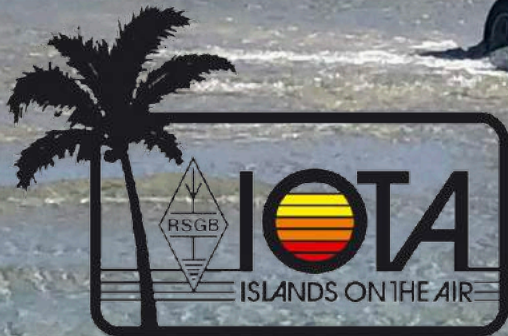


TROUBRIDGE ISLAND

7TH-9TH FEBRUARY 2023



BY PAUL VK5PAS

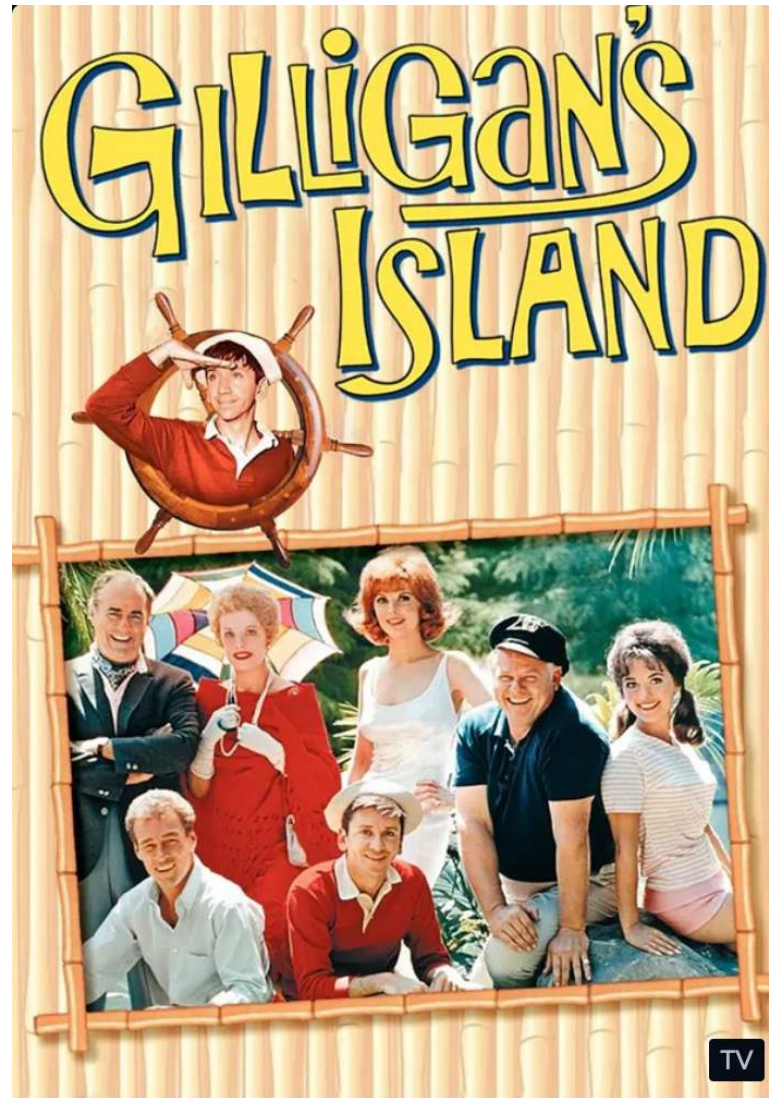


AN IDEA

- had been eyeing off Troubridge Island for a few years
 - 2020 - COVID
- early Sept 2022
 - reviewed the idea
 - phone calls & emails
- cohesive group
- not an overly serious Dxpedition
- relatively cheap & accessible
- desired by IOTA (OC-139), WWFF (VKFF-1108) & VK5 Parks Award (5CP-243)
- also a lighthouse (AU-0131 & AU-164)



AN IDEA





THE TEAM

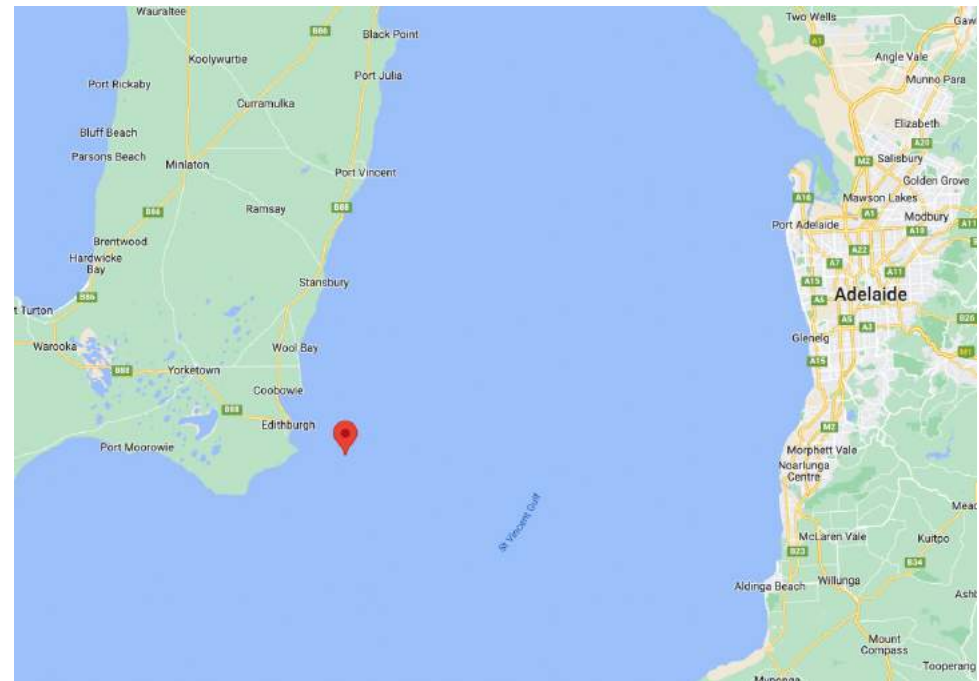
- Marija VK5MAZ
- Adam VK2YK
- Andy VK5LA
- Chris VK5FR
- Ivan VK5HS
- Paul VK5PAS

LEARNER PLATES

- first trip away together
- not serious DXpeditioners
- each had our own expertise & interests e.g. working pileup, CW, FT8, ragchewing



WHERE IS TROUBRIDGE ISLAND?



- SW corner of Gulf St Vincent
- 8 km offshore Edithburgh
- 80 km southwest Adelaide CBD

ABOUT THE ISLAND

- part of the Troubridge Shoals
- 800 m long
- 440 m wide
- once connected to the mainland – 17,000 years ago
- Troubridge Island Conservation Park
- 260 hectares
- Island – 2 hectares



ABOUT THE ISLAND



ABOUT THE ISLAND

- Narungga aboriginal people
 - traditional association
- Captain Matthew Flinders
 - named the island 24th March 1802
 - after Admiral Sir Thomas Troubridge (Royal Navy officer)
- also named nearby Troubridge Hill & Troubridge Point



ABOUT THE ISLAND

- Numerous shipwrecks
 - 33 crews early 1800s
- 1851
 - 'utmost importance of a lighthouse'
- 1855 lighthouse constructed
 - 10 cylindrical cast iron segments from Britain
 - bolted together on site
 - 24 m high
 - 340 tons
 - 1 of only 2 of its type in Australia



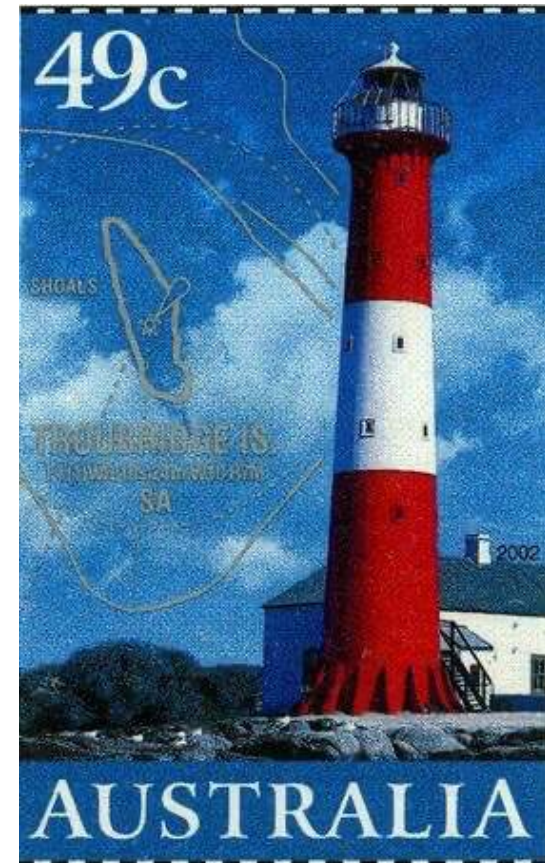
ABOUT THE ISLAND

- 1867
 - 2 lighthouse keepers, wives & child drowned
- 1899
 - 2 lighthouse keepers almost drowned enroute from Edithburgh
- 1902
 - Magnitude 6 earthquake, resulting in fire
 - Destroyed the lantern room



ABOUT THE ISLAND

- 1980
 - light automated
 - Dept of Transport sold the island to Environment Dept for \$40,000
 - Troubridge Hill took over as the main navigational aid
- 2001 – lighthouse decommissioned
- 2002 – light extinguished
 - that same year the lighthouse was honoured by a postage stamp



ABOUT THE ISLAND



- Important Bird Area
- 60 native bird species
 - 21 conservation significance
 - 22 migratory
- 1% worlds population of Black faced Cormorants (4,000) & Silver Gulls (10,00 breeding pairs)



About the Island



- Sea Lions

WWFF, IOTA, VK5 PARKS



- World Wide Flora Fauna (WWFF)
- Islands On The Air (IOTA)
- VK5 National & Conservation Parks Award

PROMOTION

- announced the trip
 - Groups.io – WWFF, IOTA
 - Facebook
- Charles MOOXO Facebook page & website
- lots of interest



PLANNING

- liaison with Islands On The Air Management Committee (Cezar VE3LYC)
 - Troubridge Island not in the IOTA Directory
- operation approved



PLANNING

- what callsign will we use?
- applying for callsign
- equipment to take
 - antennas, tx, band pass filters, connectors
- where do we operate from?
 - floorplans of the cottages, aerial view of the island
- what bands and modes will we operate on?
 - requests for CW
 - requests by USA amateurs re bandplan



PLANNING

- weight limit
 - 700 kg
- what is provided on the island e.g. linen, pillows
- what power do we use
- QSL Manager
- eQSL & LOTW accounts
- food/alcohol & shopping
- logging
- QRZ.com page
- website
- Facebook page

PLANNING

- Skype meetings
 - Sept 2022 & Jan 2023
- phone calls
- emails



COST

- about \$3,000.00
 - 3 nights accommodation & boat trip to and from the island
 - \$429 per person
- plus food



HOW DID WE GET THERE?

