

# CLE203 CO-ORDINATOR'S COMMENTS

**Our 203rd Co-ordinated Listening Event** seemed to be enjoyed by all 46 of us - on a weekend when most of us were very happy to be indoors. After the holiday CLEs, building pyramids and listening remotely, we were back to normal and listening in the 20 kHz range between 350 and 370 kHz.

## **FUN and FUNNY**

That was the verdict of several listeners in their logs, especially from Europe where conditions were mostly poor, while on the other side of the Atlantic the conditions (radio-wise, at least) were mostly pretty good. The nightly ups and downs are illustrated at the end of this email.

Joachim: "Some semi-locals weren't just there and others, like LSA-362, Larissa, GRC were very loud and strong. Strange but **fun!**"

Ray: "I hear SND-362.5 but can't hear RCH-369.4 and they are 16 miles apart...  
**funny** old propagation - -"

David: "DX was completely missing. All the same, it was great **fun** digging in the noise for signals."

Roelof: "VR-365 (*Canaries*) never made it, whilst Jean (*and several others*) who live about 100 km south from here logged it!"

Also **funny** (to my twisted sense of humour) was this from Brian:

"This will be my only session on this CLE as we are off early Sun dancing in Yorkshire.

Early Sun dancing sounds great - but in Yorkshire in January??

(Sorry Brian - in rather bad taste - please forgive me! It was a good log with more NDBs in this range than you heard last time)

## **SKIP and SQUEEZE**

I thought that two of the CLE203 logs were particularly interesting, both of them from listeners who are happy to admit to their "unsophisticated approach" and their 'minimal equipment'.

**Skip** in Washington State sent us his first CLE log, made with a very unusual set:

"Using a WW II BC-453-B Command Set receiver (used in B-17s, B-24s, P-51s, etc.), ear phones, and a 40 m dipole 75 feet in the air (between two trees)."

Bravo! I hope that will continue to be used for NDB hunting - and especially in our next once-in-a-while 'Barn Door' event when our 'antique' receivers are dusted down and given a new lease of life listening in a much wider frequency range. (Also simple homebrews - '1AD', etc - ultralights or any NON-SELECTIVE receiver).

In a similar way, for **William** in Italy, the limitations of his equipment ( a Grundig YB400 ) didn't stop him from making a CLE log.

"I don't know if you can accept it for the current event due to the limit of my set (max 353 KHz). It is a small contribution but that 4 KHz have been well **squeezed**! - - - Furthermore the 3 KHz "narrow" filter of my radio in this case was useful allowing me to copy until 357.5 KHz!!!

Despite being restricted to listening only at the bottom of the frequency range, William achieved 16 loggings - another Bravo!

### **COMMITTED and COMING**

**For CLE204** you can mark 26 to 29 February in your diary. We'll probably stay with a normal frequency range event - details a week or so beforehand.

After that the dates of coming events are less certain (I have an unusually complicated diary this spring), but I'm hoping for:

**CLE205** Easter weekend, 25 - 28 March

**CLE206** 22 - 25 April

Meanwhile, good listening, all

Brian

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In CLE203 the **night-by-night ups and downs** in our listening success were again unusual - and also different for Europe compared with North America.

The following tables illustrate that:

***EUROPE***

NIGHT	NDBs	Exp.	+/-
Friday	745	700	<b>45</b>
Saturday	301	350	<b>-49</b>
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>175</u>	<b>4</b>
Totals	<b>1225</b>	1225	

***NORTH AMERICA***

<u>NIGHT</u>	<u>NDBs</u>	<u>Exp.</u>	<u>+/-</u>
Friday	675	534	<b>141</b>
Saturday	182	267	<b>-85</b>
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>134</u>	<b>56</b>
Totals:	<b>935</b>	935	

The 'NDBs' column shows how many NDBs were heard on each night and the total. The 'Exp.' column shows how many NDBs would normally be expected on each night for that same total (each night about half as many as on the previous one, as there are fewer 'new' ones left to be heard). The '+/-' column shows how many more, or less, were heard each night than expected. The results show that Friday was most certainly the best in Europe and in North America.

Saturday was very poor in Europe with a small improvement on Sunday.

After the very good first night, North America was way down on both Saturday and Sunday