

## Pacific DXpeditions Analysis

by Luis IV3PRK

VK9LL – Lord Howe is. by Tomas, VK2CCC – Sept. 2013



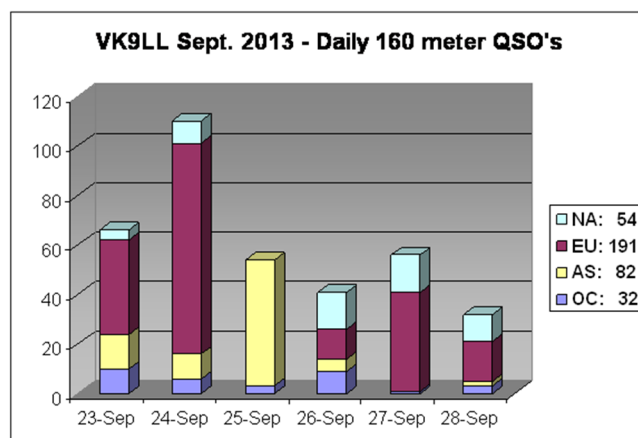
Lord Howe Is. is not an uninhabitable and unreachable reef but is a beautiful holiday location with a regular airline connection, where a lot of DX operations took place over the years and is not on the most wanted DXCC lists. Anyway, VK9L is highly needed on 160 meters in Europe because there had never been a big or low-band dedicated Dxpediton, like on all the other VK9 islands.

The Lord Howe Island Group is recorded by [UNESCO](#) as a [World Heritage Site](#) of global natural significance and thus has a range of problems - since this is some sort of nature reserve area - no camping / portable operation is allowed. Which means that there is no good operating position near the water, just in the town (RFI, no space for RX antennas etc.). The best tourist hotel is surrounded by mountains (800 m.) in the most desired northern directions.

Tomas, VK2CCC, loves 160 meters and made a lot of experience with low power DXpeditions in South Pacific islands, and already been in VK9L. We managed to work his 100 watts from Vanuatu as YJ0CCC in 2009. But 2009 has been a “magic year” on Topband...quite far from the 2013 propagation!

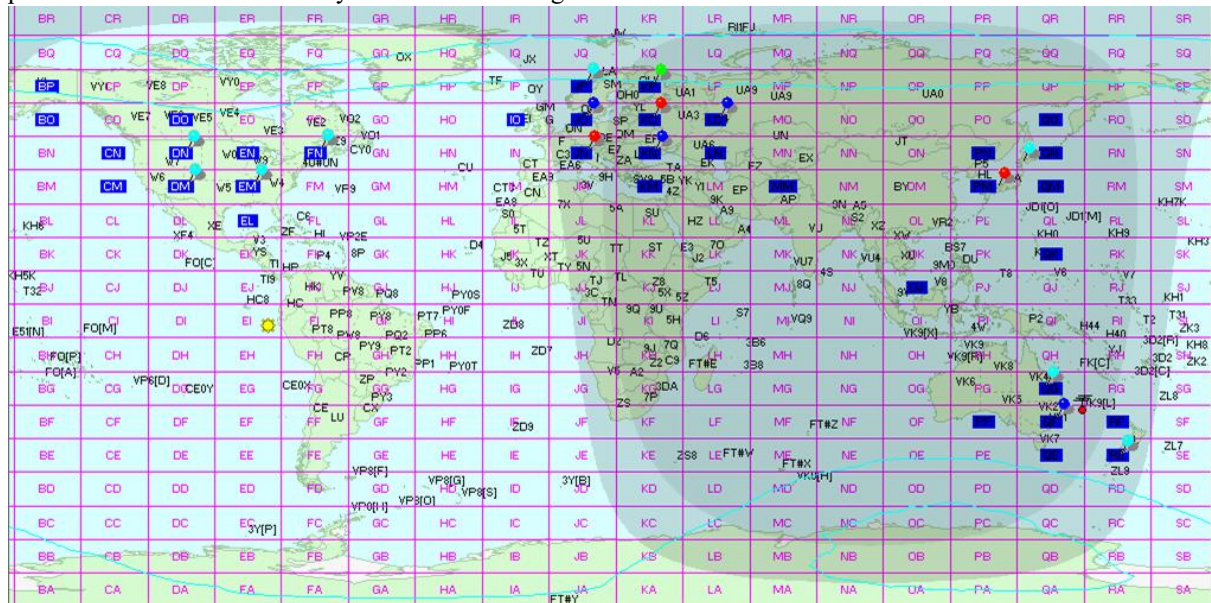
All the story, details and pictures can be found on the [QRZ.com VK9LL page](#). Tomas just wrote a great report “**VK9LL story 2013**” with a lot of technical information, related links and nice pictures [downloadable here](#). We knew his 160m. dedication and big effort, but we couldn’t know how much experience, preparation and technical skill is behind his DXpeditions. **This document is a must to read for serious low-band DXing !**

