

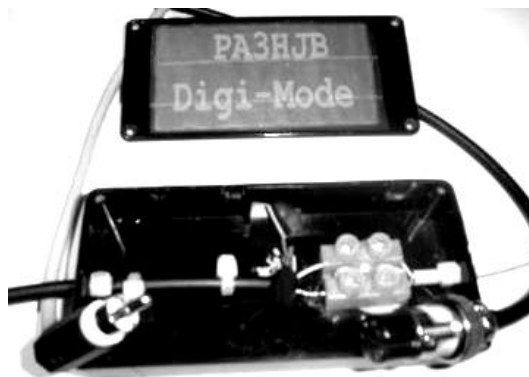
PA News

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PA3HJB – MM0CXA – PA/GM20997

Hello once again from the Netherlands. There isn't a lot of special news from Holland, this month. However I have been concentrating quite a bit on the Digi-modes and experimenting with some of the modes available. These include PSK31 – SSTV – Hellschreiber and MFSK-16. I have quite a bit of success on all these modes and look forward to seeing some ISWL members coming up on the screen. This is along side working the ISWL 40m and 80m nets with Arthur – G0KOC. I am also persevering with my attempts to get a 20m net going but this is proving to be difficult due to work commitments and the antenna taking a battering during the storms.

On the 13th November I was scheduled to give a talk and demonstration of Digi-modes. This turned into a talk and Powerpoint presentation due to the HF equipment at the club being disconnected, also due to storm damage. The talk went very well. The club President Ad (PA8AD) kindly lent me his laptop computer and I took along my software, homebrew interface and the Powerpoint presentation, supplied by West Mountain Radio, in the States. WMR are the suppliers of Rigblaster.



The commercial interface available for connection between your PC and radio. My talk did cause a bit of controversy when the members discovered that I don't have any resistors or other components in the interface. It is just a screened cable from the PC to the accessory socket on the rear of my IC718, for Rx and from the Line out on the PC to the Mic socket, for Tx. The input/output levels are all controlled by the soundcard and the Mic gain level is turned down until just before the ALC trigger point. If you do set the levels to high the software will soon let you know. Either by giving you a clear warning "REDUCE AUDIO LEVELS" or by the trails on the screen changing from blue to red. Also other operators will soon tell you if you are overdriving.

The only other news from Dordrecht this month is that members of the Dordtse Electronica club have returned from their Dx-pedition to Luxembourg. Details of the trip are available on the club website – www.pi4dec.org. Unfortunately I was unable to go because of work commitments. Maybe next year. Those who attended this year's trip are as follows:

DIC-PE1HVK HENK-PA3AWW RINUS-PA0TUK VINCENT-PA3FQX
JO-PE1FNB PIET-PE1NJE JOOP-PA3GAF WIM-PA3CLK AD-PA8AD
THIJ-PD4OPA

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Luxembourg Dx-pedition



Headquarters



Equipment



Operating Shacks



Dx-pedition Perks