mediumwave band and just happened to hear the sign-on routine from Radio Tonga.

A subsequent reception report produced an exotic and highly prized QSL card from station A3Z, complete with a banana shaped postage stamp, picturing of course, a banana. They also sent a descriptive sheet giving the history of Radio Tonga and we quote from their document.

The Kingdom of Tonga is composed of over 150 islands, the largest of which is Tongatapu with approximately 100 square miles. The islands are scattered over 400 miles of sea in the tropical belt south of the equator.

There are around 100,000 people in the kingdom with the majority living on the main island. Over 20,000 people live in Nuku'alofa, the capital city of Tonga. There are

three main groups of islands in Tonga and these are located in the north, the center and the south. Tonga is an independent kingdom with a constitutional monarchy established in 1862 by King Tupou I.

Radio Tonga came into existence on July 4, 1961 when a new mediumwave station was inaugurated with 10 kW on 1020 kHz. At this stage, the new broadcasting service was a department of the Tongan government.

Fourteen years later, Radio Tonga became an independent statutory organization. The studios and transmitters for Radio Tonga are located in the capital city.

To the surprise and delight of the international radio world, a new shortwave service was launched in Tonga, beginning on February 28, 1989. A new 1 kW transmitter was now on the air with a relay from the mediumwave service using a frequency in the 60 metre band, 5030 kHz. This new broadcast service on tropical shortwave was intended for coverage of the scattered populations on the outer islands.

However, four months later, a fault developed in the transmitter and from that time onwards, Radio Tonga A3Z was heard on shortwave only spasmodically. A new final tube was obtained from France, the transmitter was moved to a new location, but it was never again on the air for any lengthy period of time.

The final end of the shortwave service from Tonga came when a storm demolished the antenna on February 16, 1993. At this stage, Radio New Zealand International provided a brief relay service from Radio Tonga and beamed the programming back to the "Friendly Isles" of Tonga.

QSL cards from station A3Z on shortwave are now a historic rarity. Thus it was that Radio Tonga made its first broadcast on shortwave just 14 years ago next Friday.

Radio Broadcasting in Tonga
Time Lines



Year	Date	Event
1961	Jul 4	Inauguration of new mediumwave station ZCO 10 kW 1020 kHz
1972		Change of callsign from ZCO to A3Z
1989	Feb 28	Launching of new shortwave service 1 kW 5030 kHz
1989	Jun	Transmitter fault, off air; occasional subsequent broadcasts
1993	Feb 16	Storm brought antenna down
1993	Feb 16	RNZI heard with relay from Radio Tonga



On the shortwaves.com

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

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

Under "CPRV," "QSL Gallery," we have some nice "new" old BCB veries. From the United States are a 1948, certificate-size QSL from WPRO, Providence, Rhode Island, heard by Peter Clarius of Staten Island, New York; a 1920s, folder-style QSL from WOC, the famous Palmer School of Chiropractic station in Davenport, Iowa (this is best viewed in Acrobat "facing" view); and a card from KMOX, the "Voice of St. Louis," 5 kw., 1070 kc., with a picture of their "staff soloist" on the reverse. From Canada you will find a QSL from St. John, New Brunsvick station CHSJ, 1 kw., heard by Len Kruse of Dubuque, Iowa. And we have two QSLs from Cuba: a letter from the Columbia Phonograph Co. of Philadelphia, whose records were used by well-known 6KW, a 100-watter in Tuinucu, Cuba, reception of whose signal the letter verified; and a card from CMX, Havana, which offered a set of toiletries in a wooden case for the sum of \$10. From an accompanying letter: "Station CMX, in co-operation with Crusellas & Co., is presenting an exquisitely finished case, made of the finest Cuban woods, containing a three ounce bottle of perfume, a box of face powder and a cake of soap, all compounded with "TROPICAL LURE" extract, of unexcelled sweetness, in which all the allurements of tropical gardens is comprised; specially manufactured for the Radio-fans of the U.S. of America as a courtesy of this Station to its listeners. The printed samples are exact reproductions in shape and color."

