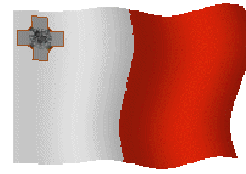


MARL



MALTA



Magazine by MARL

For Maltese and Gozitan
Radio Amateurs

Number 27
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Smoking is prohibited **Tpejjipx** at the Centre No Smoking

From the Editor

Friends,

I welcome you to another issue of this magazine for March 2008, which is issue 27 of this series.

Further down you will find details of some countries that have authorized their radio amateurs to use the **136kHz**, **500kHz**, **5MHz** frequencies as well as about a contest that the ARI Rome Section had to organize on **70MHz** on 15 June.

As regards **9H3** calls, there has again been someone who was using **V4/9H3TI**, was also reported on the dx clusters and a foreigner also sent an e-mail to some persons in Malta.

There's no need to say that whoever it was, was working illegally because **9H3** is only given to foreigners to be used only in Malta and even if he was granted permission by the competent authorities in St Kitts & Nevis on the premise of his **9H3** licence, the licence was granted on false pretences and was therefore illegal.

If someone hears such a station he should make it clear to all those who are talking to him and also on the dx clusters that he is a pirate and is operating illegally.

We hope that the Maltese authorities would hurry up in doing what has to be done so that foreigners will no longer be granted Maltese call signs but will only be allowed to only use **9H/homecall**.

Thus we shall not only solve the QSL cards problem because whoever speaks to them will know their proper home call and send their cards to their own country, but a bad name will no longer be given to Malta and Maltese radio amateurs.

I would like to take the occasion to remind those who want to work from a lighthouse such as say Dellimara, that the international activity for this purpose this year is being held on Saturday 16 0001 UTC to Sunday 17 August 2359 UTC.

Do not forget to prepare to enjoy yourselves by working other international stations that will be participating in the activity.

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

Lawrence
9H1AV / 9H9MHR

We congratulate Stanley 9H1LO

We wish to congratulate **Stanley, 9H1LO**, for taking the initiative to make and operate radio beacons on short wave. He has an automatic beacon **9H1LO/B** on 28 MHz, that is **28.224.5 MHz** with a power of 5 Watts and a vertical antenna.

He also has another automatic beacon on **18-il MHz**, that is, **18.100.15 MHz BPSK31** with a power of **0.5 Watts** and a vertical antenna. He has received good reports on both automatic stations from a number of countries.

He has also made a DX Cluster that one can access from this link
<http://www.9h1lo.net/cluster.php>

Stanley also has another link where there is a graphical representation of the most active Maltese station. This is <http://www.9h1lo.net/cluster-9hgraph.php>

Stanley is offering to give the source code that he has written himself to whoever is interested.

Stanley's internet page link is <http://www.9h1lo.net> and his e-mail is "Stanley Grixiti"
stanley@9h1lo.net

Congratulations Stanley.

Lawrence
9H1AV / 9H9MHR

Wire sizes

Whoever has at some time built a piece of apparatus that uses wires for coils knows that he uses a particular size for the frequency that he is going to work on as well as the power of the apparatus is this is a transmitter.

Although there are different types of wires that are used according to requirements, such as Litz wire which is made up of a number of thin wires wound together but each one isolated from the other except where they are connected, it is not my intention to enter into the specific characteristics of different wires.

Today I am going to give you some tables that show the wires sizes, both American sizes, English sizes, as well as in millimeters.

Thus, when you find a circuit where you have to use a particular wire size, you will know how much the thickness that you have to use will be.

In the same manner, if you have a wire and you don't know its size, you can measure it and would know its size in millimeters, inches or English and American sizes.

I hope that you find these tables useful.

