No 1697

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

**** DX INFORMATION ****

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Edited by I1JQJ & IK1ADH

Direttore Responsabile I2VGW

3W - Jacek, SP5APW will be active as 3W9C from Con Son Island (AS-130) from 30 November to 9 December. He is allowed to operate on five bands; he will use SSB and FT8 on 20, 17, 15 and 10m with wire antennas, and FT8 on 6 metres with a 3-element yagi. "I am not a CW operator", he says. "However, if somebody hates FT8 and wants to try CW with me, I should be able to manage it as a sked when there is no pile-up". His licence for 6m is limited to 53-54 MHz, so he plans to operate split: listening on 50.313 or 50.323 and transmitting on 53.313 or 53.323. I haven't tried yet to work FT8 with such a wide split, but this is the only option to try to work IARU Region 1. If it doesn't work, I will simply work 53.313 MHz for Regions 2 and 3, where the 6m band is wider".

4S7 - Peter, DC0KK is active again as 4S7KKG from Sri Lanka (AS-003, grid MJ96xk) until 30 March 2024. He operates FT8, FT4, RTTY and possibly CW on 20-6 metres. QSL via LoTW, Club Log's OQRS, or direct to home call.

8P - Bob, GU4YOX will enter the CQ WW DX CW Contest (25-26 November) as 8P9A (SOSB 20 metres) from Barbados (NA-021). Before the contest he will be QRV as 8P9OX to test his set up. QSL via LoTW, or via GU4YOX (direct and bureau).

A4 - A43ND is the special callsign for the Royal Omani Amateur Radio Society to celebrate Oman National Day (18 November). QSL via EC6DX, LoTW, eQSL.

Also taking part in the celebrations will be

* the Emirates Amateur Radio Society as A60OMA on 12-18 November (QSL via EA7FTR); individual operators may append a serial number to the special callsign, and be QRV as A60OMA/0, A60OMA/1, etc. (see qrz.com for the QSL routes);
* the Bahrain Amateur Radio Society as A91OMA on 12-18 November (QSL via EC6DX and LoTW); and
* possibly other national societies of Gulf Cooperation Council's neighbouring countries (HZ1OMAN, 9K9OMAN, A71OMAN).

F - Michel, F8GGZ will be active as TM100LTB from 25 November to 3 December. QSL via the bureau. The special callsign commemorates the 100th anniversary of the first transatlantic amateur two-way contact between Leon Deloy, F8AB and Fred Schnell, 1MO (28 November 1923). QSL via the bureau.

FJ - KB9DVB as FJ/KB9DVB and KC9SNM & KB9DVC as TO0T will be active from St. Barthelemy (NA-146) on 22-29 November. They will operate CW and SSB (no FT8), and will participate in the CQ WW DX CW Contest as TO0T (QSL via KB9DVC). [TNX NG3K]

FS - Team TO9W (K9EL, K9NU, N9EP, W9AP and FS4WBS) will be active again from Saint Martin (NA-105) from 26 November to 8 December. They will operate CW, SSB, FT8, FT4 and RTTY on 160-6 metres with three

stations: "our goal is to make as many QSOs as possible on all bands and modes, with special emphasis on CW", they say. "We normally give priority to the 160, 80, 40 bands in that order, but with the increased sunspot activity, we will establish band priorities based on conditions at that time". Two operators will arrive late on 25 November, and will be QRV during the CQ WW DX CW Contest as time allows. QSL via LoTW, Club Log's OQRS, or via W9ILY. See https://www.k9el.com/TO9W/TO9W.htm for more information; updates will be posted to https://www.facebook.com/groups/539588070673287/.

LU_ant - L36Z is the special callsign for amateur radio activities taking place from the facilities of the LRA 36 Radio Nacional Arcangel San Gabriel at Esperanza Base, Antarctica (AN-016). QSL via LoTW, or direct to LU4DXU,

P4 - John, W2GD will be active again as P40W from Aruba (SA-036) on 20-28 November. Main activity will be during the CQ WW DX CW Contest; outside the contest he will be QRV on 160, 30, 17 and 12 metres as time permits. QSL via LoTW, or direct to N2MM. [TNX NG3K]

PJ4 - Look for PJ4/K4BAI, PJ4/KU8E and PJ4/N8VW to be active from Bonaire (SA-006) on 21-28 November. They will participate in the CQ WW DX CW Contest as PJ4A. QSL PJ4/K4BAI, PJ4/KU8E and PJ4A via K4BAI. [TNX NG3K]

PJ7 - Gary, KC9EE will be active again as PJ7EE from Sint Maarten (NA-105) on 20-29 November, including an entry in the CQ WW DX CW Contest. QSL via LoTW, Club Log's OQRS, or direct to home call.