Under "Articles, Research, etc.," "Recordings," audio clips from Colombian SW stations. Most of these were made in the 1970s, which doesn't seem that long ago, except that all of them, and nearly all the other Colombian stations that once populated the 60 and 49 meter bands, are now long gone from SW. Included in this group are: (1) La Voz del Caqueta, Florencia, 5035 kHz. (1976); (2) La Voz del Huila, Neiva, 6150 kHz. (1976); (3) Ondas del Darien, Turbo, 6085 kHz. (1976); (4) R. Bucaramanga, 4845 kHz. (1977); (5) R. Guatapuri, Valledupar, 4915 kHz. (1975); (6) R. Mira, Tamuco, 6015 kHz. (1979); and (7) R. Sutatenza, Bogota, 5075 kHz. (1977). Also in the group is a more recent recording, Ecos del Orinoco, Puerto Carreno, testing on 4905 kHz. in 1995. **Did anyone ever QSL them?**

Under "Articles, Research, etc.," "Pot Pourri," some of the certificates of achievement that many DXers have enjoyed collecting. From clubs past and present, they are: Boys' Life Radio Club "DXer" award (QSLing all continents), 1958; International Radio Club of America (IRCA), 2,800 BCB stations verified, 1973; International Shortwave Club (ISWC) "Heard All Continents" award; International Short Wave League (ISWL) (U.K.) "Century Award" (100 countries), 1958; NNRC "Certificate of Achievement" award, 30 zones verified, 1971; NNRC "Certificate of DX Qualification," 400 BCB stations verified, 1947 (updated to 1,000 in 1952); NNRC "Certificate of Merit" award, 100 BCB stations verified, 1946 (with stickers, including one for 1,100 stations, 1951); NNRC "Super Ace" certificate, 500

BCB stations QSLed, 1947; NNRC "Short Wave Explorer," 1958; National Radio Club (NRC) "Medium Wave DXer Award," 51 countries verified, 1965; NRC "DX Award" certificates for verifying eight Canadian provinces (1980) and 2,876 BCB stations (1977); SPEEDX "African Listener" certificate with stickers for 15, 25, 50, 75 and 100 stations heard (1989); and a Universal Radio DX Club "Countries Heard Certificate" for 182 countries. These certificates are from the collections of Eugene S. Allen, William F. Flynn, John C. Herkimer, Roger Legge, Robert S. Knox, and yours truly. A couple of the NNRC certificates were antiques even when they were issued in the 1940s because they refer to the club as the "Newark News DX Club," the club's name only until 1929.

Under "Articles, Research, etc.," "Pot Pourri," more certificates, this time membership certificates from ACE (1983), ADXR (1983), ASWLC (1967 and 1970), the Australian DX Radio Club (1946), the British Short Wave League (1945), the International Round Table (1946), the Great Circle Shortwave Society (1987), the International Short Wave Club (1940), the International Short Wave League (1946 and 1956), the International DXers Alliance (IDA, 1935), and a charter establishing the Minnesota chapter of the IDA (1939). These originated with Bill Flynn, Roger Legge, Larry Lundberg, Sid Steele, and yours truly.

Under "Articles, Research, etc.," "Full-Text Articles," we return this time to The Scott News, the May 1933 issue. A glance through the pages demonstrates that E. H. Scott knew what turned DXers on. **He follows his report of his 20,000 mile research tour to New Zealand, during which he had regular reception of WBBM on his Scott Allwave Deluxe**, with details of the All-Wave DeLuxe "Super," news of the 1933 Chicago World's Fair, letters and pictures from happy Scott customers nation wide and world wide, and info on the "new" Scott SW Antenna. Have any ontheshortwave visitors ever listened on a Scott receiver?

E. H. SCOTT

Ernest H. Scott was born in Dunedin, New Zealand on June 1 1887 before Scott moved to the US and started in the transformer business in Chicago just after WWI. The Scott Radio Laboratories built some of the most powerful valve radios from the late twenties up through the forties. And they are now a very sort after antique collectable valve radio in the US.

He later started producing superheterodyne kit radios. His interest in shortwave developed into world record reception using his receivers. When the RCA superhet licences became available in 1931, Scott started to produce complete receivers. By 1933, Scott was offering his first chrome plated, semi-custom built receivers.



Etón E5 AM/FM/Shortwave/SSB Radio

A Short Review

By Des Davey, Te Kuiti



I have owned a number of portable AM/Shortwave radios over more than 50 years and I have never come across one that is as good as this little monster. I'm completely blown away by what this little push-button digital radio can do. It's so easy to operate. There's not one bad thing I can say about it, although I do find the digital frequency display a bit hard to read in some lighting conditions. The pulling power of the Etón E5 on shortwave with just its built-in whip antenna is amazing! All up with freight charges from Ham Radio Outlet in California, the Etón E5 cost me NZ\$220.

