

The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

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Some very special EME Goodies

The past weeks have seen quite a number of successful 2m EME activities from very much wanted DXCCs and grid squares. The most recent 3B9EME activity was from the Verona DX Team which this year travelled to Rodriguez Island (MH10QH) which is some 800 km East of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. After a long journey across some 9000 km the team arrived on Mauritius on 2 September only to learn that the connecting flight to Rodriguez Island had been cancelled. The next flight was one day later so they had to sit there waiting. After finally arriving on the island one day later a tropical storm with very high winds forced them to suspend station set-up and wait again. Also the frequent mains power drop-outs meant a big problem. During their first EME operation on 7 September by Lucio I3LDP who was in charge of the EME part of the DXpedition there were many hours when they had no electricity. While the HF guys could work on batteries with low output, for EME that was no option.



The 2m EME setup at 3B9EME: a 2 x 8 ele XPOL

However, gradually everything got better from day to day and after only 15 QSOs on day 1 the next day brought nearly 50 QSOs, the following day then again only 9 due to power drop-outs. 43 more QSOs were completed on 10 September and 13 more on the final day of operation, 11 September. Ric AA4SC probably started a party as he was the lucky person who made the last EME QSO with 3B9EME.



HK1H's QTH with single 17 elements on roof. (EA1DDO)

After some years Maximo EA1DDO was again QRV from much wanted DXCC Colombia, using the call sign HK1H from locator FJ29EM. From 21 to 27 August he managed to complete 48 QSOs on 2m with just a single no elevation 17 elements yagi (this was actually a holiday/family trip, no 24/7 DXpedition. For those who still miss that DXCC Maximo has good news: He will be QRV from HK again, maybe even next year, with a group of 4 17 elements yagis and elevation.



Heinz DM2BHG spent this year's holidays in July in Northern Norway. Inside his trailer he had four 6-element yagis (DK7ZB design) and an amp with two 4CX250B as he wanted to activate some rare Arctic grid squares via 2m EME. However, once he and xyl Anita arrived in JP68 very bad weather started. For some days there were only rain and wind and – so he says – they were already happy that the trailer did not suffer; it

shook heavily in the wind gusts. No way to put up antennas. So they moved on to JP77 grid.



Luckily the weather got better. From JP77IL Heinz completed a fair number of EME contacts and made many hams happy with a new grid square. Then they travelled further South to Lillehammer (JP61AC). There however Heinz had to make a very different experience: After setting up antennas at a remote edge of the camping site shortly after start of operations he was told by the site management that he had to stop: Some day campers had become suspicious of the antennas and therefore

had complained to the management. That was very annoying to Heinz as we can all understand: Too bad, but arguing with ignorant fellow campers is nothing you can win. *(Pictures courtesy DM2BHG show antennas in JP77 and Heinz' "mobile shack")*

Israel back on the Moon



Not a DXpedition but permanently QRV via EME is David, 4X1DG in KM71IV halfway between Tel Aviv and Ashod. So more than a decade after Ralf 4X1IF Israel is back on 2m moon bounce at last. He is currently QRV with TS2000, powerful SSPA and 2 x 11 elements LFA yagis and produces a good signal via moon.

As you see on the picture left his EME antenna is very low, about 3.5 meters above ground only. The major limit is the blocking by David's house and the neighbours. 4X1DG has plans to move the antenna to a small tower that I he has on the other side of the house, that way he will have full moon pass visibility.

David's only problem is to balance his free time and the huge demand for Israel so that as many as possible can make a QSO with him. He tries to be QRV as often as possible.



Left: View into 4X1DG's shack with the SSPA inside the rack.
(Pictures 4X1DG)

Upcoming DXpeditions

For more information on current and upcoming DXpeditions please have a look at www.mmmvvhf.de from where most of the information here was gathered.



Already QRV from **St. Pierre & Miquelon (GN17TC)** are Hermann DL2NUD and Peter DJ4TC. as **FP/DJ4TC** and **FP/DL2NUD**. On 14 September they started operations and successfully worked some 50 stations after their moon rise. On 2m they are QRV on 144,144 MHz and FP/ is always first. Antenna is a 17 elements yagi, and sure they have sufficient power.