T32 - The Rebel DX Group will be active as T32TT from Kiritimati/Christmas Island (OC-024), East Kiribati "starting from the first week of December 2023 for 3 or more weeks". Plans are to operate digital Modes, plus CW and SSB, on 160-6 metres. QSL via Club Log's OQRS. Bookmark https://www.facebook.com/rebeldxgroup/ for updates.

UA - Special callsigns R2023DX and UE33DX will be active on 17-30 November to celebrate the 33th anniversary of the Miller DX Club. QSLs via RQ7L.

V4 - Bob, WX4G will be active as V47RB from St. Kitts (NA-104) from 20 November to 1 December. He will operate CW, FT4, FT8 and SSB on 80-6 metres, and will participate in the CQ WW DX CW Contest as V48A on 40 metres. QSLs via LoTW, Club Log's OQRS, eQSL, or via WX4G. [TNX NG3K]

V5 - Gunter, DK2WH will be active again as V51WH and V55Y in contests from Namibia starting on 16 November through April 2024. He operates SSB, CW and FT8 on 160-10 metres. QSL via home call; he does not use LoTW.

VK9 - Yuris, YL2GM and Eugene, EA5EL will be active as VK9XY from Christmas Island (OC-002) on 14-27 November, and as VK9CY from the Cocos (Keeling) Islands (OC-003) from 29 November to 7 December. They will operate CW, SSB and FT8 on 160-6 metres with two stations. QSLs via Club Log's OQRS (direct and bureau), or direct to YL2GN. See https://www.lral.lv/vk9xy_vk9cy/index.html for information.

VP9 - Darrell, AB2E will be active as AB2E/VP9 from VP9GE's rent-a-shack on 23-27 November. Main activity will be during the CQ WW DX CW Contest; outside the contest he will operate mostly CW and some FT8 on 30, 17 and 12 metres, as well as on the low bands. QSL via LoTW, or direct to home call. [TNX NG3K]

VU - A team from the West Bengal Radio Club (VU2WB) will be active as

AT23JCB from Mousuni (Mahisani) Island (AS-153) from around 10.30 UTC on 18 November until around 3 UTC on 19 November. Look for activity on 40, 20 metres and 10 metres. RW6HS will be the QSL manager "for Russia & CIS countries".

VU - Datta, VU2DSI will be active once again as AU2JCB from 23 November to 11 December to commemorate the birthdate (30 November 1858) of Indian physicist and radio pioneer Jagadish Chandra Bose. He will operate SSB on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres, and FM on 50800, 51500 and 29700 Khz. QSL direct to home call. Also QRV are expected to be AU3JCB (operated by VU2EVU) and AU5JCB (operated by VU2XPN).

YB - Burkhard, DL3KZA is currently active as YB9/DL3KZA from Flores Island (OC-151) until 17 November. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Along with him are YB9IPY, YB9HF, YB9JAJ and YC9GBO. [TNX The Daily DX]

ZL7 - Team ZL7A's flight to Chatham Island has been delayed by two days because of fog, and it is now scheduled for 11 November (check https://www.qrz.com/db/ZL7A for updates. Three operators expect to be QRV until 22 November using SSB, CW, FT8 and FT4 on 160-6m. QSL via LoTW (preferred), Club Log's OQRS, eQSL, or direct to JF1OCQ.

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**** GOOD TO KNOW ... ****
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425 DX NEWS MAGAZINE ---> The October 2023 issue is available for download at https://www.425dxn.org/. [TNX IZ3EBA]

H44WA: FT8 SPOOF PREVENTION ---> The upcoming DXpedition to the Solomon Islands [425DXN 1695] will operate FT8 using WSJT-X in Fox/Hound mode. In an effort to combat piracy, the team will be beta-testing a new anti-spoofing technology for FT8 developed by Brian Moran (N9ADG). H44WA will transmit CQ and work stations, and every few cycles will send a callsign followed by a 6-digit verification number, e.g.