Number (Gauge) Size	English Number (SWG)		American Number (AWG)	
	Inches	millimetres	Inches	millimetres
0000000 (7/0)	0.5000	12.700		
000000 (6/0)	0.4640	11.786	0.580000	14.7320
00000 (5/0)	0.4320	10.973	0.516500	13.1191
0000 (4/0)	0.4000	10.160	0.460000	11.6840
000 (3/0)	0.3720	9.449	0.409642	10.4049
00 (2/0)	0.3480	8.839	0.364796	9.2658
0 (1/0)	0.3240	8.230	0.324861	8.2515
1	0.3000	7.620	0.289297	7.3481
2	0.2760	7.010	0.257627	6.5437
3	0.2520	6.401	0.229423	5.8273
4	0.2320	5.893	0.2043	5.1892
5	0.2120	5.385	0.1819	4.6203
6	0.1920	4.877	0.1620	4.1148
7	0.1760	4.470	0.1443	3.6652
8	0.1600	4.064	0.1285	3.2639
9	0.1440	3.658	0.1144	2.9058
10	0.1280	3.251	0.1019	2.5883
11	0.1160	2.946	0.0907	2.3038
12	0.1040	2.642	0.0808	2.0523
13	0.0920	2.337	0.0720	1.8288
14	0.0800	2.032	0.0641	1.6281
15	0.0720	1.829	0.0571	1.4503
16	0.0640	1.626	0.0508	0.0508
17	0.0560	1.422	0.0453	1.1506
18	0.0480	1.219	0.0403	1.0236
19	0.0400	1.016	0.0359	0.9119
20	0.0360	0.914	0.0320	0.8128
21	0.0320	0.813	0.0285	0.7239
22	0.0280	0.711	0.0253	0.6426
23	0.0240	0.610	0.0226	0.5740
24	0.0220	0.599	0.0201	0.5105
25	0.0200	0.508	0.0179	0.4547
26	0.0180	0.457	0.0159	0.4039
27	0.0164	0.417	0.0142	0.3607
28	0.0148	0.376	0.0126	0.3200
29	0.0136	0.345	0.0113	0.2870
30	0.0124	0.315	0.0100	0.2540
31	0.0116	0.295	0.0089	0.2261
32	0.0108	0.274	0.0080	0.2032
33	0.0100	0.254	0.0071	0.1803
34	0.0092	0.234	0.0063	0.1600
35	0.0084	0.213	0.0056	0.1422
36	0.0076	0.193	0.0050	0.1270
37	0.0068	0.173	0.0045	0.1143
38	0.0060	0.152	0.0040	0.1016
39	0.0052	0.132	0.0035	0.0889
40	0.0048	0.122	0.0031	0.0787
41	0.0044	0.112	0.0028	0.0711

42	0.0040	0.102	0.0025	0.0635
43	0.0036	0.0914	0.0022	0.0559
44	0.0032	0.0813	0.0020	0.0508
45	0.0028	0.0711	0.0018	0.0457
46	0.0024	0.0610	0.0016	0.0406
47	0.0020	0.0508	0.0014	0.0356
48	0.0016	0.0406	0.0012	0.0305
49	0.0012	0.0305	0.0011	0.0279
50	0.0010	0.0254	0.0010	0.0254
51			0.00088	0.02235
52			0.00078	0.0198
53			0.00070	0.0178
54			0.00062	0.0157
55			0.00055	0.0140
56			0.00049	0.01245

Lawrence
9H1AV / 9H9MHR

136kHz

Today we have the news that another country has joined other countries that have granted permission to their radio amateurs to use this frequency. Kevin, **VK4WA**, was granted the call **AX2QJM** to use on this frequency.

It appears that we shall have to wait till January next year to be granted permission to use it, although we hope that perhaps we will be given permission some time before. We'll wait and see.

500kHz

As we have told you many times, we had applied to be granted permission to use this frequency to be like other radio amateurs from other countries who were granted permission to operate on this frequency.

However, up till now we have not succeeded in our efforts to also be granted permission.

With those countries that we had informed you about that authorized their radio amateurs to use this frequency and who are conducting interesting experiments on it has also been added Romania which until recently was under a dictatorship. In fact, **YO2IS** is already working on this frequency.

It is ironic that a country that has just emerged from a dictatorship gives permission to its radio amateurs to use this frequency and we who have long been independent and boast that we are democratic have still not been given permission to use it.

