The 3Y0Z Team's original plan was to fly from Punta Arenas (Chile) to King George Island (South Shetlands), where they expected to board the M/V Betanzos and begin their voyage to Bouvet [425DXN 1392].

On 13 January, however, the team gathered in Punta Arenas stated that "heavy sea ice east and north of King George Island" would make navigation "slow and of increased risk. We will therefore depart from Punta Arenas and sail directly to Bouvet. This has necessitated changes to preparations". On 16 January the team reported that they were awaiting "final clearance to sail which will be issued by the Chilean Navy, the regulatory authority for maritime safety".

Eventually the M/V Betanzos set sail on 19 January around 12.30 UTC. The team will be active as 3G9A/mm (QSL via N2OO) during their voyage; the sailing time to Bouvet is estimated at 14 days. "Whatever delay we encounter will not impact our results on the island", the team says, and their QRT date will be extended as necessary.

CT8 - Hermann, HB9CRV will be active CU8FN from Flores Island (EU-089), Azores from 22 January to 16 February. He will operate FT8 on 160-10 metres. Hermann and Antonio, CU8AS will participate in the CQ WW 160 Meter CW Contest as CR2W. QSL for CR2W and CU8FN via LoTW, or via HB9CRV (direct or bureau). [TNX DX Newsletter]

ET - Ully, DL9WVM has been active from the ET3AA club station in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia since 11 January, and will continue until 29 January. He plans to be QRV on weekdays between 6 and 15 UTC, and operate CW on 30-15 metres. QSL via N2OO and LoTW, OQRS on Club Log. [TNX The Daily DX]

H4 - VE3LYC's expedition time schedule [425DXN 1393] has been finalized. Cezar, VE3LYC (H4 callsigns TBA) and Bernhard, DL2GAC (H44MS) will be active from Mbanika Island (OC-168, Solomon Islands for DXCC) on 22-25 April; they will operate CW and SSB on 40, 30, 20 and 17 metres with two stations. From 29 April to 3 May Cezar will be active from the Duff Islands (OC-179, Temotu Province for DXCC). "There is a small possibility that following the OC-168 operation I may attempt to operate from Nggela Sule (Florida Islands, OC-158) on 26 and 27 April", Czar says. "However, under no circumstance I will rush to end the OC-168 operation in order to squeeze in some activity from OC-158". Bookmark https://oc-179.weebly.com/ for updates.

HC - Rick, NE8Z will be active again from Ecuador from 20 January to 10 February. He will operate CW and SSB on 40-6 metres as HC1MD from Tumbaco (Pichincha Province), as HC1MD/HC2 from Punta Blanca (Santa
Elena Province) and as HC1MD/HC7 from Papallacta (Napo Province). QSL via LoTW, or direct to K8LJG. [TNX The Daily DX]

**HL** - Look for HL23N to be QRV from Yonghung Island (AS-105) on 20-21 January. Activity will be on 80-10 metres CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL via HL2UVH. [TNX The Daily DX]

**ISO** - Simone, ISOAFM from Cagliari (Sardinia) is using special callsign IR0FOC through 31 December to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the First Class CW Operators' Club (https://www.g4foc.org/). QSL via LoTW or direct to ISOAFM.

**PY0F** - Rafael, PY2NDX and his son Joao Pedro, PU2XDX (11 years old) will be active as PY0F/PY2NDX and PU0F/PU2XDX from Fernando de Noronha (SA-003) from 27 January to 1 February. Activity will be mostly on 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres CW, SSB and possibly FT8. QSL via PY2NDX. [TNX The Daily DX]

**V5** - Rudi, DK7PE (https://www.roodys.de/) will be active as V5/DK7PE from near Omarura, Namibia on 24-31 January. He will focus on the low bands, especially 160 and 60 metres, and will participate in the CQ WW 160 Meter CW Contest. QSL via home call.

Access to the main functions of www.425dxn.org is provided by the 425DXN App for Android. It is available on Google Play - free of charge, no ads. Enjoy!

425 DX NEWS MAGAZINE ---> The December 2017 issue is now available for download at http://www.425dxn.org/index.php. [TNX IZ3EBA]

FT8 OPERATING GUIDE ---> Gary, ZL2IFB has published his "FT8 Operating Guide", described as "a collection of pragmatic tips that takes over where the WSJT-X help and installation notes leave off". It is "specifically aimed at HF DXers": http://www.g4ifb.com/FT8_Hinson_tips_for_HF_DXers.pdf. "It started out as my rough notes as I fumbled around with the new mode", he Says. "Those grew steadily over the past few months, absorbing information, advice and helpful hints from many sources including plenty of encouraging comments on the web version. I've peppered it with screen shots, quotes, comments and ideas, and given it a little structure. It's still not entirely "finished" (partly because the operating techniques and software are still evolving) but I wanted to get it out there ahead of Bouvet, so those who intend to have a go at working 3Y0Z on FT8 have a chance to read and practice their skills, honing their techniques before the Main Event. Feedback welcome, especially corrections and further tips... such as how we are going to cope with 3Y0Z's extra wide splits, and wall-to-wall continuous callers".

QSL VIA OM3JW ---> Owing to health issues, OM2SA is no longer managing the QSLing duties for the DXpeditions of Mike, KM9D and Janet, KF4TUG. The Daily DX reports that now Steve, OM3JW has uploaded to Club Log the logs for their 2007 activities. He has the QSLs for these operations, and can confirm QSOs.
THE K3LP HUMANITARIAN AND SERVICE AWARD ---> "The Intrepid DX Group wishes to memorialize our friend, Co-Founder and President, David R. Collingham (K3LP). In recognition of David's humanitarian work as well as service to mankind, we are creating an annual 'David R. Collingham - K3LP Humanitarian and Service Award'. The purpose of this award is to recognize an individual or group for their humanitarian or service for the previous year. The award presentation will take place at the International DX Convention held in April at Visalia, CA. To make a nomination for the award, please send an email message to intrepiddxgroup@gmail.com. We will close the nomination period on January 31st, 2018". [TNX N6PSE]

+ SILENT KEY + Neville Cheadle, G3NUG passed away unexpectedly on 14 January. Licensed since 1959, he served in the RSGB Council, Management Committee, HF Committee and IOTA Committee; in 2015 he was made an Honorary Life Member of the Chiltern DX Club - The UK DX Foundation, after serving as Chairman (1994-2001) and President (2001-15). A serious DXer and IOTA chaser himself, he conducted several IOTA DXpeditions to Malaysia as 9M2/G3NUG, and led the Five Star DXers Association's 9M0C (Spratly Islands, 1998), D68C (Comoros, 2001), 3B9C (Rodrigues, 2004), 3B7C (Saint Brandon, 2007) and T32C (Kiritimati, 2011) DXpeditions. He also co-authored "Dxpeditioning. Behind the Scenes" (2000), a comprehensive handbook on planning, setting up and operating a successful DXpedition. In 2009 he was inducted into the CQ DX Hall of Fame.

*** 4 2 5 D X N E W S ***
******* QSL ROUTES *******

Edited by I1JQJ & IK1ADH
Direttore Responsabile I2VGW

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</table>
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