



Q S X  
P E

Christmas

**ZS2PE**

FREQUENCIES:

Bulletin	3640 Khz
	7107 Khz

National Call	145,5 Mhz
P.E. Repeater	145,05/65
Grahamstown	145,20/80
Lady's Slipper	145,10/70

Greetings

*Port Elizabeth Branch of the  
South African Radio League*

P.O.Box 462, Port Elizabeth. 6000.

Dec. 79







# Happy Christmas

The Chairman and Committee members take this opportunity to wish all the members of the Port Elizabeth Branch, their families and friends, and all fellow hams, a Happy and Blessed Christmas and a Prosperous 1980. May the New Year bring you health and happiness and much good Hamming. We wish to thank you also for your support of the Branch during the past year and hope that we can count of your future support for any further Branch projects.

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The Christmas get-together this year takes the form of a Christmas Tree party for the children, starting at 3p.m. at the SCOUT HALL, CORNER OF VILLIERS ROAD AND 10TH AVENUE, WALMER, on SATURDAY 15th DECEMBER. This will be followed by a Braai, and the fires will be ready from 4.30 onwards. Please bring your own food and drinks. Don't forget the gifts for the kiddies under the age of 12 years. Please wrap and label these clearly with their name, so that Father Christmas can read them easily, and also please limit them to R3 or under. Let's make it a Bumper turnout, see you there.

## Geseënde Kersfees



PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH - COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Chairman	Dick Schönborn ZS2RS	541461 (B)	324737 (H)
Vice Chairman	Andre van Deventer ZS2BK	28501 (B)	306893 (H)
Treasurer	Frank Burrell ZS2CY		301000 (H)
Secretary	Marge Colson ZS2OE		302334 (H)
Members:	Brian Weller ZS2AB	21173 (B)	303498 (H)
	Cyril Goodman ZS2KX		23639 (H)
	Roger Jenkins ZR2BS	541461 (B)	

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BULLETIN ROSTER.

The Bulletin roster for the following month is as follows:

16th December	Roger Jenkins ZR2BS
23rd December	Dick Schönborn ZS2RS
30th December	Andre van Deventer ZS2KB
6th January	Marge Colson ZS2OB
13th January	Frank Burrell ZS2CY

If anyone has any news for the bulletin - and there must be lots of news at this time of the year - please let the bulletin reader know. It would be most appreciated.

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R.I.P. - ZS 2 BJ - BOB DERSLEY.

It was with very deep regret that we heard that Bob Dersley ZS2BJ had become Silent Key. Bob had first become a member of the S.A.R.R.L. in 1936 and had been one of those who had attended the first Annual General Meetings of the League when the Constitution had been first worked out and then finally drawn up.

Bob had been a very active member in East London and many are the tales which could be told of his activities there. In 1948 he moved to Port Elizabeth and was just as active here as he was there, both on the ham bands and on the Committee of the Port Elizabeth Branch. He held many positions, from Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Editor of QSX PE and also as an ordinary member of the Committee. For all his hard work and loyalty to the Branch and the League he was awarded Life Membership and also the Jack Twine Merit Award.

There are many local hams who can testify to the kindheartedness and helpfulness of Bob; for those who were interested in starting out in Ham Radio to those who asked for his technical expertise, which he was always very willing to give. Bob will be sadly missed among the Ham Fraternity and we wish to extend to his wife Eve, who stood by his side without faltering throughout his illness, and to his family, our sincerest sympathies in their deep loss.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE HELD AT THE PHOENIX HOTEL, MARKET STREET, Uitenhage on 23rd NOVEMBER, 1979.

PRESENT: 29 members and visitors.

APOLOGIES: ZS2AO, ZS2RM, ZS2FZ, ZS2CH, ZS2ID.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and apologised for the late start. He extended a special welcome to all the ladies, the Uitenhage members and visitors and to Mike AS6AFG from Springs.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting held 19th October, 1979, having been published and circulated in QSX-PE were taken as read, proposed by Brian ZS2AB and seconded by Cyril ZS2KX.

ARISING: -

FINANCE: The Treasurer stated that there was nothing special to report.

CORRES: The Chairman read a letter from the Postmaster General, regarding the surplus army equipment, which had apparently been made available to ZR and even non-licence holders. He was pleased to be able to state that the Port Elizabeth Branch were entirely innocent in this regard.

