MW DXING HOME PAGE

LOGS / NEWS - JULY 2013

A site mainly dedicated to Mediumwave Dxing

All DX Logs - FM / TV DX - Perseus / Equipment - Audio Downloads - Other Items - DX chat Contact

New / Personal first's this month = 00 NB: ALL TIMES ARE IN GMT.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 31st JULY 2013

SCOTTISH WEATHER REPORT:

Well after what appears to have been the best summer for a number of years, the rainy season has again started. What a shame, but hey, we can't complain. July has been brilliant until the thunder storms came in last week. June was also rather good here for a change after the coldest spring for many a long year. Yet the wildlife came through it all, in leaps and bounds. The fish life in the local river was quite amazing till the rains came. Are they still there, or washed downstream??? I have absolutely no idea, as the river runs in spate as I type this.

Last night, 30th, again I had the antennas and drives and everything I could all disconnected, as around 3 or 4pm we had the thunder and lightning and heavy rains again. There are black clouds rolling around as this is typed up on 31st July.

I sure hope the summer heatwave comes back for a while here. It was long long overdue.

MW DXING AND THE EAGLES HISTORY DVD - DON AND KWKH:

MW dxers are no doubt aware of a station which is a regular in Europe on 1130kHz, KWKH Shreveport, LA. But I was watching the HISTORY OF THE EAGLES DVD the other night, where Don Henley was talking about his influence from the big 50kW stations that came in to Texas from Louisiana, and in particular KWKH. Not named, but does he also refer to New Orleans WWL, another regular here in Europe?? Isn't it great how many of these great artists were influenced by radio.

Download clip of Don and KWKH, around 120mB. don_and_kwkh.mpg Fellow Eagle Joe Walsh is also a Radio Ham, see http://www.qrz.com/db/wb6acu

Bob Dylan also spoke on a BBC4 documentary about listening at night to big 50kW stations that came in from far and wide at night time.

The Who during their most recent documentary a couple of years ago really gave their thanks to Radio Caroline, for playing their music and giving them the much needed boost in the early days.

These are folks that were brought up with AM radio as an important source of entertainment, a bit like myself. Unfortuantely here in Europe, there is now nothing particularly significant to listen to on MW at night. Fiddlin' Tom Cameron on Radio North 846 on a Wed night perhaps?? Gone are the high powered Arrow 675 and 10 Gold 1008 signals. And going back a bit, gone are the signals from the sea and Luxembourg, and Blue Danube Radio on 1476, Radio Sweden, BRT, etc.

AM RADIO - STILL IMPORTANT ACROSS THE WORLD:

Today on the web you read these bulletin boards with so called enthusiasts debating the future of MW. They often talk in the past tense, and claim it to be hardly used. Yet show me the true clear channels. We only have 1476. And that development is only in the last few months!! Tune into MW at night and the band is still jam packed from end to end. Actually 927 is also clear now since BRT closed.

OK gone are certain high power transmitters across Europe. Still with us are so many more, that from a selfish mw dxers point of view would be better closed. Who wouldn't like to see the back of high powered transmitters on 675, 1008, 1377, 1422, 1440, as well as the UK 1215, 1089, 909 stations. There are many many more large high powered transmitters still to the fore, that must be very low in KW per listener. Some broadcast services that are available also on FM.

Back to the tired phrase - "The AM band is little used". Obviously not from someone in the know. Is this a case of what they believe, and do not even have an AM radio to tune to see?? Are they buying crap radios that make the AM band sound poor?? More concerning is that Prof Brian Cox, a well respected astronomer used the AM / FM band as a comparason recently in one of his many documentaries, and used the same phrase. I wish I had recorded that particular section of his documentary.

FM LOGS FROM THE LAST WEEKS:

I have finally typed up some FM dx logs from mid month. See below. Anyone who is interested, do look back in the next few days as I will hopefully add audio clips and rds captures to some.

BEASTS FROM THE UNKNOWN:

I was at a pals back garden lapping up the summer sunshine the other night and he was

showing me the strange little beasts he has in a rain barrel. I can't say I have seen these before. There were literally hundreds of these little things sitting in the sun, in the water at the top of the barrel. But when anyone approached, they swam down into the depths of the rain barrel. To the naked eye, hey looked like a carpet tack, but on closer inspection of the close up photos, they look like a small screw nail, with a prop on their tail!!! Funny little things. The white circular pipe is the gutter from the garage roof, going into the rain barrel. On the web there are similar little things in the Mosquito Larve pages.





KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 24th JULY 2013

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING STORM TUESDAY 23rd:

We have not had a thunderstorm like that in a while. I was tearing around slightly mad

ripping out any antennas and mains leads that I could find, and disconnecting hard drives. Oh yes, I don't like those electrical storms, due to the potential damaging flashes!!

On a funnier note, the wee dog jumped clean out the window onto a flat roof. He was sitting on the upstairs window sill, window open, watching the torrential rain, and suddenly was spooked by a loud crack of thunder. He was tearing around the garden after this, barking and wondering where all the noise was coming from..LOL.. So funny...

PERSEUS SDR - ONE DOWN ONE TO GO!!!

I have a problem with the Perseus SDR, number 2. Devine retribution some would say for my remarks the other day..lol.... But in the panic to dismantle everything that was connected to anything during the thunder and lightning, and then the panic to reconnect when I realised there was a sporadic e opening when I came back into the shack much later, I think I have given the Perseus the FM+ supply. Damn. My own fault, but this brings home another problem. Two identical power leads / sockets, one 12v and one 5v. This is a very bad idea!! The power connections wont be the same for long now!! I will have to have a chase around for a better solution!!!!

Incidentally I had recorded MW on the night before the thunder storm, but never noticed if the lightning had damaged the rx. I think it was prob a wrong supply.

I was reading through the Perseus group, and there was another dxer had the same symptoms, which was deaf on MW and serious images above 1.6 mhz. I recall the circus a dx friend in Ireland had to go through to have his unit repaired. It had to be sent to the UK first to Lynch, then Lynch sent it to Italy. The Italians sent it back to Lynch and Lynch had to return it back to Ireland. Price charged was acceptable, but time wasting wasn't, by the silly roundabout way it had to be posted.

It would put one off trying to get it repaired. But I shall have to at some point. All I can say is thank goodness I had a spare!! I have always stated that the Perseus receivers are too expensive to have sold my spare, even if I could have done with the extra cash. If one breaks down / struck by lightning etc, a spare would be so helpful, I used to say.

And here I am at that stage now!!

FM DXING AND THE MICTOTELECOM FM+:

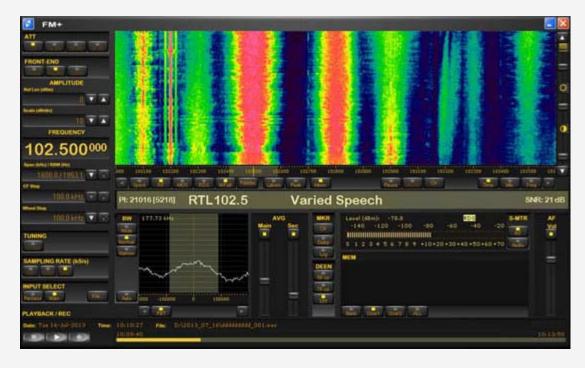
I have to tell you that the FM+ is just superb for FM dxing.... I have been fortunate enough to have quite a few openings to various parts of Europe today, 24th July.

I initially was tired of switching the PC off and back on when a weak and fading single signal came up. Davie up the street was telling me band 2 is open, but I am honestly not really interested if one hissy fading thing is coming up and down teasing us, which is exactly what was happening earlier. It annoys the hell out us all I guess, and I kept switching off thinking it was one of those annoying days. Not so. Eventually, not long before I was about to switch off again for good, the lower part of the band opened, though some random signals were also heard up the band.

My initial listing is better being typed here, as the last few logging efforts have been scribbled on bits of scrap paper and not typed up. So I apologise if I have not looked up the FM lists for qth etc.

Tuesday's dx was reported, but I have to say I disconnected everything I could to try and protect me from the lightning.

Before the logs is a screenshot of the FM+ during spordic e. There are also a few sample RDS screenshots with the logs.



LOGS FROM THURSDAY 25th JULY 2013

87.6 FRANCE - France Inter 1940 25/7

87.9 Maritima France RDS ID 1937 audio id 1938 25/7 ??? Onda Melodea 2000 25/7 need to look back recording

PI: 62518 [F436] MARITIMA None

88.6 RNE-Clas Serious Classics 1953

LOGS FROM WEDNESDAY 24th JULY 2013

87.6 SWEDEN - SR P1 Sweden 1100 24/7
87.7 SLOVAKIA - Fun Radio quite often today, (pi 5340) eg 1051 24/7
87.7 POLAND - Polskie Radio, Dwojka, 1 ch listed, 10kw. 1100 24/7
87.8 LATVIA - Top Radio voice id. 1112 Top Radio, The perfect beat in the summer heat 24/7 audio id 1131
88.0 POLAND - Polskie Radio Jedynka, 0950 24/7 Znak Pokoju Virgin on RDS
88.1 FRANCE - TOTEM France 1207 24/7
88.2 ESTONIA - Retro FM audio id 1051 24/7
88.3 CROATIA - HRT 1 RDS id only 0955 24/7 (c201) listed 3kw

88.3 POLAND - Polskie Radio Jedynka, 1051 24/7
88.7 LITHUANIA - HOT FM Palanga 1123 24/7 Audio id and RDS
88.8 GERMANY - Radio Berlin 88.8 1130 24/7, 1240 18/8
88.8 ?? - Capital on RDS 1103 24/7
88.9 SWEDEN - SR P1 1017 24/7
89.0 ESTONIA - *PERE* Religion 1109 24/7 (pi 2377) Nordic sounding.
89.0 UNID sounds like Radio Padanya.net web address 1103 24/7
89.0 CZECH - Radio Impuls audio id 1014, 1015 24/7
89.2 LATVIA - SWH ROCK 1100 + 1110, inc voice id. Riga LATVIA 24/7
90.1 LITHUANIA - Pukas 2 Jazz Music with qrg of 92.4 Kaunas, on RDS 24/7 1144
90.7 LATVIA - LR1 1143 24/7
91.2 LITHUANIA - RC on RDS but a Radio Centras jingle and Vilnious mentioned during ads, 1148. 24/7

POLSKIE RADIO IDS 0954

LOGS FROM THURSDAY 18th JULY 2013

87.7 POLAND - Polskie Radio Jedynka, 18/7 1225
87.9 POLAND - Radio Marija 1233 18/7
88.2 POLAND - RMF FM 1238 +1242 AUDIO IDS 18/7. 1246 LOCAL RDS ID.
88.4 unid jingle id poss polish Radio Zlote Przeboje 1233 18/7
88.8 GERMANY - Radio Berlin 88.8 1130 24/7, 1240 18/8
88.9 POLAND - Radio Marija 1254 18/7
89.1 POLAND - Polskie Radio RDC 1233 18/7

LOGS FROM TUESDAY 16th JULY 2013

This was a mainly Italian and French opening, and my PC clock was out, though fixed at 1043, which became correct time of GMT 1143!! The time listed before correction is the PC clock time, so I can find the correct part on the recordings if relistening.

87.6 Virgin Radio 1146 inc audio id 16/7
87.6 RTL2 FF voice ID 1151 16/7
87.8 Le Mouv 1151 16/7
87.9 RTS F645 inc Audio id 16/7

88.1 Totem F631 16/7
88.3 France Inter1224 16/7
88.4 RCF FF IDs 1200 poss audio id on 88.3?? or typo 16/7
88.6 Radio France Id 1200 16/7
88.6 IB3 Radio Info E2A0 1225 16/7
88.9 France Musique inc audio id 1224 16/7

89.1 Culture FF 1151 16/7 89.2 RFM 1155 16/7 89.8 RFM 1156 16/7

90.0 Skyrock 1200

95.0 Lodeve FF 1214 16/7

98.1 RMC VG voice IDs 1206 16/7
98.2 France Inter 1203 16/7
98.6 France Musique 1206 16/7
98.6 Manila. Ad in Torino 1020 16/7
98.7 Radio Classica 1019 16/7
98.7 CN Nord 1024 16/7

99.3 GRP 1019, or 1119 16/799.3 RTL 102.5 briefly 1024ish 16/799.6 Rete 105 1019 16/7 good audio id

100.0 Cherie FM 1024 16/7 100.2 Radio Disco RDS as well as audio ids. 1019 16/7 100.2 RTL 102.5 RDS and audio ids 1022 16/7 100.75 Unid 1027 16/7 100.8 Sabbia 1031 16/7 RDS id only

101.0 Radio 101 1028 16/7 101.5 Sportiva Sport 1028 16/7 101.9 Radio Marconi Stati 1007 Audio id only 16/7

102.0 Radio 105 16/7 102.1 Radio Italia // 102.3 1043 16/7 102.2 RTL 102.5 news in ee, before going back to Italian. // 102.8 ID like Via Radio 1004 16/7 102.2 RAI FD5 1007 16/7 SERIOUS CLASSICS 102.3 Radio Italia // 102.1 1043 16/7 102.5 RTL 1007 16/7

PI: 21016 [5218] RTL102.5

Varied Speech

102.6 NRJ 1038 16/7 102.7 Radio 101 1007 16/7 102.7 RAI GRP3 Ballando 16/7 102.8 RTL 102.5 news in ee, before going back to Italian. // 102.2 ID like Via Radio 1004 16/7 1007 audio id 102.8 RTL 1012 16/7 1007 audio id 102.8 *RDS* on RDS 1010 16/7

PI: 21092 [5264] * RDS * Varied Speech

NB At 1006 RTL was noted no less than on 102.1, 102.2, 102.3, 102.4, 102.5, 102.8!!!

103.0 Radio Zeta. 1005 inc audio id 16/7

PI: 21319 [5347] *R-ZETA* Varied Speech

103.0 Radio 1 RAI News 1010 16/7

103.1 Unid with "Noticia Flash" jingle 1008 16/7 103.2 ISO Radio 1011 // 103.3 16/7 103.3 ISO Radio 1011 RDS ID // 103.2 16/7 Flashed up RAI 103.2 1009 103.5 Padamia Libera 1010- 1012 inc audio id 16/7 103.6 Virgin 1012 16/7 103.6 *RDS* 1014 16/7 inc audio id 103.9 Radio 24 1014 16/5 1016 audio id

104.2 Radio Monte Carlo 1015 mix with same mx as Radio 101 16/7 104.5 Radio 101 1014 16/7

PI: 20998 [5206] R 101 Varied Speech

104.5 RAI GRPR 1015 16/7 104.6 Radio 24 audio id 1016 16/7

PI: 21061 [5245] RADIO 24 News

104.9 Radio Kiss Kiss voice id 1014 16/7

105.0 Radio 24 1015 16/7 105.1 Radio 101 // 104.5 briefly in 16/7 105.2 Radio 105 1015 16/7

106.4 Radio Italia 1035 16/7 106.8 Montagne FF 1037 16/7

107.0 Skyrock 1037 16/7 107.5 Radio Maria 1035 16/7

LOGS FROM 12th JULY 2013

87.9 RNE 5-J (E215) 0922 12/7 RDS ID ONLY

LOGS FROM 11th JULY 2013

88.8 CAD 100 2047 11/7

TROPO TO IRELAND:

I have a load of frequencies heard I should really list, noted during the recent tropo opening to Ireland.

100.5 Q Radio Newry Area, Northern Ireland 1626 11/7

MW LOGS:

I have not been particularly bothered about recording every night in the last few weeks, but the odd day here has produced some results. Around 04 on the morning of the 23rd, the North Americans were again being heard, after a spell of Latins. Nothing startling, but WBBR 1130 and CBC 1140 etc were noted during a quick scan.

1360 Unid 0300 Mon 8/7 ss id

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 7th JULY 2013

MICTOTELECOM FM+:

NB: I can not stress enough that I write the following articles with the opinion that the Perseus SDR is still the best tool I have ever had for MW dxing. I also write this as having tried and tested the FM+ add on frequency converter, and I am of the opinion that the FM+ is also the best FM dxing tool I have ever bought. Both sets for want of a better word, of the Microtelecom Perseus family are exclusively desired for dxing here because of the wideband record facility. Yes the filters are superb, but so is the NRD 545, or the AOR 7030 etc. My attraction of using the SDR from day 1 was the wideband record facility.

The Perseus software is also a dream to operate compared to any other SDR interface I have tried. But there are some serious issues with regards the FM+, and the particularly stupid restrictions imposed by the Mussolini attitude of the developers. Read on, while remembering that the Perseus and the FM+ combined would set you back a cool 1000 quid from Lynch in the UK.



Rough, but the first trials in a mobile box!!

FM+ AT LAST - 2ND HAND UNIT ON EBAY:

I have been meaning to buy an FM+ since they were developed, but only got around to it this week. Who was I bidding against by the way on ebay. I was watching one here in Scotland for sale, which was sitting at £120 all week and no bids. Was no-one interested I thought to myself. But the hit counter looked quite serious. Maybe it was folks looking at the other items from his other sale, I was telling myself. But at the last seconds the price jumped.

I was lucky that I had already been down the pub!!! Otherwise I might not have put the heavier bidding on . . lol!! As I walked from the bar to the hoose, I was wondering what to bid on the item. I was going to stick 200 on it, then I thought right, 220, and finally with seconds to go I stuck in 227, the old Dutch pirate band and also the Radio Jackie channel. That may bring good luck I thought to myself.

I was still hoping the 1 bidder by this time had not put much on it, and it would go for 125 quid or something. But there was a sudden jump to £176 with seconds to go, before I even struck!! I won it with nothing to spare. It went for my upper limit of £227. The fella below me was at 222 something!! I wonder if it was anyone I know?? Much more and it was going to get silly as you would be approaching the price of a new unit.

Anyway, the seller sent the item fast, and I have now spent some time getting used to the FM+.

WARNING TO POTENTIAL MICROTELECOM FM+ CUSTOMERS:

WHAT THEY DON'T TELL YOU IN THE GLOSSY ADVERTS!!!

My first problem / issue was that the unit can hardly be called a simple plug and play machine. There is a bit of a rigmarole to go through to get a so called license file from Microtelecom. It is an automated process if you are connected to the web with the PC you are using. The screen below comes up when you first click the FM+ software .exe file.

	tration	×
In order to use this soft get a valid license file.	ware either than in playback mode you need to	o register it and
	le, please fill the following form with your name I (and as written) on the FM+ Installation CD.	and the FM+
	et connection click the button "Request Licens browser and let you obtain a license file from th	
If this PC has no intern	et connection, click the button "Save Reques	t to File''.
	stration data to the file regdata.txt in the folder ('ou will need to copy this file and send it via err	
		where vou
Once you will receive t	t. the license file you need to save it in the folder software and restart it. This will complete the r	
Once you will receive t have installed the FM+	the license file you need to save it in the folder	
have installed the FM+ process.	the license file you need to save it in the folder	
Once you will receive t have installed the FM+ process. First Name Last Name	the license file you need to save it in the folder	

If like me you have a PC that is not connected to the web, like my main PC for example, it is a chore to get your FM+ working. You have to create a text file with your code number and serial number of the Perseus, by pressing "save request to file".

Even Windows software works after installation from the CD and the install code inserted. Amazingly, you have to wait from a response from Microtelecom, and copy the file attachment they send you into the FM+ software folder. Then and only then does the Perseus FM+ burst into life.

I did try connecting my old web PC to the Perseus and received the file for the first receiver automatically. That was pretty quick. In fact instant. I was able to copy the file into the FM+ folder on any other PC and it worked fine. No problems. In the meantime, it was only many hours later I had an email back from Microtelecom with the attached file, but I already had the machine working by the time they got back to me.

What happens if you have two Perseus receivers?? Some dxers do. I do. I connected the other Perseus to another PC, and the FM+ won't work again!! At this stage I was not

really aware that the license file was directly associated with the Perseus serial number. So I connected the machine to a web PC and try and get the automated license file for the second Perseus. NO WAY. I have reached my limit with that serial number. (1!!!!!!!) What is that all about!!

✓ microtelecom

FM+ Software License Request

Maximum number of activations for this code reached. If you believe this is an error, please contact us.

