No 1441

*** 4 2 5 D X N E W S ***
**** DX INFORMATION ****

Edited by I1JQJ & IK1ADH
Direttore Responsabile I2VGW

9X - Harald, DF2WO will be active again as 9X2AW from Kigali, Rwanda from 18 January to 14 February 2019. He will operate CW, SSB, FT8 and RTTY with a focus on 160, 80 and 60m. QSL via M0OXO's OQRS and LoTW.

E5_sc - Milan, OK1DWC ha s been active again as E51DWC from Rarotonga (OC-013), South Cook Islands since 10 December. Length of stay not known (but in 2016-17 he remained there for about five months and a half). He operates CW, SSB and RTTY on 160-10 metres. QSL via Club Log's OQRS (preferred), LoTW and eQSL.

FG - Jean-Pierre, F6ITD will be active again as FG/F6ITD and TO7D from La Desirade, Guadeloupe (NA-102) from 14 January to 13 March 2019. Plans are to operate SSB, CW and digital (FT8) on 80-6 metres. QSLs via LoTW (preferred) or F6ITD; logsearch on Club Log. [TNX F6AJA]

FK - Phil, F6OBD will be active holiday style as FK/F6OBD from New Caledonia from 18 December to 10 February 2019. He will operate digital modes on the HF bands. QSL via F6OBD. [TNX OPDX Bulletin]

HS - Erich, HB9FIH will be active again as HS0ZLS between 12 December and 10 January from near Pattaya (Thailand mainland) and from Koh Samui (AS-101). Look for him around 9-14 UTC on +/- 21062, 18088 and 14062 kHz. QSL via HB9FIH, LoTW and eQSL. [TNX DX Newsletter]

S7 - Mike, OE6MBG will be active as S79AA from Mahe (AF-024), Seychelles from 5 January to 2 February. He will operate CW and SSB on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and possibly 6 metres, with a focus on the low bands. QSL via LoTW and Club Log's OQRS. [TNX The Daily DX]

UA_ant - Aleksey, RD1AV is currently active as RI1ANC from Vostok Station, Antarctica. The licence expires on 25 December, and a new callsign (RI1ANV) has been applied for. Alex will remain at Vostok until sometime in February 2019. QSL via RN1ON. [TNX DX World]

VU - Once again the West Bengal Radio Club will provide assistance during the Ganga Sagar Mela on Sagar Island (AS-153). This is the annual gathering of Hindu pilgrims to take a holy dip in the Ganges, where the river merges with the Bay of Bengal. Expect some activity on the HF bands as AU2HAM on 10-17 January. QSL via VU2NRO.

W - Bodo, DF8DX will be active as KT3Q/2 from Long Island (NA-026) on 18-23 December. QSL via DF8DX, bureau or direct. [TNX DXNL]

Z6 - A group of "four enthusiastic young amateur radio operators aged between 20 and 25 years old" - namely Philipp DK6SP, Tomi HA8RT, Flo OE3FTA and Horia YO3IMD - has been active as Z66DH from Kosovo since 10 December, and will remain QRV until 22 December. They have three stations operating CW, SSB and digital modes (mainly FT8 DXpedition mode) on all bands. QSL via LoTW, Club Logs' OQRS or direct to M0SDV. [TNX DK6SP]

Z8 - Diya, YI1DZ is active again as Z81D from Juba, South Sudan for another six months. In his spare time he operates SSB and digital modes on 80-10 metres. QSL via Club Log's OQRS, or via OM3JW. [TNX The Daily DX]

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*** 4 2 5 D X N E W S ***
**** GOOD TO KNOW ... ****
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3Y0I & FT8 ---> 3Y0I will be using the new version of WSJT-X (see below) while operating FT8 (Fox & Hound) from Bouvet. On 10-11 December E51DOM/mm, operating from South Africa, conducted a 24-hour test on 20m in anticipation of the DXpedition. As the FT8 and MSK144 protocols have been enhanced in a way that is not backward compatible with older versions of the programme, you must upgrade to WSJT-X 2.0.0, otherwise you will not be able to decode transmissions from 3Y0I, and vice-versa. 3Y0I's announced FT8 frequencies are 1840, 3567, 7056, 10131, 14090, 18095, 21091, 24911 and 28091 kHz. Other information will be available when the team departs for Bouvet.

