

# CLE248 COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS:

Hello all

We had a special listening event over last weekend – our 5th 'Channels Challenge', in which we were each trying to log just one NDB in each of the 151 'channels' from 275 kHz to 425 kHz. **Europe listeners** found signals on all but 3 of the 151, the missing ones being 278, 279 and 298 kHz (and 306 kHz was nearly a 4th).

**Rest of the World had a much tougher challenge**, with nothing heard by anyone on 43 of the 'channels'.

I think there are several main reasons for the difference:

NDBs tend to operate on every fourth channel, especially in USA, leaving some empty channels in between.

Europe has 'lost' relatively few of its NDBs so far.

The CLE reception conditions were very poor in most of North America but good in Europe this time.

We were including NDBs on nnn.5 channels (e.g. an NDB on 321.5 kHz counted for Channel 321). Those are usually easier to hear, with less QRM, but USA has almost none of them.

Our previous Channels Challenge was in April 2018. Each of the four main statistics, NOW compared with THEN, was much improved for Europe: **+44, +54, +14 and +75%**, but they were about the same for the Rest of the World: **+8, -8, -15 and +21%**. **(Details are in the final charts in the Excel results)**

**But, looking only at the statistics from the CLE248 results, you would think that there had been little difference between Europe and the Rest:**

**Europe attracted 26 reporters – Rest of the World had 27.**

**Europe's most DX logging was 9,901 km – Rest's was 10,096 km. (Well done, Jay and Steve)**

**Europe heard 89 different Radio Countries – Rest heard 99.**

**It's great to welcome three CLE first-timers:**

**Andy in ENG, Jari in FIN and Ant in PA**

**Andy and Jari each logged well over 130 channels and Ant 80 channels – very well done, all three.<**

As usual Joachim and I scanned all the reporters' comments. Apart from seeing their interesting reports on conditions and frequent use of the words 'challenge' and 'fun', I was looking for anything 'thought-provoking' or 'eye-catching' and came up with the following extracts:

*- the MOST work chasing beacons that I've done in a very, very long time.*

*It does make me listen in parts of the band I might otherwise avoid.*

*I don't do much daytime listening - but I actually found over a hundred on it, on 82 different channels.*

*- a grand total of 99 heard. . .Will be a lot different when the rest of the Canadians will be silent keyed.*

*This CLE prompted me to give up building my new house for a day and stay up very late for one long listening session*

*- had planned to take part in the CQ WW RTTY contest but I am glad I chose the CLE instead!!*

Coming CLEs:

CLE249 Fri. Oct. 25 – Mon. Oct. 28 (normal)

CLE250 Fri. Nov. 22 – Mon. Nov. 25 (normal)

(The dates are provisional at present)

Good listening, all

Brian

(CLE Coordinator)

[ndbcle@gmail.com](mailto:ndbcle@gmail.com)