

## Radio Weather Summary October 2008

There seems little doubt that cycle 23 bottomed out some while ago, but it may be another month or so before formal confirmation. Meanwhile, October was another month of somewhat featureless radio weather. A handful of new-cycle spots caused a mild frisson of excitement on HF reflectors, but once they rotated off we were left there were more spotless days to come. There were no flares of C-class or higher. The background X-ray flux remained below its minimum threshold value through the month. The solar flux averaged 68, with daily values ranging between 66 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 72 on the 16<sup>th</sup>. However, these variations were of little consequence in determining conditions; what mattered more remained the level of geomagnetic activity. The table below sets out the daily sum of K values for each three-hour period at the three UK observatories, together with the planetary A figure for the day.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
LER	12	17	18	12	7	1	1	1	0	2	25	16	11	2	11	3	1	0	10	4	4	7	3	0	0	7	1	6	20	17	9
ESK	17	21	22	16	8	3	2	2	0	6	27	19	14	4	13	4	1	1	12	4	4	11	4	0	1	8	1	7	22	22	13
HAR	17	22	23	17	9	7	3	3	0	6	28	22	15	6	13	6	1	1	12	4	8	12	6	0	2	9	2	9	25	25	11
Ap	6	12	13	11	4	4	3	2	2	3	37	13	9	4	8	2	2	1	6	2	3	5	3	2	1	4	1	4	11	11	6

The most disturbed day was the 11<sup>th</sup>, when a high-speed stream associated with coronal hole 343 reached Earth, causing a brief spike of 111 Ap units. Lerwick recorded K6 at 15-1800, followed by K5, as did Eskdalemuir and Hartland. These were the only periods during the month with a 3-hour K of 5 or more. At the other end of the scale there were 24 days when the Ap was in single figures and the average daily figure over the month was a modest 6.3. Solar wind speeds were initially high as the month opened with a high speed stream from coronal hole 342. Solar wind speeds rose to 710km/sec on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, but for most of the month were somewhat below average. The low point was 274km/sec on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

## 50MHz

### Propagation to and from Britain

#### Tropospheric

Only a small number of reports, most during the 6m contest on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Where QRBs could be established almost all were very much of a routine character. Probably the greatest range was DH6HL(JO31) receiving GB3BUX(IO93). Several Dutch stations were reported during their contest but the distances were unremarkable.

#### Aurora

There were no auroral reports on 50MHz, though GM4FAM reported GI0RQK auroral at 1419 pn the 11<sup>th</sup> on 28MHz.

#### Sporadic-E

As a later section will show, continental Europe enjoyed several sustained sporadic-E events. Es was reported in the UK on 10 days but most events were relatively brief and not geographically extensive, the 20<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> being marked exceptions. Almost all contacts were made on bearings south of east. In all, 17 different 'entities' were heard or worked during the month, including SV9SIX at double-hop range. The table shows the strongest report during the relevant period; '+' is used to indicate a contact without a signal report.

UTC	CN	CT	DL	EA+ZB	HA	I	IS	IG+IT
	20 22 30	5 12 22 30	3 4	4 12 13 20 30	30 31	30 31	30 31	13 19 31
06-09								
09-12		5 9	2	+ 4	9 7	9		
12-15	5	9 7 9		+ 7 5 9		9	7 9	7 +
15-18	7 5			9				7
18-21	1	2	5	+ 4	9			
21-24								

UTC	LZ	OE	SP	SV9	UR	YO	YT	9A	9H
	30	30 31	3 4 31	13	3	30	31	30	13
06-09									
09-12	5	9	5 9			9	9		
12-15			9		9				
15-18									9
18-21		9		6				1	
21-24									

## Meteor Scatter

Contacts credited to MS, almost invariably employing WSJT, were relatively few and essentially limited to periods when easier contacts were not available. The principal meteor shower during the period was the Orionoids, peaking on the 21<sup>st</sup>, but although HA2RD was active, as is usual with the major showers, the number of reported UK contacts was scarcely greater than usual. It would be nice to know whether there were a much greater number of contacts that went unreported.

Countries reported worked by MS from the UK were EA, F, inter-G, HB, I9, LA, LX, OE, OZ, SM, S5, SP, 9A. That leaves several gaps in what might reasonably have been expected.

Oct 1 0726 HB 0904 SM7

Oct 2 0731 HB

Oct 3 0909 HB 1949 LA

Oct 4 0844 LA 1024 SM 1026 G 1032 LA 1557 LA 1700 OZ

Oct 5 1223 SP9 1746 LA 1839 LA 2134 LX

Oct 6 1045 SM7 1721 LA

Oct 7 0822 LA 1000 SM7 1635 LA 1740 LA 2015 SM7 2158 LA

Oct 8 0713 LX 1453 EB2 2005 LA 2116 LA

Oct 9 2055 LA 2108 LA

Oct 10 nil  
Oct 11 nil  
Oct 12 0835 EA2 0923 DL 1002 EA3 1008 LA 1055 S5 1115 F 1147 F  
Oct 13 nil  
Oct 14 0947 SM7  
Oct 15 0857 LA  
Oct 16 0724 EB1 1144 SM7 1309 SM7  
Oct 17 0652 LA 0717 OE5  
Oct 18 2225 LA  
Oct 19 1159 SP9 1329 IG9  
Oct 20 nil  
Oct 21 0848 HA2 0849 HA2 0907 HA2 1040 HA2  
Oct 22 1215 SM7  
Oct 23 0746 HA2  
Oct 24 nil  
Oct 25 0759 HA2 0825 LA  
Oct 26 1342 SM7  
Oct 27 nil  
Oct 28 2156 LA  
Oct 29 0925 OZ  
Oct 30 2007 9A  
Oct 31 2329 LA

## Continental Europe, Africa and the Middle East

### Auroral-related Propagation

The presentation of auroral events for this month differs from past practice in mentioning, though without detail, periods when aurora was reported on 144MHz. In all, reports were received relating to ten days – perhaps a trifle surprising in view of earlier remarks about low levels of geomagnetic activity. What the listing underlines is that three-hour periods assigned a low Kp figure can include short spells that are more disturbed. Thus, aurora is reported on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, even though these were quiet at all three British observatories and at planetary level. (It is, of course, possible that the operators concerned were mistaken, particularly in crediting auroral-E. The event on October 11 was more sustained; even so it was confined to high geomagnetic latitudes.

Oct 2 11-1200 OH9SIX>OH8(55a) 12-1300 OH9SIX>ES1(KO29 57a) 13-1400  
 LA(JP64)>SM2(KP03) SM3SIX>SM2 5a) 14-1500 OH0SIX>OZ(51a)  
 OH9SIX>OH5(KP41)

Oct 11 13-1400 Au>SM4 OH9SIX>OH2(55a) SK3SIX>SM4(55a) SM4>OH2(59a)  
 OH5>SM4(54a) SM4>SM1(59a) ES1>SM4 SM1>OH2(KP31 55a) SM4>SM6  
 OZ>SM2,ES1 SM4>LA(JP33 59a) SM4>OH1 SK3SIX>SM6,OH2(56a) 14-1500  
 SM4>OH2(KP31 59a) LA(JP50)>DL(JO43) ES7(KP41)>OH5(KO28)  
 OH0SIX>OH2(KP31 53a) OH3,OH5>OH7 LA>SM1(55a) SM4>LA 15-1600  
 SM4(JO79)>OH5(KP31) 17-1800 JW5SIX>ES5(339) SM4>LA

Oct 12 2100 Au 144 MHz EU

Oct 17 1909 JW7SIX(KQ26)>OH8(KP35 AuE) 1951 JW5SIX(KQ26)>OH8(KP35 AuE)

Oct 18 2000 Au 144 MHz EU

Oct 22 1821 SK3SIX>LA

Oct 26 1750 JW7SIX>OH6(AuE)

Oct 28 20,2100 Au 144 MHz EU

Oct 29 1600 Au 144 MHz EU 2238 OH9SIX>OZ(AuE)

Oct 30 1744(JP73)>OH8(KP 23 55a); also 16, 2000144 MHz EU

## **Other Modes**

One can say with little fear of contradiction that this was an unexciting month, with several days giving rise to no activity reports while, on other days, only occasional ms or tropo contacts at expected ranges were reported. But there were also days on which the band burst into life with sporadic-E, and it probably depended on whether individual operators were around for these whether their reports tended towards the upbeat or downbeat. Location could be crucial. So, for many operators in southern Europe, including SV1DH, the 13<sup>th</sup> was a good day – but most UK operators missed out. Much the same might be said of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, which largely favoured the Mediterranean. By contrast, UK operators did well on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, with strong openings to the south, whereas south-east Europe was largely excluding.

