



INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO UNION
REGION 3
TWELFTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE



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Report of Amateur Radio activity to the 12th IARU Region 3 Conference
Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association (PIARA)

Pitcairn Island has a population of approximately 50 persons, give or take a few, of which 6 are the families of the pastor and schoolteacher from abroad. In such a small community, everyone is known by their first name or nickname. OR THEIR CALLSIGN. We had one new addition in 2003; Emily Rose Christian, born on Sept. 14, 2003, the first child born on Pitcairn for 17 years!



There was a meeting of the Radio Club, VP6PAC, in November. The President Dave VP6DB, Secretary Betty VP6YL, Treasurer Dennis VP6TY and members Terry VP6TY, Tom VP6TC, Jay VP6JC, Meralda VP6MW and Dave Evans VP6?, visiting from Alaska. These are the active amateurs resident on Pitcairn and represent 20% of the population. An activity level unlikely to be equaled elsewhere. There are a few other licensed residents and there are many other Amateurs who hold a VP6 license (VP6BK for example) and visit from time to time to operate.

Internet service became available on Pitcairn last year which resulted in decreased interest in amateur radio. The instant gratification of the internet lured many people away from the microphone or key. However, Amateur Radio is still favored by many who hold regular schedules to rag chew with their friends.

There are no planned trips to report to the other DX islands, Henderson, Oeno or Ducie.

All homes on Pitcairn have VHF and channel 16 marine band. There are no local telephones. There is only one satellite inmarsat phone for the islanders.

Pitcairn is located at: 25 04 S, 130 06 W, in the South Pacific Ocean, about midway between Peru and New Zealand. The island area is 47 sq miles or about 0.3 times the size of Washington, DC. The climate is tropical, hot, humid; modified by southeast trade winds; rainy season (November to March). The terrain is rugged volcanic formation, rocky coastline with cliffs. The highest spot is 347 meters above sea level.

The PIARA promotes Amateur Radio on the island.

