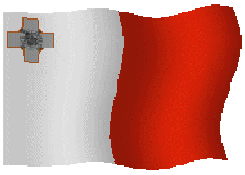
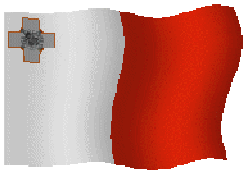


MARL



MALTA

Magazine by MARL

For Maltese and Gozitan Radio Amateurs

Number 30

September 2008

Smoking is prohibited at the Centre

From the Editor

Friends,
I welcome you to another issue of this magazine for September 2008, which is issue 30 of this series.

As I have told you last time, up to now I have succeeded in finding three magazines that used to be issued previously by **MARL** and I am copying them in **PDF** format so that we can republish them on our internet webpage so that they will be accessible to everyone. I intend to issue the first one in September.

I again appeal to anyone who has a copy of some magazine that used to be issued before this series to please pass it on to me so that I can make a copy and then I will pass it back. I thank you for your cooperation beforehand.

On Saturday 20 September we held the annual end of Summer BBQ at our club at Ħ'Attard which was a success. I thank all those who came and enjoyed themselves with us and I hope that they will continue to come whenever we organize some activity.

Now that we are approaching cooler days we expect our members to come more frequently to the club. Our Society is nothing without the members and our Club is the place where members can meet in a family atmosphere, both to pass some time with other radio amateurs as well as to share their experiences to increase their knowledge about our hobby.

It's good that you should know that now that we have an emergency group which is working hand in hand with the Civil Protection Department and has shown that it is capable of providing communications when required, the authorities are looking at us differently.

This is also useful so that other authorities such as the Communications Authority show more cooperation, and although we grumble that when we ask for other frequencies we find difficulties, I understand that due to certain procedures that have to be made our requests cannot be accepted as fast as we wish.

However we are now proceeding better and expect that some of our requests to be granted in the near future, such as, the allocation of the 136 kHz band.

I hope that you find the information in the magazine useful to you and if you have some article please leave it in my **QSL** box.

Lawrence
9H1AV / 9H9MHR

A few internet links

Mini Ring Core Calculator
Free Windows tool for calculating no. of turns on toroids
http://www.dl5swb.de/html/mini_ring_core_calculator.htm

PA3AKE's H-mode mixer Frontend
Well worth a read
http://www.xs4all.nl/~martein/pa3ake/hmode/index.html

Homebrew radios group
http://www.homebrew-radios.net/

GlobalSet

We are reminding those radio amateurs who are in the emergency group that the next emergency simulation exercise is going to be held on **Saturday, 8th November, 2008**, between **04.00** and **08.00 UTC**.

The frequencies are going to be **80M**, **40M**, **20M**, **17M** and **15M**, and **CW**, **SSB DATA** systems may be used.

These emergency simulation exercises will be around the world at the same time, and therefore those who hear stations taking part in these emergency simulation exercises are asked not to interfere and leave the frequencies clear.

Remember that an emergency can arise everywhere, and it is required that there will be properly trained radio amateurs in every country to provide emergency communications if the need arises.

These also serve so that those who are not in the emergency group which for practical reasons is limited, will be able to listen and also serve so that they will also know how the system works because no one knows when an emergency can arise and how many people will be required in particular circumstances

Further details have been sent directly to those radio amateurs who are in the emergency group.

Lawrence
9H1AV / 9H9MHR

136 kHz

Australia is to join the 30-odd countries whose radio amateurs have been already given the new low frequency amateur band of 135.7 to 137.8kHz.

The Australian Communications and Media Authority has published the draft Australia Radio Frequency Spectrum Plan that is to enter into force on the 1st of January 2009. It includes the 135.7kHz to 137.8kHz for the Amateur Service on a secondary basis.

This means that VK radio amateurs cannot cause harmful interference to the radio-navigation service stations that may continue to operate in a number of countries. The permitted maximum radiated power is one watt EIRP.

The New Year should see the Australian Advanced Licence gain this band as a new operating privilege.

Since we are expecting that as from 1 January we will be granted permission to use this frequency here you have a table that shows the recommendations of the IARU 2001 Conference about this should be used. These can be revised during the IARU Region 1 Conference next November.

135.7 – 136.0	**Station tests & transatlantic reception window**
135.9 – 135.98	**Preferred transatlantic window for Europe to North American transmissions of very slow CW (QRSS)**
135.980 - 136.050	**Preferred transatlantic window for Europe/North American contacts**
136.0 - 137.4	**CW**
137.4 - 137.6	**Non-CW modes (Hell, Wolf, PSK, etc.)**
137.6 - 137.8	**Very slow CW (QRSS) centred on 137.7**
137.700 - 137.800	**Preferred transatlantic window for North American to Europe transmissions**

Radio Beacons

Many radio amateurs know about radio beacons that operate on our frequencies and are used as a good means for one to know whether there is good propagation and to which world areas.

