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For the latest news visit our website at http://www.uksmg.org

FRONT COVER
Ken, AC4TO and Terry, K4RX activated the rare Guantanamo Bay this past July under the call signs KG4TO and KG4RX. Although the Summer Es propagation was not too good this year, they did make a number of people very happy.
UKSMG Committee

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Deadline for the next issue is 1 October 2013

4 Six News
Welcome to another edition of Six News. Whatever happened to our usual Summer propagation in the Northern Hemisphere this year? Well there has been a lot to work, but not quite when and in what direction we were expecting. I have to once again thank Chris, W3CMP for compiling the What’s on Six column. And in turn thank you all for sending your contributions to Chris. Chris has compiled a bumper edition of What’s on Six with this issue that almost fills this issue entirely.

The UKSMG website goes from strength to strength thanks to the efforts of Dave, G8FXM. Dave’s latest addition to the website is a real Time Chat Page. It is still in an experimental phase as Dave assesses the demand for this service. It is not intended to compete with ON4KST, so we shall see how it gets used.

Wearing both his webmaster and Contests Manager hats, Dave, G8FXM has been working on a new Marathon contest for next summer. As mentioned the UKSMG is taking over the marathon contest previously operated by the Finns. Amongst other items, Dave has been working on a feature to allow the upload of ADIF files on an on-going basis to make the Marathon more interesting. Full details of how to participate in the Marathon will be published in a future issue of Six News.

Once again we thank Jim, KH6/K6MIO for his valuable contribution to WOS with his Solar Report. For those that like to be a little optimistic, then with the potential for increased solar southern hemisphere activity, we could be in for some interesting propagation around the end of this year. This will probably include some TEP, but may also include F2 if the indexes peak high enough. Our Contests Manager is currently soliciting ideas for a new Winter Contest to generate some activity over this period and details will be published in the next issue of Six News.

Your editor won the Azores Nine Islands Hunt last September which resulted in my travelling to the Azores for a free holiday in July. I have included a short write up of the contest, and recommend that when the contest comes up again then it is well worth entering!

In the meantime, propagation on 6m is still showing signs of life with activity from 9X0ZM and 5A1AL in early August. I was also active in a very good opening from Europe to the East Coast of the USA and worked 25 stations in half an hour – all with good signals. So keep monitoring the band and you may be surprised at what you can hear or work.

73 Peter G3ZSS

Six News Needs Your Contributions!

We hope you enjoy Six News, but please remember the success of the magazine depends on our members contributing articles for publication. We are always interested in your;

- Articles
- Reviews
- News Items
- Letters
- Photos

… on any aspect of 6m operation, propagation, reviews or techniques.

Please send your DX news items to Chris, W3CMP via email DXNews@uksmg.org
Please send all other items to Peter, G3ZSS via email Editor@uksmg.org

Do not worry if your English is not perfect as we can help tidy up any submitted article. If you have any good photos relevant to 6m, then please email them to Editor@uksmg.org. Please remember that for use in a printed magazine the photos should be in high resolution.

Whatever you can contribute will be gratefully received.

6 News 5
Chairman’s Corner
Trevor Day, G3ZYY

By the time you read this the AGM will be over, the BBQ at Chris’s place just a memory and I should no longer be your Chairman! I say ‘should’ as life never goes smoothly and there is a chance that I will still be holding the reins at least for a short while longer. The plan is for our Vice Chairman, Chris G4IFX to take over which will allow me to concentrate on other areas of Six Metres within the committee. As you will all know Chris is currently our Secretary but he will not be able to take on the Chairman’s role until a replacement has been found; at present this is looking an unlikely prospect before the AGM. So, unless I have been voted out, it seems the status quo will continue a little longer. Should anyone feel that they could take over from Chris then please get in touch either with him directly or any of the committee. You will not be left to fend for yourself as we are all available to help if and when required.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Tim G4FJK to the committee. Many of you will know Tim already; a keen contestor and avid Dx’er he is a most welcome addition to our ranks. As I write Tim is co-opted to the committee but I expect him to be a full committee member by the time you read this.

You may recall me mentioning that I was to replace my ageing 5 ele Tonna with one of Justin’s LFA(Q) antennas. Having taken delivery of the antenna last August you might have expected it to be up and running by now. Due to a series of work commitments, weather and general laxness on my part it did not become an issue until just before this years Es season was about to start.

I returned home one afternoon to find a single director lying on the driveway at just the point where the car would have been parked. A glance upwards confirmed that the middle director was missing, the securing screw having rusted completely through. It was at this time that I also discovered a seagull nest tucked in at the base of my chimney mounted mast.

Unfortunately for me, but lucky for the seagulls, here in the UK they are protected when still on the nest and there are currently two rather large brown chicks yet to fledge. I’m hoping that a couple of weeks will see them gone but I guess they will leave at the same time as the Es season! Despite this, the SWR remains below 1.5 and although the pattern is pretty poor its still possible to operate although I guess EME is out of the question.

That’s about it for now. This may or may not be my last Chairman’s column but either way I will no doubt be contributing to Six News in the future. I’d like to thank my fellow committee members for all of their hard work during my period in office; amazingly some have been on the committee longer than me but I can honestly say we all do it because we enjoy it.

I’m now off to stare at a pair of seagulls in the hope that I can persuade them to leave sooner rather than later! See you in the pile-ups... eventually.
Secretary’s Page
Chris Deacon, G4IFX

Hi, all. I’m delighted to welcome the following new members: VK5SIX, M6RSB, V51YJ, E42DVR, F5VJI, DL2OM, GMØELP, DM9SD, MJØSIT, GW4OKT, M6HEF, 2MØFAD, HB9MQM, G4WW6S, LA2MOA, GØMMI, EJ6FR, G6AVL, G4CUQ and GØSFV, and to welcome back the following re-joining members: G1XOW, PA5MW, GØDJA, GMØHBF, PA1AW, GØKYX, M5RIC, ON6AB, G6SPG and SV8CS.

Membership has risen modestly to 709, including 158 internet-only. It’s interesting to see that the proportion of internet-only memberships is still rising but it’s still only a relatively small proportion of the total (22%, since you ask), although the postage-related subscription increase for full members earlier this year has probably given it a little kick. I guess we could interpret the fact that membership is reasonably constant as showing that the subs rise hasn’t led to a large number of members failing to renew – which has to be a good sign.

On a different topic entirely, I’m glad to report that Johan, SMØTSC has again agreed to act as our Country Manager for Sweden. Welcome Johan. He’s planning to put on a UKSMG stand at one of the biggest hamfests in SM in September / October this year and we’re hopeful that will bring in new members in the same way that the great work by Robin, M1DUD and Matt, OZ6OM has done in recent years at ATF in Denmark.

Meanwhile, on the personal front, I’m starting serious work on my cross-polarised antenna array for terrestrial signals, which I think I’ve mentioned before in this column at least as an idea. I was originally going to mount two antennas one above the other, like a stack but with one of the antennas vertically polarised and the other horizontal. But Justin, GØKSC at Innovantennas has come up with a neater solution by producing an X-POL antenna, a seven-element version of which is currently sitting in my garage. Essentially it’s two seven-element LFA yagis on a single boom and he’s produced it primarily for EME operation. But experiments by Graham, G3TCT a while ago suggest that polarisation can change very rapidly on signals which are propagated via the ionosphere - the recordings are quite something to hear – and I’m really interested to find out what the polarisation characteristics of the various propagation modes are, and also whether in certain circumstances circular polarisation might reduce fading caused by polarisation rotation. I’ll let you know how my experiments go, and, who knows, there might be a Six News article about it in due course.

Finally, you’ll see from Trev’s column that the plan is that I, as the current Vice Chairman, will at some point take over from Trev as Chairman, but that we can’t make that change until we’ve appointed a new Secretary. When we get to that point, I just hope that I can successfully emulate Trev’s calm, diplomatic but firm style – which comes in very useful sometimes in the excitable world of 50MHz!

See you next time, one way or the other.
73, Chris G4IFX
Opening Remarks

Hello again. It’s hard to believe it is mid-summer and that we’re already on the back half of the E season.

Here in the States we just celebrated Independence Day, the 4th of July, with a continuation of the hot, steamy and often stormy weather that has been hovering over the Eastern U.S. and mid-Atlantic area for almost three weeks. By contrast, in the western U.S. dry conditions and wild fires have been the norm.

Although we celebrate our independence from England on the 4th of July, the day the Continental Congress actually voted on and approved the resolution declaring independence was 2nd July, 1776. However because the actual Declaration document wasn’t finished until the 4th, and two founding fathers, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, died within hours of each other 50 years later to the day, July 4th gets the attention and 2nd July is just a footnote in American history.

This summer’s E season may also end up as a historical footnote. In mid-May it began well enough, but at this location and apparently at many others, to date (9th July) there have been few strong openings. The intense and prolonged openings to central and eastern Europe that we are accustomed to just have not happened. Most of the openings from the U.S. to Europe have been confined to CU and EA areas. The Caribbean DXpeditions do not seem to have fared as well hoped for either.

To my knowledge, Jimmy V31IV worked only six European stations from his EK68 location. The just-ended KG4RX/KG4TO Guantanamo Bay DXpedition never got the breakthrough opening they were hoping for. FS/K9EL and VP2V/W9DR had their moments, but overall traffic and chatter seemed to be less than usual.

Despite the smaller than usual number of openings, as our contributors’ reports show, there have been several outstanding openings and a good number of quality contacts. Randson BV2VQ has been active from Taipei, Taiwan and has worked into the U.S. several times via SSSP. Paul VK4MA had a very nice opening to the Midwestern U.S. in May. Jay KØGU has made a number of really fine contacts from his almost mile high Colorado QTH. In June Mark VK8MS, Gary VK8AW, Joel KG6DX and a number of JA stations were heard and worked in Europe.

Paul, K7CW has reported on earning the DXCC award on six metres from the Pacific Northwest, which is a remarkable achievement. I was gratified to learn I helped Paul in a small way from my HH trips.

On the equipment front, Tokyo Hy-power has given us a hint of a replacement for the HT-750 forty, fifteen and six metre transceiver, and MFJ/Cushcraft has reintroduced the Squalo antenna, an old standard.
By the time you read this, I hope I will have met a number of you at the AGM and G3WOS’ BBQ. I’m looking forward to my first trip to England and meeting over the air friends in person.

Enjoy!

July 2013 Solar Report to Six News
KH6/K6MIO
07/06/13 - Solar Cycle 24

For those of you who have been following this discussion thread for a while already know, there are a number of solar cycle activity and magnetic indicators. I have been focusing largely on the total and hemispheric sunspot indices produced monthly by the Solar Influences Data Center (SDIC). The SDIC International Sunspot Number Ri for the total Sun, and its northern and southern components, Rn and Rs, all have displayed some very interesting features during the last two cycles. Specifically, near the beginning of the previous cycle (Cycle 23), the two hemispheres shifted in phase by about a year, and this phase shift has remained ever since, even now in Cycle 24. This has attracted real interest in the solar physics world, and understanding these effects still remains an open research topic.

Another indicator that I have been tracking is the strength and polarity of the mean magnetic field seen issuing from the Sun’s northern and southern poles. This is the Sun’s rather weak global dipole field that lies underneath the very much stronger local magnetic fields seen in active regions and their sunspots. These polar fields are of interest because, near solar maximum, the fields are seen to pass through zero and reverse polarity, and then build back up in the opposite direction. This is seen to occur at somewhat different times in the northern and southern solar hemispheres. One would hope that the dates of these field reversals might provide a hint about when each hemisphere has actually reached maximum, without having to wait years to see whether the activity has really peaked or not.

However, the Sun seems not very willing to give up its secrets. number.

Figure 1 shows the most recent plots of the three sunspot R indices. The green line shows the total Ri, while the blue shows the northern hemisphere and the red shows the southern hemisphere. The dots at the ends of the lines show points averaged less than 12 months. What the plot shows is that the many-month north/south phase shift has persisted. Beyond that, there was a peak in the northern activity that was spread broadly over the last half of 2011, and a small “peak” in the south during the first quarter of 2012. Since then, both hemispheres have held steady at levels a bit below their respective peak values, for about a year so far. Their combined effect has led to an overall Ri peak in early 2012. So, the question now seems to be, might there be another peak coming?

Figure 2 shows a plot of the mean hemispheric polar fields measured at Stanford University’s Wilcox Solar Observatory. Blue is north and red is south. The blue line shows that the northern field did reverse near the beginning of June 2012. However, the red line shows that a year later, the southern hemispheric field is far from zero or reversing polarity. Taken at face value, the messages are: Firstly, the north has reached its...
peak, which is consistent with Figure 1; Secondly, the southern hemisphere still has a way to go before reaching its “real” peak. The fact that the south has been essentially flat seems to hold out hope for that possibility.

The piece of the puzzle that doesn’t fit too well is that, since early in Cycle 23, the phase lag has been about one year, with the south lagging the north. But, based on the northern activity peak in 2011, the one-year lag in the south should have already occurred, so the south polar field doesn’t seem to agree with that picture at all (has an additional phase delay occurred?).

Second-guessing the Sun always has been a tough game. My sense is that there is some real hope for a late southern activity peak sometime in the next several months. If it comes in the fall, and if the north continues to hold up its current levels (or better), we might have a chance at seeing some F2. My experience is that persistent, good quality F2 needs R1 numbers near 100 or higher. Unless something really dramatic happens, reaching those levels may be a challenge.

As far a second peak is concerned, I’m not alone in looking for that. As I mentioned in my last report, NASA’s Dean Presnell recently said, “This is solar maximum. But it looks different from what we expected because it is double peaked.” He went on with: “I am comfortable in saying that another peak will happen in 2013 and possibly last into 2014.”

No one has predicted this Cycle effectively in any connected way so far, so who knows what may really happen? Myself, I’ll be monitoring 50.110MHz and 50.125MHz this fall; but then, I do that every day anyway.

73, Jim KH6/K6MIO

* See: [http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2013/01mar_twinpeaks/](http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2013/01mar_twinpeaks/) or also [www.youtube.com/watch?v=6j4bl57D_1U](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6j4bl57D_1U)

**DXpedition and General News**

**DXpedition News**

**3D2 Fiji**

Stan LZ1GC and Rocky 3D2DD will be active from the “Club Fiji Resort”, Viti Levu Island, Nadi, Fiji between 20th-26th September, 2013. Call signs will be 3D2GC and 3D2CC. Viti Levu Island Grid locator is RH82QF. They will be active on 160-6 metres using CW and SSB, with the following equipment: Kenwood TS-480 SAT, and ACOM 1010/ACOM 1000 amplifier. The antennas include a groundplane for 40-10 metres, inverted L for 160/80 metres. Six metre antenna is unknown at this time. From 27th September to 11th Stan will be active with Rocky from Rotuma Island. Operation will return to October activity will be from Fiji on 15th October to 16th October. QSL 3D2GC via LZ1GC, direct or by the Bureau. Details can be seen on [QRZ.com](http://www.qrz.com) or [http://3d2gc.com](http://3d2gc.com). QSL 3D2DD via info on [QRZ.com](http://www.qrz.com).

**A9 Bahrain**

Dave EI3IO will continue his activity as A92IO until mid-December 2013 on 3.5-70MHz, including two channels on 60 metres. He uses a K3, an Acom 1000 amplifier and several antennas. QSL via home call. More information can be found at: [http://connogue.com/ei3io/html/a92io_as002.html](http://connogue.com/ei3io/html/a92io_as002.html).

**OX3LX Greenland**

Bo OZ1DJJ will be active on six and two metres from East Greenland HQ90AL from 16th August to 22nd August, 2013. Bo says he will be active on 2 metre eme 144.112MHz JT65b, first period. For MS HQ90AL is the nearest point in OX to EU some DXCC in Europe under 2000 km and he will be on 144.375MHz FSK441 first period. Equipment on two metres is a kilowatt and 2M5WL; on six metres 100 watts and a small 2-4 element antenna.

It is a business trip so don’t expect too much but he will try and be QRV when not working; when QRV you can find him on ON4KST chat or other chat forums.

**S2 Bangladesh (UKSMG Sponsored)**

The Mediterraneo DX Club (Team Bangladesh) has announced a DXpedition to Bangladesh from the 19th to 29th November, 2013. Grid locator of announced operation is NL53IQ. According to team leader Ant IZ8CCW, there will be a dedicated six metre station with an Icom IC-7000, three element quad and amplifier. There will be four six metre operators, F5EOT and I8YGZ on SSB and DJ7JC and DJ9RR on cw. The six metre coordinator is Michel F5EOT, and Sergio IKØFTA will act as a pilot station. A beacon is planned. As more information becomes available it can be viewed at: [http://www.mdxc.org/bangladesh2013/](http://www.mdxc.org/bangladesh2013/).
SV5/J45 Dodecanese

Frank DL8YHR is planning a short 6 metre eme DXpedition to the Greek Dodecanese islands, KM46. Dates are 24th-26th August, 2013, +/- a day. He is hoping to be active for three moonrises and three moonsets. He has requested the call sign J45EME. Operators will be Frank and Carsten DM1CG.

TN3MS Congo Republic

Arie PA3A, Ad PA8AD, Angelina PA8AN and Marian PD1AEG will be active as TN2MS from Pointe Noire, from 28th September to 11th October. They plan to operate on 160-10 metres and six metres if they receive authorization, CW, SSB and RTTY, using three stations with amplifiers and several beam and vertical antennas. The team will provide support and raise funds for a Mercy Ships Charity Project. This is the 4th DXpedition in cooperation with Mercy Ships www.mercyships.org after 5L2MS Liberia 2007, TY1MS Benin 2009, and 9L5MS Sierra Leone 2011.

QSL via PA3AWW, direct (OQRS in the expedition’s website) or bureau, plus LoTW after six months.

Further information on the project can be found at www.tn2ms.nl.

TU Ivory Coast

Dim F5SWB, ex TL8DF, TT8DF, 9X5DF, TR8DF, 6W1SA plans to be active as TU5DF from Abidjan from the end of June till October. He will be active on 40-10 metres, and possibly 50MHz, mainly in CW with some SSB and PSK31. Logs will be uploaded to ClubLog. QSL via home call.