Turkey (TA) will be activated by Johan PA3FPQ, Jurgen PE1LWT and René PE1L from September 20th to September 25th. The call sign will be **TA/PE1L**, the locator field is **KM39**. Setup for 144 MHz is 2 x 8 el xpol yagi, WA2ODO preamp and a good power amp by ITALAB. More details as usual at the dedicated DXpedition website <http://www.emellogger.com/TA>

Hermann DL2NUD will not stay home for long after his return from FP land: Using **H44HP** he plans to be QRV again from the **Solomon Islands** from 4 October 2013 (at the earliest). The locator is still unknown, maybe again **QI90** or **RI00** from which Hermann had worked back in 2008 and 2009. Also some kind of side-trip to **YJ (Vanuatu)** is planned but dates are not decided yet. Hermann's return travel to Germany is scheduled for 114 November.

From, 19 to 29 October 2013 **BJ9TM** will be QRV from Dunhuang, Ganshu, **China** (CQ ZONE 23) in **NM79AW** and take part in ARRL EME contest: Michael BD5RV and a few friends will be QRV on a number of bands, including 2m where they will work with a M2 2MXP20 (H/V) and a Beko HLV-1000. Working frequency is not known yet.

In roughly one month Frank DH7FB and Bernd DF2ZC will be QRV from **Crete** which counts as a separate DXCC, with the call sign **SV9ANJ** from **KM25PH**. They will use 2 x 8 ele DK7ZB (hpoI only) and a LDMOS BeKo amp which has kindly been provided by BeKo <http://www.beko-elektronik.de> for the time of the DXpedition. Working frequency is 144,114 MHz and SV9ANJ is always 1st. Arrival in SV9 is on 24 October around local midnight. Setup will start the following day so they will be QRV at local moonrise on the 25 October, which is around 2045Z.

Time Table

23/24 Aug 2013	1930-2230Z Dubus EME Activity Event 0400-0700Z
21/22 Sep 2013	ARI EME Contest (CW/SSB)
7 Oct 2013	October Issue of the 144 MHz EME NewsLetter ready for download at www.df2zc.de/newsletter
26/27 Oct 2013	ARRL EME Contest