There are a number of beacons on different frequencies that are operated personally by radio amateurs, but there are also others that are organized to transmit on the same frequency from different places around the world and are therefore synchronized to transmit after each other.

Today I am therefore going to give you some internet links from where you can download further information.

This is the link to NCDXF (North Carolina DX Foundation) from where you can download details about these beacons.

NCDXF (North Carolina DX Foundation) monitoring programme as well as links to other programmes
http://www.dxatlas.com/

Links to download information about these beacons
http://www.iaru.org/articles/9410031.pdf
http://www.iaru.org/articles/9411049.pdf
http://www.iaru.org/articles/9709047.pdf

Here you have some details about the times that these beacons transmit so that you can try to receive them if you want to know how propagation is.

Table 1—Beacon Schedule.

This table gives the minute and second within each hour of the start of the first transmission on each frequency for each beacon. Each transmission is then repeated every three minutes. The actual starting times are approximately 20 ms after the nominal times shown, because of keying delays in the transmitters.

Each beacon transmits every three minutes, day and night. This table gives the minute and second of the start of the first transmission within the hour for each beacon on each frequency. A transmission consists of the call sign of the beacon sent at 22 words per minute followed by four one-second dashes. The call sign and the first dash are sent at 100 watts. The remaining dashes are sent at 10 watts, 1 watt and 100 milliwatts.

Click the call sign to see recent reception reports via DX Summit

If you can hear a beacon now, http://oh2aq.kolumbus.com/dxs/input2.html? to DX Summit.

This table was downloaded from http://www.ncdxf.org.

Call		Location	14.100	18.110	21.150	24.930	28.200	Operator	Status
4U1UN		United Nations	00:00	00:10	00:20	00:30	00:40	UNRC	OK
VE8AT		Canada	00:10	00:20	00:30	00:40	00:50	RAC/NARC	OK[1]
W6WX		United States	00:20	00:30	00:40	00:50	01:00	NCDXF	OK
KH6WO		Hawaii	00:30	00:40	00:50	01:00	01:10	KH6BYU	OK
ZL6B		New Zealand	00:40	00:50	01:00	01:10	01:20	NZART	OFF[5]
VK6RBP		Australia	00:50	01:00	01:10	01:20	01:30	WIA	OFF[5]
JA2IGY		Japan	01:00	01:10	01:20	01:30	01:40	JARL	OK
RR9O		Russia	01:10	01:20	01:30	01:40	01:50	SRR	OK
VR2B		Hong Kong	01:20	01:30	01:40	01:50	02:00	HARTS	OFF[6]
4S7B		Sri Lanka	01:30	01:40	01:50	02:00	02:10	RSSL	OK
ZS6DN		South Africa	01:40	01:50	02:00	02:10	02:20	ZS6DN	OK
5Z4B		Kenya	01:50	02:00	02:10	02:20	02:30	ARSK	OK
4X6TU		Israel	02:00	02:10	02:20	02:30	02:40	IARC	OK[3]
OH2B		Finland	02:10	02:20	02:30	02:40	02:50	SRAL	OK
CS3B		Madeira	02:20	02:30	02:40	02:50	00:00	ARRM	OK
LU4AA		Argentina	02:30	02:40	02:50	00:00	00:10	RCA	OK
OA4B		Peru	02:40	02:50	00:00	00:10	00:20	RCP	OK
YV5B		Venezuela	02:50	00:00	00:10	00:20	00:30	RCV	OK

1 - Operation may be intermittent due to local conditions.

2 - Moving to a new location.

3 - Building renovations are causing prolonged power outages.

4 - Off for unknown reasons. We are attempting to contact the operators.

5 - Off due to hardware problems. Repairs are underway.

6 - The antenna was destroyed by the typhoon in August. A new antenna will be installed.

The recordings were made by VE3SUN http://www.benlo.com/ve3sun.html using a TS-50 and a Cushcraft R-7 mounted 2 meters above the ground.

If you find this information to be inaccurate, please contact us
http://www.ncdxf.org/beacon/BeaconContact.html

Lawrence
9H1AV / 9H9MHR

Singapore

Singapore is going to start issuing licenses to visiting Radio Amateurs.

This was announced on 9 October by the Singapore Amateur Radio Transmitting Society (SARTS) – which is the society representing the country's radio amateurs and is a IARU Member-Society.

The Society announced that the Infocommunications Development Authority (IDA) is going to begin issuing temporary Amateur Radio licenses for radio amateurs visiting the country. The IDA is the agency responsible for Amateur Radio licenses in Singapore.

