

Message from the London Amateur Radio Club



Promoting Amateur Radio in London
And surrounding area since 1920

March 2, 2014

L.A.R.C. Executive March L.A.R.C. Meeting

President

David Lambert, VE3KGK

Vice-President, Membership

John Visser, VA3MSV

Past President

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

Treasurer

Brian Bouckley, VA3ATB

Secretary, Flea Market

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Director

Ann Rundle, VA3EOR

Director, Repeaters

Mike Watts, VE3ACW

Director

Mark Bramwell, VE3PZR

Non-Voting

ARES Representative

Ken Brightling, VE3ETP

CanWarn Representative

Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG

Appointments

Repeater Coordinator

Brad Seward, VE3NRJ

Repeater Tech Support

John Visser, VE3FDV

Field Day Coordinator

David Lambert, VE3KGK

Webmasters

Jim Morris, VA3AHQ

Tom Pillon, VE3HOR

Simon Wilton, VA3SI/G7HCD

Newsletter Editor

John Visser, VA3MSV

Auditor

Rob Hockin, VA3HO

The next L.A.R.C. meeting will be held on **March 13th**. This meeting will feature a presentation by our annual March speaker, Mike Cook, VE3ZMC titled "**Cosmic QRN: The importance of Radio to the recent revolution in cosmology.**" The talk will be about the recent very big changes in how we believe our universe is evolving and how radio has played a critical role in providing the evidence. It will also address the ultimate fate of the universe.

Dayton Hamfest 2014 - Bus Transportation

On Wednesday, February 28, 2014, the various radio club presidents received an email offering an alternative method of going to the Dayton Hamfest. The email text appears below. An image attachment will appear on the third page. It is the attached brochure that the email mentions.

Date: Wed, 26 Feb 2014

Hello fellow hams

I'm writing today to ask if you could please notify your membership through your newsletters and or nets the fact that a Toronto bus company, Travel Goodtime Tours (TGT) has agreed to carry interested parties to the Hamfest in Dayton this year aboard a luxury coach, provide breakfast & dinners as per an itinerary attached. It's not often that these arrangements are made. If there is any interest in this all questions can be directed to TGT 416-265-3422 see the brochure attached.

Thank you for your attention.

Hope to see you at Dayton J

Jim Sawadski, VE3EEZ

Next Meeting is Where and When?

Reminder: The next monthly L.A.R.C. meeting on March 13, 2014 at 7:30 pm

All meetings are normally located at St. Judes Anglican Church, 1537 Adelaide Street North at Fanshawe Park Road East in London, Ontario.

The meetings are **normally** held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm EST during the months of September to June.

Next Meeting will be April 10, 2014. This will be presentation by

Area Repeaters

LARC Repeaters

London

VA3LON 147.060 + 114.8Hz

VA3MGI 145.390 - 114.8Hz

Currently off the air for
maintenance

SORT Repeaters

London

VE3GYQ 145.350 - 114.8Hz

VE3TTT 147.180 + 114.8Hz

IRLP Node 2400

Echolink Node 10741

VE3SUE 444.400 + 114.8 Hz

ALLSTAR Node 2416

VE3TTT 442.300 + D-Star

Ipperwash

VE3TCB 146.940 - 114.8 Hz

Linked to VE3SUE

Grand Bend

VE3SRT 442.050 + 114.8 Hz

Linked to VE3SUE

Other Area Repeaters

London

VE3OME 145.450 - 114.8 Hz

CANWARN

VA3FEZ 444.100 + 114.8 Hz

Grand Bend

VE3RGB 146.760 + 173.8 Hz

Stratfordville

VE3DPL 146.655 - 131.8 Hz

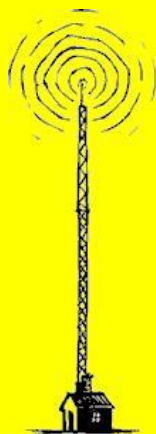
St. Thomas

VE3STR 147.330 + 114.8 Hz

Echolink Node: 72886

VE3STR 443.825 + 114.8 Hz

IRLP Node: 2482



If you have a repeater that should be listed here, please forward the information to John Visser, VA3MSV at va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll add it to the list.

Membership Certificates

The Club has created membership certificates for its current members. This feature is still a work in progress with the new website.

Flaunt Your Face – Show Your Shack

In our hobby it's not always easy to put a face to all the fellow hams you talk to on the air. To help us all figure who's who, LARC invites its members to submit digital photos of yourself and/or your shack to be published on the membership page of our website. Purely voluntary of course, and if you prefer you can submit just one (depending on whether you think your face or your shack is more presentable).

I am not sure we will continue this feature with the member list. Few members submitted a pic of their shack for others to see on the web site.

Mutual Aid

Would you be willing to answer some questions if a fellow ham needed some advice? Got a problem you can't figure out? Want to try something new but need someone to show you the ropes?

