



# RSSL NEWS

JULY/AUG/SEPT201 | THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE RADIO SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA

**The General Meeting for the Month of AUGUST 2010 will be held on Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of August and for SEPTEMBER on the 29<sup>th</sup> of Sept 2010.. The venue is the Balcony Hall of the Otter Aquatic Club 380 / 1 Baudhaloka Mawatha Colombo 7. at 6.00 p.m. All meetings will be held at this venue. Its not far from the BMICH towards Borella. Continue towards the rear of the BMICH at the Wijerama Rd / Baudhaloka Mawatha junction.**

## **MONTHLY MEETINGS.**

Please note that unless otherwise notified, monthly General Meetings will be held at Otters Aquatic Club at 6.00 P.M. on the **last Wednesday of the month**. Please also monitor the RSSL net regularly on 145.625 MHz at 0900 P.M. for RSSL announcements. You are welcome to contact any Council member if you need to verify meeting dates. Membership and ID Card applications can be obtained at the meetings. Membership renewals are also accepted by the Treasurer at the monthly meetings.

**AMATEUR RADIO IN CEYLON/SRI LANKA.** Your Ed is reproducing a 3 page article which had appeared in the "VS7", that someone sent me some years ago. Memory fails as to who did. A few days ago the strong winds which swept thru my shack's open windows deposited this article on my chair, as if those dear old timers of yore wanted us to remember them. I feel the more people who have this article the better because all our radio amateurs should know our history so that the present and future radio amateurs would be a fitting testimony to those who blazed that trail for us. Those closing words of the author Jim White VS7NX are so fitting that I hope someone will rise to the occasion. I quote "*The names of many illustrious "moderns" do not appear in this article. I have concentrated on the work of the pioneers because I wish to leave a record of their achievements while memory holds the door. To the enthusiastic band of young amateurs who come after me, I leave the task of writing the story of their times*".

**OBITUARY- K.C. SELVADURAI 9V1UV.** Selva as he was affectionately known, passed away on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June and he was laid to rest in Singapore on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July. He was 77 years old. Selva was a dear friend of the RSSL and Sri Lankan radio amateurs. Selva had his roots in Ceylon and he and his wife Pearl made frequent visits to Sri Lanka and on those many visits met many a 4S7. He was a wonderful person and on many occasions helped the RSSL, and always looked after the interests of the RSSL as our proxy at IARU region III conferences. Selva could be found on 14165 as 9V1UV around 1000z keeping in touch with his friends in later years as a health condition made travelling somewhat difficult. People of Selva's calibre are very hard to find and we who knew him shall always remember this genial man. On behalf of the Sri Lankan amateur radio community we extend our sympathies to his xyl Pearl and the family.

**RADIO AMATEUR EXAMINATION- 2010** – Applications closed at the end of the first week in August and we reliably understand that the exam will be held anytime after the second week in September. **4S7VJ & 4S7KG conduct classes at the club**

shack for members of the RSSL on Sundays. Contact Wijay and arrange to meet at the shack. 0777890406

## **HOBBYFAIR 2010 & AMATEUR EXHIBITION STALL AT THE OPEN UNIVERSITY COLOMBO.**

"A spark of interest can be the first step to greatness." Was the theme of these exhibitions when the RSSL took amateur radio to the community. There was tremendous interest shown and I understand as many as 25 Telecom Engineering students have applied to sit the RAE. The stalls were very successful with colourful banners and material including vintage and state of the art ham equipment on display along with enthusiastic RSSL members ever willing to explain the amateur service. 4S7RS was operational at both stalls. At one session we had no less than 16 licensed hams in the stall. We want to thank everyone who helped and visited and also loaned equipment and homebrew projects to be displayed. Unfortunately photographs can not be reproduced here in the hard copy, but e-mail recipients of the Newsletter will be sent a few photographs. **IF ANY MEMBER WISHES TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL-ITS FREE-** send your e-mail address to the Editor.

**HF CONDITIONS:** The last two weeks have shown a remarkable increase in HF conditions on the higher bands. Sunspot numbers have been ranging between 20-55 and the flux in the 80s. I have always believed that there is no 1:1 relationship between sunspots/solar flux and conditions. There appears to be another factor which we are yet to discover. But one thing is sure. Many hams get on the band or not looking at the figures which in turn affect activity. After all sunspots or no spots take an ARRL or some important DX contest weekend and the bands come alive. My advice is; get on the air please and you will soon find the "conditions" that seem not to be there!! It is like people not spending during recession resulting in the recovery taking longer!!! If you listen between 1500-2000z you will hear 4S7RO(SSB/CW), 7NE(CW), 7NC, 6ABC, 6RAV, 7VK(SSB/CW), 7KM(CW) generating pretty huge pile ups. Congrats go to young Naren 4S7NC for working no less than 198 stations in one massive pile up and also his great enthusiasm for experimenting with antennas. Your Ed would welcome activity summaries from active operators for inclusion in the Newsletter. 73 and CU agn sn. Ed. 4S7VK.

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