

I- Pro Traveller

Hi Carl,

Just arrived back from a holiday in Devon, my first proper outing with the I-pro.

We had guests from time to time and of course the break was for the family, but I managed to get on the radio from 06:30 until about 08:00 and for about half an hour around lunchtimes most days. We were in a village about 3 miles north of Dartmouth.

I commandeered a summer house as my shack (luckily with power) & used a small switch mode power supply, my IC-7000 @ 100W and the I-Pro with no ATU in line.

I had a hill behind me, hills either side of me (not too high) and a big hill in front of me to the south about 1 1/2 miles away. Not an ideal site (or so I thought).

Propagation as you know has not been good and I expected to fill the log with the usual European countries but hoped for the odd DX. Wow, was I a pessimist. . !

To summarise, I worked on 40 metres, 20 metres & 17 metre bands only (due to propagation) and looking back thro my log I worked 132 contacts in 34 countries. I had 15 DX contacts in 6 countries :-

Australia 3, New Zealand 2, Japan 2, Canada 3, USA 4 and Jordan 1. The VK & ZL stations were on 40m, USA & Canada on 20m & 17m, Japan 17m& 20m & Jordan on 20m.

I was delighted to get a 58 from a station in ZL who said I was putting a fantastic signal into New Zealand & that he had no trouble picking me out of the pile up.

One contact with British Columbia was 58 both ways. He was particularly impressed with its performance and voiced disbelief when I told him it was ground mounted and only 3m high".

I used the IC 7000 recording facility to call CQ and was particularly pleased to have stateside stations and even one of the Japanese stations respond to my call. It certainly performed far better than I imagined on 40m. A particular bonus in these times of poor propagation!

In the current poor conditions the I-pro has exceeded my expectations. It is easy to transport (on the back seat of the car) very easy to erect, visually low impact and held its own against far more expensive directional antennas running much more power.

There was a lot of interest from stations I worked when I named & described the unit, so expect some more activity on the website.

Thanks again for a brilliant product. Having had this much fun now, I have great expectations for when propagation finally improves.

Regards and many thanks – Mike GOWSB.