- Troubridge Island Escape & Yorke Peninsula Fishing Charter
- Mark & Lois
- <https://www.troubridgeislandescapeandcharters.au/>



GETTING ONTO THE ISLAND

- drove to Wool Bay
- loaded the boat
- drove to Edithburgh
- 15m boat trip



ARRIVING ON THE ISLAND



ARRIVING ON THE ISLAND



ONE OF OUR FIRST JOBS



OUR ACCOMODATION



- 3 nights
- old lighthouse keeper's cottage
 - 3 bedrooms
 - Lounge
 - Kitchen
 - bathroom



SETTING UP THE EQUIPMENT



SETTING UP THE EQUIPMENT

- 4 separate operating stations
 - in the rear room of main cottage
 - on the verandah of main cottage
 - in the loungeroom of main cottage
 - in a room in 2nd cottage



OUR 'SHACKS'



OUR 'SHACKS'





linked dipole

30m vertical

end fed

2 el beam

- End fed & 30m vertical



2 element beam



30m vertical



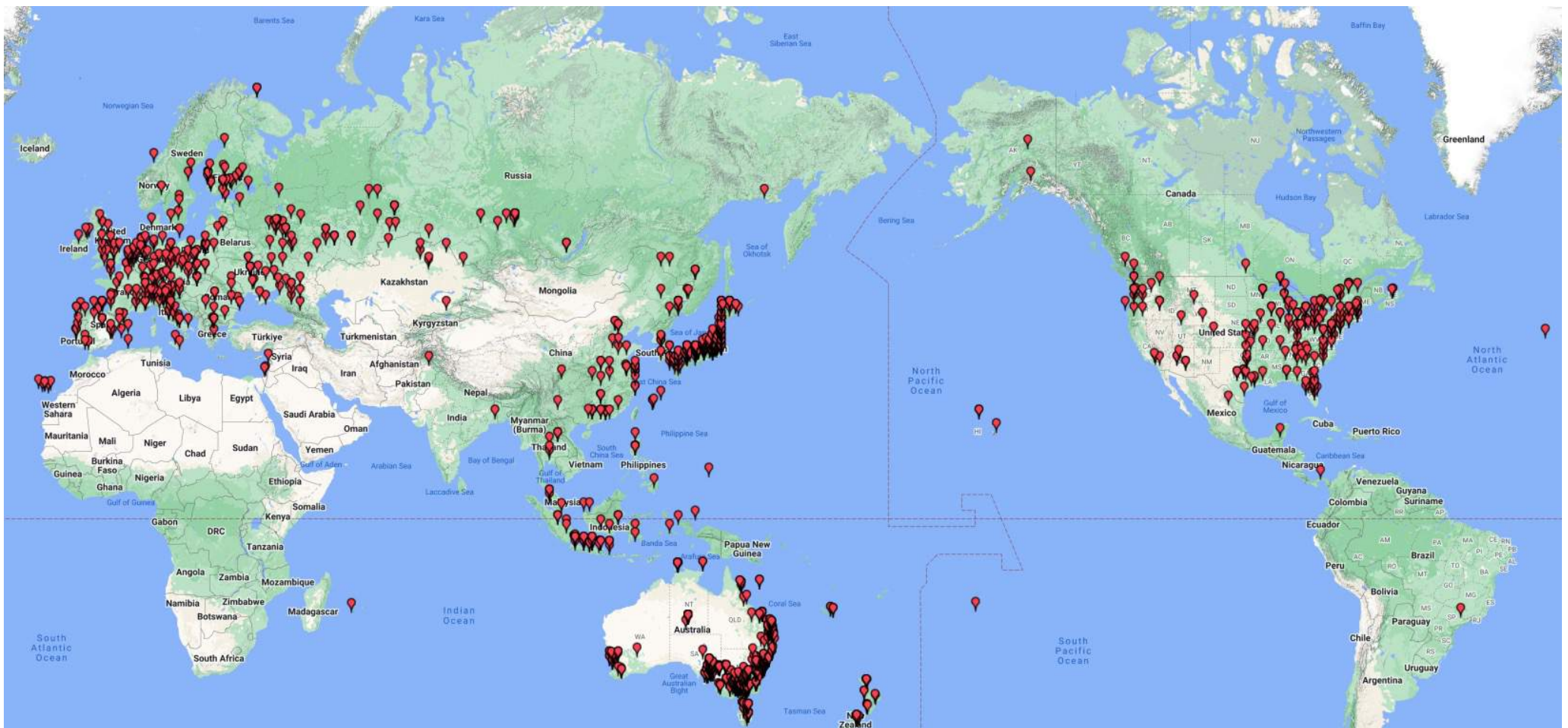
20/40/80m Linked dipole



Power supplies

- Codan model 3020

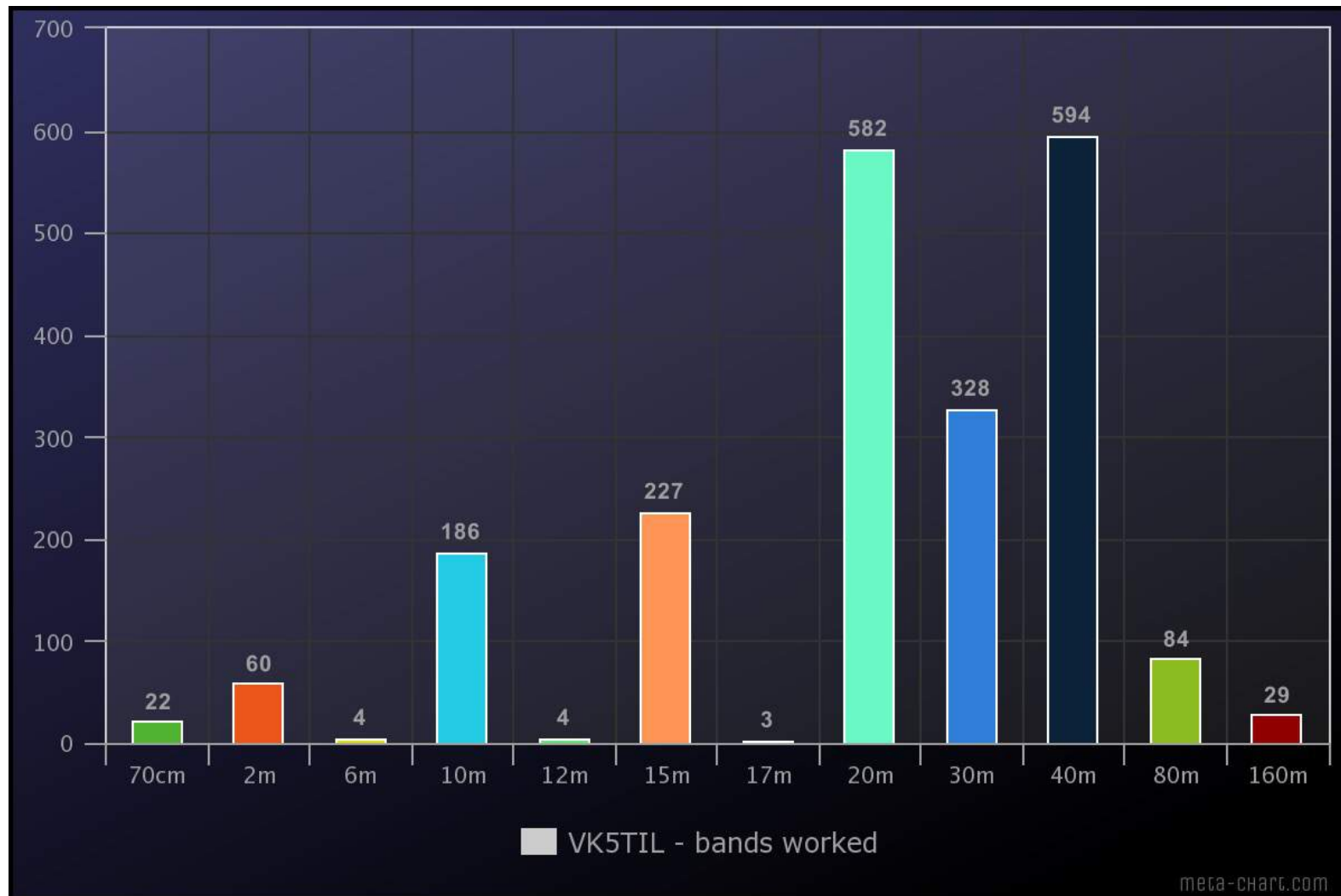




HOW MANY QSOS DID WE MAKE?