According to SARTS Vice President Peter Cook, 9V1PC, visiting hams should apply three weeks before arriving in Singapore.

The license, typically valid for a three month period at a cost of 50 Singapore dollars (or $25 for VHF/UHF-only operation), would use the call sign 9V1/home call (for example **9V1/9H1MRL**).

Further details may be found on
http://www.ida.gov.sg/doc/Policies%20and%20Regulation/Policies_and_Regulation_Level2/Guidelines%20on%20Licensing%20Scheme/GuideAmateur.pdf

Antennas and Angle of Transmission

Here you have details of the angle of transmission and the distance achieved when the transmission is refracted from the F2 layer, both during the day as well as at night.

Angle of transmission vs Distance

Angle of Trasmission Degrees	Distance F2 Region daytime kilometres	miles	Distance F2 region night time kilometres	miles
0	3220	2000	4508	2800
5	2415	1500	3703	2300
10	1932	1200	2898	1800
15	1450	900	2254	1400
20	1127	700	1771	1100
25	966	600	1610	1000
30	725	450	1328	825
35	644	400	1127	700
40	564	350	966	600
45	443	275	805	500
50	403	250	685	425
60	258	160	443	275
70	153	95	290	180
80	80	50	145	90
90	0	0	0	0

Height of Antenna and Obstacles

This table shows the required distance between the antenna and obstacles for a number of transmission angles when the antenna is 30 feet high, which is a very reasonable height for many people and trees that are 75 feet high. Although this table refers to trees, this also applies to all obstacles.

Assuming an antenna height of 30 feet and 75 foot trees

Angle of transmission degrees	Required horizontal distance from trees
0	18 kilometres
5	1932 metres
10	966 metres
15	644 metres
20	483 metres
25	370 metres
30	298 metres
35	241 metres
40	201 metres
45	169 metres
50	145 metres
60	105 metres
70	64 metres
80	32 metres
90	0 metres

I hope that you will find this information from an American services book useful for you.

Lawrence
9H1AV / 9H9MHR

Scouts Jamboree

The radio scouts jamboree this year was held on the weekend of 19 and 20 October. This event which is held every year is the 51st Jamboree where the scouts communicate by means of radio amateurs' equipment with other scouts around the world.

It's good to remind you that this year is also the 100 anniversary of the establishment of the Scouts movement in Malta.

I know that there were a number of stations from Malta that have participated.

Therefore, all those who are happy to pass on some photos I will be able to put them in this magazine.

DXpedition to Desecheo Island

For those who like to work dxpeditions, n the beginning of next year there is going to be a dxpedition to **Desecheo** Island. This Island is 14 miles off the West of **Puerto Rico** and no one lives on it.

The prefix is **KP5** and the position of the Island is **18.33N – 18.43N** u **67.42W – 67.53W**. This is an animal sanctuary and to go there you will have to get special permission from the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

It's good to know that on the Island there are remains of unexploded ordinance because the American Military used to use it for bombardments training as used to happen on **Filfla**.

To make it easier for you, we are going to give you some maps so that you will know where it is and the direction you will have to turn your antennas.

Desecheo is marked with the letter A in blue

E-mails

Here you have some e-mails of radio amateurs so that if someone wants to communicate with them through internet they can do so. If there are others who want to pass on their e-mail to me I thank them beforehand.

9H1M Dominic Azzopardi	dominic9h1m <at> yahoo.com
9H1AA George Galea	geoga2000 <at> yahoo.co.uk
9H1AK Alfred Agius	agiusalfred <at>gmail.com , alfagius <at> mail.global.net.mt
9H1AL Albert Agius	alb <at> mail.global.net.mt
9H1AZ Gaetano Pace	gaet9h1az <at> global.net.mt
9H1CC Charlie Giuliano	cgiulian2 <at> onvol.net
9H1CO Claude Markham	9h1cocam <at> maltanet.net
9H1CS Steve Cesare	stecesare <at> nextgen.net.mt
9H1ES Fortunato Bonnici	fbonnici <at> hotmail.com
9H1GB Mansueto Grech	mansueto.grech <at> gmail.com
9H1HD Charlie Grech	nevitron <at> onvol.net
9H1RA Ray Abela	9h1ra <at> maltanet.net
9H1XE Edwin Pavia	edwinpavia <at> gmail.com
9H1FX Noel Scerri	exsatco <at> onvol.net
9H1GP Mark Vella	vella <at> maltanet.net

