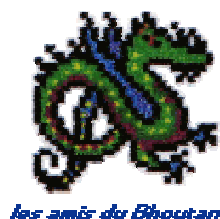
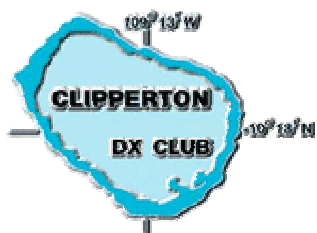
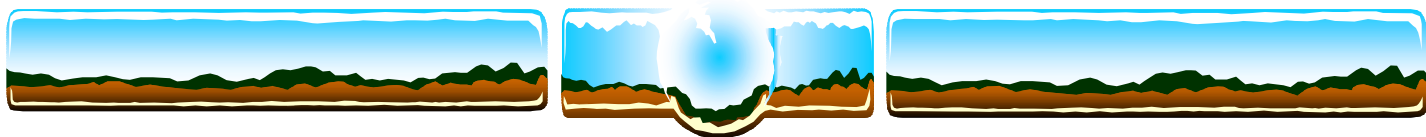


French Amateur Radio in Bhutan



The Story Book



The founding trip...



September 2000, the French Clipperton DX Club in Bhutan

Kingdom of Bhutan, a magical land, a dream for all DXers ...

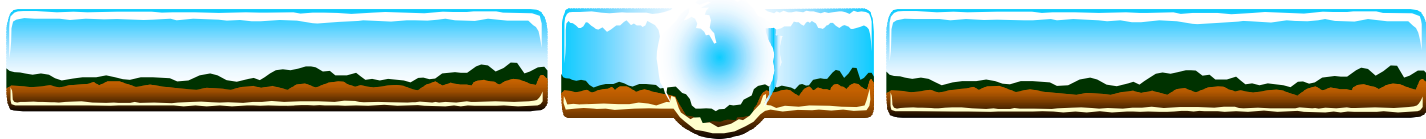
It was a fantastic trip



This A5 activity would have been impossible without the help of Mrs Françoise Pommaret, from the French Association "les Amis du bhoutan" and Mrs Dago Beda from "Etho Metho Tours & Treks ltd" in Thimphu.

Best regards from the team:

Denise F6HWU / Alain F6ANA / Gérard F2VX / Vincent GØLMX / Alain F5LMJ



A 5 2 F H, The Clipperton DX Club in Bhutan

5 years of preparation for Alain F6ANA, with the help of the association "Les Amis du Bhoutan" and of Dr. Françoise Pommaret. So, what a joy, when on 3rd September 2000, we arrived in Paro Bhutan, a dream for any Dxr.

It was difficult, three days to find the beam aerial, not the best location for amateur radio due to the considerable screening from surrounding mountains, no propagation each day between 8 am and 4 pm...

But it was a fantastic trip....

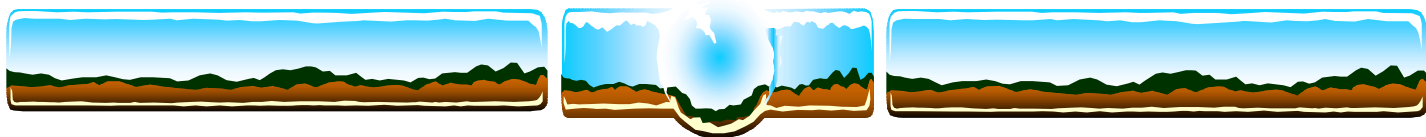
Some A52FH Photos



Some statistics: In 11 days, we made more than 13600 QSOs from the Pinewood hotel, 6600 in CW (operators F6HWU, F5LMJ, GØLMX) and 7100 in SSB (operators F2VX, F6ANA, GØLMX, ON6TT)

Band	10 m	12 m	15 m	17 m	20 m	30 m	40 m	80 m	Total
CW	536	585	1287	325	2644	745	451	25	6598
SSB	1312	609	1310	395	3162		196	84	7068
Total	1848	1194	2597	720	5806	745	647	109	13666

With the 933 additional QSOs made from A51AA, a total of 14599 QSOs were made by the A52 French Ham team.