- First QSO – Peter VK3PF
- Last QSO – Ted VK6NTE
- 2,123 QSOS
- 65 different DXCC entities

Bands worked



Our first QSO

- Made by Marija VK5MAZ
 - 40m SSB
 - Peter VK3PF
 - followed by Jim VK1RF
 - then Bill VK4FW (Park to Park contact)



Our first QSO

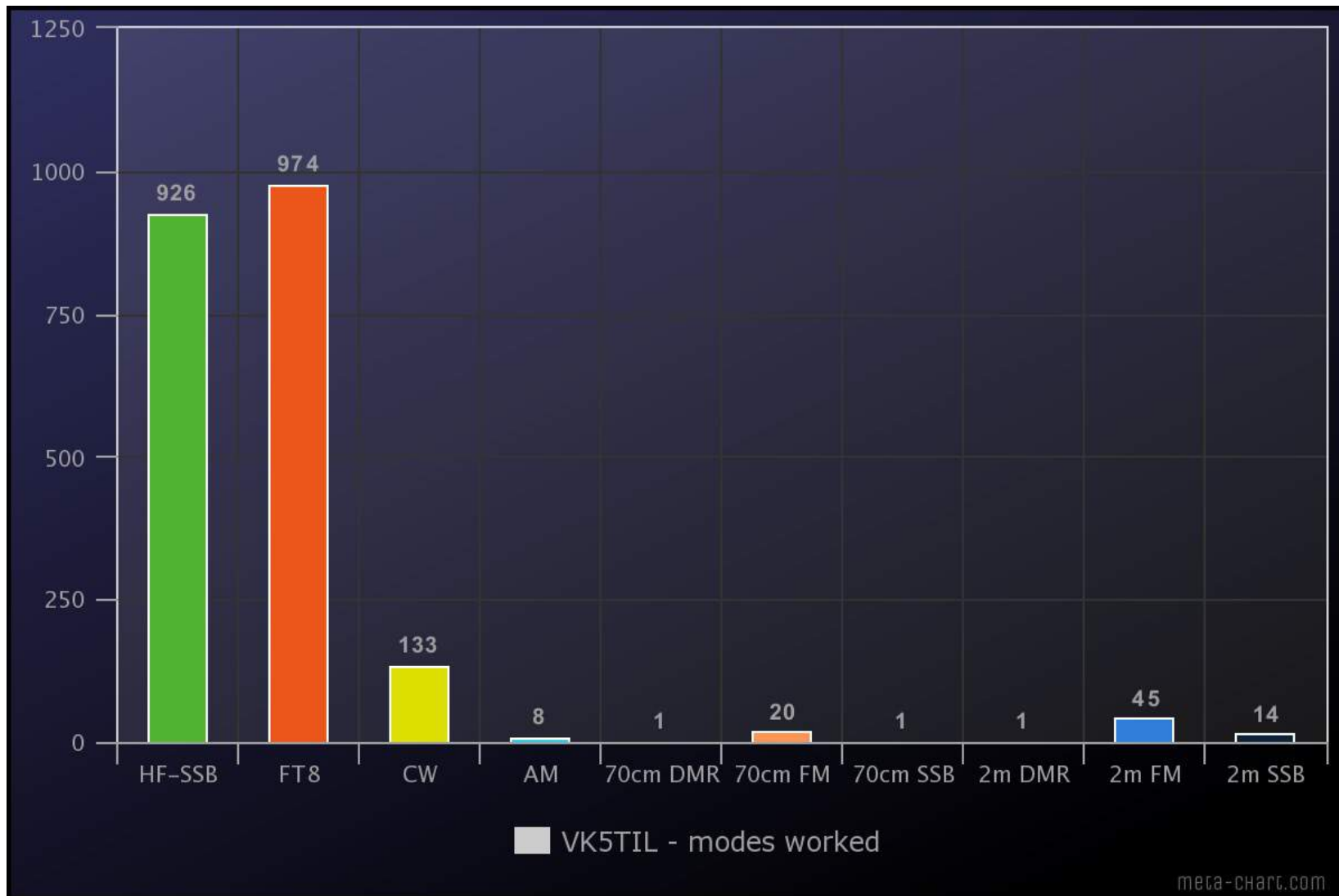


We are under water

- first night - awoken by large bang
- wind had blown over 6m yagi
- 30m vertical on its side flapping in the water
- End fed was under water



Modes worked



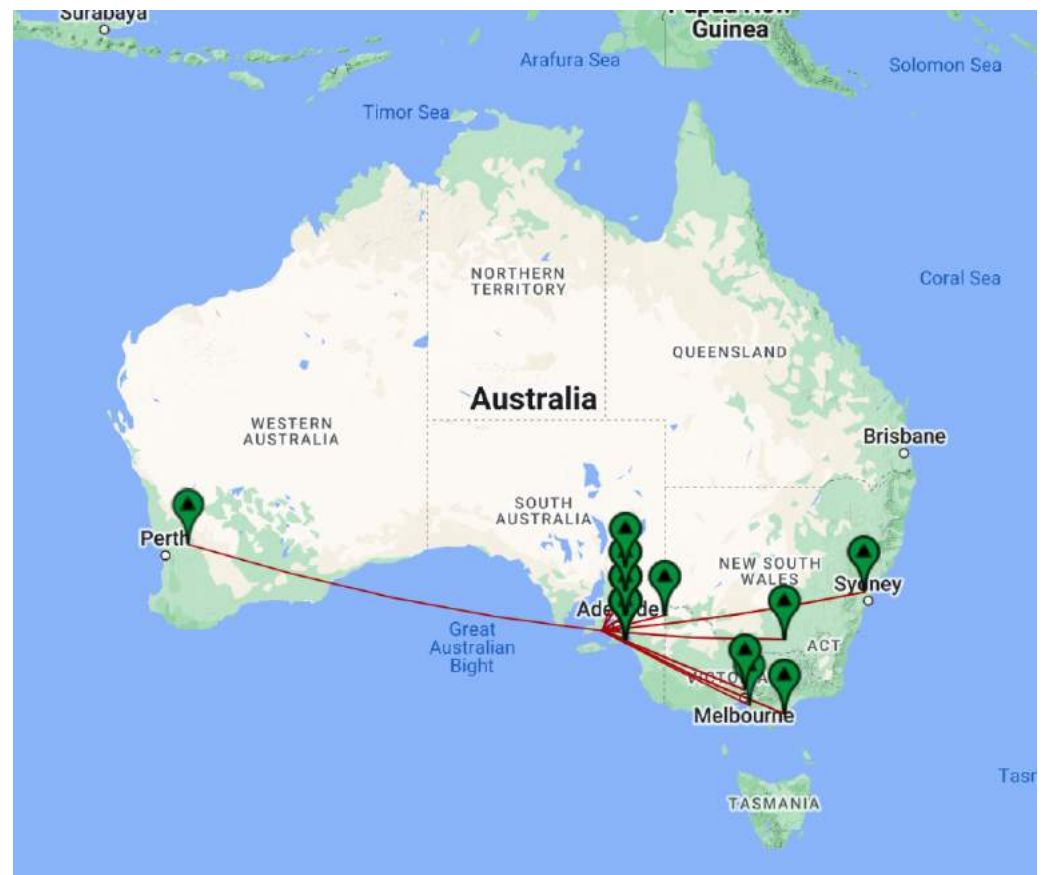
160m



- set up on Wednesday afternoon (day 2)
- home brew (VK5HS) linked dipole – including 160m band
- Legs ran west and southeast along some paths between the scrub

160m

- 29 QSOs
- SSB (23), AM (3), FT8 (3)
 - VK2
 - VK3
 - VK5
 - VK6



160m



80m

- Yaesu FT857
- 100w
- Linked dipole
 - inverted v
 - supported by 7m squid pole
 - tide – part of antenna underwater



80m

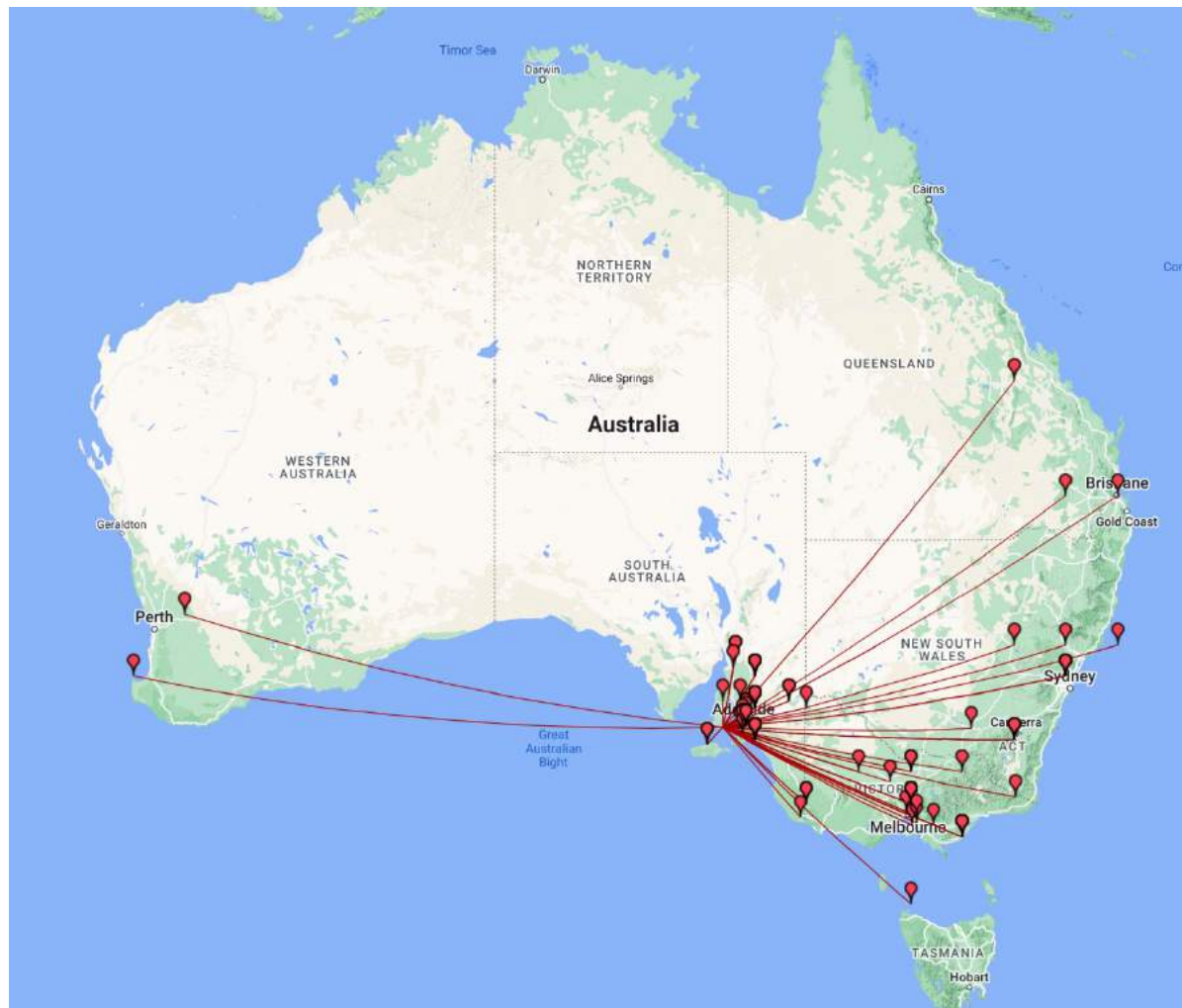
- in the 2nd lighthouse keeper's cottage