I think we have plans to continue this service. Still a work in progress I think.

Membership Report

A new membership year has begun.

Currently the L.A.R.C. membership stands at 90 members with 9 of them being new members.

The following is a list of new member for the 2013/2014 Membership Year with the date that they joined L.A.R.C.

Bill Ambler, VE3CFY	Oct 10, 13
Jim Ballantine, VA3JBY	Jun 11, 13
Brian Coleman, VE3DTM	Sep 12, 13
Jay Gall, SWL	Apr 11, 13
John Hood, VE3VJH	Sep 12, 13
Jim Morris, VA3AHQ	Sep 12, 13
Martin Southcott, VA3MRS	May 31, 13
Brian Wilkins, VA3OPT	Jun 13, 13
John Young, VE3ZJY	Sep 12, 13

Nets



Daily

ONTARS Net

3.755 MHz 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

Trans Provincial Net

7.055 MHz 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

London Senior's Net

146.400 MHz 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Sunday

ARES Ontario Net

7.153 MHz 1:00 pm

7.055 MHz 3:00 pm

3.742 MHz 7:15 pm

IRLP Reflector 9005 8:00 pm

Monday

LARC 2m Net

147.060 + VA3LON 8:00 pm

SATERN Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 9:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 9:00 pm

Tuesday

ELMER Net

147.060 + VA3LON 9:00 pm

Wednesday

ARES Net

145.450 + VE3OME 7:30 pm

ARES Ontario Net

IRLP Reflector 9005 8:00 pm

Thursday

PROCOMM Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 8:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 8:00 pm

Friday

Tech Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 8:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 8:00 pm

Saturday

VE3TTT 2m Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 7:30 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 7:30 pm

146.940 - VE3TCB 7:30 pm

442.050 + VE3SRT 7:30 pm

Dayton Hamfest 2014 - Bus Transportation

Here is the brochure mentioned from the first page.

HAM Radio Convention & National Museum of the US Air Force

Dayton, OH.

4 DAYS – 3 NIGHTS

May 15-18

This fully escorted tour includes:

Refreshments, snacks and movies on the bus.

3 Nights hotel accommodations (Comfort Suites) with indoor pool, fitness centre and wi-fi. 3 Deluxe hot and cold breakfasts, 2 Dinner buffets

Daily Transportation to the Hamvention and return to the hotel

Transportation to the Outlet Mall and other Shopping Malls for those not attending the Ham Radio Convention. You may also visit the National Museum of the US Air Force (across the street from the hotel)

Duty free shopping both ways.

All taxes included

\$499 pp Double occ. **\$479** pp Triple occ. **\$699** Single occ.

4

www.travelgoodtimetours.com



RAC Bulletin 2014-004E - RBR-4 Confirms Access to 137 KHz

February 15, 2014

Industry Canada approved access by Canadian radio amateurs to the Low Frequency (LF) band 135.7 -137.8 kHz, subject to certain conditions in late 2009. This was a direct result of implementing changes from the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) 2007, which added amateur use of this spectrum on a Secondary basis. This has now been included in the newly updated RBR-4 Standards for the Operation of Stations in the Amateur Radio Service. (<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf10650.html>) Canadian amateurs are reminded that the maximum emission bandwidth in this band is 100Hz (e.g. CW, BPSK31, BPSK63, etc.) as well as a maximum EIRP of 1 watt. These conditions are found in Footnote 5.67A: "Stations in the amateur service using frequencies in the band 135.7-137.8 kHz shall not exceed a maximum radiated power of 1 W (EIRP) and shall not cause harmful interference to stations of the radio navigation service operating in countries listed in No. 5.67. (WRC-07)".

RAC welcomes reports of activities in this band, especially reports of DX achieved and useful operating tips. We are asking those active on this band to consider writing articles for TCA to help other amateurs get started on LF, given the large differences in LF antennas, and the need for homebrew transmitters, receivers, and/or transverters. Insights into propagation and other LF operating tips are also requested.

Thanks to Richard Ferch, VE3KI and Jim Dean, VE3IQ.

George Gorsline, VE3YV
RAC International Affairs Officer

Vernon Ikeda - VE2MBS/VE2QQ
Pointe-Claire, Québec

RAC Blog Editor/RAC E-News/Web News Bulletin Editor

Upcoming Events

Thu., Mar. 13, 2014

**London Amateur Radio Club
General Meeting** – London ARC
St. Judes Church, Southwest corner
of Adelaide Rd. N. and Fanshawe Park
Rd., London, Ontario

Sat., Mar. 22, 2014

Ham-Ex 2014 – Peel ARC and
Mississauga ARC
Brampton Fairgrounds – Heart Lake Rd.
& Old School Rd. 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Thu., Apr. 10, 2014

**London Amateur Radio Club
General Meeting** – London ARC
St. Judes Church, Southwest corner
of Adelaide Rd. N. and Fanshawe Park
Rd., London, Ontario

