First 70cm contact between ZS and FR on 10-02-2010 Distance 2655km by Derek ZS5Y

	n son A		1/1.105	10.00	10.105	10.105	Kabwe	NO. IEE	10.105	Ma	igochi	10.105	Macala	11.00	11100	11100 /	11100		11100			LH95
ango a	JH85 o	-terroringes	KHU5	t-trans		KH35	- KI HO	KH00	KH60 V	Line	nde ^o	Nan		LHID	LH20	LHS	LH40	LHoo	LH65	LH75	LH85	LH95
JH74	JH84	JH94	KH04	KH14	KH24	KH34	Karue ⁴⁴	\ KH54	KH64	KHLEflant	re KI984	KH94	LH04	LH14	LH24	Mahajanga		LH54	LH64	LH74	LH84	LH94
JH73	JH83	JH93	KH03	КН13	KH23	KHEhom	va le Kariba	KH53	KH63	KH72	nje KH83	_M858Ba	LH03	LH13	LH23	LH33	1142	11452	go LH63	LH73	LH83	LH93
JH72 _8	Oshikango	JH92	KH02	KH12	Katima Mu	ilo Livingstone	KH42	KH54 _{arai}	KH62	KH72	KH82	ane KH92	LH02	LH12	LH22	LH32	O LIMEZ	LMUZ	LH62	LH72	LH82	LH92
JH71	JH81	JH91	KH01	KHII	KH21	-Hwange KH31	KH41	KH61	KH61	KH71	KH81	KH91	LH01	LHII	LH21	LH31_Ar	11111	LH51	LH61	LH71	LH81	LH91
JH70	JH80 °	Gropt(entei	KH00	KH10	KH20	KH30	KH40 •	3wery KH50	KH60		KH80	KH90	LH00	LH10	LH20	Farats LPR30 Antsi	ho .	LH50	LH60	LH70	LH80	LH90
JG79	as Otiivaro	ngo JG99	KG09	KG19	KG29			KG59	KG69	KG79	KG89	KG99	LG09	LG19	LG29	LG39			LG69	LG79 Sa	°Bi	riere des Ang LG99
JG78	Omaruru JG88	_ JG98	KG08_G	handi(G18	KG28	KI338	N.G46	KG58	KG68	KG78	KG88	KG98	LG08	LG18	LG28	LG@Fiana	rantsoa LG48	LG58	LG68			LG98
Systopp	Okaha nund ica Vind	hoek Gobal			VG97			VGET	VG67	VG77	VG97	V/G97	1 007	LGIZ	1 627	1.027	Manakara 1047	1.053	1007	1077	1 (207	LG97
N	DAK.	both								\rightarrow				LT	oliary	-	LOT	1000				LG96
	JU86					-	o Pile			Ma	atte					LG36						
VG75	JG85	Macjeraul	KG05	KG15	Ka	rye	KG45			ibutpiG76 ai-Xai	KG85	KG95	LG05	LGI5		-Ambovomb		LG55	LG65	LG75	LG85	LG95
JG74	JG84	JG94	KG04	KG14 Tshabong	L KG24 ***	mabatho	Prefidirla Johannesbur	KUR64	Maputo	KG74	KG84	KG94	LG04	IR"	LG24	LG34	LG44	LG54	LG64	LG74	LG84	LG94
JGZŁued	witzJG83	o ^{Keggggnshi}	op KG03	KG13	KG23	KG33	Veremining	- Olvida	Big Bend	KG73	KG83	KG93		LG13	LG23	LG33	LG43	LG53	LG63	LG73	LG83	LG93
JG72	JG82	JG92	KG02	KG12	KG22	KG32 Welkon	KG42	New/castle	KG62	KG72	KG82	KG92	LG02	LG12	LG22	LG32	LG42	LG52	LG62	LG72	LG82	LG92
JG71	• Gtapjemu	nd JG91	KG01	KGII	Kilinber	ley KG31	Bit Rd Buth	KG51	KG61	Ve	KG81	KG91	LG01	LGII	LG21	LG31	LG41	LG51	LG61	LG71	LG81	LG91
JG70	JG80	JG90	KG00	KG10	KG20	KG36	Thaba-T	ek-kg50	ateU	KG70	KG80	KG90	LG00	LG10	LG20	LG30	LG40	LG50	LG60	LG70	LG80	LG90
JF79	JF89	/NF99	KF09	KF19	KF29	- KF39	KF49	KF59	KF69	KF79	KF89	KF99	LF09	LF19	LF29	LF39	LF49	LF59	LF69	LF79	LF89	LF99
JF78	JF88	JF98	KF08	KF18	KF28	KF38	KF48	KF58	KF68	KF78	KF88	KF98	LF08	LF18	LF28	LF38	LF48	LF58	LF68	LF78	LF88	LF98
JF77	JF87	JF97	KF07	KF17	KF27	KF37	East London	KF57	KF67	KF77	KF87	KF97	LF07	LF17	LF27	LF37	LF47	LF57	LF67	LF77	LF87	LF97
JF76	JF86	Cape Tov	KF06	KF16 George	KF26	KESS	KF46	KF56	KIF66	KF76	KF86	KF96	LF06	LF16	LF26	LF36	LF46	LF56	LF66	LF76	LF86	LF96
JF75	JF85	JF85	KF05	KF15	KF25	KF35	KF45	KF55	KF65	KF75	KF85	KF95	LF05	LF15	LF25	LF35	LF45	LF55	LF65	LF75	LF85	LF95
JF74	JF84	JF94	KF04	KF14	KF24	KF34	KF44	KF54	KF64	KF74	KF84	KF94	LF04	LF14	LF24	LF34	LF44	LF54	LF64	LF74	LF84	LF94
	UH774 UH773 UH773 UH772 UH770 UH770 UH770 UH770 UH770 UH770 UH770 UH770 UH777 UH776 UH776 UH776	##74 J#684 ##73 Oxford J#694 ##75 Oxford J#695 ##77 Uffer J#695 ##775 Uffer J#695 ##775 Uffer J#695 ##775 Uffer J#695 ##775 Uffer J#695	1874	H-74	H-74	19-24	### J#86 J#86 J#86 12-64 1	### J#86	## 1964 3-64 12-64	### J-864 J-	## J-84	### J-644	A-FT	### J-604	### J-644	## 1964	## 1964	## JUSS 1989	## Joseph Joseph	## 1961 1961 1962 1964 1964 1964 1964 1964 1964 1964 1964 1965		1.00

