



RSSL NEWS

NOVEMBER 2004

The Journal of THE RADIO SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA

The General Meeting for the Month of November will be held at the Council Room (1st Floor) of Vidya Mandiraya, SLAAS – Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science 120/10, Vidya Mawatha Colombo 7 on Wednesday the 24th of November 2004 at 5.30 pm.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Please note that unless otherwise notified, monthly General Meetings will be held at the Council Room of SLAAS at 0530 PM 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. Membership and ID Card applications can be obtained at the meetings Membership renewals are also accepted by the Treasurer at the monthly meetings.

December – No Monthly Meeting

Please note that as in previous years there will not be a monthly meeting in December.

New Callsigns

All Associate members who obtained amateur radio licenses should upgrade their class of membership to Corporate Member by sending a copy of their license to the Secretary. Members who upgraded their class of license should also send a copy of their new license to change their callsigns in the RSSL data base.

Gazette on Amateur Radio

Members who need a copy of the Gazette related to Amateur Radio regulations can obtain it from the Secretary. Please send a self addressed stamped envelope if you want a copy by post or a request email, if you want a copy by email to Secretary Kusal 4S7KE. Contact details of the Secretary are given at the end of this newsletter. This Gazette can also be downloaded from the TRC website amateur radio page

<http://www.trc.gov.lk/ar12.htm>

Repeater Linking through Internet

The RSSL is working towards linking one of it's repeaters through Internet to other repeaters around the world. There are quite a few systems currently in operation like Echolink, IRLP etc. Over 800 repeaters are connected through the Internet and there are more than 100.000 registered uses throughout the world. Initially it is planned to link an RSSL repeater for a few hours a day as a pilot project. The RSSL is negotiating with the TRC for this project to get regulatory approval. Information requested by TRC has already been submitted and SLT permission also obtained to use an SLT ADSL link for Internet connectivity. Kusal – 4S7KE and Asantha – 4S7AK are working on the technicalities and have volunteered to initially host the node in Sri Lanka that will be used to connect the Sri Lankan repeater to foreign repeaters. When the project is in operation amateur radio operators around the world would be able to access the Sri Lankan repeater through the Internet and Sri Lankan operators using VHF will be able to communicate with foreign operators. The repeater will be

automatically linked through the Internet and individual members would just need to activate the repeater.

Morse Code Test

The RSSL has received a copy of a letter addressed to Mr. Cecil de Mel from the Telecom Regulatory Commission. The letter refers to a complaint dated 23.07.2004 made by Mr. Cecil de Mel to the TRC regarding the Conduct of the Amateur Radio Examination Morse code test. Mr. W.D. de Alwis Deputy Director – Networks of TRC who has signed the letter states that he conducted an investigation regarding Mr. Cecil de Mel's complaint about a candidate who sat the examination and was examined by her father and found that to be totally incorrect. Mr. De Alwis states that there are two examiners nominated by the RSSL and one from TRC and according to his investigation the particular candidate was not examined by her father but by the other two examiners. He states that the allegations in the letter by Mr. De Mel are unfounded and also states that examiners are very particular to maintain the ethics and standards of this unique examination and that there is always transparency at present as well as in future.

(Such action by members is deplorable if not disgusting to say the least and is not in the spirit of Amateur Radio. - Ed)

TRC Consultation on Reducing Morse Code test speed.

The RSSL made it's submission to the above consultation to the TRC emphasising that the current Morse Code test speed should not be changed. This decision was arrived at based on responses from an overwhelming majority of members. The submission will be posted on the RSSL web site and will also be available for reference by members at the General Meeting and also with the Secretary. Any member who wants it by email could send a request to Secretary Kusal.

NEW CALL SIGNS: 4S7WP Shanthi sends word that he has done the US exam while visiting the USA and received the call KE5CUN. Enjoy your holiday Shanthi.

Congrats also to 4S7PK Pathmakumara who upgraded from 6SP, Fauzulla 7FS from 6FS, Arosha 5AK to 6AK, Hemantha 4S7HG from 5HG, and there are about 5 others awaiting call signs. Indeed great progress.

NEW 4S7 NET over Colombo Repeater 145.600 at 1530 UTC, Net Controller 4S7NI, to create more activity. Regular Net continues daily thanks to 4S7PK Pathmakumara Net Controller. Tnx Pathme and Nishantha. Please check in to these 2 nets and show your support.

International DX contest-Contest Manager 4S7NI

Nishantha - Nishantha Perera <4s7ni@qsl.net>

Members who would like to be in subcommittee to organise above contest please contact Nishantha.

Contest Info

Top Band Sprint--CW/SSB, sponsored by QRP ARCI, 0000Z-0600Z Dec 2. Frequencies: 160-meters only. SO-CW, SO-SSB, SO Mixed-Mode categories. Exchange: RST, S/P/C and power or QRP ARCI number--work stations once per mode. QSO points: members--5 pts, non-members/different continent--4 pts, non-members/same cont--2 pts. Score: QSO points \diamond total S/P/C \diamond power multiplier. Portable using battery and temp antenna add 5000 pts.