Sat., Apr. 18, 2014

**38th Durham Region Hamfest
– South Pickering ARC & North
Shore ARC**
Pickering Recreation Complex, 1867
Valley Farm Rd., 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Thu., May. 8, 2014

**London Amateur Radio Club
General Meeting** – London ARC
St. Judes Church, Southwest corner
of Adelaide Rd. N. and Fanshawe Park
Rd., London, Ontario

Thu., Jun. 12, 2014

**London Amateur Radio Club
General Meeting** – London ARC
St. Judes Church, Southwest corner
of Adelaide Rd. N. and Fanshawe Park
Rd., London, Ontario

Sat., Jun. 28, 2014 to

Sun., Jun 29, 2014

Field Day 2014 – Various Clubs
and Individuals

Sat., Jul. 12, 2013

**ONTARIO HAMFEST - 40th
Anniversary** – Burlington ARC
Milton Agricultural Fairgrounds, Milton,
ON. Doors open to public at 9:00 am

Every Saturday Morning

Starting at 8:30 am.
Breakfast at the Cottage
Restaurant. Located across the
street from the London Police
Station on Dundas St.

If you have an upcoming event
that you would like to have listed
here, please forward the
information to John Visser,
VA3MSV at
va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll
add it to the list.

RAC Bulletin 2014-05E - Industry Canada Proposes Changes to Antenna Siting Protocol

February 28, 2014

Earlier today IC released a consultation document proposing changes to CPC-2-0-03, the Antenna Siting Protocol to address the Industry Minister's policy statement of 5 February 2014 removing the 15m exemption for "cell towers".

The RAC Bulletin of February 6th had commented on the Minister's policy statement and urged that the drafting of the regulatory changes should follow closely the Minister's statement. It provided several reasons why the exemption should not be removed for radio amateurs.

The consultation document released today proposes exactly the type of change to the height exemption RAC favoured. The 15m exemption would remain but not apply to "broadcasting undertakings and telecommunications carriers".

The consultation document proposes a number of other small changes to CPC-2-0-03 and RAC will look closely at these before completing its comments on the proposed changes. Industry Canada will receive comments from the public on these changes by 31 March 2014 and finalize the changes shortly thereafter.

Some radio amateurs had expressed concern that there might be a blanket removal of the 15m exemption, forcing those wanting to install any antenna into cumbersome notification and consultation processes. This now seems unlikely but we need to follow through on the consultation process to make sure this is the final result.

RAC will respond on behalf of all Canadian amateur radio operators.

Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA
Vice-President and Regulatory Affairs Officer

Art Bell W6OBB Updates His Future Via Facebook

February 7, 2014



Art Bell, W6OBB, who departed Sirius XM satellite radio only a few weeks after his new show began last fall has issued an update on his plans via Facebook. In his January 31st posting, Art explains that he left the satellite service due to what he termed as serious problems with the streaming aspect of the service and its refusal to allow free streaming until it could be fixed. Bell said that he felt it was not reasonable to ask people to pay about \$180.00 a year to try and listen to a stream that so many complained was not working right.

Bell says that he wants to get back on the air. He says that he has asked to be released from the Non-Compete aspect of his contract but that the sat-caster has refused. So for now he has decided to simply will wait it out and then start a show that will air for free on the Internet. He notes that he does already have a time segment in mind which he says that he will announce as he gets closer to that time. *(Art Bell W6OBB via Facebook)*