To obtain a license, please connect your Perseus receiver, start the FM+ software and fill in the registration form with your data. Click on the "Save Request to File" button and attach the generated *regdata.txt* file to the email.

At the time of writing, I still have not been able to get **MY** second receiver to work with **MY** FM+ that I bought in good faith that it would work. So be warned.



"COMRADES, WE MUST KEEPA CONTOLA DA PERSEUS FM+.... LOL"

I do not sometimes feel right about copying personal emails, but this is not personal, but rather instructions of what I am allowed and not allowed to do with my own receiver, from the mind of the manufacturers.

Dear Ken,

each activation code allows FM+ software activation on two different Perseus receivers. This means that, as long as you use the same Perseus, you can use the FM+ software on as many computers as you want (just copy the whole folder to the other computer). The code you provided was already used twice, (BIG F*% @ING DEAL..kb) so the automated system is denying the request.

Kind Regards, Ing. Alessio Miani Microtelecom s.r.l.

The following email was in response to a cut to the chase type question of "how much" for an extra license file. No mention was made of a price, it was not even mentioned. I am not allowed!!! Well sorry teacher!!!

I don't get why they would even consider limiting the use of a 300 quid receiver in the first place, and still hope for sales. FM DXERS and potential customers be warned!! They don't tell you this quite as straight as I am, in the glossy adverts.

Hi Ken,

We normally allow each FM+ receiver to be activated on two Perseus receivers. (LOL...REALLY????) It looks like a first activation with the code you supplied was already used. I sent you the activation file for Perseus s/n 76. I am now out of the office an cannot check when the other request was made. The reason we allow only two activations is due to the fact that the FM+ price is made not only by the hardware, but by the software, too.

(What has this to do with giving the FM+ to my dx friend to try out on his Perseus????? Pelieve it or not, that could lead to future sales.... This is a joke!!!)

We do not want it used with other down-converters, so the owner Perseus(es) act as hardware key, pairing each activation code with one (or two) Perseus receivers.

Do you own more than one Perseus? Did you buy your FM+ second hand?

If it is any of your business, I do, and yes!!!!! What planet are they on!!!!! I happened to be gifted the second Perseus from Nico the inventor for assisting translating Italian English to English English for the initial instruction manual, most of which I had written on line here as publicity to a breakthrough in mw dxing!!.

Kind Regards, Ing. Alessio Miani Microtelecom s.r.l. OK, I realise that the previous owner counts as one time license file, but that is hardly the point is it. Limiting a 300 quid receiver = less sales!!!

What happens when Microtelecom one day disappears overnight and can not be contacted?? The unit would make a nice doorstop, as the FM+ is unsellable without the license .dat file from the company.

Excessive security??? Some would agree with this statement I'm sure. Downright ridiculous that a £300 frequency converter will not work without someone in Italy giving you the nod.

What happens heaven forbid that I have to make a quick sale of my two Perseus receivers in an emergency, and eventually manage to buy another one. Will I not be allowed to run the FM+ because someone in Italy says I have reached my limit. Or if that sale is made when Microtelecom are no longer trading. See what I mean... What is this all about..

What if I want to loan it to another dxer to have a look / go at.... etc etc... I have already loaned my main unit to other dxers to show them the benefits of the SDR technology. This is the thanks you get for promoting their goods!!!

Imagine buying a DVD recorder and finding out that it has to be matched up to only two televisions in the house. You couldn't remove it and use it on the third TV in the Kid's bedroom, because someone with an attitude in China says so!!!! You would take it back to the shop and get your money back? I should think so.

REPORT ON THE RECEIVER ITSELF:

So now I am back to the first Perseus receiver, and the FM+. What is the receiver itself like??

The unit itself does not require drivers. The FM+ software WILL surprisingly play back pre recorded files of the FM band, without ever having been near a receiver. I am not sure if it is permanent, or a silly time out thing. You would not have thought there would be any time out stuff near so called pro receivers/ sdr software, but a couple of timed out versions have been issued in the past for the Perseus itself.

It did surprise me that it did not have a power supply or a bnc/bnc connection lead.... There was a power connection, a DC plug. There is NO polarity diagram anywhere near the FM+, or on the PDF file on the CD I don't think. A polarity image is included with the latest downloads though. (Centre +, outer -) Initial customers would have had to have an educated guess!!!!!! A lot is assumed that the FM+ enthusiast is fit to hold a soldering iron, and assuming mine didn't have a patch lead when new, assuming they have bnc-bnc patch leads lying around.

For FM dxing I use both a Sony SB920 and a Sony HD XDR set. Both are good. My favourite for tuning around has to be the 920. I used a Grundig Sat 3400 until recent years, before moving on to RDS receivers. The HD is kinda slow, though selectivity on the HD set for those living in the city with loads of powerful FM stations close by, is

certainly very good. The 920 although good, can not quite get in as close to that annoying local. The Perseus certainly can. I have already had a very difficult channel here. FM 104 in Dublin, 104.4, right next door to local BBC Radio 4 on 104.3.

As far as sensitivity goes, the HD set and the SB920 are very similar. Both are not that far in front of the satellit 3400 in the sensitivity stakes. What about the Perseus?? Well I shall have to carefully check during flat conditions for sensitivity. At the time of writing, we have a prolonged period of tropo on the FM band, and of course we are still in July, and sporadic e is still around. Luckily I have had a chance to use the FM+ during a sporadic e lift.

THE FM+ MOBILE ON MY LOCAL HILLSIDE:

I have been using a UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) which is used in offices etc to give office lassies time to save their work if there is a power cut. The unit gives only 30m or so of mains for recording, but at least I can take a spin up to my local high spot, and set up a laptop and perseus.

Luck wasn't on my side the for the first visit to the hill. I drew up and there were roadwork traffic lights right at the spot I normally go to. Time was running out, and I drove around the corner to a less favourable spot, and tried to get the top of the hour. But the laptop wouldn't kick in properly. Later in the afternoon, the power unit wouldn't kick in and I missed another top of the hour. They call that sods law I believe!!

RECEIVER OBSERVATIONS:

Another thing I must discuss is the fact that the FM+ seems much more memory hungry than the basic Perseus. In fact on my main PC which is a dual 3gig machine I believe, and running a gig of RAM, just can not cope with 2mHz recordings, or indeed 2mHz sampling. I have yet to find a larger RAM chip to try. But the little laptop that runs it easily has 2g of RAM, and dual core etc. I have also tried another machine with 4g RAM running the dreaded VISTA 64 bit version. with even better results.

I may add an observation here. We talk of 2mHz recording. This is not quite true. The receiver gives 1.6mHz, perhaps a couple of extra stations at either end of the recording can be coaxed from the secondary window. But the secondary window can't be dragged like in the main Perseus software unfortunately, to squeeze a little more.

Wouldn't it be nice to have a 4mHz Perseus, with WFM?? The competition already has 4mHz. It looks sometimes as though the inclination to develop the Perseus farther isn't there. What a pity that is, when it is for me the most user friendly GUI by far amongst any of the SDR front ends that I have tried, and that includes the WIN Radio unit.

More soon.....

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - SUNDAY 7th JULY 2013

LATICE TOWER / MAST FOR SALE:

NB - MAST SOLD SO NO LONGER AVAILABLE.

THANKS TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND WATHCERS.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 4th JULY 2013

LATICE TOWER / MAST FOR SALE:

I still have a mast to sell, which will be on ebay until Saturday. Search for 60 foor lattice tower. More info and high res scans are on the following page. click the following link. There is no navigation menu on the mast page, so use the back button to return here.

VERTICAL BAND 2 / FM DX ANTENNA:

I have written and photographed a vertical FM antenna that I have been using here for a number of years. It is a copy of a bought item, but the manufacturer is forgotten to me. It was originally used as an FM RSL antenna in the Glasgow area some years back. See equipment_vertical_band_two_antenna.html. The antenna page is also found in the equipment menu.

SPORADIC E SEASON:

I have still not completed my log book for FM dxing in June. There is no surprise there. I have years of large wav files of audio recorded and scribbles of the times of the ids in log books. Will I manage to get this years updated before the mw dx starts to roll in again??? Who knows.

MW DXING HOME PAGE

LOGS / NEWS - JUNE 2013

A site mainly dedicated to Mediumwave Dxing

All DX Logs - FM / TV DX - Perseus / Equipment - Audio Downloads - Other Items - DX chat Contact

New / Personal first's this month = 00 NB: ALL TIMES ARE IN GMT.

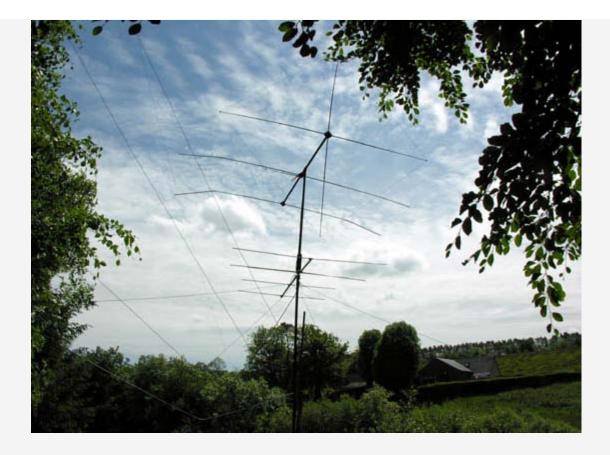
KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 20th JUNE 2013

LATICE TOWER / MAST FOR SALE:

I may sell a mast that I have had lying around since 1984, and done nothing with. That's right, almost thirty years. The price would have to be right, and I think I will only be giving it two or three weeks max, and then I will either take it to the scrappie's and see what it is worth, or use it as part of another project. To see the mast, click the following link. There is no navigation menu on the page, so use the back button to return here.

BAND 1 ANTENNA REINSTATED:

I had the band 1 antenna down when I was putting a 10m antenna up using the same mast. The 10m antenna has been up almost a year, but the band 1 antenna has remained on the ground until today. This is the one that Davie made. I have an old original 405 band 1 aerial up my other mast, but it has, I noticed today, become seriously overgrown in a Beech tree!!! A bit of trimming needed.



SUPERB SPORADIC E CONDITIONS:

The FM band has been at last kind to us, and a few openings in the last week. This log list will probably start off with good intention of listing the FM dx this season, and peter out into a half hearted effort as other outside chores take over. Summer months are not good to sit indoors at dx receivers, though I am doing far better than last season at being able to hear dx. Last year was a dead loss. I have started typing at least!!!!

WED 19th JUNE 2013

1134 90.6 Cadena Dial Spain. Long local id
1138 92.8 kiss FM Spain. RDS id
1138 93.3 Kiss FM Spain. voice and RDS id
1239 92.7 Radio Marca Spain. PI B007
1242 92.8 Radio Marca Spain. RDS id 1242. (maybe the above 2 are the same tx)
1244 93.6 Cadena ??? Spain. Audio id
1244 90.9 Onda Zero Spain.
1247 100.4 SER Spain. rds id
1256 88.7 Cope de la Sierra Spain. rds id
1256 89.1 Fiesta Spain. rds + voice id
1257 92.9 Cadena SER Spain. Voice id
1258 91.3 CAD 100 Sierra Spain.

Thursday 20th June

1419 87.7 FUN Radio RDS id Czech?? maybe missed RDS. ids poss in fades 1424,

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 7th JUNE 2013

UPDATES TO THE DX ARCHIVE WEB PAGES:

I have been hard at work again scanning a few old radio magazines for the dx archive section of this web site. The full res pdf files are not yet available, but for the moment I can share the original raw scans that will eventually be used to create the pdf files. Such is the job though, it is probably a good idea to offer these raw scans for the time being. There are a lot of vintage radio mags to get through!!

In the collections are old Populare Wireless mags, Wireless Weekly, Wireless, Wireless World, Practical Wireless, Modern Wireless, Experimental Wireless, World Radio, Radio Pictorial and others. The articles within are fascinating, and really are worrth sharing here. Both GH and KB have collections of these vintage magazines they are keen to make available.

TEMP RAW SCANS OF THE FOLLOWING ARE AVAILABLE

RADIO LUXEMBOURG 208 MAGAZINES, 1950's - 5 Issues (521mB ZIP)

RADIO PICTORIAL 1934 - 3 Issues (320 mB ZIP)

RADIO PICTORIAL 1936 - 3 Issues (388 mB ZIP)

RADIO PICTORIAL 1939 - 4 Issues (511mB ZIP)

POPULAR WIRELESS - ISSUE 01 - JUNE 3rd 1922 (57mB ZIP)

WIRELESS WEEKLY - OCTOBER 1st 1924 (111mB ZIP)

LACK OF SITE UPDATES:

There has been very little activity on this site in the last month or so. But we are still here.... I seem to have been out the shack more than in the last while and hence missing all the sporadic e that other dxers report, including Davie H up the street.

MW LOGS :

1250 Peru - Radio Mira Flores Lima. 0301 Tnx Paul C with help in ID, 4/6.

1400 Pres Peruvian, quite strong tk 4/6 1470 Peru - Radio Capital Lima good id 0304 4/6 1570 Peru - Bethel id around 0300 4/6 MW DXING HOME PAGE

LOGS / NEWS - MAY 2013

A site mainly dedicated to Mediumwave Dxing

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KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 8th MAY 2013

MW LOGS :

1010 SS 0330 - 0400 8/5
1180 Unid slow music and YL presenter. No sign of ID, and not like Rebelde I don't think
1310 unid SS 0401 8/5 poss id, but too fast for me.
1320 Unid like Cadena ??? International del Peru or something 0403 8/5
1350 around 0355-0405 lists of frequencies, 0358 snded like nacional brazil or similar....8/5
1470 Radio Capital, Peru 0400ish, 8/5
1520 Jamming / Warble sound on 1520 8/5 around 0400

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - SATURDAY 4th MAY 2013

NORTHERN SPAIN - CLOSEDOWNS WERE A DAMP SQUIB:

There was meant to be a mass closedown on the mw band on 30th April from the Euskadi stations, as well as powerhouse Radio Vitoria, on 1602.

Frequencies effected were the main powerful clear channel signals on 1386 and 1476, as well as 1197. Radio Euskadi also closed from 756, 819, 963. Maybe it is the start of a SS abandonment of the MW band. We can only hope as mw dxers.

But despite the so called sign off, on the night of the 1st of May, they were still going strong. But on checking on Thursday night, the frequencies were again clear. The Basque stations moved onto clear 1476 and 1386 a few years back, and more or less blocked

1386 and 1476 for dxing. Low powered pirates also used 1476 and 1386 from time to time.

This area of Spain falls in the "common" zone for FM sporadic e logs (mainly) in the summer months.

I did record a number of Perseus files from the evening of the supposed closedown, but I ended up deleting them, since the stations never closed. I do like trying to keep close downs of transmitters. A piece of European radio history supposedly being saved there, in the shape of a recording of the full mw band.

RARE CAPITAL RADIO QSL CARD:

I found the following on ebay recently, from the King David ship, 1970. Another part of this site that needs to migrate to the offshore section in the dx archive area.



MW DXING
HOME PAGELOGS / NEWS - APRIL 2013
A site mainly dedicated to Mediumwave DxingDX ARCHIVE
HOME PAGE

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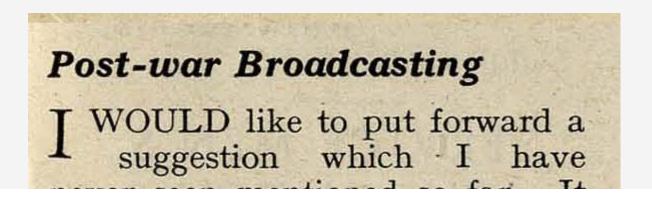
KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 26th APRIL 2013

UPDATE TO THESE PAGES:

There has not been much in the way of updates here in the last few weeks. Not a lot has been happening. A few good signals around mid month, and a few Latins being reported by other dxers, but I have not spent the time listing, due to being busy at other projects. Hopefully though, I will have a chance to at least produce a short audio montage of stations from 18th April.

LIFE CHANGING BAND PLAN:

I found this interesting though for a radio enthusiast, rather misguided letter in an old Wireless World from WW2 time, 1943. Imagine if this joker's suggestion had been taken up. Most of us would have no doubt not drifted into the MW dxing hobby quite as seriously. Of course we can hear TADX on the Euro channels, but if all Euro channels were the same as those from North and South America, life would have been so much more difficult for all these years. Thank goodness for incompetence, as technically it probably was a good idea!!



is simply to standardise the spacing of transmitters in Europe at 10 kilocycles.

The advantages of this are many. First, perhaps most important, heterodyne interference is almost entirely eliminated-as anyone who has operated a receiver in the U.S.A. or Australasia can testify. Chance heterodynes between transmitter harmonics, etc., are never less than 10 kc/s. Secondly, the fidelity of the reception can be slightly improved. Thirdly (another important reason), it would bring Europe into line with the U.S.A., Canada, South and Latin America, Australia and New Zealand. About two-thirds of the world's transmitters are located in these countries, which all have 10-kc/s spacing. Fourthly, since we already think in decimal terms of kilocycles, megacycles, etc., it would be much more convenient if the stations were spaced decimally, and had frequencies such as 660, 1210, 9,340 kc/s. Fifthly, it would simplify the calibration of receivers and identification of transmitters. This may seem an unimportant point, but if a dial is divided by radial lines, each spaced 10 kc/s, as they often are, then a station will always be tuned in on one of these lines. Then, if an unknown transmission is received, its *exact* frequency

can be read off even if the receiver is mis-calibrated by ± 3 or even ± 4 kc/s, since its frequency will be that of the nearest 10-kc/s mark. At present the dial must be calibrated accurately to ± 0.4 k/c (or 400 cycles) at least, to find the exact frequency of a station.

Now, if ever, is the time to prepare for this change—a change which is essential if post-war broadcasting is to run smoothly. P. D. THOMAS.

A +++



WIRELESS OR WIRED RADIO:

You can read the above letter as well as others on the interesting subject of cable radio instead of wireless radio in the following pdf file. NB - This is not the complete magazine, only a few selected pages, hence file size is only 8,161k. Unfortunately I don't have part 1 of the article from the previous month's edition.

WIRELESS WORLD 1943

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 18th APRIL 2013

NB: Never got around to finishing this entry!!!!

MW DXING:

This overdue updater sees a few decent signals around at 0500UTC.

I have also added a few DLF items to the earlier recording at the bottom of the page.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 12th APRIL 2013

MW DXING:

The band was pretty lively today, and signals were reasonable from the common stations. There is still French talk being logged on 1410 from the recently moved Canadian, ex 1610. Not heard any calls yet, or ee ids.

MW UPDATE FOR 28/3:

I have a more detailed log for 28th March here. Most stations were heard around 0500 - 0530, but sadly I did not record the full hour on this day. I have unid SS stations on the following channels.... I had some scribbled notes from that day, which a large blotch of oil or creosote has obscured, but either 1450 or 1480 had some kind of an ann / jingle that I couldn't get. I guess I should give the files another shot.

1320 Apollo 0530 1340 Odd singing 0530 28/3 1350 SS 1450 ss 0533 28/3 1470 EE 1480 1490 Poss Radio Antenna ??? Atlanto Musica...

AIRCHIE WHO??

There is a name I used to read about. Archie Pettigrew. I have given a couple of articles about his work. It includes CD quality in analogue tapes, and a development for FM broadcasting. I wonder if the latter has ever been implemented in any way in receivers?? ? The article on the left is from 1991 and probably from the Glasgow Herald. The article on the right is from the "Electronic Times" from 16th March 1989. There are articles on line about this chap.



KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 11th APRIL 2013

MW DXING:

There have been a few reasonable signals around during the last couple of days. I am not going to list log the whole band here, but I have made a montage of some of the better signals, from 11th and 10th. Nothing startling I know, but some dxers were reporting no carrier traces!!

