



# RSSL NEWS

**July/AUGUST 2008** | THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE RADIO SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA

**The General Meeting for the Month August 2008 will be held on the last Wednesday (27<sup>th</sup>) of the month as usual 5.30 p.m. . The venue is the Sudharshi Hall of the Sinhala Association opposite the BMICH. There is ample parking there and we welcome all our members to come over for the meeting.**

**The Meetings for SEPT will be announced depending on the AGM. As always the last Wednesday of the month if not otherwise notified.**

### **MONTHLY MEETINGS .**

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**The AGM is tentatively set for the 21<sup>st</sup> of September Sunday starting at 10 A.M. We will confirm the date with the official notice and agenda. Just to give a little advanced notice to reserve the day.**

### **LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND AUGUST 16/17<sup>th</sup> Weekend: 4S7LGT**

The RSSL has been activating its special Light House event call sign 4S7LGT in the past several years and this year was no exception. With due permission from the Ports Authority Harbour Master and the TRC to operate from Barbaryn Island light house and use the call sign the RSSL landed on the soft sandy beaches of Barbaryn on the 16<sup>th</sup> morning to commence the special event operation 4S7LGT as IOTA AS 171. In all 18 people went across from Beruwala doing the near 1km boat ride in two trips as the number was too many along with the equipment food and drink for a safe transfer in rather choppy seas.

Before getting on the fishing-boat with its Yamaha outboard engine we had to wrap all but ourselves in polythene waterproof bags least we get a ducking in the open-boat. If you have got a mobile phone kissed by salt water you will be wiser the next time. Hi! From the beach to the L.House is about a 150m walk and indeed a pleasant one. We were very warmly welcomed by the Chief Light House Keeper Jagath Pieris who we contacted before arrival. After some quick soft drinks we got to work on the antennas.

Our plans were to operate 20/21/40m and 2m. We strung a 40m dipole from the top railing of the Light House gallery(112 ft) and sloped it on to a coconut tree. The 20m quad-loop was

strung across coconut palms at about 50ft off the ground. Special mention must be made of Wijay 4S7VJ and his special skills of swinging a weight with nylon cord over 50 foot coconut palms! The WX was excellent other than for a brief 5 minute shower around 4 a.m. I hear DF and VJ got baptised inside the tent! so it was very comfortable to operate in the open air. Some photographs will be attached for those who receive the newsletter via e-mail. Check the RSSL website as well.

Two transceivers were used Icom IC706MKIIG and Yaesu FT897D running 100watts. Not many contacts were made, however, due to poor conditions and limited power of 100watts but a brief opening on 20m gave some very nice catches which included OH1TIN, DK1PR, HB9AFI, OM5MF, JA7AKH, 9M4CME, VK8DA. Etc., Barbaryn is a very fine location for DX and this island out at sea is electrically quiet and has fine ground conductivity. It will be a great location for a dx-spedition which we plan to organize in time for the next IOTA weekend.

There is no freshwater on the island that is drinkable and the light house from British days manages with rainwater caught off the roof stored in tanks underground. So we carried our drinking water and food, including cooking gas. The Light House has a staff of 3 and they extended their support allowing us the use of their kitchen and their living quarters. We are indeed very grateful for the excellent hospitality extended to us by them, the TRC and the harbour Master to make this operation a success.

While the radio side was exciting the social side was even better with excellent cooking by 4S7DZ our events manager, 4S7UV Uthpola our QSL manager and many who assisted not to mention Dammika's (4S7DF) XYL. The BBQ fish evening with a campfire was the highlight of the 16<sup>th</sup> evening. The sea-baths and the walks added to the fun and watching the fish leaping into the air was a treat. We returned on Sunday feeling that a longer stay and a better equipped station with directional beams and perhaps 200-400watts would make things really worthwhile.

A little bit of info about the Light House from the Website Sri LankaLightHouses.