The highlights, all for stations in southern locations, were the TR0A and S9SIX beacons. TR0A was heard in southern Italy and Sicily on the 5<sup>th</sup>, while S9SIX was received in southern Italy on the 5<sup>th</sup> and Portugal on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The ZD8VHF beacon was heard in Spain and EA8 on the evening of the 16<sup>th</sup>, EA8 on the 17<sup>th</sup> and Spain on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately there was no human activity during any of these periods. The record for October may look skimpy, but imagine how much skimpier it would look if all the beacon reports were stripped out of the listings below.

Oct 1 08-0900 HB>SM7(jt)

Oct 2 06-0700 LX0SIX,ON0SIX>DL(tr) 0949 DL>SM7(ms) 1317 EI>SM7(ms)

Oct 3 10-1100 OZ7IGY>I8(Es) 1150 EA3SIX>SP1 19-2000 SP9>LA(jt) 20-2100 SP9>LA(jt)

Oct 4 0752 HB>SM7(jt) 09-1000 EA3>DL(ms) EA3>OZ(ms) EA3>I1(ms) 10-1100 EA3>DL(ms) I1>EA3 EA3>LA(ms) PA>LA(ms) SM7>PA(jt) 1242 SP9>PA(jt) 17-1800 OH5>LA(jt) 1907 OH7>LA(jt) 2123 PA>LA(jt)

Oct 5 0748 ON>PA 08-0900 F>S5 S5>EA3(ms) 09-1000 LA>LA SP9>LA(ms) I6>S5(tr) 9A>ON 10-1100 S5>9A 12-1300 I5MXX>EA3 LZ1SJ>IT9(tr) 13-1400 SV5SIX>I0 SV9SIX>I0,EA3(Es) EA3,EA5.EA7(Es)>EI SV5SIX>EA3(Es) CT1ART,CS1RLA.CN8MC.CT0SIX>EI(Es) EI0SIX>EA7 14-1500 SO5>SM7(ms) CS1RLA>PA(Es) CS1RLA,CT1ART>CT3(Es) 15-1600 SV9SIX,SV9GPV>EA6(Es) TR0A>IZ8DWF I8>IS0 16-1700 S9SIX>IZ8DWF TR0A>IT9CHU SV9SIX>EA3 SV5SIX>I5 CQ3SIX>EA3(Es) CN8MC>EA3(Es)

Oct 6 18-1900 I4>9A I4>OZ(ms) OZ>9A(OZ?) 19-2000 LX0SIX>DL(tr)

Oct 7 0647 SP1>SP2(tr) 07-0800 SP7>HB(MS) 08-0900 CT1ART>ZB 09-1000 ED7YAD>ZB  
HB9SIX>DL(tr) LX0SIX>DL(tr) OZ7IGY>DL(tr) ON0SIX>DL(tr) OE3XLB>HA5 12-1300  
EI>SP9(ms) 15-1600 CU3URA>CT(Es) HB9SIX>DL(tr) 17-1800 OZ7IGY>DL(tr)

Oct 8 07-0800 OZ7IGY>DL(tr) 08-0900 DF0ANN>DL(tr) OZ7IGY>DL(tr/ms) 16-1700 OZ>DL  
18-1900 OZ>DL(tr) CT>CT3 LA>DL(ms)

Oct 9 1622 I1>I5(tr) 17-1800 SM6>SM3 S5>OZ(5) LA>SM6 S5>9A DL>OZ SM6>SM1  
SM6>9A(ms) SM6>5Q3 SK4,SA6>SM1 18-1900 LA>SM2(jt) S5>LA(ms) OZ>PA  
SM6>9A(ms) SM6>S5 OH5>LA(ms) OZ>SM2(ms) 9A>LA(ms) LX0SIX>DL(tr)  
OZ>9A(ms) SM6>DL OZ>DL 19-2000 LA>DL SM3>S5 SM3>DL OZ>9A LA>SP9(jt)  
OZ>9A(ms) SM2>SM3 9A>IT9(ms) OZ>S5(ms/iono) 20-2100 I0JX>S5(tr) SM>LA  
SM3>PA(jt) S5>DL(tr) S5>SM0 21-2200 DL>9A(tr) DL>LA(ms)

Oct 10 20-2100 OH8>LA(jt)

Oct 11 0801 IT9>IS0 11-1200 IK5ZUL>S5(tr) aurora 1951 OH6>SP9(ms) 20-2100  
HG1BVB>SP9(tr) 2156 LX>LA

Oct 12 0703 HG1BVB>OK2(tr) 0953 I3>SP9(ms) 10-1100 CS1RLA,CT1ART>EI(Es) EA3>EI  
11-1200 CT1ART>DL EA7>EI(Es) CT0SIX>DL(Es) CT>EI(Es) CT>HB(Es)  
CS1RLA>DL(Es) SV9SIX>UT7(Es) 12-1300 OH5RAC>UT7(Es) UT7>DL(Es),OH6(Es)  
IT9X>UT7(Es) ON0SIX,LX0SIX>CT(Es) 13-1400 ES0SIX,OH0SIX,HG8BVB>UT7(Es)  
SV9SIX>YO2 OK2>SP9 SV5SIX>I7(Es) SV1SIX>YO2 1417 YO5>SM7(ms) 1501  
UZ5>SM7(ms) 1812 CS1RLA>I4