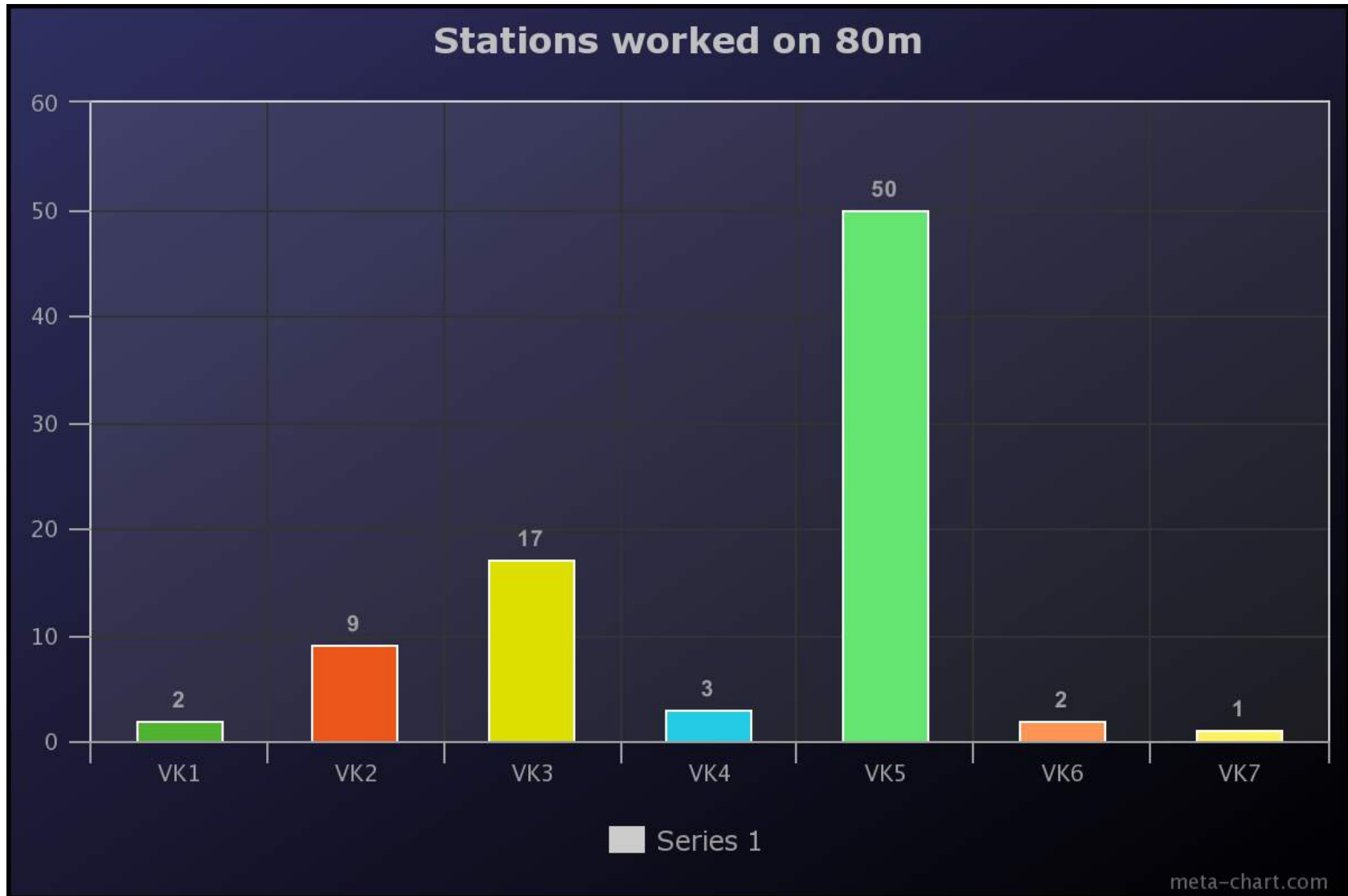
80m

- 84 QSOs (LSB & 1 x AM – VK5BJE)

- VK1
- VK2
- VK3
- VK4
- VK5
- VK6
- VK7



80m



40m

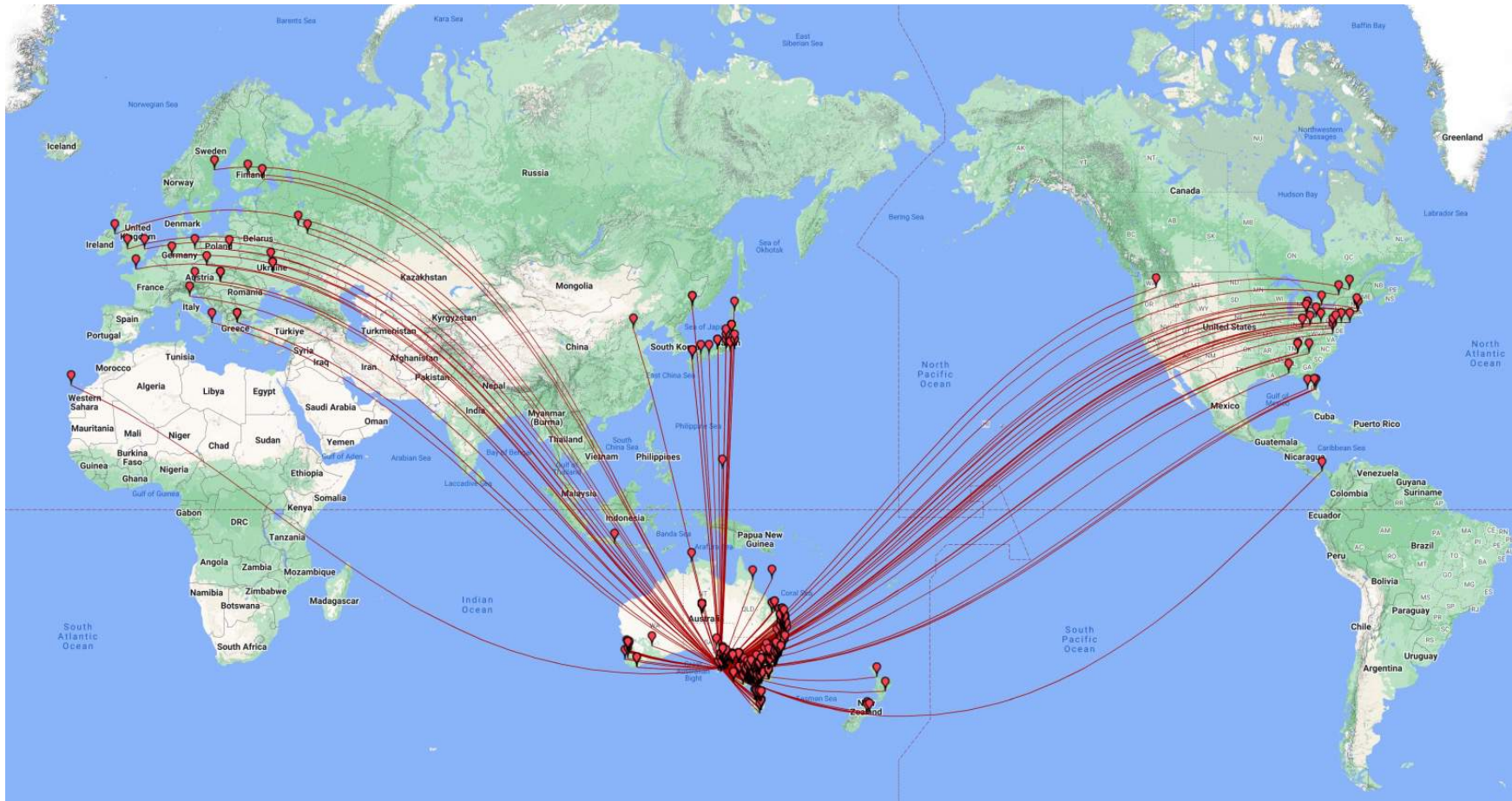
- 593 QSOs
- 25 different DXCC entities
- SSB (419)
- FT8 (61)
- CW (53)
- highlight on 40m SSB –
Sands VK9WX on Willis
Island



40m



40m



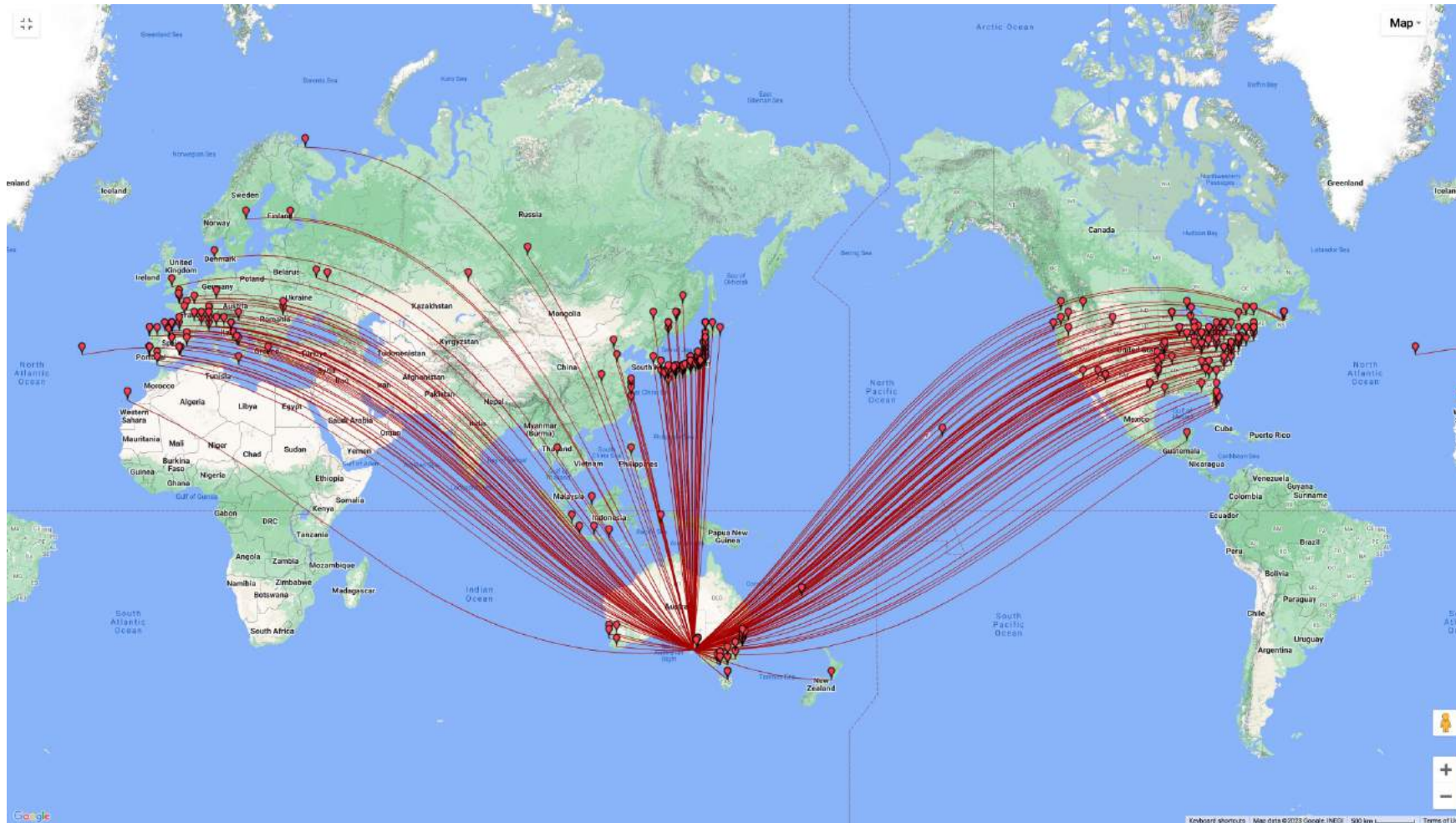


30m

- 328 QSOs
 - all on FT8
- 58 different DXCC entities
- Elecraft KX3 & 30m vertical kindly on loan from Grant VK5GR

