

CLE249 COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS:

Hello All

Last weekend's coordinated listening event was quite unusual - one of our occasional 'Specials'. It was only our second CLE listening for up to 5 NDBs in each of the Maidenhead Locator 'FIELDS' (the first two letters of their Locators):

AR	BR	CR	DR	ER	FR	GR	HR	IR	JR	KR	LR	MR	NR	OR	PR	QR	RR
AO	BO	CO	DO	EO	FO	GO	HO	IO	JO	KO	LO	MO	NO	OO	PO	QO	RO
AP	BP	CP	DP	EP	FP	GP	HP	IP	JP	KP	LP	MP	NP	OP	PP	QP	RP
AO	BO	CO	DO	EO	FO	GO	HO	IO	JO	KO	LO	MO	NO	OO	PO	QO	RO
AN	BN	CN	DN	EN	FN	GN	HN	IN	JN	KN	LN	MN	NN	ON	PN	QN	RN
AM	BM	CM	DM	EM	FM	GM	HM	IM	JM	KM	LM	MM	NM	OM	PM	QM	RM
AL	BL	CL	DL	EL	FL	GL	HL	IL	JL	KL	LL	ML	NL	OL	PL	QL	RL
AK	BK	CK	DK	EK	FK	GK	HK	IK	JK	KK	LK	MK	NK	OK	PK	QK	RK
AJ	BJ	CJ	DJ	EJ	FJ	GJ	HJ	IJ	JJ	KJ	LJ	MJ	NJ	OJ	PJ	QJ	RJ
AI	BI	CI	DI	EI	FI	GI	HI	II	JI	KI	LI	MI	NI	OI	PI	QI	RI
AH	BH	CH	DH	EH	FH	GH	HH	IH	JH	KH	LH	MH	NH	OH	PH	QH	RH
AG	BG	CG	DG	EG	FG	GG	HG	IG	JG	KG	LG	MG	NG	OG	PG	QG	RG
AF	BF	CF	DF	EF	FF	GF	HF	IF	JF	KF	LF	MF	NF	OF	PF	QF	RF
AE	BE	CE	DE	EE	FE	GE	HE	IE	JE	KE	LE	ME	NE	OE	PE	QE	RE
AD	BD	CD	DD	ED	FD	GD	HD	ID	JD	KD	LD	MD	ND	OD	PD	QD	RD
AC	BC	CC	DC	EC	FC	GC	HC	IC	JC	KC	LC	MC	NC	OC	PC	QC	RC
AB	BB	CB	DB	EB	FB	GB	HB	IB	JB	KB	LB	MB	NB	OB	PB	QB	RB
AA	BA	CA	DA	EA	FA	GA	HA	IA	JA	KA	LA	MA	NA	OA	PA	QA	RA

WORLD MAP OF THE LOCATOR FIELDS

(Adapted from <http://www4.plala.or.jp/nomrax/GL/fullsize.htm>)

We had a **record LOW number of reporters** - 32 in all! Looking back over nearly 4 years (the last 47 CLEs) there have been **only 2 events with fewer listeners** (one 'Remote Listening' and one a Christmas 'Pyramid'). Admittedly those of us in the Northern Hemisphere are now in the low season, but more than half of Europe's listeners did have trans-Atlantic loggings - 23 different Canadian NDBs were 'heard' by them in 6 different FIELDS (However in several cases it was Pskov that did the 'hearing'!)

Conditions in North America by contrast were undoubtedly very poor indeed. When compared with our first 'FIELDS' CLE (October 2018), the 'NOW & THEN' results show that Europe listeners had a fall in reception of about **14%** while the Rest of the World had a huge fall of about **61%**. (But could greater use now of Pskov in Europe partly explain that?)

Our **Special CLEs** of all kinds are nearly always relatively unpopular, but they do give extra satisfaction to those who try them! That applies to 'Barn Doors', Pyramids and Remote Listening as well as 'Fields' and even to several in North America this time (Below I've copied some comments from the CLE256 logs of generally satisfied FIELD reporters).

Log-making in FIELD CLEs? As expected, this CLE presented listeners with an unusual challenge - how to plan their search over the whole NDB frequency range for up to 5 NDBs that might be heard from each Field? I think there were lots of possible ways of going about that - and few obviously better ones. If YOU sent a log I would be interested to hear your comments, whether or not your search was successful! Would you like to send me (or the List if you prefer) your answers and thoughts on the following questions, and on anything else about ways of doing 'Field listening'. I don't think the questions make much sense for CLE256 Pskov users? - but any replies from them are welcome too.

Did you mainly listen LIVE? (by hearing and/or viewing a waterfall)

What preparation did you make (if any) to choose which frequencies to check? (use of data in Rxx, WWSU, .. , from the CLE237 results, etc.)

How did you record your loggings while listening (write on paper, type - or speak - direct into a tablet or PC, .. etc.?)

Which of the above are the same things that you usually do in 'normal' CLEs too?

What, if anything, would you try to do differently for Fields listening 'next time'?

If there are enough interesting replies, I would like to summarise them in an email to NDB List, but without any of the contributors being identifiable (unless they have said otherwise).

You may have noticed some improvements in the way the Excel results were presented compared with the first Field CLE's results 19 months ago (CLE237).

Joachim's Excel wizardry helped a great deal in making those changes. He and I always exchange emails during each the CLE period and I think this was a 'record' CLE in that respect too. This time, over the 13 days we sent a total of 112 'CLE' emails between each other, averaging about 9 per day! Admittedly one or two were a bit trivial, such as yesterday's:

Brian: "I expect you will build into NH the Fields table changes, though probably won't be needed again for about 18 months"

Joachim: "I already fixed that - so we don't need to do that in 18 months!"

Brian: "Bravo! That's typical of us - you've done yesterday what I think of doing in the next year or so 😊"

Coming CLEs:

(The dates are provisional at present)

CLE257 Fri. June 26th - Mon. June 29th ('normal')

CLE258 Fri. July 24th - Mon. July 27th

Good listening and take care.

73

Brian

(CLE Coordinator)

Here is my selection from the logs of apparently satisfied reporters - mostly! (6 from each 'half'):

"It was a bit like a word search with morse code .. enjoyed every minute of it."

"Most interesting CLE. The last time we used this format was in October 2018. The difference between the October and May propagation is striking. "

"I'm still at that lovely honeymoon stage where every 3rd or 4th NDB is a new log entry."

"It was a fun CLE despite the slow progress I had doing it all manually."

".. would have liked to have completed the last three squares .. it all increases the challenge and makes things more interesting."

"This is an interesting CLE . . . working out the best way to approach it. I think this time I made a better job of it."

".. interesting but perhaps would have been better in the winter months."

"This was a very fun concept for the CLE and I found it enjoyable."

"Very noisy every night, still fun to try."

"Friday was the best day and it was terrible. No propagation and static."

"Thanks to the list for this enjoyable and challenging CLE."

".. it turned out better than I expected ... an event with an interesting twist."