TOPS Activity Contest--CW--sponsored by TOPS, from 1800Z Dec 4-1800Z Dec 5. Frequencies: 80 m. Categories: SO, SO-QRP, MO. Exchange: RST, serial number (+ TOPS number, if member). QSO points: own entity--1 pt, own continent--2 pts, different cont--6 pts, with /MM--6 pts, with TOPS member--2 pts, between TOPS members, 6 points, with GB6AQ--10 points. Score: QSO points \diamond WPX prefixes worked. Logs due Jan 31 to helmut.klein@chello.at or Helmut Klein, OE1TKW, Nausegasse 24/26, A-1160 Wien, Austria.

Holiday Spirits Homebrew CW Sprint--sponsored by the QRP ARCI, 2000Z-2400Z Dec 5. Frequencies (MHz)--1.810, 3.560, 7.040, 14.060, 21.060, 28.060 kHz. Categories: SOAB, SOSB, SO20-10, SO160-40, MOAB, DX stations are SOAB only. Exchange: RST, S/P/C, and Power or QRP ARCI number. QSO points: members--5 pts, non-members/different continent--4 pts, non-members/same cont--2 pts. Score: QSO points \diamond S/P/C (counted once per band) \diamond Power multiplier (<250 mW \diamond 15, 250 mW-1 W \diamond 10, 1-5 W \diamond 7, >5 W \diamond 1) + Bonus points (2000 for homebrew [HB] xmr, 3000 HB rcvr, 5000 HB xcvr). For more information: <http://2hams.net/ARCI/index.htm>. Submit entry form via contest Web site. Logs due 30 days after contest to wb5khc@2hams.net or QRP ARCI Contest Manager, Tom Owens, WB5KHC, 1916 Addington St, Irving, TX 75062-3505.

RAC Winter Contest--CW/Phone, sponsored by the Radio Amateurs of Canada, 0000Z-2359Z Dec 18. Frequencies (MHz): CW--25 kHz up from the band edge (check on the half hour), Phone--1.850, 3.775, 7.075, 7.225, 14.175, 21.250, 28.500, 50 and 144 MHz. Categories: SOAB-LP, SOAB-HP, SOAB-QRP, SOSB, SO-NonVE, MS-LP, MO-HP, and MM. VE stations exchange RST + Province, VE \emptyset and non-VE stations exchange RST + serial number. QSO points: Outside Canada--2 pts, VE/VE \emptyset stations--10 pts, RAC stations--20 pts. Score: QSO points \diamond VE provinces + territories (counted once per band and mode). For information: www.rac.ca/downloads/canwin2004.pdf. Logs due Jan 31 to ve5sf@rac.ca or Radio Amateurs of Canada, 720 Belfast Rd, Ste 217, Ottawa, ON K1G 0Z5, Canada.

DARC Christmas Contest--CW/SSB, sponsored by the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club, 0830Z-1100Z Dec 26.

Frequencies (MHz): CW--3.510-3.560, 7.010-7.040, SSB--3.610-3.650 and 3.700-3.775, 7.040. Categories: SO-Mixed, SO-CW. Exchange: RS(T) + DOK or Special Station code. QSO points: 1 pt/QSO. The station calling CQ must QSY after making a QSO. Score: QSO points \diamond DOK codes + WPX prefixes. For more information: www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcx.htm. Logs due 3 weeks after the contest to xmas@darc.de or Markus van Bergerem, Brandenburg 5, D-47533 Kleve, Germany.

JOTA 2004: This year's JOTA was a great success where the following stations participated.

1. 4S7RS-Scout HQ (4S5BA, 4S7KE, Sritharan)
2. 4S7VK Guides HQ (Victor and Sena 4S5SS,)
3. 4S7VJ Furgusson's School Ratnapura (Wije,4S7KG, 6UV)
4. 4S7SE D.S. Senanayake College (4S7DZ Dimuthu)
5. 4S7MR Mahanama College (4S7FS, 4S5AK)
6. 4S6NM (Royala College Colombo(4S6NM Nalaka)
7. 4S7EA (Ernest 4S7EA Boralesgamuwa)
8. 4S7AI Polgahawela (4S7AI Ananada, 4S6SP)
9. 4S7MM+4S5AH Ibbagamuwa Central (7MM, 4S5AH)
10. 4S7HP Siyane Science Teachers Coll(4S7HP Hemantha, 4S7CP, and a host of SWLs and others).
11. 4S7CF St. Peters Colombo - Calvin

Great enthusiasm was shown and the RSSL extends its gratitude to everyone who participated and helped with equipment. The result is a great enthusiasm to get licences and starting this Poyaday classes will be conducted at the Guides HQ where guides and scouts from many parts of the island are expected. 12 schools have requested help to set up club stations.

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