Tomas sent me his VK9LL 160 m. log showing all the 359 QSO’s made in 6 days of Topband activity, divided by continent in this graphic. Awesome: more than half were with Europe, the farthest one! And he wrote me: «What I find difficult to understand is that W6 which I had open horizon to, only a few qsos have been logged». So, I took into consideration all the QSO’s, not only Europe as usual, and the following is a worldwide DXAtlas map with marked the squares worked.

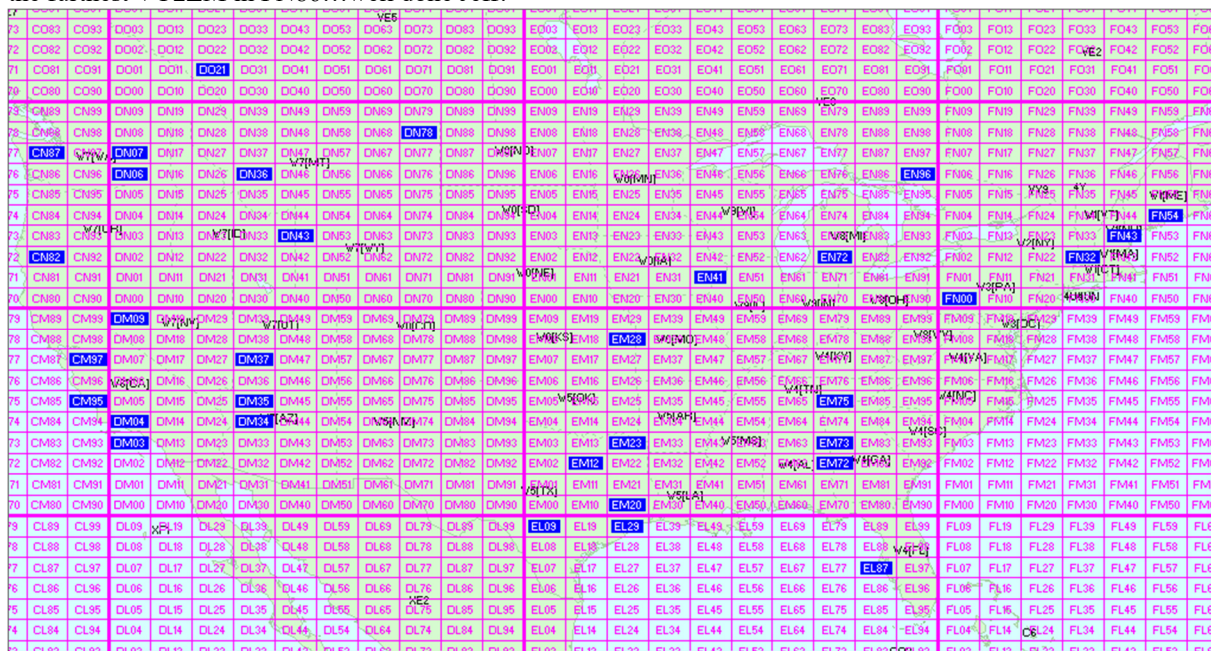


I also added the coloured stick pins with the following code for the number of stations worked in that square: azure = 5 or more; green = 10 or more; blue = 15 or more; red = 30 or more.