The same can be said about countries that were previously under the Soviet Union where their radio amateurs were granted permission to use frequencies that we have long been requesting but have not yet been given.

An interesting webpage on apparatus concerned with the low frequencies of **136kHz** and **500kHz** is www.w1vd.com

5MHz

Also on this frequency there are other countries where their radio amateurs have been granted permission to use **5MHz** frequencies.

With the list that we had previously given you should be added **ZL New Zealand**, **TG9 Guatemala**, **CN8 Morocco**, **OX3XR Greenland**, **T8OW Palau**, **HH4/K4QD Haiti** and **PW2M Brazil**.

An internet link which shows stations on this frequency is <http://www.dxwatch.com/dxsd1.php?f=5> and another one is <http://dxworld.com/60mlog.html>

The following list is taken from www.60meters.net that shows a few of the countries whose radio amateurs use this frequency.

4U1UN	United Nations
4X4	Israel
5Z4	Kenya
5W5	Samoa
7P8	Lesotho
6Y5	Jamaica
8R1	Guyana
9G5	Ghana
9Y4, 9Z4	Trinidad & Tobago
AH2	United States Pacific Islands
C31	Andorra
C52	Gambia
C6	Bahamas
CN8	Marocco
CT3	Madeira
EI	Ireland
FS	Saint Martin Island
G	England
GD	Isle of Man
GI	Northern Ireland
GJ	Jersey
MU0	Guernsi
GM	Skotland
GW	Wales
HC	Equador
HH	Haiti
HI	Domenican Republic
HK	Columbia
HP	Panama
HQ8	Swan Island
HR, HQ9	Honduras
IS0	Sicily
J20	Djibuti

J37	Grenada
J6	Santa Lucija
J79	Dominica
JW5	Svalbard
K, KH	United States of America and Islands
KH8	American Samoa
KP2	Virgin Islands
KP4	Puerto Rico
KL	Alaska
LA	Norway
LX	Luxembourg
N8S	Swains Island
OH	Finland
OX	Greenland
PW	Brazil
PZ5	Suriname
S92	Roland Island
SV	Greece
T77	San Marino
TF	Iceland
TG	Guatemala
TI	Costa Rica
V26	Antigua
V31	Belize
V44	Federation of St Kitts u Nevis
VO	Canada
VP2M	Monserrat
VP2E	Anguilla & Leeward Islands
VP5	Turks u Caicos Islands
VP9	Bermuda
VQ	Chagos Islands
W, N, K	United States of America
XE	Mexico
YN	Nicaragua
YS	El Salvador
YT6	Montenegro
YU	Yugoslavia
YV	Venezuela
ZC4	Cyprus
ZD7	Saint Helena Island
ZD8	Ascension Island
ZF2	Cayman Islands
ZK4	New Zealand

This is apart from Bangladesh where radio amateurs have an allocation between **5.230 – 5.310MHz**

With these there are also radio beacons on this frequency in the United Kingdom which are

Freq. MHz	Call Sign	Location	TX Power	Transmission time in
5.290	GB3RAL	UK IO91in	10W > 10mW	CW every 15-il minutes + 0
5.290	GB3WES	UK IO84qn	10W > 10mW	CW every 15-il minutes + 1
5.290	GB3ORK	UK Orkney	10W > 10mW	CW every 15-il minutes + 2

Shall we be the last people on earth to be given permission to use this frequency when there are so many countries who have authorized their radio amateurs to use it?

70MHz

The Portuguese authorities have just given permission to Portuguese radio amateurs to continue to use the **70MHz** frequency.

Thus the number of European countries whose radio amateurs can use this frequency has continued to increase.

In Portugal there is a radio beacon on **70.166MHz** call sign **CS5BFM** and is located in **IM59rd**, antenna dipole, height of only 12 metres above sea level, power of **10 Watts**, transmission **A1A**. Reports to geral@ctiarr.org

In the same manner, frequencies used by Danish radio amateurs have been increased and they can now use between **69.9875MHz** to **70MHz**, **70.2375MHz** to **70.2875MHz**, and from **70.4875MHz** to **70.5125MHz**.