A 5 1 A A

The first Ham Radio Center in Thimphu, set up with the help of the A52 French Ham team

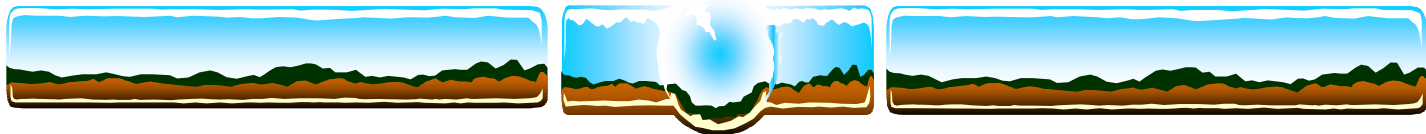
A51AA, Thimphu: 12th September 2000, a great day for ham radio in Bhutan. With the help of the Clipperton DX Club the first ham radio centre is "on the air" from Thimphu, the capital city of Bhutan.

 <p>The new ham center official inauguration</p>	 <p>Ham center, Thimphu</p>	 <p>Yeshey a51aa, Vince g0lmx, Gerry f2vx</p>
 <p>first QSO for Dorji A51AA</p>	 <p>The general director of the BTA looking on during the first contact</p>	 <p>Gérard F2VX & Dorji A51AA in front of the radio-club</p>

Many thanks to:

- Dr Françoise Pommaret and the French association "les Amis du Bhoutan",
- Thinley Dorji, director of the Bhutan Telecommunication Authority (BTA) in Thimphu
- The DX community: Clipperton DX Club, INDEXA, NCDXF, URE, URA, Chiltern DX Club, Danish DX Group, ARALA, N7CQQ Radio-club,
- YLs and OM: F8XT, F6DXU, F6FYD, F2YT/F5MVT, F5FLN, F6BKI, F5JJM, K5OVC, K9ECE, N7CQQ, WØGJ, W3UR..
- Our "pilots" Rafik F5CQ on the Web and Larry F8BBL on HF who did a great job.





KINGDOM OF BHUTAN
ZONE ASIA - WAZ 22 - ITU 41 - GRID NL57

A 52 FH

FRENCH HAM

QSL by F51PW

109°13' W

10°18' N

ANOTHER CLIPPERTON DX CLUB EXPEDITION

Les Amis du Bhutan

MANAGER F8RZ

confirms QSO with
confirms SWL report

Day / Month / Year	UTC	MHz	MODE	R	S	T
- 09 -2000			SSB - CW			
- 09 -2000			SSB - CW			
- 09 -2000			SSB - CW			

QSL COURTESY - QSL OFFERTES PAR **GES NORD**

The QSL Card used by the "French Ham" team to confirm 16.000 amateur radio contacts made in September 2000

KINGDOM OF BHUTAN

A 51 AA

Radio Club de THIMPHU - BHUTAN
Opérateur : Yeshley DORJI

ZONE ASIA - WAZ 22 - ITU 41 - GRID NL57

Manager F2VX

109°13' W

10°18' N

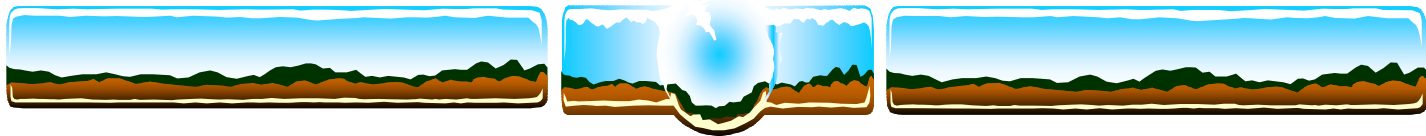
CLIPPERTON DX CLUB

Trx Pse QSL via bureau Best 73'

confirms QSO with
confirms SWL report

Day / Month / Year	UTC	MHz	MODE	R	S	T
			SSB - CW			
			SSB - CW			
			SSB - CW			

QSL Card used to confirm the first contacts from the Ham Center of Thimphu in September 2000

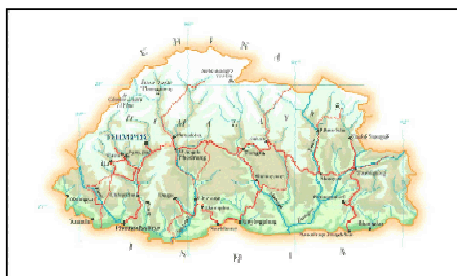


4 years later...

The C.DX.C was again in Bhutan from 24th October to 11th November 2004

Introducing the new story: In September 2000 the Clipperton DX Club, with a team consisting of Denise F6HWU (YL), Gérard F2VX, Alain F6ANA, Vincent GØLMX and Alain F5LMJ, activated A52FH, helped to set up the Ham Centre in Thimphu and put on the air the callsign A51AA with our friend Yeshey Dorji.