GENERAL: The Chairman stated that the Jamboree of the Air had gone off extremely well and he thanked all the Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage operators. It was regretted that the diagram re Tape recorders had not come out very well, and as there had been several enquiries in this regard, the article would be republished in the next issue of QSX. The Chairman told members of the CQ Worldwide D.X. C.W. contest which was due to start at 2a.m. South African time on Saturday 24th November, in case anyone wished to take part. The SATOUR cards had arrived from Headquarters and were being made available at 20 per member at a very nominal cost to cover the postage the Branch had paid. Motions for the next Annual General Meeting were discussed and although Brian ZS2TY had suggested that a motion in favour of Council and Headquarters being moved to Johannesburg, be put, there was no support for this, as it was felt that the new Council should be given a fair chance to prove themselves.

James ZS2LR then gave a very amusing talk which was well received.

The Chairman thanked James and said that a slide show had been planned, but unfortunately the slides were missing. It was hoped that the Christmas get-together would involve the wives and children and it was planned to hold a Christmas tree for the children, followed by a Braai. Anyone who wished to attend should inform the Secretary. Members from Kareedouw, Cape St. Francis and Fort Beaufort were willing to attend, and it was hoped that a good number from Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage would attend.

Peter Wilkens then asked for clarification on the future plans and present 2 metre repeaters, as he had heard several rumours. The Chairman replied that the Port Elizabeth Branch had two repeaters operational at the moment, in Grahamstown and Lady's Slipper. The Town Repeater had been damaged beyond repair, and this was certainly not due to the elements.

A year ago the Branch had made application for the frequency of 145000/600 for a repeater on the Cockscomb range, and although the frequency had been allocated, no licence had been issued as the Band Planner was still negotiating with the Postmaster General.

With regard to the motion to be put to the Annual General Meeting by the Algoa Branch in regard to Repeater frequencies, this was felt to be unfortunate and would do nothing to further the subject of ham radio, particularly in the Eastern Cape.

Brian ZS2TY asked about the repeater for Kareedouw and the Chairman stated that this frequency had been given to the Algoa Branch.

Grahamstown would be changing from 145200/800 to 145150/750 as soon as the new crystals arrived. These had been ordered and were promised for 4th December.

The frequency of 145175/775 had been allocated in the Band Plan to the Algoa Branch.

After the Annual General Meeting last year, when it was decided to form the East Cape Technical Co-ordinating Committee to assist the Band Planner, as it was felt that East Cape residents knew the area better than the band planner, the Port Elizabeth Branch had written to all the Branches in the East Cape and Porder in order to form this Committee. East London had asked seven questions which had been answered and then had not replied further. A positive reply appointing the Chairman as delegate had been received from Kaffraria Branch and the Algoa Branch had stated that they were not interested in joining the Committee. Because of this, the Committee had not yet been formed.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.

sgd.  
R.W. Schönborn ZS2RS  
Chairman

sgd.  
M.T. Colson ZS2OB  
Secretary.

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#### DAFFYNITIONS.

CW. Continuous Wave - so called because it is broken up into dots and dashes.

BUG KEY: An instrument for multiplying dots.

HAM: One who says "Hi" in his sleep.

HAM SPIRIT: The bond of friendship binding together all who use the same crystal frequency.

DOPE: Generally inaccurate information imparted by one amateur to another.  
Induces a feeling of sleepiness in both.

HANDLE: Usually attached to a LID.

R: means "received" to the extent that at least 2 words have been copied correctly.

SHACK: A shed or similar building completely surrounded by wire.

(Thanks to Cyril ZS2KX).

GESKIEDENIS VAN DIE UITSAATWESER IN SUID AFRIKA.

(Met erkenning aan "POWER", Teenspanning en John R. Shorten).

A.S. Innes bou in 1923 die eerste sender in Suid Afrika. Johannesburg as die digbevolkte gebied, was die natuurlike sentrum vir die Suid-Afrikaanse uitsaaitoneel om te begin.

Innes het sy tuisgemaakte sender in sy huis op die hoek van Yeo- en De La Reystrate in Yeoville opgerig. Die stasie was genoem 2 OB en die toerusting ontwerp om tot 'n afstand van 160 km uit te saai. Wanneer toestande egter gunstig was, was goeie ontvangs selfs sover as Kimberley ondervind.