They are as follows:

10th 0500 -

1510 Boston 1520 WWKB 1390 WFBL 1200 WXKS Bloomberg 1200 1130 WBBR 930 CFBC 1560 DISNEY 1520 WWKB (04 or 0530??) 11th 0500 + 0530 710 WOR 700 WLW V Weak 660 WFAN 600 CBC 1080 WTIC 1100 WTAM 1130 WBBR 1160 WYLL 1190 WLIB 1390 WEGP 1520 WWKB 1540 KXEL 930 CJYO 0530 1020 KDKA 130410_and_11th_montage.mp3

ITALIAN TIME SIGNAL ODDITY:

This is not a newly reported station it seems, but the first I have actually heard of it, thanks to a "hot tip" from a fellow Scottish dxer. There is an Italian station broadcasting music and time signals on the time signal frequency of 10mHz, and the signals here in Scotland are superb. No EE ids noted, only Italian. It always makes for interesting listening when something unusual pops up.

130410_1958_10000_italian_time_stn.mp3

CHANGED DAYS - WATCHING OLD TAPES BEING TOSSED IN THE BIN:

A pal of mine was clearing out the other day. Being binned were loads of his old music tapes. There were dozens that I simply looked at in his large bin pile. He had already burned some in a stove and succeeded in turning it red hot with the heat!! So that was given up as crazy..lol

In days gone by, I would have lifted all the tapes. But I have so many kicking around,

and I am piled to the ceiling as it is.

I personally only use tapes in playback mode these days when converting to mp3.

JEP / PIRATE MEMORIES BIN OLD TAPES:

I recently heard that JEP who used to trade under the name Pirate Memories in the 70's and 80's threw his old tapes in the bin as well. Now those I would have lifted out the bin. I would have liked a chance at them, as many would have been his master tapes recorded in Grimsby.

What a crazy thing to do, destroy historical recordings. No matter what I copy to MP3, I still keep a hold of the original media. Phew... I may want it again. I was very surprised at John, as he used to trade a lot, and was interested in making a shilling. They could have been flogged on ebay as originals.

Which brings me to another story of tapes. A few years ago I saw some reels being sold with old SE England priceless recordings. Where are these recordings now. Where is the seller who had copied them all to mp3, and where is the buyer? Is the radio world full of selfish oddities that never share or make recordings public?? All that holds me back is time time time. There are a lot more recordings to be made public on this site in the future.

REMEMBERING DEUTSCHELANDFUNK:

The 1268 transmitter is still on the air, but remember the English service of Deutschelandfunk??? I found an old recording while looking for something else recently from 1980, some 33 years ago!!

1980_03_19_wed_1840_deutschlandfunk_1269_c90_64_kb.mp3

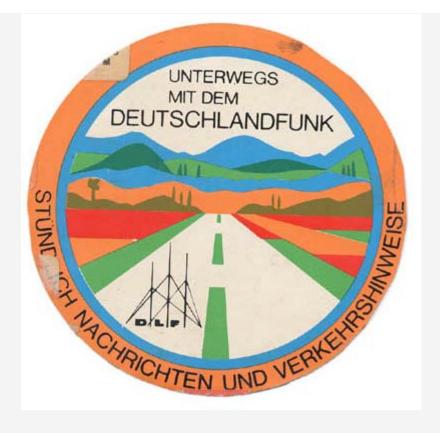
Further to the audio clip, below are the front and back of a QSL card from many years ago, and a pennant.

They also used to supply listeners in England a frame aerial, made about the size of an LP I believe. This would have been a coil of wire, possibly like copper print, and capacitance of the exact value that was pretuned to 1269khz. It is possible these were issued because a number of listeners lived close to ILR activity on 1260 in England. A DFL aerial. I wish now I had sent for one.



DEUTSCHLANDFUNK	(JLUIT) OF O
Lindenallee 7 5000 Köin 51 Bundesrepublik Deutschland	5000
den 31.10.77	
Wir danken ihnen für ihnen Empfangsbericht und bestätigen ihnen gem die Richtigkeit ihner Beobschrung. Sie hörten uns:	
m17.10.77	Kenneth Baird 24 Main Street
ит 1847 смт	Sorn Ayrshire
art 1268 kHz kc/s.	Scotland KA5 GHU
Thank you for your reception report which has been checked with our scheckles and found to be correct. We are very glad to verify herewith your report.	UK 104





WOLVERINE RADIO 24th MARCH:

I came in on Sat night / Sunday morning 24th March pretty late and found Wolverine Radio on SW. This is one of the strongest North American pirates heard here in the UK. I can't find a note of the freq, though the notes will be around somewhere. My thoughts are around 6935ish?? Signal was good, though I never waited to see if they had SSTV pictures this time.

wolverine_24th_march_13_0235.mp3

MW DXING HOME PAGE

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KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 28th MARCH 2013

MW DXING:

Today I have noted a few stations for the log book....

930 ss 0530. numbers 0534
1070 Radio Santa Feh 0529
1400 unid CBS news jin, plain as ye like, but no voice ids noted. 0600
1520 Libertad Columbia - Good id 0602

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 20th MARCH 2013

NB: These articles are now only being updated in the DX Archive section of this web site. To read the articles, click on the links below.

offshore_caroline_raid_august_1989.html

offshore_caroline_returns_august_1983.html

offshore_caroline_mi_amigo_sinks_1980.html

MI-AMIGO - 33rd ANNIVERSARY OF THE SINKING:

Well here we are again commemorating the sinking of the Radio Caroline ship, the MV Mi Amigo in March 1980. I was listening to the radio that night, but fell asleep just before midnight, around 2345 I believe. So I missed the final closedown.

Listening to the recordings again brings it all back to me, to a distant time two

generations ago when I was a young listener of about 16!! Wah!! I wasn't even pub age!! On the recording you can hear the top of the hour ann at 11pm. I remember hearing this, and also recall hearing "The Show Must Go On", and "Dancing Queen". I used to listen until closedown at 12 and then retune to RTE2 and Dave Fanning's rock show. By March though they were back on 24 hour service I believe. I would have the receiver on till the wee sma' hours normally falling asleep with Caroline 319. But that night I remember I had a wee head cold, and must have fallen asleep earier than normal, around quarter to twelve.

In the morning, I never thought any more about it. The station was gone, but that was normal daytime at that distance from the ship. My old pal Ian rang from his work place in Edinburgh, where he was working away on a contract or something for his electrical company. He asked if I had heard the last broadcast, which I had, but he had heard the last announcement. Around this time I had a shout from the living room that it was on the the lunchtime news, where full reports were given!!!! The unbelievable had happened. The Mi Amigo was gone.

After the Mi Amigo sank, it was a great loss. Night time radio was non existant. The bulk of the Irish pirates were only listenable in the daytime in those days. There was no Sunshine or Nova by this stage, and listening apart from general MW/ SW dxing, would have been to stations like Radio Dublin, Big D, Radio Carousel, Southside Radio, Boyneside, Radio City etc. A sad miss.

Nick Richards was one of the three English DJs on board that were rescued, and a Dutch member of staff was also taken off.

Nick recollected these memories the other day in an email to my old pal Ian. Nick is OK with the use of the text on line, so I thought I would take the opportunity to remember..... Happy days....

Nick starts by talking about the recording of the last broadcast from the Mi Amigo, see link below. I think it is a nice touch to leave in the part when he is talking about his son, Harry, which brings home the kind of a personal touch. Nick is still in the radio business, and works in Cork in Ireland. There are some other memories from Nick which I shall endeavour to piece together as one in due course.

...... I've heard the recording a few times alright but it does bring the whole thing home. I'm doing prep for tomorrow in the kitchen and ironing Harry's school uniform, but the memories from that night in 1980 are still very strong. I have visions of Tom Anderson and I drinking coffee in the kitchen (Galley) at around 6pm, the ship had a cold dark atmosphere to it, whether we thought that it might be the final few hours or not I'm entirely sure, but I think we felt that it was more serious that previous drama's. To be afloat and the fact that the office must be aware of what was happening from the code numbers, made us feel that help would be on its way by dawn.

I've heard from other people who dealt with the on-shore part of the organisation that Ronan often "Got a kick out of the danger the ships experiences". If this was or is true his pulse must have been racing on that night.

Had the lifeboat not have been standing by, there was no way the ending would have

been as happy as it was. Although we had an inflatable that would have helped for a time, we were very close to a shipping channel and you can only imagine what the chances of survival in the dark, on a now rough North Sea would have been.

All I kept doing was checking the engine room for water entering the weakest part of the hull. Then drink coffee and check with whoever was on the bridge, talking to the coastguard.

I've just got to the part on the recording where I read the weather and numbers at 11pm and put on Van Gellis "Spiral". I played it because it gave me time to rewind the big tape of continuous music but also because it summed up the feeling on board at the time. Melancholic, sadness, approaching a final conclusion.

I can't actually remember eating at all that day. From being woken at lunchtime, through the afternoon into the evening. It was probably only when we sat in the police station on land that hunger got the better of me and I was ready to eat anything but all there was on offer was tea and coffee.

After questioning by the Home Office, we were released and Tom Hardy Johnny Lewis etc collected us and took us to a motorway services in Kent.

Thank's for sending on this recording Ian. You know I have regret at not taking pictures of the rescue but at the hight of the sinking, it seemed inappropriate.

At the top of the stairs here, I have two pictures of the ship, side by side, one of them afloat the other, the day after the sinking. I see them every day of my life and it does fill me with pride that I was able to fullfill a dream to have worked on the station and that ship, but also that it nearly cost my life.

Harry often asks little questions about the pictures, I would hope that one day when he can fully understand the entire thing, that he is proud of what I did and how I come to live in Ireland and why he was born where he was is because of the ship in the pictures.

Ah, nearly at the end now, and the moment when I left the transmitter on for a few moments before flicking the switch to power down the 10k at the bottom of the stairs in the transmitter room.

Happy Days Sad End

Nick Richards March 2013

CLICK HERE FOR PRESS REPORTS OF THE MI AMIGO SINKING. (7,452k pdf)





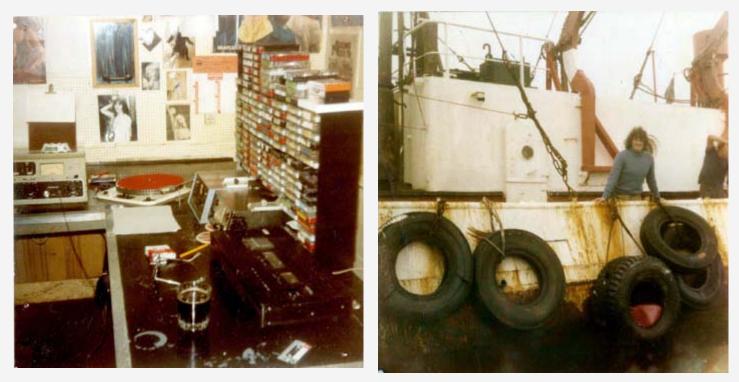




A silly joke in the Scottish Sunday Mail



Mi-Amigo at sea, Image sent by Brian Ruth of Caroline Movement



The Caroline 319 studio, and Steven Bishop / aka Johnny Lewis on the Mi Amigo - 1979

A few links below are worth a listen if anyone is genuinely interested in memories of the Mi Amigo. You can download the final broadcast here; Caroline-19800319-2240-0010-LaatsteUitzending

http://www.mediafire.com/download.php?cqe6tfc0f0j063x

DJs Remember The Mi Amigo at Radio Day 2008: (I was at that radio day, and what a superb weekend of fun and nostalgia.)

http://www.radioday.nl/2008/2008.htm

http://www.radioday.nl/2008/pages/DSC_6381.htm (Nick Richards)

(Quote / Unquote.... If you haven't already done so, these recordings of the Caroline panel that day in Amsterdam are well worth downloading.)

Part 1: http://www.mediafire.com/?oc0dgdxn4yr

Part 2: http://www.mediafire.com/?kpom0ixxysq

A couple of other web sites which include great images of the Mi Amigo.

http://www.keezer.tv/radio/index.html

http://alexcity.xs4all.nl/zeezenders_pirate%20radio.htm

Below is a great link to a historical page dating back to the early days of experimenal wireless.

http://www.broadcasting-fleet.com/chrono1.htm

I was once asked about the signals in my part of the world, on the wrong side of the country and the wrong end of the country, many miles from the ship, and way out of the target area. Well the recording below was taped by myself one Sunday night when they had the 50kW txer on air. I have no idea the power it was running, but it was more than normal. There are more of these recordings in the downloads area of this site.

791125_caroline_319_2323_stevie_gordon_nick_richards.mp3

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - MONDAY 18th MARCH 2013

DX TESTS THIS WEEKEND:

Well so much for the DX tests this past weekend. The promised 50kw test never happened, and the band was almost completely dead on Sunday night into Monday GMT, due to aurora.

I never had the chance to see what the band was like on Saturday into Sunday, as for some reason the recordings stopped at 2300, and I had an unseen before DOS screen up on the PC when I checked. Typical. The timer records day in and day out, but when there is a dx test, some gremlins get to work!!! Aggghhh.

It would however have been fully worse if the dx test had went ahead and was heard in Europe!!

A COUPLE OF AUDIO FILES:

130315_0400_1580_ckdo_booming.mp3

130316_0603_1290_wrni_and_unid_wk.mp3 (Good ee id inc LPR, LATINO PUBLIC RADIO I believe that stands for)

130314_0600_1420_wkcw.mp3

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 15th MARCH 2013

DX TESTS THIS WEEKEND:

Remember there are two dx tests this weekend, and two others in the coming weeks. 1480 is a possibility in Europe due to the power, unless the array is directional??

KBXD 1480 Dallas, TX - Sunday, March 17 from 0100 to 0300 Eastern DST - 0500-0700 GMT. KBXD will be operating at 50,000 watts using their new six-tower daytime pattern.

WVBG 1490 Vicksburg, MS - Monday, March 18 from 2132 to just shy of 2200 Eastern DST - Tues 0132–0200 GMT.

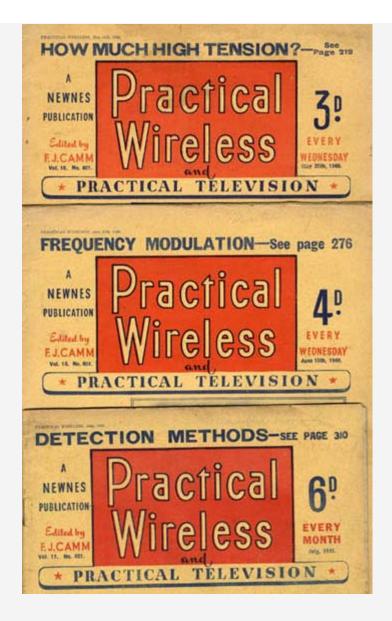
KSEY 1230 Seymour, TX - Sunday, March 24 from 0100-0300 Eastern DST - 0500-0700 GMT.

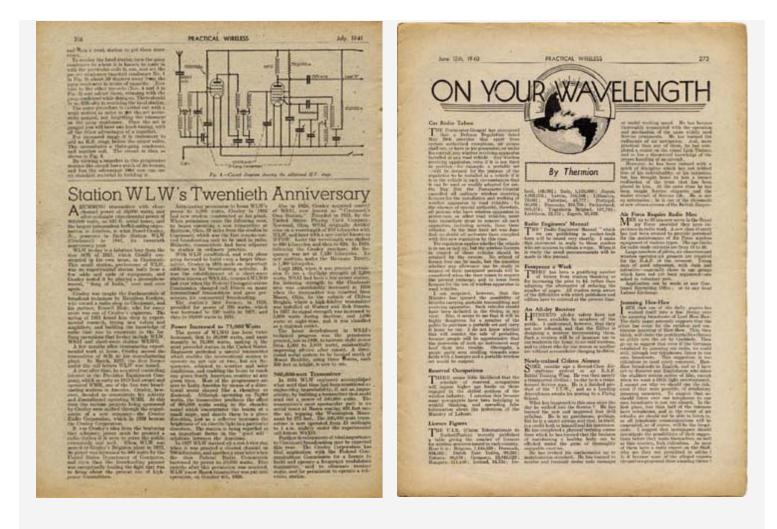
WKBI 1400 St. Marys, PA - Sunday, March 31 from 0000-0300 Eastern DST - 0400-0700 GMT Note that the test will run at the top of the hour only.

700 WLW ANNIVERSARY IN WARTIME PRACTICAL WIRELESS - 1941:

I found a couple of interesting items in old 1940's PW mags, including an article about 700 WLW, a common station this side of the Atlantic.

Notice also the price between 1940 and 1941 doubled!!!





WARTIME BRITAIN - THE BANNING OF CAR RADIO AND PORTABLE RADIOS:

The other article is about the banning of car and portable radios during the war!!! It shows you the level of hysteria, suspicion and paranoia in those dark wartime days. Imagine trying to ban the media these days during a war time situation. Different days.... and different types of wars.

THE TOP OF THE HOUR PERSEUS ANOMILY:

It never fails to amaze me the frequency of the following anomily. Anyone that records top of the hours overnight on MW will obviously have come across an annoying phenomena. How many times have you switched the recording on that starts at ..56 or 57, and tune into frequency xx and find a booming signal, only to have complete mush at the top of the hour when 99% of stations ID. This happens so much it is really annoying sometimes, especially on a rarer channel.

It is I guess a progression from the old single channel dxing days when you sat with the cassette recorder running waiting for the elusive ID, only to have that fairly good peak fade into the mush at ID time. Made worse if the fade occured during the ID. This is K....ssshhhhh..... lol.

This of course will obviously work the other way round. But we never take any notice of that!! LOL.

WKCW 1420:

This station has popped up again this spring. It has been reported by a few dxers of late, and was pretty reasonable in the silence before the splatter yesterday morning. I heard this one last season, and always meant to add the rec to my own personal firsts, but never got around to looking for the log!! So it never appeared last year!!

MUSIC AGAIN ON 1710:

I was hearing some music, but no speech again on 1710, early hours, during the 0600 recording the other day, forgotten day, and files deleted. This was no doubt the pirates that operate in various locations, but which one?? AB also reported two stns on 1710 last month. The time would have suggested tadx, and not Euro.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 13th MARCH 2013

SCOTTISH WEATHER REPORT:

It is officially bloody freezing.... In mid March. Yes Freezing. The river at the back was almost frozen over yesterday morning with a light covering of ice. To freeze moving water takes a cold night at the best of times, but yesterday morning it was unreal. Not that it is unknown to be chilly in March or April. We were just becoming syked up for spring time I think. The images below show the snow on Monday, and the bottom right shows the ice by Tuesday!!





MW DXING - WHAT DX??

I have nothing to report on the MW dx scene, and have become a little over dxed perhaps. When the same stations are there day after day, and nothing interesting pops out, I rapidly lose interest.

TYRONE COMMUNITY RADIO - TCR 1512 CLOSED:

It seems that 1512 TCR has closed down it's MW operations due to receiving a legal licence for a local FM station. Such is my knowledge of these types of operations (legal local FM services), I am unsure if the service is licenced from London or from Dublin. So the last of the pirates in Ireland on MW are 846 and 981kHz.

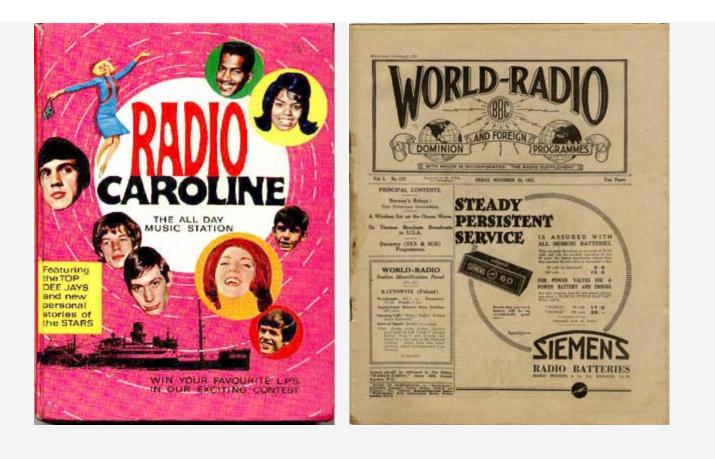
A FEW NEW PDF FILES ON THE DX ARCHIVE:

I have uploaded a few pdf files to the dx archive section. These include the Radio Caroline Annual from the 60's, and a World Radio magazine from 1927. The World Radio mag was a BBC publication,

See updates page.