DX Corner

By Dave Lambert, VE3KGK

Until Mar 07	Guantanamo Bay	KG4	SSB/Digital
Until Mar 08	Annobon	3C0BYP	SSB
Until Mar 10	Montserrat	VP2M	SSB
Until Mar 12	Uganda	5X1XA	
Until Mar 12	Rwanda	9X0NH	Some SSB
Until Mar 14	Palau	T88XT	SSB
Until Mar 15	Saba	PJ6	SSB
Until Mar 17	Zambia	9J2T	DX-pedition all bands/modes
Until Mar 23	Tanzania	5H2DK	SSB
Until Mar 26	Antigua	V2ZG	SSB/Digital
Until Apr 02	Madeira	CT9	SSB
Until Nov 20	Andros Island	AF1G/C6A	80m-6m SSB
Feb 07 - Mar 09	Bonaire	PJ4F	HF bands
Feb 09 - Mar 25	Guadeloupe	FG/F6ITD	HF SSB/Digital
Feb 19 - Mar 25	Calypso Bay, St. Kitts	V47JA, V47HAM	160m-6m SSB
Feb 21 - Mar 10	Dominica	J7Y	ARRL DX SSB contest
Feb 22 - Mar 16	Saint Maarten	PJ7AA	
Feb 25 - Mar 16	Kampala, Uganda	5X1XA	CW only
Feb 25 - Mar 21	Cambodia	XU7ACQ	40m-10m SSB/PSK31/RTTY
Feb 27 - Mar 10	Gambia	C5/M1TKA	20m-10m QRP Holiday Style
Mar 01 - Mar 11	Christmas Island	VK9X/K7CO	80-10m SSB/CW/PSK31
Mar 01 - Mar 28	Suriname	PZ5VC	PSK31
Mar 02 - Mar 17	Aruba	WA2NHA/P4	80m-10m CW
Mar 03 - Mar 10	Grenada	J34G	Holiday Style SSB
Mar 04 - Mar 19	Saba & St Eustatius	PJ6/KB8RJ PJ6/WD8KUR	Holiday Style HF
Mar 10 - Mar 18	Belize	V31SQ	SSB
Mar 10 - Mar 23	Sri Lanka	4S7	SSB/Digital
Mar 11 - Mar 23	Guadeloupe	F6ARC/FG	Holiday Style 30m, 17m & 12m CW only
Mar 12 - Mar 29	Curacao	PJ2	SSB/Digital
Mar 13 - Mar 18	Aruba	P4	All modes
Mar 13 - Mar 26	Chatham Island	ZL7	RTTY/CW
Mar 14 - Mar 16	Jersey	MJ5Z	
Mar 14 - Mar 20	Tonga	A35JP	SSB/CW
Mar 14 - Apr 11	Tanzania	5H3MS	
Mar 15 - Mar 22	Cayman	ZP2MT	CW/PSK
Mar 15 - Mar 22	Norfolk Is	VK9NF	Digital
Mar 16 - Mar 19	Mozambique	C81GR	
Mar 16 - Apr 08	Saint Leu	F5MNW/FR	HF bands CW
Mar 19 - Apr 01	British Virgin Island	VP2V	SSB/CW
Mar 20 - Apr 01	Austral Island	TX6G	DX-pedition/all bands/modes
Mar 20 - Apr 01	Chatham Island	ZL7AAA	SSB/CW

DX Corner cont.

Mar 21 - Mar 24	Yuetuo Island	BA3AX/3 & BD3AEO/3	20m – 15m CW/SSB/RTTY/PSK 31
Mar 21 - Apr 04	Mayotte	TO7BC	CW
Mar 23 - Mar 30	Andaman Islands	VU4K	40m – 10m SSB/RTTY
Mar 23 - Mar 31	Fiji	3D2FJ	CW
Mar 23 - Mar 31	Togo	5V7	
Mar 28 - Apr 09	Mellish Reef	VK9MT	DX-pedition/all bands/modes
remainder of 2014	Taehuksan Island	DS4DRE/4	80m – 10m SSB/CW

The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved the 2014 operation of FT5ZM -- Amsterdam & St Paul Island -- for DX Century Club credit. Also the ARRL DXCC Desk has approved the 2013 operation of CY0P -- Sable Island -- for DX Century Club credit. If a DXCC credit request for these operations has been rejected in a prior application, contact ARRL Awards Branch Manager [Bill Moore](#), NC1L, to be placed on the record update list. Note the submission date and/or application reference number. DXCC is Amateur Radio's premier award. Hams can earn it by confirming on-the-air contacts with 100 DXCC "[entities](#)," most of which are countries in the traditional sense. Learn [more](#). -- *ARRL Awards Branch Manager Bill Moore, NC1L*

(Above from various DX news sources)

R0000R Celebrates Winter Olympics In Sochi Russia

February 7, 2014

Special event callsign R0000R (R-Zero-Zero-Zero-Zero-O-R) will be on the air through March 31st in celebration of the 2014 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games being held in Sochi, Russia. The

Four zero's in the call are to symbolize the Olympic rings. QSL's go via UA1OJL direct or electronically using Logbook of the World or eQSL. *(WIA News)*

PA530ROT Celebrates Paris To Rotterdam Relay Race

February 7, 2014

Listen out for Netherlands special event station PA530ROT to be operational through February 28th. This in celebration of the annual Paris to Rotterdam 100 hour nonstop relay race. PA530ROT will be

operational on all of the High Frequency bands using various modes. If you make contact please QSL via PAZ0ABM. *(DXNL)*

Cayman Islands ARC Celebrates 35 Years

February 7, 2014

To celebrate 35 years of the founding of the Cayman Amateur Radio Society, its members have been authorized by the Cayman Islands Information and

Communications Technology Authority to use the ZF35 callsign prefix through January 19, 2015. QSL each station as directed on the air. *(QRZ)*

Peruvian IOTA DXpedition

February 14, 2014

Word that a joint Peruvian expedition composed of members of the Radio Club Peruano and the Radio Club Grupo DX Bahia Blanca of Argentina, will be on the air from Isla San Lorenzo from February 20th to the 24th. The Island is located in the Pacific with the group signing the special call OC0I. The operators

plan to have two stations active simultaneously 24 hours a day on 80 through 10 meters, including WARC bands. Modes mentioned include CW, SSB and PSK-31. QSL direct to LU7DSY or via the bureau to LU3DXG. Electronic QSL's go via eQSL. *(Southgate)*