XR (CEØZ) Juan Fernandez Archipelago (UKSMG Sponsored)

The XRØZR team has announced preparations for a multi-national DXpedition to Robinson Crusoe Island in the Juan Fernandez Archipelago, CEØZ. Call sign will be XRØZR. Dates of operation are 8th – 20th November, 2013.

The Juan Fernández Islands are a sparsely inhabited island group that are reliant on tourism and fishing in the South Pacific Ocean, and are situated about 600 kilometers off the coast of Chile in the southern Pacific Ocean. There are three main volcanic islands; Robinson Crusoe Island, Alejandro Selkirk Island and Santa Clara Island.

On the Club-Log’s most wanted DXCC list, Juan Fernandez, CEØZ ranks as #35 on the most wanted list for all amateur radio operators, #23 on the most wanted list for Asia, #27 on the most needed list for CW operations, and #18 on the most needed list for Digital Operations. The team is meeting in Santiago, Chile and will depart by a chartered aircraft on 7th November. The team expects become active on 8th November.

The main goals of this DXpedition are to work every amateur radio operator who needs Juan Fernandez CEØZ, for a new DXCC country. In addition, the group plans to be active on all bands and modes from 1.8 MHz to 50MHz with special attention to be made to accommodate distant stations during periods when propagation permits. Four stations simultaneous stations are planned. Equipment includes two Spiderbeams operating on five bands, phased vertical systems for 30 and 40 metres, an 80/160 vertical, along with some beverages, and a multiband vertical for 40-10 metres. Transceivers to include two K3 and two K2 Elcraft, and an ICOM IC7000. The shack will be completed by two Elcraft KPA500 amplifiers, and two other 500 watt amplifiers.

Six metre equipment includes a kilowatt amplifier and 6M8GJ antenna for terrestrial and eme modes. The team will also be QRV on six metres, and hopes to work many stations with F2 layer and TEP. They also expect also some Es links with F2 to get into Oceania and Africa, as well as South America. For all other, we will be qrv on EME with 1kw and 8 elements antenna (6M8GJ).

The group is seeking club and Individual sponsors to help defray the costs of carrying out the DXpedition. The team will consist of the following operators: Fabri IW3SQY (team leader), Franco IZ8GCE, Paolo IV3DSH, Josep EA3AKY, Les SP3DOI, Dino CE3PG, and Art WA7NB. The DXpedition can be followed on: Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/xr0zr/. More information can be seen at: http:// www.juanfernandez2013.com/press-relase/#sthash.ESsLDTtT.dpuf.

YB Indonesia

A 25 member team will be active from Bras Mapia Island (PJ70DV) from 20th –28th October, 2013 on 160-6 metres. On six metres they will have an IC-706 and a four element yagi. More information is available at: http://yb9y.com/.
YVØ (YWØA) Aves Island

The 4M5DX Group is organizing a DXpedition to take place from Aves Island (NA-020) sometime between 1st November 2013 and 28th February 2014. Eleven operators from Venezuela, Argentina, Finland and Spain will be active as YWØA on 160-6 metres all modes. QSL via EB7DX (OQRS for direct and bureau cards on Club Log) and LoTW.

Look at http://www.avesisland.info for further information and updates.

General News
3B9 Rodrigues 50MHz Permit Requested

Below is an email sent to G3ZZY on 10th May by Robert Felicite 3B9FR describing Robert Felicite’s request for 50MHz authorization in 3B9. The email has been edited for clarity.

Good Day Trev,

Just to let you know that I write to the governing body in Mauritius to have permanent permission for six metre operation. In the allocated frequencies [that have] been given there is no mention about 50 MHz.

I understand I have to ask for [50MHz frequency] to avoid problem.

For your [information] my radio license is validity period: life time. I am a resident of 3B9 land. I have surf[ed] a bit about and found it very interesting-the magic band-hi.

Spiderbeam have posted the antenna [by parcel post air mail] and it could be here soon. I have an Icom 730 since 1985 and will [make] some noise. Will look for a keyer to do cw.

I have asked advice [from] a G4 station about digimode propagation and expect to hear [from] him soon. If all OK here with a local shop here they will offer me a long term credit for a laptop.

Writing to ICTA [Information & Communication Technologies Authority] in Mauritius may take three to six months [to get an] answer; maybe I [will] be lucky for a quick one.

Wish you happy six DXing, 73, Robert

r.gerard Felicite [r.gerardfelicite@ymail.com]

W5OZI Reaches Milestone Again (from The Daily DX)

Congratulations to W5OZI, Pat Rose, who earlier this week worked his 100th Mexican grid locator on six metres. Years ago Pat introduced Rafa XE2OR to the Magic Band and several years ago gave him a three ring halo. Rafa was vacationing near Mazatlan and worked Pat from DL72 on Monday followed by DL62 and DL64 on Tuesday, making number 100. There is no award for working 100 XE grids; however Ramon XE1KK notes “It is a record since there is not a ham population in 100 different grids in Mexico and as far as we know no other ham has work so many”. Maybe there needs to be an award? Congrats Pat on this DX accomplishment.

(Editor’s note: Pat was the second person work obtain the Fred Fish Memorial Award - http://www.arrl.org/ffma)

Member Band and Other Activity Reports
Europe
CT1FJC (Mark reports from IM57OC)

Hi Chris:

Please find attached my six metre log from April to date. I’ve also attached a photo of YI1RZ QSL card.

April gave a mix of European E contacts and South American and African TEP. May was similar with EU Es but with some Caribbean stations worked with good signal levels. June has been a real mix of Europe and Asian Es with VE, USA and Caribbean stations also worked.

On the 12th June I worked the only new
DXCC for me so far this year, YI1RZ in LM23 with 59/59 signals. In the clear he was good but copy was difficult because of the European wall of QRM calling him.

On the 22ndJune I heard VK8MS at 11.10z and VK8AW at 11.20z. Both stations were very weak, 429/319 at best. VK8AW was the stronger of the two. I did not call either VK as at that signal level and with the wall of EU QRM calling, I would have only added to the QRM. Some stations were calling the VKs without listening to their QSOs, and then there was the guy that had to get that last single watt out of his PA, tuning up on the VK. Such a shame.

Thanks Chris, very best 73 Mark CT1FJC

QSO worked by CT1FJC

Type of propagation: All Mode: All mode

Date | GMT Call | LOC | TX | RX | Mode | Pro | QRB |
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
03/04/2013 15:13 PY6NX | GG66 | 59 | 55 | SSB | TEP | 7830 |
03/04/2013 20:14 9X0ZM | KISS | 55 | 55 | SSB | TEP | 932 |
10/04/2013 20:05 ZS1D | KSU6 | 53 | 42 | SSB | TEP | 5440 |
11/04/2013 21:17 PY1NX | GG87 | 599 | 599 | CW | TEP | 7528 |
11/04/2013 21:34 9E6USA | HH07 | 59 | 58 | SSB | TEP | 6349 |
21/04/2013 09:33 EA3LL | JNO1NE | 37 | 26 | JT6MS | 967 |
21/04/2013 09:47 EA3GU | JNO9JW | 26 | 26 | JT6MS | 928 |
27/04/2013 08:48 F8ZG | JNO3SP | 26 | 26 | JT6MS | 1841 |
27/04/2013 08:58 EA3LL | JNO1NE | 26 | 26 | JT6MS | 967 |
27/04/2013 09:02 F8JZ | JN2OOG | 26 | 26 | JT6MS | 1419 |
27/04/2013 09:11 EA7AH | IM67OD | 26 | 26 | JT6MS | 177 |
27/04/2013 09:52 F8JL | JN389 | 26 | 26 | JT6MS | 1976 |
28/04/2013 10:57 EA3HT | JNO1NW | 26 | 26 | JT6MS | 975 |
28/04/2013 11:03 IS0BRS | JNO3AE | 42 | 52 | SSB | ES | 1596 |
28/04/2013 11:06 PA7MM | JNO32E | 57 | 57 | SSB | ES | 2106 |
28/04/2013 11:17 OK1AVV | JN9F9R | 26 | 26 | JT6MS | 2328 |
28/04/2013 11:38 JT6F | JO90WQ | 47 | 59 | JT6MS | 1688 |
28/04/2013 11:48 JT6G | JO90WQ | 59 | 59 | SSB | ES | 1688 |
28/04/2013 09:05 EA3HT | JNO1NW | 15 | 15 | ISCA | ES | 975 |
28/04/2013 09:17 F8JZ | JN94Q5 | 15 | 15 | ISCA | ES | 1093 |
30/04/2013 16:14 D8KZF | JNO6R7 | 390 | 599 | CW | ES | 1970 |
30/04/2013 16:15 F8ZG | JNO3SP | 59 | 59 | SSB | ES | 1841 |
30/04/2013 16:28 9H8BLC | JN47HK | 59 | 59 | SSB | ES | 1829 |
30/04/2013 16:20 DJTUD | JG8C | 59 | 59 | SSB | ES | 1902 |
30/04/2013 16:21 F8JZ | JN16Xf | 59 | 59 | SSB | ES | 1463 |
30/04/2013 16:23 F8JQ | JNO9JW | 59 | 59 | SSB | ES | 1861 |
30/04/2013 16:23 PA3GND | JO11VG | 59 | 59 | SSB | ES | 1861 |
30/04/2013 16:25 FINZC | JN15MR | 59 | 59 | SSB | ES | 1373 |

Very nice QSL from YI1RZ to CT1FJC for 12th June 2013 six metre contact.

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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Call</th>
<th>LOC</th>
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<td>ES 902</td>
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**CU1EZ (Antonio writes from HM76KX)**  
Hello Chris,  
Just send my activity in the month of June;  
475 prefixes worked.  

01/06 N4, K2, N3, W9, WY.  
02/06 EA4, EA.  
04/06 EI3, DK, OK, OE, ER, F, S56, HB9, PE1, LX, SP, IW, 9A, MO, GW, ES, YO, YT.  
05/06 YO, YT, F, S53, LZ, OK, EA8, VY2, WZ8, K2, VO1, AB1, W2, K1, KG, EA7, CT, G4, PJ4, KP2, VY4.  
10/06 EA2, CT, TM77, S50, CT3, HB9.  
12/06 YL3, DL, EA7, LY, OK, SV2, SP.  
13/06 EA8, YT, F, G0.  
14/06 CN8, YT, HB9, DL, OE9, E74, Z32, GM4, SV2, EJ9.  
15/06 VE1, N4, NP4, VE2, N9, W4, VO1, VE9, FK8, IG9, 9H1.  
16/06 VP2V, WP4, N1, K1, VE2, K7.  
17/06 IV3, ZB5, OZ, SM5, GJØ, W1, VE1, CN8.  
18/06 VP2V, 9A, S53, VP2EFE, PE1, SP, DK, UR4, UW4, LA7, ON6.  

Thank you.  
CU1EZ, António José Costa  

**DH6JL (Michael reports from JO31N)**  
On 20th June Michael wrote:  
Hi Chris,  
It is sad to say and it sounds like not telling the truth, but I am very upset about this sporadic E season.  This year I had a rubbish season. I was mostly out of bounds and when I heard some DX was on the edge of propagation. Unfortunately it was mostly the wrong side and the DX was mostly too weak and not worth a call.  
I could not write you anything for June. I will send you an article or some sentences when a good propagation will come down to my antenna.  
73 Mike  
Michael did get a bit of propagation
on 26th June, when according to DX Summit he worked WP3UX, KP4EIT and FS/K9EL.

DH6JL’s six metre antenna overlooking German countryside.

EA3AKY (Josep reports from JN11AK)

Hi Chris,

I’m not working many DX to Africa and South America. I live just at the northern side of Barcelona’s hills, and I have them between one and three miles covering all Africa to South Caribbean. They are 500 metres high, so I need very strong signals to hear them. My father EA3LL, with a clear takeoff to south, hears them S9 when I start to hear them. This is why I have few QSOs to these areas. However, I have a very good QTH to Middle East, Asia, Europe, North America and Mid/Northern Caribbean. My QTH is 200 metres ASL and goes down 100 metres in less than half a mile. I’m sending you photos of my takeoff to East and to North America.

At the moment I only have a six element LFA antenna. I have had longer antennas, like 6M9KHW, 8eight element YU7EF, and 6M7JHV, but found LFA much better with local noise. I have big noise issues, from industries and cities around. Anyway it would be worse living inside a city like Barcelona. When beaming to North America I usually have S5 – S7 QRM. I use a K3 + PR6 and I have to use noise blanker at MED7 position. I’m sure I have lost some dB in receive using it. Transmit is helped with an ACOM 1000, most times at 600 watt level. I feel I don’t need more but to break a pile.

The truck tower may go up six metres more, up to 24 metres AGL, and with the takeoff is like having antennas at 40 metres high to North America or Japan. It helps with a low angle!

I have a five element LFA for 10 metres and using it I have been 1st EU on 2012 CQ WW CW and CQ WPX CW contests Single Operator Single Band 10 metres.

Worked last three months on six metres:

7/4/13 TJ
9/4/13 PY1RO, PY2XB
11/4/13 9XØZM DXCC #196
12/4/13 C98RF
1/5/13 ZS6WN
9/5/13 D2EB
16/5/13 LU5FF, PY1NX

View from EA3AKY’s QTH looking east.
19/5/13 YI1RZ DXCC #197
20/5/13 3DAØNJ DXCC #198
20/5/13 ST2M
28/5/13 VE1PJZ, N1RJX, VE1JZ, VO1TA
9/6/13 LU5FF
10/6/13 KP4EIT, FG5GP
13/6/13 VE9AA, W3EP, VE1YYX, W1XX, W3JO, KT1R, K1SIX, K1TL, K2ZD, VE3EXY, VE3MMQ, VE2DLC
14/6/13 FS/K9EL, VE2DLC, W1VD, K1SIX
15/6/13 VE9AA, K4PI, K1TL, W4GF, NN4X
16/6/13 PJ4NX, 9Y4D
19/6/13 OH6NG/9 (KP37), OH8MBN (KP35)
20/6/13 JHØHZO, UN3M, UN7QX, VP2ETE
21/6/13 BV2DQ DXCC #199, BA4SI, VP2ETE, 8P6SH

Four new ones are not bad, waiting for one more to get into 200 DXCC club. I hope to meet you at WOS BBQ this next August.

73 Josep
http://ea3aky.blogspot.com/

EA7KW (Jose reports from IM67XI)

Hi Chris,

Here are the highlights as seen from IM67.

I wasn’t very active this Es season until the end of May, when the TEP was still active and providing Africa and South America contacts. I must say the Es was in general terms poor compare to the 18 previous ones I have watched. Especially poor has been so far -writing this on 3rd July- the transatlantic openings with only 60 QSOs with W/VE. A big disaster was the IARU 50 MHz Region 1 contest. We as EF7X set up several antennas on a hilltop for an almost zero propagation weekend.

Quite remarkable, and unusual from this southwestern location in Europe, was the 40 minutes JA run on the morning of 18th June during which I worked more than 40 different Japanese stations, some of them with a solid signal. My path to Japan is 17-37 degrees, just across the North polar cap. This normally absorbs our RF at medium Kp and Ap values, so we need for this a very quiet magnetic field.

Among some of the other rare or semi-rare entities we managed to work in June from EA7 land were a couple of VK8s.

My top DX expectation for this summer was the KG4 expedition by K4RX and AC4TO, who made an added effort to set up the 50MHz yagi beyond the blocking limits of an unexpected hill in the way to southern Europe. They worked a few Europeans on their first night on six metres, CT and EA, but I couldn’t make it. Two days later, after hours of listening, a weak CQ showed up right on the spot and bagged them at once.

Thank you Terry and Ken, and also to Pat, W5OZI, for his support to make this trip possible.

The day before, 3rd July, a gift arrived from Asia, when I had a QSO with Randson BV2DQ, also for a new one.

73, Jose

EI4KF (Erik reports from IO54UE)

Hello Chris,

Most of my activity on six metres is to hand out contacts to those needing IO54 which apparently is quite rare these days. I don’t have anything special for the band and use my six band Hex beam antenna which gives me only two elements. I do have an amplifier.

June produced openings to Europe on every day except the 23rd - 25th on which days I heard nothing. Also propagation was poor 26th-28th June. The month was notable for fewer openings to North America than I would expect. The early promise of May when I worked A45, OX and a strong opening to the Caribbean on the 21st did not seem to follow through. Even the usual 5B4/4X were absent here during the month.

The DX worked in June included:

4th - LU5FF
9th - ZD7VC
12th - Caribbean including PJ4NX
13th - VE3EN, VE2XK & VO1VCE in a short opening at lunchtime my time.
14th - USA 21.50z to 23.30z mostly W1-W3 with a few W4. 35 stations worked.
17th - USA 11.25z to 12.45z limited to W1 & VO1. K1TOL and I exchanged 59+40 reports right at the beginning of the opening, no exaggeration. It was truly amazing. The evening was good for Caribbean. I worked FS/K9EL, 9Y4VU, PJ4NX, VP2V/W9DR, and FG5GP.
19th - PY1RO who was very loud and I worked him while waiting for the amp to warm up.
21st - Caribbean in my evening including FS/K9EL, VP2ETE, FG5GP.
29th - EX9T, OJØV, A92GE heard.
30th - ZD7VC, CT3NA heard.

G4IFX (Chris in IO91OD has forwarded a report from Arnie, CO2KK IO83TC on 5th June)

Chris wrote:

Thought I’d pass this on, I’m not sure if Arnie sends you info direct:
Arnaldo Coro Antich: Hi amigo! Very nice Sporadic E season on six metres. Enjoying it a lot with three watts SSB and CW plus my asymmetric sloping dipole with 5 radials floating counterpoise at the lower side of the antenna. Directional like a five element yagi! Worked California K6MYC on double hop skip!

Chris Deacon: That’s brilliant Arnie!

