



# RSSL NEWS

DECEMBER 2005

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE RADIO SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA

## SEASONS GREETINGS

The President and Council of the RSSL wish all members and members of their families a happy and blessed Christmas and a successful and peaceful New Year. Increased activity of members is expected during this holiday season and throughout the New Year.

*The General Meeting for the Month of December will be held at the Seminar Room (Ground Floor) of Vidya Mandiraya, SLAAS – Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science, 120/10, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 7 on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> of December 2005 at 5.30 pm.*

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Please note that unless otherwise notified, monthly General Meetings will be held at the SLAAS at 0530 P.M. on the **last Wednesday of the month**. Please also monitor the RSSL net regularly on 145.650 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.

## 4S7KE Kusal Epa- Leaving Sri Lanka.

Kusal who was RSSL Secretary from 2002-2005 is leaving Sri Lanka for Australia to make his new home there. Kusal's dedication and meticulous work as Secretary will be greatly missed. He was a great asset and was instrumental in bringing up-to-date all files of the RSSL and also giving an extra hand to Asanatha and Victor to make the RSSL function efficiently and to bring all its records both financial and administrative, up-to-date. All pending issues were cleared and a precedent was created when all books were handed over to the new Secretary immediately after the AGM. We are sure that the members will all wish him the very best down under and hope for his continued association with the home country and the RSSL. Kusal will continue to function as web-master for the RSSL. Through the wonderful medium of the Internet we will be able to have his services and presence in the years to come. Bon Voyage mi amigo.

**WORKED 10 4S STATION AWARD** OM Ernest 4S7EA is the awards manager and is offering this beautiful award certificate for those who have worked 10 stations from Sri Lanka. All modes valid other than via the echolink and internet connected modes. CW/SSB/AM/VHF FM etc. Contact 4S7EA via P.O. Box 907 Colombo. 10 IRCs or 10 US\$ is the cost.

## APPOINTMENTS

Following appointments were made at the November general meeting:  
HF Activity Manager: Earnest Amarasinghe 4S7EA

VHF Activity Manager: Arosha Kaluarachchi 4S6AK

## OPERATION OF RSSL CLUB STATION

Members who wish to operate RSSL Club Station at Colombo 4, please contact Bharath 4S5BA, Manager of the Shack at 0777 562384. RSSL expresses great appreciation and grateful thanks to Bharath who offers a place at a prime location with all facilities at no cost. Members must use this opportunity for fruitful gains. (4S7NI)

## TWO REPEATERS WORKING WELL

The old Yatiyanthota repeater is back at the Yatiyanthota site. Members are reporting improved quality due to the better sensitivity of this repeater. The Danish repeater operating on 145.650 with the usual -600 kHz shift, (tone activated 1750 Hz) was taken to Nuwara Eliya by a team comprising 4S7VJ, 4S7WI and 4S6BA who installed it at the TNL site. Signals have been good in many distant locations, although the signal in many parts of the Colombo area are weaker than from Yatiyanthota. The RSSL is interested in the coverage area of the repeater and will be thankful to members if they can give us a comparative report as well as indicate to us whether anyone who couldn't come thru Yati can now come via the Nuwara Eliya repeater. It is also proposed to install the former Nuwara Eliya 145.600 at HNB Colombo as a temporary move until such time as a better location could be found to cover, hopefully even a greater area than at present.

## LOGS OF ISLAND OPERATIONS

RSSL wishes to submit logbooks of all dx-expeditions done in the past at coastal islands of Sri Lanka to RSGB IOTA. Members who participated in these operations please kindly submit their logbooks to the Secretary. With authenticated logs the RSSL will try to push back the IOTA acceptance of Barbarene Island AS 171.(4S7NI)

## DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM

The Disaster Operations Manager of RSSL kindly requests members to submit proposals to implement a disaster preparedness program. It is proposed to set up at least 15 stations country wide, making use of existing ham stations and hams who are prepared to give their time to such a program. The repeaters are being installed and fine tuned to make the VHF coverage effective. We are seeking ideas and proposals from members including volunteering of services by members for a comprehensive programme. Please give your ideas and comments and suggestions before the 31<sup>st</sup> of December.

## NEW MEMBERS

K.N. Ratnayaka 4S5TN was admitted to the corporate membership of RSSL.

## **PRESENTATION BY OM Toby SM4XDJ.**

Toby made a valuable presentation after the November General Meeting. A 36 page printed copy of his presentation titled "Aurora, scatters and VHF Dxing" in Northern Europe' is available at the RSSL Library, Colombo 4. The presentation was very well received by the members and the RSSL likes to place on record its appreciation of Toby's presentation. We also like to thank 4S5SS for arranging transport for this occasion at very short notice.