Celebrating The Hamanako Flower Expo

February 14, 2014

On the air, keep an ear open for special event station 8N2HHH to be active on all bands and modes between March 1st to June 16th. This in celebration

of Japan's Hamanako Flower Expo on the island of Honshu. If you make contact, please QSL as directed on the air. (*JJ1WTL/AC6IM*)

Rotarians On The Air To Stop Polio

February 14, 2014

To celebrate the birthday of community service organization Rotary International and highlight its involvement in eradicating the disease polio, members of the organization will be on air on February the 22nd and 23rd with a number of special event stations.

All participating Rotarians on Amateur Radio throughout the world will call CQ Polio to

commemorate the founding of Rotary International in 1905, and educate the public about Rotary's End Polio Now campaign.

Thanks to the vaccine developed by the late researcher Dr. Jonas Salk. Polio is no longer a problem in many nations. However it still remains a major threat to public health in a number of places around the globe. (*WAI News*)

Slovak Republic Special Event Station Celebrates LTE Communications

February 21, 2014

On the air listen out for Slovak Republic station OM44LTE to be on all of the ham bands until December 31st. This special event callsign is being used to celebrate the allocation of frequencies for the Long Term Evolution or LTE communications at 800 MHz, 1800 MHz and 2600 MHz in that nation. The station operator is OM3TOW who is a

spokesman of the nation's Regulatory Authority for Electronic Communications and Postal Services. Electronic QSLing via eQSL is preferred but for those who require a paper QSL can obtain one by sending theirs with a self-addressed envelope and sufficient return postage to OM3RP who is the QSL manager for this operation. (*OPDX*)

The St. Patrick's Day Award

February 21, 2014

A group of Northern Ireland radio amateurs have introduced a new award for hams who want to celebrate St. Patrick's Day on the air. While details are still a bit sketchy, the organizers hope this to be an annual event every March 17th. Those who want

to participate as an award station or who want more information on the event should go to stpatrickaward.webs.com on the World Wide Web. (*MIORYL, Southgate*)

St. Patrick Day Special Event Station GB1SPD

February 28, 2014

March 17th is Saint Patrick's Day and not only will it be celebrated world-wide but also on the ham radio bands. This with word that Irelands West Tyrone Amateur Radio Club will be putting special event station GB1SPD on the air from the Strule Arts

Centre in Omagh in the County of Tyrone some 70 miles from the city of Belfast. GB1SPD will be operating on HF, VHF, UHF and Digital Modes. A special QSL card will be sent to all who make contract. (*Southgate*)

NL8F Again Planning Down-Under Oz Tour

February 28, 2014

NL8F has told the Ohio Penn DX Newsletter that he is heading down-under to Queensland, Australia, on March 6th. From there he will travel to Frasier Island

for a few days and be active as stroke VK4. He will then go to Norfolk Island to be active as VK9NF if the paper work done on time. If not he will sign

VK9N stroke NL8F between March 15th through to the 22nd. At airtime, he thinks his activity will be mostly on the digital modes.

Next he will head to Christmas Island and be active as T32TM between March 25th and April 2nd, which will include his participation in the CQ World Wide

WPX SSB Contest from March 29th to the 30th. After his T32TM operation is completed he plans on heading to Visalia, California, for the International DX Convention before heading back to Alaska on April 6th. QSL via K8NA for all of the listed NL8F operations. (OPDX)

GM0KTO To Operate From The Gambia

February 28, 2014

The GB2RS News Service says that GM0KTO and his wife will be in Gambia during the month of March. He has renewed his Gambian visitor's amateur radio license and will be operating stroke C5 using an Icom

IC-706 Mk II and a several wire antennas for the High Frequency bands. QSL this one as directed by the operator.

Tesla Memorial HF CW Contest March 8 – 9

February 28, 2014

The 2014 Tesla Memorial Contest will be held March 8th starting 18:00 UTC and ending at 8:00 UTC on the 9th. The competition is open to operators world-wide. Participants must use CW only on the 80 meter

band. Points are awarded for distance between stations. For full details are at tinyurl.com/tesla-memorial (IRTS)

Mellish Reef DXpedition Ready to Pick Up the Post-FT5ZM Slack

February 27, 2014

With the hubbub generated by the just-ended FT5ZM Amsterdam Island DXpedition still echoing in our ears, the Mellish Reef [VK9MT](#) DXpedition is waiting in the wings to launch its own adventure on the Amateur Radio airwaves. VK9MT will be handing out another rare one March 29 through April 9 from the Coral Sea atoll.