Chris Deacon: I’ve not been very active on the band but I’ve had a few good contacts, with a bit of TEP such as a QSO LU5FF last night, over 10,000 km from here.

Arnaldo Coro Antich: I think that this antenna deserves to be published ASAP, because there are many owners of HF + six metre transceivers that do not go on the air on 50MHz because they do not have an antenna. The other antenna that is here in use by CO2QU with great success is the Hentenna. It is simple, effective, easy to use and you can hang it easily, even at a little sloping angle. BTW I cannot access the UK Six Metre Club site for download of Six News, can you send it as a .pdf file?

From: Prof. Arnaldo Coro Antich
mailto:coro@enet.cu
Sent: 05 June 2013 13:46
To: g4ifx@uksmg.org
Subject: Re: Received OK thank you very much amigo for the Six News 115 + some notes for the magazine

Hi Chris:

My analysis about your QSO with LU5FF is that it was NOT a TEP propagation mode contact.

Here are two possibilities:

1. TEP up to a certain area south of you, and then very effective coupling of the signal to the Sporadic E layer. I often see that unusual propagation “combination mode” here at my location in EL83 grid square. When I am working the Argentina and Uruguay stations and less often the Chile stations on six metres, and there is a properly located sporadic E cloud, then one can hear the W4 and W5 call area stations starting to work the South Americans via the E coupled to the TEP mode.

2. Considering the recent peak in solar activity, you may had struck gold and benefitted by a very high transient F2 propagation, which might had been of the type known as “whispering gallery” mode.

This unusual F2 layer related mode produces a characteristic hollow sound on SSB signal’s audio.

As you know very well, the six metre band is really a treasure hunting area of the radio frequency spectrum as regards to ionospheric propagation research. I am now very happy because our Institute of Geophysics and Astronomy received a very nice vertical incidence ionospheric sounder, something we had been missing for several years when the old Soviet built equipment had to be scrapped because it was no longer usable.

Not retired yet although will be approaching 71 years aboard planet Earth in a few days.

When I retire, then time will be available for working a lot more in the quest to define the formation of one type of Sporadic E clouds that form over here and that are very clearly related with thunderstorm activity. My 1966 landmark paper on the subject suggested the role of reverse lightning strokes, now known as Sprites, as the possible cause or trigger of sporadic E clouds formation. Wonder if SIX NEWS will take an article on this topic, or one on the asymmetric sloping dipole with floating counterpoise.

BTW, no need for high resolution .pdf, except if there is a circuit diagram or plans for building an antenna that may be used to send locally. We now have another six metre band station in Cienfuegos, south central Cuba, CO6CBF Hector Martinez. He is the young person that is so famous on the amateur radio satellites. For his fantastic achievements. Hector went to the AMSAT meeting in Orlando and came back with an FT817 rig that he had on the air with a MOXON rectangle antenna during this past weekend... As you see, the customs regulations do allow the radio amateur to bring in a rig, actually two rigs, but it must be transported by the licensee of the amateur radio station.
Please pass along by best regards to the UK Six Metre band operators, and tell them that as soon as Hector CO6CBF takes his final exam at the University of Cienfuegos ICT Engineering department, I will help him to build a linear amplifier in the 100 watt class and also a better antenna. Then many of you can work him during the summer Atlantic E skip season, as he is located at a much better place for that propagation mode than mine. CO8LY Eduardo, from Santiago de Cuba suffered the loss of his home during the 23rd October Hurricane Sandy impact on that city. Now he is back on the air, after receiving a lot of support from fellow amateurs in his province.

73 and DX, your friend in very wet, rainy, 100 percent RH La Habana, Cuba

G6TGO (Ian reports from IO83UJ on 10th May 2013)

Hi Chris, I hope you are well.

Just in time for the Summer Es Season, I managed to modify my home brew four element yagi six metres above ground level to accept the six year old Ecoflex 15 Coax (15mm Cable), to replace the failed Westflex 103 which was also six years old.

Early indications prior to the start of the E season, was that the performance was a massive improvement over the previous coax. I had my first promising event on the 15th April at around 05.30 UTC, with Jean TK5JJ in Corsica hearing my cw CQs on 50.099MHz via meteor scatter. I was also heard by Dutch listener Anthonie NL8992 who sent me an email report which was very welcome.

For the next few days between 05.00-06.00 UTC both Jean and Anthonie listened out for me. They heard me on several occasions after we had communicated via email. My first DX QSO was with Thomas DF6HT in JO63 via MS on Cw on 19th April at 05.39 UTC. I was also on heard by Ray DH6DAO JO41. Sadly I could not hear him for long enough to work him.

The 50MHz Es Season started for me on 26th April 2013 when the band was open at around 10.30 UTC. I worked several stations in Germany. Although the HG1BVB Beacon was audible no Hungarian stations were heard either on cw or SSB.

On the 28th April I only worked S59A and EA6CCM despite being on the band all day.

The 29th April brought a big opening which started at 05.40 UTC. I worked DL, SP, IK, OZ, and LY; my best DX was UX1BZ KN29, 2375 km SSB. During a second opening which began at 11.34 UTC the same day I worked DL, SP, IK, OZ, and LY.

The 1st May I switched on the TS2000 at 06.00 UTC, and heard OH, and oddly worked three French stations in the IN94 square. I found myself with a brief pile up with other stations assuming from IN94/95 calling in what was only a five minute opening. I then worked one Swedish station and shortly after that the opening closed.

On 2nd May I worked HA, YT, and EA.

Fifth May brought several openings during the day. There was propagation to LZ, OH, EO, UT4, 9A, YU and OM. At 20.00 UTC I went into the shack and found the band open to Brazil (PY) on the cw section. To my surprise I worked PY1RO GG871B 9,350 km and PY2XB GG66PI 9,570 km on cw. Both stations were very strong, 579-589 at times. I heard several other PY’s but most appeared on 50.110MHz SSB. Sadly it was a waste of time calling them because the three different PYs I could hear were not hearing each other. It sounded like chaos. However, this was very interesting as up here, inland in the north of England (IO83 square) TEP like conditions are very rare for me, indeed. Six metres is my primary band so many hours in and out of the season are used up to study the “mechanics’ of 50MHz propagation. The Brazilian opening was fascinating.

The band has been very quiet from the 5th as to the time of writing this on the morning of the 10th May but who knows what is next?

As I write this report, despite intensive listening to the band between 05.00 UTC and 17.00UTC very little has been worked up to today’s date 10th May 2013.

I have now worked 28 countries since the 26th April which is quite a good haul. I am looking forward to a nice bag of new countries this Year.

73 de Ian G6TGO

G3ZSS (Peter reports from IO91oe)

It has been a very quiet season this year, but I must not complain with 3 new DXCCs worked. D2EB in Angola on 21/5; YI1RZ in Iraq on 12/6; and TJ3SN on 22/6.

Other notable contacts include ZD7VC on 21/5, numerous PY and LU openings; VP2V/W9DR on 17/6; JL8GBF on 19/6; PJ5/K3TRM, VP2TE and KG4RX on 3/7

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G8VR (Kerry reports from IO91WP)

Hi Chris

Well, summer Es season 2013, what can I say. Conditions have been way down on other seasons I’ve enjoyed and so far I’ve not worked any new ones.

The May period was interesting. From what I observed, Scandinavian countries had a better share of the propagation to Africa than we did here in Southern G land. Equally, they usually get better conditions to the Far East too as in that regard they are nearer. Of note are the June ‘SSSP’ type openings into Western Europe, which although certainly fleeting here in G, have given at least two G stations the prize of working BA4SI.

Spectacularly, on 20th June Joel KG6DX made it into Europe and was as close as ON to making it here. I still need Joel after all these years; maybe next year as the days have gone. Six is indeed the magic band. Conditions have not been good, but a contact with Joel on Es, now that’s something special.

Nicholas TJ3SN has been very active, but I’ve never seemed to have been at home when he’s been in. Having said that. Though he’s been very active, in my opinion conditions have not been in his favour. Ken G4IGO, who is very keen, seems to have pipeline propagation to Nicolas and during one particular opening those in G land who worked Nicolas owe the contact in part to Ken who got things going. Looking west, again conditions seem to have been well down.

I’ve not heard any east coast US stations, though I know they’ve been there and been worked here. I think there are usually tons of them, and this time year you need to listen for them. As I write this on 3rd July, I still have my fingers crossed to work the boys in KG4 for a new one.

CU at the G3WOS BBQ.
Best 73 Kerry G8VR

MØAEP/VP2MDD (Graham reports from IO93SQ)

Hi Chris

Just a note of appreciation for your input to the UKSMG magazine which arrived the other day here in the UK. I, for one, fully appreciate the dedication and time needed to compose an article on a regular basis. Well done & thank you.

You might be interested to watch the two YouTube video clips which I have just posted on that site. These were my first attempts at uploading to You Tube by the way-a young at heart 67 year-old getting to grips with all this 21st century technology.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jq2vdIzgU3c
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGUbkV83Xcw

The first shows my good buddy Gordon G3USR / VP2MSR operating a six metre SSB pile-up on a July evening last year from our VP2MDD QTH. These openings, which as you know occur at any time, interrupted our dinner, hence his ice cream desert remaining unconsumed on the side.

The other clip is of me working CX8DS on a six metre SSB TEP opening from the VP2MDD QTH.

Gordon and I are hoping to have a joint six metre bash here in the UK using a seven element yagi on 33 foot boom at 65 feet height on top of the Lincolnshire Wolds plus an Acom 1000 little helper in June for a few days. So I just may, and I say again “may” have something for the next edition?

All we need here in the UK is some warm weather! 7C today and still using central heating on the east coast.

Kind regards & thanks again.
Graham

MMØAMW (David reports from IO75EJ)

Hi Chris.

The traditional summer Es season got underway a fair bit earlier than normal at my location of 55 degrees N. The first openings happened in the last week of April, when normally I wouldn’t expect to get much until mid-May. They continued regularly right through to the time of writing this on 1st July.

What follows is a roundup of the more notable events of the season to date. On 5th May there was a short lived opening to LU and CX and for the next couple of weeks there was nothing but run of the mill single hop around Europe. The 21st May finally brought an opening to Caribbean when I worked KP4, 9Y and J6. The J6 was a new DXCC for me on six metres. After a few near misses, I finally got my first North American stations of 2013 in the log on 12th June when N3LL and K1TO came through. The 13th brought the best NA opening so far when 52 stations...
were logged from W1, 2, 3, 4, 8 and VO1, VE3 and VE9. The 14th and 17th also brought a couple of trans-Atlantic openings but only nine stations were worked. They were located all down the east coast from VO1 down to W4 in Florida.

This season has so far been notable for its lack of North American openings. On 19th June there was a PY opening and the next event was an excellent AU-E opening which started with OX3KQ. It then moved to NA where a further 13 stations were logged from VE3, VE9, VY2, VE2 and W1 and W2. Some of the VE stations were very strong but most others were very weak with deep fast fading. I lost K9MU and KF8MY because of that. I also had a short copy on the VE4ARM beacon in Manitoba but nothing else was heard from that part of the world.

The 29th June finally saw TJ3SN become strong enough to work for another new six metre DXCC. The 30th was also interesting when the ZD7 beacon appeared in the evening at 579 signal strength. ZD7VC then got on the band and was peaking 59 on SSB. I heard him work several GM stations and then he faded out within a matter of seconds. I didn’t call him as I’d already worked him last year but this was by far the strongest I’ve heard ZD7 on six metres I hope July brings a few more surprises.

73, David, MMØAMW

50MHz Propagation Report by SV1DH (Costas reports from KM18VA)

Attached is my six metre report for April and May 2013 for your Six News column.

I have bolded some real interesting special events, maybe to help a bit your work.

Please let me know when is your dead line date for next issue, since I’m not sure if I can be ready on time with my June very extensive report.

April 2013

1. Data for all days (30).
2. Relatively good days on: 5th 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, 14, 27th.
3. 48 MHz AF video 5Z, TJ, 9Q on: 1st, 2nd, 4th-8th, 10th-15th, 21st, 23rd, 25th, 26th, 28th (R=60%).
4. 55 MHz AF video 5N on: NIL
5. Special events on:
   1st NO flares; 03.00z CEØY to W5, 7, TI, OA; 04.00z OA to DU, BV; foF2>10MHz
   09.45z-13.45z, max 11.4MHz at 13.00z over Athens; 09.30z 48MHz A6 to VK8; 12.00z 48MHz A6 to JA3, scatter; 13.15z 48MHz A6 to DU1; 18.00z CE8, LU to EA, CT; PY to IT, IS; 19.00z 9X to SV2,3, EA8; 20.00z 9Y, YV, KP4 to EA8; 22.00z PY,LU to 4X, late; 22.45z PY to CT.
   2nd NO flares; 01.15z KH6 to PY, ZP; 02.30z KH6 to YV; E5 to CP; 03.30z KH6 to LU; 04.15z-05.30z OA to DU7; foF2>10MHz
   08.30z-13.15z; 13.00z 48MHz A6 to DU1; 15.30z 3B8 to SV1,3, 4X, I; 16.45z ST to EA; 18.30z 9X to I+EA+CT +48MHz 5Z to PY; 19.00z PY to SV3, I, EA; 9X to 9Y; 20.00z CE to EA8; LU to 4X; 21.45z PY to CT, EA8; 22.45z KH6 to ZP; 23.45z CEØY to EA8.
   3rd 3C flares, foF2>10MHz 10.15z-13.45z; 12.45z 48MHz A6 to DU7; 14.30z VK8 to A9; 17.00z C5, ZD7 to I, EA; 17.30z ZD7 to SV3, F; CT; PY to I, EA, CT; 23.15z CEØY to EA8; 23.45z E5 to ZP.
   4th 1C flare; 00.15z E5 to PY; 00.45z VK7 to ZP; 01.15z E5, KH6 to ZP; 02.00z FK to W6; foF2>10MHz 08.30z-09.00z, 10.30z-14.15z, 16.00z-17.00z; 11.45z 48MHz A6 to JA3; 16.00z C5,9X to I; ZS6 to EA; 17.30z Z8 to A9, I, IS; 18.15z PY to IT, IS; 19.00z 9X to SV3, I, CT, 19.45z, CE, PY to EA; LU to 4X; 20.15z PY to I, CT; 23.30z E5 to ZP.
   5th 1C+M2.2 flares; 00.45z KH6 to CE; 02.00z KH6 to PY; 02.45z E5 to PY; 01.5z VK8 to A9; foF2>10MHz 12.00z-13.45z; 1.25z 48MHz A6 to DU1; DU1 to A9; 13.15z DU1 to ST; FR to 4X; 13.30z DU to A4, 9M6; VK8 to A9; 14.30z DU to A4, still; 14.45z JR6 to A4; 15.00z YB to A9; 15.15z VK8 to A6; DU to ST; late; FR to G, TEP+Es; 16.30z 9M2 to A4 late; 18.00z CEØY to EA8, strong early; 18.03z FR to 4X; 19.00z ST to EA8; PY to EA; 19.30z 9Y to ST; 20.15z PY to CT; 21.00z ZP to CU; 22.00a TJ to EA8.
   6th 8C flares; 00.00z E5 to PY, LU, ZP; 01.45z KH6 to ZP; 02.45z KH6 to LU; foF2>10 09.30z-13.30z; 08.30z JR6, JA2 to 3B8; 09.00z BA to 3B8; 10.45z 48A6 to DU strong; 12.00z 48A6 to DU; 13.00z JR6 to DU1 to A4, str+1430-15.30z YB to A4; 17.00z FY, 9Y to EA8; 17.30z CEØY to EA8, CT3; 18.00z Y to EA; ST, C5 to EA, CT; 18.30z FR to TEP+Es?; 19.00z Z8 to SV3; 19.30z PY to CT, 9X; KP4 to EA; CE, LU to EA, CT; YV to ST; 20.30z PY, ZP to A9; 21.00z ZP to 4X; 21.30z CE, PY to 4X; 22.30 ZD8 to EA.

20 Six News
7th 4C flares; 01.15z E5, KH6 to ZP; ZL, FK to W6; 03.00z CEØY to H1, 9Y; +foF2>10MHz 07.45z-14.00z; 13.30z 48MHz A6 to DU6; DU1 to A9; 15.30z V5 to E1, TEP+Es; 16.00z Z8 to SV; 17.45z CEØY to EA8; 18.15z CE to EA8; CX, LU to EA; 18.45z CEØY to EA8; +foF2>10MHz 07.45z-14.00z; 13.30z 48MHz A6 to DU6; DU1 to A9; 15.30z V5 to E1, TEP+Es; 16.00z Z8 to SV; 17.45z CEØY to EA8; E5 to PY, ZP; 20.45z E5 to PY, ZP.

8th 2C flares; FK to W6; 01.45z KH6 to ZP; LU; 02.15z KH6 to PY; 03.00z CEØY to P4; ZF; foF2>10MHz 07.45z-17.45z, max 11.0MHz 17.15z; 11.15z E5 to JR6, BA, DU, 9M; 12.15z 48MHz A6 to DU1 strong; 13.45z 9M6, DU1 to A9, strong; 14.30z DU, KG6 to A9; 16.45z FR to EA, SV9; 17.15z CEØY to EA8; 18.15z CEØY to CT; 19.15z CE, ZP to 4X, A9; 19.45z 9Y to ST; 20.00z LU to A9; PY to 9X; 21.15z CEØY to CT3; E5 to ZP.

9th 8C flares; 00.15z E5 to PY, ZP; KH6 to ZP; foF2>10MHz 10.45z-14.30z; 12.00z 48MHz A6 to D; 13.45z 3B8 to I; 17.30z LU to CT; ZS6 to I, SV7; ZD7 to ST; 18.15z CE to EA8, CT; 18.30z 9Q to I; FY to EA8; 19.15z CE to EA8; YV to EA; PY to I; 20.45z E5 to LU; 21.15z CE to CT; I; 22.00z CE to EA8; E5 to LU; 22.45z ZL to XE, W5; E5 to YS.