Oct 13 0950 SV5SIX>DL(Es),I1 SV1SIX>DL(Es) SV9SIX>DL(Es) 10-1100 SV9SIX>I1  
YO3JW>DL(Es) SV5SIX>OR5(Es) SV9SIX>OE5(Es) SV1SIX,SV5SIX>EA3(Es)  
SV5SIX>OE2 HG1BVB,OE3XLB>OE5(tr) HB9SIX>DL(tr) SV1SIX>OE2 LZ1SJ>DL(Es)  
SV9SIX>HA5 EA3>F(tr) 11-1200 LX0SIX>DL SV1SIX,CN8MC>IS0 12-1300  
CT0SIX,SV9SIX,CN8MC,IT9X>EA3(Es) CN8MC>F 13-1400 I8>EA3(Es)  
LZ1SJ,SV1SIX,CT1SIX,YU1>EA6(Es) SV1SIX>I1 YU1>EA3(ES) HB,F>EA7 SV2>I1  
EA7>ON 14-1500 SV9>I1 YU1>I5 F>EA7 I7>I1 EA3>I7 CT0SIX,EA3SIX,IK5ZUL>YU1  
TB7>EA3 LZ2>EA5 I0JX>HA8,YO2 YU1,LZ1>I1 IS0>YO2 15-1600 IS0>HA8 YU1>I4  
LZ1,LZ2,YU1>EA6(Es) HA8>9A(bs) I5>YU1,EA7 EA6,IG9>HA8(Es) LZ2,CT>I5  
IG9>9A,SP8,SP9,DL,HA7(Es) EA9>9A,F,HA8 EA7>9A(Es) CT>9A 16-1700  
SV3>EA5,I2,F,DL I4,I5,I6>EA4 IT9X(Es),SV9SIX>F IG9>DL,HA8 SV3>HB,EA6(Es)  
I6>EA4 EA7>I4,I2,9A EA6>YU7,HA3,HA8,I1,S5,9A,YU1,HB,OM7 EA7,EA4,EA1>I0  
S5>CT I0,I5>EA1 I8>EA1,EA2,EA9 EA5>I4,I0,HA8 CT0SIX,EA4Q,EA3>9A  
I0>IS0,EA7,CT EA7>UR3,HB,S5 IG9>OE5,I8,SP1,F I8>I1(short),EA1,EA3  
SV1>SP5,IS0 EA1>YU1 CS1RLA,SV2,EA3SIX>9A EA4Q,9H1SIX,CN8MC>OE5  
IT9X>S5 I1,9A,HA8,OM5>EA7 LZ1SJ,SV1SIX,EA7>OE5 SV9SIX>S5  
EA9>DL,OE5,HB,HA8 EA3>I9,I0 DL>EA6(Es) EA6>OE5 17-1800  
EA3,EA6,EA7>9A,SP1,HA6,S5,I0 CT1ART>OE5 EA9>9A,DL  
IS0,EA6,EA7,EA9,EA5>HB I0>ON,EA6 I7,I1>EA4 EA6>OK2,SP9,SP8,9A IS0>PA  
EA3,EA4>YO2 IG9,I0JX,SV9SIX,IT9,SV2>F EA5,EA7>I8 IT9>CT,HB,EA1,DL  
EA6,IS0>EA1 9A>CT,EA4 IG9,EA7,EA5,IS0>DL IG9>S5 EA3>YT1,YO5,9A EA5>9A,I1  
YO2>HA8 CT3>S5,9A IT9>9A,HB,S5(Es),DL,YO5 PA>EA5 EA9>OE2 EA6>YU1  
CT>SV2,LZ2,YU1,EA1,I5 CT0SIX,CS0LRA,CT1ART,EA4>CT3 EA3SIX>YO2 IG9>DL  
18-1900 IT9>DL,PA EA4,EA1,EA6,EA7,CN8IG,9A>CT3 IG9>YO5,S5,YO2,OE5,F,I3,DL  
CT>I8,YO2,EA1 IT9X>PA I5,I0>EA4 EA6>OK2,YO5,HA5 IS0>9A,EA8,YO5,HA5,YU1  
YO2>YU1 F>SV1,YU1 EA6>LZ1,9A,YU1,E7 JW7SIX>OH7 EA5>HA5 OZ>S5(ms)

DL>OZ(tr) CT3>EA7 I8>DL,HA5 19-2000 SV9SIX>F,EA6 F>LX SV1SIX>EA6  
CU3URA>ZB

Oct 14 08-0900 IT9>SP9(ms) 18-1900 PA>ON

Oct 15 16-1700 DL>HA(jt) 2259 ZD8VHF>EA8BQM

Oct 16 0009 ZD8VHF>EA4SV 1755 CU3URA>CT 18-1900 CT,EA1>EA8 21-2200  
ZD8VHF>EA4SV,EA8BPX

Oct 17 13-1400 CT0SIX>DL(Es) 1413 S9SIX>CT1FFU 2098 HB>OE7 2238 ZD8VHF>EA8BPX

Oct 18 20-2100 SM4>SP9(jt)

Oct 19 07-0800 I3,I5>I2 08-0900 I2>I8 09-1000 SM7>HA2(jt) IT9>IS0 SP9>HA2(jt) 10-1100  
HA2>PA(jt) SV5>SV8 SV1SIX,SV9SIX,SV5SIX>DL(Es) I2,I4>I1 I1>LZ1(Es) 11-1200  
SV9SIX>DL(Es) I3,I4,I5>9A(tr) SR9FHA>IS0 12-1300 IG9,IT9X,9H1SIX>DL I0>I8(tr)  
IS0>SP5 DL>I8(Es) 13-1400 OE2>IW9 IT9,I7,SV3,SV9SIX>LX(Es) DL>IW9,I8,I7  
OE3XLB>IS0 HG7BVA,S5,HG1BVB>EA5 OE2>I8(Es) IT9>OZ I4,I5>I2 OZ>I8 SP5>I7  
I3>DL(tr) S5>I5,I8 I0>I8 14-1500 SR9FHA>EA5 I0>DL(tr) 1646 DL>OZ(tr) 1751  
JW7SIX>SM2(tr)

Oct 20 09-1000 SV1SIX,SV5SIX,SV9SIX>DL(Es) I0JX>UY5 UU5SIX>DL(Es) I4,IK5ZUL>UY5  
UU6>DL(Es) 10-1100 LZ1SJ>DL(Es) UY5>DL(Es) OE3XLB,OE5>UY5 UR7>LX(Es)  
SV1SIX>DL SV5SIX>OM3 HG1BVB>UY5 LX0SIX>SV1 11-1200 SV9SIX>LX  
CN8MC,EA7>DL CN>ON,LX(Es),DL EA4>I5 SV9,IG9>LX(Es) EA4Q>DL(Es) SV1>I1  
CT>F HB>SV9 IT9X>DL,ON SV3>HB(Es) 12-1300 15-1600 OZ>DL(tr)  
CT0SIX,EA2>LZ1 16-1700 CT0SIX,CT1ART,CS1RLA,ED7YAD>9A CN>DL(Es)  
CT1ART>S5(Es) EA4>9A,OE5 CT1ART>OE5 ED7YAD>OE5,DL EA4,EA5>I1 17-1800  
CT0SIX,ED7YAD,ON,EA4,CT1ART>F CT1ART,CS1RLA,EA4,EA5,EA7>ON  
CT0SIX,CN,EA5>DL EA4>F(Es) EA7,CN8IG>9A S55ZRS>EA4 18-1900 EA7>DL,I3,F  
9A>EA4,EA7 EA7>PA,F(Es) I1,I2,I4>EA4 CN8IG>I1 CN8MC,EA4,EA7>F  
IK5ZUL,I0JX>EA1 CT>S5,F,I3,I4,9A,I6 19-2000 EA5>9A(Es) I2,I4>CT 2336  
ZD8VHFEA4SV

Oct 21 09-1000 HA2>F(jt) 11-1200 HG1BVB>DL(tr)

Oct 22 1116 SV9SIX>DL(Es) 1451 OE5>OZ(ms) 18-1900 JW5SIX>SM2(tr) EA4Q,CT>9A 19-  
2000 CN8MC,CT1ART,EA7>9A EA4Q>CT3 CN8MC>I1 2009 CT1ART>9A

Oct 23 08-0900 F>HA2(ms) 10-11 EA4>I4 CN8IG>I7(Es) 11-1200 F>I7 1250 CN8MC>F(Es) 13-  
1400 CT1ART,CS1RLA>F

Oct 24 2133 OH5>LA(jt) LA>LA(ms) 22-2300 OH5>LA(jt) LA>LA(ms)

Oct 25 08-0900 HA2>EB1(ms) 1351 W1JJ>OZ4LP(eme -25db) 19-2000 OH5>SP9(ms) 20-  
2100 OH8>SP9(ms)

Oct 26 1628 HG1BVB>S5(tr)

Oct 27 1932 OZ7IGY>DL(tr)