(<http://www.unc.edu/~rowlett/lighthouse/lka.htm>)

### **Barbaryn(Beruwala)**

1890. Active; focal plane 46 m (151 ft); white flash every 20 s. 34 m (112 ft) round granite tower with lantern and gallery, painted white. Lighthouse Digest has a June 2006 feature article on this lighthouse, including two photos, a distant view is available, and Google has a good

satellite view. We need current information on the status of this lighthouse. Located on an island near Beruwala, about 55 km (35 mi) south of Colombo. Accessible only by boat. Site status unknown. ARLHS SLI-002; Admiralty F0826; NGA 27288. (Return is Rs 1500/+ Ed)

### **EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR SALE:**

1. KENWOOD Model TM 241A 2 Meter Band **TRANSCEIVER** VHF,
2. ICOM " IC-718 HF ALL BAND **TRANSCEIVER**. (SOLD Already)
3. CUSHCRAFT " A3S 20 / 15 / 10 Meter **BEAM ANTENNA**
4. DIAMOND " X - 300 2m / 70 cm **DUAL BAND VERTICAL ANTENNA**.
5. DAIWA " SS - 301X SWITCH MODE **POWER SUPPLY**.
6. DIAMOND " SX - 200 **SWR & POWER METER**.
7. DIAMOND " SX - 27P **SWR & POWER METER**. (unused)
8. ICOM " MN - 100L **ANTENNA MATCHER**. ( 1.5 Mhz TO 30 Mhz )
9. DIAMOND " CX - 301A 3 - WAY **COAXIAL SWITCH** (unused)
10. DIAMOND " CX - 2 - WAY **COAXIAL SWITCH**

All above items are in original condition, unrepared.  
S.M. SADIKOT 4S7-SM  
T/Phone; 2434742 Office hours.

+++++

1. about 50Ft of RG 213U Coaxial cable.
2. Icom IC-PCR1000 Communications Receiver with UT 106 - Rs 67,000/= (UT-106 This plug-in option provides all mode noise reduction and gives you an audio Notch Filter in AM, SSB and FM.)
3. WBD-40 Watson 500kHz-1500MHz Tx 6/2m/70/23cm Discone - Rs 10,000/=
4. Super Call Magmount for 2m antenna - Rs 1300/= my contact number is Ranuka 4S5RD 0714746352 email<mailto:ranukad@hotmail.com>ranukad@hotmail.com

**JOTA 2008:** This is usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in October. The scouts and Guides have not got activated yet, but we should get our arrangements in place. It

If not delivered Return to  
**Radio Society of Sri Lanka**  
P.O. Box 907,  
Colombo

would be great if we could run many stations to give maximum exposure to the Amateur Service. In the out stations if you could put one of the regional centres on the air more scouts/guides could benefit. Contact the regional Hqs or one of the main schools in the region as a first step. You could operate on VHF and HF both or on any mode you like. If you need any help let us know and we will do our best.

What you need is to have a antenna and a rig or two with a good PSU. The RSSL can make available the equipment it has. All you need to do is take full responsibility and collect the equipment before and return it to the club ASAP after the event.

**MEMBER INFORMATION** 4S7WM Wimal is enjoying some months in Canberra with his YL harmonic and has been heard on Echo Link. Enjoy your holiday Wimal. New Ham 4S5JA Janith Weerasinghe from Kandy obtained his novice license and hopes to come on the air as soon as he gets a rig. Two other call signs heard are 4S7SV(non member) from Veyangoda and 4S5GS Gayan from Wathupitiwala.

**CALL BOOK.** The RSSL is awaiting info from TRC of the current list of Hams to publish an updated callbook. The moment we have the data we shall go ahead with its publications.

**Echo Link:** Due to computer problems Rodny4S7RM who has been kind enough to host the Echo Link informs that at the moment its out. He hopes to have it running in the next few days. Sorry for the inconvenience.

=====  
Articles/Information Needed: Your Newsletter is as good as you make it.

**E-Mail Newsletters:** If you like to get the newsletter by e-mail please send me your address. If you like to get RSSL announcements only but not the newsletter, inform me as well. Its useful to be able to reach you via e-mail  
**RSSL COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION**

**President:** Vasanth L. Guruge 4S7VG122/1, Elvitigala Mawatha, Colombo 8. Phone: +94-(0)11-2695807 E-mail: crealec@slt.lk

**Secretary:** Victor Goonetilleke 4S7VK Shangri-la, 298 Madapatha Road, Piliyandala. 2614098. e-mail victorg@slt.lk

**Treasurer:** Rodney Martensteyn 4S7RM , 21/10 Polhengoda Gardena, COL 5 Tel 2811523

**Editor:** Victor Goonetilleke 4S7VK Phone: +94-(0)11-2614098 mobile 0774013775 E-mail: victorg@slt.lk  
=====