FEATURES:

- AM, FM-Stereo and Full-Shortwave Coverage (1711-29999 KHz)
- PLL Dual Conversion AM/SW Circuitry with SSB
- 700 Programmable Memory Presets with Memory Scan
- FM Station Auto Tuning Storage (ATS)
- Alpha-Numeric Four Character Memory Bank Labeling
- Tunes via Auto-Scan, Manual-Scan, Direct Key-in Entry and Tuning Knob
- Selectable 9/10 kHz AM Tuning Steps
- Clock, Sleep Timer and Four Programmable Timers (for alarm or wake-up)
- Weekday Setting
- World Time-Zone Selection
- Shortwave Narrow/Wide Bandwidth Selection
- AM/FM News/Music Tone Selection
- Stereo Earphone and Line Out Sockets
- Socket for External Shortwave Antenna
- Display Light
- Button Lock Features
- Internally Recharges Ni-MH Batteries (batteries not included)

- Power Source: 4 AA batteries (not included); AC Adapter (included)
- Dimensions: 167mm wide, 105mm high, 27mm deep
- Weight: 346 grams
- Includes Manual, Protective Case, AC Adapter/Charger (see below)



The radio is also supplied with a plastic-coated longwire antenna of about 14 metres length, with a jack plug for connection to the radio's external antenna socket, and an alligator clip at the other end.

Reception on all shortwave bands is great! Here are some of my first loggings on the Eton E5 in late November:

- 7230 CNR-1 Xian China Home Service at 0900 very good.
- 7325 Radio Wantok Light, Papua New Guinea NBC News in EE 0910, poor-fair.
- 9740 BBC World Service fair-good in EE with news 0830.
- 11700 RFI France in FF at excellent level 0735.
- 11900 China Radio International exc with news in EE at 1315 // 11980 very good.
- 13710 All India Radio with news in EE, fair to good 1335.
- 15510 WYFR Family Radio with religious prgm in Mandarin Chinese 0811, fair.

FM reception is good with the built-in telescopic antenna (900 mm fully extended) enabling me to hear FM stations from the Waikato and Taranaki regions. With a stereo lead from the E5 to the auxiliary input on the rear of my lounge stereo system, I can also relay FM stereo stations that I pick up on the receiver.

A downside of purchasing a receiver directly from the United States is that it is set up to operate off 120 volts AC, 250 milliamps, rather than the 240 volt system we have in NZ. Strangely, the US 120 volt adaptor provided with the radio puts out 8 volts DC, despite the radio input stating 6 volts DC. I was advised to use a 230/240 volt Adaptor that puts out 9 volts DC (you cannot get one with 8 volts) but, with 300 mA, there was a slight

humming noise when in use. However I am now using a 6 volt DC adaptor with the positive on the centre contact, negative on the outer, and the E5 is performing very well! For portable use, the E5 uses 4 AA (1.5v) rechargeable batteries.

For other information on the Etón E5, check out the review in the 2008 Passport to World Band Radio (which gives the E5 a good write-up).

MEMBERS FREE ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED TO BUY

A groundplane CB antenna in good order.

Phone or write to Des Davey - 16 View Road, Te Kuiti. 3910, - Phone 07-8787315

BRANCH NEWS

Chief Editor Mark Nicholls
Upper Hutt



CHRISTCHURCH GROUP

A small gathering of Christchurch members descended on RFK's around 2+30 hours (Ron, Douglas and Chris) and visitor from up the line David Ricquish.

Talk for most of the time was centered around FM in= NZ (LPFMs etc) and some of Douglas's loggings over replies from his recent trip. Also some talk on the AMers of days gone by when DX was DX. To a lesser degree I think SW was mentioned.

David scored an old (1952) QSL from Percy Hurley collection for the RHF, Aust New Guinea. Hope the trip was worth while.

Douglas has offered to host the next gathering perhaps in early May, all to be advised in due course.

NEW ZEALAND RADIO DX LEAGUE (Inc)

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.

The NZRDXL is administered from Auckland by, NZRDXL AdCom, P.O. Box 39-596, Howick, Manukau 2145, NEW ZEALAND

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