



# RSSL NEWS

JULY 2009

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE RADIO SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA

## NOTE JULY MEETING CHANGE OF VENUE

**The General Meeting for the Month of JULY 2009 will be held on WEDNESDAY the 29th at 6.00 P.M. at the Sinhala Cultural Centre main hall opposite the BMICH Bullers Road. Parking is available. We had our meetings here before we shifted to Otters.**

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Please note that unless otherwise notified, monthly General Meetings will be held at Otters Aquatic Club at 6.00 P.M. on the **last Wednesday of the month**. Please also monitor the RSSL net regularly on 145.625 MHz at 0900 P.M. for RSSL announcements. You can contact any Council member if you need to verify the date of the meeting. Membership and ID Card applications can be obtained at the meetings. Membership renewals are also accepted by the Treasurer at the monthly meetings.

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## **RADIO AMATEUR EXAMINATION 2009: and onwards: NEW REGULATIONS FOR AMATEUR RADIO ISSUED BY THE TRCSL.**

### **EDITORIAL: Post script to May/June Editorial.**

The response in some quarters to the Editorial was utterly humorous and displayed a total lack of understanding of basic English & the workings of an association while many commended it. It is pertinent to make the following observations.

1. The newsletter does not represent the views of the entire membership of the RSSL. Its only an ignorant person who thinks so and starts getting excited about it. Often it's the view of the Editor/writer & sometimes the view of the Council. For anything to be the official policy of the membership, it has to be a resolution of which due notice is given, debated and voted on, like the resolution not to abolish CW/Morse.
2. The RSSL newsletter is the means by which the RSSL communicates with its membership, not with the DG.TRCSL and members of the public. It's an internal document. As such no one has the authority to forward it to anyone and even apologize to an outsider for its contents. Such an act is a violation of the Articles of the RSSL and against the interests of the RSSL. An apology is due to the RSSL.
3. A certain senior member says at a time when an astrologer is arrested for a prediction, we should not point out mistakes of the TRCSL. That statement is a downright insult & a criticism of the authorities and the values of democracy that the Government of Sri Lanka cherishes.
4. NO ONE CHALLENGED THE FACTS STATED IN THE EDITORIAL. However, those very same people say we should not protest at the wrong doings of the authorities as the DG has the final say..
5. It had to be pointed out to those members-(Not the DGTRCSL) who do not know the simple procedures of the implementation of regulations in this country that it is totally incorrect to say that the DGTRCSL

decision is final in the matter even if he has clearly been misled due to the ignorance of officials and advisors. Pointing it out is not a criticism of the DG but bringing it to his notice. Yet another member says that to point out that the Gazette notification carried spelling and grammar mistakes is a criticism of the DGTRCSL. On the contrary this clearly shows that if the RSSL had been consulted before such notices were published, it would have avoided the embarrassment to the DG. Does the member know that legal statutes have to be flawless in its language which is why such notices have to go to the legal draftsman? The Government gazette is viewed by the entire world and it is a disgrace to our country. Pointing it out is not a criticism but the duty of those who know.

Another senior member is of the view that this type of criticism of the authorities never took place in the 55 years of Amateur Radio in Ceylon/Sri Lanka. That is because officials who knew what they were doing did things right and properly in the past which is exactly what the Editorial highlighted. .

Every evening including the state-run media points out wrong doings of officials and often the Ministers in charge thank those who are vigilant for bringing such acts to the notice of the authorities, as such errant actions discredit the government and the government is only too glad to inquire into such actions and correct them.

Those who circulate e-mails to members misleading them and giving contrary advise should first learn to read and understand and have at least a basic knowledge of law, if they harbour any thoughts of running for office. Members should realise that it is those very people who have brought about this situation and undermined the RSSL are the ones trying to take the members for a ride to be a cats-paw in their game.

Finally a bit of radio jargon- "Bootleggers" as per a certain member who took offense, are those brewing Kassippu. Beg your pardon Sir. "Home brewers" could also be classed in that category, in that case. A "bootlegger" is an unauthorised radio operator and is a respectable term though the action is not!! As an old timer who knows pointed out in jest the cap fitted like an anode cap!

The RSSL is run by people who know what they are doing and is always ready to stand up for the dignity of its members the RSSL and the amateur service. We are not talking about Morse or sixes and sevens. What we are emphasising is that proper procedures should be adopted.