Radio Caroline 60's page

Vintage radio



MW DXING	LOGS / NEWS - FEBRUARY 2013	DX ARCH	
HOME PAGE	A site mainly dedicated to Mediumwave Dxing	HOME PA	
All DX Logs - FM / TV DX	- Perseus / Equipment - Audio Downloads - Other Items -	- DX chat	Contact

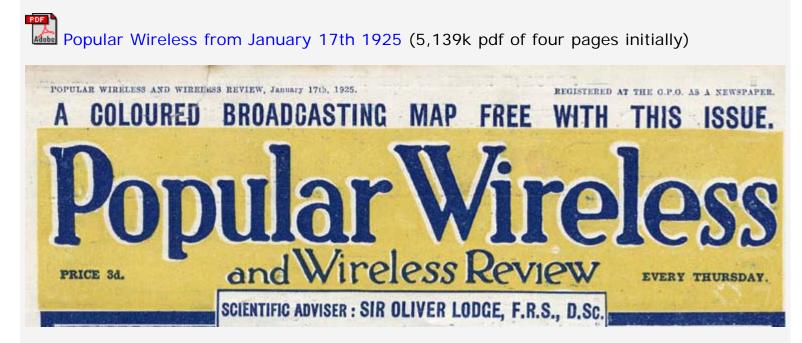
New / Personal first's this month = 00 NB: ALL TIMES ARE IN GMT.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2013

OFFSHORE RADIO IN 1924!!!

I am not sure when the earliest offshore broadcasting took place. I found this interesting log in an old copy of Popular Wireless from January 17th 1925. This must surely be up there with any early watery wireless.

The article below is published in a higher res pdf of the magazine, (Initially I have included four pages only, but will hopefully complete the scans of the whole magazine at some point)



BROADCASTING FROM A LINER.

The Editor, POPULAR WIRELESS.

Dear Sir,—I wish to report one-valve reception between 01'00 G.M.T. and 02'44 G.M.T. this merning (December 16th) of pianola music transmitted from the grand ballroom of a liner 2,400 miles S.W. of Land's End, on a wave-length close to that of shipping. Jamming was experienced from untuned spark and a harmonic of G.F.A., but at quiet periods the following items were heard clearly: "Hungarian Rhapsody" (Liszt), 01'00 G.M.T.; "American Medley" (One Step), 01'45 G.M.T.; "Rigoletto" Selection, 02'30 G.M.T.

Before closing the announcer, speaking to American listeners, wished them a Happy New Year, and hoped they had been received. He also added that they • were due in Southampton on December 21st.

It would be interesting to know the name of the liner in the above transmission.

Yours faithfully,

H. G. NEVILLE.

11, Carden Road, Peckham, S.E.18. [This was WSM, the s.s. Leviathan. Ed.]

Some other PDF files have recently been added to the DX ARCHIVE area of this site.

1937 CORONATION DAILY RECORD - RADIO PAGES

PIRATE BAD BOY FROM AMATEUR WIRELESS 1934



ARTICLE ON GLASGOW STATION - HARMSWORTHS WIRELESS ENCYCLOPEDIA



GFFSHORE RADIO 1924!! POPULAR WIRELESS 17th JANUARY 1925

VIRTUALLY NO DX OF INTEREST TO REPORT:

MW dxing has been poor for the most of February. Poor if you compare to the peak we had in January. But much time has been spent going through the old files. Most enjoyable when the dx is wide open. More reports and logs as they happen. The logs will appear in the January major log list.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2013

MORE MW DX FROM LAST MONTH:

The MW dxing has been poor again, but I have been listening through the files from 10th etc of January, I have found a few more logs. eg 710 KNUS (hrd before), 560 KMON (hrd before), 930 The Light (hrd before), 630 CHED (hrd before), KOMO 1000 (hrd before). There are still many suspect frequencies, eg 1330 and 1430 that have failed to show ids of some stations. There are bound to be still unheard stations lurking in these files I should think.

And so brings on the wonders of the Perseus. Being able to play back these recordings and recheck them at leisure time.... is just superb, and anyone using a single channel receiver only these days is missing out on a completely different dx experience.

I certainly wouldn't like to go back to old single channel sets only. These kind of sets are of course used here for background listening, but the Perseus is an easy winner for the overnight recordings / serious dxing. I'd even stick my neck out and suggest that single channel dxing by comparason nowadays would feel like the dark ages.

The SDR / Perseus has been such a superb tool for mw dxing over the last six years.

TOP BAND HAMS:

I was listening to 1933 the other night, and to my despair, all I heard was a rabble.

There is no wonder I don't take much to do with ham radio when you hear all these threats.

Audio clip follows.

terrible_swearing_on_1933_early_around_0030_1st_feb_2013_edited.mp3

SNOW ON THE GROUND:

As I type this entry up, there is snow on the ground, although very wet and melting. We have not had too much in the way of serious winter storms so far this winter. Of course, the winter isn't over yet!!

MW DXING HOME PAGE	LOGS / NEWS - JANUARY 2013 A site mainly dedicated to Mediumwave Dxing	DX ARC HOME	
All DX Logs - FM / TV DX	- Perseus / Equipment - Audio Downloads - Other Items	- DX chat	Contact

530		Rebelde, Cuba	Cuba 0759 04/01/13
960	WTCH	WI	0900 10/01/13
1290	XEAP	Mexico	Romantico 09/01/13 0400
1290	WIRL	Peoria, IL	0600 10/01/13
1370	KSUM	Fairmont, MN	0900 10/01/13
1410	CKSL	London, Ont	03/01/13 0900 (Amazing after years of not hearing)
1520	ККХА	Snohomish, WA	0944, 1020 10/01/13

New / Personal first's this month = 03 NB: ALL TIMES ARE IN GMT.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 24th JANUARY 2013

25th JANUARY - ANNIVERSARY:

No, it isn't the Burns day celebrations I am talking about. It is the ann of 25/1/09, the great day in dxing. It is great to have Perseus files of years gone by nowadays.

Nothing noted worthwhile today so far, bar Chicago on 1390 at 0802.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 23rd JANUARY 2013

WIRL AND WTCH:

See top of this page for audio clips of the above two stations. The original links were not working, due to typo. (using caps by mistake for link) Tnx Alf for pointing this out. All repaired. The link plays on local PC, so problem only shows when playing files from the web!

MW DXING TODAY:

At 0800, I had 1590 XEVOZ again, with a good id. Or just after 08 to be more precise. 0758 shows Mwxican with full id on 1650. I have still to check the files a bit closer.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - MONDAY 21st JANUARY 2013

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN 3D TECHNOLOGY:

I am not a movie buff. Well not really. I am more a geeky wirelessy, scanning old archives, recording old tapes to mp3 type of a chap. OK I do like an old movie all the same. A good old black and white war movie. Old Bazil Rathbone Sherlock Holmes, or even Bazil Fawlty, The Virginian, or Alias Smith and Jones!! I am not a modern day silly clapping show fan, like all the weekend stuff everyone seems to watch nowadays, with titles like stars in your eyes or x factor. To me, these all seem to be the same anyway... And I don't really dig what silly shows like Big Brother are even supposed to be about.... lol.. But I digress as always. .

So please forgive me if I am commenting on something that never really caught my imagination before now.

I was visiting a friend on Sunday night, who has just bought a new TV, which had 3D capability. It was not important, as he had nothing to watch 3D on until his DVD player packed in, so he bought a Blue Ray 3D player.

I only saw a demo in a store last year. PC world or Dixons or whatever it was. Yes I was impressed by the technology. Yes some guys foot came right out the screen at me!! The specs are clearer than the bright red and bright green ones you used to have to wear for the 3D movies or comics or pictures of MARS!! But I never gave it much more thought!! 3D movies are not a new concept.

So when one of my drinking buddies asks if I wanna have a look at his 3D, I obviously say "Aye OK, I'll be roon the noo."

Right away the four of us sat in the living room were sitting like the time over 40 years ago, when I saw my first colour television. My old man took my mother and I to his workshop when I was only.... say about six years old I guess, to show us a colour television. It was remarkably like that time, watching the 3D on Sunday.

No development in television has been as memorable since the introduction of BBC2 colour!! You wouldn't have had the level of concentration watching some kids animation in 3D for Nicam Stereo, or for digital as opposed to analogue, or flat screen (FST), or wide screen.

Possibly there would have been some excitement around the introduction of the VCR, and "being able to record aff the telly".

But I can still remember seeing vivid greens like country side scenes on BBC2 that night back in 1969 or whenever it was. It was not programme content we were there

to see. It was the colour telly. It was the same on Sunday night. We had no interest in the content.

There were four adults were sat around a screen glued to the snowflakes blowing out the screen, trains coming out the screen etc. It was quite amazing!! Programme content was unimportant. It was the 3D effect and depth that was important, and hypnotic. Only what was coming out the screen at you!! Amazing.

But I am still not a movie convert or anything like it. Now a good wildlife documentary may just be more up my street in 3D. But I enjoyed the experience.

As a footnote, I also remember having a colour tv in the house at one stage, and a wee lassie up the street going home from school, had a double take and reversed past the window and walked past again, to peek in the window. Only thing was that we saw her looking in ..lol

KIERAN MURRAY'S SITE CLOSING:

Who is Keiran Murray I hear the MW dxers ask. For MW fans from a certain era, that name is very familiar. Keiran also presented a show on powerful SW station out of the Drogheda area in the 80's, Radio Rainbow International. Kieran also was an early knowledge base for early pirate radio activity in Ireland.

The long established site of Irish radio veteran, Kieran Murray is to close. A large banner on the home page tells us that it closes in September 2013. There is no reason given.

Kieran Murray Homepage						
EMAIL ME						
WELCOME	Welcome to The Kieran Murray Homepage					
CAREER						
LEGAL	IMPORTANT NOTICE:					
PLAYLISTS	THIS WEBSITE WILL BE CLOSING IN SEPTEMBER 2013.					
SECRET	PLEASE DOWNLOAD WHAT YOU NEED BEFORE THIS SITE GOES OFFLINE					
STEREO STEVE						
Storeo Stove 'Controversy'	Briefly, I was born in <u>Dublin</u> , <u>Ireland</u> and on my 9th birthday I got a present of a small <u>transistor radio</u> . I started to tune around the dial and listen to the very limited radio choice available on the AM (Medium Wave) band. In fact, the only station is could listen to was Radio Éireann from Athlone and Dublin. Both wavelengths					
FRESH FM	carried the same programming. After dark, I noticed that the dial became filled with radio stations which were broadcasting from right across Europe. There were					

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - SATURDAY 19th JANUARY 2013

MW LOGS FROM THE LAST WEEKS :

There were lots of scattered logs here on the January page that I thought I might chuck into one log book here. So all of January's logs are now added to this ever expanding list. Remember stations I see as common place, are omitted, unless there is something unusual about the log. Below is a try at spacing throughout the logs, as on line, we don't need to worry about space or saving paper ..lol.

Frequencies that sounded like they had something unusual on them, that couldn't be identified, included 1430, 1330.

530 Rebelde mix with pres Encyclopedia 4/1 0759

530 r encyclopedia cuba 0600 12/1

560 WIND Chicago 0600 12/1

560 KMON Great Falls 0800 10/1

570 CKSW SK 0802 12/1, 0803 10/1

580 WTCM Traverse City 0800 24/12

610 KDAL 0600 10/1 CBS NEWS. Also 0600, 0900 12/1 ann like Portland's (or similar under dx condx) news / weather station.

630 CHED Edmunton 0801 10/1 faded. booming in 2m before. Better 0805 6-30 ched guaranteed weather.

650 CKOM SK 0800 10/1
650 WSM 0605 9/1
670 The Score, Chicago. noted a few times. 0600 10/1
680 CJOB Hrd a bit lately, inc 0700 10/1, 0805 12/1
710 KNUS Denver 0700 10/1 ABC News
770 CHQR 0759 10/1
780 WBBM Still hanging in 1100 105.9 FM 11/1
790 0800 10/1 unid country mx stn UPDATE CFCW ID 0757 10/1
830 WCCO 0800 10/1
850 WFTL FL 0800 12/1
900 unid Ads toth inc "my fair wedding" on ZON, or something. 0800 12/1 Prob CHML
900 CHML ads 0758 10/1 also sounds like FF in the mix.

920 CFRY 0902 9/1 920 KDHL with ABC nx 0800 7/1, 0900 8/1, 0900 13/1

930 WBEN religion but only WBEN 0900 12/1

930 The Lite, 0500 8/1

940 unid snds like preacher. cant hear id 2200 Houston?? still there 2300 11/1

940 CJGX SK 0900 10/1 vg peak also 0900 12/1

950 CFAM (AM 950) MB Local IDs and wx. 0200 12/1 // 1250 for mx. Sadly 1220 had THE WORD. Also 0900 9/1 mx only

960 WTCH WI 0900 10/1 country, ann 96.5 // fm pers 1st

970 unid country music. Louisiana Sat Nite. 0500 8/1 toth too mushy

980 CJME 0858 ID, 12/1

980 WCUB 0905 24/12

980 KKMS Richfield MN. 0900 12/1 yl. ..christian talk station, am 9-80 KKMS,

Richfield / Minneapolis / St Pauls (also 0500 8/1)

1000 KOMO 0600 9/1 ABC nx **1020 Radio Artemisa, Cuba 10/1 0400** 1060 CKMX am 10-60 country music. hrd a few times, eg 0942, and full call 0945 INC 6030 sw!!10/1 **1060 AM 10-60 - 0400 9/1, 0759 10/1**

1070 0500 like yl in FF in mix 9/1

1070 KNX 0700 0557 10/1 CBS NX 1070 Unid 2300 11/1 Seems off channel. CBS Nx. Must be identifyable

1140 AM 1140 AB. Full call for once 0952 10/1

1160 KSL 0900 11/1, 0900 8/1

1190 WCRW Daytimer China R stuff 2200 11/1

1190 Unid country mx. fade toth, 10/1 0600 - good peaks either side of the hour. SK ..??

1220 Classics similar sounding to 1250 and 950 at times 10/1, but never at id time 1230 WSOO Fair 0900 12/1

1250 WSSP Good id 0804 10/1

1260 ESPN UNID 0804 10/1 (1 id per hour usually)

1260 CFRN Edmunton Sports Radio AM 12-60 0943 10/1

1270 WMKT vg, detroit also in there 0900 10/1

1270 unid 102.3 fm ann and letters.0900 12/1

1290 Radio Disney VA Daytimer . No local id found yet 2159 11/1

1290 CFRW very good at various times. 10/1 0700 0945 VG, 11/1 0900 1000, 12/1 0800 0900, 9/1 0800

1290 WIRL Peoria, IL 0601 10/1

1290 XEAP Mexico Romantica 1290 0400 9/1 (Seems West Coast?) **1290 WHIO common enough stn, but fairly good peak 0900 24/12 1290 WNBF Binghampton 0800 5/1**

1300 WXRL Lancaster / Buffalo 2200 27/12 1300 PRAISE 13-00 Cleveland 0900 10/1, 0900 13/1 **1310 KNOX 0700 10/1 ABC NX, 0900 11/1**, **1310 KNOX 0800 9/1** 1310 WCCW The Score 0900 12/1, 0900 8/1- fox 1310 WIBA Madison 0800 12/1 in the mush 1320 CHMB. Vancouver 0900 11/1 weakish, but full call, when 1410 was booming. 4 pips 1000 10/1

1330 CJYM 0952 10/1 (CLOSING SOON i BELIEVE)

1330 Unid poss ids on 1330 0900, not like WRCA

1350 WIOU Kokomo 0900 24/12, 0900 13/1

1350 NB: UPDATE . . KRNT Des Moines. Unid heard a few times lately, eg 07, 08, etc 7/1 and 1000 6/1 with CBS News which comes out a singing toth jingle I believe. Common WOYK I don't think has CBS news??

1360 WTAQ 0800 9/1

1370 KSUM, Fairmont, MN New one for me, dominant on 1370 0900 10/1 2000 1380 KRKO Everret WA 0700 10/1 PERS 1st properly. hrd with no id before. 1380 CKPC Country 13-80 id 0832 12/1

1390 WRIG inc ann FM W230BU 93.9 1000 11/1
1390 WGRB Chicago 0802 12/1, 0802 24/1
1390 WLCM gd ids in a mix with others 0000 9/1
1390 WFBL Syracusse NY 2200 28/12 Good multi call ID.

1410 CKSL London Ont 0900 03/01 Amazing London so common on 1290 yet this is a personal first.

1410 CFTE Vancouver, ex CFUN 0900 11/1 - powerful clip!!

1430 Unid espn and unid news radio 06 10/1, also strong 0658, and 0703 id as espn 1430 am the sports fan. prob KCLK WA. 1430 Unid like WEE?? 0801ish 9/1 1430 KLO OR. 1000 10/1

1440 The Word ann 50kw 0800 10/1 1450 WPG 2200 11/1 reasonable peak for this channel 1460 CJOY pops. 10/1 0905, 0959 9/1 1460 unid like wdnz or similar 10/1 0935

1470 unid 0900 10/1 yl WNYY poss 1470 WNYY 2300 11/1 GD ID 1470 CJVA Vancouver 11/1 0900 weak when 1410 was booming. 3 pips. Also 0700 10/1, 0801 10/1 1470 CJVA 3 pips in mush at 0400, 1st pips this season (date missing)

1480 WLMV Madison 0902 +1000 ss id 12/1, 0803 10/1 vg 1480 WHBC Canton 0905 12/1 1500 WLQV 0800 12/1

1510 KCKK Denver 0800 10/1 1510 KGA ID 0900 10/1, 1000 11/1

1520 KOKC OK 08 9/1 GOOD. 0200 10/1 CBS NX 1520 KKXA Classic Country ids and KXA ids. 0941, 0944, ads 0950, 1020 10/1 Pers 1st

1540 unid yl 2145 ee below CHIN. Prob too weak to make anything from 11/1

1570 CKMW Country 15-70 ,10/1 0859 0903, 11/1 0901 1570 XERF vg signal 0700 9/1

1590 WCGO id 0800 12/1 **1590 WGBW Denmark / Greenbay vg 2200 11/1** 1590 WGBW Denmark / Greenbay 2200 31/12 0757 10/1, (Noted a few times of late, yet this is first season it's been heard) 1590 WGBW Denmark Greenbay quite good at 2200 9/1, with WHGT MD also in the mix

1600 unid espn 0903 12/1. mush on the hour sadly, as these outfits tend to have only 1 id per hr

1610 CHHA 2301 8/1 1st time call noted??

1620 KOZN poor id in usb 0800 12/1

1630 KRND wy La Jota 0457 10/1 loud ss mx during 10m clip though id could be better. USB only KCJJ 0500

1630 WTNT 102.9 announcements via a talk show on pres WRDW. Hrd this before here. 8/1 2300

1640 KBJA Sandy 0500 10/1 also 0400!!

1640 Radio Disney My 1st thoughts were of Oregan, but fairly regular WI stn WKSH is still Disney. I was thinking of 1650, where a common Disney channel is dropped for talk. ie I thought there was only 1 Disney channel on the freq. 0800 12/1 (So scrub OR for now even though XEPE coming thru) No local id heard on any of the days.

1650 KCNZ Cedar Falls gd 0400 9/1, vg 0700 9/1

1660 WQLR in mix 0800 12/1 1660 WWRU power down leaving ads in Kalamazoo 2158 8/1 1660 KRZI ESPN Waco 0700 9/1

1670 WOZN Madison. muffled sounding id in the mush. 0800 12/1

1680 WPRR good ids.0800 12/1
1680 Bloomberg 1680 0400 9/1
1690 WVON The talk of Chicago 0400 10/1, 0800 12/1,
1690 CJLO Community calendar 0200 12/1

1700 ESPN 17-00 XEPE 0600, 0700 (mix kvns), 0800 9/1, 0400 9/1 inc local id, 0700 10/1, 11/1 0400, 0500 1700 WJCC 0100 12/1 1700 ss 0700 11/1 (WJCC??)

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 18th JANUARY 2013

MW ON LAST WEEKS FILES:

Lots of listening still to do on files from xmas until last week. A few I would like deleted out the way, some I shall keep in the archives. More logs from last week are below. Further logs will be added..