10th 8C flares; 01.45z E5, KH6 to PY; foF2>10MHz 10.00z-15.15z, max 11.0MHz at 12.45z; 48MHz EP to VK6 weak; 48MHz A6 to DU1 strong; 12.00z ZS6 to I; 17.30z LU to CT; ZS6 to I, SV7; ZD7 to ST; 18.15z CE to EA8, CT; 19.15z CEØY to EA8; ZD7 to CT; 19.45z 9Q to EA; 20.15z 9Q to CU, CT; 20.45z E5 to PY; LU to 9H; PY to CT, EA.

11th 7C+M6.5 flares, foF2>10MHz 08.15z-13.15z, max 11.3MHz at 11.00z; 10.00z VK8 to A9; 10.45z 48MHz A6 to JR6; 13.30z ZS6 to I; 14.45z DU1 to J2; A9 to I8, backscatter; 15.00z YB to A9; DU1 to ST; 15.45z FR to I; 16.15z 3B8 to IT; 17.30z ZS6 to SV2 on 70MHz; 18.15z 9X to SV3, TJ; 9Q to I; Z8 to SV3, I; 19.15z KP4 to EA; 19.45z PY to CU, CT; EA; 20.00z CE to EA8; E5 to LU; 20.45z CE to IT, 4X, A9; LU to 9H; PY to CT, EA.

12th 4C+M3.3 flares, foF2>10MHz 09.15z-14.45z, max 12.0MHz at 11.45z; 10.45z 48MHz A6 to DU; 11.45z ZS6 to YU, S5; 12.00z C9 to I, F; Z2 to EA; 14.00z DU1 to ZD8; C9 to G, TEP+Es; 3B8 to 5B; 15.45z FR to SV3; 16.15z TR to I; 18.00z 9Y to C5; 9X to CT; 18.15z ZS6 to SV2 on 70MHz; 18.30z 9Y to 9X; 20.00z E5 to PY; CE to 9H, EA, CT; PY to CT; 20.30z Z8 to 9H, I; 20.45z E5 to PY, LU, ZP.

13th 4C flares, foF2>10MHz 09.45z-16.45z, max 11.5MHz at 13.00z; 07.30z 48MHz A6 to JR6, early; 10.30z 48MHz A6 to DU; 12.15z VK5 to A9; 15.30z 9H to ZS6 to 4X; 16.00z Z8 to SV5, 9H, I; 18.15z 9X to EA, CT; 19.00z 9Y, YV, FM, $+$9Y to C5, ST; 19.30z CE to EA8; E5 to PY; 20.15z CE to 4X; 21.15z CE; LU to EA.

14th NO flares, foF2>10MHz 08.00z-08.30z, 09.45z-10.30z, 11.30z-13.30z; 14.30z ZS6 to EA, F; V5 to EA, I; 15.15z TJ to EA, F; 18.15z C5 to I; 9X to EA, CT, CU; 19.00z CE, Z8 to EA8, CT3; ZD7 to CT; 19.45z 9Q to EA; 20.15z 9Q to CU, SV3; 21.30z 9G to EA8.

15th 3C flares, foF2>10MHz 11.00z-14.30z; 09.30z JR6 to 3B8; 10.00z BA to 3B8; 48MHz A6 to DU; 13.45z DU1 to ZD8+J2; 15.00z J2 to I; 16.15z 3B8, Z2 to CT; 17.00z TJ to I, TK, 9A; 17.30z ZS6 to SV2 on 70MHz; 18.30z FR to A9, EA8; CE to CT3; 19.00z C5, Z8 to EA, I; 19.15z ZD7 to 9A, F, CT; 19.45z Z8 to SV3+TZ to CT, EA, F, SV3; 20.30z PY to CT; 21.30z PY to CU; 23.00z FK to W4, 6, 7.

16th 5C flares, foF2>10MHz 12.45z-13.45z; 48MHz A6 to JR6, scatter; 16.45z 3B8 to SV5, 4X.

17th 3C flares, 09.00z-10.00z JAØ!? to 3B8; 12.45z 48MHz A6 to JR6, scatter; 20.00z ZP to EA; PY to CU, CT; 9Q to I; 21.45z ZD8 to IT; E5 to TI.

18th 2C flares; 16.15z ZS6, Z2 to I; 17.15z TJ to I, SV7; 17.45z 3B8 to SV5; 19.15z TJ to 9X; 20.00z TZ to CU, EA8; 21.45z ZD7 to CT; 21.30z 9X to EA8.

19th 2C flares; 13.30z 48MHz A6 to JR6, scatter; 18.45z 7Q, 9X to 9H; 19.30z 9X to EA8; 20.00z 3B8 to JY; 21.45z ZD7, ZD8 to CT.

20th 8C flares; 14.30z ZS6 to I; 17.45z V5 to IS; 18.00z 3B8 to SV5; 19.15z 9X to EA8; 9Q to IS; 20.30z ZD7, ZD8 to CT; 21.15z TJ to 4X, EA.

21st 13C flares, foF2>10MHz 12.15z-14.45z; 11.00z 48MHz A6 to DU, scatter; 14.15z 3B8 to 9H, I; 15.30z 9X to EA8; 16.00z V5 to I, IS; 21.30z ZD8 to IT, EA, CT.

22nd 3C and M1.0 flares; 14.45z 48MHz A6 to DU; 19.15z CE to EA8; 21.30z ZD8 to CT, EA8.
23rd 11C flares, foF2 > 10 MHz 11.30z-12.15z; 12.45z ZS6 to I; 18.30z FM to C5; CE to EA8; 19.30z LU to EA8, CT; 20.00z PY to CT; 21.30z ZD8 to EA, CT3; PY to EA8.

24th 7C flares; 15.30z first Es to Central Europe; 16.30z G1 to SV5, double 2 x Es; 20.15z ZD8 to TJ; 21.15z ZD8 to EA.

25th 11C flares; 12.00z ZS6 to IS, TK; 19.30z ZD8 to EA.

26th 10C flares, foF2 > 10 MHz 12.00z-13.00z; 15.45z 3B8 to G, ON, PA, DL, TEP+Es; 17.45z ZS6 to 5B, SV7.

27th 9C flares; 09.00z VK8 to A9, strong; 11.30z ZS6 to EA, I; 48MHz A6 to DU; Z2 to EA, SV2; 12.15z TJ to SV2,3; 13.00z DU1 to ZD8; 13.15z TR to I; 14.15z YB to 5B, A9; 15.00z 3B8 to SP; SP to SV2,5 on 70MHz; 15.45z 3B8 to 4X; SV1,4 to SP on 70MHz; 17.45z ZD8 to EA, I; 48MHz A6 to DU; Z2 to EA, SV2; 12.15z TJ to SV2,3; 13.00z DU1 to ZD8; 13.15z TR to I; 14.15z YB to 5B, A9; 15.00z 3B8 to SP; SP to SV2,5 on 70MHz; 15.45z 3B8 to 4X; SV1,4 to SP on 70MHz; 17.45z ZD8 to EA.

28th 12C flares; 07.00z 48 MHz A6 to JR6, scatter-early; foF2 > 10 MHz 09.45z-14.00z, 15.00z-15.45z; 13.00z 48 MHz A6 to DU; 18.00z 3B8 to Z3; 18.30z 9X to I, SV2, G; TJ to 4X; 19.45z 9Q to I; 20.00z CE to EA8; 21.15z ZD8 to EA.

TEP deteriorated further, but TEP+Es links started after the 10th April. No F2 propagation to east or west observed. Solar activity increased toward the end of month with maximum values: SSN up 165, SFI up 154, X-ray background up B8.4, X-ray flares up M6.5.

6. DXCC entities heard/worked during April 2013: 28 on 4 continents.

7. DXCC entities heard/worked during 10th April 2013: 10 on 2 continents.

May 2013 (de SV1DH)

1. Data for 31 days; 1st -7th & 29th -31st INET data only.

2. Relatively good days on: 19th, 20th (+), 21st, 23rd (+), 24th (+)

3. 48 MHz AF video 5Z, TJ, and unidentified on: 8th, 9th, 10th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 20th, and 27th (R=38%)

4. 55 MHz Africa video 5N on: NIL.

5. Special events on:
   1st 13C flares; JR6 to A4; 48MHz A6 to JR6; 12.00z VK8 to A9; 13.15z VK8 to A4; 17.00z C5, ZS6 to SV3.
   2nd 6C+M1.1 flares; 09.00z BA and DU to A4; 09.45z VK8 to VU2; VK6 to A9; 10.15z 9M6, JA6, VK8 to A9; 11.00z JA6, VK8, KG6 to A4; 14.30z ZS6, 3DA, 3B8 to SV3; 14.45z 3B8 to G via TEP; Es; 16.00z FR to SV3.
   3rd 5C, M1.3, M5.7 flares; 09.00z JA6 to A9; 11.00z VK8 to A9; 14.00z 3B8 and 3DA to SV3; 14.45z 3B8 to SM; 15.00z FR to SV3; 19.45z 9Q to SV3.
   4th 11C flares, foF2 > 10 MHz 10.15z-14.15z; 08.00z JR6, BA to 3B8; 10.30a 48 MHz A6 to JR6; 12.45z VK8 to A4.
   5th 16C and M1.4 flares; 09.30z-10.30z VK8 to A4; 12.30z 48 MHz A6 to JR6; 16.00z 3B8 to UR, F, DL; 17.15z 3B8 to PA.
   6th 6C flares; 11.30z DU to A4.
   7th 4C flares, foF2 > 10 MHz 09.00z-14.15z; 09.00z JR6, DU to A4; 10.30z BA to 3B8; 11.00z 48 MHz A6 to JR6; 12.30z JR6 to A4; 16.30z 3B8 to 4X, DL; 18.30z 7Q to I, HB; 9Q to I; 19.15z 9Q to DL; 19.30z 9Q, ZD7, ZD8 to SV3; 20.00z D2 to I, YU; 22.00z D2 to DL, G, LA.
   8th 4C flares, foF2 > 10 MHz 06.15z-17.45z, max 11.5MHz at 13.30z; 10.00z JR6 to 3B8; 12.15z VK8 to A4; 15.30z Z2 to I; 16.45z Z2, 3B8 to SV3; 19.15z PY to SV3, I, EA, G; 20.15z ZD8, 9A to EA.
   9th 7C flares, foF2 > 10 MHz 09.15z-18.15z, max 11.4MHz at 12.30z; 10.45z VK8 to VU2; 11.45z 48 MHz A6 to DU; 12.15z ZS6 to I, 9A; 14.00z 3B8 to I, SV2; ZS6 to LZ; Z2 to I; 15.30z Z2, ZS6 to SV7; 18.30z CE to CU, CT3; 19.00z LU to EA, CT; PY to I, EA; 19.15z CE, ZP to 4X; 20.00z CE to I; 21.15z ZD8 to W1.9; 22.30z 9Q, ZD8 to I.
   10th 8C and 2M flares, foF2 > 10 MHz 05.30z-06.30z and 11.00z-14.30z, max 11.4MHz at 13.00z; 10.00z BA, KG6 to VU; 12.45z 48 MHz A6 to DU; 14.15z 48 MHz A6 to JR6, scatter; 19.00z 9Q to I, EA; 19.45z D2 to I, EA, G;
20.00z ST to EA, ZD8 to S5; 20.45z ZD8 to W3; 22.30z CE to W1, LU to VE.

11th 7C flares, foF2>10MHz 08.00z-11.30z; 15.30z SV5, 4 to I, IS on four metres, TJ to OE, SM; 16.15z SV5, 4 to OK.

12th 13C and 2M flares, foF2>10MHz 04.45z-05.45z, 10.00z-13.15z; 11.15z 48MHz A6 to DU; 15.30z TJ to F; 16.00z 48MHz ZS to DU; 19.00z ZD7 to SM, LA; 19.15z ZD8 to I, 9Q to EA, D2 to LA; 20.30z ZD7 to PA, DL; ZD8 to F.

13th 10C, 1M and 2X flares, foF2>10MHz 04.45z-05.45z, 10.00z-13.15z; 11.15z 48MHz A6 to DU; 15.30z TJ to F; 16.00z 48MHz 5Z to DU; 19.00 ZD7 to SM, LA; 19.15z ZD8 to I, 9Q to EA, D2 to LA; 20.30z ZD7 to PA, DL; ZD8 to F.

14th 3C and X3.2 flares, foF2>10MHz 10.30z-16.30z, max 11.6MHz at 13.45z; 10.45z OK, SP on four metres; 13.30z 48MHz A6 to DU; 15.30z TJ to F; 16.30z PY to CT; 18.45z ZD8 to DL, ZD7 to G; 19.15z-20.30z D2, LU, PY to Central and Northern Europe 21.00z ZD8 to I, DL.

15th 4C and X1.2 flares, foF2>10MHz 12.15z-13.15z; 07.45z 48MHz A6 to VK8; 08.45z 48MHz A6 to DU1; 14.45z SV54 to SP; 15.45z SV54 to F; ZS6 to OH, W1 to YO, first of season; 16.15z 3B8 to DL, SP, OZ, G; 17.45z TJ to SM; 19.15z ZD7 to I, C5 to EA; 19.45z PY to EA; 20.15z SV54 to 9A.

16th 4C and M flares, foF2>10MHz 11.45z-12.15z; 12.00z VE to GM; 14.45z 3B8 to UR, PA, OZ; 17.00z SV5, 4 to I; 19.00z LU, PY to EA, F, I, HB, 9A, S5; 20.00z CE to 5B, I.

17th M flares; 15.30z 3B8 to OE, YU, 9A, HA; 9J to I; 16.00z ZS6, 3B8 to SV3; 17.00z SV5, 4 to SP, OK; 17.30z A9 to SV2 on four metres; 18.30z SV1, 4 to HA, SP; 20.45z D2 to SM.

18th 5C flares, foF2>10MHz 09.00z-13.45z; 07.00z A4, A9 to 4X, I, PA, GM; 07.45z A9 to PA on 70MHz, triple hop E; 08.15z PA on four metres; 11.45z 48MHz A6 to VK8, DU1; 15.15z A4, 3B8 to DL, PA, OZ, LY; 16.30z 9J to 9H; 17.30z V5 to I, GM; 18.00z A9 to OK on 70MHz, double hop E; ZS6 to DL, 7Q to OZ, WØ to PA, weak.

19th 9C flares, foF2>10MHz 11.15z-13.30z; 09.30z DU1 to 4X, SV5, 4 to SP; 10.30z DU1 to LZ, Z3, S5; 48MHz A6 to VK8, DU1; 17.15z 7Q to IT, G; V5 to IS; 18.15z ZD7 to I; ZD8 to DL.

20th 7C and M flares; 07.00z 48MHz A6 to DU1, early; 09.45z VK8 to VU2; 10.00z VK8 to SV1, I, EA, OZ; 12.00z DU1 to 4X, SV2, HA; ST to HA; 13.15z VK8 to I, PA; 15.45z 6W to SV2; 18.30z ZD7 to I, EA, HA; 19.30z PY to CT, EA, F, DL; 20.00z SV54 to I, S5, SP; 20.45z ZD8 to EA, I, 9A.

21st 6C flares; 07.15z 48MHz A6 to DU; 11.30z DU to DL, VU2; 14.00z 3B8 to F; 22.00z J6 to GM; 23.30z KP4 to CT.

22nd 4C and M flares; 07.15z 48MHz A6 to DU; 08.30z DU, JR6 to VU2; 10.15z Y to OF.

23rd 6C flares; 09.45z VK8 to A9; 16.00z SV1, 4, 5 to DL, OM; 16.15z 3B8 to G, SM, LA; 16.30z SV1, 4 to SP, HA; 17.00z SV1, 4 to 9A, SP, OZ; SV54 to SM; SP; 20.00z FM to IS, YU, SV3; 9Y to CT, F, YU; 21.30z KP4 to SV3, I, EA; 21.45z ZL on 10 metres, S9 long path.

24th 3C flares, foF2>10MHz 07.15z-09.00z; 08.30z A9 to GM, 3E; 10.00z VK8 to EA; 10.30z VR2 to GM; BA to A4; VK8 to ER; 11.00z 9M6 to ER; VK8 to GM, DL, OZ, SP.

25th 4C flares; 17.15z D4 to EA, 9A; 17.45z EA8 to SV3; 18.00z PY to 9A; 19.45z D2 to I.

26th 2C flares; 08.00z UK, BA to VU2; 11.15z 48MHz A6 to VK8; 19.30z D4 to EA; 19.45z VE to OX, ZD8 to F.

27th NO flares; 13.30z ZS6, Z2 to I; 18.45z ZD7 to CT, F, YU; 19.30z ZD7 to EA, I; 20.00z LU to LZ; SV2, CX to 9A.

28th NO flares; 07.15z JR6 to A4; 08.00z A4 to SM; 17.00z 9J to EA, OZ; 18.30z 9Q, ZD7 to I, G; 19.45z VE to PA, DL; 20.00z VE, KP4, FM to EA.

29th 3C flares; 14.00z A9 to SV3; 18.45z 9Q, ZD7 to SV3.

30th NO flares; 09.30z ES on four metres; 16.30z CU to SV, EA, CT; 18.15z 9J to SV3.

31st 2C and M flares.

Two or more hops of Es reported only. Flares of M class and above reported only. Solar activity is still low, max values: SSN up 212, SFI up 159, X-ray background up C1.1, X-ray flares up X3.2. There were four X-flares in total. 6. DXCC entities heard/worked during May 2013: 32 on 6 continents.

7. DXCC entities heard/worked during 20th May 2013: 15 on 5 continents.

73 Costas
Asia/Middle East

**UN8GC (Mike reports from MN83KF)**

Howdy Chris,

Thanks for the note. I am afraid I don’t have much to report this season yet as I still struggle to rebuild my antenna for six metre band. At this point I have only worked two stations on the band.

Maybe the situation will change by the end of the month since I am planning some hardware works on my antenna during this weekend.

Let me know what you think about it. Thanks.