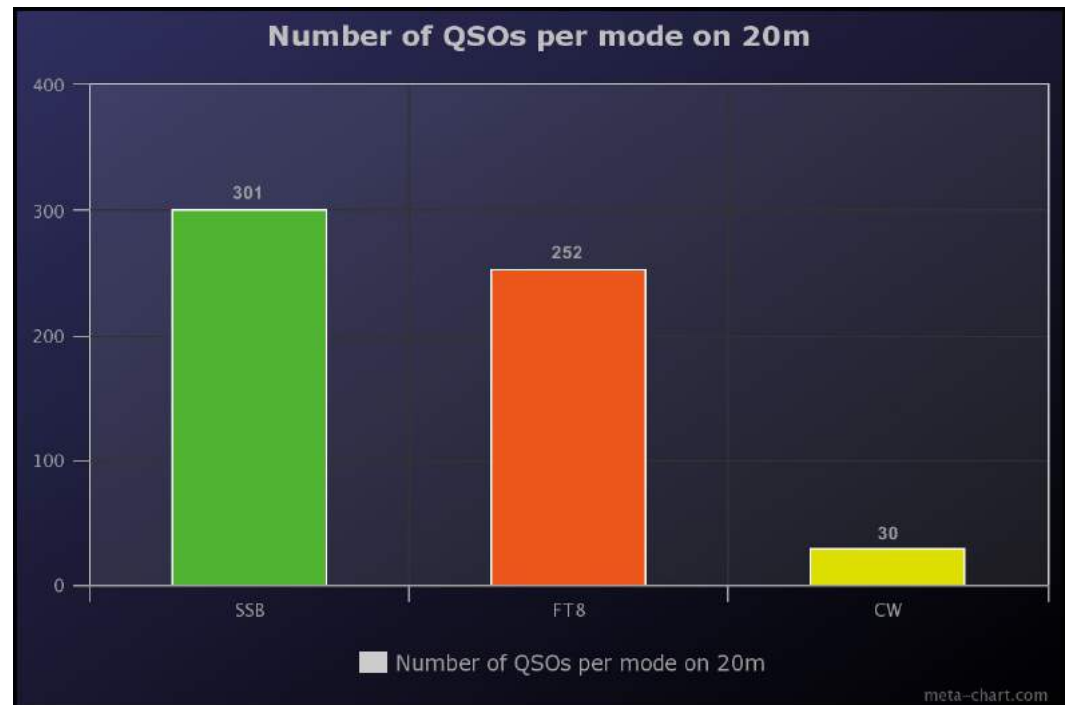


30m

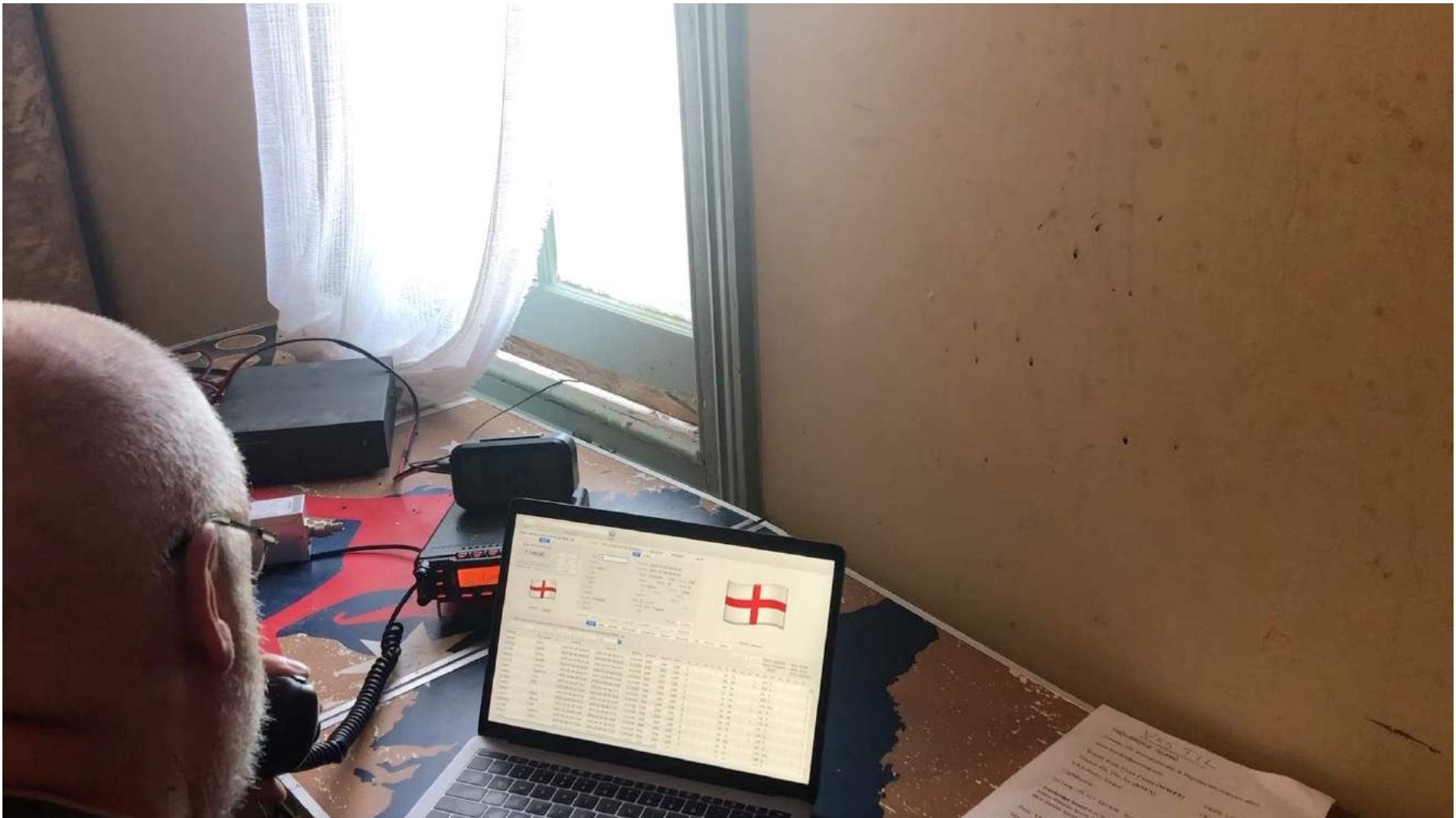


20m

- 583 QSOs
 - 301 (SSB)
 - 252 (FT8)
 - 30 (CW)
- 58 different DXCC
- large pile-ups LP into Europe
- Dave G4AKC bicycle mobile, Steve G4NVF backpack mobile & Dave M0DAD pedestrian mobile
- Sands VK9WX Willis Island