Firstly I live on the east coast of South Africa, about 50km South of Durban in a small town by the name of Scottburgh in grid KF59JR.

During some past test between myself and FR5DN when the Hepburn index showed good forecasts we have tried on 70cm, and the result was always the same. Not even a peep form Phil over the path of 2655km.

Using the Hepburn index things started again on the 9th of February 2010 when Phil worked Glen ZS2GK on 2m using JT65B, there after Andre ZS2ACP worked Phil for a new 144MHz SARL distance record of 3205km also using JT65B

As soon as I saw Phil stating to CQ again I called him on 144.401 and he came back to my call immediately and we completed a digital QSO without hiccups.

I then called Phil using SSB and again we had an easy QSO! Phil then worked ZS5LEE on digital and SSB and ZS5DJ on digital.

During e-mail exchange between myself and Phil I suggested he tries to get one of his 8 yagis than broke when his tower came down back to working condition. Phil said he will do so the next day when he returns from work.

I continued to monitor the beacon on Reunion throughout the night and next day with good decodes.

On my way home on the 11th of February I received a message from Phil saying he is up and running on 70cm calling CQ on 432.200 JT65B with a 21 ele yagi and no Pre amp, but using low loss coax.

Phil's 2m beacon was still booming through on my side with constant decodes when I arrived home.

I switched to 70cm and continued to monitor 70cm.

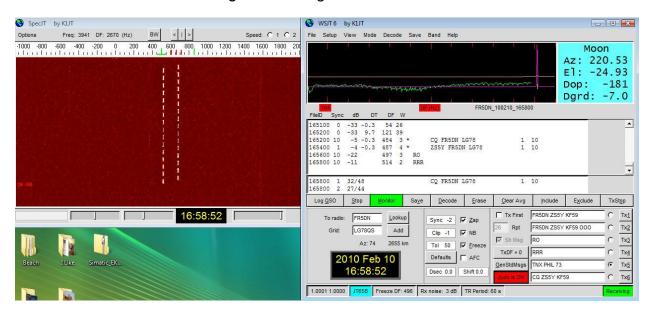
At 17:48 SAST Phil was called to dinner but he left the 70cm beacon running with 50W out.

At 18:18 SAST Phil announced he is back in the shack and turned up the power to 300w.

At 18:48 I hear someone testing on 432.200 SSB, I thought its one of the locals as the signal was so strong. I mailed Phil and he replied "That's me"

I relied to Phil's by now very strong signal -4 and -5 and we completed without a hiccup on 70cm using JT65B.

Phil mailed me and said "strong!! after we go SSB"



Phil called on SSB and after some tuning found his SSB signal, it had lots of QSB but wasn't to fast. He came up to a 5/5 and he gave me a 4/1 I was running a pre-amp and 4x12 ele yagi array and 60W Phil had 21 ele yagi and 300W for digital and 150W for SSB, but no pre-amp.

We tried a while longer on SSB but signals faded rapidly into the noise floor. Phil went back to calling in JT65B trying to work Glen ZS2GK and Andre ZS2ACP, but seems the conditions dropped away completely, even on 2m. The rest of the night didn't produce any more signals on 2m or 70cm.

Comment from ZS5Y

"During the QSO I was trembling with excitement! Couldn't keep my hands stil...hahahaha"

Comment from FR5DN

"I cried YIIIIPPPIIIII!!

My wife was wondering what was happening hi...

We LOVE that kind of adrenalin!"

Thanks to Phil for his passion for VHF and his determination to studying the Tropo path between ZS and FR, It has paid off and im sure many more QSO's will follow.

73's

Derek Gravett ZS5Y