

CLE194 CO-ORDINATOR'S COMMENTS

Where's the Summer?

Summertime conditions seem a bit reluctant to arrive fully in the Northern Hemisphere this year. We are less than a month away from the longest day, but reception conditions were favourable for many of us during last weekend's listening event.

Roelof reported that Transatlantic reception peaked on the 24th - I suspect that was just after I had decided it was time for bed! Maybe the good conditions were why, despite the 'closed season', 43 of us still sent logs - 7 more than the previous highest in our 14 years of end-of-May CLEs.

Taking the CLEs since the start of 2010, I find that the 'high season' average (end of September to end of February inclusive) has also been 43 logs per CLE! For the other 6 months, the low season average over that period was 35 logs. That must be partly explained by missing events during holidays away from home.

Local Listening Problems?

There is no need to miss out on a listening event, even if you have impossible local interference. For the first time in a CLE two listeners in North America by-passed that kind of problem last weekend and listened from Holland via the Web using Twente University Radio Club's receiver at Enschede. The wideband receiver there is quite easy to use and you won't be affected by sharing it with well over 100 others Worldwide! Don't be put off by the name 'WebSDR' - it appears to the user like a conventional receiver and you listen in real time ("no recordings"!).

Why not give it a try? Go to <http://websdr.ewi.utwente.nl:8901/> Try selecting 402.6 kHz and 'max in'.

The NWT Saga

19 listeners in Europe were again misled, amused or frustrated by the mis-keying of a most-reported NDB in the CLE range (385 to 399.9 kHz) - or others just took it in their stride! This NDB serves a military air base in Poland and it first appeared in CLE110 in October 2008 when 28 of the 31 listeners all reported hearing the UNID 'NJ' on 385 kHz, undeniably sending NJ in good Morse. REU already showed it as at Leczyca licensed to use NWT. Throughout more than 6 years nothing has changed - still strong signals mis-keying NJ in good Morse.

Maybe we should ask Tracey to try using his persuasion and get them to tweak the keying, or even get it re-licensed to use NJ. Or maybe not - they might decide the cheapest thing to do is just to switch it off!

The Night Counts this time were typical of relatively stable conditions with little change from night to night. i.e. The total number of 'new' loggings we made each night (Friday - Saturday - Sunday) was a bit less than half the total on the previous night:

Europe: 612 - 265 - 120

N.America: 245 - 108 - 50

Next CLEs for your diary?

CLE195 is being planned for June 19-22 (a week early).

CLE196 should be over the weekend of 24-27 July.

Good listening

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