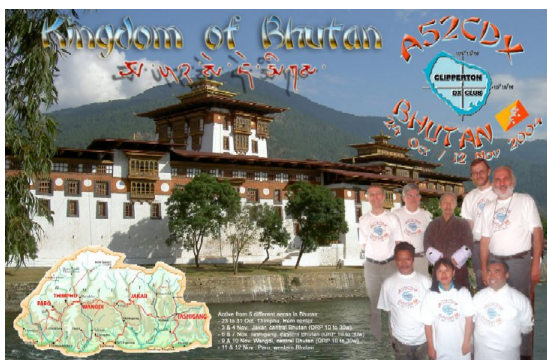
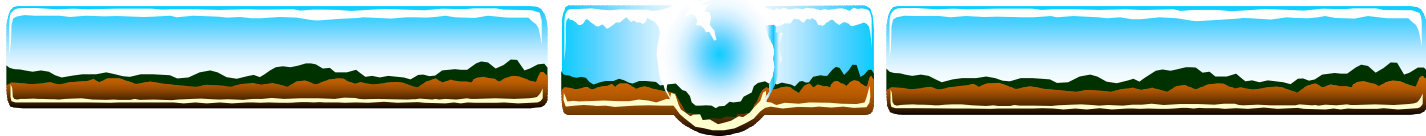
Since September 2000, the "Bhutan Telecommunications Authority" (BTA) has installed three club stations. Two are situated in Thimphu – "The Bhutan Amateur Radio Club" (BARC) and the "Polytechnic Amateur Radio Club" (PARC) – and one is in the South of the country.



At the request of the BTA and of the minister of telecommunications, a CDXC team consisting of three of the A52FH operators (F2VX, GØLMX and F5LMJ) and of F9DK, will return to Bhutan from October 24, to November 12, 2004 to set up another Radio station at the Jakar high school in the Bumthang province in Central Bhutan.

Many thanks to the clubs, associations, businesses and radio hams who already support this important project, they will help to promote the growth of amateur radio in Bhutan.





The 2004 story ...

A52CDX, Bhutan 24/10 - 12/11/2004

Four years after A52FH, we were back in Bhutan from 24th October to 12th November 2004. However we are not able set up the new radio club in Jakar as envisaged with the minsitry of telecommunications, due to the lack of authorization from the ministry of education for the Jakar high school. The equipment was left with the Buthan Telecommunication Authority to set up a new radio station in Khomshar in the Shemgang area, central Bhutan.

From 24th to 31st October we were in Thimphu at the "Ham Center" of our friend Yeshey A51AA. We entirely overhauled the installation and the aerals and made 5000 QSOs in one week. We left the Ham Center fully operational from 160 to 10m.