NB ALL LOGS FROM JANUARY NOW ABOVE

AMAZING CANADIAN WEATHER FORECASTS:

On the dx chat on Skype yesterday, the subject of the cold came up. -25 was suggested as being chilly. But I knew I had heard more than one of these amazing Canadian forecasts. The best I can do for now is this one on the VOCM network, although I am sure I could find others given half the chance. Early -40's rings a bell, but which station I wonder??

041227_0236_620_vocm_amazing_cold_forecast.mp3

WDXC QSL CARDS:

Last month we mentioned all the closures at year end, including the World DX Club. I have a couple of QSL cards from the club. I thought I would share.

WORLD DX CLUB WORLD DX CLUB 1968 - 1978 1968 - 1978Mr K Baird Ken Baird 8.0. Thank you for your reception report. The WORLD DX CLUB confirms you were listening to "Que Pasa" the DX feature produced by Jeffery R. White on behalf of AIDX, the Association of Illinois DXers and presented within the midweek edition of "DX Party Line", broadcast by Radio Thank you for your reception report. The WORLD DX CLUB confirms you were listening to the club DX programme "WORLD DX NEWS", broadcast by Adventist World Radio - Europe, transmitted from Sines, Portugal, I.T.U. Zone 37, on the facilities of Radio Trans Europe, Station HCJB, Quito, Ecuador via facilities at Pifo, I.T.U. Zone 12. at 250kw on 9670kHz at 0932 - 0945 GMT kHz, at 2018 -2025 GMT 21480 00 on Sunday 200 May 1978. 0.S.L. on 12th October 1978. **Q.S.L.** 16 Jony 738 p 7350

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 17th JANUARY 2013

1590 HOT FREQ:

Logs have been poor today and yesterday, and files deleted very quickly.

But I have been thinking what the "hot" frequencies have been this season. For a start, 1590 and 1290 seems hot. A few years ago during the good dx, 920 and 1380 were HOT..

The following below is a "study" of 1590 in the last few days of last weeks dx season!! The checks were done on the Perseus files, at the top of the hours. Remember, because the stations listed popped up at exactly the top of the hour, who knows what was heard before and after.

Also of course, good signals can occur seconds after the toth is mush!! (toth = top of the hour)

As your see, there were a few stations heard.

WARV RI, WAKR OH WGBW Denmark / Greenbay, WI WCGO Evanstown / Chicago WHGT MD

The two common ones in these parts, **WARV RI**, and **WAKR OH**. Seemingly we also have a new common one, **WGBW Denmark / Greenbay**, **WI**. We also hear **WCGO Evanstown / Chicago** and **WHGT MD** (Daytimer). It seems odd that when 1593 jammer was closed a few years ago for a number of weeks, the stns that were heard then eg KVGB Great Bend KS, and WVNA AL have not been heard since the freq was finally cleared of the DRM jamming.

I should make a similar list of 1290, both very busy channels. 1290 perhaps more so?

A few logs of 1590, with what is heard on the freq:

08/01/13

2200 WHGT 2300 WAKR

09/01/13

0000 WAKR 0100 WCGO 0200 A complete rat race!! 0300 graveyard style growl 0400 graveyard style growl 0500 WARV / WAKR 0600 WAKR in mush 0700 mush 0800 WGBW / WAKR 0900 WAKR 1000 signals gone

2200 WGBW / WHGT 2300 WAKR weak

10/01/13

0000 ?? WARV + unid sports 0100 mush 0200 mush 0300 mush 0400 WAKR gong in mush 0500 WGBW WAKR 0600 mush 0700 WAKR 0800 WGBW 0900 and 1000 while other channels had good dx, it had faded on 1590

11/01/13

0000 Too weak and mushy 0100 mess 0200 WARV / WAKR 0300 WARV / WAKR 0400 WAKR 0500 WAKR 0600 mush 0700 mess 0800 WAKR 0900 virtually gone 1000 virtually gone 2200 WGBW Booming in!!

12/01/13

0000 WAKR gong thru growl 0100 mess 0200 mess 0300 Poss SS / mess 0400 WARV 0500 WARV Warren, Providence 0600 WAKR Common station, with the gong and ABC News 0700 WAKR 0800 WCGO Evanstown, Chicago / WAKR 0900 WGBW Denmark / Greenbay / WAKR - WGBW Dominant 1000 WAKR 2200 WGBW +WHGT MD stn 2300 WAKR / WARV

13/01/13

0000 WARV / WAKR 0100 WAKR 0200 mess 0300 WARV 0400 mess 0500 WARV/ WAKR 0600 mess 0700 mess 0700 mess 0800 mess 0900 WCGO Evanstown, Chicago / WGBW

PC CLEAROUT:

I mentioned last month about the clearout here in the messy shack. Below is a photo of some tin boxes, before they went to the recycler!! And that was nowhere near them all!!



KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - TUESDAY 15th JANUARY 2013

MW DXING:

Logs below under last Thursdays date.

NB ALL LOGS FROM JANUARY NOW ABOVE

Today and yesterday was a no go, and files already deleted. The good conditions have blown themselves out. A welcome bit of space as I have been bogged down for some time with the files.

NB: Also working thru the typos, as some of this was typed in a hurry!!!! Tnx AB again for pointing out the deliberate mistakes!!!

WGBH BOSTON ON 1400:

If anyone has heard the above call in the mush on 1400, and wondered what it was, it was CBC Radio NFLD. I heard them ann programmes from this source on 12/1 at 0500.

WIRL 1290 :

WIRL has been a target here for many years. Not because of the distance, or because of low power or anything, but very childishly, because I like the logo. It is a very similar logo to what Radio Nova Dublin used in the early 1980's. I guess Cary (Nova owner) must have seen the star style logos in the States way back. WIRL still use the same logo on their web page today.

So imagine my surprise when WIRL popped in on 10th Jan at 0600 on 1290. I think it is a pers 1st, although something rings a bell about a poor id heard in the past. I need to look back my poorly kept logs....



KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - SATURDAY 12th JANUARY 2013

MW DXING:

Yet another superb day with unusual dx coming through. i don't know really how long it's gonna take to get thru the files. My time has not been my own recently, but I have found some superb dx in the last days, and still it goes on!!

I am used to conditions like this blowing themselves out after an exceptional day, but so far I have still kept filling hard drives. Some stations are personal firsts. For now I will continue to add logs to the list below, under Thursday 11th.

NB ALL LOGS FROM JANUARY NOW ABOVE

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 11th JANUARY 2013

MW DXING:

Another interesting day. Logs incorporated in the list below!!!

NB ALL LOGS FROM JANUARY NOW ABOVE

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 10th JANUARY 2013

MW DXING:

Another excellent morning and night. I have not quite processed the files as yet. But a couple of new ones, and some old favourites popping in, like KOMO etc.

NB: LOGS NOW NEARER THE TOP OF THIS PAGE

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 9th JANUARY 2013

MW DXING:

An excellent morning by the looks of things, but no sign of a really late opening, like 25th Jan 2009 for example. But hey, who can grumble about west coast Mexico, and XEPE 1700 etc!! At good levels I hasten to add. Last night I was using a duff old 230 gig drive, which I tested before bed time. It worked flawlessly. But some files are a little stuttery this morning. All so far are playable, even if they have to be copied on to another free drive. I think the drive will be best used as a secondary back up of sorts, for items that don't require heavy use!!

I have incorporated the logs from the other day, into today's as well, and will probably use the same list tomorrow, assuming the band is as good as it's been.

NB ALL LOGS FROM JANUARY NOW ABOVE

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - TUESDAY 8th JANUARY 2013

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL:

I begin this new year of dxing by wishing everyone a very happy 2013, and may you have good dxing for the season. I have not really been able to call anything my own time in the last week and a bit, but thankfully the silly season is over and we can return to a little more normality. I have a lot more files to listen through, and hopefully extract the good dx!! I wish..lol

PIRATE BAD BOY FROM 1934:

I came across an article in a vintage radio magazine which I shall be reproducing in full, but for the moment, I have reproduced this article only, from 1934 about a pirate station being raided!!! There are old movie footages in relation to this if you search the web.

Feature in Amateur Wireless about pirate radio, 1934 style. (4,166k pdf)

MW DXING:

Logs incorporated in the list above, for the 9th.

UNID 1350 WITH CBS NEWS:

This last week, I have heard CBS news regularly on the freq of 1350, which never really matched up to any of the sports programmes. Now thanks to the keen ears of SNJMWDX, the station is KRNT. This was a station heard before, KRNT, DES MOINES!! I have heard this one before, but forgot about the distinctive toth jingle.

Tnx for listening SNJMWDX!!

	MW DXING HOME PAGE		LOGS / NEWS - DECE A site mainly dedicated to Media		DX ARCHIVE HOME PAGE	
All	DX Logs -	FM / TV DX	- Perseus / Equipment - Audio Dov	wnloads - Other Items - DX	chat Co	ntact
	1490	WSWW	Charlestown, WV			
	1540	WXEX	Exeter, NH	5kW / 2.5kW (Or eve on Topaz)	n off at night	
New / Personal first's this month = 00 NB: ALL TIMES ARE IN GMT. = "Play Clip" button						

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - SUNDAY 30th DECEMBER 2012

RADIO BLAA BLAA - PIRATE RADIO IN WATERFORD

I have since 1981 had a serious soft spot for Pirate Radio in Waterford, for whatever reason. I have no family connections or anything to Waterford, but always I have held fond memories of the radio scene around the town.

I visited Waterford a few times, and had many a good evening courtesy of the lads at Suirside Radio and ABC. I met Steve Silby, Clive Derek, Andy Linton and Andy Green in 2008 after some 22 years. What a fun time.

WLR I visited, and met Rick Whelan a couple of times, but because I was surrounded by the guys I knew from the SW stations of the day, my deepest nostalgiac memories must certainly be for both Suirside and ABC Radio. Both are well remembered for also broadcasting on SW, although their mw signals were all heard in Scotland. As was that of WLR. ABC were on 1026 (after a brief period on 729), Suirside on 1332, after a brief spell on 257m, possibly off channel around 1165khz. WLR was on 1197kHz. I even slept in the ABC Production studio one night!!

You can imagine my surprise, when I read about a book being published on the subject of Pirate Radio in Waterford!!! Waterford is approximately the size of Killie. Killie has no radio stations. Waterford had 3 stations.

There are a set of 4 YOUTUBE videos of the night of the launch of the book, though sadly they are not continous and they cut off in the middle of a good story. But they are well worth watching.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BH_SbXId-3E&list=PLk3D8Z2H0PeW4mwZZJcF0NUyJwn2vFfjI

http://www.youtube.com/watch? v=0xIt6MYagrs&list=PLk3D8Z2H0PeW4mwZZJcF0NUyJwn2vFfjI

The following links may be handy for ordering info and also to read a little about the author.

http://makeyourbookreal.wordpress.com/tag/radio-blaa-blaa/

http://www.thebookcentre.ie/contact.html

PC CLEAR OUT:

I have finally had to try and make some room in the shack here. What a cluttered mess. In recent times I have gradually changed over to flat panel monitors. Carefully choosing screens that seem quiet with regards to rf qrn generated on the radio. I could not believe the amount of 17 inch screens of the old CRT type that I have gathered up over the years, and refused to get rid of. I always kept them so when I had break downs, I take another off the shelf, and replace.

This has worked well for years. But I have recently fell in with such a volume of flat screens, that I have a long supply of spare flat panels now. The room the CRT screens take up is quite amazing. So even though they were stashed in every spare corner, I must have go rid of about 20!! The local charity shop still takes them, thought for how long. Some had been sat in a damp area and needed to dry out. But such would have been the time involved in repairs, those ones were dumped. two were sat in a pals shed, 2 were given to a guy in the pub that wanted 1..lol. Theres a spare as well, I told him. I think I had about 4 workers for the charity shop, and about another 10 with minor focus adjustments needed or eht sparks due to dampness, simply dumped. The only thing was that at the council tip, there was another flat panel there, where I was dumping. It blew in the car window, and Io and behold it works perfectly. It makes you wonder why anyone would throw out a working monitor???

I also began to make a count of the pc towers I had lying around in different corners. I had over 20 or 30 of these as well. No wonder I had to dodge around these things to find other stuffin the shack!! I have began to test and strip them. I just gave the scrappie about 15 metal pc cases already, and many more to be stripped. I am gonna keep a few spare towers, but being honest, I can't get rid of them by selling or even giving them away. They are in general old 1 gig machines that are well powerful enough for a web pc for beginners, but everyone seems to be buying laptops or ipads these days. So I have to draw the line somewhere. I will keep any USB2 machines that will run for example the Perseus. Some may have to be kept as motherboards. After all, if one board sits down, it can be removed from the tower, and replaced. I don't think I need all these spare cases though.

I remember the day not too long back that I used to screw motherboards on to a piece of wood, to save buying a case!! Now I really am tripping over them!!

BROADWAVE WEB STREAM:

I was testing an audio stream to a non Perseus user the other day, so he could hear various signals that were coming through. Obviously he did not have to do this if he had a Perseus, due to the server networks available with the Perseus. The Broadwave stream worked pretty easily for a point to point streaming system.

Check it out here at

www.rich.com.au/streaming/index.html

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 28th DECEMBER 2012

UPDATES TO THIS WEB SITE:

Updates have been a little slow this month here at the DX Archive / MW DXING web pages. So much to add, and seemingly so little time. When there is nothing to report, I tend to move on to other projects.

I had a couple of audio files to update to the November pages, of personal firsts. I also found a blooper back in August I think it was when WAUB 1590 was listed as 1240 on the heading of the page under personal firsts!! Woops.

HARD DRIVE SITS DOWN:

I was chatting away last night to some dxers on the Skype chat, when a screaming horrible noise like banshees, the likes of which I had never heard before came from somewhere near my main PC. The noise was traced to a 500 gig Seagate drive used for overnight recordings in recent times.

The drive was only used for Perseus files, and seemed to have died in a quite spectacular fashion. But I tried the drive some time later and it was running fine, as well as being perfectly readable. No screaming or anything. I guess however I won't make that drive my regular overnight storage space any more.

Yes it happens. Sooner or later a drive sits down. I drum on about back ups here on a regular basis, and this is the reason why. Of course, we can't in reality back up all our Perseus files, if you are like me and keep a mountain of Perseus recordings. The extra cost would be a little prohibative. If the whole MW band was closing down any time soon, I then would buy many back up drives etc. But it may pay to keep a couple of large drives with "prize recordings" copied.

On the drive I thought had died, was a collection of recent files from the last week or so waiting to be listened to, including Christmas Eve which was an interesting morning. Also included were a load of ID's recorded from the last months. That was for me the big thing. I did think I had also lost one particular daytimer that was running later than their sched on 1540. There was always something that I hadn't quite got around to backing up. Also for keeps were a few wideband recordings with possible first known UK logs, and personal firsts from this season, as well as overnight recordings from the day of the hurricane!! I have copied over the ID's and am now looking for space on other drives for the rest of the Perseus files, just in case.

The drive is an older drive, from 2007, a SEAGATE BARRACUDA 7200 10. I'm sure nearer 2007 than now, I had checked the Seagate web site with the serial numbers of the drive to see if it required the firmware update that some seagate drives around the 500g era required.

Obviously Seagate have overcome their problems, as their drives are used every day 24/7 in SKY+ HD receivers. Even when not in use, they are still recording live TV so you can rewind it. A great innovation I hasten to add. But the drives are in use continously.

MW DXING:

Yes, this site is still about MW dxing. In theory.

The band conditions for MW dxing have been such this season that interest has not been particularly intense. I have to report little in Dec, although around the festive season, I have piced up a few gems. A few logs are below.

1170 WWVA Booming in over Euros 0900 28/12
1230 WSOO 0900 15/12
1370 WXXI Rochester 0300 16/12
1380 WOTE Clintonville 0900 28/12
1400 WOND 0900 28/12
1470 WWNN FL 0400 24/12 also 2200 27/12
1490 WSWW Charleston, WV 0400 27/12 (only audable on LSB)
1500 FAITH TALK 15-00 0800 15/12, caught me for a time thinking it was a K TALK!!
1500 WFED Booming in at 1000 27/12
1510 WUSC Boston (new call) amusing ann by bro Stair with id in web address!! 1000
27/12
1540 WXEX Exeter, NH 2300 21/12 Topaz reports as daytimer, though reported as half power 5/2.5 on other MW list
1590 WCGO Evanston /Chicago 0400 24/12

WORLD DX CLUB CLOSES IT'S DOORS:

After many years of operation, the WDXC has closed up shop.

I am not a member of the WDXC, but back in the 80's I used to subscribe to the A4 Multicoloured style magazines.

I used to listen to the dx programme on AWR as well. I even have a couple of old QSL cards!!

It is such a shame when institutions close their doors. Like so many in recent times, including Woolies, Comet, that factory that kept the town in work for 50 years or more, or even the local pub that has been trading for more than a century, sometimes two..

MW DXING IN SOUTHERN NJ CLOSES IT'S DOORS:

After a few short months, a link in our pages to MW dxing in Southern NJ is dead. The short lived blog was interesting while it lasted, and I wish I had saved some of the stories for the archives here. There was a very detailed first hand account of the Hurricane in October.

UPDATE: THIS SITE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN REACTIVATED.. LUCKY I NEVER GOT AROUND TO DELETING THE LINKS.

500kHz CLOSES IT'S DOORS AT YEAR END:

The 500kHz area of the MW band is being taken away from radio hams as of year end. Instead a WARC ruling has allocated 472 - 479kHz. Listen for activity on 500kHz before midnight on 31st December. There is guaranteed to be some final beacons heard around these frequencies.

NRK 675 CLOSES IT'S DOORS AT YEAR END:

Norway also closes it's 675 transmitter at year end. Another high power signal gone from the European airwaves. Now we need Holland, Spain, Germany, and the UK of course to take the bull by the horns and close down their MW transmitters!!!

VOICE OF RUSSIA MW SERVICE CLOSES IT'S DOORS AT YEAR END:

Seemingly the large 500 / 800kW transmitter of the Voice of Russia in Germany on 1323 is to close by year end. (Various lists have differing powers) This is more good news for MW dxers. There is also talk of the txer on 630, 1431 and 1494 closing as well. It was reported that 693 will continue. DXers are witnessing a welcome clearance of the high powered mw stations, although there certainly isn't a mad rush to close them.

Wouldn't we welcome the closure of 1577, 675, 1008, 1422, 1215, 1089, etc etc.

MW DXING HOME PAGE			LOGS / NEWS - NOVEMBER 2012 A site mainly dedicated to Mediumwave Dxing			DX ARCHIVE HOME PAGE	
All	DX Logs -	FM / TV DX	- Perseus / Equipment -	- Audio Download	ls - Other Items - DX	chat (Contact
	940	WMAC	MACON, GA		30/10/12 0700		
	1070	WCSZ	San Souci, SC		05/11/12 0002 (see b e in USA)	elow for rec	
	1350	KRNT	Des Moines, IA		30/10/12 0630, 0700,	0705	
New / Personal first's this month = 00 NB: ALL TIMES ARE IN GMT. = "Play Clip" button							

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2012

ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO REPORT ON THE MW FRONT:

Isn't the MW band simply shocking at this time. Nothing there to keep me interested these days. I hope it is not going to continue all winter like this.

On a brighter note, the hf band around 30mhz is alive again with tadx signals amongst others. Some real strong 10m and 11m signals as well.

HAS NASA DISCOVERED LIFE ON MARS?

There are a few news reports from the national newspapers and NPR etc about an announcement that NASA is soon to (finally?) make in early December about a discovery of "earthshattering" proportions, and "one for the history books". But they are remaining their usual quiet selves about it.

In fact the CURIOSITY ROVER web pages are a particular mess, and all over the place. So are the news reports. Trying to find archived re runs of press releases and press conferences, is almost impossible. Some of the audio files they make public are of telephone quality, like something from the 1960's. Surely an organisation like NASA have the resources to make their output in the public domain a bit more user friendly, less silly pointless jumping graphics, and give us broadcast quality audio instead of something that 2LO wouldn't have used! Back bedroom audio web streams these days have high bitrate stereo , 24 / 7!!

Anyway, I digress.