As one can see, this means that their frequencies start at less than **70MHz** and are greater than **70.5MHz**. This seems to indicate that this frequency may be increased in the countries using it.

Not only, but the **ARI** Rome section has already held a contest on this frequency on Sunday 15 June (<http://www.ari.it/vhf/70mhz/2008.php>).

When are the Maltese authorities going to be adjourned with what is happening around the world and give us permission to also use it?

Dxpedition

A dxpedition is going to be held by a number of Greek radio amateurs from the Trikeri lighthouse on 5 and 6 July 2008. This is the first time that this lighthouse, whose identification number is **ARLHS GRE-128** is going to be activated by Greek radio amateurs.

The call sign to be used is **SY4LH**. This lighthouse is on Kavoulia Point, around a 10-minute walk from Trikeri village in the Pagasetikos Gulf. Its position is **39.05.77N 23.03.05E** locator **KM19MC**

These radio amateurs are going to operate during two days of the dxpedition.

SV4AAQ Dimitris
SV4FFF Kostas
SV4FFL Kostas
SV4AFY Katerina
SV4FFK Thanasis
SV4JYI Panagiotis

SV4LAX George

These radio amateurs are going to operate for one day.

SV4FFB John

SV4FFI John

SW4JYL Nikos

SV4FFE George

SV4JYK Sotiris

SW4LAD Dimitris

They are going to operate on all frequencies between **160 metres and 2 metres on CW, SSB, PSK, RTTY u SSTV**. They are going to use different equipment and antennas.

Further information on www.sz4srm.gr/SY4LH while if you want more information you can send an e-mail to Costas SV4FFL on [sv4ffl at raag.org](mailto:sv4ffl@raag.org) or phone on +30 6945 886306

Thanks to **Ivan 9H1PI** for this information sent to the yahoo group.

Lawrence

9H1AV / 9H9MHR

9H9PYSM

We wish to inform you that **Joe, 9H1AJ**, is working with a special call **9H9PYSM**. This call is being used by Joe to commemorate the Pauline Year Second Millennium.

In fact, his call sign apart from **9H9** stands for **Pauline Year Second Millennium**.

Joe has already worked hundreds of stations and we wish him to work thousands of other stations not only to make a success with this nice memo call, but to also be good publicity for our country.

Congratulations Joe and wish you well.

Lawrence

9H1AV / 9H9MHR

For Sale

1 electric stand drill in very good condition takes drill bits from 1mm to 13mm **60 euros**

2 Yaesu power supply tip FP 301 13.8 volts 20 Amps very good condition **81 euros**

3 MFJ deluxe versa tuner II model MFJ 948 as new **128 euros**

Telephone number **21438354**

Radio Beacon on 2 metres

We wish to inform you that **MARL** is going to have a radio beacon on 2 metres and it will shortly be operational.

This has been fixed by **Fortunato, 9H1ES** and is going to be on a frequency of **144.925MHz**.

It may be already operational when you read this. Further details later on.

Maltese measurements

Today I thought that apart from radio related information I will give you some information on Maltese measurements. This is information of a general interest and you should find it useful because you may need it and one cannot find it easily.

Area

16 Tomna	=	1 Modd
4 Tomniet	=	1 Wejba
6 Sieghan	=	1 Tomna
10 Kejliet	=	1 Siegh
1 Tomna	=	256.52 Canes
1 Tomna	=	1124.09 Square metres
1 Siegh	=	187.35 Square metres
1 Square metre	=	10.764 Square foot
1 Square foot	=	0.0929 Square metre
1 Square foot	=	0.0212 Square canes
1 Square cane	=	47.27 Square feet
1 Square cane	=	4.39 Square metres

Length

1 Cane	=	6' 10.5''
3 Canes	=	20' 7.5''

Compass Rose

Once I've given you Maltese measurements, I shall also give you the compass rose, that is, the compass directions that are needed, by whoever has a directional antenna.

It is also interesting because when you hear the weather report you will know the wind directions in Maltese from where the wind will be blowing.

You have to imagine that we start from North and always turn to the right as the clock turns until we again arrive at North. That is we start from North, turn to East, continue to South, continue turning to West, and continue turning until we again arrive at North.