Oct 28 10-1100 EI0SIX>CT(Es) ED7YAD>DL(Es) 1111 ED7YAD>LX(Es) 12-1300 ZA0>I2 18-1900 OH5>LA(ms) 1947 JW7SIX>SM2

Oct 29 no reports

Oct 30 08-0900 UR4>UX0 DF0ANN>UT7 0957 ER3SIX>I7(Es) HA5>DL 10-1100 OD5SIX>UT7 ON0SIX>I7 5B4CY>UT7 YO2>DL YO3KWJ>I4 11-1200 LZ1>HB(Es) OE3XLB>F IT9X,9H1SIX>DL(Es) 12-1300 F>OE4 CT0SIX>DL,LX EI0SIX>EA7(Es) EA4Q,EA2B>DL(Es) ON0SIX>EA7(Es) 13-1400 IS0>DL EA2B,LZ2CM,ED7YAD>F(Es) 14-1500 EA7>F(io) 16-1700 ON0SIX>CT(Es) EA4Q,EA3SIX,ED7DYD>9A 17-1800 EA4(Es),S5>9A EA4Q,ED7YAD,EA2B,CT1ART(Es)>S5 CT0SIX,CS1RLA>9A CT0SIX,CS1RLA>I1 18-1900 EA4Q>I1 ES0SIX>YU1 CS1RLA,CT0SIX,CT1ART(Es)>9A CS1RLA>LX(Es) UT7>DL OE5>UT7 19-2000 F>OZ(Es) HG1BVB>IT7 OZ>9A(ms) JW9SIX,IZ1EPM>LA(Es) CT0SIX>9A(Es) I0JX>EA1 20-2100 OZ>OE5(tr/Es) HB>CT CS1RLA>OE5,F(Es) HB>LA OZ7IGY>F(Es) CT>I5 ON0SIX>YU1 LA7SIX>LA(Es)

Oct 31 08-0900 OH5RAC>DL(Es) SK3SIX>OE4 OH0SIX>OE5(Es) OE3XLB>SM3 09-1000 SK3SIX>OE5,OE4 9H1SIX>EA3(Es) SM3,OH0SIX,YL2,OH5RAC>OE4 OZ7IGY,SV9SIX,I5MXX>UY5 LZ2CM>YL2 UY5>DL LZ1>OZ,SM7 LY0SIX>I4 HG9>OZ ES1>OE4 YO3>OZ,DL 10-1100 UY5>LX OZ>I7 LZ1>DL(Es) I0JX>SM7 ON0SIX>UY5 LZ2CM>DL(Es) DL,EA3,I4>OZ YT1>DL(Es) I0JX>OZ I0,IS0>DL(ES) 11-1200 I5>OZ EA3,I3>DL EA3SIX>SP6(tr),SP3 EA3>OZ,DL,OZ,OK1 HB9SIX>CT(Es) EA2,YT1,EA4Q>DL EA5>OZ,DL(Es),OK1 DL>I5 LZ2>ON EA2>OK1 YT1>ON,F EI0SIX>CT I6,I3,I4,LZ2>F EA3SIX>OE5 ED7YAD>OK1 EA3>OE1 OE4>ES1 12-1300 EA2>OE4,OE6 EA4Q>LX,SP9 CT1ART>ON OE3XLB,DF0ANN>EA5 13-1400 ED7YAD>ON I0JX>F IG9>PA ED7YAD>CN EA3SIX>S5 14-1500 CU3URA>CT EA3SIX,EA4Q>OE5

## 50MHz PROPAGATION REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2008 BY SV1DH

1. Data for all days (31)
2. Relatively good days on: 13,20
3. 48 MHz AF video (9L+3C) on: NIL
4. 55 MHz AF video (5N) on: NIL
5. " EA on: 13
6. " EA6 on: 13
7. " IS on: 13
8. " I on: 13,20
9. " F on: 13
10. " LX on: 20
11. " OE on: 13
12. " DL on: 13,20,30
13. " SP on: 13
14. " YO on: 12
15. Special events on:
  - 4(SSN=12, SFI=67)
  - 10-17(SSN up 24, SFI up 72)
  - 13(1730 CU to S5 2Es +1630-1830 I to central+western EU on 4m)

20(1815 CT/B to I4 on 4m)  
 30(1200 ISO to G+EI on 4m)  
 31(1030-1200 S5+I to G+PA on 4m)  
 30-31(SSN up 16, SFI up 68)  
 The secondary Es peak of late Oct better then the Jan one.

16. DXCC entities heard/worked during Oct 2008 : 10 on 1 cont  
 17. DXCC entities heard/worked on 13th Oct 2008 : 8 on 1 cont. 73 COSTAS

## The Americas

### Auroral-related Modes

Oct 4 0351 VE4SPR>VE7(CO88 55a)

### Other Modes

Location, location, location was also the key to fortune (or otherwise) in the western hemisphere. As far as can be gauged, activity was low in the United States and Canada. Even a contest threw up no more than a very modest crop of reports. There appears to have been little propagation beyond normal tropo or ms range.

The fortunate exceptions were operators in the southern tip of Florida, the Caribbean, parts of Central America and much of South America. Tep was reported on no fewer than 28 UTC days, starting roughly an hour before 0000 UTC and continuing until around 0200. (There was no obvious reason why tep 'failed' on the blank evenings.)

### Trans-Equatorial Propagation in the Americas

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Tep +			+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			+	+	+

CX 4 days 10(FJ,YV,9Y) 11(YV) 13(FJ) 14(YV,9Y) 15(YV,6Y)

LU 11 days 7(YV) 9(9Y) 10(YV) 11(W,YV) 12(FJ,9Y) 13(FJ,YV) 14(FJ,YV,9Y) 16(YV) 17(YV) 19(KP4,V4,YV) 20(KP4)

PY 28 days 3(V4,9Y) 4(KP4,V4) 5(KP4,V2,V4,YV,9Y) 6(V4) 7(V4) 8(V4,9Y) 9(V4,9Y) 10(FJ,FM,J6,V4,YV,9Y) 11(FJ,KP4,V4,YV,9Y) 12(FJ,V4) 13(FJ,V4,YV,9Y) 14(FJ,V4,YV) 15(KP4,V4,YV) 16(FJ,HI,KP4,W,YV,9Y) 17(V4,W) 18(FJ,KP4,V4) 19(FJ,KP4,9Y) 20(FJ,HH,HI,KP4,V4) 21(FM,KP4,V4,YV) 22(FG,HI,HK,KP2,V4,YV,W) 23(HI,J6,KP4) 24(KP4,YV) 25(KP4) 26(KP4,V4) 27(KP4) 29(V4) 30(V4) 31(KP4)

ZP 2 days 10(FJ,YV,9Y) 11(YV) 13(FJ)



One exception to the gloomy rule was a lone contact between FM5AA and VE2XK on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

The favoured areas are of course the Caribbean islands to the north and the vastness of Brazil to the south. All PY call areas benefited at one time or other, but PY2s recurred the most frequently. This may well reflect activity levels in and around Sao Paulo rather than any propagation advantage. That said, more calls from outside the populous PY2 and PY5 areas made an appearance than would have been the case a few years back.

A few contacts were crediyed to 'tep' even though both stations lay north of the geomagnetic equator. There were also some reports featuring stations south of the tep zone, eg PY<>ZP where the propagation mode remained unclear.

On the better days the tep zone extended to CX and ZP in the south and to Florida in the north, notably KE4WBO. The same station was one of a small number on the mainland to benefit from what would appear to be sporadic-E events involving the Caribbean and Central America beyond normal tropo range, most notably on the 16th. Here again, the boundaries between what was and what was not workable tended to be geographically sharply behind.