"Congratulations to the FT5ZM team for their excellent operation," Team Mellish said in a February 20 [news update](#). "Our equipment is on the way to Australia, and the team is making last-minute preparations for their journey to Australia." An advance team is set to arrive in Australia on March 18 to start retrieving equipment from storage and preparing for the sea voyage.

The team has selected the 25 meter passenger expedition yacht [Evohe](#) from New Zealand to transport operators and gear to Mellish Reef. Given the paucity of dry land at the operating site, DXpedition participants plan to take their meals and sleep on the vessel. A pilot team now is in place to manage all communication between the island team and DXers. An [online log](#) will be available. The DXpedition also has spelled out its [QSL policy](#).

Located some 1150 kilometers north-northeast of Brisbane, Australia, Mellish Reef takes the form of a



boomerang-shaped platform some 10 kilometers long and 3 kilometers wide.



Mellish Reef will become part of Australia's Coral Sea Marine Reserve Management Program on July 1. [Photo courtesy VK9MT website]

The schedule calls for 10 full days of operation on 160 through 10 meters, CW, SSB, and RTTY, with 10 operators. Mellish Reef was last activated in 2009

and is number 23 on ClubLog's February 2014 [DXCC Most Wanted List](#).

The team said it was "honored" to receive an ARRL [Colvin Award](#) grant, funded through an endowment established by Lloyd Colvin, W6KG (SK). The DXpedition budget is estimated at \$110,000, not including operators'



individual expenses. The team has pledged "full financial transparency" for all aspects of the DXpedition. "When the books are closed, clubs and foundations that supported the project will receive a financial accounting," Team Mellish has said. [Contact](#) the DXpedition via e-mail. The DXpedition also has a [Facebook page](#).

Several members of the VK9MT team plan to attend Dayton Hamvention in May and the Friedrichshafen, Germany, Ham Radio exhibition in June. Read [more](#).

The ARRL Letter

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

Winter 2014 5 MHz Newsletter Now Available

February 7, 2014

The winter 2014 edition of the 5 MHz Newsletter is now available for download. In addition to the latest 60 meter news, there's also an article titled The Supremacy of 5 MHz as a Communication Bridge, a feature on the new South African ZS6KTS Beacon

plus items on digital voice and the latest worldwide 5 MHz Amateur Allocations Chart. You can find The 5 MHz Newsletter in PDF format at tinyurl.com/o26huzb. (Southgate)

Dispelling The Rumors About CQ Magazine

February 7, 2014

And finally this week, word that the print edition of CQ Magazine is alive well and catching up on its paper publication after a bout with distribution problems. This according to CQ editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, in a recent interview with Hap Holly, KC9RP, of the Radio Amateur Information Network. W2VU says that the folks at CQ are hard at work to get things back to normal:

W2VU: "We've had over the past few months some significant problems with distribution of our print issues. We apologize to all of our readers and are hoping that a lot of these changes we are making can help get us back on schedule. We really, really appreciate everyone's patience with us and hope that you will continue to be patient as we work our way back to a normal schedule on our print issue."

And what about the rumor that CQ is abandoning print in favor of digital only distribution? Moseson says that's not going to happen with CQ:

W2VU: "We have no intention of abandoning print, but if you look around the magazine marketplace

today, virtually every magazine that's out there has a digital edition as well as a print edition. It's just where the industry is going and what readers expect. They expect to have a choice between a digital and a print edition of a magazine."

What about CQ's other magazines? W2VU says that they will become a part of the expanded version of CQ found only on the web:

W2VU: "Beginning with the February issue of CQ we are incorporating elements of Popular Communications, CQ VHF and Worldradio Online into an expanded digital edition which we are calling CQ Plus. It's going to be another 50 pages long every month. Those other magazines are no longer going to be published independently so their content is going to be merged into this expanded digital edition of CQ."

Moseson has a lot more to say about the future of CQ and publishing in general. You can hear the first part of this two part interview on line right now at www.therainreport.com. (KC9RP, RAIN)

Winter Edition of New Radio Waves E-Newsletter Now Available

February 13, 2014

The Winter 2014 [edition](#) of *Radio Waves*, ARRL's redesigned and renamed e-newsletter for instructors

and teachers, is now available on the ARRL website. Among the selection of articles: "High School

Students Put Packet Radio to Work for Local Environmental Study," "Club Boasts Fourfold Increase in New Licensees/Upgrades," "Instructor Corner -- News, Ideas, Support," and "In The Classroom: Teaching Ohm's Law."

ARRL Education Services Manager Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, who edits the newsletter, said *Radio Waves* aims to provide information that will help educators and instructors with licensing or classroom instruction and to share experiences and stories of other instructors and teachers that may offer ideas for readers to incorporate into their own activities. Johnson explained that the redesign was due in part to a desire to include links to the wealth of information available on the ARRL website and elsewhere.

"We can bring together information that exists in many places more effectively than we could in the past," she said. "We provide the information in newsletter format direct to your mailbox as a convenience."