Top crowded squares are PM (Japan) and KO (Eastern Europe) both with 50 QSOs, followed by JN (Central Europe) with 32 stations. In North America the top square is EM (8 stations) followed by DM (7), DN and FN (both 5). That's difficult to explain: the path to NA is 11-14.000 km through an open horizon, while the path to EU is 16-17.000 km beyond the surrounding mountains!



Going further in detail, this is the North America map with the single grid squares worked. Unlike for Europe, there is no grid square – even the most populated – which reached at least three stations worked, so no need to add colored pins. Out of the picture is Alaska, with two grid squares worked, and Eastern Canada with the furthest VY2ZM in FN86...well done Jeff!



This is the familiar map for Europe, where I added the coloured stick pins with the following code for the number of stations worked in that grid square : azure = 3 or more; green = 5 or more; blue = 7 or more; red = 10 or more. (I kept the same pin codes and scale to compare with the previous DXpeditions maps).



IP75	IP85	IP95	JP05	JP15	JP25	JP35	JP45	JP55	JP65	JP75	JP85	JP95	GM2	KP05	KP15	KP25	KP35	KP45	KP55	KP65	KP75	KP85	KP95	LP05	LP15	LP25	LP35	LP45	LP55
IP74	IP84	IP94	JP04	JP14	JP24	JP34	JP44	JP54	JP64	JP74	JP84	JP94	KP04	KP14	KP24	KP34	KP44	KP54	KP64	KP74	KP84	KP94	LP04	LP14	LP24	LP34	LP44	LP54	
IP73	IP83	IP93	JP03	JP13	JP23	JP33	JP43	JP53	JP63	JP73	JP83	JP93	KP03	KP13	KP23	KP33	KP43	KP53	KP63	KP73	KP83	KP93	LP03	LP13	LP23	LP33	LP43	LP53	
IP72	IP82	IP92	JP02	JP12	JP22	JP32	JP42	JP52	JP62	JP72	JP82	JP92	KP02	KP12	KP22	KP32	KP42	KP52	KP62	KP72	KP82	KP92	LP02	LP12	LP22	LP32	LP42	LP52	
IP71	IP81	IP91	JP01	JP11	JP21	JP31	JP41	JP51	JP61	JP71	JP81	JP91	KP01	KP11	KP21	KP31	KP41	KP51	KP61	KP71	KP81	KP91	LP01	LP11	LP21	LP31	LP41	LP51	
IP70	IP80	IP90	JP00	JP10	JP20	JP30	JP40	JP50	JP60	JP70	JP80	JP90	KP00	KP10	KP20	KP30	KP40	KP50	KP60	KP70	KP80	KP90	LP00	LP10	LP20	LP30	LP40	LP50	
IO79	IO89	IO99	JO09	JO19	JO29	JO39	JO49	JO59	JO69	JO79	JO89	JO99	SM79	KO09	KO19	KO29	KO39	KO49	KO59	KO69	KO79	KO89	KO99	LO09	LO19	LO29	LO39	LO49	LO59
IO78	IO88	IO98	JO08	JO18	JO28	JO38	JO48	JO58	JO68	JO78	JO88	JO98	SM78	KO08	KO18	KO28	KO38	KO48	KO58	KO68	KO78	KO88	KO98	LO08	LO18	LO28	LO38	LO48	LO58