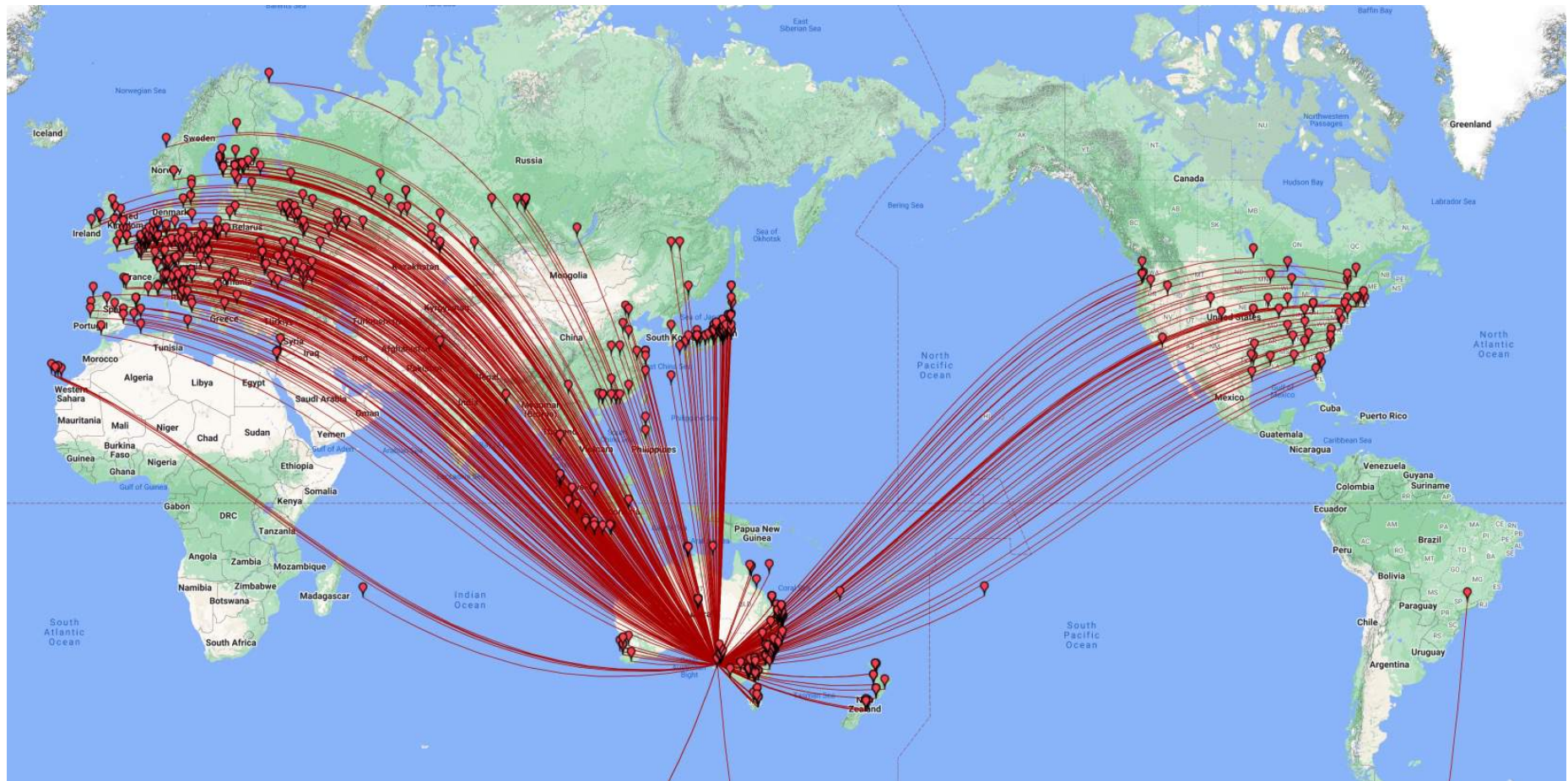
20m



20m



20m



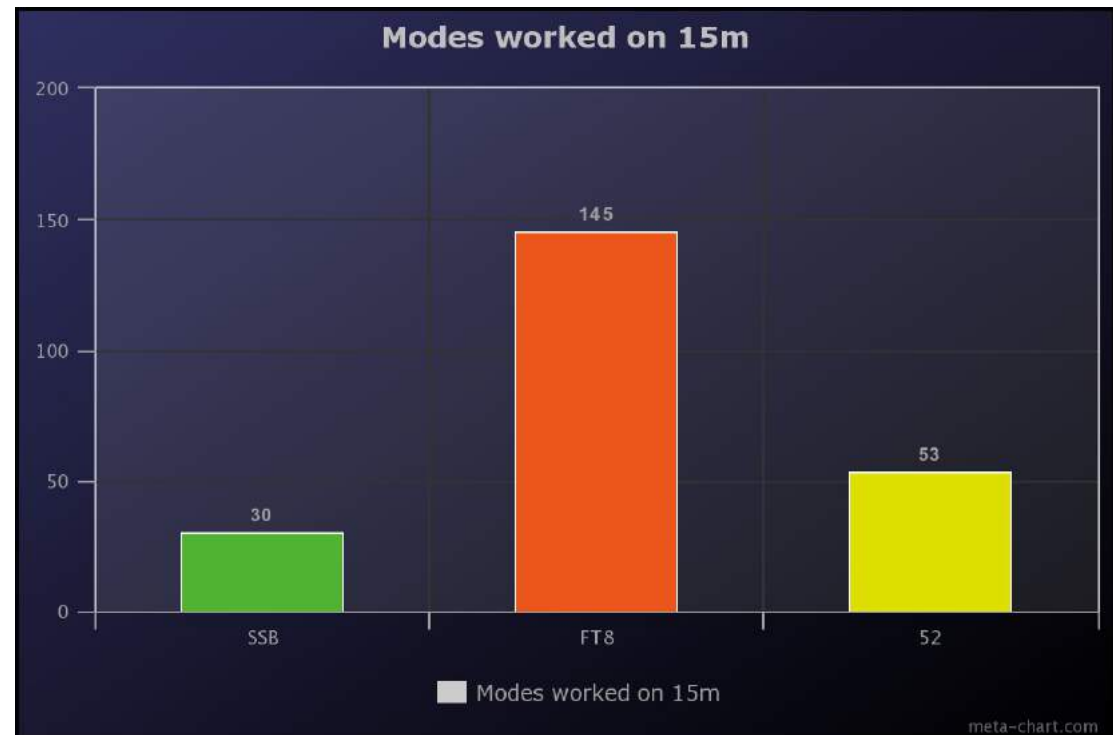
17m

- 3 QSOs
 - 2 SSB
 - 1 FT8

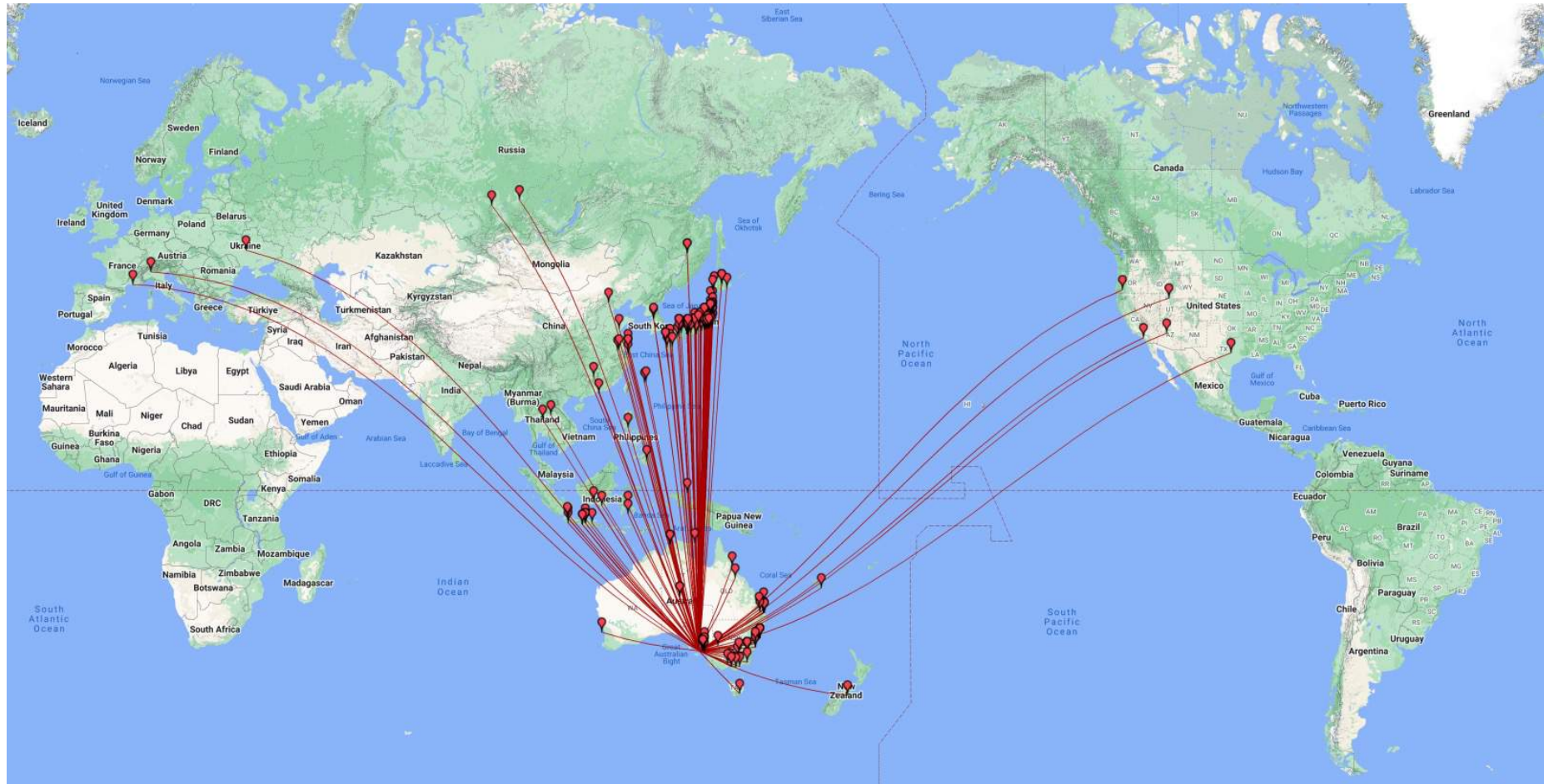


15m

- 227 QSOs
 - 30 (SSB)
 - 145 (FT8)
 - 52 (CW)
- 15 different DXCC entities
- 2 el beam (SSB)
- end fed (CW & FT8)
- surprised by the lack of JA on SSB