On SOL 65, (SOL = a Martian day) a strange image appeared of "something" on the ground. It was suggested that it "may" be debris from the landing, or off the rover. Now just what is this item?? Is it a piece of tape / insulating material,



What is the object then?? Insulation?? A piece of vegitation of some kind?? Is it like those tubes that tube worms live in, or even a skin that has been shed by a beast?? I myself have a roll of DRAPER tape with a similar ribbed pattern on it. Surely a very expensive piece of kit like curiosity doesn't however have "bits falling off??"

Below are samples of similar earthy items. A roll of DRAPER tape, and below, left to right. A piece of grassy vegitation, a leek, another piece of withered grassy vegitation, (probably the closest match to the above to look at), and a cylinder made from the draper tape.



DIRECT LINK TO NASA IMAGE

http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl-raw-images/msss/00065/mhli/0065MH0039001000E1_DXXX.jpg



I am not sure if I have read any NASA comments about the photos that appeared in the raw images on SOL 93, 97, 98. (Or was it 96) It appears as though some kind of growth has started on part of the lander. If that is not some kind of vegitation, what is it? There are even small spores visible.

Could it be simply ties of string, for want of a better word, with candle wax type stuff to stop the knot coming out?? (Suggested to me over a few beers one night by a friend)

Is this the earth shattering news / discovery??

Surely the big news is not that they have found a microbe?? Or chemicals that prove life once existed. That is hardly going to be described as earth shattering.

Yet as we type, there are other web pages reporting that NASA is playing down the news!! What are we to believe?? What are we to be told?? Anything worthwhile?? They even describe the trees on mars images as illusions, or dunes, or CO2 streaming upwards. Let's hope that they can at the very least admit to having found a growth!! Something. Why would they be scared to announce life on mars to the public???

Is there life on Mars?? Sure looks like it to me, with some of the images available on the NASA sites, but then do you have to have a masters degree to judge what a tree or vegitation looks like???



Check out a couple of full images reproduced here and levels adjusted to auto. Links to the original NASA pages are also listed.

0098mh0138000001e1_dxxx.jpg

0098mh0138000000e1_dxxx.jpg

LINK TO RAW IMAGE INDEX PAGE, AND NAVIGATE TO SOL 65, 93, 97, 98

<http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl/multimedia/raw/?s=>

DIRECT LINK TO ONE OF THE ABOVE IMAGES FROM SOL 98

http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl/multimedia/raw/?rawid=0098MH0138000000E1_DXXX&s=98

http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl-raw-images/msss/00098/mhli/0098MH0138000001E1_DXXX.jpg

In the links pages, we link to the excellent Mars Anomaly site. This is not a conspiracy site as such, but rather a site that links every image back to the original NASA image. I am surprised there has been no mention of Curiosity as yet from Joseph, the web

editor.

MARS ANOMALY RESEARCH "THE REAL MARS" MARS ANOMALY RESEARCH "DUNES OR LIFE" MARS ANOMALY RESEARCH "DUNES - TREES"

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2012

OLD FILES - FURTHER STUDY OF THE 30/10/12 RECORDINGS:

Isn't the Perseus technology just great. I just love having a really good recording from a really good day, that I can play back off and on at my leisure.

1350 KRNT DES MOINES, IA - Just looking through the files from the day of the hurricane. At 0634 after the wx, 1350KRNT.com. I am hearing "One Fine Day" on 1350, followed by unknown singing jingle, and CBS news. (0700). At 0705 we have KCCI call at the wx, which is Channel 8 in Des Moines. A personal first I believed I didn't have at first, when it was logged by neighbour Paul C.

940 WMAC - MACON / WARNER ROBINS - I have also heard another new one, WMAC GA 940 0700 30/10.

980 KKMS, Richfield / Minneapolis 0700 30/10 Best on AM - Not a pers 1st, but a rarity.

After 0700, some classical music was creeping in on 950 as well as 1250. My first log of these this season. (Manitoba Canada stations). Other stns noted were 960 KMA, 1200 WOAI, 920 a cumulous station, with ABC News, poss KDHL.

0800 was poor, and files already gone, but I unfortuantely never recorded 0900, which **was** rather good it seems according to dx neighbour Paul C. Instead I was listening top the recordings!! There hasn't really been any good late openings yet at these lattitudes, with that exception.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - TUESDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2012

DX LOGS:

1070 WCSZ Sans Souci, SC 0002 5/11 (SS DAYTIMER, tip from NJMWDX) 2000 1290 Unid that sounds like THE HOG, 0700 30/10. Which would be KUOA Arkansaw.

1450 WPG 0900 Finally ided new call 6/11

1590 XEVOZ La Mexicana 0700 6/11

THE GOOD - WCSZ - SANS SOUCI, SC:

I was rather pleased to find an ss id on 1070 from Sunday night / Monday morning,

thanks to a hot tip from SNJMWDX. WCSZ in SC is a personal first I believe.

Listen to my clip

Listen to Stateside clip from SNJMWDX

THE BAD - WTKS - SAVANNAH, GA:

But all is not pleasant on the personal first front. I was overly enthusiastic with the delete key, and wiped a few gigs of Perseus files the other day, while not being quite finished with them. I heard a rarer GA station, as did dx neighbout Paul C, on 1290 on 2/11 I think it was. 0400?? WTKS Savannah GA.

Sadly I have now lost the file, and despite trying various undelete pieces of software, I was beaten. The drive has been written and rewritten to a few times so no doubt the file is well gone. (I once managed to undelete a file of a German station sign off forever, when I was too heavy on the delete button...)

So one that should be added to the all time list, but won't be, but will be a thorn in my side till it pops it's head up again!!!

A DX START TO THE MONTH:

I am still hearing stations. Not too much of interest, but still the dx is getting thru. Today, Friday 2nd. the so called X band was showing some signals from Florida, with the Avenue 1660 sounding good and loud at peaks. On 1700 I initially thought I was hearing a Radio Disney ID and W calls in the mush, which threw me, but it was a YL, IDing as Radio something, on WJCC, FL. Bloomberg 1680 KRJO Monroe, LA was also coming thru at various times during the night.

10 METRE ANTENNA:

I have made and put up a new antenna this week, with invaluable assistance from Davie H. The antenna is more or less an Avanti Moonraker 4, with modifications to suit. This one is a Moonraker 3-KD (Ken & Davie..lol)

Modifications are:

1. Only the horizontal section is made, with the full sized reflector.

2. The antenna is a 3 element, and not a 4 element like the original Avanti aerial...

Davie had some concern in the early stages, about the physical size of the elements, and was convinced that the elements carefully measured from a diagram I made from an aerial that was being put up locally, were short. A size was found on the web, and it was soon realised that the measurements that had been taken 20 or more years ago were wrong!! The measurements of the boom, element spacing, and reflector were fine, but the elements were short. Why?? The only possible explanation for not having

the right dimensions, is that the final measurements must have been taken before the small thin wire rods, like tent pegs, had been added to the ends!!



But all was well that ended well, and the constructiuon is now up in the fresh air, able to be turned, all be it manually, and receiving exceptionally well. Even Australia has been received already, even though 10m is a little depressed compared to the last few weeks. The transatlantic stations boom in daily in the afternoons, and I am more than happy with the results!! It is good to have the high frequencies open like this, although as I say the higher end has been very depressed over the last days.

The end of the elements were straightened with a long stick!! If they bend again, like in the photo above, we may drop the aerial and add strengtheners on the elements, where the extra length was added.

WHAT ABOUT WEB RADIO AND 4G??

I have been reading a little on the web boards recently about the launch of 4G in the UK, and what will it mean to radio. Is DAB going to finally take off or is it a dead duck?? Is the way forward web based radio?? Alot of people use their phones to listen to music. Will they listen to radio streams if the web bandwidth is there for free / no extra charge?? Only the future can determine what MIGHT happen. Maybe yet another platform will emerge that we haven't thought of yet??

So some broadcasters may operate on AM and FM (like Absolute / Virgin), freeview, satellite, web, and many now arrange mobile apps to listen on iphones. Thats a lot of platforms to cough up for up front, from the broadcasters point of view.

I have to say that I personally have never had much interest in web streams as a form of entertainment. Maybe I should give it some attention?? Who knows. I do like to

hear rf coming through the ether though. But these days I have to use a web stream just to hear the Caroline programmes.

For me also, losing Caroline 0199 on satellite was a big miss. It means that the potential for listeners in almost every pub in the country is lost. Many receivers do not even pick up the satellite signal from Caroline now for some reason. An HD box requires a card to hear Caroline. I feel the station is being ripped off by whoever they are hiring airtime from. But would a renegotiation mean a new price? Is that the reason why it is left as is?? Who knows. If that is not the reason, then there is daylight robbery taking place somewhere!!!!

So for listening in the pub, punters permitting, Absolute Classic Rock or Absolute 80's are both popular. (So long as the football or horses isn't on..lol). Planet Rock can be worth a check, but sometimes can be "radio obscurity".

But to listen on a mobile phone in the pub via a web stream is virtually a no go situation. Unless one wants to be cut off from the bar with earplugs on. I have never I dont think met anyone outside radio circles, or gadget geeks that own web radios. Here in the country area of haggisland, we can struggle with normal phone reception at times, and web speed is particularly slow on these modern phones in many areas. It is remarkably fast when we go into town though.

I really don't see radio listeners nowadays on my travels. There are more platforms for radio than ever before, yet folks I know generally seem to have their own CDs on in the car, or the ipod gagets and derivatives.

Radio requires the public to take up new platforms. But who are these various Joe's in the public. City slickers with their fancy phones that go into work on the 8.22 every morning, with an earphone in. Or old Jessie the farmers widow that sits on the armchair and listens to the local BBC station, while doing her knitting. And everyone else in between. There is a very long way to go before you will introduce radio to the masses via internet.

Who even uses their tv sets to listen to radio, and the ability has been there for 20 odd years since satellite tv was launched to the masses??? The TV itself has long taken over modern house holds, where radio once rulled the waves. Radio is so much less interesting and important to average households, when the tv can be blaring with all the clapping and screaming of the x factor type programmes, or dreaded daytime television shows. Different times I guess. But for this old radio fan, I do wish there was some choice on the airwaves, ie on the radio.

As a footnote, some folks like to scoff at the mere mention of MW radio nowadays. Show me a clear channel then?? All the ILR and BBC stations must have some MW audience, surely. Would they survive otherwise? I am convinced that radio audiences in general are just not there, and figure manipulation is probably used to convince advertisers how wonderful station xxx really is.

Even the BBC are switching MW transmitters back on, for some reason. It's as though they are determined to hang on to their frequencies, clutching them greedily incase anyone else should be given a chance!!.

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All DX Logs - FM / TV			- Perseus / Equipment - Audio Do	wnloads - Other Items - DX cl	hat Contac	
	-					
	710		Rebelde	0700 29/10/12 - 2nd tx	er heard, qth	
				unknown		
	970		Rebelde	0700 29/10/12		
	1590	WGBW	Denmark / Greenbay	2300 30/10/12 (DX FRI	ENDLY STN)	
	1600	KGYM	Cedar Rapids, IA	0700 30/10/12 - ESPN S	Stn, The Gym	

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KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 31st OCTOBER 2012

AUDIO FROM THE LAST FEW DAYS:

121029_0700_710_rebelde_also_1180_to_compare.mp3

121030_0400_920_kdhl_gd_id_tip_jf.mp3

121029_0700_970_rebelde_mix_wzan.mp3

121031_0300_1280_wnam.mp3

121030_0700_0705_1540_kxel_vg_signal_inc_wx_stn_call.mp3

121030_2300_1590_wgbw_denmark_greenbay.mp3

121030_0700_1600_kgym_the_gym.mp3

121029_montage.mp3

121031_0700_729_bbc_essex.mp3

121030_2300_1530_bbc_essex_close.mp3

MW DXING OVERNIGHT:

As yesterday, the news agencies are covering hurricaine Sandy. The band at 0700 peak here was no where near the signals we have had in the last couple of days, although there are still plenty North American signals on the band. DH reported WNAM 1280 good at 0300, and despite splatter being troublesome for me at this time, it was there in a break on the audio from 1278.

1590 WGBW - DENMARK / GREENBAY, WI:

A personal first here, at 2300 on 1590. This is a dxer friendly station that has run a string of dx tests in the past. Maybe, just maybe, I should take time and send them a report.

BBC MESSING AROUND WITH POTENTIAL MW CLOSURES:

I think I possibly failed to report last time on these pages about the BBC broadcasting loop tapes of potential closures of four stations. But in the last days, the following two joined the closedown experiments.

BBC Hereford and Worchester 738 and 1584

BBC Essex 1530, 765, 729

The original stations effected were:

BBC Radio Kent 774 kHz and 1602 kHz

BBC Radio Lincolnshire 1368 kHz

BBC Radio Merseyside 1485 kHz

BBC Radio Nottingham on 1584 kHz

Merseyside and Lincolnshire came back on air for some reason, whatever their point was. .

I speak as a selfish dxer, but why don't they simply switch off and stop spending more money switching these things on and off.

JIMMY SAVILLE AND BBC RADIO ULSTER:

Worldwide, the news uncovered about the well loved, until recently, Jimmy Saville has hit the headlines for many weeks. It has all become a bit boring, and seems to have encouraged many dubious claims from bandwagoners. But I saw a link on the web to this absolutely mad link from BBC Radio Ulster's very naive presentation team (And I do not mean just the YL).

Imagine a concenting adult reading this out at all, never mind on the BBC... LOL...

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=A9yJUOdVyUc

LIVE TV ON THE INTERNET:

Is it just me, or is there something not quite right about the so called Live TV streams on the net?? I was trying to find some coverage of the hurricane in the states the other day, while crap stations like CNN Europe bored us with sport or what Tony Blair said today, that kind of thing.

First thing - Why don't the mighty Americans have European relays of the English network satelite news services?? We have Sky News, BBC, CNN (A European service that is a shadow of it's former International glory). After this we have CNBC and Bloomberg which don't really count as they are finance stations. France, China, Russia all have English news channels, and even the dubious AI Jazeera has a 24/7 English service to Europe. There is a Fox News service here in the UK, but it is tied to a subscription package.

I would have hoped that a direct relay would have been possible by this time of real American stations. There is no CBC / Canadian outlet available either in English speaking Europe.

So I tried on line for WABC TV CBS, WBAL, FOX. There seemed to be no real time live stream of what is broadcast in the states. All the streams kept stopping. I wonder if there is some reason none of these stations want a global service anyway.

Below are a couple of lists. News available here, and links I was trying for live streaming.

News services on satellite with a UK / Irish satellite receiver:

- 501 SKY NEWS
- 502 BLOOMBERG
- 503 BBC
- 504 BBC PARLIAMENT (gripping stuff!!)
- 505 CNBC
- 506 CNN
- 507 NHK (MIGRATED TO HD ONLY)
- 508 EURONEWS
- 509 FOX NEWS (BLOCKED UNLESS A SUBSCRIBER)
- 510 CCTV China
- 511 ?? Asian subscription service
- 512 RT Russian
- 513 France 24
- 514 Al Jazeera

516 - CNC (China??) 518 - eNC Africa

My attempts at finding live streams are linked below. There must be proper live streams in this day and age available somewhere on the web?? These all seem to freeze when the ads are on, or simply stopped streaming programmes, and used a "back soon" screen.

http://abclocal.go.com/wabc/livenow?id=8857235

http://www.myfoxny.com/category/237033/live-video-on-myfoxny

http://newyork.cbslocal.com/video/

http://www.wbaltv.com/

NEWS SERVICES THAT DON'T SHOW THE FULL REPORT / PICTURE:

And as a final MOAN, what do these news broadcasters believe they are showing, when they show traffic say on the Brooklyn Bridge, yet all you can really see is the top of the bridge, and huge large banners on the bottom third of the screen!!This rubbish has gone on for years. Is there not the technology to resize the picture, and show it only on the top two thirds, if they insist on these massive banners??? It really is common sense, and isn't rocket science.They look so unprofessional when they produce reports like this.,

TOP BAND HAM BOOKS / ARTICLES ON LINE:

This site was highlighted to me the other day by "Stu". An interesting top band publication. There is another one listed as well as other interesting articles on this top band site.

http://myplace.frontier.com/~k9la/html/160m.html

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - TUESDAY 30th OCTOBER 2012

MW DXING DURING A HURRICANE:

As with yesterday, the stations are back, as though nothing happened. ie as though the propagation has always been there. I have had some reasonable logs today, but nothing to dx neighbour Paul C. He seems to have much more rarer stations than I have heard today.

I wondered about the New York power houses. But 1130 880 660 770 were all still on

air. But it seems WINS 1010 was off. It is difficult to tell here as CFRB Toronto also thumps in, and either or can be alone on the channel, or it can be a glorious mix!! From a miserable and selfish dxer's point of view, it would have been nice to hear silence on 880, 660, or 770. For some reason, these channels don't let much else through. More common is hearing other stations with 1130 or 1520 for that matter.

Some unids. 1320 ann 25 thousand watt 1320, with fox news (Prob WILS), and 1290 a rat race with multiple ids.

790 WAXY FI Sports 0700
920 KDHL Faribault, MN 0400 Good id and into ABC News. (tip John F)
1080 WHIM, Miami 0700
1290 The Hogg tent 0700 30/10.
1310 WCCW The Score I think was the ID now, ex ESPN stn 0700 30/10
1490 WBAE reasonable at 0700, ann 1400 and 1490
1600 KGYM, Waterloo / Iowa The Gym, 106.3 / 107.5 FM Pers 1st. NB. In the past I

have heard ESPN stations on 1600, but the id was always buiried by other stations.

PERSEUS ON WINDOWS 8 - VIA DAVE P ON PERSEUS GROUP:

How to install Perseus drivers on Windows 8

- 1. Windows Key + R
- 2. Enter shutdown.exe /r /o /f /t 00
- 3. Click the "OK" button
- 4. System will restart to a "Choose an option" screen
- 5. Select "Troubleshoot" from "Choose an option" screen
- 6. Select "Advanced options" from "Troubleshoot" screen
- 7. Select "Windows Startup Settings" from "Advanced options" screen
- 8. Click "Restart" button
- 9. System will restart to "Advanced Boot Options" screen
- 10. Select "Disable Driver Signature Enforcement"
- 11. Once the system starts, install the driver

NB: Any gaps and spaces on line 2 were in the original entry. I haven't tried this, so whether it needs the spaces is unknown!! (KB)

WILL I EVER NEED OR WISH TO MOVE TO WINDOWS 8:

It will be the day hell freezes over that I personally will require the instructions above for my own PC, although I may try it on a laptop at a remote site sometime. I have NO REASON WHATSOEVER to change from XP any time soon, for use on my own PC. Long gone are the days when a new version of Windows meant a real upgrade and stability improvement. Only when there becomes some piece of hardware like the Perseus that I really desire, and it is selfishly designed only around windows 8, then I will have to look at an upgrade. I have no interest in the clutter introduced in Windows Vista / 7 / 8. If truth be told, XP was an uphill struggle for me. Not because of any difficulty in operating, but Windows M.E. was a very fast, smooth running etc operating system. The big baby icons of XP never really impressed anyone around here. But I *was* forced to upgrade when hard drives above the 137gig limit of FAT 32 became common place here.

The XP O/S itself has been stable enough over the years, once you get back to all the windows traditional settings, traditional control panel, etc making it look like Windows 2000. I own a PC to actually use, not to watch stupid babyish moving graphics on the start menu...etc etc. It is my feeling many of the new releases are only money spinners, with zero benefits for my own personal uses here. Anything I used the PC for even way back during Windows M.E, I could do with ease.

Self aclaimed experts will scoff at the last statement. I can not comment on a PC used for games. I have never used any, but for all other uses, I had no trouble.

It is many a long year now of course since that particular bridge of WIN XP had to be crossed, and it runs just fine. Oh no, but support will soon be withdrawn from MS, my critics may say. And what of it. I have never asked for support ever, so I am not going to be even remotely involved in that problem. I have never even downloaded any updates. I see no point. I think my main PC sits with XP + service pack 2. Why should I clutter the machine with constant upgrades??? If safety was such an issue, I would sit with a yellow jacket on and a crash helmet...lol.. The main PC is never connected to the web anyway. And never will be.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - MONDAY 29th OCTOBER 2012

WHO SWITCHED ON THE LIGHTS??