IO77	IO87	IO97	JO07	JO17	JO27	JO37	JO47	JO57	JO67	JO77	JO87	JO97	SM77	KO07	KO17	KO27	KO37	KO47	KO57	KO67	KO77	KO87	KO97	LO07	LO17	LO27	LO37	LO47	LO57
IO76	IO86	IO96	JO06	JO16	JO26	JO36	JO46	JO56	JO66	JO76	JO86	JO96	SM76	KO06	KO16	KO26	KO36	KO46	KO56	KO66	KO76	KO86	KO96	LO06	LO16	LO26	LO36	LO46	LO56
IO75	IO85	IO95	JO05	JO15	JO25	JO35	JO45	JO55	JO65	JO75	JO85	JO95	SM75	KO05	KO15	KO25	KO35	KO45	KO55	KO65	KO75	KO85	KO95	LO05	LO15	LO25	LO35	LO45	LO55
IO74	IO84	IO94	JO04	JO14	JO24	JO34	JO44	JO54	JO64	JO74	JO84	JO94	SM74	KO04	KO14	KO24	KO34	KO44	KO54	KO64	KO74	KO84	KO94	LO04	LO14	LO24	LO34	LO44	LO54
IO73	IO83	IO93	JO03	JO13	JO23	JO33	JO43	JO53	JO63	JO73	JO83	JO93	SM73	KO03	KO13	KO23	KO33	KO43	KO53	KO63	KO73	KO83	KO93	LO03	LO13	LO23	LO33	LO43	LO53
IO72	IO82	IO92	JO02	JO12	JO22	JO32	JO42	JO52	JO62	JO72	JO82	JO92	SM72	KO02	KO12	KO22	KO32	KO42	KO52	KO62	KO72	KO82	KO92	LO02	LO12	LO22	LO32	LO42	LO52
IO71	IO81	IO91	JO01	JO11	JO21	JO31	JO41	JO51	JO61	JO71	JO81	JO91	SM71	KO01	KO11	KO21	KO31	KO41	KO51	KO61	KO71	KO81	KO91	LO01	LO11	LO21	LO31	LO41	LO51
IO70	IO80	IO90	JO00	JO10	JO20	JO30	JO40	JO50	JO60	JO70	JO80	JO90	SM70	KO00	KO10	KO20	KO30	KO40	KO50	KO60	KO70	KO80	KO90	LO00	LO10	LO20	LO30	LO40	LO50
IN79	IN89	IN99	JN09	JN19	JN29	JN39	JN49	JN59	JN69	JN79	JN89	JN99	SM79	KN09	KN19	KN29	KN39	KN49	KN59	KN69	KN79	KN89	KN99	LN09	LN19	LN29	LN39	LN49	LN59
IN78	IN88	IN98	JN08	JN18	JN28	JN38	JN48	JN58	JN68	JN78	JN88	JN98	SM78	KN08	KN18	KN28	KN38	KN48	KN58	KN68	KN78	KN88	KN98	LN08	LN18	LN28	LN38	LN48	LN58
IN77	IN87	IN97	JN07	JN17	JN27	JN37	JN47	JN57	JN67	JN77	JN87	JN97	SM77	KN07	KN17	KN27	KN37	KN47	KN57	KN67	KN77	KN87	KN97	LN07	LN17	LN27	LN37	LN47	LN57
IN76	IN86	IN96	JN06	JN16	JN26	JN36	JN46	JN56	JN66	JN76	JN86	JN96	SM76	KN06	KN16	KN26	KN36	KN46	KN56	KN66	KN76	KN86	KN96	LN06	LN16	LN26	LN36	LN46	LN56
IN75	IN85	IN95	JN05	JN15	JN25	JN35	JN45	JN55	JN65	JN75	JN85	JN95	SM75	KN05	KN15	KN25	KN35	KN45	KN55	KN65	KN75	KN85	KN95	LN05	LN15	LN25	LN35	LN45	LN55
IN74	IN84	IN94	JN04	JN14	JN24	JN34	JN44	JN54	JN64	JN74	JN84	JN94	SM74	KN04	KN14	KN24	KN34	KN44	KN54	KN64	KN74	KN84	KN94	LN04	LN14	LN24	LN34	LN44	LN54
IN73	IN83	IN93	JN03	JN13	JN23	JN33	JN43	JN53	JN63	JN73	JN83	JN93	SM73	KN03	KN13	KN23	KN33	KN43	KN53	KN63	KN73	KN83	KN93	LN03	LN13	LN23	LN33	LN43	LN53
