8Q - Petter, LA2PIA will be active as 8Q7PS from South Male Atoll, Maldives (AS-013) on 15-29 July. He will operate SSB on 80-6 metres. QSL via home call. [TNX DX World]

BY - A large team of 20 operators will be active as BY4IB from Liugong Island (AS-146) on 20-27 July. They will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 80-10 metres, plus 6m, 2m and 70cm. QSL direct only to BD4KM (Yongwei Yu, P.O. Box 73, 264209 Weihai, P.R. China). Further information, including PayPal account, at www.qrz.com/db/by4ib [TNX BA4MY]

DU - Leo, DW1OXL (formerly YC9MLL) has a new job on Cebu Island (OC-129) and is expected to be on air as DW1OXL/7 during his posting there. QSL via M0OXO (preferably through the OQRS on www.m0oxo.com). [TNX M0OXO]

EL - EL2CE, EL2DT and EL2BG will be active as EL2BEN during the IARU HF Championship. The special callsign honours Hubert Walcott Benjamin Sr, EL2BA, past President of the Liberian Radio Amateur Association, who passed away in early January. QSL direct to I. Richmond W.K. Harding, 6141 Clifton Avenue Extension, Jacksonville, FL 32211, USA.

GD - Keith, G3TTC has plans to operate holiday style as GD3TTC/p from the Isle of Man (EU-116) on 20-28 July. Check around the usual IOTA frequencies. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. [TNX G3TTC]

GM - Simon, M0SIY will be active holiday style as MM0SIY/p from the Isle of Lewis (EU-010) on 17-19 July. He will operate SSB on 40-10 metres. QSL via M0SIY. [TNX rsgbibiota.org]

HP - Jose, HP2BWJ will be active on as H92G from Isla Grande (NA-202) on 19-20 July. Expect activity on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10 metres. QSL direct to via HP2BWJ.

I - "One Nation, One Callsign" is the motto of this year's ARI HQ team for the IARU HF World Championship. Twelve stations will operate CW and SSB on the six contest bands, for the first time using one single callsign - II0HQ. QSL via bureau and LoTW.

I - Francesco, I28NWA will be active as IBO/I28NWA from Ventotene Island (EU-045) on 13-20 July. QSL via home call. [TNX DX Coffee]

J7 - Laurent, FM5BH will be active holiday style as J79BH from Dominica (NA-101) on 14-21 July. He will operate CW and SSB. QSL via FM5BH (direct). [TNX NG3K]

OH - Special event station OF3ERTC will be active again over the weekend of 12-13 July, including activity during the IARU HF World Championship. OF3ERTC promotes the European Team Championship, "a Virtual World version of WRTC" to be held on 19-20 July during the Youngsters On The Air (YOTA, www.ham-yota.eu) radio camp in Virrat. Detailed information on ERTC can be found at www.qrz.com/db/of3ertc. QSL OF3ERTC via OH2BH.
OZ - Marc, PD7YY will be active as OZ/PD7YY from Langeland Island (EU-172) on 19-25 July. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. [TNX rsrgbiota.org]

PA - Celebrating his 30th anniversary in amateur radio, Adriaan, PE2K will be active as PE30K from 18 July to 14 August. QSL via PE2K, bureau preferred. [TNX PE2K]

SV - Nikos, SV1CEI will be active holiday style as SV8/SV1CEI from Kea Island (EU-067) on 15-31 July. He will operate only CW on the HF bands and 6 metres. QSL via home call (direct). [TNX DX Coffee]

TA - Bodo, DF8DX has been active as TA0/DF8DX from Buyukada since 10 July. This is largest of the Princes' Islands in the Sea of Marmara group (AS-201), one of the 11 new IOTA groups that were announced on 5 July at the IOTA 50th Anniversary Convention (see below). Bodo is QRV until 13 July. QSL via home call.

VE - IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH will be operating during the IARU HF Championship at the Calgary Amateur Radio Association's club station, using the special call VC6IARU and giving out the rare AC multiplier.

VP2E - Frank, K3TRM (www.k3trm.com) will be active as VP2ERM from Anguilla (NA-022) from 19 July to 3 August. He will operate SSB, CW and RTTY on the HF bands and 6 metres. QSL via K3TRM, direct or bureau (OQRS on Club Log), and LoTW. [TNX NG3K]

W - Jon, WB8YJF will be active as WB8YJF/4 from Ocracoke Island (NA-067) on 20-27 July. He will operate mainly CW with some SSB and RTTY, with activity during the IOTA Contest. QSL via home call. [TNX OPDX Bulletin]

W - Jens, DL2RMM will be active as K2RMM/4 from Sanibel Island (NA-069) from 20 July to 1 August, including an entry in the IOTA Contest. QSL via DL2RMM, direct or bureau. [TNX NG3K]

Z2 - Mirek, VK6DXI will be active once again as Z21DXI from Bulawayo, Zimbabwe from 14 July to 3 August. He will operate mainly CW on the HF bands and 6 metres in his spare time. QSL via SP5UAF, direct or bureau. Logsearch and OQRS on Club Log.