## **CONTEST INFORMATION – JANUARY 2006**

### **Courtesy ARRL**

(1) DARC 10-meter Contest--CW/SSB from 0900Z -1059Z Jan 8. Frequencies: CW 28.000-28.200 MHz, SSB 28.300-28.700 MHz, Categories: SO-Mixed Mode and SO-CW. Exchange: RS(T) and serial number. QSO points: 1 pt/QSO. Score: QSOs × WAE and DXCC entities + DOK codes.

(2) Worldwide QRP Federation QSO Party-- CW/SSB/Digital, from 0000Z-2400Z Jan 6. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. Categories: SOAB-Mixed only. Exchange: RS(T), DXCC entity or power. QSO points: same continent: 1 pt, different cont: 3 pts. Score: QSO points × QRP clubs from all bands.

(3) EUCW 160 Meter Contest--CW, from 2000Z-2300Z Jan 7 and 0400-0700Z Jan 8. Categories: EU (HP, LP, QRP), non-EU, SWL. Exchange: RST, serial number, club name, member number or "NM." QSO points: own entity-- 1 pt, different entity--2 pts, diff continent--5 pts. Score: QSO points × clubs.

(4) Original QRP Contest, from 1500Z Jan 7-1500Z Jan 8. Frequencies: 80-20 meters. Categories: VLP (<1 W), QRP (<5 W), MP (<20 W), Handmade. Exchange: RST, serial number, category (RST OK for non-participating stations). QSO points: Participants--4 pts, others--1 pt.

(5) Midwinter Contest--CW/SSB, CW from 1400Z-2000Z Jan 14, SSB from 0800Z-1400Z Jan 15. Frequencies: 80-10-meters, SSB 3.600-3.650, 7.080-7.090, 14.270-14.300, 21.270-21.300, 28.470-28.500 MHz. Categories: YL-SSB, YL-CW, OM-SSB, OM-CW, SWL. Exchange: RS(T) and serial number, OMs start with 001 and YLs start with 2001. QSO points: YL--5 pts, OM--3 pts. Score: QSO points × DXCC entities counted once per mode.

(6) HA DX Contest--CW, from 1200Z Jan 14-1200Z Jan 15. Frequencies: 160-10-meter bands. Categories: SOAB, SOSB, MS, MM and SWL. Exchange: RST and serial number, HA stations send county or HADXC member number. QSO points: Own DXCC entity--1 pt, same continent--1 pt, different cont--3 pts, HA stations--6 pts. Score: QSO points × HA counties and members on each band.

(7) LZ Open Championship--CW, from 0400Z-1200Z Jan 21. Frequencies: 3.5 and 7 MHz. Categories: MS, SO and SO-QRP. Exchange: 6-digits, serial number and serial number received in previous QSO. Eg, the first QSO exchange is 001 000. A station can be worked once every 30 minutes. QSO points: same entity-- 1 pt, different entity--2 pts. Score: total QSO points.

(8) UK DX RTTY Contest from 1200Z Jan 21-1200Z Jan 22. Frequencies: 80-10-meters. Categories: SOAB (HP, LP <100 W), MS. Exchange: RST and serial number, UK stations send UK region code. QSO points: Own DXCC entity--1 pt, same continent-- 2 pts, different cont--3 pts, UK stations--5 pts. Score: QSO points × UK regions + DXCC entities on each band.

(9) CQ WW 160-Meter Contest--CW, sponsored by CQ Magazine from 0000Z Jan 28-2359Z Jan 29 (Phone is Feb 25-26). Exchange: RST and S/P/C. Categories: SO-QRP (<5 W) -LP(<150 W) -HP, MO categories. Enter as MO if packet or spotting nets are used. QSO points: own entity--2 pts, same continent--5 pts, diff cont--10 pts, /MM stations count 5 points, but no multiplier. Score: QSO points × states + VE call areas + DXCC entities (KH6 and KL7 count as DXCC only).

Full information is available at [www.arrl.org/contests/months/jan.html](http://www.arrl.org/contests/months/jan.html).

### **GREAT CIRCLE MAPS CENTRED ON SRI LANKA:**

OM 4S7WP is offering to anyone interested a free map at the General Meeting. These are very useful for beaming signals out of Sri Lanka and also for the study of radio propagation.

### **RSSL COUNCIL CONTACT INFO**

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*Edited and designed by Victor 4S7VK – Editor RSSL and published by The Radio Society of Sri Lanka.*

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**To:**