9H1HQ Anthony Spiteri	marinfly <at> maltanet.net
9H1JL Joe Lewis Abdilla	tikku <at>onvol.net
9H1LE Jason Schembri	9h1le <at> onvol.net
9H1MC Charles Martin	vanmar <at> nextgen.net.mt
9H1PA Philip Aquilina	phillipa <at> maltanet.net
9H1PI Ivan Privitera	ivan.privitera <at> gmail.com
9H1RA Ray Abela	9h1ra <at> maltanet.net
9H1RN Jim Banner	jim.banner <at> global.net.mt
9H1PS Arthur Borg	9h1ps <at> maltanet.net
9H1RV Vincent Runza	vince9h1rv <at> onvol.net
9H1TX David Cutajar	davcut <at> maltanet.net
9H1VC James	cqde9h1vc <at> onvol.net
9H1VW Joe Falzon Scerri	9h1vw <at> maltanet.net;
9H1XT John Scicluna	9h1xt <at> onvol.net
9H1ZA Vladimir Krylov	9h1za <at> onvol.net
9H4DX Michael Muscat	9h4dx <at> maltanet.net
9H5OU Joseph Agius	scor106 <at> waldonet.net.mt
9H5SN Marco Xiberras	markxib <at> maltanet.net

Lawrence
9H1AV / 9H9MHR

70MHz

While we have tried whatever we could from our side to be given this frequency we have not been successful up to now and it does not appear that it will be given to us in the near future. This is when radio amateurs in the United Kingdom have been using it for more than 50 years and as we go along more countries are giving it to their radio amateurs.

The following are countries where their radio amateurs can also use this frequency. Further down I am going to give you a list of radio beacons that are also found on this frequency. This information is from Practical Wireless.

Country
Croatia
Denmark
Estonia
Faroe Islands
Greece
Greenland
Ireland
Luxembourg
Monaco
Portugal
Slovenia
South Africa
United Kingdom (G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW)
Gibraltar
Czech Republic
Germany

Italy
Sovereign Military Order of Malta 1A
Vatican City

Radio Beacons

Freq	Call Sign	Location	Locator	Power W	Antenna
70.000	GB3BUX,	Derbyshire,	IO93BF,	20	2x Turnstile
70.007	GB3WSX	Somerset	IO80QW	150	5 el 70^0
70.016	GB3BAA	Hertforshire	IO91PS	20	Dipole
70.016	SV5FOUR	Greece	KM46CK	5	5 el Yagi 315^0
70.020	GB3ANG	Dundee	IO86MN	100	3 el Yagi 160^0
70.021	OZ7IGY	Denmark	JO55WM	25	Big Wheel
70.025	GB3MCB	Cornwall	IO70OJ	40	2 el Yagi 45^0 u 135^0
70.027	GB3CFG	Co. Antrim	IO74CR	20	2x3 el Yagi 45^0 u 135^0
70.029	S55ZMB	Slovenia	JN76VK	6	4 el Yagi 135^0
70.031	G4JNT/P	Dorset	IO80UU	0.6	Dipole
70.035	OY6BEC	Faroe Islands	IP62OA	25	2 el Yagi 135^0
70.040	SV1FOUR	Greece	KM27AW	5	5 el Yagi 315^0
70.070	GW3MHW	Powys	IQ82IP		Operates in summer
70.088	I0XJ	Italy	JN61HV	6	4 el Yagi 340^0
70.109	IZ1DYE	Italy	JN45AC	1	3 el Yagi
70.113	5B4CY	Cyprus	KM64FT	10	6 el Yagi 315^0
70.130	EI4RF	Ireland	IO63WD	25	5 el Yagi 45^0 & 135^0
70.151	LX0FOUR	Luxembourg	JN39AV	10	Dipole
70.166	CS5BFM	Portugal	IM59QD	10	Dipole
70.437	MB7FM	Hertfordshire	IO91PS	10	Dipole FM repeater
70.002	ZS1FOR	South Africa	JF96FB	15	Vertical Dipole
70.010	J5FOUR	Guinea Bissau	IK21EV	20	4 el Yagi 20^0
70.012	OX4MB	Greenland	GP47TA	25	5 el Yagi 90^0
70.163	CS3BFM	Madeira	IM12OR	10	4 el Yagi
70.165	CU8B	Azores	HM48KL		
75.300	ZD8DUB	Ascension Isl.	II22TB	8	4 el Yagi 340^0

Activities

Activity for radio amateurs

Be attentive and become members in the yahoo group to be fully informed with the latest activities that we intend to hold.

We have issued the first copy of the magazines that MARL used to issue in previous years so that whoever wants to can keep a copy and see what happened during the years.

I remind you that every alternate Thursday, that is, Thursday yes Thursday no, an eating activity is held at the Club where whoever is present and is not on diet may eat against a nominal payment. For more details speak to Joe, 9H1AJ.

Lawrence
9H1AV/9H9MHR