f2vx, a51bb, g0lmx,
a51aa,
a51yl, a51wd, f5lmj,
f9dk



the team with Thinley
Dorji, director of BTA



Wangdi A51WD



Ambika A51YL



Alain F5LMJ



Gérard F2VX

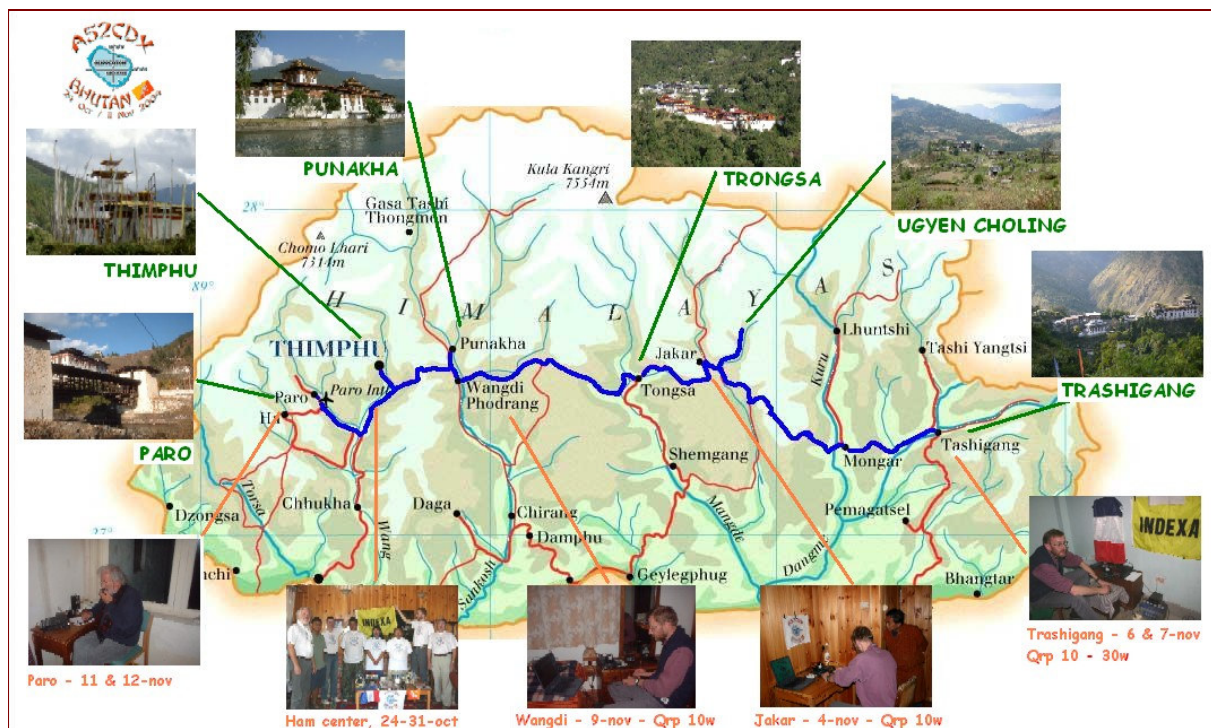
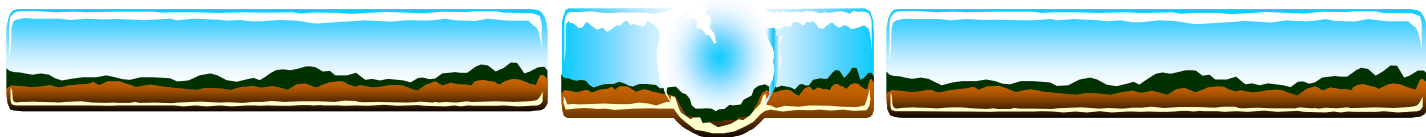


Vincent G0LMX



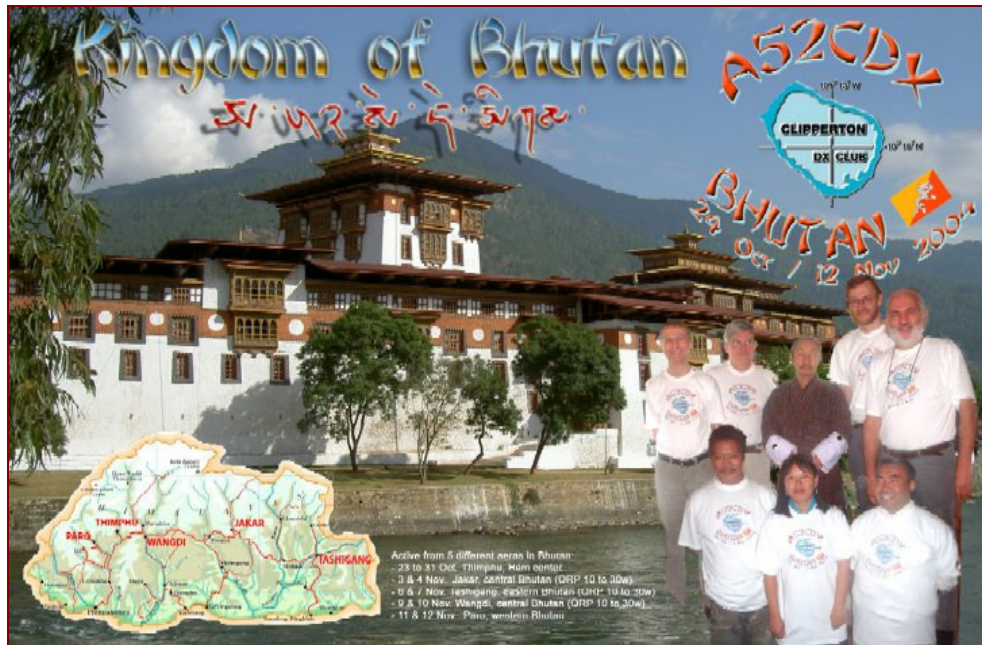
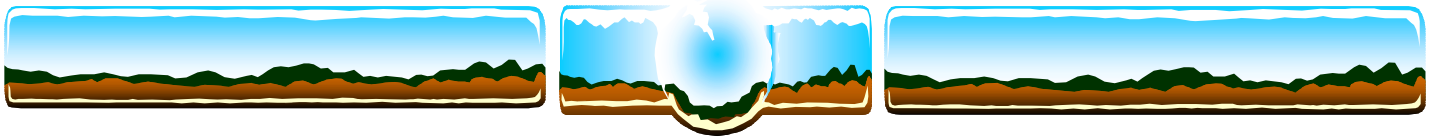
Jean-Louis F9DK

Instead of the Jakar high school installation, we left Thimphu for the East of Bhutan (22 hours of driving for 500km) from the 3rd to the 12th of November. We managed to be active from 4 of the 21 country provinces.