Oct 1 1728 VE4ARM>VE2(ms)

Oct 2 1728 VE4ARM>VE2(ms) 2211 W5>W5 2312 VE4ARM>VE2(ms)

Oct 3 00-0100 V44KAI>PY5EW,PY2IAX,PY1ZV,PP5XX 9Y4AT>PY5EW 0251-3  
V44KAI>PU5YFT 1839 YV4AB>KE4WBO

Oct 4 00-0100 TO5E,W4>KE4WBO TI2NA>KE4WBO,W4TAA,KD4ESV 0233 W7>W7(tr) 14-1500 W8>W4,W3 17-1800 W4>W0 N8RT>VE2 18-1900 W6>W6 W3>W3 22-2300  
FM5AA>VE2XK W6>W6 23-2400 W6>W6 NP4A>PV8AZ,PY2HT V44KAI>PP5XX,PV8AZ

Oct 5 00-0100 V44KAI>PP5XX,PU5AAD 9Y4D>PY5EW,PP5XX,PY2HT,PY2BT V25JK>PV8AZ  
YV4AB>PP5XX PY2>PV8 NP4A>PP5XX,PY2EL,PY5AAD(tep), PY2BT,PY5EW,  
PU2VDC,PY2EL,PU2KXM W3>W0 01-0200 NP4A>PY2IAX,PU5YFT,PY2HT 1326 W4>W8(ms)  
1544 W6>W6 1730 KP4>W4 18-1900 W6>W6 VE3>W0 19-2000 G4IGO>NR0X(eme -23)  
W6>W6

Oct 6 0157 V44KAI>PY5EW 1451 VE3UBL,VA2FZN>VE2(gw) 1712 J69B>FJ5DX 1857  
CX5EM>LU4EFC 21-2200 PY3>PU5 23-2400 PY3KN,LU5JB PY2>PV8

Oct 7 00-0100 PY2>PU5 W1>W1 0116 V44KAI>PP5XX(tep) 0304 YV5KG>LU5EGY 1357  
TI2NA>KE4WBO(Es) 1547 W8>W8

Oct 8 00-0100 V44KAI,9Y4D>PP5XX 1615 W3>W3

Oct 9 00-0100 V44KAI>PU5AAD(tep),PY2VV PY2>PV8 01-0200  
9Y4D>PY2BT,PY5EW,PY2XAT,PY2KJ,PU5AAD PY2>PV8 9Y4AT>LW3EWZ 23-2400  
V44KAI>PP5XX,PY5IP

Oct 10 00-0100 V44KAI>PU5AAD ZP9SC,LU8DIO,CX4CC,LU1DMA,PY2MAJ,PU5AAQ>FJ5DX  
FJ5DX>PY2HL,PY5DX,LU1DMA,PP5XX,PY5IP,PP5JD YV5KG>LU1DMA,PP5XX  
J69B>PP5XX,FJ5DX ZP9SC>KP4EIT 01-0200 YV5KG>LU6HTR,PP5XX,CX6JF  
FJ5DX>PY5EW,LU6HTR,PY2KJ,PY7ZZ,CX6JF,PP5XX,PY2BMX,PU2WOT,LU7FA  
FM5AA>PP5XX,FJ5DX,PY5IP,PY2XAT,PY2HL,PY2XB,PY2EL  
9Y4D>PP5XX,PY2MAJ,PY5IP,CX6JF PY2HL,PY8ELO>YV4DYJ 02-0300 FJ5DX>PP5XX

Oct 11 00-0100 V44KAI,9Z4BM>PY5EW V44KAI>PU5AAD,PP5XX W3>W4 PY2>PY2  
FJ5DX,YV4ACU>PY5EW YV4DYJ>PP5XX,PY2MAJ,PY5EW YV4AB,YV4ACU>PP5XX  
LU8DIO>YV4ACU 9Y4D>PP5XX,PY5EW 01-0200 9Y4D>PP5XX,PU5AAD.PY5EW  
PY2MAJ>YV4DYJ YY4ACU>PY2MAJ,PY2HL,CX6JF,PU5AAD,PU2LGR, LU1FVE, LU7FN  
FJ5DX>PP5XX,PY2PAL W8>VE3 NP4A>PY2XAT,PY2MAJ 1146 W8>W4(tr) 1326  
VA2FZN>VE2 18-1900 LU5FB>WN4VCH 48242(CT?)>PY3 21-2200 PY2>PY2

Oct 12 00-0100 PY2>PY2 1213 W4>W4 1757 C6AFP>KE4WBO 22-2300 W6>W6 2242  
W6>W6 23-2400 V44KAI,FJ5DX>PP5XX(tep) PY2>PY2

Oct 13 00-0100 V44KAI>PU2WOT FJ5DX>PY2VV,PU2WOT 23-2400 YV4AB,V44KAI>PY2IAX  
9Y4D>PY2MAJ,LW3EX,PY2TVI FJ5DX>PP5XX,LW3EX YV4AB>PP5XX  
FJ5DX>CX3AN,CX2CC,LW3EX,LU9DO,LU7FN,LU2NI LU1FVE>PY8ELO  
YV4DYJ>LW3EX,LU9DO,PP5XX

Oct 14 00-0100 PR8ZX>LU6HTR LU2NI,LU1FVE,LU6FQD,LU5DDX >FJ5DX  
FJ5DX>LU1DMA,PU5AAD,PU2WDF,PY2VV V44KAI>PY2VV 9Y4D>LU5DDX  
YV4DYJ>PY2VV,PT7ZT,PP5XX,PY2VV,LW3EWZ YV4DYJ>LU5DDX,PU5AAD PY2>PY2 01-  
0200 YV4AB>LU1DMA,LW3EWZ LU8DIO>LW3EWZ LU1FVE>YV4DHS 17-1800 W4>W4 23-  
2400 V44KAI>PP5XX,PY2HT YY4ACU>LW3EX,LU3EE,LW3EWZ  
9Y4D>PY2HT,PP5XX,PY3KN,LW3EX,PP5AR YV4AB>CX6JF

Oct 15 00-0100 PY2RFPY2ZR,PY2SM,PY2TE,PU2TXZ>YV5ESN  
9Y4D>CX5BW,PU2KSQ,PY5HOT,LW3EWZ 6Y5IC>CX3AN  
LU7FTF,LU1MPK,LU5HD,LU6HFQ>PY8ELO YV4DYJ>CX5BW,LU3EE PY8>PY2  
CX6JF,LU8HH>PY8ELO KP4EIT>PP5XX,PY2HT YV5ESN>PY2HT,PY2SEX,PY2PAL  
PY8ELO>ZP5CGL 01-0200 PY2BW,PY2KP>YV5ESN 0230 W5>W5 0506 VE7>W7 19-2000  
PU5>PP5 23-2400 V44KAI>PP5XX(tep),PY2HT

Oct 16 00-0100 FJ5DX>PY2HT,PP5XX LU7FTF>YV4DYJ YY4ACU>LW3EWZ  
LU1FVE>PV8AZ 01-0200 PV8>PP5 LU1FVE,PY7>PV8AZ PY9MP>HK3GXI 9Z4AMA>PP5XX  
02-0300 PV8>PR7,PP5,PU5,PY4AQA(tep-?),PY6 1105 K4MHZ>W4 12-1300  
KP4EIT,V44KAI,YV4AB,HI8LAM>N3LL/4 13-1400 NP3CW>N3LL/4,KD4ESV  
HI8LAM>KP4,N3LL/4,KD4ESV TI2NA,HI8RSG>KD4ESV HI8VRS>KD4VRZ  
V44KAI,C6AFP,TI2NA>KE4WBO 14-1500 YN2N>KE4WBO,N3LL/4  
TI2NA>KI4FIA,N3LL/4,W4VQ HI8VRS>W4AS C6>KP4 W9VW>W9 C6AFP>KE4WBO15-1600  
TG9AFX,TI2NA>N3LL/4 19-2000 FY7THF>NP3CW 20-2100 V44KAI,WP4LU>KE4WBO 2222  
FY7THF>KE4WBO KP4>W4 HI8LAM>YV4DYJ PY0FF,FM5AA>PP5XX FM5AA>PY0FF 23-  
2400 FY7THF>KE4WBO HI8LAM>K4RX,PP5XX,KI4QLN,N3LL/4,W4AS  
WP4UZ,KP4EIT,KE4WBO,KR4WXX>PP5XX 9Y4D>K4RX,PP5XX,PY5IP,  
WA2SEI/4,KE4WBO,WE9M C6,W4>KP4 YV4DYJ>PY2HL,PP5XX,PU2LBD