Regards, Mike

On 3rd July Mike added:

So far this sporadic E season has not been very remarkable in terms of DX. I started monitoring the band again at the end of June due to antenna not being operational. So far I have managed to log about 30 QSO, mostly stations from Europe and Japan. The propagation has been very ‘sporadic’ and ‘spotty’.

This year I noticed another Kazakh station, UN3GX active on the band from Almaty. His QRA is MN83. I’m glad that the local activity seems to be slowly rising.

That’s it from my side.

73, Mike

---

**Africa**

**D2EB Angola (Carlo IZ3ETU reports briefly on Fr. Gabriel Bortolami’s activity from Luanda JI61OD)**

Ciao Chris

Father Gabriel use his spare time for ham activity. His favorite mode is cw. He operates on 50MHz with 100 watts and a six element antenna modified by IZ3APA in T-match.

Best 73

Carlo IZ3ETU

---

D2EB’s radio shack and equipment.

---

D2EB six metre antenna.

---

A quick look at DX Summit shows that Fr. Gabriel has been active on a regular basis and has provided a new DXCC entity to a number of stations.

**V51YJ (Andy reports from Windhoek, Namibia JG87NJ)**

The March to May 2013 TEP season appeared weaker than the September to October 2012 season. There was however, a superb opening favouring northern Europe on the 18th May. This opening lasted from 15.24 UTC until 18.06 UTC and resulted in 116 CW QSOs with 22 countries. Ninety five QSOs were with northern European stations. Normally northern European stations are a lot weaker than the

---

Nine element LFA six metre antenna at UN8GC.

On 9th July Mike again wrote:

If not too late, I can write a small report of the recent two days which have been outstanding in terms of DX on six metres from my QTH. My hand was tired of pounding the brass as I logged scores of QSOs ranging between 4000 and 5000 km in distance.

73, Mike
southern European stations, but during this opening the situation was reversed and the majority of the northern European stations were running 579 to 599 on the S-meter of my FTDX-5000D. This 18th May opening was the highlight of my six metre operating activities over the past five TEP seasons.

My northern European QSO tally for this opening:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Open</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Callsign(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>16.22z</td>
<td>IY9, ISØ, SM, LA, OZ, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>14.35z</td>
<td>5B4, SV, I, EA6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>open</td>
<td>17.53z</td>
<td>SV and 5B4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

May

1st - open from 15.22z to 17.44z EA, TK, SV, I, EA6
2nd - open from 14.56z to 15.08z SV5, GØ, G3
3rd - open from 11.51z to 18.48z ER, YO, LZ, HA, SV, UR, SV5, E7, DL, YU, SP, S5, 9A, OE, OM, Z3, 5B4, I. ZS6WN worked 3DAØ on back scatter and ZS6AYE worked 3B8 on backscatter.
5th - open from 17.00z to 18.05z UR, DL, YU, SM6, 7, SP, G8
9th - open from 11.44z to 14.40z HA, I; from 16.49z to 17.50z EA, CT, I, SV, 4O, LZ, 5B4, 4X
13th - open from 15.41z to 1618 SM5, OH3, SM7, SM3, 9A
15th - open from 16.00z to 17.00z UR, OH, 1,2,3,5,6,7,8, ES, DL, LY, YL, SM, I, IT9, OZ
17th - open from 15.03z to 17.02z SV8, LY2, IW9. GØJHC reported ZS6JON/b at 539 at 15.03z.
18th - open from 16.22z to 17.24z IY9, ISØ, SM, LA, OZ, OH

North America

9Y4D (Chris reports from FK90GG)

Well Chris sorry to disappoint you. E season is lousy this year in 9y4 land. I have worked less than 1/4 of the station we would of worked by now in years gone by. No new ones just a bad E season. That's six metres for you.

AC4TO (Ken reports from EM70XL via his email to Fabien TK5MH after working him for a new DXCC)

Hello Fabien!

I was VERY surprised to work you today! I heard you working EU stations on 50.096MHz and was trying to get your attention as you had a FB signal here in Florida. I was very happy to hear you come back with my call sign. I believe our QSO is the first W to TK QSO on 6 meters. Yes, it is the magic band.
Your 70W and four elements sounded FB here, truly. I have a modest station, only a seven element yagi and 700-800 watts.

I have already posted a QSL in the mail to you direct with SASE and green stamps to confirm this QSO.

Thanks again for picking me up and I hope to work you many more times in the future.

73, Ken AC4TO
EM70xl, Tallahassee, Florida

—— Original Message ——

From: tk5mh
To: reecy@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2013 2:16 PM
Subject: 6m QSO

Hi Ken,

Thanks for the QSO! That’s a new one for me also here. We have been allowed on six metres a few months ago only. You had a nice S3 here; I thought at first I miscopied your prefix.

You should have an impressive six metre antenna because you are the only station from the states I heard.

I have only a four element LFA yagi just above the roof at 10 metres high and 70 watts on peaks.

I understand now why they call it the ‘magic band’.

73 from Corsica Island (JN41ix)
Fabien, TK5MH

K2ZD (Mario reports on from FN21NR)

Mario has provided his log entries for the month of June. He notes that “It wasn’t the best E season but it wasn’t the worst either. His contacts are listed in ascending order:

23 June 2013
14.25z VP2V/W9DR SSB 5/5 5/5
22 June 2013
23.18z EA8AK CW 599 599
22.45z 9Y4D SSB 5/5 5/5
22.32z PV8ADI CW 599 599
21 June 2013
22.45z HK3O CW 599 599
15 June 2013
16.43z ED8B SSB 5/5 5/9
14.32z F6FRR CW 559 559
12.40z FS/K9EL CW 559 559
14 June 2013
23.49z G4FVP SSB 5/5 5/5
23.42z GØRÚZ SSB 5/5 5/5
23.40z GØJHC USB 5/5 5/9
23.38z MDØCCE USB 5/5 5/9
23.11z G4AGE SSB 4/1 5/3
23.08z GØGUZ SSB 5/5 5/5
22.36z G3SOA SSB 5/5 5/5
22.36z GØCER SSB 5/5 5/5
22.36z EI4CF SSB 5/5 5/9
22.20z G4WLC SSB 5/5 5/3
22.18z GØKLX SSB 5/5 5/5
22.17z 2EØMDJ SSB 5/5 5/5
22.16z EI4KF USB 5/9 5/9
22.16z GW3MWS SSB 5/7 5/6
22.15z G4IGO SSB 5/7 5/8
22.13z GW7SMV SSB 5/5 5/7
22.13z GØLFF SSB 5/5 5/9
22.13z 2EØJIM SSB 4/1 5/4
22.08z G4ELJ SSB 5/5 5/5
22.08z GØLGS SSB 5/5 5/5
21.58z GØTSM CW 599 599
01.19z OX3KQ SSB 5/9 5/9
00.28z G3SED CW 579 569
00.24z EI6JK SSB 5/9 5/3
00.20z TF3ML/P SSB 5/9 5/9
00.07z ON4CD CW 559 559

13 June 2013
23.53z G3TXF CW 559 599
23.33z MDØCCE CW 559 529
23.26z MMØAMW CW 559 529
22.36z EA3AKY CW 559 529
12.54z PA2M CW 599 599
12.53z DJ6YX CW 559 559
12.18z IK3TPP CW 559 559
11.51z EI4DQ CW 579 579
11.50z EA1XT CW 559 559
11.40z EA1DR CW 559 559

11 June 2013
12.07z CT1HZE CW 529 529

9 June 2013
11.57z W3CCX USB 5/9 5/9
11.54z K1TOL USB 5/9 5/9
11.16z K1WHS CW 599 599
11.12z KX9X/1 CW 599 599
10.56z K5QE FSK441 R26 R26

7 June 2013
23.58z TI8AA SSB 5/9 5/9
23.48z T5/N5BEK SSB 5/9 5/7
21.04z KX9X/1 CW 599 599

6 June 2013
23.59z KX9X/1 CW 55A 55A
22.55z WØW SSB 55A 55A

5 June 2013
21.02z EA8/G8BCG CW 579 599

2 June 2013
00.41z HC1HC CW 559 559

1 June 2013
22.34z 8P6SH SSB 5/9 5/9
20.43z J69MV SSB 5/9 5/9
19.17z PJ2LS SSB 5/1 5/3
18.38z YV1DIG CW 599 599
17.46z FG5FR CW 559 559
17.14z FY5FY CW 559 559
On 3rd July Mario added:
Chris,
At 20.23z today, 3rd July, I completed a cw QSO with Nick, TJ3SN. I guess the opening lasted at total of 2.5 minute but just enough to give me DXCC # 184. Nick’s signal had a hollow ring to it and the EA8s were extremely strong at the time.
73, Mario K2ZD

K6QXY (Bob reports from CM88QL)
Here is list of stations worked April to present.

April
4th - FK8CP at 01.59z
7th - FK8CP and ZL1RS heard only; CE2AWW at 20.29z Es to TEP link.
14th - CE2WJK at 20.51z
15th - HC2UA at 21.23z; FK8CP at 23.52z
16th - FK8CP at 03.24 heard.

May
5th - CE2AWW at 22.26z
6th - FK8CP at 23.36z; ZL1RS at 00.13z
11th - KL7/W7IV at 03.00z; KL7NO at 04.29z
13th - KH7Y at 19.25z

June
1st - JE1BMJ weak heard only.
2nd - CO2QU at 14.47z; CO2DM at 15.15z; 6Y5W at 15.28z; 9Y4VU at 22.56z; ZF1EJ at 23.08z; YV1DIG at 23.49z.
3rd - XE2JS at 16.33z
5th - Tropo to KH6 at 17.20z. KH6HME/B beacons all strong; KH7yat 19.18z Es.
6th - KH6HI at 03.22z
9th - WL7N at 21.18z
12th - Es to Europe; DL8YHR at 16.44z; S59A at 16.53z; 9A8A at 16.58z, new DXCC # 172; ON4GG at 17.03z; PA2M at 17.23z.
22nd - JE1BMJ at 23.03z, JHØINP at 23.15z
23rd - BV2DQ at 23.45z, new DXCC # 173.
24th - KL7NO at 03.19z
25th - KH6HI/B at 19.38z; V31IV at 23.12z, Jimmy in Belize.
26th - JE1BMJ at 22.02z heard only; BV2DQ at 23.52z, heard for over one hour working VE7s and W7s;
BA4SI at 23.44z 559 X 559, great signal from Li.

July
27th - 6M6M at 00.51z 519, DXpedition to South Korean Island, special call sign. Actually an HL.
2nd - JE1BMJ at 23.47z; 49.750MHz video at 03.47z in for about 1/2 hour but nothing else.
I think that’s it for this report period.
73, Bob K6QXY

K7CW (Paul reports about earning his Six Metre DXCC Award from CN87IJ)
Well, it’s not impossible to achieve 50MHz DXCC from a QTH in the Pacific Northwest. There has been some suspense out there about who was going to get the first 50MHz DXCC in the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho. The last several months have had me doing everything.

I could to get the last two QSL cards that I needed so I could submit all one hundred cards to the ARRL DXCC card checker.

Mark W7MEM was hot in the chase also. The last I heard from Mark, he had two countries to go to have all hundred. This was a few weeks ago, so he may have beaten me to the target. I sent him an email asking but he has not replied. In any event, it’s been a fun chase. I received my last needed card yesterday, and had K7BTW check the cards for me right away. There are a bunch of other guys in the 50 MHz DXCC chase in the area. W7FL, VE7SL, N7NW and KE7V come to mind immediately, and I apologize for not mentioning others who are in the chase.

I need also mention that Ralph VE7XF already has achieved 50 MHz DXCC.

I’ve been working on 50MHz DXCC since I moved to Tahuya, Washington in 1987. I did not become serious about it until the F2 propagation of Cycle 23 started up. It soon became clear that I was going to need help or I would die before getting the award (or at least I thought that at the time). I’m not so sure about that, now. Anyway, I decided to try EME in an effort to get my last continent, Africa. It took me three years to finally work a station in Africa. It was via EME and it is still my only contact on that continent.

The contact was with V55EME in Namibia. HB9DRI and a buddy went down there on a small EME expedition. I was barely able to detect them, but we exchanged all information for a complete QSO. I like to call it my miracle contact.

My 100th entity contact was with my old contesting buddy, Dale Green, CE2AWW. Dale is also VE7SV from our neighborhood in CN99. Many of you have worked him.

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Three facts become immediately apparent when reviewing the list of cards I submitted for DXCC. The first is that I needed the EME contacts in order to get it done. The second is that I was fortunate to have had F2 propagation available in Cycle 23 or else I would be nowhere near completing DXCC. The third thing is that the same is true about the recent years’ explosion of very long distance sporadic E propagation. So, things worked out for me in fine fashion. It may be that those guys who were not active during the Cycle 23 peak may not have it as easy as I have in getting a hundred countries.

73 and Good 50MHz DXing.
Paul, K7CW

In response to Paul’s announcement, Dale CE2AWW wrote on 30th June:

Paul

CONGRATULATIONS! It is indeed a special accomplishment that came only with hard work and perseverance, traits I saw in action when I sat next to you 40 years ago at the Bluff (W7RM) as you mined the 40 metre band and I experienced firsthand what you had learned as K7HTZ operating from DL/LX etc. in your early radio years.

It was a great pleasure for me to give your number 100 on six metres and be part of your accomplishment.

Hope to see you at the VE7SV/BC DX Club annual BBQ in September. As usual there will be many six metre operators, DXers, and contesters here waiting to exchange stories with you. There might even be a beer or two that needs drinking.

73 y abrazos amigo
Dale CE2AWW (VE7SV)

KØGU (Jay reports from DN70MQ, Wellington Colorado)

Chris,

The equipment here is a FT-1000MP, DEMI transverter, Harris Channel 2 solid state amplifier running 1500 watts, and four 6M7JHVs at 85/61’. I also have a 6M2WLC at 44’ and a JHV at 43’. M² seems to [tick] me off from time to time so I didn’t give them any free advertising.

I intended to start copying you when I send stuff to NØJK, but I spaced it out. I’m not even sure what your column looks like but I usually add a little color to the information besides just sending log info. I probably don’t work as much DX as you think. My European openings don’t produce anywhere near the volume as back east.

05/13 19.18 KH7Y BK29 529 559 5266+--
05/15 21.45 PY2XB GG66 559 559 9310+--
05/16 23.15 YV5IU A FK6Ø 559 589 5007+--

OK below will be my log for QSOs over 3000 km since April 1st. I worked 93 JAs on June 14 my best ever JA run. So I will delete those QSOs from the log to reduce clutter.

73, Jay KØGU

Stations worked by KØGU (DN7ØMQ) from 1st April 2013 to 5th July 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>GMT</th>
<th>Callsign</th>
<th>LOC</th>
<th>TX</th>
<th>RX</th>
<th>QRB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>04/02</td>
<td>21.44</td>
<td>CE2AWW FF47</td>
<td>FF97</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>8850+--</td>
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<td>FF99</td>
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<td>23.01</td>
<td>CE3FZ FF47</td>
<td>FF99</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>8851+--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/07</td>
<td>19.43</td>
<td>CE2AWW FF47</td>
<td>FF99</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>8850+--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/09</td>
<td>19.36</td>
<td>LU7YS FE49</td>
<td>FF99</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>8951+--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.54</td>
<td>LU6DC GF05</td>
<td>55</td>
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<td>9589+--</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.55</td>
<td>CX1FK GF15</td>
<td>55</td>
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<td>9691+--</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.48</td>
<td>LU5FF FF99</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>9114+--</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.48</td>
<td>LU5FZ FF98</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>9208+--</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.04</td>
<td>LU9DO GF05</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>9589+--</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.05</td>
<td>CE3SX FF46</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>8951+--</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>21.09</td>
<td>LU8MB FF57</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>8933+--</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.14</td>
<td>LU5FF FF99</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>9114+--</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.14</td>
<td>LU1F0 FF97</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>9302+--</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.23</td>
<td>CE3RR FF46</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>8951+--</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>21.45</td>
<td>LU5FZ FF98</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>9208+--</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.48</td>
<td>LU9HH FF78VM</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>9049</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.49</td>
<td>LU7FF FF88</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>9109+--</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Excellent South America opening but no volume of stations as usual.

Jay’s array of four 6M7JHV yagis at his Wellington, Colorado QTH, which is about 5100 feet above sea level.

Jay reports from DN70MQ, Wellington Colorado

Stations worked by KØGU (DN7ØMQ) from 1st April 2013 to 5th July 2013

Date GMT Callsign LOC TX RX QRB
04/02 21.44 CE2AWW FF47 519 559 8850+--
April not so good. I need Es help to get to the TEP.

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Date  GMT  Callsign  LOC  TX  RX  QRB
05/17  21.14  PY1RO  GG87  599 599 9496+-
05/18  17.56  PA2M  JO21IP  529 559 7707

I think this was the first US to mainland EU contact of the season. 15 days earlier than I had ever worked EU before. VY2ZM made one earlier for first NA to EU.

05/20  00.31  VK4MA  QG64  529 569 12784+-
05/30  16.06  EA7KW  IM67XI  559 579 8050
06/01  22.11  CO8DM  FL11  559 599 3386+-
06/02  21.25  YV5IUA  FK6Ø  59 59 5007+-
06/09  01.36  ZL3NW  RE66HO  519 529 12454
01.52  E51WL##  BIØØXX  529 559 7743## New DXCC 136. Nice surprise opening.

Big Es to Southern California.
06/13  21.27  CT1FFU  IM59  559 599 7702+-
06/14  22.22 to 00:17 Worked 93 JAs, all call areas except JA5; no other DX worked.

