

CLE239 COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS:

Hello all

In CLE239, after three years, we were been building pyramids again!

The target was to make a pyramid by logging beacons from 19 different radio countries of your choice as follows:

10 different NDBs from the country at the bottom of the pyramid

9 NDBs from the next radio country

8 NDBs from the third, etc.

- - - all the way to:

2 NDBs from the ninth country at the top of the pyramid.

Finally, the pyramid needed a vertical antenna on top of it, made by logging 10 more NDBs, each one from yet another different radio country. We were listening for 8 days, from local midday on Christmas Day until local midday on 2nd January.

We made 29 pyramids in all. For four of us the target size 10 was a big enough challenge. 1/3 of the listeners from Europe and 1/3 from Rest of the World went on and on, to make a faultless size 20 or above. Hartmut made a massive size 30, needing nearly 500 loggings!

Bottom of the pile again was Mike with a little size 8, one level more that he managed last time. In fact that was among the most impressive when you know that he achieved the total of 43 loggings, the right number from each of 15 different radio countries, **listening from Hawaii** near the centre of the Pacific Ocean and with his home-made 1-MOSFET regen. receiver.

Conditions during the Christmas event three years ago were not good, and the best of the sunspot cycle has helped us a lot this time. So the NOW/THEN analysis shows a big improvement. For the listeners who took part in both events, the total distance to NDBs logged was up by 50% for Europe listeners and up by a massive 117%, more than doubled, for the Rest. However, the total number of different NDBs logged only increased by 1% (Europe) and by 33% (Rest). That all suggests that Europe listeners were less able to find so many DX signals for their logs.

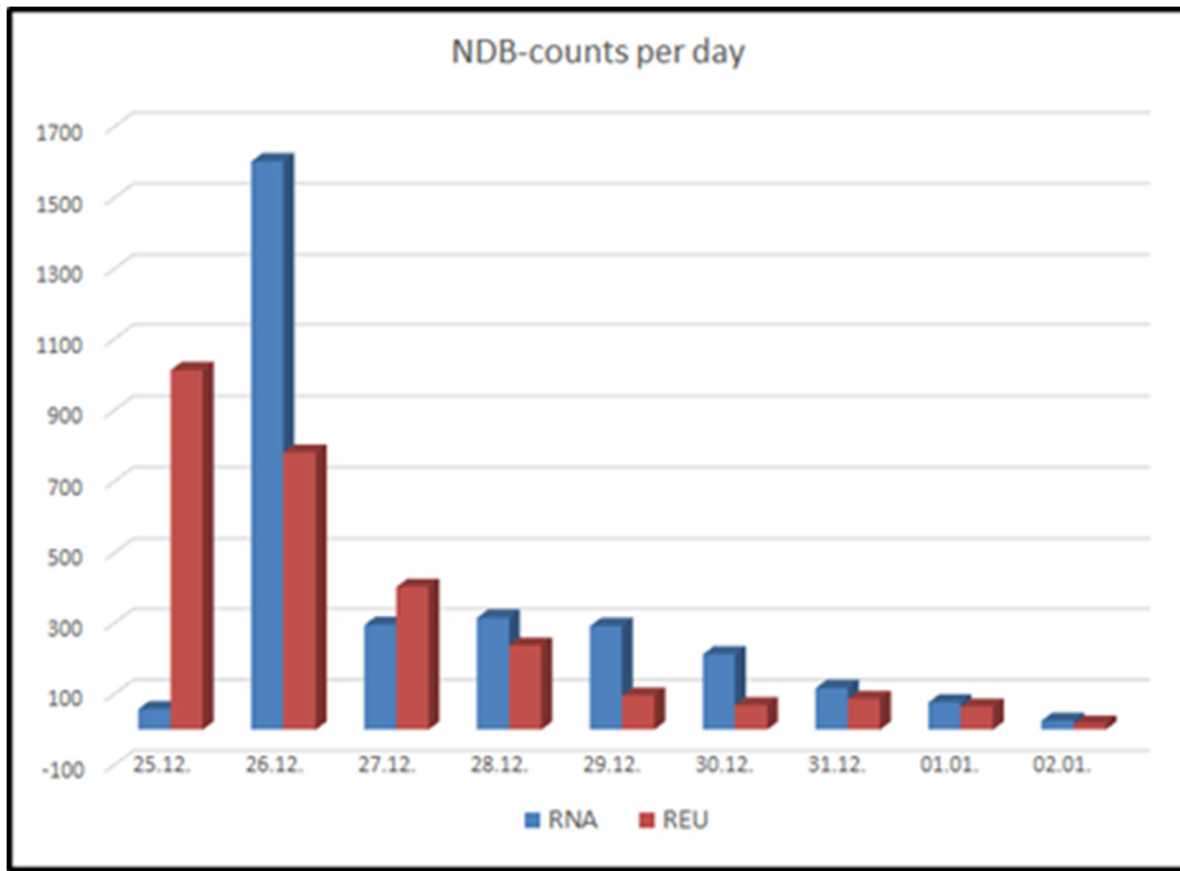
Congratulations to David A.