Oct 17 00-0100 KP4>W4 HI3TEJ>N3LL/4,WA2SEI/4 LU9HH>PY8ELO  
PY2HL,PY2SRB>KE4WBO LU7FA>PY8ELO,YY4ACU 01-0200 V44KAI>PY2VV,PU2LBD  
PS7>PY8 02-0300 PV8>PT9,PS7 21-2200 LU1DMA>PY2KC,PY2TIB LU8EGC>PY2KC  
LU9AEA,LU5CAB>PY2TIB 22-2300 LW3EX>PY2NQ,LW3EX LU9DTC>PU2TIB

Oct 18 00-0100 PY2>PP5 V44KAI>PP5XX 20-2100 W4>W4 YV4AB,HP1AVS>KD4ESV  
PY2>PY2 YV4DYJ,TI2NA,HP1AVS>KE4WBO PY4>PY4 PY2>PP5 W3>W3 HP1AVS>N4TZH  
21-2200 PY2>PY2 22-2300 TO5DX>WZ8D 23-2400  
V44KAI>PY5EW(tep),PP5XX,PU5AAD,PY2HL PP5XX>FJ5DX  
NP4A>PY2HN,PU2WOT,PP5XX,PT9PA,PU5AAD W7,VE7>W7 TI2NA>KE4WBO

Oct 19 00-0100 FJ5DX>PY2MAJ,PY2HN,PT9PA,PP5XX,PY4OG  
NP4A>PP5XX,PYT2MAJ,PY2BRZ,PU2TAC,PY4OG,PY2DU,PY2XC,PU2MUN,PY2VV VE2>W5  
W4>W2,W4 01-0200 NP4A>PY1ZV,PU2UJG,PY2LSI,PP5XX+LUs YY4ACU>LU6HTR VE2>W5  
W5,W8>W0(ms) 02-0300 FJ5DX>PP5XX,PY2LCD W5>W0(ms)  
9Y4D>PP5XX,PY2HL,PU2WOT,PY4AQA,PY2MAJ,PU5AAD,PU2MUN VE2>W5 PV8>PY2  
W4>W3(ms) VE7>VE7 03-0400 ZX2,PU5,PY4>PV8 PY4>PY1 PY5>PY5 12-1300 PY5>PP5  
PP1>PY4 W4>W4(tr) 1357 TI2NA>KE4WBO 14-1500 PY2,PP5>PY5 KP4>W4 PY0FF>PY2 15-  
1600 TI2NA>N3LL/4,KD4ESV PY2>PY2,PY5 23-2400 V44KAI>ZP6CW,LW3EX  
FJ5DX>PP5XX,PY1ZV,PY2SEX(40m 2-el Yagi) YV4AB>LW3EX,ZP6CW  
NP4A>PP5XX,ZP6CW,PY1ZV

Oct 20 00-0100 NP4A>PY3KN,PU2WOT,PY3FF,LU1IBL,LU3EE,LU6HTR,  
LU9JX,PU5AAD,PY2HN,PU1SGT,PY5EW,ZZ2YDY PU1>PU8  
V44KAI>PY1ZV,PU5AAD,PP1CZ HI8LAM>PP5XX.PY4AQA YV4AB>PU2WOT 01-0200  
WP4AZT>LU6HTR,PU2WOT,PP1CZ,LU6HTR,PU2TAC PU8>PV8 9Y4D>PP1CZ,  
PY2HT,PY4AQA,PY3IOD,PP5BI,PY2HT OA4TT>PP5XX,PU2WOT,PY5EW  
NP4A>PP1CZ,PY3IOD,PU5AAD,PP5BI,PY4AQA FJ5DX>PY5EW,PY2HT,PY4AQA  
HH7RH>PY6KR 12-1300 W5>W4(ms) W9>W4(jt/tr) W8>W4(ms) 1507 W5>W6 21-2200  
W1,VE1>VE1 23-2400 WP4AZT>PP5XX V44KAI>PY5IP,PU5AAD 9Y4D>PP5XX  
FJ5DX>PY5IP

Oct 21 00-0100 PY2>PV8 YY4ACU>PY2MAJ,PP5XX,PY2HT 01-0200 PU8>PU2 02-0300  
PT9>PT8 1316 W8>W(ms) 1446 W1>W1 15-1600 P29NI>W1JJ(eme) 16-1700  
OA4TT>W7GJ(eme?) 23-2400 V44KAI>PP5XX NP4A>PP1CZ,PY2UDX,PY6KR,PY2HT,  
PU5AAD,PY3MSF,PY2EJ,PU1CCC,PY2HA,PT9PA NA7XX>VE7(Es) FM5AA>PP1CZ,PY2HN  
WP4AZT>PY2HT,PU2PAV,PT9PA,PU5AAD,PY2UDX,PY1CCC FM1FV>PY5HOT

Oct 22 00-0100 NP4A>PU2KSQ,PY5IP V44KAI>PP1CZ,PY5HOT,FG1GW  
NP3XF,KP2/K9BZ,FG1GW,WP4WR>PY5HOT 01-0200  
NP4A>PY4AQA,FG1GW,PP5XX,PY5EG 02-0300 PP5XX>KE4WBO(tep)  
HK3Q>PY5HOT.PP5XX P29NI>K6HFA(eme) 23-2400 HI8LAM>KP4EIT V44KAI>PU5AAD  
KP4EIT>PY5HOT NP4A>PY5HOT,PY3KN,PT7ZAP,PY2OC,PT9PA,CX2CC  
HI8LAM>PY2SRB,PP5XX,PY5HOT,PP1CZ PY3>PY3 PP1,LU4FVE>PY8 PT7>PY5 PT9>PT7  
YV5ESN>PY5HOT,PP1CZ,CX4CR

Oct 23 00-0100 HI8LAM>PY5HOT,PY2WBC W4>W4(tr) J69B>PP5XX,PY5HOT  
HI8VB>PP5XX,PY5HOT PU5>PY2 NP4A>PY5HOT,PU5AAD 01-0200  
HI8LAM,WP4AZT,J69B>PY5HOT NP4A>PY4AQA,PY2BT WP4AZT>PY2BT 22-2300 PY2>PY2  
WP4AZT>PY5HOT

Oct 24 1159 W5>W8(ms) 14-1500 VE3>W4 VE3>W4 W8> VE2(ms) 1503 VE2>W0(ms) 1950  
PY2>PP5 22-2300 YV4ACU>PV8AZ,YV4 PY3>PP5 YY4CFS>PV8AZ 23-2400 NP4A>PT9PA

Oct 25 00-0100 NP4A>PY2HA 0155 W4>W4 PY8>KE4WBO(tep/jt) 0850 ES6RQ>K2ZD(eme -  
27dB) 1455 G5WQ>W7GJ(eme -21dB) 17-1800 VE3UBL,K4TQR>VE2 18-1900  
47.9(CE/bc)>LU 1933 K7AD>K2ZD(eme) 20-2100 V44KAI>KE4WBO 48.3(CE)>LU  
C6AFP>KE4WBO 21-2200 LU4EFC>CE3RR