IARU HF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ---> The objective of the contest is to contact as many other amateurs, especially IARU member society HQ stations, around the world as possible using the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10m bands. This year's event (rules can be found at www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship) will run from 12 UTC on 12 July until 12 UTC on the 13th. The World Radiosport Team Championship (www.wrtc2014.org) will take place within this year's IARU Contest. The following IARU Member Society HQ stations are expected to participate:

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LORD HOWE 2014 ---> Felix, DL5XL had to cancel is participation in the 13-29 October VK9DLX/VK9LM expedition to Lord Howe Island [425DXN 1196], and has been replaced by Joerg, DF7TH. Over 3 tons of equipment have been packed in nearly 60 different boxes to be shipped from Germany to Australia, and then to their final destination. Read the latest complete press release (7 July) on www.lordhowe2014.org. [TNX DL1MGB]

THAILAND ---> The new regulations for amateur radio in Thailand were
approved by the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission on 20 June, and will become effective within 30 days of that date. Further information and updates can be found on the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand's website at www.qsl.net/rast/. For the time being, the NBTC has granted permission to all Intermediate Class amateur radio operators in Thailand to participate in the CQ WW VHF Contest on 6 metres (50-54 MHz) in addition to HS0AC and all other club stations. The contest runs from 18.00 UTC on 19 July until 21.00 UTC on the 20th.

TO5MJ ---> Alain, F5LMJ reports he has cancelled his TO5MJ activity. He was expected to be on Guadeloupe on 7-27 July [425DXN 1203]

W1AW WAS ---> The ARRL Centennial W1AW WAS operations are on hiatus from 9 to 16 July, during which the 2014 World Radiosport Team Championship and the IARU HF Championship take place. Look for ARRL Centennial station W1AW/4 from South Carolina to be on the air starting at 00.00 UTC on 16 July until 23.59 UTC on the 22nd. There will be only one state that week. Complete information on the ARRL Centennial QSO Party can be found at www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party.

W4DXCC ---> Sponsored by the SouthEastern DX and Contesting Organization, Inc. (SEDCO), the 10th W4DXCC DX and Contest Convention will be held at the MainStay Suites Conference Center in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee on 26-27 September. Complete details can be found at www.w4dxcc.com. [TNX K4SV]

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IOTA PROGRAMME: NEW ISLAND GROUPS
by Roger Balister, G3KMA
RSGB IOTA Manager
11 July 2014
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ELEVEN NEW IOTA GROUPS were announced at IOTA's 50th Anniversary Convention, held in Windsor, England over the weekend 4 to 6 July 2014. Some result directly from the rule changes announced in the latest IOTA Directory, published in May 2014 (a note of the main changes can be seen at IOTA Rule Changes 2014 on http://www.g3kma.dsl.pipex.com).

All new groups have provisional numbers. This means that they will need to be confirmed by an operation taking place after 5 July 2014 that meets the 1000 QSO and other normal validation requirements. Only after confirmation of the number will credit for past operations be considered. Most of the new groups have not seen a previous amateur radio operation. Where however there has been an operation with contacts credited to an IOTA group, IOTA Management will at some point arrange transfers of credits to the new group if it has clear-cut information covering all operations in the old group. In two cases this may not be possible.

The addition of these new groups necessitates in some cases the renaming of the titles of existing groups and amendment of the "co-ordination boxes" as currently appearing in the new Directory. 'A' and 'W' refer to the regional awards as shown in the Directory.
AF-118P CN MEDITERRANEAN SEA COAST GROUP (=JAEGERSCHMIDT, LOS FARALLONES)
34.59-35.56N  002.13-006.15W
New 'coastal islands' group. These islands were not previously shown on a 1:1,000,000 scale map but now qualify from being shown and named on Google Earth. No known previous amateur radio activity.

AF-119P S7 COETIVY ISLAND (=COETIVY)
06.58-07.18S  056.08-056.25E
New 'remote island' group. This island (previously AF-024) lies a distance of some 170 km from Platte Island, the nearest island in the rest of the Seychelles. Permission to land and operate is required from the owners. No Known previous amateur radio activity. Coetivy will be deleted from AF-024 and the 'co-ordinates box' amended.

AS-200P JA5 SHIKOKU'S COASTAL ISLANDS (= [ISLANDS TO BE LISTED])
32.40-34.35N 132.00-134.52E
Shikoku, one of the four main Japanese islands, has hitherto not had its own coastal islands IOTA group and these all previously counted for AS-076. This is being changed. The main valid islands will be listed on the scroll down list on the application page on the RSGB website shortly. There has been regular previous amateur radio activity. Contacts do not count until a new valid operation has taken place. It may not be possible to transfer past credits that now qualify for AS-200P. The island entry against AS-076 will be amended.