15m

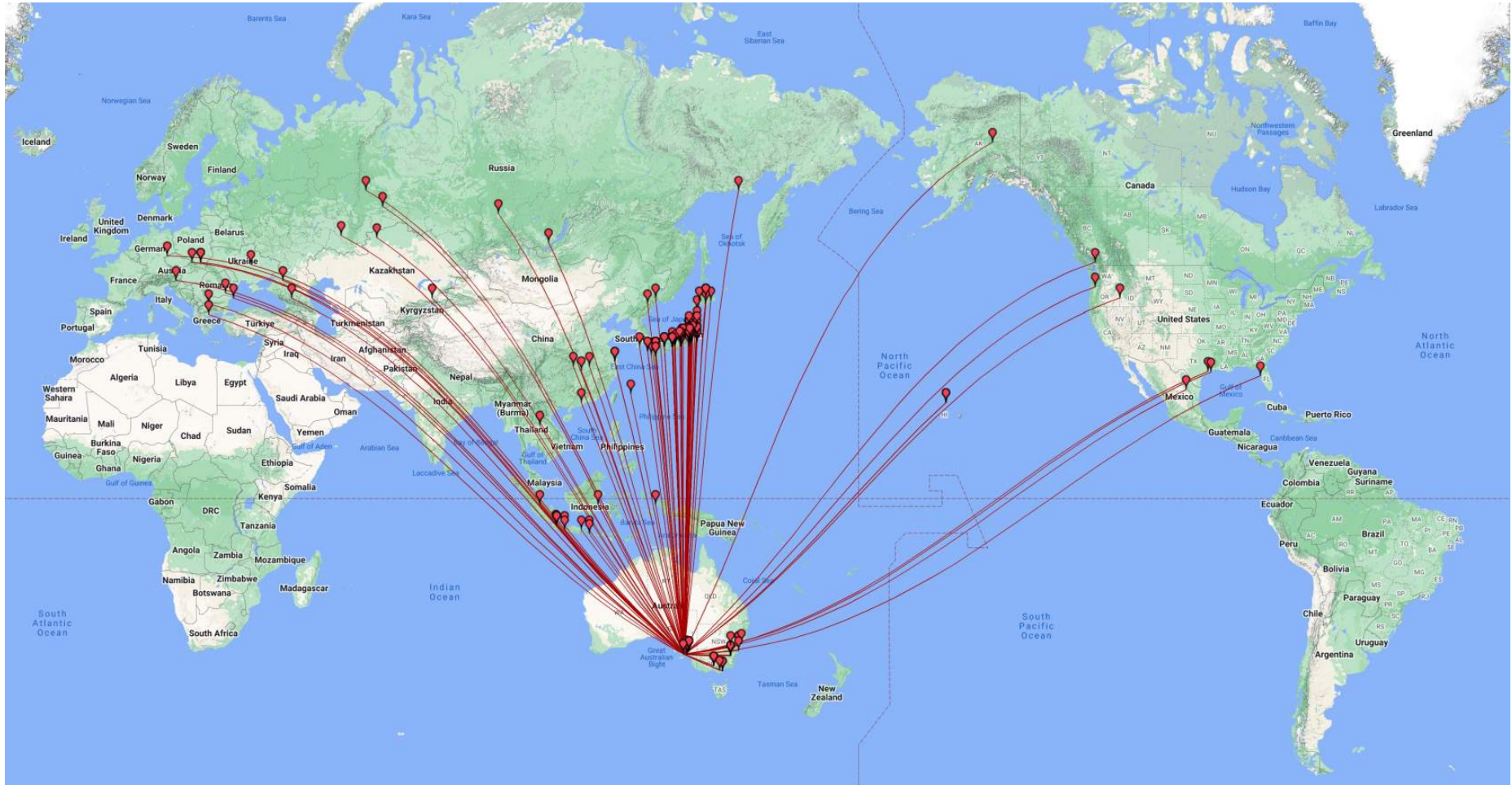


10m

- 179 QSOs
 - 180 FT8
 - 3 SSB
 - 2 CW
 - 1 FM
- 22 different DXCC entities
- thought we would work more on SSB

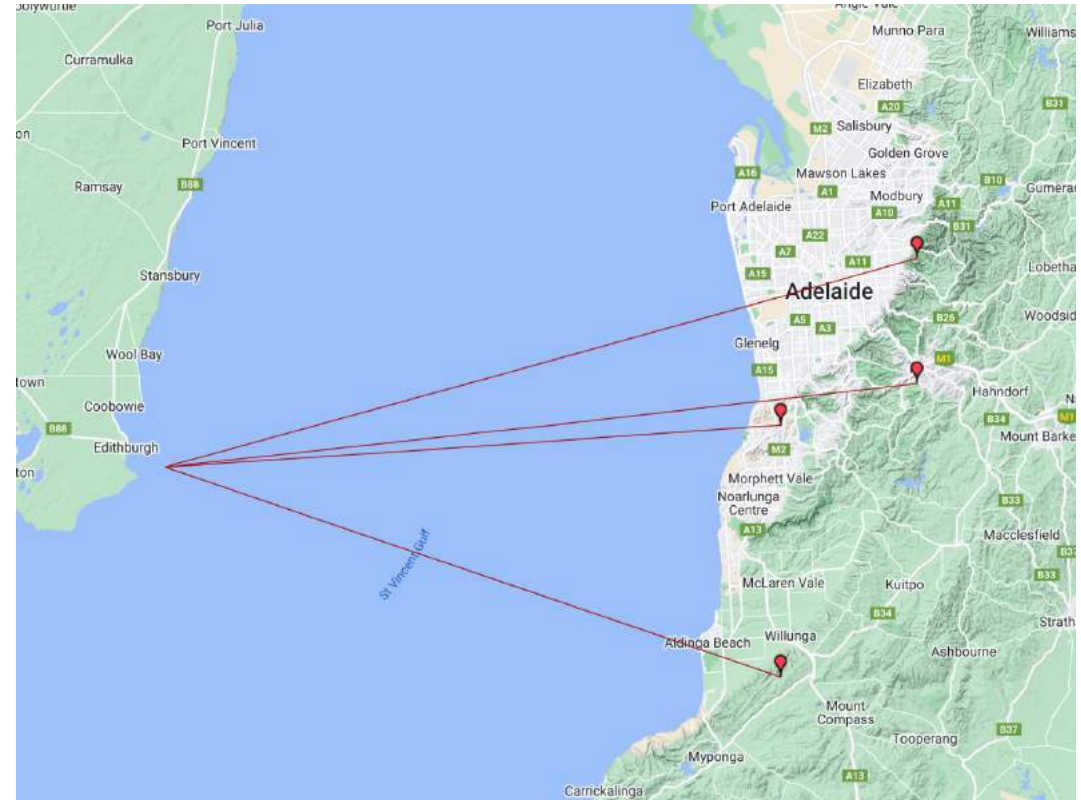


10m



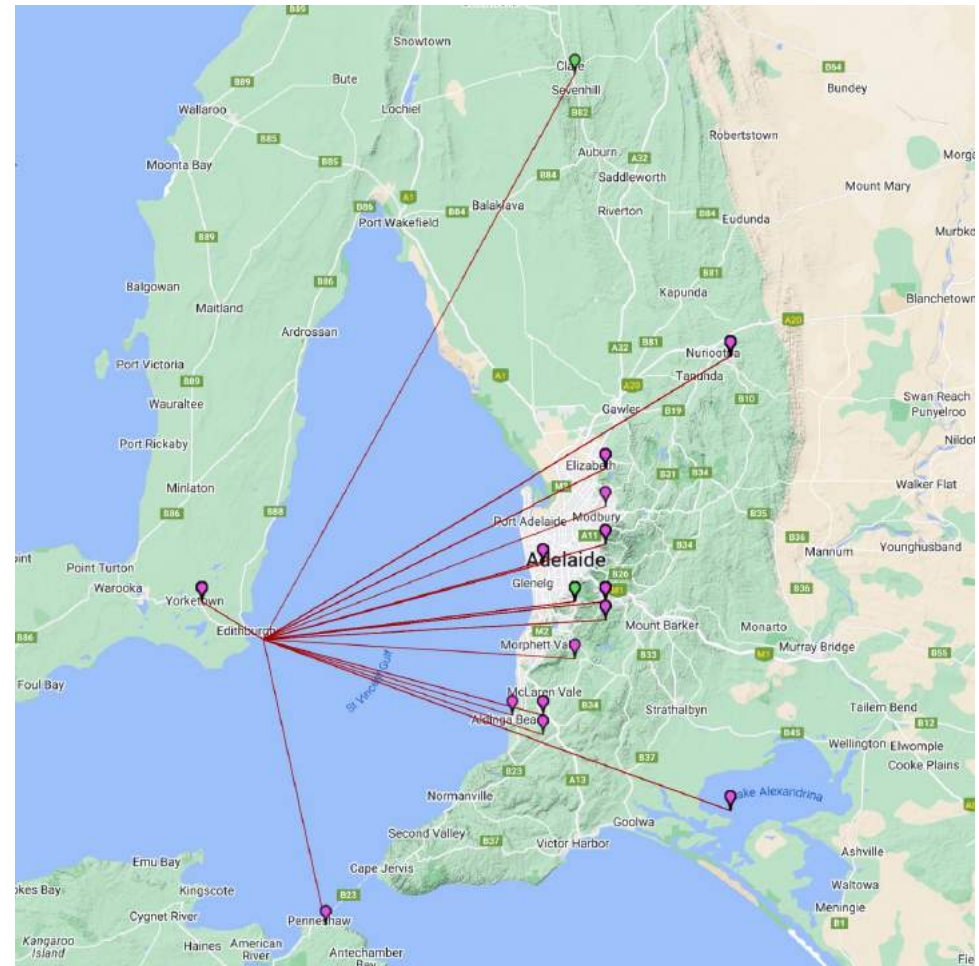
6m

- 4 QSOs



2m

- 58 QSOs – 2m SSB & FM
- Park to Park with John VK5BJE -2m SSB & 2m FM
- Park to Park with John VK5HAA – 2m FM