- 3 and 4 Nov. Jakar, Central Bhutan: we discovered the capricious mains supply of central Bhutan. From 120 Volts at the beginning of the evening, the tension jumped to 180v then 220v during the night... the power supply of the TS50 did not resist, which forced us eventually to run QRP on battery with power ranging from 10 to 30 W
- 6 and 7 Nov. Trashigang, Eastern Bhutan: a battery of 60AH with a small charger allowed to make 60 QSOs in QRP 10 W
- 9 Nov. Wangdi, Central Bhutan: a little more effective battery, a sufficient power supply for recharging. More than 100 QSOs in QRP 30 W
- 11 Nov. Paro, Western Bhutan : 160 QSOs for the last night





The QSL card used to confirm A52CDX ham radio contacts

འབྲུག་རྒྱལ་ཁབ་འཕྲིན་དབང་འཛིན།
བརྒྱུད་འབྲེལ་ལྷན་ཁག།
དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

Royal Government of Bhutan
Ministry of Communications
Bhutan Telecom Authority

AMATEUR RADIO VISITOR'S PERMIT

☒ Group ☐ Individual

The Ministry of Communications, Royal Government of Bhutan, issues this visitor's permit to French
Ham Dipedition holding valid Amateur Radio Licence from France (country) and
Call sign.....

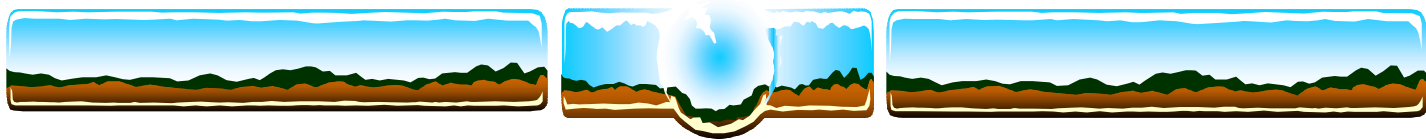
They/~~He/She~~ will use the Call Sign. A52CDX..... for operation of Amateur Radio in Bhutan.

The Operation of Amateur Radio in Bhutan is subject to terms and conditions specified in the Bhutan National Radio
Regulations 1999 and as amended from time to time by the Minister, Ministry of communications.

This permit is valid from 24th (day)/ October (month)/ 2004
(year) to 19th (day)/ November (month)/ 2004 (year).

Issuing Authority
Bhutan Telecom Authority
Ministry of Communications
Bhutan Communications Authority
G.P.O. Box 1672
Ministry Information & Communications
Royal Government of Bhutan
Thimphu - Bhutan

The Ham radio licence for A52CDX



April 2005, Remote HAM Station Successfully Installed ...

The donated equipment donated to the BTA in November 2004 by the French Hams is used to set up new radio-stations

Sujet: Re: Remote HAM Station Successfully Installed!
Date: Wed, 13 Apr 2005 11:04:55 +0000
De: wang po <a51wd@hotmail.com>
Pour: f5lmj@wanadoo.fr

Hi Alain,

Tnk for the mail, yes the donated equipment was used at Bardo Amateur Radio Club (A50F) along with the dipole antenna, please kindly inform the concerned donors, the equipment has done a wonderful job you can QSO on 14.320 MHz and 7.005 MHz in SSB. The timings are 6:30 UTC or local 12:30 PM.

We are planning another similar station in near future.

73! de Wangpo, A51WD

Sujet: Remote HAM Station Successfully Installed!
Date: Wed, 13 Apr 2005 02:34:52 +0000
De: wang po <a51wd@hotmail.com>

Dear HAM friends of the World,

Greetings from Kingdom of Bhutan!!! We are happy to inform you all that the HAM stations in Bardho and Shingkar has been successfully installed, you can QSO with these stations.

The QTH and call signs are:

1. Shingkar Amateur Radio Club (A50E)
Shingkar Primary School,
Shingkar, Zhemgang, Bhutan.
2. Bardo Amateur Radio Club (A50F)
Bardo Primary School,
Bardo, Zhemgang, Bhutan

73!
Wangpo Dorji, A51WD
QSL Manager of Bhutan Amateur Radio Club (A50A)