



RSSL NEWS

AUGUST 2006

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE RADIO SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA

The General Meeting for the Month of August will be held at the Seminar Room (Ground Floor) of Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science (SLAAS), Vidya Mandiraya, 120/10, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 7 on Wednesday, August 30th, 2006 at 0530 pm.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Please note that unless otherwise notified, monthly General Meetings will be held at SLAAS at 0530 PM on the **last Wednesday of the month**. Please also monitor the RSSL net regularly on 145.625 MHz at 0900 PM and 145.650 MHz at 0930 PM for announcements of RSSL. 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 accepted by the Treasurer at the monthly meetings. Renewals can also be done by posting a cheque or money order to him.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF RSSL

The Council has decided to hold the Annual General Meeting of RSSL on Sunday, September 24th 2006. The official notice of AGM will be posted to members in due course. All Corporate Members who have not paid their membership fee for the current year are advised to do so before the AGM to be eligible for voting.

EDITOR IS IN US

OM Victor 4S7VK, Editor of RSSL, is in Milwaukee, WI. Thanks to DOD, who invented Internet, he edited this issue of newsletter from this dx location. He also actively engaged in collecting rigs for RSSL folks. RSSL wishes him an enjoyable journey and safe return.

THE ANNUAL LIGHTHOUSE/LIGHTSHIP WEEKEND

The annual lighthouse/lightship weekend is always held on the 3rd full weekend in August starting at 0001 UTC on Saturday and finishing at 2359 UTC on Sunday. The basic objective of the event is to promote public awareness of lighthouses and lightships and their need for preservation and restoration, to promote amateur radio and to foster International goodwill.

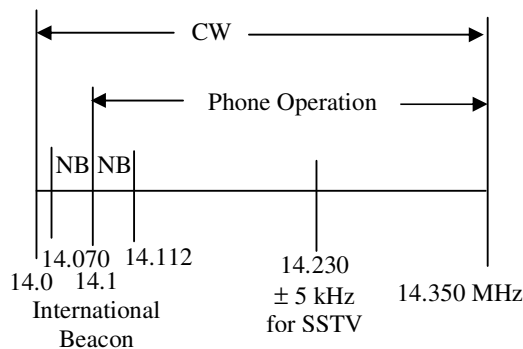
RSSL planned to operate two stations this year at Barbery Island, Beruwala and Dondra Lighthouse under 4S7RSL and 4S7LGT call signs respectively. Climate however did not permit the team to arrive at the Barbery Island. 4S7LGT has been operated by 4S7KG, 4S7VJ, 4S7DZ, 4S7YL and 4S7UV. They have contacted many dx stations working on HF for more than 24 hours. RSSL Council wishes to thank OM Arosha who coordinated this event and all those who took part in this event.

THE INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO UNION

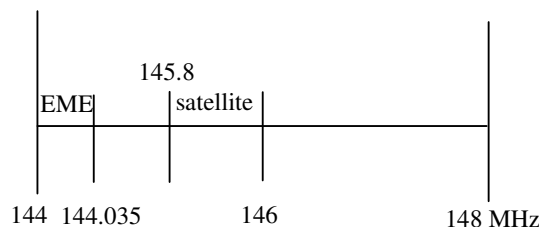
The RSSL is a member of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), which is the watchdog and spokesman for the world Amateur Radio community since 1925. Because it uses an international natural resource, the radio spectrum, Amateur Radio must organize nationally

and internationally for better mutual use of it among radio amateurs throughout the world, to develop Amateur Radio worldwide, and to successfully interact with the agencies responsible for regulating and allocating radio frequencies.

At the international level, national societies throughout the world work together for the international good of Amateur Radio under the auspices of this representative democracy, the IARU. The IARU Constitution, last amended in 1989, organizes the Union into three Regional Organizations that correspond to the three radio regions of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). OM Keigo Komuro JA1KAB is the Secretary of IARU Region 3. RIII band plans for 20 and 2 m bands are depicted below.



RIII band plan for the 20 m band



RIII band plan for the 2 m band

NEW MEMBERS

The Council has admitted following persons to the membership of the society: Mr. A.W. Atukorala, Mr. A.W. Atukorala (junior), Mr. P.N.P.S. Dharmapala, Mr. P.K. Weerasekara and Mr. P.C. Mampitiya for Associate Grade and Mr. N.W. Atukorala and Mr. K.A.D.T.I. Kumarapeli for the Student Grade of membership.

