

# CLE249 COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS:

Hello all

CLE249 was back to normal for us, a straightforward event and 55 of us listened for NDBs in the range 335 – 349.9 kHz.

The conditions, however, were not normal – quite unusual at the end of a disturbed solar period which had lasted a few days. Loggings in Europe included South Africa from Germany and Brazil from Scotland. In North America, New Zealand, Solomon Is and Tori Shima (Japan) were heard from across the Pacific.

We welcome **Shannon**, sending his first CLE log from **Georgia** – I think it is our only log from that State for over 100 CLEs!

At the other extreme, this Event probably produced the highest number of logs of all time coming from one radio country – there were 10 from ENG (12 from UK). It looks like the BREXIT saga has NOT discouraged active NDB List members in the UK!

You probably know that Joachim and I independently enter the CLE logs to his 'New Harvester' (NH) program. Then we compare our results to spot and correct any differences. We are grateful again for the high quality of the logs. This time, of about 2,500 loggings provided, there were several double entries (an NDB logged more than once), easily spotted by the program, but only 5 other reports needed to be changed or deleted – 1 in around 500 log lines! Entering the logs from 55 reporters this time with lots of copy/pastes, etc., does take some time – but when NH has the 'all clear' to go ahead and make all the results, the number crunching and creating the email and all the Excel tables for each half then takes it **4 minutes – MAGIC!**

We are also grateful to nearly everyone for 'following the rules' for making their log. There are a few things that are sometimes not done:

## Please always include **CLE** and **FINAL** in your final log (if either of those is missing it is just possible that we'll not notice your log among all the other List emails and miss it out)

## Please always state your listening location. Showing your Locator is fine, but we need to confirm that you are in your usual place (and we don't remember everyone's Locator! Showing your place name (**TOWN** or city) is very helpful, as we do remember those. E.g. 'Bob usually listens from Beaconsfield!', etc.. Just putting 'home' or 'location 1', etc., is not so good.

For many of us, this is a time of year for checking our outside aerial and earth systems before the winter. For me, that has often involved a visit to the TV aerial on the chimney of my house. Getting up there is easier than it looks, thanks to a gully between two roof sections, but it is **NOT recommended for anyone**, and is something that I am becoming too old to repeat. I had four fixed single-turn vertical tuned loops radiating from the chimney to trees at the same height and returning to the listening room at ground level. You can maybe just see one wire from the base of the TV aerial up to the top corner of the picture.



That loop was brought down recently when a big section of the end tree broke in a gale, but all of the loops have become noisy over the years - mostly coming from the house next door I think.

I have now switched to four low long wires (about 100 metres each) radiating from the house about 45 degrees apart and mostly on convenient hedges and through the lower branches of the nearby woodland – less noise, much safer and no ladders involved!  
(Maybe you would like to describe your own antenna situation for us?)

### **Coming CLEs:**

CLE250 Fri. Nov. 22 – Mon. Nov. 25 (normal)  
CLE251 Wed. Dec 25 – Thur. Jan 2 Christmas – New Year Special

(The dates are provisional at present)

Good listening, all  
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