IN72	IN82	IN92	JN02	JN12	JN22	JN32	JN42	JN52	JN62	JN72	JN82	JN92	SM72	KN02	KN12	KN22	KN32	KN42	KN52	KN62	KN72	KN82	KN92	LN02	LN12	LN22	LN32	LN42	LN52
IN71	IN81	IN91	JN01	JN11	JN21	JN31	JN41	JN51	JN61	JN71	JN81	JN91	SM71	KN01	KN11	KN21	KN31	KN41	KN51	KN61	KN71	KN81	KN91	LN01	LN11	LN21	LN31	LN41	LN51
IN70	IN80	IN90	JN00	JN10	JN20	JN30	JN40	JN50	JN60	JN70	JN80	JN90	SM70	KN00	KN10	KN20	KN30	KN40	KN50	KN60	KN70	KN80	KN90	LN00	LN10	LN20	LN30	LN40	LN50
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IM77	IM87	IM97	JM07	JM17	JM27	JM37	JM47	JM57	JM67	JM77	JM87	JM97	SM77	KM07	KM17	KM27	KM37	KM47	KM57	KM67	KM77	KM87	KM97	LM07	LM17	LM27	LM37	LM47	LM57
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IM75	IM85	IM95	JM05	JM15	JM25	JM35	JM45	JM55	JM65	JM75	JM85	JM95	SM75	KM05	KM15	KM25	KM35	KM45	KM55	KM65	KM75	KM85	KM95	LM05	LM15	LM25	LM35	LM45	LM55
IM74	IM84	IM94	JM04	JM14	JM24	JM34	JM44	JM54	JM64	JM74	JM84	JM94	SM74	KM04	KM14	KM24	KM34	KM44	KM54	KM64	KM74	KM84	KM94	LM04	LM14	LM24	LM34	LM44	LM54
IM73	IM83	IM93	JM03	JM13	JM23	JM33	JM43	JM53	JM63	JM73	JM83	JM93	SM73	KM03	KM13	KM23	KM33	KM43	KM53	KM63	KM73	KM83	KM93	LM03	LM13	LM23	LM33	LM43	LM53
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EA79	EA89	EA99	JM09	JM19	JM29	JM39	JM49	JM59	JM69	JM79	JM89	JM99	SM79	KM09	KM19	KM29	KM39	KM49	KM59	KM69	KM79	KM89	KM99	LM09	LM19	LM29	LM39	LM49	LM59
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EA73	EA83	EA93	JM03	JM13	JM23	JM33	JM43	JM53	JM63	JM73	JM83	JM93	SM73	KM03	KM13	KM23	KM33	KM43	KM53	KM63	KM73	KM83	KM93	LM03	LM13	LM23	LM33	LM43	LM53
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EA70	EA80	EA90	JM00	JM10	JM20	JM30	JM40	JM50	JM60	JM70	JM80	JM90	SM70	KM00	KM10	KM20	KM30	KM40	KM50	KM60	KM70	KM80	KM90	LM00	LM10	LM20	LM30	LM40	LM50
EA79	EA89	EA99	JM09	JM19	JM29	JM39	JM49	JM59	JM69	JM79	JM89	JM99	SM79	KM09	KM19	KM29	KM39	KM49	KM59	KM69	KM79	KM89	KM99	LM09	LM19	LM29	LM39	LM49	LM59
EA78	EA88	EA98	JM08	JM18	JM28	JM38	JM48	JM58	JM68	JM78	JM88	JM98	SM78	KM08	KM18	KM28	KM38	KM48	KM58	KM68	KM78	KM88	KM98	LM08	LM18	LM28	LM38	LM48	LM58
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EA76	EA86	EA96	JM06	JM16	JM26	JM36	JM46	JM56	JM66	JM76	JM86	JM96	SM76	KM06	KM16	KM26	KM36	KM46	KM56	KM66	KM76	KM86	KM96	LM06	LM16	LM26	LM36	LM46	LM56
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