06/15  21.27  JE1BMJ  QMØ5BR  539 539 9230
21.42  JE1CUS  PM95  529 529 9314+-
06/17  17.01  UT7QF  KN77MV  559 599 9403
17.02  SM2A  KPØ4NP  559 559 7398

Long haul to Europe this year. I've had better hauls in recent years.
06/23  15.25  V31IV  EK68  599 599 3003+-
18.09  YS1AG  EK53  559 559 4592
21.27  V31IV  EK68  599 599 3003+-
06/24  03.06  KH6SX  BK29  529 559 5266+-
06/25  00.29  FS/K9EL  FK88LC  599 599 4709
00.33  VP2V/W9DR  FK78VK  59 4592
21.27  V31IV  EK68  599 599 3003+-
06/26  01.39  JE1BMJ  QMØ5BR  559 559 9230
01.43  JP1LRT  529 529 9259+-
02.04  JG1TSG  559 559 9259+-
02.05  QJ1TIV  PM95VW  529 529 9234
02.08  JH1HDT  559 579 9259+-
02.32  JH1GUL  PM95  559 599 9314+-
02.38  JR1LZK  QMØ6FI  559 559 9159
02.44  JO1LIZ  QMØ5DX  529 559 9199
02.44  JN1BMX  QMØ6  559 559 9109+-
06/28  04.22  KL7KY  BP51  599 559 3732+-
04.56  KL7RA  BP4Ø  449 559 3805+-

Great KL7 opening.
06/30  14.52  OZ2HPU  KPO3PP  559 559 7876
15.02  OZ3SR  KPO1GA  559 579 7818
16.15  OZ1X  KP01UK  529 559 7686
16.16  OZ2AUK  KO19  579 559 7896+-
16.17  ES2JL  KO29LL  559 559 7967
16.24  OHIND  KP00XL  599 579 7775
16.26  OZ3DP  KP1O7T  559 559 7805
16.30  LYO1CX  KO25NM  559 579 8323
16.48  SM5EDX  JO89FP  599 559 7640
16.54  ES6RQ  KO29WA  559 559 8039
17.58  EASEF  IM99SM  559 559 8274

Big signals, some were S9. Copied OH1SIX/ B well; I think it is only 50w ERP.

07/03  21.10  EA8/DL3GCS IL17  539 559 7898+-
21.35  EA8DBM  IL18EA  559 559 7812
22.19  CT1EEB  IN50RR  529 559 7651
22.31  CT1EKY  IM58  559 559 7768+-
22.33  CU2CE  HM77FT  59 59 6598
22.37  CT1EEB  IN50RR  559 559 7651

Date  GMT  Callsign  LOC  TX  RX  QRB
22.46  EA4SV  IM68MU  559 559 7884
23.41  JE1BMJ  QMØ5BR  559 559 9230
23.48  CT1HZE  IM57NH  529 529 7854
07/04  00.18  BV2DQ##  PLØ4PV  449 529 11295
00.40  JA7OVI  QMØ8  529 529 8950+-
01.37  JF3DRI  PM74UO  529 559 9593
01.38  JJ3PRT  529 559 9259+-
01.40  JO3DWD  529 559 9259+-
## New DXCC 137. CT1HZE was in after 00.00z. That has only happened once before. I copied CS5BALG/b well; first time ever heard. Europe was still in after JA started.
07/05  16.27  CT1HZE  IM57NH  529 559 7854
07/05  16.43  EA7CCH

KH7Y (Fred reports from BK29CA)

Hi Chris,
Not much here but here goes:

02nd April  XRØYX
03rd April  big JA opening plus JS6 on Ryukyu island.
08th April  PYs, LUs and HC1MD
16th April  Wide JA opening
29th April  KG6DX, VK8AW, VK8NSB, also P29NO worked - his station is a 100 watt transceiver and wire antenna.
30th April  V6S both SSB and CW very loud for hours.

13th May  KØGU, N8JX, VE6ZT, K7JA, K7RWT,
16th May  HAØDU via EME
04th June  YU7EF via EME
05th June  K6QXY
11th June  JF2HEV, BA4SI
22nd June  JE1CMS, JE1BMJ
24th June  JA2DDN, JA5FFJ, JF3DRI, BA4SI, JR6EXN, JA3EGE, JE1BMJ

Well is very dry now.
Aloha and 73, Fred KH7Y

NZ3M (Dave reports from FN10PD)

Hi Chris,
The highlight of the year so far was hearing a station and not working him. On 20th May, I heard VK for the first time ever. VK4MA was spotted in W9/WØ and I turned antenna just to see if I could hear anything. I copied him CQing weak for about 15 minutes but he could not hear my 375 watts. I called him many times but no contact.

Due to this frustration, I have since added a KW+ amplifier to the station. It might be years until I hear another VK station here, but I will be armed when it happens.

Aloha and 73,  Fred KH7Y
Other than that, DXing has been quite poor this year. There are openings, but not the “big ones” of year past. Openings into central and east Europe have been nearly non-existent. The best day to EU for me was on 14th June to ON, G, GM, GD, EI and F. Other than that, propagation to EA8 and CT has been the most frequent here. I have heard and worked EA8 on several occasions with very loud signals. A notable propagation event happened late on 28th June. A good aurora opening was underway and I was working a bunch on six and two metres. This sparked an interesting opening to PY and 9Y very late in the evening. I heard PV8ADI for a couple hours working many stations including a bunch in VE. Later that night, KL7 was working into the states but I was already sleeping as usual.

The season is not over yet, still hoping for that “big opening” to northwestern Europe for some new ones.

73, Dave NZ3M

N5DG (Ed reports from EM20AB)

Hi Chris,
On Easter Sunday local 1st April I worked XRØYX for a new one. 4/9/13 ZL1RS logged at 22.40z. In March, April and to the middle of May, I worked many South American stations with CE2AWW being the energizer bunny. 5/31/13 short opening to EA8/DJ9ZB. 6/1/13 was a big day here for working JA’s starting with JE1BMJ and 38 others -JA7 was the only area not worked. 6/12/13 small opening to Europe with OK1DO, IK5MEJ, IQ9SY, IT9TYR, S57RR and S57A worked. 6/16/13 CT1HZE and CT1JOP worked. The big news occurred on 6/21/13; BV2DQ worked for a new one. 6/23/13 I had a 2nd QSO with BA4SA; our first QSO was on 7/22/11. I’m finding this year to have less days with DX openings; the openings we are getting seem short with no 2nd opportunity for a QSO. We will see what July gives us.
Ed N5DG

NØJK (Jon reports on 27th June from EM17JR)

Hi Chris:
I have had the bad luck of being scheduled to work during most of the few good openings in June. Missed the JA openings and the South American opening, including CP6UA, 23rd June. But I did catch a somewhat unusual opening to the Pacific Northwest on 26th from Lawrence, Kansas EM28. I worked N7NW CN87, W7EW CN84 and W7SX CN84 around 03.35 UTC. N7NW was probably the loudest.

The distance is about 2,500 km. It is a tough distance as it is between the 2,300 km maximum limit for one hop Es and shorter than the usual sweet spot for double hop Es at 4,000 km. It is known as the doughnut or Es void. Thus the Pacific Northwest stations are rare on six metre Es here in eastern Kansas. Stations further west like NØLL EM09 and KØBJ DM99 work it much more frequently as they are in the one Es hop zone. http://www.uksmg.org/content/doughnut.htm

Hope it will pick up this weekend. I am off work!
Jon

W7GJ (Lance reports from DN27UB)

Hi Chris,
Thanks for the reminder. I had already written the email but was holding on to it in case anything earthshaking happened out here. As it turns out, nothing at all is happening on six metres out here, so I have sent you the update as well as the other emails about El84. Most of my time and energy in the last week has been working with the six metre EME DXpedition to Rotuma in October, so make sure they get a good six metre antenna and coax by the end of this month. What a special chance to work a very rare DXCC.

After returning home from TX5K in March, I was very fortunate to have W7ALW prepare the EME QSL cards locally so I could send all 50 QSL cards promptly out within a few weeks of returning: http://www.bigskyspaces.com/w7gj/TX5KqslFRONT.jpg

Since I had a couple weeks downtime in order to get the K3 repaired from salt spray damage at Clipperton Island, the only other six metre eme I worked from here at home that month was K7XQ.

In April, the eme stations worked were ZL3NW, K2ZD, WA4NJP, YU7EF, FK8CP, K57S, TJ3SN, K8WW, and W4IMD. TJ3SN was a new DXCC for me; the third new DXCC in Africa that Nicolas has provided for me.
In May the moon provided contacts with WA4NJP, ZL1RS, YO2BCT, G5WQ, YO3DDZ, UW7LL/A, OA4TT, OE9ICI, and TK5JJ. TK5JJ was another new DXCC for me. My skeds with VKØJJJ in Antarctica provided no results because I am just too far west to have a suitable common moon window with him. However, several EU stations worked him easily for a new DXCC. Even horizon-only stations in eastern North America also have a great shot at working him.

In June, I completed eme contacts with K5QE, who was running an equipment test for the K4N DXpedition to EL84, OH8MGK, SV8CS, YU7EF, TK5JJ, OK1DO, OE9ICI, 9A5CW, ZL1RS, BV2DQ another new DXCC for me, S59A, YO2BCT, XE2AT.

So eme continues to supply new DXCC for me, and I am very excited about the new DXCC that are going to be activated on six metre eme in the coming months.

Es from here so far this year has been a huge disappointment out here in the western half of the country. That having been said, on terrestrial propagation, we had a very rare late spring Es link to TEP on 4th May. In the opening I worked my first ever Es link to TEP to South America, and logged LU, CX, PY and CE stations. CE2AWW was my first ever CE station contacted via terrestrial propagation.

On 14th June we had the very rare situation where there actually was an Es up off the coast of VE7, and this made it possible to work JE1BMJ on the chordal SSSP propagation. This is not usually possible from this far north and west. I also did have a rare double-hop Es opening toward W1 and VE1 on 16th June, and worked more than 60 stations.

One of the most exciting developments was the fact that almost every day in June, I learned of someone building a new six metre array for eme. It sure looks like soon it will be impossible for HF DXpeditions to rare DXCC to avoid at least getting on six metres when the moon is near their horizon.

I am very excited about the six metre eme activation of SV5 by DL8YHR in August, and the six metre eme plans from Rotuma by 3D2DD and 3D2GC in October. In the meantime, I hope to work several new grids for the FFMA award by eme.

Happy DXing to all.
VY 73, Lance

WA2FGK (Herb reports from FN21DE about Auroral opening on 29th June 2013)

Last evening was an amazing night for the VHF bands. I had most of my upper band equipment under seasonal changes, but six metres was running well.

The intense Aurora lasted for many hours; plus we had an opening to Greenland. I worked quite a few stations in the Midwest, but was hearing several beacons from VYØ. This really kept my attention.

Usually Aurora comes in for an hour or so but this one continued for hours. Around 02.00UTC I heard a weak beacon on 50.020MHz. It came up out of the noise and I heard the call VE8DW in NWT (CP38DI).

For better than 50 years I have been trying to complete my WAS on six metres. Never have I been on the air when Alaska has been heard in this area. Just bad timing; but I will say when I was 13 years of age, I heard a guy in Alaska and called him for better than an hour. My rock bound 2E26 was glowing red, but he never heard my signal. Last night, I even e-mailed KL7AR in hope he would be home. No luck

There were no postings on DX Sherlock of any Alaska activity.

Perhaps certain things are best not accomplished. I again wake up to dreaming of completing my six metre WAS.

73 Herb at WA2FGK

VE2XX (Michel reports from FN07PJ)

Hello Chris,

Here are a few notes for May-June. My own six metre DX season started great on 2nd May by working Dale CE2AWW and Chris 9Y4D. On 4th May I had the great luck to work multiple South American stations on E-TEP for the first time ever after eight years. Stations worked included PY3FF, PY3OR, CE2AwW, CE3FZ, LW6HAR, LU8MB and LU9EFH.

May 5th brought me a little opening to west coast on double hop. This was the first of the year. I worked W6YLZ, K6FG, and N6GP.

On 7th May I worked South America again; stations were CE2AWW, LU5FF, LW3EX and LU9DO.

Two days later I worked LU6DC and LU5FF.

The 10th May brought a super great opening again to South America. I worked PY3PT,
LU9EHF, LU9AEA, CE2AWW, PP5XX, CE3SX, CE3RR, LU8MB, LU9HH, LU5FZ, and LU5FF. I also worked XE1J, YS1AG and PJ4NX.

There was another opening to the West Coast on 14th May. On double hop I contacted N6ML, K6QXY, K7CW, W7MEM, N6JV, KE7V, K7SS, VA7FC, W7OUU, KK7YC, NN7J, and W7ID.

On 1st June I had a great opening on multiple directions. First I worked several stations in the Caribbean, KP4EIT, H13TEJ, FM5WD, YV1DIG, LU5FF, LU2DEK and CO2QU. Then the band shifted and on double hope I worked a lot of Arizona and New Mexico.

Stations I contacted were KS7S, W6XI, KC7QY, N7IR, W7RV, W5ZF, N5JEH, NX7U, K5AM, WB7X, AA7V, N7RK, N6QQ, W7DXW, K7JE, KC7CS, N7EL, K7SP, N7KA, KC5ZNH, NN1V, K7NN and W7QQ.

The 7th June was the Alaskan day. I worked KL7KY, KL7NO, and KL7HBK. I also worked Garth VE8NSD.

My first 2013 European opening came on 13th June and it was the best I ever had since I started 28th August, 2004. I had 43 QSOs and worked 11 DXCC in 30 grids just in EU. This brought me four new countries and 15 new grids.

Countries worked were:

- CT 2 stations
- DL 12 stations
- EI 1 station
- F 3 stations New DXCC worked:
- G 1 station
- I 15 stations
- PA 2 stations
- S5 4 stations

New grids worked: JO81, JO72, JO62, JO52, JN49, JN94, JO53, JN65, JN75, JO51, JO42, KN34, JN59, JO33, and JN57. Just a little after this European opening ended I worked TF3ML/P, TF3SG, and OX3KQ. So I closed the day with 13 DXCC and 33 grids.

On 15th June the band opened to EA8 in masse and for more hours for the first time for me in 2013. I worked ED8B, EA8CTK, EA8DBM, EA8CPI, EA8AK, EA8BA and EA8MT in the rare grid IL27.

On 19th June I worked my first Japanese station ever on six metres, Han san JE1BMJ via SSSP.

This year’s Es season has not really been the best. There are many less openings as of this date 27th June. But it has been extremely efficient for me, with five new DXCC and 40 new grids.

For the first time after eight years I was able to work many South American stations with multiple openings from this latitude. Working Dale CE2AWW many times was always a real pipeline.

Finally, working Han san JE1BMJ on SSSP was “la cerise sur le gateau” for me this year.

On 6th July Michel reported: I was beaming toward North Pole for Aurora check last night and I saw somebody on 50.160MHz phone on panadapter. I thought at first they were somebody local or Quebec guys talking together. That was not the case; it was OZ5W working Field Day contest in Europe. He as in here on Auroral E S9 and I worked them work them just 5820 km clear SSB. I was falling from my chair. At time I first heard OZ station it was in QSO with David MMØAMW. According to David, the OZ “dropped me like a stone when he heard the VE call sign.” By time I gave him contest report, poof, band was gone.

VE3IKV/M (Pete reports on working KG4RX on 3rd July from his truck in FN14)

Chris:
FYI...Here’s the spot in FN14 near Kingston where I worked Gitmo on six metres today at lunch time. The water horizon to the south is very nice. They were in calling CQ. There were no takers at RST 559 with the preamp on. I called back, got the report and 73 OK, and then they faded out. Twenty seconds in all, and they were gone. It must have been meteor-assisted on one of the two hops, probably the northern one. Local noise floor there is very low, S0 on the meter. Six metre DXCC #49 from the buggy!

VE3IKV/M mobile station on location in FN14 overlooking Lake Ontario.
VE9AA (Mike reports from FN66NA)

On 16th May Mike wrote the first of his two part report:

Hey Chris,

It’s been a very rare and exciting May for me here in the far north country of FN66, New Brunswick, Canada. We are never this lucky in May, especially early May.

In reverse order:

4th May  22.25z  50106.2  LU5FF  
First LU in a decade or more.

10th May  22.41z  50102.0  CE2AWW  Dale.

14th May  21.50z  50105.0  LU5FF
22.02z  50110.0  LU9AEA  SSB

15th May  21.45z  50110.0  CE3SX  FF46>FN66
21.51z  50107.6  LU5FF  419, CQ.
21.55z  50102.0  PY2XB  519  CQ.
21.57z  50108.5  LU5FF  CQ
22.12z  50099.0  LU5FZ

Very, very weak CQ, no QSO.

After 22 years on six metres, it never gets old. Last night 15th May I did hear a few weak CQs from Shin ZP5SSNA at about 22.14z, but ZP still eludes this Canadian after all these years. Apparently there were two other ZPs on six metres last night. ZP6CW was not active that I know of. That makes four of them, which is very nice to see.

One of these days. See you all of a sudden on six in the 2nd half of May.

Mike VE9AA dit dit

On 2nd July Mike continues:

Hi Chris:

Trust you are well. Haven’t seen or heard you much this summer. Suspect you are very busy. I think my last report did up until mid-May. This one will cover mid-May until 1st July.

The strongest DX of the season was MMØAMW via Au-Es the other night, 29th June at 00.24z. The YouTube video URL for the recording I made of David’s CQ’s is:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EOPQookBGGw&list=UUmgqLG3uw7rP0kgGwB2esZA.

Of course he got even louder after video was shot.

I won’t bore you with all the gory details of my log except to say it’s been a very dry DX season.

As I type I am locked on the Gitmo Guys’ 50.101MHz frequency and await their melodious tones into my speaker.

Cheers from here.

Mike VE9AA FN66NA

On 5th July Mike added that he had heard KG4RX and worked Terry on 3rd July at 16.19z. TI7/N5BEK (Phil reports from EJ79TX)

Chris,

Wish I could report great openings from here but there have been none. A few QSB filled contacts with the states and the Caribbean other than that there has been nothing.

73, Phil

South America

CE2AWW/VE7SV (Dale reports from CN99BC)

We are back in VE7 for the summer and I have not been very active. Just got back from visiting KE7V and he has a nice six metre setup and an excellent location.