The fine size-20 pyramid from Bonnie Scotland was a great way to mark his **150th CLE**. I bet that news is a surprise for you, David? Someone else well known to nearly all of us is knocking on the same door! (no log from him this time).

Joachim deserves our special thanks. He recently did a lot of work to make his wonderful **New Harvester** program Pyramid-friendly and he is always patient about how slowly I (an old dog) learn its new tricks. We needed to make several runs of the program to get each pyramid as right as we could in the results. That was all good practice for me. The accuracy of the results was probably better this time and we could easily run a Pyramid CLE several times a year now. Fear not, non-pyramid fans - we know you are in the majority, even though you have been reading this right down to here.

(If anyone's pyramid result came out a bit wrong and they don't understand why, please feel free to email Joachim or me and we'll investigate).

One of the charts that we made from the results puzzled me. It shows the number of NDBs logged on each of the eight days during the event.



Why is Europe so very busy, right from the start, while the Rest is .. well .. resting?
 North American listeners have probably already worked it out, but here is an extra chart, made by Joachim, that clearly explains it:

Day	UTC (hh)	REU	RNA
25	11:00 - 11:59	45	
	12:00 - 12:59	17	
	13:00 - 13:59	8	
	14:00 - 14:59	59	
	15:00 - 15:59	78	
	16:00 - 16:59	80	
	17:00 - 17:59	35	
	18:00 - 18:59	55	
	19:00 - 19:59	88	20
	20:00 - 20:59	210	24
	21:00 - 21:59	113	3
	22:00 - 22:59	104	4
	23:00 - 23:59	121	7
26	00:00 - 00:59	105	24
	01:00 - 01:59	212	135
	02:00 - 02:59	34	184
	03:00 - 03:59	12	145
	04:00 - 04:59	15	163
	05:00 - 05:59	6	118
	06:00 - 06:59	6	145
	07:00 - 07:59		163
	08:00 - 08:59	11	216
	09:00 - 09:59		115
	10:00 - 10:59	11	58
	11:00 - 11:59	17	12
	12:00 - 12:59	9	12

It shows the number of loggings made in each hour of the first day or so.
 The huge difference is mainly because in our logs we all use UTC time and the day changes for all of us, simultaneously, at 00:00 UTC. Europe had many hours of good listening on the first day before 00:00 UTC. But for much of that time North America had been waiting for their own local midday and then had several hours of daylight before any of their own serious listening could start.

To finish on a lighter note, here is a picture, a bit off-topic. It shows the work of YL Sue to mark a recent event:



She used some artistic licence, but it does show my several rooftop-to-trees aerials as well as my use of the N-S barbed wire in a convenient nearby fence. The big one at the front is my local blockbuster 316 EPM. Fortunately it is not quite this close. Oh yes . . . and the cake was delicious.

CLE240 Will be a normal narrow frequency range one. Jan 25 to 28

CLE241 Will be over the weekend Feb 22 to 25
(the above dates are provisional at present)

Good listening, all
Brian

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