010200 -3 0.1 300 - H44WA 695243
010200 -3 0.1 360 - CQ H44WA QI90

Only the genuine H44WA will be able to send the right code for a particular timestamp, which can be verified here: https://www.9dx.cc/verify/H44WA. This should help calling stations have confidence that they are not copying a pirate. In addition, Club Log's Live Stream feature will be enabled for QSOs in all modes: https://clublog.org/livestream/H44WA.

T2C ---> According to the final log (https://clublog.org/charts/?c=T2C), the 10-30 October DXpedition to Tuvalu made 112,914 QSOs (47475 FT8, 39935 CW, 21946 SSB, 3558 RTTY) with 31,062 unique callsigns. The QSL manager (DL4SVA) has removed "a significant amount" of dupe FT8 QSOs that were made within the same 3-minute time window, and "his decision is final". The QSL cards are expected from the printer in early December.

TX5S ---> Francesco, IK0FVC has joined the operating team of the DXpedition to Clipperton Island (18 January - 1 February 2024) [425DXN 1692].
Clipperton is now #26 Most Wanted in Europe, and remains #37 Most Wanted globally. "Our team is well balanced with experienced CW, SSB and digital DXpedition and contest operators, with an operating schedule that will keep them busy".
An account has been created at Groups.io for interested people to post comments about the operation and to communicate with the Pilots; they will consolidate the information from their region and send it to the Chief Pilot, who will be in touch with the team on the island. The team will not be monitoring Groups.io, nor will the Pilots have access to the log - so no requests for log checks, busted calls, not in log, or schedules should be submitted: https://groups.io/g/Clipperton-2024.
The fundraising campaign is underway, but donations so far are only at about 44% of the goal: "the cash flow challenge is real, we must pay the bills before we sail, we need your help", the team's Press Release #7 states. "We ask those of you who have not yet processed a donation to consider supporting the project before we sail on 11 January 2024": https://clip.pdxg.net/.
You can also follow TX5S on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/tx5s2024.

TX7L ---> Direct and bureau cards for the current operation from Hiva Oa, Marquesas Islands (https://tx7l.com/) should be requested exclusively via Club Log's OQRS, which will be enabled immediately after the end of the operation. This is "to avoid situations where people work them, request a card, work them again somewhere else, and send email saying please include that card with the initial request". [TNX F6EXV]

VK9XGM: CANCELLED ---> "We have taken the very difficult decision to cancel our DXpedition to VK9X", Chris, GM3WOJ and Keith, GM4YXI announced on 6 November (https://www.vk9xgm.com/) They were expected to be QRV from Christmas Island from 21 November to 5 December, including an entry in the CQ WW DX CW Contest.

V62S & V62P ---> The "North Star" was scheduled to leave Weno at 7 UTC (17 local time) on 8 November, but departure has been postponed for one day owing to unfavourable weather forecast. The voyage will take quite a while, as passengers and cargo have to be dropped off at five different islands before the ship can head straight for Satawal (OC-299). The captain "will try his best to arrive by 13 November", Cezar says, but "to be on the safe side, I should count on arriving to Satawal on 14 November".
The plan is to stay on Satawal (V62S) for six full days, followed by four full days on Puluwat (V62P, OC-155).
"Once I depart Weno", Cezar says, "I was clearly told that I won't have Internet anywhere, on any island. The only communication between Weno and the islands is via SAT phone at the admin office. I am not fully convinced that this is correct, but I have been warned, and so I am prepared for it. While on the boat, the captain has HF communication with Weno and SAT phone as well, for emergency".

QSLs received direct or through managers: 1A0C, 6W/IV3FSG, 7Q5RU, 9A8DV,

9Q1AA, 9Q1ZZ, 9Q2WX, AT7SJ (AS-177), C21TS, CT9/OM3RG, DS1TUW/2 (AS-090), FT8WW, LY787A, OH0Z, P43A, PJ4DX, RI0Z (AS-039), S79VU, SJ9WL, T32AZ, TF2MSN, V26OC, VP9/DL8ALU, VU2GSM, VU7W, XV9BPO, Z21RU, Z62NS, ZS7ANF.

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