73, Dale, CE2AWW/VE7SV

Note: On 11th May, while still in Chile, Dale did have a very interesting opening to Europe. Below is an excerpt of DX spots from DX Summit.

CE2AWW  50102.0MHz E72A  thanks qso 20.27z
E72A  50102.0MHz CE2AWW  I am calling 20.23z
9A4WY  50102.0MHz CE2AWW  tnx Dale 20.15z
HA8FK  50102.0MHz CE2AWW  TNX 20.05z
S51D  50101.9MHz CE2AWW  tnx Dale! 599+ 20.03z
LZ2WO  50102.0MHz CE2AWW  CQ tnx 19.57z
9A2VJ  50101.9MHz CE2AWW  strong 19.48z

OA4TT (Jack reports on June 23, 2013 from FH16TW)

HI Chris,

We are back in Peru now and will start looking for Caribbean and other DX today. Are you going to HH again this year? [No]

Yes, please pass my email on to your son. When do you expect him in Peru. We travel a lot, but if we are here he can stay with us.

I don’t have much to report for column but will look in the log and see what I have.

I forgot to mention that Claus CP4BT is now on six metres but with a simple setup for now. He is near the Uyuni salt lake in southwest Bolivia. It is not a great place for Es to the north, but would be very good for a F2 location around equinox time if the sun cooperates. He is a Catholic priest and has been very active on HF including 160 metres.

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On 5th July Jack added:
HI Chris,

It has been a very depressing Es season here as far as Europe goes. I had high expectations and spent many hours CQing into a dead band. Only on one occasion did I hear a faint Italian in the pileup of another station. Here is what I worked since my last report:

17th May WA4NJP EME
18th May W7GJ, W7MEM, K4MM all EME
21st May VK6KXW EME for a new zone
23rd June 20.00z CP6UA followed by 43 US stations until 0043z 24th June nice E opening; included in that opening were KP4EIT, FG5FR, VP2V/W9DR, FG5GP, and HK8EA.
26th June 00.05z surprise opening to W6, W6XG, N6EE, XE2HWB, N6RO, and AD6W.

Oceania/Pacific
BV2DQ (Randson reports on activity from Taipei PL04PV)

This is happy day on 25th May and 17th June 2013, and it’s special season in my life.

My name is Randson Huang BV2DQ and WJ2I. I am the chairman of Chinese Taipei Amateur Radio League (CTARL). My home QTH is in Taipei, Taiwan, grid locator PL04PV. www.qrz.com/db/bv2dq.

My rig is an IC-9100 and 1.5kw linear amplifier. Antenna for HF is an A4DX Cushcraft Tri-band yagi; for six metres I have a six element yagi. At present there is no elevation, but I will install it soon. I also have another monster 10 element yagi 0610EF model which is YU7EF designed.

Six metre yagi and Cushcraft HF antenna at BV2DQ QTH in Taipei, Taiwan.

CTARL members tried to test first time six metre EME activity in Taiwan during the Asia VHF QSO Party on 25th May, 2013 at Shinzhu Nanliao Fishery Harbor. See the picture of the antenna and CTARL members:

Randson BV2DQ with 10 element YU7EF design yagi in background.

We setup a huge 10 elements 0610EF monster Yagi. Because it’s quite heavy and has long boom length over 16 metres, we used two masts to handle it. We believe the seawater could support good ground gain as well. At moonrise at 20.30 local time we beamed to the east to try QSOs with North America. We were running mode JT65A and 1.5 kW but were unsuccessful, meaning that it’s a good time for eyeball QSOs and very luxury seafood dinner party.

We waited for the moonset at 04.00 local time to try to reach Europe. The first peak was ON4IQ -24dBm copied at 04.27. It made all members excited to first time copy the signal came from moon path about 750 km distance far away. The second peak was SM7JFE -28dBm at 04.33 and we screamed again! Awesome cheers.

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In the past a week, I brought my wireless headphone to go sleep and be able to monitor the K6FV/B early in the morning UTC 22.00-00.00. Hi.

I thought perhaps no need to waste the time for CQ calling if I did not copy the K6FV/B. But I am wrong. I try to make CQ call starting at 00.30 UTC on six metres, and I got the answer from KØHA. I turned my antenna to middle-east of mainland U.S and I find many stations copied my signal and reported to DX spot. I’m quite surprised but I only received the signal from KØHA.

After my lunch, I try to do some eme activity when the moon rise over here, but the score is 0 on this period.

Ami 4X4DK reminded me that the propagation was quite active yesterday. Thus I try to be QRV and make long CQ call Europe for a while starting at 06.30 UTC. The first station coming up and received was LZ1QI at 07.08 UTC; that I did QSO with 20 stations confirmed on the log.

That’s quite strange the stations who replied to me are all in south and east Europe, which includes Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Croatia, Romania, etc. Many stations want me to CQ their country, so I tried to turn my antenna from QTF 290 to 330 degree. The best direction I can copy and replied is 310 degrees at my location.

Here is log list what I have contacted from 17th June to 2nd of July:
- North America: VE2, W6, 7, Ø.
- Europe: SP, EA, S5, 9A, HA, ES, SV, EA6, OZ, DL, OK, UR, UK, LZ, EX, YO.

Thank you so much. I have this opportunity to let all guys know why I am so excited to report my story and share with you. Again, this summer was special season in my life.

Very 73, Randson Huang BV2DQ/WJ2I
Bv2dq.tw@gmail.com

DU7/PAØHIP (Willem reports from PK10XH)

Hi Chris,

Hope you’re fine. Just saw on the calendar, that I am not too late yet for a contribution for the next “What’s on Six”.

One of the highlights of the spring Equinox was that Jack OA4TT and I had a kind of a pipeline around the first of April. We had QSO’s on the 25th and 31st March and on the 1st and 2nd April. I am sure that we could also have worked after that last date, but Jack went to the USA for a holiday in Florida. Signals varied from day to day with 2nd April being the best. That day we even could make a 54/52 SSB QSO. I have noticed this kind of propagation in two Equinox periods now, Fall Equinox 2011 and Spring Equinox 2013. It’s a kind of propagation that really puzzles me; although the path is right along the Magnetic Equator, also called the "magnetic Dip" for obvious reasons. OA4TT’s side is in the last hours of the evening or even after midnight. In this “Dip” the F2 MUF is supposed to be lower than North or South of it. The distance is 17,782 km, which is still my best DX from here.

There were some other highlights to follow during this Equinox:

On 2nd April I worked KH9/WA2YUN for a new one. It was mainly thanks to Fred KH7Y, who called him on the telephone to alert him about the good conditions. The Wake beacon KH9/WA2YUN/B is very often audible for hours and hours with strengths up to 599+. It’s on 50.014MHz, with a slight chirpy tone. On several days we had those conditions to the Middle East and East Africa again; that seems to happen around every Equinox for the last three to four years or so. Signals can be really very strong, but as I said before, activity most of the time is very low. Dubai TV is often S meter endstop on 48.250MHz, and the beacon A47RB in LL93 on 50.004MHz is often S9++. On most days nobody was QRV. Occasionally somebody would show up, with A92IO and A45XR being the most faithful.

On very rare occasions something special would turn up like ST2DX in KK65 on 5th April and new one on 11th April, J28AA in LK11, whom I worked just before the conditions ran out of us. On 10th of April Warwick E51WL, BI00XX Northern Cook islands, and I had a long awaited and hoped for QSO with what appeared to be and sounded like extended spread F propagation. I heard his beacon the night before and informed him about that, so he showed up the next day in the middle of his night. We finally had a QSO 419/419 with weak but very clear signals. There was some QSB, hence the R4. Where would we be without Internet and email?

Our Friend Oleg UR5FA/MM was again a real joy during this Equinox. He was QRV every evening during his time off from duty, giving many people new often “all water” grids via spread F propagation. I managed to work him from the
grids PL29, PL18, PL27, PL26, PL32, PL41, PK59, PK70, PJ89, PJ96, QI26, QI43, QI50 and QH66. From those grids you can plot his trip from Shanghai to Queensland. On some days I could not work/hear him because of close proximity or lack of propagation. Anyway he gave me 13 new grids of which 10 were “water grids.” Oleg was only using five watts into a G5RV wire antenna which is amazing. I thank him for his dedication.

On the 15th of April XX9LT showed up from Macao with QRP and a vertical, but he had a good signal. On my birthday 16th April I was treated with working two new ones, V63DX QJ96 and SWØM AH36. I worked them in the evening with what seemed to be the same mode as when I worked E51WL, extended spread F. Of course I had propagation on a nearly daily basis to the “normal” Equinox stuff, like JA, YB, BY, HL, along with VU2RBI on several occasions around 4th April, and on 2nd May 9N7SZ in grid NL27. These contacts were probably both on F2.

Then we come to this year’s Es season, which started early on 21st May with DL1YM in JN59 with good 559 signals. No other stations were heard that day. Things then died down until the 12th June when there was a reasonable opening to Europe and the Middle East. I worked 4Z1UF, 9H1, YO, YU, DL, EA6BB (a new one), SV8, LZ, S5, and SV1. All in all I contacted 12 stations with three new grids. Inband TV video crud was worse than I ever heard before and was killing most signals of other stations. It really was wall to wall and left NO QRM-free frequencies. I believe I could have worked many more.

The 22nd June gave the next opening to Europe with the same story on the inband videos. I worked HA8, UN3GX MN83, six stations in the Ukraine, LY2II, SP4, 5, and 7. Total was 13 stations worked with five new grids.

Since then three rather short openings happened. On 25th and 26th June there was an opening to grids KN88 and KN89 in eastern Ukraine with only US2IR and UY6IM worked. I also worked with UK6FF in MN60 (new grid) on 25th June. The last opening so far happened today, when I worked IKØFTA, IKOOZD, IK5MEJ and 9A2AA with some difficulty because conditions were rather marginal. I had a partial with ISØAWZ, which would have been a new one for me, but video and QRM from European stations screwed the QSO up. Anyway, again I worked three new grids.

Talking about this QRM; it is really a pity, and I must say a rotten habit, that there are so many “blind callers” in Europe. They keep on calling and calling and don’t react to reports I am giving them. Please people “ONLY CALL ME WHEN YOU REALLY HEAR ME”; otherwise you are ruining the QSOs of other people that really hear me. I tried working split, but that even adds to the confusion.

Anyway, reading through the above I really think that considering the conditions I did well, and this Es season is much better than last year, when I only had one QSO with Europe-SV8CS 319/319. Up to today however, I’ve heard no North American stations.

Well, that’s it Chris, hope the story is not too long for the column.

73 GL Willem, DU7/PAØHIP

E51CG/E51USA (Victor reports on 21st June from BG08CT)

Chris,
Here are a few notes on six metres from the South Pacific.

From January through April we had great openings to Japan around 03.00z to 06.00z each day. Signals were not as strong as last year, around 55 to a rare 59. Phil KH7Y’s beacon came in every evening at around 06.00z to 08.00z.

My rotator broke so now my seven element beam at 58 feet is pointing to USA and South America.

We do not have HRO or any ham stores on Rarotonga South Cooks so maybe a while before a replacement gets to Rarotonga.

Since April I’ve only heard but not worked a California station on six metres and that station was running 1500 watts. Strange not to hear the Mexico or TI beacons, I know it’s really bad when the JA beacons do not show up every day at 03.00z to 07.00z. It’s like someone turn off the power on six metres.

I think New Zealand and Australia have fallen off the edge of the earth; not a sound from that direction in almost a year. There is something wrong if you cannot hear Bob ZL1RS off the back of the beam. Bob designed and set up the seven element beam here)

Bob ZL1RS / E51EME is my New Zealand beacon as he points all that heavy metal towards the USA and Lance W7GF’s huge antenna system. If I had as much metal in the air as Lance has I would be retired many years ago. I would have

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melted down the metal and retired to some sunny place like Rarotonga.

When we visited Lance and his District Court Judge wife, I stood under his array and touched his huge six metre and moon bounce antenna. It was a bad mistake to touch the antenna in the winter time as it was snowing. When I touched the antenna, the snow that had formed on the elements fell off and almost covered me. Rats! Lucky my wife Eleanor, Lance’s wife and Lance were inside keeping warm or feeding the wild deer on the other side of the House.

The E51USA beacon is still operational but I only have it on when I hear the bands in this direction are open. That reminds me that I hear Warwick’s Beacon E51WL/b on every so often but then he is only 500 to 700 miles to the north of me.

I still work here in Rarotonga So Cooks, but when I’m in the shack/office doing work on the computer I do try and turn on the radio to 50.110MHz. I do a Scan between 50.000.00MHz and 50.100.00MHz for beacons. It’s a habit I do to see if the beacons are coming through. If I can hear any beacon I can work a station from that country. With the bands being low in activity I can see why hams try and bounce a signal off the moon.

Question to any moon bounce hams: Do you ever talk to anyone with moon bounce? I know CW and the digital modes work off the moon but I just wonder about anyone using SSB on moon bounce.

I guess I’m getting older, because I thought that many years ago I talked to someone on moon bounce. But I can’t remember all the details of the contacts. Someone said this happens when you get older, but I can’t remember who it was? The moon bounce was set up by a visiting ham in Rarotonga.

If there are any globe rotting six metre hams heading in this direction, send an email to me and will give you the lay of the land here as far as ham radio goes.

To all six metre operators I hope to work you sooner than later.

Victor Rivera E51CG, E51USA, ZK1CG, ZK1USA
PO Box 618
Rarotonga Cook Islands
Via: New Zealand
Phone (682) 23412 Mobil/Text (682) 52231 or 73020. Email sales@computers.co.ck

**VK4MA (Paul reports from QG64KB)**

Hello Chris

Here is the report I sent to KØGU the day following my one and only USA opening in May. The date of opening was 19th/20th May 2013.

I work from home and always have the radio sitting monitoring 50.110MHz. At this time of year the band is always dead here and with few hams in my local area, there are no signals to be heard at all on six.

Around 23.30z I heard a CW CQ on 110 and was surprised to hear E51WL. I have worked him many times but generally the path is via Es and multi-hop Es is very rare for us in May. Something about the sound of his signal was also very different, no fading, weak but very consistent. He CQed a few times and disappeared.

At the time I was in the middle of a repair so I did not answer Warwick. Upon finishing the repair about 20 minutes later I thought I would put out a CQ. Cqing in May is usually a waste of time here but the E51 opening suggested that something was afoot on the band.

I put out my first CQ at 23.54z on 50.110.6MHz CW and to my amazement W9FF in Illinois came straight back at a steady S5. A hasty QSO was made and I then high-tailed it to my usual CQ frequency which is 50.102MHz. Just before departing 110.6 I heard a local, VK44WTN calling W9FF but he got no reply. I guess W9FF was as dumbstruck as I was.

I posted my W9FF QSO to the ON4KST chat and my new CQ frequency. It took a minute or so for the news to sink in as I got no replies to my first couple of CQs. I then had a steady trickle of stations-

K9MRI Illinois at 23.59z, NWØW Missouri 00.02z, K9ZM Illinois 00.02z, WZ8D Ohio 00.04z, W9WZJ Indiana 00.06z, WB8ART Ohio 0.01z, a long gap and then KØGU Colorado at 00.30z. All signals were Q5 but with little strength.

I have only been active on six since mid-2008. This is my first opening into the W8, W9, and WØ call areas.

I am using a six element LFA at 20 metres with an Icom 7600 and Yaesu Quadra. I do have a spectacular DX location as you can see on QRZ.COM

I believe the opening yesterday is a pretty rare event, and different from the usual opening we get into the West Coast and W5 around our
usual summer Es time. Personally I have only seen something similar once before, on 26th Oct 2011, when we had an unexpected opening into VE7 and W7 with little evidence of Es about here in VK4.

Let me know if you need any further info.
Cheers

VK5PO (John reports from PF95HJ)

Somehow John’s report for the last issue kept bouncing; John was kind enough to send it again and it has arrived. Here is his report.

Hi Chris.

Here is a report from my modest station VK5PO at Lewiston (PF95HJ) in South Australia.

I’m running 400 watts into a seven element homebrew YU7EF 9.5 metre boom yagi at 40 feet. Since building this rather remarkable antenna, I have been exasperated by just how well it “works”.

Using CW with my IC7700, tuned to 50.099MHz, I worked these stations in the USA: K5RK 559 (Larry, EL29IH) at 02:00z on the 31st Dec 2012. I have worked K5RK before on the 1st day of 2012. My QSO with K5RK was the ONLY recorded VK-W land QSO.

On the 1st January 2013, I got another station in the log, this being Bobby N3LL EL86TX. The distance was approximately 16,034 km, and again, the only recorded VK-W land QSO.

It was several weeks later that a chance of propagation arose, Yes, K5RK was in the log again. There seems to be a pipeline between Alvin, Texas and Lewiston. This was at 23.40z on the 15th January. Twelve minutes later, Terry K4RX, EM70UE in Florida swapped 559 reports with me! On the 16th, I was heard at 01.08z by K4RX again, but no QSO took place. Several days later, on the 19th January at 01.43z, Tim NWØW EM47QU heard my weak CQs, but we did not complete a QSO.

My station will see lots of improvements now, as I have built a pair of seven element, LFA yagi antennas. These will be at 60 plus feet high. They will be stacked side by side, using a fiberglass cross boom at 6.5 metre spacing. LDF4-50 will be my feed-line for the array, which will include an 18db LNA.

My approval to run 1kW has finally arrived in the mail, so it will be good to get stuck into some eme work with the system. An elevation rotator will be added so that eme work will be possible any time the moon is visible. I am working out a method to get brass rod machined to 15.1mm O/D, to build a “perfect” power divider.

Very 73, John McRae, VK5PO

ZL1RS (Bob reports from RF64VS)

Six Metre Report from the Far North of ZL for April to June 2013
02nd April - JA
03rd April - JA and KH6
09th April - 3 x W5s and XE2HWB/b.
14th April - a strong opening to JA for 1 hour via Es into evening TEP.
15th April - QRT ... “lost” the 6/6 LFA array in a wind storm (broken guy rope).
23rd April - QRV again with a home brew seven element wide spaced, long boom Yagi.
29th April - weak K6QXY
07th May - weak K6QXY
Since then some six metre eme contacts in April and May to prove the new antenna, which is working quite well.