Direzzjoni Malti	Direction English	Gradi u Minuti Degrees and Minutes
TRAMUNTANA	NORTH	000⁰ / 360⁰
Tramuntana Kwarta Grigal	North by East	011 ⁰ 15'
Grieg it-Tramuntana	North North East	022 ⁰ 30'
Grigal Kwarta Tramuntana	North East by North	033 ⁰ 45'
GRIGAL	NORTH EAST	045⁰
Grigal Kwarta Lvant	North East by East	056 ⁰ 15'
Grieg il-Lvant	East North	067 ⁰ 30'
Lvant Kwarta Grigal	East by North	078 ⁰ 15'
LVANT	EAST	09⁰
Lvant Kwarta Xlokk	East by South	101 ⁰ 15'
Xlokk il-Lvant	East South East	112 ⁰ 30'
Xlokk Kwarta Lvant	South East by East	123 ⁰ 45'
XLOKK	SOUTH EAST	135⁰
Xlokk Kwarta Nofs-in-Nhar	South East by South	146 ⁰ 15'
Nofs-in-Nhar ix-Xlokk	South South East	157 ⁰ 30'
Nofs-in-Nhar Kwarta Xlokk	South by East	168 ⁰ 45'
NOFS-IN-NHAR	SOUTH	180⁰
Nofs-in-Nhar Kwarta Lbiċ	South by West	191 ⁰ 15'
Nofs-in-Nhar il-Lbiċ	South South West	202 ⁰ 30'
Lbiċ Kwarta Nofs-in-Nhar	South West by South	213 ⁰ 45'
LBIĊ	SOUTH WEST	225⁰
Lbiċ Kwarta Punent	South West by West	236 ⁰ 15'
Punent il-Lbiċ	West South West	247 ⁰ 30'
Punent Kwarta Lbiċ	West by South	258 ⁰ 45'
PUNENT	WEST	270⁰
Punent Kwarta Majjistral	West by North	282 ⁰ 15'
Punent Majjistral	West North West	292 ⁰ 30'
Majjistral Kwarta Punent	North West by West	303 ⁰ 45'
Majjistral	NORTH WEST	315⁰
Majjistral Kwarta Tramuntana	North West by North	326 ⁰ 15'
Majjistral it-Tramuntana	North North West	337 ⁰ 30'
Tramuntana Kwarta Majjistral	North by West	348 ⁰ 45'
Tramuntana	NORTH	000⁰ / 360⁰

Condolences

We wish to send our condolences to Mr Felix Pulis, 9H5PF for the loss that he has suffered with the death of his wife and we pray God for her.

Lawrence

9H1AV / 9H9MHR

Activities

Activity for radio amateurs

Be attentive and become members in the yahoo group to be fully informed because some activities are expected to be held in the coming months, such as a BBQ.

Although these activities similar to other activities will be announced in this magazine, it may be that there may not be enough time because the magazine will have been issued and it will be some time before another magazine is issued.

Indian Curry Night

An Indian Curry Night is going to be held at our Centre on Saturday, 9 August from 7.30 p.m. onwards. There's going to be hot and mild curries, rice, wine and dessert.

Price is €10 and children free. Buy your tickets upto Tuesday 5 August.

Eating Activity

We wish to inform you that every alternate Thursday an eating activity is held at the Club where whoever is present and is not on diet may eat against a nominal payment. Next one is Thursday 31 July and every fifteen days, that is Thursday yes, Thursday no. For more details speak to Joe, 9H1AJ.

Licence Examinations

Examinations are going to be held for the amateur radio licence. These examinations are going to be held on Saturday 23 August at the MARL Centre.

The Financial Secretary 9H1JT, Paul, is collecting the applications together with a copy of the identity card and payment until Sunday 27 July 2008.

Afterwards, an index number will be issued to the candidates.

As usual, 9H1AQ, Karmenu, is being present at our Centre for all those candidates who want to make any revision on something on which they may have difficulties. Good luck to all the candidates

Lawrence

9H1AV/9H9MHR