Oct 26 00-0100 KP4A>PY5HOT,PU5AAD,PY5EW,PY4AQA V44KAI>PY5EW KP4TG>PY5EW  
01-0200 NP4A>PY4AQA,PT9PA 1005 ON4IQ>K2ZD(eme -18db) 11-1200 W5,W9>W4 1243  
W4>W4(tr) 1340 W4>W4(tr) 19-2000 47.9(CE)>LU 1959 47.9(CE)>LU 2025 48.3(CE)>LU 2142  
48.2(CE)>LU

Oct 27 0202 K4MHZ>W4(Es/MS) 1252 W4>W3(ms/jt) 1345 K8PLF>W4(Es/ms) 1655 47.9(CE)>LU 1716 PR9ZIX>NP4A 2120\_48.2(CE,FG46)>LU 2233 PU8>PV8 23-2400 TI2NA>K1UTI/4 23-2400 PY2>PY2

Oct 28 0255 VE8>W7 0333 VE7>W7(sc)

Oct 29 0014 V44KAI>PP5XX 0105 V44KAI>PY3KN 0251 VE2>W3 2752 47.9(CE,FF46)>LU 2006 KD4AOZ>W5(Es) 22-2300 W4>W5

Oct 30 0210 VE8>W7 1409 W1>W1 1507 W6>W6 1854 VA2ZFN>VE3 23-2400 V44KAI>PP5XX

Oct 31 00-0100 PY2>PY2 23-1400 VE3>VE2 VE2>VE5 NP4A>PY3KN,PY2EX,PP5AR, PY5HOT,PY2MTV,PY3FF,PU5AAD,PR8ZX WP4AZT>PY2MTV,PP5AR

## **Asia and the Pacific**

To judge from the reports to hand there was an occasional path from Australia to Japan, but not in the opposite direction! Overall, a very quiet month north of the Equator.

### **Japan**

Oct 2 1152 VK8MS>JA3 1210 VK8MS>JA3

Oct 3 0521 YF1OO>9M6XRO

Oct 7 0300 55250(DU)>HS0

Oct 9 0140 VK3BYE>JA1

Oct 22 03-0400 452396(ZL)>JA1 07-0800 VR2SIX>JA6

Oct 29 1000 48251(9M)>VK3

### **Australia/New Zealand**

The listing below excludes reports of TV signals on frequencies below 50MHz from within the VK/ZL area but includes signals above 45MHz from further afield.

The most notable call in the listing is of course VK9DWX. Very much DX in the sense of rarity, but less so in terms of propagation, as Willis lies not all that far off the north coast of Queensland (VK4) – roughly at decent tropo range for VK4ABW, who was the only operator to ‘spot’ the expedition. It is a little curious that none of the other VK4s reported the VK9, but there may have been terrain factors that are not obvious at this distance. Spare a thought, though, for the operator(s) who worked so hard on the 6m operation and were rewarded by just one contact.

Our VK/ZL colleagues report very little about their activities to DX Summit, but it is clear from the notes below that although numbers reporting are not large, they are alert to what opportunities come their way. These tended to increase during the month, with what appeared to be the beginnings of their summer sporadic-E season. No remarkable distances were achieved by way of amateur contacts, though DX tv was resolved over much longer distances, perhaps by tep.

Oct 1 22-2300 VK7,VK1>VK3 2323 VK2>VK1

Oct 2 11-1200 BV2NT,JR6YAG>VK8

Oct 3 0752 FK8SIX>ZL2

Oct 5 VK3RMV>VK3

Oct 6 0015 VK2RHV>VK2 2123 VK3>VK7

Oct 8 2209 VK2RHV>VK2 2342 VK6RSX>VK6(1287km)

Oct 11 0442 55250(PK04)>VK6(5195km) 0444 48239(OJ03)>VK6(4296km)

Oct 12 01-0200 VK8>VK4 02-0300 VK8VF>VK4 49750(PN53)>VK6 0340 49760.5(OO31)>VK5  
07-0800 VK5RBV,FK8SIX>VK4 0854 VK8RAS>VK4 2250 VK2RHV,VK8RAS>VK4 23-2400  
VK2RSY>VK4 VK4>VK2

Oct 13 00-0100 VK4>VK5 VK2,VK3>VK4 VK8RAS>VK4 06-0700 VK5RBV VK4RTL>VK5 07-  
0800 VK5RBV>VK4 49750(OK59)>VK6(5672km) 08-0900 VK4RTL>VK5  
VK4RGG,VK4RTL>VK3 VK2>VK3(fs) 10-1100 VK5RBV>VK4 11-1200 VK4>VK5 VK4RTL>VK2

Oct 16 2306 **VK9DWX**>VK4ABW

Oct 17 0228 **VK9DWX**>VK4ABW 2108 **VK9WDX**>VK4ABW

Oct 18 0035 **VK9DWX**>VK4ABW 0059 49750(OK59)>VK6 0539 49750.0(OL78)>VK4 0941  
48239.0(9M,OJ03)>VK4 21-2200 VK3,VK2>VK4 22-2300 VK2>VK5 23-2400 VK2>VK3,VK5 23-  
2400 VK3>VK4(sc/ms)

Oct 19 0012 VK3>VK5 0253 49750(OK59)>VK6(5762km) VK6RSX>VK6(1287km) 0535  
FK8SIX>ZL2 0619 VK5RBV>VK3 0959 VK5RBV>VK3 20-2100 VK5RBV>VK3 22-2300  
VK3>VK7 23-2400 VK4RTL>VK2

Oct 20 00-0100 VK5RBV>VK4 49750(OK59)>VK6(5762km) 0132 VK8RAS/B>**VK9DWX** 05-  
0600 VK4>VK5 0605 VK4RTL>VK3 49.7499(R1)>VK3 09-1000 VK4RTL>VK3 VK8RAS>VK5  
10-1100 VK8RAS>VK4 21-2200 VK7RAE>VK5(ms)

Oct 21 1536 P29NI>K6FHA(eme -19dB) 21-2200 VK5RBV,VK7>VK3

Oct 22 1148 VK3>VK4

Oct 25 0254 49750.0(OK59)>VK6(5762km) 0328 VK6RSX>VK6(1287km)

Oct 26 00-0100 VK6RSX>VK6(1287km) 0643 VK8>VK4

Oct 27 0234 VK6RSX>VK6 (1287km) 0536 48239(OJ03)>VK6 08-0900 VK4RTL,VK5>VK5  
0956 57.25(VK5)>VK6 10-1100 VK5RBV>VK6 11-1200 VK6RPH,VK6RBU>VK5 23-2400  
VK1,VK5>VK4

Oct 28 00-0100 VK2>VK4 01-0200 VK4>VK5,VK3,VK1 FK8SIX>VK2 02-0300  
VK5RBV,VK2RHV,VK3>VK4 VK4>VK1 FK8SIX>VK2 VK4RTL>VK3 03-0400 VK4>VK5,VK2

0456 VK4>VK8 VK3>VK4 05-0600 VK4RTL>VK8,VK2 FK8SIX>VK2,VK4 06-0700  
VK4RTL>VK5 0709 FK8SIX>ZL2 2145 FK8SIX>VK2 2257 FK8SIX>ZL2 2355 VK4tv>VK3

Oct 29 0433 VK8RAS>VK6 0548 VK6RSX>VK6 0845 VK5>VK2 09-1000 VK5RBV>VK4  
FK8SIX>VK2,VK5 VK4RTL,VK2RHV>VK5 VK4>VK3 9M8tv(482525)>VK3(5472km) 10-1100  
FK8SIX,VK4>VK5 VK4,VK7RAE.VK2RHV>VK3 VK4>VK7 11-1200 VK4>VK3,VK5  
VK2RHV>VK4 12-1300 VK4RTL>VK3 23-2400 FK8SIX,VK2>VK4

Oct 30 0119 VK6RSX>VK6 0933 VK2RHV>VK4 1035 VK4RTL>VK2

Oct 31 2354 FK8SIX>VK2

## 28MHz

### 28 MHz in the UK

For much of the month not a lot was happening for UK operators – who experienced much leaner times than colleagues in south/central Europe. There were long periods when the band appeared to be empty, punctuated by weekends which as often as not showed that there was perhaps rather more propagation available than many people had thought. As usual we can only know about reported contacts; propagation may actually have been better than presented here. But, at the very least, it was no worse!