Mid-June onwards – weak winter Es openings to VK.
73, Bob ZL1RS

ZL3NW (Rod reports from RE66HO)

On 12th April I spotted Lance W7GJ calling CQ on 50.190 JT65A eme. I gave him a call even though the moon was elevated above my main antenna lobe. I had no problem completing a contact. I had eme contacts with Ian G5WQ on the 13th and 14th for the benefit of Roger ZL3THQ.
who was testing out his receiving set up for eme. After the contact with Ian on the 14th I was still beaming out to the west and came across Fred KH7Y on back scatter. He had a very strong signal when beaming direct and we exchanged 599 reports. Further eme contacts were completed on the 19th with Lance W7GJ and Mario K2ZD; on the 24th I had a new and welcome eme contact with Pop YU7EF. I also completed with Bert S57RR after Pop.

The 28th of April was a big day for the South Island of ZL as this was when the analogue TV was turned off. Of particular interest was having the VHF TV channels going QRT. The noise floor on six metres reduced dramatically. This will be a real boost to weak signal reception. On the negative side the Channel One TV from the South Island is lost as a beacon.

From mid-May onwards brought a few winter Sporadic E openings across the Tasman to VK2, 3, 4 and 7. Good to catch up with some of our neighbours in VK.

The 8th of June was an interesting day and unfortunately I was away from the radio for a couple of hours. During this time several stations in the USA were hearing some of the remaining ZL channel one TV video. Bob K6QXY was copied by Harry ZL2ADU at R5 S6 on SSB but was unable to reply as he has no six metre permit and is still in a TV coverage area. The next day I was all ears and I just managed to have a contact with Jay KØGU at RST 429 although he did peak up to 529 at times. The 11th and 13th June brought Sporadic E openings to VK2, 3 and 7.

During June there was some 182.5 mm of rain and with the ground saturated ground reflections were excellent for eme (ground gain). Eme contacts were made with Ray WA4NJP, Tim N3XX and Bert S57RR.

New HF-Six Metre HT from Tokyo Hy-Power

In response to an inquiry a few weeks ago about new Tokyo Hy-power solid state VHF amplifiers and a prototype of a replacement for the HT-750 transceiver displayed at Dayton, I received the following email from Nobuki JA1DJW:

Chris

For the HL-355VKX (two metres, 300W amp) specs, refer to following site, please.


Soon we will have 2m/150W model HL-165VKX, (No FCC Approval).

Suggested list price of 355VKX in USA is $899.95, and 165VKX is Japanese Yen 58,000- (approx. $580.00 to recent exchange rate).

Re: six metre amps, we do not have definite idea on specs. If we were to make product plan, it would be either a 300W amp one, and/or 300W and 150W models, due to limited availability of RF power FETs from Mitsubishi Electric.

(No other choice, hi)

Attached file is very basic specs for coming XT-751 (developmental model name).

Thank you for UKSMG copy.

73, Nobuki JA1DJW

For those of you unfamiliar with the HT-750, it has achieved almost cult status among amateurs who either own one, or who have owned one. It was the first truly portable HF-50MHz transceiver. It covered 40, 15 and 6 metres, and had a very sensitive receiver. Transmit output was 3 watts CW or SSB. It was shaped like a large handie-talkie, and powered by eight AA batteries. Although production stopped in 2002, the radio is still highly sought after. Hopefully the new THP radio will carry on and improve upon the HT-750’s excellent features.

SSB/CW Transceiver HT-751
Code Name: TR-8008

1. Introduction

HT-751 (TR-8008) is a portable/hand-held SSB/CW transceiver for the HF and 50MHz amateur band use.

It works from 8 pcs of AA size Ni-MH and or Ni-Cd rechargeable batteries or from external power supply source of DC 13.8V. TX output power is usually 3W, and is 5W when operated at base station from DC PS. LCD panel displays operation status such as frequency, Mode, Signal strength, Power Output etc. Rotary encoder dial sets the operating frequency. There are PTT and Function Switches, which in combination with rotary dial, enable to set variable functions such as Freq. Band, Mode, Dial A/B selection etc.

For TX, SSB is generated through high-frequency crystal filter. RX configuration is single or double super-heterodyne system with high frequency IF.

2. Specifications

General

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Freq. Band</th>
<th>3.5-50MHz</th>
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<td>3.5MHz</td>
<td>3.500 ~ 4.000</td>
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The horizontally polarized ASQ-1 loop was a popular full half wave omni-directional antenna for fixed and mobile six metre AM operation during the 1970’s. The original element measured 28” x 30” and, when used for mobile operation, rested 9-1/8” above the vehicle roofs on suction-cup secured legs.

The new Squalo is symmetrically square, extending to 30” x 30” on the outside dimension for frequency adjustment. The tubing is also slightly smaller in diameter (details below). Today’s version of the ASQ-1 is well suited for horizontally polarized mobile or fixed operation on SSB, cw, and legacy AM. The omni-directional pattern is also well suited for DX beacons and spotting, and elements may be stacked for added gain.

The original Squalo used a primitive Reddi-Match that could be tricky to tune. The new version uses a 4:1 binocular step-down transformer that needs no adjustment when mast mounted. The same 4:1 transformer is used for mobile mounting, but the feed point is shifted from the center to one corner to increase driving resistance (mounting the antenna 0.04-WL over a conductive vehicle roof drops midpoint resistance to about one ohm). Also, for mobile use, a four turn air- wound compressible beta match coil is added at the feed point to complete the step-down transition and provide adjustment for varying roof areas. Both configurations

The 1/2” OD sides of the original Squalo had 90-degree corners bent into each end and the 5/8” OD tubes forming the front and rear slid over them to form a square. The new element uses four straight pieces of 7/16” OD thin-wall with four 3/8” OD 90-degree inserts forming the corners. This approach is lighter, easier to manufacture, and provides greater frequency adjustment range. The original 1/2-0D tubular mobile legs were also replaced with aluminum bar stock because it is easier to form and drill and it has less wind resistance. Each leg supports a black plastic insulator at the top attached to a 7/
16" throat clamp to secure the element. At the leg’s L-shaped base, a 1/4” sheet metal screw secures an Adams Mfg. 2-1/2” suction cup. The element’s in-line insulators are made from solid 3/8" OD fiberglass rod and held with epoxy. The matching transformer uses two 43-mix ferrite sleeves for its binocular core, and is housed in a small plastic Eagle box. Two more ferrites are installed on the UHF pigtail to form an effective balun at 50MHz. Total weight is under 2 lbs.

When modeled 9.2” above perfect ground (for mobile), EZNEC shows a NVIS pattern with +6-dBi gain directly overhead and 15 dB less gain at low angles. However, most vehicles present less-than-perfect ground at 50MHz, so low-angle dispersion is likely better than predicted. For mast mounting, the element modeled +1.12 dBi gain in free space. Here, too, actual performance might be better because the wave is horizontally polarized and may be reinforced by 2-3 dB through ground reflection.

The mast-mount cross-arm is a 1” fiberglass tube, to eliminate the potential for detuning.

The loop can extend to measure 30” x 30” on the outside edges by telescoping the corners, but 29-1/2” x 29-1/2” should be a good place to start for covering the low end of the six metre band. Note that the loop must be slightly larger in mobile configuration than in the mast-mount configuration to resonate on any given frequency. No impedance-matching adjustment is required (or available) for mast mounting, only changes in loop-size to move resonance. Compressing or expanding the beta-match coil may offer some improvement in minimum SWR for mobile operation, depending on the area of your vehicle’s roof. Expect minimum SWR readings in the 1.1:1 range for mobile and mast-mount operation in most cases. With respect to power handling, all components used should easily handle 100 Watts PEP on cw or SSB.

List price is $139.95.

**Late News**

**W5OZI 100 Mexican Grids Worked**

Here is Rafa’s email to Pat W5OZI, congratulating him on working his 100th Mexican grid:

Hello Pat,

Here is a photo of your antenna on my truck, giving you many, many grids to complete 100 from Mexico. Hope I can give many more.

73s my dear friend de XE2OR Rafa

---

**Parting Remarks**

That’s about all to report for now. I’m sure that as soon as this column is buttoned up and submitted there will be some serious E openings. The Summer E season is not over so I will keep listening when time permits. Even with that possibility, as soon as the sun appears it’s time to spray the orchard and more grass again. I look forward to some interesting reports of the summer DXpeditions and perhaps some late season E openings and maybe even an F2 event in the next column.

I want to thank the following: **205Morning Report**, AC4TO, 9Y4D, BV2DQ, CE2AWW, CT1FJC, DL8YHR, DU7/PA0HIP, DX Summit, E51CG, EA3AKY, EA7KW, EI4FK, G4IFX, G6TGO, G8VR, IKØFTA, IZ3ETU, JA1DJW, K2ZD, K5AND, K6QXY, K7CW, KØGU, KH6/K6MIO, KH7Y, LW3EX, MMMonVHF, MØAEP, MMØAMW, NZ3M, N5DG, N0JK, OA4TT, OZ6OM, SixItalia Weekly, SV1DH, The Daily DX, UN8GC, VE2XK, VE3IKV, VE9AA, VK4MA, VK5PO, WA2FGK, W6JKV, W7GJ, V51YJ, VK4CZ, ZL1RS, ZL3NW, ZS6NK, CQ Six 50MHZ DX News, and everyone else who contributed to this column. If I forgot anyone, please excuse the omission.
Since here in the States we are entrenched in a number of scandals or distractions involving our second term president, I found a quote that seems to fit: “When the President does it, that means it’s not illegal.” Richard Nixon, in a 1977 interview with David Frost

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable first part of the summer or winter, as the case may be, and continues to experience good DX on six.

Again I ask you to consider submitting a report, even a brief one, about yourself, your activities in and out of amateur radio and the six metre band. I appreciate all of the help I can get. Please consider contributing. If you have anything you would like to see in upcoming columns, any reports or items you think might be of interest to others, please contact me at DXNEWS@UKSMG.org, or W3CMP@comcast.net.

UKSMG Real Time Chat

David Toombs, G8FXM (Webmaster)

The UKSMG now has a real time chat facility which has been up and running for a few months now. It can be found on our desktop page and automatically logs you in whenever you visit the Desktop page.

Please note that as this is a real time chat page, any conversation that may have taken place prior to you joining the chat room will not be shown, only conversations that take place while you are visiting the chat room will be seen.

You can enter the chat room directly via this url: http://uksmg.org/chat/

If you have logged into the website, you will be automatically identified and logged in. If not you will be prompted for your callsign.

Now for the interesting bit, you don’t have to visit the UKSMG’s website to take part in the real time chats at all. Those of you who are getting a bit long in the tooth like me and were around in the early days of the internet may remember IRC (Internet Relay Chat). Our Chat room uses the IRC protocol so basically any chat program that supports IRC (and that’s most of them) will be able to connect to our chat room and allow you to chat without accessing the website at all. There are many programs for PC, Macintosh, and smartphones that support IRC so if you are already using one just enter the following details to set up your connection:

Server: irc.lightirc.com
Channel: #uksmg

More info on how to set up your chat program and on the various programs available may be found on our website at this address: http://www.uksmg.org/chat/info.php

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On the right is a screenshot of my favourite chat program for Linux called Xchat.

The Google Chrome web browser has an add-on called CIRC, the lower screen-shot on the right shows CIRC connected to our chat room.

If you don’t already have an IM program installed on your PC I recommend Pidgin. There is a version of Pidgin for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh OSX and it’s free. More info may be found by following this link:

http://pidgin.im/.

If you have any problems in setting up your favourite chat program, please contact me and I’ll do what I can to help you.

73’s and look forward to chatting to you soon.

Azores Nine Islands Hunt

Peter Bacon, G3ZSS

Way back in my youth I remember there was the annual Bermuda contest where the winner from North America and Europe was granted a holiday in Bermuda. In those days my station was far from competitive and the idea of winning was just a dream!

Last year my attention was drawn to a new contest with the idea that one had to make contact with each of the nine islands that make up the Azores. The contest was primarily organised by Francisco CU2DX with José CU2CE and Martti OH2BH and the German Radio Society DARC. Francisco also happens to be the Executive Director responsible for promoting tourism to the Azores. They assembled a team of operators from all over the world so that they could activate all 9 islands for the duration of the contest.

Being at home that weekend last September, I decided to make an entry as there were two prize opportunities; the first prize draw was for all entrants who worked a minimum of 5 different islands, while the second prize was drawn from the first 25 stations to work all nine islands.

When the time came, I drew myself a band matrix for working all 9 stations on all HF bands (80 through 10m). Over the 24 hour period I managed to work a total of 42 band slots out of a maximum permissible of 53. Then I thought nothing more of it.

While working away on Monday 15 October, I was suddenly inundated with email of congratulations to say that I had won. I could hardly believe it! The Azores team took all the logs to Germany and with the help of DARC used some kind of lottery machine to make the prize draw. The contest was obviously very popular as in the first draw, there were a total of 11,404 tickets from those stations who worked 5 or more islands. This prize was won by OS6A, Filip Coysman. I had won the second draw for being one of the first 25 stations to work all nine islands. From what I gathered on our trip to the Azores, OS6A has still not claimed his prize.

A few days later I received the official notification from Francisco, CU2DX to congratulate me on winning and advising the arrangements for working with a UK based travel agent. It turned out that the prize was only issued for myself, but after a quick email exchange with Francisco, he extended the prize so that my wife could also accompany me on the trip. It turns out that there is no tourism to the Azores over the winter months and I was advised to plan my trip for some time during this summer. Our prize included return flights from London Gatwick and a 4 star hotel (bed and breakfast). Now that is what I call a real prize!

We flew out to the Azores on a direct flight from London Gatwick in July to Ponta Delgada on the Island of São Miguel. This is the largest of the 9 islands being 759 km². The main feature of the island is that it is volcanic and there are 3 main craters that can be visited. There was so
much to see that we split these into 3 different day trips. The day after we arrived we were met at the hotel by José, CU2CE and we arranged that he would take us out for a day to see the island. It is great to see the island from the perspective of a long-time resident and not a tour guide! José explained that Francisco, CU2DX was away in Madeira Island and would not be able to meet us.

As we drove out of Ponta Delgada, José pointed out the aerial of CU2DX beside the main road. Mind you these antennas were not hard to miss as CU2DX has a 2 element yagi for 80m on one tower and a 4 element SteppIR on a second tower as well as numerous other antennas. As we left the south coast for the short drive across to the north coast we went from cloudy weather to bright sunshine. First stop was to CU2CE’s home near Ribeira Grande. Paula looked after my wife while we went to play in the radio shack for a couple of hours.

José is located on the north side of the island with very good take off towards Europe and North America. We spent a good couple of hours discussing 6m and my giving José a demonstration of websites such as ON4KST to help him understand the band better. We had a quick tune across the band and I managed 3 QSOs signing CU2/G3ZSS with stations in EI, UR and S5.

We were then taken to lunch in a specialist seafood restaurant. You could tell the fish was fresh and very tasty. In the afternoon, José took us to see the only tea plantation in Europe followed by a drive into the main caldera in Funas and back to our hotel in Ponta Delgada. We saw some stunning scenery along the way.

Overall we really enjoyed our week in the Azores. I understand they will repeat the contest in the future (date not yet decided) and I would recommend everyone to make an entry. My special thanks go to José and Paula for showing us their beautiful island and to Francisco for organising the contest.
The UK Six Metre Group (UKSMG) was formed in 1982 with the primary aim of encouraging an interest in the 50MHz band by all amateurs. It maintains a beacon fund to finance and provide beacons in various parts of the world. Over the last few years the group has also supplied many pieces of equipment to encourage and help six metre enthusiasts activate new counties.

The ambition of the UK Six Metre Group, through the medium of its quarterly newsletter, ‘SIX NEWS’, is to provide the best information available on all aspects of the band, including such things as DX news and reports, beacon news, propagation, six metre equipment reviews, QSL addresses, DXpedition news, and technical articles.

Why not join the UKSMG and give us a try? We have already attracted over 700 members in over 50 countries around the world. The subscription rates are as follows: UK - £15.00, Europe - £16.00, rest of world £16.00 (air mail).

Internet-only subscription (‘Six News’ by download, no printed copy): £15.00 for all countries.

Send to: Secretary of UKSMG: Chris Deacon, G4IFX, Spring Valley, Churt Road, Churt, Farnham, Surrey GU10 2QU.

Cheques in local currency should be made out to ‘UK Six Metre Group’. Or send to one of our Country Managers below. (Cheques made out in equivalent local currency in the name of the Country Manager). Alternatively you can pay by credit card.

Italy Michele Coppola - I7CSB, c/o AR Elettronica, Via P Nenni, 114 San Severo (71016) FG.
Poland Bart Bzymek- SQ1K, PO Box 18, 78-540 Kalisz Pomorski. Tel: +48 663 808 343.
Spain J R Hierro Peris - EA7KW, Oceano Indico, 11 Mairena del Aljarafe, Sevilla 41927.
Sweden Johan Hansson - SMØTSC, Rullstensgränd 8, S-135 50 TYRESÖ, Sweden
USA Pete Varounis - NL7XM, PO Box 3026, Easton, PA 18043-3026.

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Icom IC-7100

At last! Official production for UK market starts now, July 2013. Icom UK release a fantastic price for the most eagerly awaited HF-70cm (Incl 4m) TOUCH SCREEN Transceiver of the decade. Place you order now with FREE UK DELIVERY. Stocks arriving shortly.

The IC-7100 is a HF+6m+4m+2m+70cm all mode compact radio with an innovative slanted touch-screen LCD controller. A first for an Icom transceiver, the IC-7100 is designed to operate on the 70MHz band and has D-STAR DV mode fitted as standard.

Competitively priced at only £1249.99 inc VAT, and ML&S are offering free carriage on the first 100 orders!

For more info see: www.HamRadio.co.uk/ic7100