

## CLE230 - Coordinator's Comments

Our **230th CLE** was another well-supported one. After a record 59 logs last time we just reached 50 logs. For some time Steve has been giving the details of our Coordinated Listening Events in his excellent blog [ve7sl.blogspot.ca](http://ve7sl.blogspot.ca) and I found out recently that it is sometimes also copied from there to [www.amateurradio.com](http://www.amateurradio.com) (International Ham Radio News & Opinions). No doubt that explains why the number of CLE reporters has been growing recently.

Conditions were unusual – a big difference between Europe (Best night Friday) and North America (**Worst night Friday**, with bad storms not far away). Several logs included comments about Friday's conditions and my usual analysis of the number of night-by-night loggings confirms them (see below).

The big difference in Friday's conditions affected the overall CLE statistics – Europe figures showed an improvement of about 5% over the CLE213 results (November 2016) while the corresponding Rest of the World statistics were about 20% down.

Our efforts to detect the **Missing NDBs** during a CLE have settled down now. After each CLE that concentrates on listening in a narrow frequency range, we are now better at deciding whether the recent disappearance of NDBs is significant. Extra data now being shown in REU/RNA/RWW has helped with that. Don's researching of NOTAMs (Notices to Airmen) often finds official confirmation of their demise. However, it is certainly not an exact science – Don points out that NDBs often disappear for ever with no explanation and, after a NOTAM has condemned them, others can survive for long periods or they can miraculously come back to life again!

Opportunities to listen via the Internet using a **remote receiver** are being taken more and more – four of us took part that way in CLE230. There are lots of good reasons why someone can really benefit from listening remotely. Here are some of them:

- Local reception problems at home (serious radio interference that can't be cured).

- Regulations preventing the installation of an efficient aerial at home – maybe even one as small as the mini whip.

- Where 'Home' means a serious lack of NDBs to hear.

- Interest in different NDB activity in faraway places (e.g. Christoph's DX reception of the Pacific region from Stanford, CA).

- Imagine that you become disabled and have to live in a home – no possibility of having your own listening station, but good Internet access from your bedside!

There is no credit to you for the remote aerial or receiver, but the skills needed to operate a remote receiver are still much the same and successes can give you the same satisfaction.

If you might be interested, have a look at the Website [SDR.hu](http://SDR.hu)

**Coming CLEs:**

CLE231 27-30 April Our 4th 'Channels' Challenge'

CLE232 25-28 May

CLE233 22-25 June

(dates are provisional)

Good Listening – and a very Happy Easter!

Brian and Joachim

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**CLE230:**

***EUROPE***

<u>NIGHT</u>	<u>NDBs</u>	<u>Exp.</u>	<u>+/-</u>
Friday	742	649	<b>93</b>
Saturday	258	325	<b>-67</b>
Sunday	136	162	<b>-26</b>
Totals:	<b>1136</b>	1136	

***NORTH AMERICA***

<u>NIGHT</u>	<u>NDBs</u>	<u>Exp.</u>	<u>+/-</u>
Friday	241	339	<b>-98</b>
Saturday	311	169	<b>142</b>
Sunday	41	85	<b>-44</b>
Totals:	<b>593</b>	593	

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 it is usually about half as many as on the previous one because there are fewer 'new' ones still remaining to be heard)

**The '+/-' column shows how many more, or less, were heard each night than expected.**

**You can see that the Europe counts show good conditions on the first night. By contrast, in North America the first night was very poor (logs said strong QRN), the second better.**

(Night-to-night changes can also be due to a special event - a celebration, contest, etc. - that had affected several of us)