As though by magic, like someone pulling a switch, the mw signals have come back, with some very powerful signals appearing on the band at 0700 this morning. Such is the long period of the doledrums, that the peak time has moved on and seems now to be rather good around 0700.

I saw on the Skype chat "there was nothing unusual heard today", but let's be honest, when we have had virtually zero signals for the last few weeks, this is a large step in the right direction.

MONTAGE OF COMMON STATIONS:

I have created a montage from today.

The following common stations are included....

930 CFBC 1050 ESPN De Portes (NY) 1100 WTAM 1120 KMOX inc HD calls
1130 WBBR
1170 WWVA (weaker than it is often heard)
1180 Rebelde (I think it was from 1180)
880 WCBS booming
770 WABC
660 WFAN
1520 WWKB

RANDOM LOGS FROM TODAY:

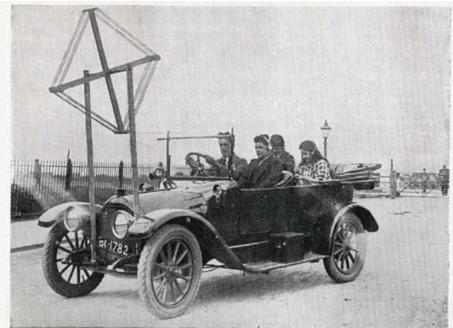
Rebelde Heard on the following: 600, 610, 670, 710, 970, 1180, 1620

650 News and information you need ..?.??.. music city...so pres WSN Nashville, mix with VOCM
710 Rebelde on 2 separate txers, slightly out of sync 0700
930 CFBC 0702 VG
970 Rebelde, mix with WZAN 0700 (Think this is a first on 970 for me)

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 25th OCTOBER 2012

INTERESTING VINTAGE ITEMS:

The latest IN CAR ENTERTAINMENT, from the 1920's, taken from the BOYS WIRELESS BOOK, C1924 ish.



A party of radio motorists touring Cardiff with their "fly-catcher." Members of the Cardiff and South Wales Wireless Society claim credit for the first recorded reception of intelligible Continental wireless messages in a light car travelling at thirty miles an hour.



The centre column from 1931, is like a modern day mw log book!! Many calls still exist!!

MW LOGS:

Well, again, it has been a load of old rubbish here. No entries on this site, means black conditions. So bad is it, that many mornings at peak times, around the dawn enhancement period, power houses like WWKB, and WBBR and the likes, have simply not been heard. I have tried the Latin antenna, but the same applies. Band dead.

I think I have probably stated before that I don't mean there had been no Euros or weak signals from the Euros. I simply mean that all I hear is 9kHz signals with large

signals. The 10kHz channels have been virtually empty.

Today for the first time, some audio was heard from WWKB, WMVP, WBBR, and some others. But there was not enough to get me excited, and the files were soon deleted. But the band is as lively as I have seen it for weeks.

Opinion here: The worst I think I have heard, for such a long period.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 18th OCTOBER 2012

MW LOGS:

Well, to keep it short, I have none.

Some dxers seem to be hearing Asian / Middle East pretty well, although I don't really have much interest here in a station you can't even hear real IDs. The Saudi on 1521 is often very strong. I believe I was hearing All India Radio on 1071 as well, but in local languages. So much so that I couldn't ID the thing. So how about the subject of this web site.. Transatlantic MW dxing..

NOTHING..

I had CJYQ today. Big deal. I will wait till I have far better conditions, to do some real dxing. I have logged CJYQ and VOCM and CBC before. When that is the dx, I am afraid I have no interest. I have many other projects, some radio related, some not, that I can put some time into in these dark days of the tadx hobby.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 11th OCTOBER 2012

MW LOGS:

"The band seems to have blown out recently, with virtually nothing being heard".

This is the entry I started to write on Wed 3rd of Oct, and ran out of things to say, if you can believe that!! But the truth is, the same still holds. I seem to have had zero dx in the last few weeks worth noting. O yes there have been mornings where Cuba is heard on 1180 or 1620. Big deal. I have no desire to spend time at the receivers if this is what can be called dx. So like what happened at the same time last winter, I seem to have begun to drift away from mw dxing.

Am I like the stereo type schoolboy who only supports the winning football team?? Well I guess so. When the band is as dead as it has been, it is very difficult for me to maintain any interest.

PERSEUS RANDOM FAILURES:

I had a random failure of a recording top of the hour during the night recently. When checking the PC in the morning, one can find the complete set of hours recorded, or just occasionally there may be one that failed. Now one question I ask. Why is it that the one that fails is normally the desired time, eg the other morning here 0600 failed. 0600 is the peak top of the hour here for TADX. If it was another time of year, the time is guaranteed to be still the peak recording!! Murphy's Law?? It is something we have to either live with, or get up and do live dxing again!!

What happens during a failure?? I have no idea. The failed file usually will not play back, although recording has obviously started and stopped almost as soon as the file is being created on the hard drive.

Guys using other methods of recording over night also report failures, so it is not only the "auto hot keys" set up that will fail on the odd occasion. I would even stretch my neck out and suggest that a dxer claiming he never has the odd failure, is telling stories, or not recording top of the hours every night.

The other morning I had a unique failure that I had never seen before. After 0000, every top of the hour until 0600 had a very short file, as though recording had stopped within seconds. But these files were all playable, even though they were only seconds long. But at 0630, the corrupt file actually played and then played backwards!! Most unusual.. LOL.

My only solution to this problem was to simply delete the registry key as described in the manual, and / or my Perseus articles, and return Perseus software to factory settings. If the problem persists, I guess it is a windows problem, and it is time for the old reinstall of all software to happen. It never does a PC any harm to have a fresh install every now and then, to keep the unit up to speed, so to speak.

DOWNLOAD A CORRUPT PERSUES FILE THAT PLAYS BACKWARDS..LOL (A MERE 1 MEG)

UPDATE: The short files that stopped immediately they started were caused by a full hard drive!!!! Only the above file played backwards though!! LOL.

MW DXING	
HOME PAGE	

LOGS / NEWS - SEPTEMBER 2012

A site mainly dedicated to Mediumwave Dxing

DX ARCHIVE HOME PAGE

All DX Logs - FM / TV DX - Perseus / Equipment - Audio Downloads - Other Items - DX chat Contact

820		Radio Ciudad, Habana, Cuba	0559 21/09/12 (Tip paul C)
980		Radio Ciudad, Habana, Cuba	Paul C)
980	WILK	Willkes-Barre, PA	0600 19/09/12 (Tnx to dxers for listening to clip)
980	WPGA	Perry, GA	0600 25/09/12 (2.6kW / 80w) // 1400 WNEX Macon
1250		W Radio, Cucuta, Columbia	0500 03/09/12 (SS lessons, Paul C) PAULS REC
1250	WDVA	Daneville, VA	0600 21/09/12
1350	WIOU	Kokoma, IN	0600 25/09/12 (5kW / 1kW)
1350		BBN Radio Panama	for help)
1440	WGIG	Brunswick, GA	0200 13/09/12
1470		La Primirisima, Panama	0502 03/09/12 (Tnx AB for help)
1490	WXTG	Hamden, VA	0600 21/09/12
1560		Radio Adventista de Panama	0500 03/09/12 (LV Esperanzo ids) Ided by PC & DH, maybe with the help of real dx??
1590	WHGT	Mauhanssville, MD	2300 22/09/12 (15kW / 58 W) Tip Paul C

New / Personal first's this month = 13

NB: ALL TIMES ARE IN GMT. = "Play Clip" button

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - SATURDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2012

LOGS FROM TODAY:

Band a bit noisy today, although signals strong next to the Euros. I mean that there are a lot of channels with mush and no dominant stn. This entry is still being proccessed, but uploaded to correct a typo, cheers Mark..lol

570 CKGL 5-70 News 0558 29/9 930 WBEN Buffalo 0600 29/9 Substantial multi call top of the hour. 1650 KKGM Dallas / Fortworth 0500 29/9 alone on the channel.

MEMORIES OF A ROAD:

I had a late night drive last night. Nothing special. Around a 140 mile return trip, 70 miles each way to the Ferry Terminal, to pick up a weary traveller coming home to Scotland after a two month work shift in Ireland.

But that old road. That old bastard of a twisted road. Boy does it bring back some memories. Memories of the road to Ireland and the Irish pirates of yesteryear. Memories of dx peditions to Portpatrick, sitting up on the opposite hillside to Portpartick Radio, listening to the Irish pirate stations on FM. Memories of a very early morning drive to Ireland that my passengers would never have taken if they knew I had been up until about half 3 in the morning at a house party after the pub, and we were leaving at about five!! Never mind what the "Polis" would have made of the whole thing!! The road to Dublin, the road to Belfast, the road to Monaghan, the road to Cork. The road to the great North West 200. The road to Portpatrick. Aye marvelous memories...

Cairnryan was the location of the world famous Ross Revenge when the Radio Caroline Organisation found her. A ship fit for the job of long years at sea. Who knows, I may have unwittingly even passed close to the ship on my travels one day. We will never know.

And what was there to listen to on the long solitary road at 2am?? No Irish pirates. Well none doing live shows. I found LW 234 RTL, the old Radio Luxembourg English language frequency before they used 208!! (A bit before my time I hasten to add) They were running a show called WRTL, like an American country format. It was different, with a consistant signal, and in French, with some English thrown in. Yes, it made a road trip a lot less dull, and I was able to listen to at least something on AM Radio.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 2012

NOT MUCH TO REPORT TODAY OR YESTERDAY:

A dull day here, but dx neighbour 20 miles up the road on the coast reports all kinds of rare calls I have never heard of. Here, it was my turn for the usual stations to be there on top of the hour at the peak, which is now 0600.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2012

CONFUSION OVER MULTI CALL STATIONS:

A subject well covered in one of my on line articles, How Accurate Are We In Our MW Dxing, so there is no real need to go into great detail here. But after hearing a couple of new ones in the last days that have multi calls, I mentioned it to "MW dxing in NJ". (CLICK HERE FOR BLOG) "He" sent me a very fast recording of a relatively regular catch here in Europe, WMKT 1270. Hearing a weaker signal under bad band conditions could lead to claims of anything!!

wmkt_fast_and_furious_multi_call.mp3

WELL APPRECIATED ASSISTANCE, ESPECIALLY WITH SS STATIONS:

I had a detailed e mail from Andra B recently with suggestions, corrections and observations from the logs over the last few weeks. I would say I have been quite distracted with other projects this season so far, and thus the web pages here are not so detailed and up to date as they might be.

I also can be sloppy when someone points out errors of typing or whatever as well. So hopefully at least this time around, I have fixed all the tips from AB. Thanks for the typo corrections with the common logs as well OM....

1350 is very likely BBN Panamá with possible mention of BBN at 21' and "medianoche en Panamá", time being right for that country.

1470 is definitely Panamá – "La Radio Digital de Panamá, La Primerísima"

1540 – La Voz del Petróleo, Barrancabermeja is the only Caracol station on this channel, but I'm not sure there is an ID here. I listened to their web stream last year and only heard a short jingle for a local ID.

Some corrections / comments:

1240 in August should be WCEM

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - TUESDAY 25th SEPTEMBER 2012

A COUPLE OF RARE PERSONAL FIRSTS FOR ME TODAY:

I always like to hear North Americans on the Euro channels. You always feel that the band is getting better when WWVA is sat right on top of all the ILR mess.

A couple of rare personal firsts were heard here today. I have not seen them reported anywhere else I don't think.

630 CFCO ONT 0602 25/9 650 WSM / mix VOCM 0600 25/9 **980 WPGA, Perry, GA 0600 25/9 Pers 1st.** // 1400 WNEX Macon Tnx Paul C for listening to clip.

Short montage of strong stations from today

(680 News, WJR, AM 740, AM 640)

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - MONDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 2012

PERSEUS NOT PLUGGED IN LAST NIGHT:

I seem to have a very annoying habit of forgetting to plug in the Perseus after I have set up the night time recordings!! It has happened so many times so far this season, I am beginning to lose faith in my mind..LOL.. The PC here is such that there are no expansion sockets for a PCI card for example to expand the number of USB ports. One would imagine that 6 ports wiould be enough for anyone, but count them up . Scanner, USB Sound card, USB keyboard and moose, two flying leads for use with external drives, or pens, and a Perseus SDR!! It really isn't a big deal, and I am not sure whether I need an extra hub, or whether to go for memory lessons!!! O yes, and there is the card reader for my camera!! And anything else that I have forgotten about.

MW LOGS FROM THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS:

1060 Radio Education Mex thru the hour, id 0602ish 23/9 1300 WXRL Lancaster / Buffalo 0600 23/9 **1320 WJAS Pittsburgh, PA 0600 23/9 Very loud and dominant on the channel.** 7 or 3.3 kW?? 1590 WHGT Maugansville, MD 22/9 2200 Pers 1st (Tip Paul C) Last time Paul hrd this there was no sign. Loud tonight. 15kW, or 58Watts?? What do you think...lol.

1590 HET:

We have been monitoring a het on 1590 LF around 1589.7ish most of this past week. Trying to get audio and more importantly, ids, before it is repaired. No luck here so far despite fair signals. (WASB Brockport / Rochester)

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2012

BETTER MW CONDITIONS:

On Wednesday morning I have heard a couple of rarer stations at 0600UTC. WCAT VT 1390, and WILK news radio 980, Wilkes-Barre, PA 5000 / 1000. WCAT I have heard before in 2009 as an ESPN station at the time. WOND was also alone on the channel of 1400 at 0600. It is good when the right fade happens at the right time, and the common stations are on a fade. I have noticed, thanks to the Perseus SDR that the chances of more than one station across the band on that unusual fade are quite reasonable. Again, I take the opportunity to use these pages as my log book, saving the double work. One day I may regret not taking notes on paper, but when time is tight as "Booker T etc" used to say, it saves time.

LOGS FROM THE LAST DAYS:

820 Radio Ciudad, Habana Cuba 0559 21/9 // 980 (820 tip Paul C)
980 Radio Ciudad, Habana Cuba 0559 21/9 // 820
980 WILK Wilkes-Barre, PA. unusual stn here. unusual city name. 0600 19/9
1060 0601 unid ss - not sure what this is.
1250 WDVA Daneville, VA 0602 21/9 call given a few times. pers 1st
1270 CJCB 0601 21/9
1390 WZHF Arlington / DC area Vo Russia ids 0600 21/9
1390 WCAT Burlington, VT 0600 19/9 Multi call inc WRSA St Albans 1420 ,
WIFY 93.7, WFAD 1490, ABC CRUIZIN 93.7
Listen to web stream clip to compare
1490 Tent WXTG VA. 0600 21/9 .. been listening to similar sounding streams.
distinctive ann.. toth
(Update - no doubt that I have logged WXTG Hamden, VA, click here for web stream clip)

MW DX BLOG IN NEW JERSEY:

A new MW dxing blog in NJ has started, and may become a good resource for Euro mw dxers, as the owner of the site is a keen mw dxer, and does dx his home American stations.

CLICK HERE FOR BLOG

VINTAGE WIRELESS:

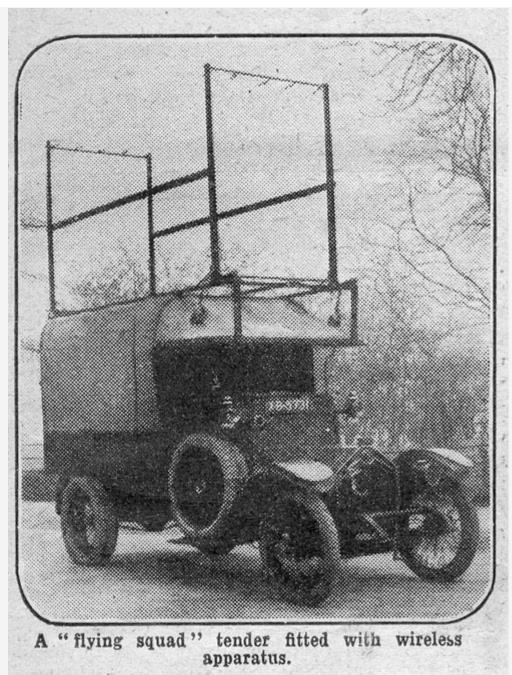
Again, we are in a position here to update the site with old radio magazines from the 30's and even the 20's. A friend of old, has dropped off a prized collection of vintage

magazines, photographs below. These are a fascinating insight to radio in the 30's. They will be pdfed shortly and uploaded. Keep checking the updates.

There are Radio Pictorials from the 1930's, World Radio, the magazine that was produced by the BBC, old Luxembourg publications from later days, and some others.



I have also included a few interesting pages from a few of the old mags.



Article about the FLYING SQUAD (THE COPS) fitting radios in vehicles!!! Click image for full article.

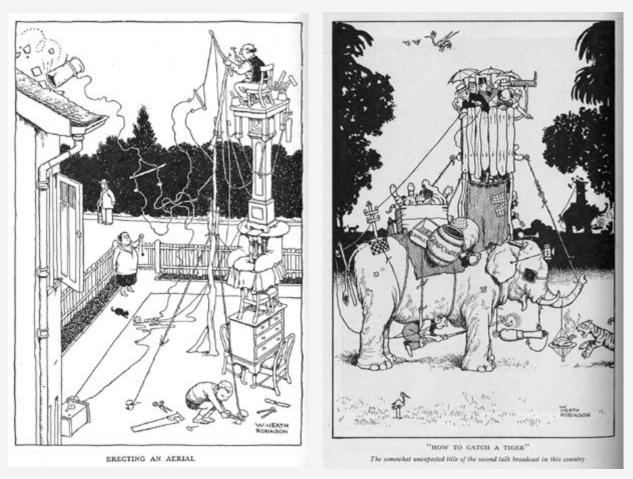
Below are a few pages at random for the moment. As I say the full magazine pdfs will be available shortly.



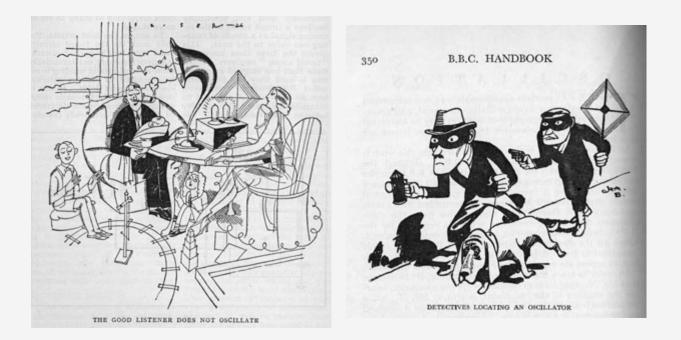
I also love the old cartoons in some of them as well..

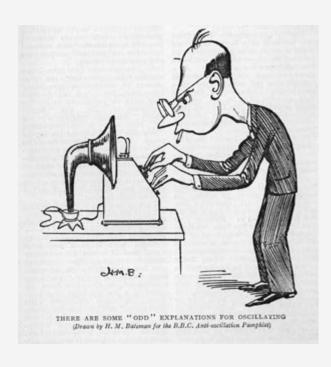
Heath Robinson is a name associated with chewing gum and croc clip types of home made radio equipment. But I have never investigated who Heath Robinson actually was

until now. He was at the very least a clever artist, who has some nice old cartoons in the early BBC Yearbooks.



Two Heath Robinson Scetches. The antenna erecting one is particularly amusing!!





A FEW ITEMS I HAVE BEEN BUYING RECENTLY:



MOORSIDE EDGE, OLD POSTCARD WON RECENTLY

Ø

RADIO EIREANN. 6.F.O., DETRIN. HELLOOD. H-4-57

Dear Sir,

We conclose a copy of our "Programme-as-Recodonast" for that date for your information and also a document giving some information about Endle firmann which may be of interest to you.

> Yours faithfully. h. high an hidle. for Director of Broadcasting

Vintage RTE QSL from the 1950s





An item LOST in 2012 on auction sites

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 2012

MW DXING:

Still recording MW most mornings, except the days when I forget to reconnect the Perseus after using the USB socket. Haven't got the pers 1st's totaled yet, but will get to it. A few audio clips here from the last days, inc rarer 1340 signal which is swamped by Ulster on 1341.