AS-201P TA SEA OF MARMARA ISLANDS (=AVSA [AKA TURKELI], IMRALI, MARMARA, PASALIMANI, PRINCE ISLS [NAMELY BURGAZADA, BUYUKADA, HEYBELIADA, KASIK, KINALIADA, SEDEF, SIVRIADA, TAVSAN, YASSIADA])
40.18-41.04N  026.10-029.31E
The case for the Sea of Marmara islands counting as a separate group for IOTA has been reviewed and, given the special treatment afforded the Black Sea islands, is considered on balance worthy of acceptance. The main valid islands are on the Asiatic side of the Sea of Marmara. There has been occasional previous amateur radio activity but contacts do not count until a new valid operation has taken place.

AS-202P A9 HAWAR ISLANDS (=HAWAR ISLS [NAMELY HAWAR, RABAD AL GHARBIYAR, RABAD ASH SHARQIYAH, SUWAD AL JANUBIYAH, SUWAD ASH SHAMLIYAH])
25.32-25.47N  050.41-050.51E
This is a self-contained group of islands (previously AS-002), which nestle close to Qatar and are physically separated off from Bahrain. No known previous amateur radio activity. The island entry against AS-002 and the 'co-ordinates box' will be amended.

AS-203P ROX SHELIKHOVA BAY GROUP (=DOBRZHANSKOGO, KONUS, ROVNYY, SKALA, TRETII, ZUBCHATYY)
59.00-62.41N 159.40-165.05E
The currently named Shelikhova Bay group (AS-091) is being split to allow islands north of Ptichiy Island to count separately. Dobrzhanskogo Island is situated some 600 km from Ptichiy and the others mentioned above some 500 km. This distance spread in a group is quite exceptional. All previous activity has been from Ptichiy Island (AS-091) - by UA0X/EK250RA (August 1991), RZ0ZWA/0 and UE0XYZ (both July 2001) - and this will remain AS-091.
The title of AS-091 will be renamed 'Sea of Okhotsk Coast group' and the 'co-ordinates box' amended.

A EU-190P RI1F VIKTORIYA ISLAND, FRANZ JOSEF LAND (=VIKTORIYA)
80.05-80.12N 036.30-037.10E
New 'remote island' group. This island (previously EU-019) lies a distance of 158 km from Zemlya Aleksandry, Franz Josef Land. Previous Amateur Radio Activity was by Nikolay Povalyaev (1985-1991 as UA1O/UA0BCA, then 1991 to 1994 as 4K2BCA and, lastly 1994 when the station was closed as RI1FJV) but contacts do not count until a new valid operation has taken place. Viktoriya will be deleted from EU-019 and the 'co-ordinates box' amended.

EU-191P YO/UR FERICIRII ISLAND (=FERICIRII)
45.09-45.13N 029.45-029.47E
New 'split sovereignty island' group. This is a newly established split sovereignty island in the Black Sea just outside the Danube Delta. It is 2km from the mainland and approximate 4.78Km long. A recent International Court of Justice decision split sovereignty over the island between Romania and Ukraine. It cannot be joined with Saculinu Mare because the latter is not split sovereignty. No known previous amateur radio activity.

W NA-247P PJ7 SINT MAARTEN'S COASTAL ISLANDS (=GUANA KEY OF PELIKAN, MOLLY BEDAY [AKA MAL ABORDER])
18.00-18.04N 062.57-063.10W
New 'coastal islands' group of a split sovereignty island. These islands were not previously shown on a 1:1,000,000 scale map but now qualify from being shown and named on Google Earth in the same way that the coastal islands of St Martin FS count (NA-199). No known previous amateur radio activity.

A NA-248P VE8,VY0 NWT (MELVILLE ISLAND) GROUP (=BORDEN, BROCK, EGLINTON, EMERALD, MACKENZIE KING, MELVILLE, PRINCE PATRICK)
74.20-78.50N 105.00-123.30W
This leaves NA-009 as follows:
NA-009 VY0 Nunavut (Devon Island) group (=Baillie-Hamilton, Bathurst, Byam Martin, Cameron, Coburg, Cornwall, Cornwallis, Devon, Graham, Grosvenor, Lougheed) 74.24-77.51N 079.00-106.10W
The very large territorial/sea area covered by NA-009, Nunavut (Parry Islands) is divided administratively between NWT and Nunavut by straight line co-ordinates (in some cases across an island). Following practice elsewhere, these islands are now split into two IOTA groups. Devon and Melville Islands, the largest islands in each, are among the next largest "large islands" in size after others that have been given separate numbers because of size. There has been regular previous amateur radio activity from NA-248P. Contacts do not count for this group until a new valid operation has taken place. It may not be possible to transfer past credits from NA-009 that now qualify for NA-248P.

OC-296P T8 TOBI AND HELEN ISLANDS (=HELEN, TOBI)
02.40-03.10N 131.00-132.00E
New 'remote island' group. These two islands (previously OC-248) lie a distance of about 152 km from Merir Island, the nearest of the remaining
South Palau group. No known previous amateur radio activity. The title of OC-248 will be renamed 'Sonsorol Islands group' and the 'co-ordinates box' amended.

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