And what was reported, while unexciting, was not all that bad. In all, some 49 ‘entities’ feature in UK reports compared with 47 in October 2007. Most were in Europe, by way of sporadic-E, but there were also openings to the Middle East, Africa (North, West and southern) and – on a scattering of early evenings - South America. There was one reported contact with VK (by G3FPQ). However, even the CQ WW contest did not bring any with North America and the Caribbean.

A2, CE, CT2, CT3, C X, D4, DL, E7, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, ER, F, HB0, I, IS0, IT9, LA, LU, OD, OE, OH, OK, OZ, PA, PY, SM, SP, SV8, UA, UA9, UR, V5, VK, VK9, VP8, ZB, ZC4, ZS, 3V, 5B, 5U, 4X, 6V, 6W, 7X, 9A, 9L

The table of European beacons reported heard in the UK, below, presents some interesting contrasts with October 2007. (Note that it lists the *number* of days for each 3-hour UTC period for which reception was reported in the UK, rather than the *percentage* of days employed in some earlier tabulations.) In all, 32 beacons are included, compared with only 10 in October 2007. This partly reflects the arrival of several new beacons, notably in Italy (but I8EMG was silent key and OE3XLB was down for maintenance). The good showing of several Italian beacons is interesting, as they are understood to be running QRPP (though one of them is thought to have used a 3-element beam towards the UK for a time). However, a number of the 28322 group of Italian beacons were not reported at all. Nor were the S5, HA, YR, 9H, OH9 beacons or DF0ANN, though they appear to have been within one-hop range.

The most reliable beacon was, not for the first time, DK0TEN, which outshone DL0IGI despite the latter's higher power and good location. IY4M (which is on 28MHz only 50% of the time) and EA4Q, which are also among the more regularly heard, lie close to an optimal range for many UK operators.

	06	09	12	15	18	21	Days		06	09	12	15	18	21	Days
C3OP		2	1	1			4	IN3KLQ		2	1	1			4
CS5BTEN		2	1		2		3	IW3FZQ	1	6	5	2	2		14
DB0UM		2	1	2	2		4	IW3SGT		4					4
DK0TEN	8	9	3	2	2	2	18	IZ3LCJ		5	1	1	1		8
DL0IGI	3	8	3	2	2		12	IY4M		6	3	1	1		11
DM0AAB	3	1		2	1		6	IQ5MR		3	3	1			5
EA3TEN			3	1			4	IT9YAF		1					1
EA4Q	1	6	4	3	2	1	13	IW9FRA		1					1
F5ZUU		1		1			2	LA4TEN	6	3				1	8
F5ZWE		3	1			2	5	LA5TEN		4	1			1	4
I1DFS		1					1	OH2B	1		2			1	3
I1M		4	1				5	OK0EG		7	4				8
I1YRB		1					1	SK0CT	2	4	3			2	5
I3GNQ		3	1	1			5	SK5AE	1	2	2			1	4

Addenda: accidental omissions from the table above

	06	09	12	15	18	21	Days		06	09	12	15	18	21	Days
DM0ING	1	1	2				3	SM5HUA	1	2	2			1	3
IK0FTA		1					1	5B4CY		1	1				2

A few relatively brief openings from the two beacons in southern Africa. ZS6DN may have been of the air on some days. At a guess – and it can only be a guess – these openings may have arisen from a combination of tep and Es.

	06	09	12	15	18	21	Days		06	09	12	15	18	21	Days
Z21ANB			2	2			3	ZS6DN		1	1		1		3

LU4AA returned after a substantial absence. YV5B heard in 2007 but not this year. LU5FB a newish beacon. All openings were between 16 and 1700UTC.

	06	09	12	15	18	21	Days		06	09	12	15	18	21	Days
LU1FHH				2			2	LU4AA				3			3
LU3DBJ				1			1	LU5FB				2			2

At the continental level the picture looks brighter – though, as within Britain, no two places experience identical opportunities. Working within Europe, whether by Es, backscatter or ms (especially during the Orionids) was reported every day, and indeed showed high reliability during the morning, noon and afternoon periods. Africa was reported on every day except the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and South America on no fewer than 24 days.

The Willis Island DXpedition was of course the major event of the month. In all, 4642 contacts were logged on 28MHz. There were none with Africa, 4 with South America, 53 with Oceania, 116 with North America, 900 with Europe (of which the UK had 17) and

3569 with Asia. It is striking that, subject to correction, not one of the 17 VK9<>UK contacts made an appearance on DX Summit. It would be interesting to know why. On the other hand, VK9DWX almost certainly led more operators to point their beams in that direction, and this was probably one reason why there were EU<>Oceania reports on 13 days – a result not much below October 2005, when sunspots were somewhat more plentiful...

In both Europe and North America latitude was a major factor. Scandinavia had a very lean month, while UK experience was perceptibly less substantial as in the Mediterranean countries. As was, broadly, to be expected. In North America reporters in (say) New York state tended to have a succession of 'nil' days, while those in the deep south were more successful. Overall, contacts within North America and the Caribbean are known to have occurred every day except the 9<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. However, the reliable direction was south, with contacts reported every day. Local afternoons had a 100% reliability – for the continent, of course, rather than any given location – with tep a major factor. Perhaps less expected were the number of days when Oceania was worked from North America. The most important factor here was of course the Willis Island expedition, with many operators trying for 'a new one' – and many succeeding. Without that, it is doubtful whether openings would have been reported on no fewer than 13 days. Much the same could be said of Asia<>Oceania working, which proved possible on at least 23 days. There seem to have been very few openings between Asia and North America, always among the more difficult, but the month saw the return of openings between South America (evenings) and Japan on eight days.

## 28 MHz Worldwide October 2008

	OC				AS				EU				AF				NA				SA			
	M	N	A	E	M	N	A	E	M	N	A	E	M	N	A	E	M	N	A	E	M	N	A	E
OC	35	35	19	13	23	48	45	39	00	00	10	35	00	00	00	03	23	26	00	00	13	16	06	03
AS	52	61	39	00	26	32	29	10	03	51	23	10	00	03	13	10	00	00	00	03	29	00	03	06
EU	35	06	00	00	29	13	10	00	97	++	87	65	32	90	55	29	03	03	10	10	00	10	35	77
AF	00	03	00	00	03	10	16	00	23	74	77	39	00	06	06	19	00	03	00	16	00	00	23	55
NA	00	00	26	23	03	00	00	00	06	10	00	00	03	10	03	00	48	45	71	58	16	68	++	61
SA	00	00	06	19	03	06	00	26	10	71	48	00	00	39	48	10	00	35	84	87	16	35	39	48

The table shows the percentage of days when there is known to have been working within or between continents for the morning (before 1130LT, noon (1130-1430), afternoon (1430-1700) and evening (after 1700 periods). ++ indicates 100%,