

The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

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Emil DL8JJ bringing Djibouti on the Moon



Emil DL8JJ in the EME shack of J28MB

Since Emil DL8JJ first experienced 2 m EME during the successful Mozambique C8T DXpedition back in 2018 when he watched Marc ON4AMX making QSOs he was hooked for this propagation. Putting together his own EME station was one of the first things he did when he was home.

Luckily Emil is an avid DXpeditioner so it was only a question of time he would be part of a major HF DXpedition to a DXCC very much wanted also on 2m EME. This October it became reality when the

J28MD Mediterraneo DX Club Dxpediton started their operation from Djibouti – and DL8JJ brought a FT857, EME sspa, 16 ele yagi plus LNA.



The 16 elements Yagi on top of the building

As soon as the team arrived on site and had finished setting up Emil put together the EME station and started operations already on October 29th around 1400 UTC. The degradation then was beyond 10 dB but Emil wouldn't wait any longer to find out whether everything was working ok. The first completed QSO was with I2FAK, Franco benefited from his huge array of course. Very soon it became obvious J28MD had an RX issue: long periods of CQ were copied from him – but it always were CQs. The QRM from the close-by strong HF transmitters apparently was too much for copying weak signals. Luckily at least DF2ZC managed to make a QSO, too. It sure paid off Bernd had the entire antenna system serviced in June, though – in his words – it is not yet 100% performance – but should be quite close again. Due to the QRM Emil relocated the antenna at least twice the following days and also added a BPF from YU1CF (<https://antennas-amplifiers.com/>). This all helped gradually but the situation never was close to good let alone perfect. This is a typical experience when 2m EME activity runs together with HF DXpeditions. With the degradation getting better and better every day the number QSOs per day went up. Depending on moon QTF and the elevation there were some periods with many QSOs/time – and then again long CQs.

Given these constraints Emil achieved excellent results: 131 QSOs were completed during his stay. It should not be forgotten: DL8JJ could only be QRV during his free time when he was off shift from his main “work” as CW operator of J28MD. This means he sacrificed his precious sleeping time for the EME activity – and sure had much fun though being very tired. This might also be the reason that only few contacts with America are on the log. The complete log is on <https://www.grz.com/db/DL8JJ>

How DL8JJ could cope with only few hours, sometimes just one hour of sleep only per day remains his secret. Maybe he could tell other dxpeditioners? The fact he's very sporty and fit sure helped.

Upcoming DXpeditions

For more information on current and upcoming DXpeditions please have a look at www.mmmonvhf.de from where most of the information here was gathered unless noted otherwise.

ZC4RH (KM64UX) QRV 10 Nov – 19 Nov

Chris and Jos have arrived in Cyprus, their equipment was already there since it had been sent by UPS. With the great help of Dave, ZC4RH, they will bring the UK Sovereign Base Area on Cyprus on the air. They will assist Dave ZC4RH with all needed equipment to operate all modes and propagations possible on three bands. First QRV period should start on Nov 10th at moonrise.

The 2m equipment will be FT857, 2 x 20 ele x-pol. 16 dBd. and SSPA. Preferred mode on 144 MHz is Q65A, ZC4RH always tx 1st.