Johnson said readers can review the current [edition](#) or earlier issues -- including an archive of past editions of the earlier *Instructor/Teacher E-Letter*-- for information and ideas about licensing instruction, and for stories about how ham radio is being used in the classroom for learning and fun.

ARRL-registered volunteer [instructors](#) and [classroom teachers](#) are automatically subscribed to receive *Radio Waves*. Others may sign up to receive e-mail notification of new issues; click on "Edit your Profile" at the top of the ARRL website home page. Then, click on "Edit Email Subscriptions" and check the box for "ARRL Instructor/Teacher E-Letter."

The ARRL Letter

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor



TX Factor TV Program Comes To The Web

February 28, 2014



The United Kingdom's first television show dedicated entirely to amateur

radio was launched on the Internet just after midnight UTC on Friday 21st February. The half-hour show is produced by a group of broadcast professionals who are themselves radio amateurs.

Shot in full High Definition, episode one features Bob McCreadie, G0FGX, exploring the Marconi Centre, at

Poldhu in Cornwall. Nick Bennett 2EZ0FGQ takes a hike up a mountain to discover the delights of Summits on the Air operation. Finally Mike Marsh G1IAR takes the audience to meet the Norman Lockyer Observatory Radio Group to find out what makes a 2 meter repeater tick

Over the coming months and years the show hopes to explore all aspects of our fascinating hobby and is free to watch at txfactor.co.uk. Just click on the word "here" under "Watch Episode 1 Now." (*GB2RS, TX Factor*)

Apps For Hams And SWLs At SWLing Post

February 14, 2014

Hams looking for amateur radio related apps for their smart phones or tablets now have a place to go to learn what's available. The on-line SWLing Post has printed a run-down of some of the amateur radio

apps that are currently available. Apps for Shortwave Listeners are there as well. To get there, simply go to tinyurl.com/ham-radio-apps. (*SWLing Post, Southgate*)

Radio Amateurs Receive Rosetta Spacecraft Signals from Deep Space

February 6, 2014

James Miller, G3RUH, was among a handful of Amateur Radio operators to receive the X band

signal January 21 from the European Space Agency's [Rosetta](#) spacecraft, some 500 million miles from

Earth. Miller used the 20 meter dish at the Bochum Amateur Radio facility in Germany, run by AMSAT-DL and IUZ Bochum Observatory. In an AMSAT-BB post, Miller noted the frequency at the spacecraft was 8421.786900 MHz, and the signal was "about 14 dB" below that of the [STEREO](#) A/B spacecraft. Perhaps more astonishing, Bertrand Pinel, F5PL, was able to [track](#) Rosetta 65 kilometers from Toulouse using his "home-rigged" 3.5 meter dish and receiver. And Viljo Allik, ES5PC, a member of Estonian Student Satellite Program team reported his group was able to [detect](#) the satellite's signal using a slightly smaller dish.

"We have recently established our own small ground station for mostly educational purposes to get more interested students into space technology," Allik said in a reply to Pinel's European Space Agency blog post. The Estonians used a 3 meter dish. Allik said

the signal-to-noise ratio was in the range of 3 to 5 dB in a 1 Hz bandwidth. "So it was really exciting to see the signal from such large distance with our very simple receiving station. The elevation of the Rosetta spacecraft at our location was only about 4° during the reception."

The equipment used was "a kind of amateur design," he said. "We detected signals from other spacecraft like [Gaia](#) and STEREO A/B too, but the signal from Rosetta is the most-distant signal we have detected so far."

Launched in 2004, Rosetta will both orbit and land on a comet, which it will reach this August, and send data back to Earth. The spacecraft consists of the Rosetta space probe and the [Philae](#) robotic lander.

The ARRL Letter

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

UK Ham Locates Signal From China's Lunar Rover

February 21, 2014

China's Jade Rabbit Lunar Rover is not dead after all. This after its signal was heard and confirmed by a United Kingdom radio amateur.

The Jade Rabbit rover was launched as a part of China's Chang 3 mission to the Moon last December 1st. On December 14th the Chang 3 landed on the Moon with the first signals copied at UHF-Satcom around 17:18 UTC on that same day. The Jade Rabbit Lunar Rover was then deployed with its transmitter activated and signals detected on 8462.080MHz running in a low rate BPSK mode.

The rover functioned well until the lunar nighttime set in. The missions Command Control center was expecting the rover to contact Earth on February 12th after it had it endured its second lunar night.

Since it did not transmit any signals, the rover was officially declared permanently inoperative.

But on that same day a signal from the Jade Rabbit was heard by a ham radio operator in the United Kingdom. Paul Marsh, G7EYT, who also holds the call M0EYT reported detecting the missing rover on 8462.078 MHz. This has brought new hope to the China's Command Control personnel that the overall mission might be saved.