CWOPS AWARD ---> The "CWops Award for Advancing the Art of CW" recognizes individuals, groups or organizations that have made the greatest contributions toward advancing the art or practice of radio communication by Morse code. Nominations must be received by 1 March 2019. Details can be found at https://cwops.org/the-cwops-award-for-advancing-the-art-of-cw/

DAYTON CONTEST UNIVERSITY ---> Registration is now open for 2019 Dayton Contest University (CTU), to be held all day on 16 May at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dayton, Ohio. It will be the 13th year in a row for CTU Dayton. Complete details can be found on https://www.contestuniversity.com/.

EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT: VP6 ---> A large group of operators will be active from Pitcairn Island (OC-044) most likely during the last two weeks of October 2019. This will be an all band, all mode operation; plans are for eight stations, with monoband Yagis for the high bands and verticals with good radial systems and directional receive antennas for the low bands. The website for the DXpedition is at https://pitcairndx.com/.

EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT: ZK3 ---> A multi-national team led by Roman, UR0MC and Alex, UT5UY is planning a DXpedition to the Tokelau Islands (OC-048) in October-November 2019. ZK3 is currently #42 on Club Log's DXCC Most Wanted List (#26 in Europe). Details are expected in due course.

IOTA DIRECTORS ---> "At its Board meeting on 17 November 2018 IOTA Ltd appointed a number of IOTA enthusiasts to serve as Directors on an enlarged Board. The full Board is Roger Balister G3KMA, Cezar Trifu VE3LYC, Charles Wilmott M0OXO, Dan Sullivan W4DKS, Hans-Georg Goebel DK1RV, Jim Nakajima JA9IFF and Ghis Penny, ON5NT. We thank Dr Jeff Cantor K1ZN who stepped down

as Director in early November for his help and support during his period of service on the Board. We welcome the new appointees and look forward to the added strength they bring to the programme's management".

TQSL: NEW VERSION ---> A new version (v2.4.3) of LoTW's Trusted QSL (TQSL) is now available: http://www.arrl.org/tqsl-download. It has new features as well as corrections for defects found since TQSL 2.4.1 and 2.4.2 were released. It also includes an update to the most recent TQSL configuration file.

WSJT-X 2.0 ---> The General Availability (GA) release of WSJT-X Version 2.0.0. has been available for download since 10 December. "If you have been using version 1.9.1 or earlier, or one of the candidate releases v2.0.0-rc#, it's important to upgrade now", K1JT says. "The original protocols for FT8 and MSK144 are no longer supported. With v1.9.1 and earlier you cannot communicate with WSJT-X 2.0 using these modes. We now recommend using WSJT-X 2.0 anywhere in the conventional FT8 and MSK144 sub-bands. Everyone should upgrade to v2.0 by no later than January 1, 2019". Links to installation packages for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh are available here: http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjtx.html

+ SILENT KEY + Jan "John" L. Hallenberg, SM5DJZ passed away on 11 December. He was 71. A serious DXer with 3024 points in the ARRL DXCC Challenge and 1096 points in the IOTA Honour Roll, he "also gave back to the DX community as a card checker for both the DXCC and IOTA programs. He was part of several DXpeditions with the great SM0AGD, Erik. In addition, for many decades Jan ran the SSA outgoing QSL bureau and was a QSL manager for multiple DX operations". [TNX The Daily DX]

QSLs received direct or through managers: 4B4B, 5R8UP, 7X4AN, 9X0T, 9X0Y, 9Y4/LY2IJ, C31CT, DS2GOO/3, EZ8BO, EZ8CQ, F/DK2RO/p (EU-156), FR4OO, H88X, J68GD, J68GU, JY9FC, KH8C, KL7/KJ6MBW (NA-019), KP4/EI9FBB (NA-249), NL8F, OJ0W, R18BRA, RA1ALA/0 (AS-025), RT65KI (AS-065), TA2AL, TI8II, TK0C, TM64YL (EU-064), TO6OK, TU5MH, V6J (OC-254), VE1FA/KL7 (NA-121), VK9XG, VP8EME, VU2GSM, XT2AW, Z66X, ZD9CW.

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