

The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

Issue 7/2005 12 July 2005

EME with a Remote Station

Setting up big antennas and running QRO - however living in metropolitan area: the handicap for a dedicated EME amateur. Radiation limits and space restrictions makes this much more than just a "mission impossible". As Add-on comes the man-made noise by crap electronic "toys" in the neighbourhoods. However, nowadays there are some relatively inexpensive ways out: running a radio station via the internet. Frank, DH7FB, completed such a project some months ago.

He is now QRV either from home in Berlin (JO62TM) with 2x 9 ele DK7ZBs – or from JO63SC with 4x 12 ele DK7ZBs. The remote station is located 140 km drive (one way) from his home so it needed to be and is very fool-proof. Frank had already experienced driving 280 km only for fixing a problem that needed 5 minutes time.

The entire project with all its details and experiences is explained on www.dh7fb.de, Frank's website. There he also provides access to the pc screen and live web cam views of the location. Consequently during a test the other station could even have a look at its own signal being received at DH7FB/P. Of course, one should refrain from doing this whilst in QSO. Whenever you copy DH7FB/P in the future – you now know this is probably the very first remote controlled ham EME station.



J3/K5AND : An Example of a successful EME Expedition

From 26 June to 2 July 2005 a team with Dick, K5AND, activated Grenada on 50 MHz. To the delight of the 2 m EME community also a decent 144 MHz station was set up in J3. Johan, ON4IQ, who was a member of the team, had arranged for four 2M9 yagis and some 350 watts out, more than ample to work successfully in JT65B. And so it was... nearly 70 EME QSOs were made.

For some OM in Europe who had set their alarm for moonrise time in Grenada it paid off being an early bird. Around 03.00 UTC on June 26th J3/K5AND popped out of the noise on 144,107 MHz and was easily worked.

To make the operation as efficient as possible during the little time available, the team had communi-





cated "Rules of Engagement" that should leave no way for misunder-standing. Particularly they asked stations not to call into a QSO being in progress. That should have been easily understandable because if someone calls he should have copied the station in the first place. And if he had copied the station he would then see if the DX station is in QSO with somebody else. And... if so...one should wait until that QSO is either completed or the dx station starts calling CQ again.

Johan is not at all happy about the behaviour of some hams. He complains particularly about a EA2- station permanently QRMing him for two days in a row by calling him though J3/K5AND was currently

working somebody else. Another – could one call this funny? – experience to him was a G4-station sending RRRs to him though J3/K5AND had not even started sending a report. It's always good to keep WAVs of a QSO... Full details of the stations worked and also some screen shots can be viewed on the J3/K5AND expedition sites http://www.eudxers.com/J3/K5AND/2m.php

Most of the QSOs were made random, the majority of the skeds failed. That was a good and time-efficient choice as the average QSO took just 6 -7 minutes only. Working split 0,1-1,0 kHz up helped, too. QSLs for J3/K5AND go to N0QJM, donations are most welcome.



Currently Johan is making plans for trips in 2006, and also he is busy assembling a standard dxpedition station with minimum weight and size. For details see www.on4iq. com

QSO Reports

Bob, K6PF (DM13)...

...ran several cw skeds on June 11 & 12 and picked up 2 initials. Condx were very noisy at his QTH, apparently due to solar disturbances (again):

11 June: PA3CMC - completed I6WJB, PA1GYS, YO3FFF & DL8YHR - all nil

12 June:
DL8YHR - completed, initial 205,
Tx/Rx - H polarity
S54T - completed, initial 206, Tx/
Rx - V polarity
AA4ZZ - nil
I6WJB - not completed

Guido DL8EBW (JO31)...

...is the perfect example that the WSJT package enables every average (and particularly high end) meteorscatter station to making eme contacts. Since 25 March 2005 Guido has completed 41 QSOs via moon, running some 500 watts and a single 12 elements M2 at 10° fixed elevation. Guido is active on VHF since about 1982. He has worked some 658 grids via terrestrial propagation, and more than 500 via meteorscatter. Now together with the EME grids he counts 685 grids.

DL8EBW's June report runs: 01.06. 0202 F8DO JN26 -28db #36 02.06. 0215 RA0FCA QN16 -22db #37 03.06. 0210 UA9FAD LO88 -21db #38 11.06. 2115 KL7UW BP40 -26db #39 12.06.

2240 K1CA FN42 -25db #40 13.06.

2215 N9XG EN60 -26db #41 2240 9A3JH JN75 -31db NC 16.06.

2208 I6WJB JN72 -30db #42 24.06.

0425 W5UWB EL17 -23db NC 25.06.

0425 W5UWB EL17 -24db NC 0605 ZS6WAB KG46 -29db NC 2310 KG6DX QK23 -25db #43 26.06.

0006 RW1AY/1 KO68-22db #44 0054 DL8YHR JO41 -23db #45 0615 ZS6WAB KG46-25db NC 29.06.

0000 VK2FLR QF56 -29db NC 01.07.

1400 J3/K5AND FK92 -30db NC

On 13 June DL8EBW's signal was even copied by 9A3JH (single 12el yagi, -26db), OK1TEH (single 10el yagi, -29db) and G4CBW (2x 9el yagis without preamp, -24db!)! Once the EME virus was planted, Guido is considering an antenna upgrade. He might be QRV with 2 MXP20s some time next year. Moreover he welcomes any sked, also with stations he has already worked.

Activity Updates

W5UWB (EL17)

John has swapped his 2M5WL



which provided him with 192 QSO's and 122 initials, including 5 with single yagi stations for a M2 8WLHD (55' boom) at 60' With an E place of 20° amd H of 21° he expects his usable lobes to be narrower although 2 db better. We will soon know how it works!!

Miscellaneous

www.hb9q.ch Initial Standings

Dan, HB9Q, writes: 'Dear friends! Please update your initial standings at www.hb9q.ch.According to the decision made at the 2004 EME

Convention the EME INITIAL LIST distinguishes between entries including JT-modes and such without JT-modes. Therefore it is now possible to enter two standings, one with JT and one without JT. Please see the EME INITIAL LIST page to up-date your standings!

Many thanks and happy moon-bouncing Dan, HB9Q"



The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

is produced monthly. Copyright is by Bernd J. Mischlewski, DF2ZC. Permission to quote or reprint material from the newsletter is granted under the condition that it is only for non-commercial, personal use.

For a permission to make commercial use send a written request to DF2ZC@web.de