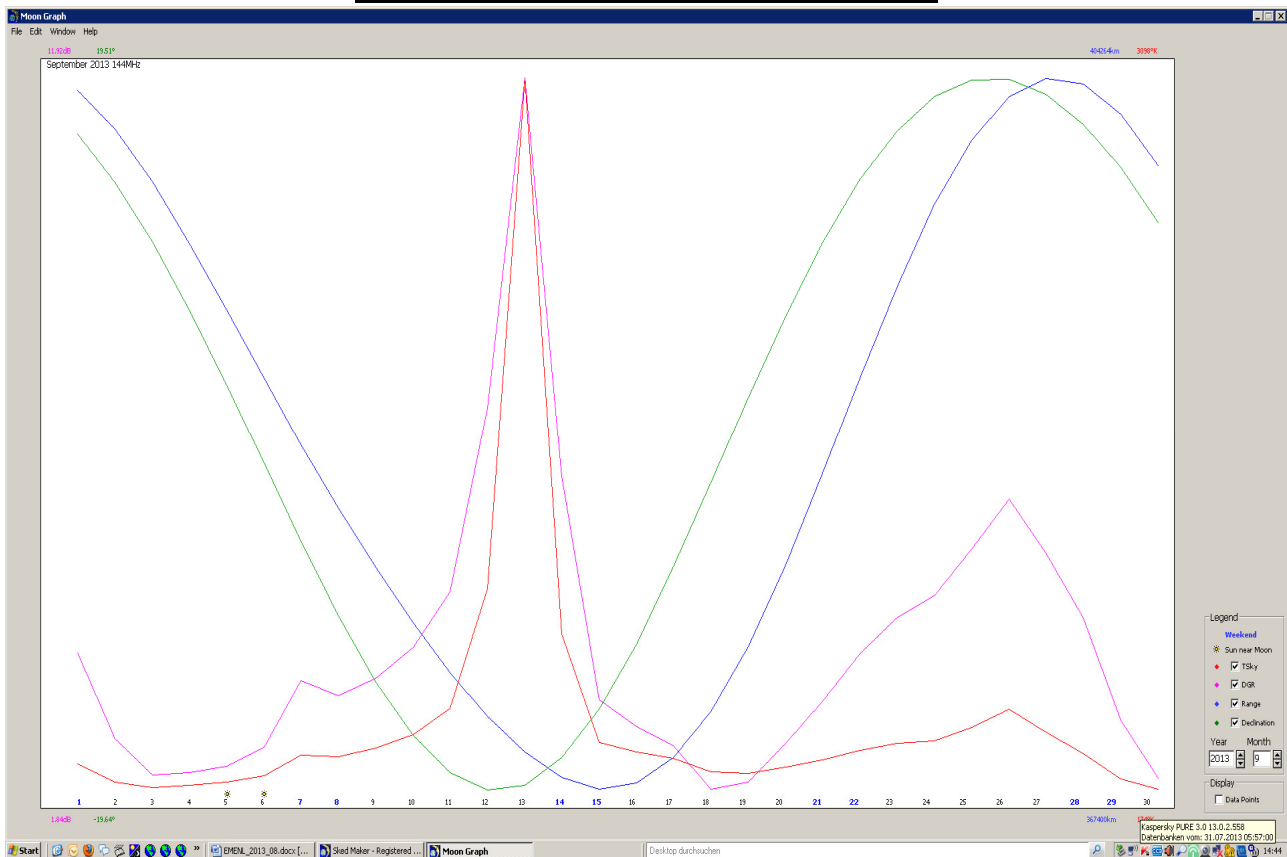
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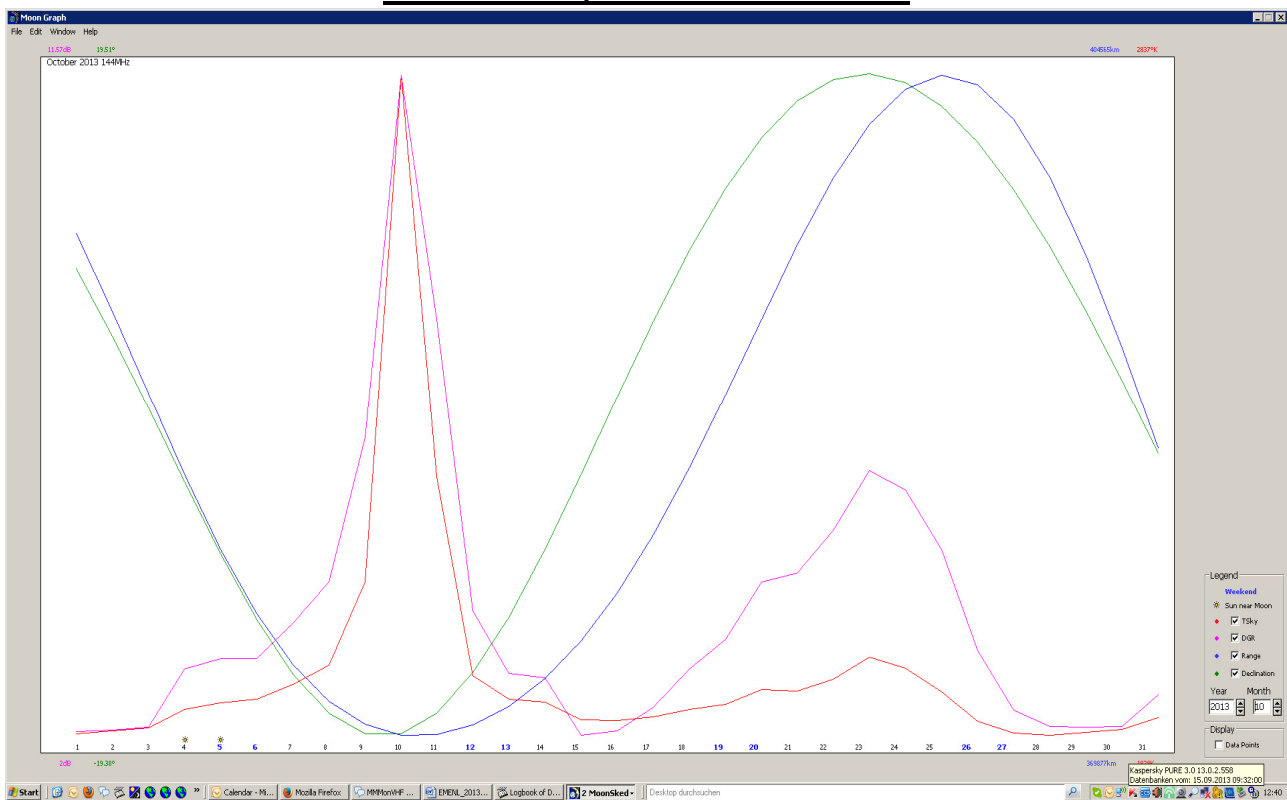
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Moon Graph September 2013



Moon Graph October 2013



(Courtesy of David GM4JJJ (www.gm4jjj.co.uk/MoonSked/moonsked.htm))