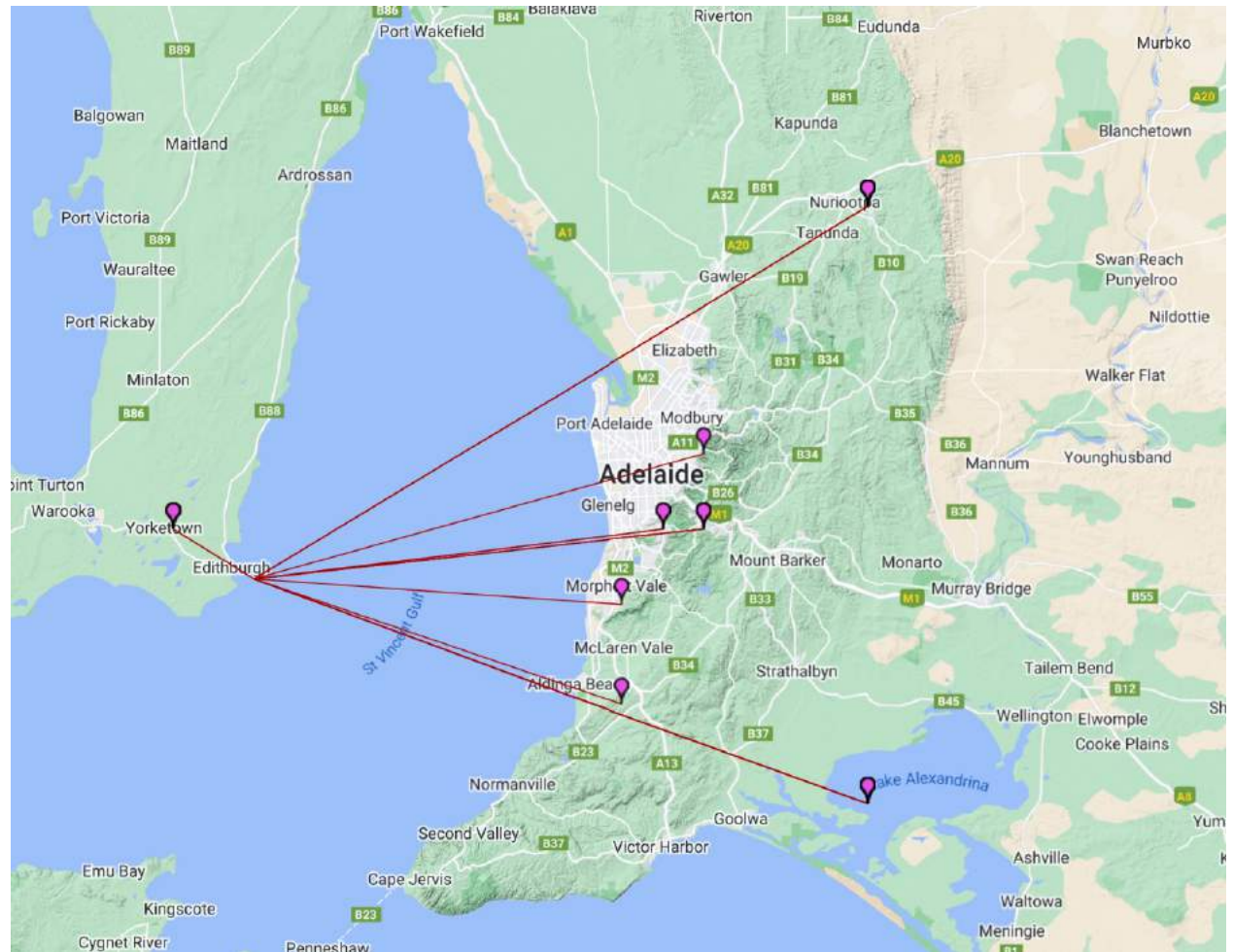
2m

- Vertical on tripod
- Arrow yagi on tripod



70cm

- 22 QSOs
 - SSB & FM



SATELITTES

- 3 QSOs
- SO-50
- ISS crossband repeater
 - VK2USA
 - VK2XDL
 - VK5QI



“Houston, we have a problem”

- Thursday night
 - In the middle of a pile up
- drained the batteries
- Friday morning made some final contacts



HEADING HOME



IOTA APPROVED

- Troubridge Island added to IOTA Directory



HISTORY IOTA DX SPOTS IOTA SHO

🇮🇹 🇪🇸 🇵🇪 🇵🇰 🇩🇪 🇬🇧

Your checkpoint (click here for details) can answer most enq

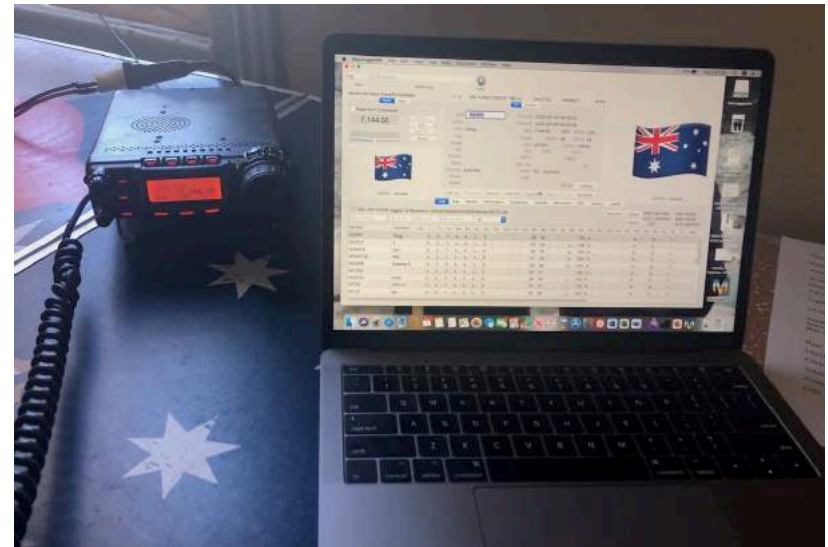
Group Information Islands Activations

QUALIFYING ISLANDS IN OC-139

Island
Albatross
Boston
Goose
Grindal
Haystack
Hopkins
Kangaroo
Liguanea
Louth
Rabbit
Seal
Smith
Taylor
The Pages
Thistle
Troubridge
Wardang

LESSONS LEARNED

- logging
- being aware of who was on what band/mode
- sharing/rotating stations
- split operation
- too diversified - did a little bit of everything
- better antennas



QSL CARD

VK5TIL

Troubridge Island
South Australia
OC-139
VKFF-1108
BCP-243

Troubridge Island

The island is located in the southwestern corner of Gulf St Vincent in South Australia, about 8 km offshore from the town of Edithburgh on the Yorke Peninsula, and about 80 km southwest of Adelaide across the water.

The island is about 800 metres long and about 440 metres wide and is a Conservation Park.

The Narungga aboriginal people have traditional association with Troubridge Island and other islands in the area.

The island and shoal was first named by British navigator and cartographer Captain Matthew Flinders on the 24th day of March 1802, after Admiral Sir Thomas Troubridge.

The Troubridge Island lighthouse was lit permanently for the first time on the 1st day of January 1856. It was the second lighthouse to be built in South Australia, the first being Cape Willoughby on Kangaroo Island.

The lighthouse was constructed of ten cylindrical cast iron segments which were shipped out from Britain and were bolted together on site. It is believed that Troubridge Island lighthouse is only one of two towers of this type constructed in Australia.

Troubridge Island, South Australia

Paul VK5PAS Marija VK5MAZ Chris VK5FR Adam VK2YK Andy VK5LA Ivan VK5HS

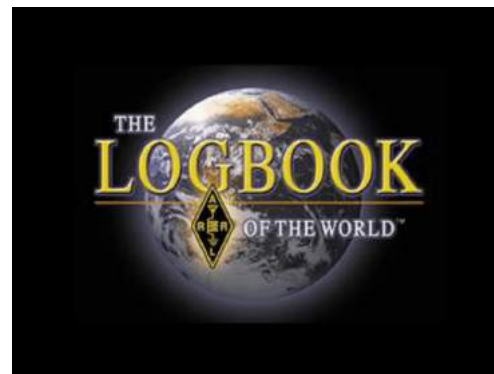
Confirming QSO/s with:

DATE	UTC	MHZ	MODE	RST

<https://www.troubridgeisland.com>

QSL INFORMATION

- via Charles M00XO
 - Bureau or Direct
- Logbook Of The World (LOTW)
- eQSL



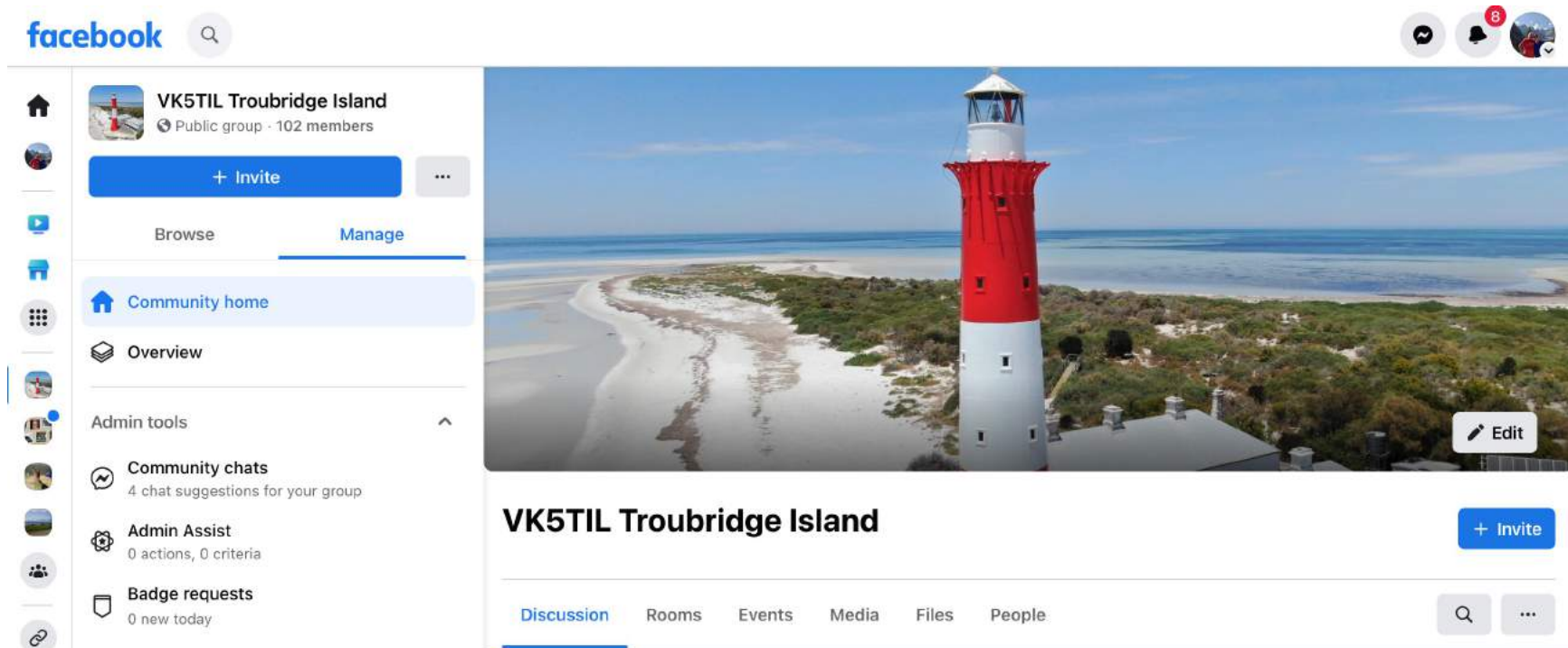
WEBSITE

- <https://www.troubridgeisland.com/>



FACEBOOK

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/vk5til>



The screenshot displays the Facebook interface for the group "VK5TIL Troubridge Island". The top navigation bar includes the Facebook logo, a search icon, and notification icons for messages, a bell with a red badge showing 8 notifications, and a profile picture. The left sidebar contains navigation icons for home, video, marketplace, and a grid of group icons. The main content area features the group's cover photo, which is a scenic view of a red and white lighthouse on a coastal island. Below the cover photo, the group name "VK5TIL Troubridge Island" is displayed, along with a "+ Invite" button. The group is identified as a "Public group" with "102 members". A secondary "+ Invite" button is also present in the top right of the main content area. At the bottom of the main content area, there are tabs for "Discussion", "Rooms", "Events", "Media", "Files", and "People". The left sidebar lists various group management options: "Community home", "Overview", "Admin tools", "Community chats" (with 4 suggestions), "Admin Assist" (with 0 actions and 0 criteria), and "Badge requests" (with 0 new today).



QUESTIONS