Time Table

12 Nov -13 Nov ARRL-EME-Contest

5 Dec The December Issue of the 144 MHz EME Newsletter ready for download.

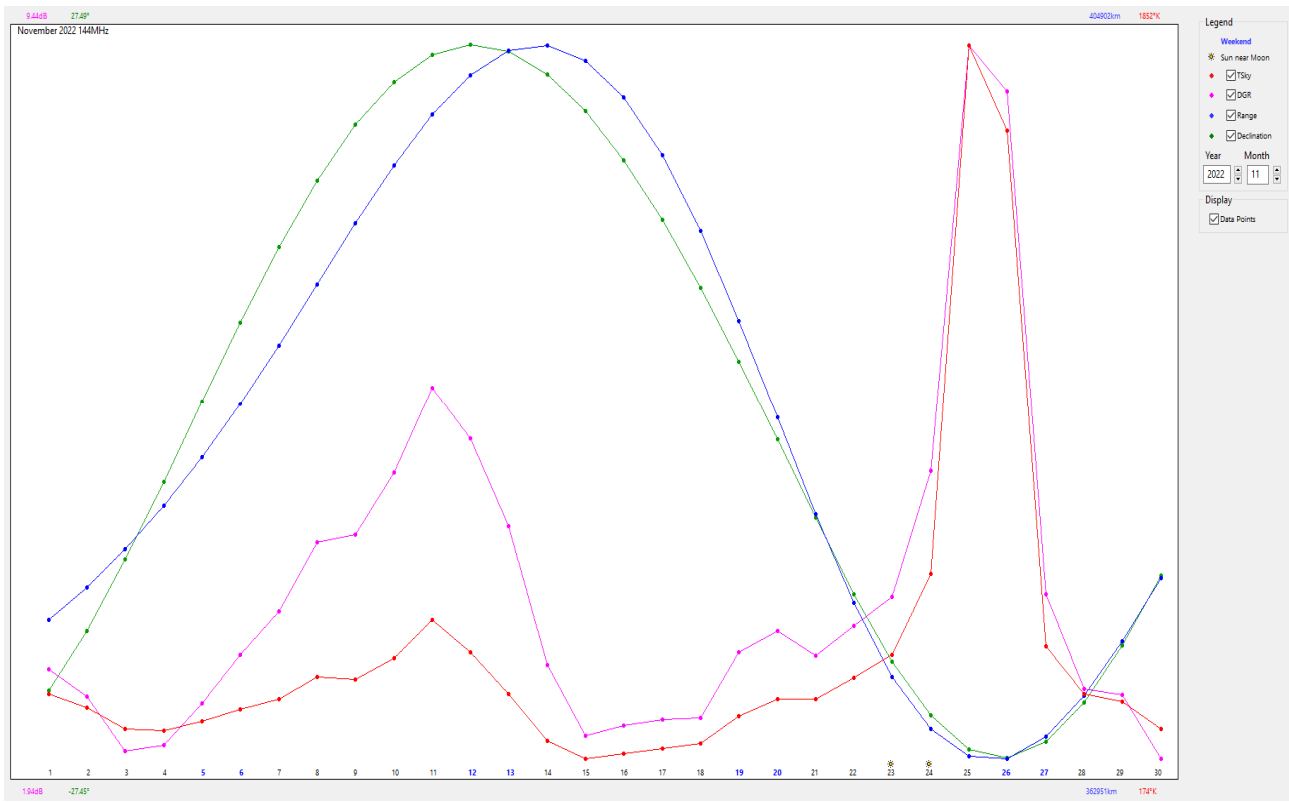
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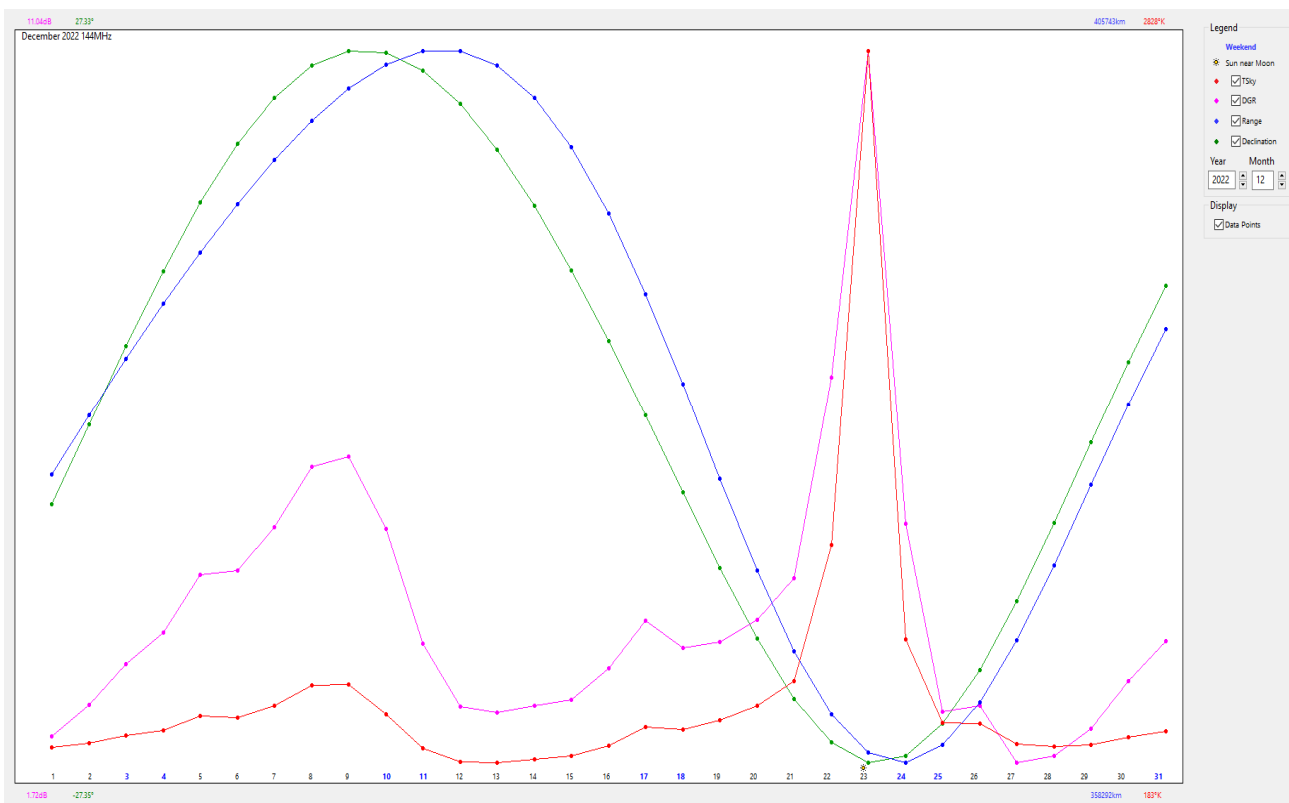
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Moon Conditions



Moon Graph November 2022



Moon Graph December 2022

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