DISTRIBUTION OF DISASTER RIGS

Following members won the raffle conducted at the last general meeting of the RSSL: Victor 4S7VK, Rohan 4S7RO, Siri 4S7SA, Samuel 4S5DR, Sandeepani 4S7YL, Bharatha 4S5BA, Nihal 4S7WN and Thilak 4S5TL. They are eligible to obtain Icom IC-V8 transceivers donated to RSSL as disaster relief equipment subjected to clearance given by the MOD.

ISLANDS ON THE AIR (IOTA)

IOTA is an amateur radio activity program created in 1964 to encourage contacts with island stations worldwide. This has been taken over by the RSGB in 1985. The islands have been grouped into some 1200 IOTA groups with varying numbers of 'counters', i.e. qualifying islands, in each. Sri Lanka has been given the IOTA island reference no. AS-003. AS-171 has been allocated to the Barberyn Island after it has been activated by OM Joel F5PAC working under 4S7PAG callsign on July 21st 2004.

There are many islands in Sri Lanka that qualifies for IOTA and have not been activated. To count for IOTA, an island needs to meet a few rules related to its location. It must be at a minimum distance from the mainland and must be either 1 km in length or visible on a 1:1 M scale map. An operation in an unnumbered island must be validated as follows:

Within two months of the completion of an operation from a previously unnumbered group, the operator should provide evidence in support of her operation. She has to prove her physical presence. A photograph of the operator taken against an identifiable feature on the island, for example a name plaque, is highly desirable. A photocopy of the operator's licence will be required, except where the operator is using his normal call-sign for the island operation or is otherwise operating under the terms of his licence. An operation that has triggered the issue of a new reference number falls into a 'provisionally accepted' category until satisfactory evidence of validation is provided which enables it to be upgraded to the 'accepted' category.

This information has been provided to RSSL by OM Roger Balister G3KMA, RSGB IOTA Manager. Further details are available at the IOTA website at www.rsgbiota.org.

CONTEST INFORMATION – SEPTEMBER 2006

1. All-Asian DX Contest -- from 0000Z Sep 2 - 2400Z Sep 3
2. DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest -- Digital Modes -- from 1100Z-1700Z Sep 3. Frequencies (MHz): 28.050-28.150 on RTTY, PACTOR, PSK31, AMTOR, CLOVER. Logs due 4 weeks after the contest to d19gs@darcd.deor.
3. Russian RTTY WW Contest -- from 0000Z - 2400Z Sep 2. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. Exchange: RST + WAZ zone or Russian Oblast. Logs due Oct 2 to contest@radio.ru.
4. YLRL Howdy Days -- CW/SSB from 1400Z Sep 12 - 0200Z Sep 14. Exchange: YLRL Member or not. Logs due 30 days after the contest to kc4iyd@yahoo.com.

PRINTED MATTER

If undelivered, please return to
RSSL,
P.O. Box 907,
COLOMBO.

5. WAE DX Contest -- SSB, 0000Z Sep 9 - 2359Z Sep 10
6. G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest -- CW, from 2300Z Sep 8-2300Z Sep 10. Use straight keys to be eligible for awards. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. Exchange: RST, S/P/C, name, FISTS number or power. Logs indicating type of key due 30 days after the contest to HALLINL@lanecc.edu.
7. ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest -- 0600 local - 2400 local Sep 16-17.
8. Scandinavian Activity Contest -- CW, from 1200Z Sep 16 - 1200Z Sep 17 (phone 1200Z Sep 23-1200Z Sep 24). Frequencies: 80-10 meters. Exchange: RS(T) + serial number. Logs due Oct 31 to saclogs@oz5wq.dk.
9. CQ Worldwide RTTY DX Contest -- from 0000Z Sep 23 - 2400Z Sep 24. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. Exchange: RST + CQ Zone. Logs due Oct 29 in Cabrillo format to rtty@cqw.com.
10. Scandinavian Activity Contest -- SSB, 1200Z Sep 23 - 1200Z Sep 24
11. TOEC WW Grid Contest -- from 1200Z Sep 30 - 1200Z Oct 1. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. Exchange: RST + grid square, i.e., JP73. Logs due 30 days after the contest to contest@toec.net.

This information was extracted from the ARRL Web Page at www.arrl.org/contests/months/sep.html.

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