**OBITUARY- SILENT KEY- 4S7PM EDMUND**

Its with sadness that we announce the passing away of one of our oldest honorary members Edmund Perera 4S7PM. He was 92. Edmund was a fine operator and home brewer. He was one of the oldest, yet semi active hams. He was heard on VHF as late as early this year. He served the country as one of the most dedicated engineers at Radio SEAC/R.Ceylon/SLBC. During the Japanese attack on Colombo Edmund was the only engineer at the communications facility and kept it going while Colombo was under attack. A deeply religious man Edmund was liked and respected by all.

The funeral took place at the Madampitiya Cemetery on Saturday the 11th of July. The RSSL was represented and a floral tribute made on behalf of our members. Many radio amateurs paid their last respects amongst them some who had never met him in person. Such is the spirit of ham radio. Messages of condolence may be sent to his XYL and family at 108/6 Walls Lane, Mutwal, Colombo 15 . Tel: 011-2522784 .

**MIGNON WIJESURIYA(XYL OF DENVER 4S7DA)**

Again the RSSL was deeply saddened to hear about the passing away of Mignon, Denver's xyl, and a friend of the RSSL. For a number of years she was our librarian at Data Devices and helped us to secure photocopies of articles and maintain the Library. The RSSL was represented at a largely attended and touching funeral ceremony at St. Thomas' Church Kotte. Our deepest sympathies go out to Denver and the family. You could reach Denver on 0773632224.

**CW/MORSE EXAMINATION:**

The TRC will be conducting the Morse examination for Novice/General/Advanced classes on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of August. The RSSL as in past years, will be assisting the TRC. Every Sunday 4S7VJ Wijay and 4S7KG Kule have training classes in the club shack for RSSL members and those wishing to be members. No charge, just that you be a member of the RSSL. If there is sufficient interest Wijay will conduct on air CW practice on the Yati repeater after the evening Net. This might be the last chance to get the CW endorsement in your license and get a 4S7/4S6 2 letter suffix.

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**LIGHT HOUSE DXSPEDITION 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> August**

**2009. IOTA AS 171**

The RSSL has been conducting this annual Dx-spedition at Barbaryn Island light house with the Call sign 4S7LGT over the past several years. Other members can also activate any lighthouse in Sri Lanka for this International lighthouse weekend where many hundreds

of special event stations are activated worldwide. If you like to participate please let the Secretary know about it ASAP(As Soon As Possible) giving details of your full name and national identity card number as special permission has to be secured from the Ports Authority and TRC to operate. Last year we had nearly 25 people and it was a fantastic outing/field day.

**The Amateur's Code By VK3AHT, Geoff(via 4S7LF)**

- ONE-** The Amateur is Considerate. . . He never knowingly uses the air in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
- TWO-** The Amateur is Loyal. . . He offers his loyalty, encouragement and support to his fellow radio amateurs, his local club and to their country's national Amateur Organization, through which Amateur Radio is represented.
- THREE-**The Amateur is Progressive. . . he keeps his station abreast of science. It is well-built and efficient. His operating practice is above reproach.
- FOUR -**The Amateur is Friendly. . . Slow and patient sending when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others; these are marks of the amateur spirit.
- FIVE -**The Amateur is Balanced. . . Radio is his hobby. He never allows it to interfere with any of the duties he owes to his home, his job, his school, or his community.
- SIX-**The Amateur is Patriotic. . . His knowledge and his station are always ready for the service of his country and his community. (Tnx Leo for that fine piece)

**MEMBER ADVERTS:** IC706, HF.VHF,lcom Rig--- HF,Transmitter needs attention.HF Receiving is okay,Sale as it is,TS830S-KenwoodTransceiver,HF<only, Working okay.Contact ---Mario--4S7SKR--- Tel.0714229278/0412223385

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For Sale:Yaesu FT-890AT HF transceiver Rs. 58,000  
Yaesu FP-800 20A 13.8V PSU Rs.18,000 lcom 13.8V PSU Rs.20,000.  
Mosley TA33-JR-N-WARC 4ele 5band yagi Rs. 10,000  
Please contact  
Oshan/4S7OFoshanfernando@yahoo.com  
E-mail newsletters: If anyone likes to receive the newsletter and Rssl notices by e-mail you are welcome to contact the editor at victorg@slt.lk

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