Needless to say that is quite an accomplishment for ham radio. Especially after those in command of the project seemed to think that all might be lost. The complete story of how the Jade Rabbit was found along with spectral pictures of the Chang mission is at www.uhf-satcom.com/amateurdsn/chang-e-3/ (*Southgate*)

A Trip Back In Time

February 21, 2014

What can best be called a trip back in time to the beginnings of the universe has been taken by researchers down-under.

A team led by astronomers from the Australian National University has discovered the oldest known star in the Universe, which formed shortly after the Big Bang 13.7 billion years ago.

It has now been confirmed using the Magellan telescope in Chile. The composition of the newly-discovered star shows it formed in the wake of a

primordial star, which had a mass 60 times that of our Sun.

The discovery has allowed astronomers for the first time to study the chemistry of the first stars, giving scientists a clearer idea of what the Universe was like in its infancy.

The star was discovered using the ANU SkyMapper telescope at the Siding Spring Observatory, which is searching for ancient stars as it conducts a five-year project to produce the first digital map of the southern sky.

Once completed the project should help give a clearer understanding of the origin of the universe and the stars that we on Earth see every night. At

least those seen in the Southern Hemisphere. (*WIA News, Times of India*)

Variability Of The Sun And Its Terrestrial Impact

February 28, 2014

A major university is joining in the ongoing research to better understand the workings of our home star.

Montana State University will be a major player in a new international program to better understand solar activity and its effect on the Earth.

MSU solar physicist Piet Martens is one of the leaders of a team that will investigate a solar paradox, extreme solar events and solar dynamo activity. One of the other two co-chairs is Dibyendu Nandi, a former MSU researcher who continues to collaborate

with the university's Solar Physics Group. He is now Dean of Science at the Indian Institute of Education and Research in Kolkata, India.

The new five-year program titled Variability of the Sun and its Terrestrial Impact was launched January 13th by the Scientific Committee on Solar Terrestrial Physics and will among other things involve reports radioed to the observers and researchers here on Earth.

More is at tinyurl.com/llzrtow (*Bozeman Daily*)

ARRL Centennial Convention Registration is Open!

February 6, 2014

[Registration](#) now is open for the ARRL National [Centennial](#) Convention, Thursday, July 17, through Saturday July 19, at the Connecticut Convention Center, to celebrate 100 years of the ARRL. Thousands of League members and friends will gather in Hartford -- the ARRL's birthplace -- to celebrate the first century of ARRL members' "Advancing the Art and Science of Radio."

The three days are packed with activities. The first day, Thursday, includes training workshops. Among these are [Contest University](#), [DX University](#), RFI 101, and a Public Service Communications Academy. The Exhibit Hall, open Friday and Saturday, will feature ARRL program representatives, Amateur Radio manufacturers, equipment sellers, and an *indoor* flea market. The Friday evening ARRL Centennial Banquet will be followed by a Wouff Hong ceremony.

A Presidents Breakfast will be held on Saturday. On all three days there will be opportunities to tour ARRL Headquarters and W1AW.

A 3 day adult ticket is \$75; youth (21 or younger) is \$50, which includes a training workshop on Thursday and access to the exhibit hall and indoor flea market on Friday and Saturday, plus all forums and a coach bus trip to ARRL Headquarters and W1AW. A 2 day (Friday/Saturday) adult ticket is \$25; youth are free. Other ticket options are available, including spouse/companion tickets that include alternative non-ham activities.

Advance registration is recommended. Join us in celebrating 100 years! (Visit <http://arrl2014.org!>)

The ARRL Letter

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

Our term of membership runs from November 1 to October 31 of the following year. Each and every year it is increasingly more difficult to get Amateurs to commit to membership in their local club due to the alternate functions we are asked to fund.

The **London Amateur Radio Club** has a long history of providing technical support, social support and repeater facilities. Public service efforts are currently provided by a club affiliation with Amateur Radio Emergency Services (**ARES**) and **Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)**.

Your Directors work tirelessly to provide meeting topics that are informative and entertaining, events that are timely (Christmas meeting, field day, bus trip) and participate in events that display and promote Amateur Radio in the community.

To be effective in its pursuits, the Club needs the support of the local Amateur fraternity through membership.

While we obtain financial support from our Annual Flea Market, we require membership support to fund such things as meeting hall rent, repeater sites rent and maintenance, web site fees, membership cards and liability insurance. For what it's worth, none of these things are getting any cheaper.

The cost of membership has not changed for a number of years and even in the face of increased cost, we would like to keep it that way.

With more than 1000 'hams' in the London area, it's inconceivable that less than 10% support a pastime about which most of us are passionate.

PLEASE, make a choice and do your part to keep the **London Amateur Radio Club** alive and well by purchasing your membership at our next meeting (or by mail – details on our web site). The cost is still only \$25.00 (single) or \$30.00 (family residing at the same address).