LOGS:

780 Radio Coro poor 12/9 0530
870 Cuban Warbler 0530 12/9
920 CKNX 0504 12/9 - not been particulerly common so far this season
930 CFBC Booming 0530 13/9
940 WINZ The Sports Animal, FL. One of those stupid American ads about public safety. 12/9 0530
950 CKNB 0530 13/9 Back to full audio after silent carrier yesterday
950 WTLN Orlando, FL 0500 12/9 (950 CKNB carrier only 05, 0530 and 06)
950 Radio Reloj Cuba time signals etc 0533 12/9
1050 WEPN NY pres. All ss now ESPN Deportes 0500 12/9
1140 WQBA Booming 12/9 0500
1160 (UPDATE: Mark In NJ heard the same ad on WYLL and therefore I guess it must be them) UNID like news then AM-11-60 singing jingle and into an ad for Univercity of

California. 0500 12/9 (I have never noticed the common WYLL with a singing AM 11-60 jingle before.) 1230 WCMC Wildwood, NJ 0500 13/9 1290 WJNO FL 0533 12/9 1300 WFFG Marathon, FL 0459 6/9 1310 WLOB Mix with 13-10 News 0530 13/9 1340 WMID Mother stn, see // 1230 singing jingle 0528 13/9 1350 Unid Yahoo Sports id 0530 13/9 WOYK? **1440 WGIG, Brunswick, GA 0200 13/9** (PERS 1ST) 1510 Boston with SS, and an obvious disclaimer during an ad!! 9/9

14166 VK3MO BOOMING:

Paul C alerted me to a booming VK station (Australian) on 20m last night, VK3MO. It was so good to hear the 20m band wide open across the world. I quite like listening in to ee speaking stations having a QSO, and not just the loggers that give radio checks. Listen to the difference when he brings the beam back towards Ireland!! When you look him up on QRZ.com, he has a substantial aerial system.

BBC STATIONS LEAVE THE AIR:

It is good to see the back of some of the BBC stations on MW over the last days. (Selfish dxers point of view to help free up channels)

There have been four stations chosen to leave the MW band as an experiment, to see how many calls they received from people unable to find the station. The stations were BBC Radio Notts, 1584, (1521 left the air some time ago), BBC Kent 774 (+ 1602??), BBC Merseyside 1485, Radio Lincolnshire 1368. I wonder what the true figures were for calls received.

The BBC have in the past left their 405 line TV transmitters on air for years and years after the last viewer changed over. I wonder how many calls were received when the 405 txers went off air in the mid 80's. 1984 I think???

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2012

MW DXING DEAD LOSS LAST TWO MORNINGS:

MW was even worse for me this morning. I forgot to reconnect Perseus, after using the USB socket. You would think that 6 USB sockets on a PC would be enough for anyone..lol

RECORDINGS FROM THE LAST DAYS:

120906_0500_1140_wqba_miami.mp3

120903_0502_1250_w_cucuta_columbia.mp3

120904_0359_1290_rpp_noticias_peru_tent.mp3

120903_0500_1350_poss_panama_mention.mp3

120903_0502_1470_poss_panama_mention_radio_digital_de_panama.mp3

120903_0500_1540_unid_radio_constantino_caracol_id_also.mp3

120903_0500_1560_lv_esperanzo_panama_qrm_disney.mp3

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - THURSDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2012

MW DXING DEAD LOSS LAST TWO MORNINGS:

MW conditions over the last couple of mornings have been rather poor to say the least. This morning even WBBR powerhouse was not noted, but next door on 1140, WQBA Miami was dominant. Yesterday after some serious listening to weak ss sludge, I finally pulled out Paul C's RPP Noticias from 1290!! Peru.

VINTAGE WIRELESS AGAIN:

Absolutely fascinating reading has again been found recently on ebay. I recently bought a copy of two weekly magazines. Amateur Wireless and Popular Wireless. Both are now reproduced as pdf files and in the public domain. click here.

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - TUESDAY 4th SEPTEMBER 2012

MW DXING OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS:

680 WRKO Boston 05 3/9

820 WNYC NY 0500 3/9 poor in mush

830 WCRN Boston 50k signal, but not heard this season till now, 0500 3/9

1250 La W, Cucuto, Columbia 0500 3/9

1350 unid ss. snds like Panama mentioned on the hour 05 3/9(Update - AB thinks BBN Radio, Panama)

1470 unid ss sounds like a mention of Panama in the ann. 0502 3/9 (Update - AB says def La Radio Primerisima, Panama)

1540 Turbo Mix, Peru s/off 0500, with a Caracol Radio station heard after close carrier. Also snds like Radio Constantino id immediately after close down. 0500 3/9

1560 SS LV Esperanza Panama. David H and Paul C investigated this. Initially thought Radio Disney too dominant, but squeezed it out, just before Disney jingle. 0501 3/9

	MW DXIN HOME PA		LOGS / NEWS - AUG A site mainly dedicated to Media		DX ARCHIVE HOME PAGE	
All	DX Logs -	FM / TV DX	- Perseus / Equipment - Audio Dov	vnloads - Other Items - DX c	chat Contac	
	1240	WCEM	Cambridge, MA	23/08/12 0500 (VERY F C)	YOOR, tip Paul	
	1590	WAUB	Auburn, NY	21/08/12 0431 Id as Fi Radio (no call)	ngerlake News	
			New / Personal first's this NB: ALL TIMES ARE IN GMT.			

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 31st AUGUST 2012

DUTCH MOA DAY

The last day of August 2012, and commemorating the closure of Radio Northsea etc from the Dutch coast in 1974 on this date. Radio Caroline as everyone reading this should know, sailed again "home" to the English coast line, broadcasting as she went, with the legendary (late) Tony Allan.

UK CLIPS FROM THE LAST DAYS:

120823_0303_1368_bbc_radio_lincolnshire_close_mw.mp3

120823_0500_1368_manx_radio_sign_on.mp3

120824_0825_1485_bbc_merseyside_left_mw.mp3

MW DXING LAST FEW DAYS:

MW Dxing certainly looking better by the day here. A list of stations heard, or at least some is to be seen below, as well as a montage of common logs. The stations heard so far are mostly what are called in these parts, common stations. I would usually list these at the start of the season and perhaps include them in a montage, if the signal was notably powerful. I certainly do NOT list logs every day of WBBR and WWKB!!

The list below are simply common stations that have been identified at some point over the last week or so. No real logs are kept here of these stations during the course of the dx season, unless it is a log of exceptional strength or unusual in other ways.

Less common stations may be in **bold** below.

540 CBC ee 560 WGAN Getting lost in dreadsed local QRN these days 590 VOCM 0500 23/8 600 CBC 0500 23/8 620 VOCM 0500 23/8 630 WUNO PR 0502 23/8 650 VOCM Good clear channel these days with 648 off 0500 23/8 660 WFAN 670 Rebelde 0500 23/8 680 WAPA PR 0503 23/8 680 6-80 News 700 WLW 710 VOCM 710 WOR 710 Rebelde 0500 23/8 730 CKAC FF 740 VOCM 750 CBC 760 WJR 770 WABC 780 WBBM 800 VOWR 23/8 0505 800 CKLW 0500 26/8 860 CBC FF 870 WWL 0500 23/8 880 WCBS 0500 23/8 930 CFBC **940 WINZ** 950 CKNB booming 05 26/8 990 CBC 990 CKGM 1000 WMVP 1010 CFRB / WINS 1020 KDKA 1060 KYW 0500 23/8 1060 WQOM Natick, MA ex WBIX 1080 WTIC 1100 WTAM 1110 WBT 1120 KMOX 1130 WBBR 1140 CBC 1170 WWVA 1180 WHAM / Rebelde 1200 WXKS Boston ann ?? comedy 1200 / Team 1200 Ottowa 1210 VOAR / WOTL 1240 WCEM Cambridge, MA vy poor 0500 23/8 tip Paul C (pers 1st) 🌆 📰 1250 CJYE 1270 CJCB 1270 WXYT Detroit, 05 29/8 1280 WFAU 1290 CJBK, WKBK, WHIO, 1300 WOOD 1310 13-10 NEWS 1320 CJMR 1330 WRCA 1350 WARF Akron 1360 WDRC 1370 WDEA 1380 unid ESPN (Poss Bath) 1390 WEGP 1390 WFBL ABC Nx 05 29/8 ann // 1150 WUTI?? 1400 CBC / WOND 1410 WPOP 1430 WENE / CHKT 1450 WENJ 1470 WLAM / Formula (mex) 1480 WHBC / WSAR 1500 WFFD 1510 ZONE 1520 WWKB 1540 CHIN 1560 Disney 1580 CKDO 1590 WARV / WAKR 1590 WAUR Auburn, NY Finger Lake News Radio (no call. id 9s) 21/8 0430 (pers 1st) 1600 WUNR 1620 Rebelde 1680 KRJO Less common, though seems to be coming in this season for some reason 1700 KVNS

MONTAGE OF COMMON STATIONS FROM THE LATE AUGUST2012:

1170 WWVA 1520 WWKB 1510 WWZN 1500 WFED 960 WEAV 930 CFBC 1360 WDRC 950 CKNB 740 VOCM 750 CBC 700 WLW 780 WBBM 1020_KDKA 1130 WBBR 1190 WOWO 800 VOWR 950 CKNB 1010 CFRB 1010 WINS 1330 WRCA 1580 CKDO 1600 WUNR 1700 KVNS 1560 Radio Disney WQEW NY 860 CBC FF Toronto 1080 WTIC

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - SATURDAY 18th AUGUST 2012

MW DXING LAST FEW DAYS:

MW during the last few days has been somewhat depressed, and not worth noting. The common stuff eg WWKB and WBBR are still there, but Peru has been heard also on 1570, so a mixed bag really. DX neighbour Davie up the road heard a good one at 0430 the other morning on 1590. WPSL FL. That is a new one on me, so well done Davie. I had WAKR around 0400, and never really record half hours. The peak at these latitudes is certainly around 0430 now, so maybe I will record over the weekend at 0430. Then again, I may try 6.9 for the American pirates. It will be a last minute decision.

OLD TIME RADIO RESEARCHERS GROUP - AMERICAN ARCHIVE:

It was pointed out to me via the BDXC Yahoo group that a multitude of vintage wireless material is being added to the following site, with a North American slant.

www.otrr.org

www.otrr.org/FILES/Magz_pdf/

AMERICAN ARCHIVE SITE COMMENTS, AND DX ARCHIVE COMMENTS!!

I notice the comments on the above site re the ignorant hoarders that seem to thrive on clutching on to their collections and not making them public. I have come across this attitude in local history circles as well. Then there are the chaps that would scan their old boots, just to leave a record of themselves and their collections. I can picture the formert sitting behind closed curtains at night with the candle burning, laughing as they read their precious material. Like Frazer from Dad's Army..LOL.

I moan and groan here often, but there is nothing more miserable than the collectors of radio memorabilia that hoard and don't share. Except perhaps the sharks who's only thoughts are of greed and money. Those types are not radio hobbyists. They are as I stated, sharks, and certainly should not be encouraged.

The lowest types are those that prey on hard working archive builders, before throwing recording after recording on ebay. I have seen countless on ebay selling offshore download club files and AZ Anorak files. Also there are those offering publications from the past, taken straight from archive.org and the open library of Google scans. These types are preying on the ignorance of others, for not knowing where to look for public domain downloads in the first place.

Another point I must make on this subject is the many items that have been sold on ebay recently from the 60s. Lets think what I have seen and bid on but lost. An interesting vintage item is listed below, but I have also seen collections of Time and Tide appear, a 60's supplement of a London newspaper that contained radio news of the Offshore stations. A collection of the forerunner to Time and Tide, a collection of 1960's radio press cuttings, a large collection of Offshore Photos, original reels with classic off air recordings made public neither by the seller or the buyer!! What is that all about!!!

These were all sold and bought without any thoughts about having them scanned / archived and made public. If collectors and hoarders keep taking this material out of circulation, no one will ever have the chance to see or hear them.

I have won a few items of late that WILL appear on this site. Be patient for updates.

BROADCASTING FROM WITHIN is a 1924 book written by a BBC Employee in the early days. It is a great addition and from the same era as the Burrows book already available here. (That was made up a few years ago, and I believe the pdf creating skills have improved somewhat here, so this needs tidied up!!)

A couple of years ago, I was appealing to borrow Radio Scotland 242 magazines to scan and return to the owners. Believe it or not, there were a couple of replies on a forum to the extent of "Yes I have a few of those". And what? It's like the "I have it and you don't" type of schoolyard nonsense!! One genuine chap that only had two, mailed them and had them sent straight back, and they have been on line since.

And again I state what I see as obvious. Why is it that radio clubs don't in general make their back archives public?? Fair enough if they are interested in making money as a first instance, then wait three months or so for the latest issues. The web is a fantastic medium for creating a large public archive. I have recently made all the back issues of the Anoraks UK Weekly report available, a time consuming job, but well worth the effort in the long run. We have had thousands of hits for that stuff as well!!

So if there is anyone with anything worthy of sharing, scan it and make it public. A3 scanner here for donkey work if bigger items need scanned!!!

BACK BUYING OLD STUFF!!!

I have been on ebay again, and came across more interesting "treasures" from the past. There was a set of 16 or 17 "Radio for Amateurs" publications dating back to 1922. No matter whether these are American based, or European based, they's have been of interest from that early wireless era. I thought as they were sitting at 8 quid for a long while, I would go 20 quid or so. At the end, bidding heat up, and they sat at 24 quid or there about's. I stuck in 26 at the last kick... Was I close?? NO.Not a hope. Final bid £146!!!!!!

Click here to view.

NB: This is an ebay link, and therefore the original link to the item will disappear within 90 days I think it is.

KEN'S YEARBOOK SOON:

I haven't forgotten the annual pdf yearbook that is produced here along with a few extra items of note from the last 12 months. I better play catchup with these things before the mw dx season picks up here again (hopefully).

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 10th AUGUST 2012

SUNSHINE GLORIOUS SUNSHINE:

Basking in the sunshine here in Scotland this morning, and thus need to get some outside work done, that has been ignored in the streaming rains of the last month or more.

MW DXING:

The subject of this web site in fact was supposed to be MW dxing. I am happy to say that signals are gradually coming back from across the water, and this morning at 0400 not only was WWKB 1520 booming, but less usual station, KRJO 1680 had a surprisingly good peak at 0400. There were a lot more signals coming through, but nothing to talk about. I always feel that when WWKB starts to come in like that, the band is picking up. Let's hope so at any rate.

930 CFBC 0500 1520 WWKB Booming at 0400 1590 WAKR 0405 1650 CINA 0300 1660 The Avenue FL 0300 1680 KRJO, Monroe, LA

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - WEDNESDAY 8th AUGUST 2012

MW DXING - PICKING UP AS WE HEAD FOR AUTUMN:

It is not just the weather here in Scotland that has that back end feel to it. After some attempts at recording at dawn, and hearing virtually nothing, despite the beverage antennas, signals are again starting to re-appear as if by magic. I have not heard anything too exciting so far, but a few signals are included below.

120807_0400_950_cknb.mp3

120803_0358_1230_wmid_classic_oldies.mp3

120807_0400_1130_wbbr.mp3

120807_0400_1320_cjmr_dual_ee_id.mp3

120808_0400_1370_wdea_new_toth.mp3

120807_0400_1520_wwkb_inc_long_ad_dentistry.mp3

120803_0358_1570_bethel_peru_ids.mp3

WDEA 1370 - NEW TOTH ANN:

A regular here in Europe is 1370 WDEA Elsworth. They have changed to ABC news, and are no longer a Cumulous station, as heard on the new TOTH ann (Top of the Hour) - see the above clip.

WEATHER REPORT:

Again I discuss the shocking weather we have had this summer. Rain Rain and Rain. Heavy thundery clouds all around as well. So bad that I never recorded over the weekend at all. Saturday was hammering it down with thunder and lightning, so the pc, antennas, hard drives etc all got pulled and abandoned!! Sod that.

Remarkable as it may seem, today, Wednesday 8th Aug, I have the short troosers on again!! Sun is warm in the afternoon sky, as it has been all morning. Maybe there is hope for a wee bit of weather after all, before the end of this wet "driech" summer.

SILLY LANGUAGE:

PLUG TOPS: This was a term used in the 80's when plugs were sold in shops. These days, they try and tell you that everything is all safe now with pre moulded plugs. But why were plugs called PLUG TOPS!!! What a silly name for them.

SLEEP OVER: This phrase was pointed out to me recently as being used by the media loving mothers of today do describe their kids "staying at hughie's the night". No, they are not staying at Hughie's. They are having a sleep over. Where did this come from?? Silly American tv shows?? Who knows?

I wonder what else I can come up with on this subject?

KEN'S DX DIARY AND LOGS - FRIDAY 3rd AUGUST 2012

MW DXING TODAY:

I have a few logs from today... A lot of other signals were coming through as well as the few below.

1230 WMID id via Wildwood relay 0358
1400 SS mix with CBC, poss Peru??
1570 Bethel, Peru. IDs 0359 (see audio clips above for 8/8)
1590 WAKR 0300
1650 CBS nx pres on ex Disney stn. Booming but no id toth 0400

BBC INTRODUCE A STAGGERING 48 NEW TV CHANNELS:

The BBC have taken on a staggering 48 new satellite TV channels!!! Yes it's true!!! But it is not to show any of the massive archive material the BBC have in their collections. It is for the Olympics!! Yes, on satellite (28 deg E) they have taken channel 450 - 473 for normal Sky Boxes, and for HD boxes, 474 - 497.

2LO MILITARY BAND:

The old early BBC channel for London, 2LO is featured in many of the vintage wireless web sites, as well as many of the old books on the subject. Not least the early BBC YEARBOOKS. I came across an old 78 rpm record last week on ebay of the 2LO Military Band. The sellers old 78 rpm records never seemed to be attracting much interest, so I bid on the item before I went out on Sunday. Unfortunately I was beaten. I wonder how rare that would be??

But I had a look through my own archives, and found that I had a record from the BBC WIRELESS MILITARY BAND!! I wonder how many years down the line from the 2LO band the BBC band were?? I notice that the 2LO label is Edison Bell, where as the BBC label is Columbia.



The early days of radio especially interest me, though I guess there can not be anyone reading these pages now that were listeners back in those days.

Rather than attempt to reinvent the wheel so to speak, have a read at the MDS web site, and download the extensive frequency listings.

BBC LEAVES BUSH HOUSE:

I was watching some serious kit being sold off from Bush House the other week, but could not believe that the BBC were selling off their heritage. There were a number of original photographs and historical pieces offered for sale. I wish I had saved the page with this material, but many of them were taken straight from the wall of the building.

Look out for phase 2 of the sell off...

MARS ROVER SET FOR LANDING:

I have been following the latest from NASA regards the latest Rover that is hopefully about to land in Gale Crater. Fingers crossed for Sunday / Monday when the lander is due to touch down on the Martian surface.

http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/

I can't help but remember the perseus file that was shared a few years ago, with the signal from VOYAGER on it, complete with the doppler effect!!

I wonder if the contributor that had access to a 40m dish antenna in Spain at the time could actually decode any of the NASA signals?? Or if the signals were simply audible and visible, much like for example the noise on 1680, or some of the other encrypted noises on hf.

What frequency does the Mars orbiter transmit back to Earth??? What mode?? Is it possible for amateur enthusiasts to receive the signals with relatively basic antennas?? It is not everyone that has a 40m dish at their disposal!!!

Another point of this exciting up and coming Mars explorer, is this. Has NASA sent this Rover to another dry hole?? There are many many interesting images that have been seen in recent years of places on Mars that would seem to have some kind of life, or other sites that seem to have liquid water. Why haven't they sent the craft to one of these sites????

Have a look at this page and follow the links to the original NASA images and then judge for yourself. Remember the reporter is only highlighting images NASA already have up on line.

Just what will CURIOSITY see on landing in the coming days???

http://www.marsanomalyresearch.com/evidence-reports/2012/221/real-mars.htm