Kort hierna het ene Mnr. Fisher van Braamfontein 'n stasie, genoem 2 BR op die lug gebring. Slegs 'n paar weke later het 'n groep mense onder beskerming van die "S.A. Railways Broadcasting Committee" met 'n 1 kW medium frekwensie sender, verskaf deur die "Western Electric Company" begin met eksperimentele uitsendings van konserte in Johannesburg. In daardie tyd was die "Transvaal Radio Club" gevorm en uitsendings was op menige tuisgeboude kristal-ontvangertjies gehoor alhoewel daar toe nog geen beheer was oor die uitsaai en lisensiëring van ontvangstelle, nie. Op 3 Augustus 1923 is regulasies onder die Poskantoorwet van 1911 afgekondig.

Genl. Smuts was vir die eerste keer op 18 Desember 1923 op die lug gehoor toe 'n uitsending gemaak was vanaf die kelder van die Spoorweg kantore in Johannesburg. Elf dae later kon luisteraars 'n toespraak van die Burgermeester, Raadslid M.J. Harris, hoor. Dit was gevolg deur 'n orreluitvoering deur John Connel, die dorps orrelis.

Die "Associated Scientific & Technical Societies of S.A." was egter eerste op die lug met gereelde uitsendings. Die het 'n Vereniging gevorm was bekend as die AS & T Broadcasting Co. Ltd" en hulle het 'n ateljee op die dak van die Stuttards-gebou, op die hoek van Rissik- en Pritchardstrate ingerig en toegerus. Toe, op 1 Julie 1924 het hulle hul stasie op die lug geplaas.

Teen die end van daardie jaar het twee ander S.A. stasie gereeld uitgesaai. Hulle was onderskeidelik die eiendomme van "Cape Peninsula Publicity Association" en die "Durban Municipality". Daar was ook gepoog om die stadsraad van Johannesburg sover te kry om 'n Munisipale uitsaaitasie daar te stel, maar die stadsvaders het wyslik besluit dat dit nie 'n Munisipale aangeleentheid is nie.

Aangesien daar nou drie onafhanklike maatskappye in die land was wat reeds stasies op die lug gehad het, is 'n konferensie in Kaapstad gehou om streke vir elke stasie af te baken en om gemeenskaplike probleme uit te stryk. Hierdie konferensie het gelei tot die stigting van die "SOUTH AFRICAN BROADCASTING COUNCIL" en is entoesiasties deur die pers ontvang.

Wel, om onderling tot 'n ooreenkoms te geraak, was een ding maar die luisterpubliek was 'n perd van 'n ander kleur! Baie gou het die betrokke maatskappye op die randjie van bankroetskap gehuiwer want die teorie dat mense wat geniet altyd bereid is om daarvoor te betaal, het die keer nie so uitgewerk nie!

Voorsiening vir fooie was in die regulasies gemaak. Dit het Uitsaaimaatskappye toegelaat om £2 (R4) per jaar te hef van privaat eienaars vir wie hulle ontvangstelle geïnstalleer het. Vir losieshuise was die fooi £3 (R6), vir onge-lisensiëerde hotelle en kafees £4 (R8) en £6 (R12) vir al die ander hotelle.

Eienaars van stelle was ook versoek om 'n lisensie van die P.M.G. @ vyf sjielings (50sent) per jaar, te verkry. Verder was Maatskappye toegelaat om kontrakte met adverteerders aan te gaan, maar fondse uit hierdie bron was uiters skraal aangesien daar baie beperkings was op die uitsaai van advertensies. Groot bitterheid het dus geheers want slegs sowat die helfte van die 9000 eienaars binne 'n radius van 160 km vanaf Johannesburg het hulle plig nagekom - die ander was 'LUGROWERS'.

Gedurende Oktober 1926 was die geldsake van die "AS & T Braodcasting" in so 'n gevaarlike toestand dat die Stadsraad, o.l.v. die Burgemeester, 'n beroep op die publiek gedoen het om hulle fooie terstond te betaal, en gedreig dat die stasie sou moes sluit as hulle nie gewillig was om te betaal nie.

Alhoewel hierdie beroep wyd en syd gepubliseer was, was die reaksie so swak dat die Maatskappy verplug was om die uitsendings teen die end van Januarie 1927 te staak. Lugrowery het geseëvier!!

(WORD VERVOLG).

### TAPE RECORDER DIAGRAMS - SEE NEXT ARTICLE.

FIGURE 1.

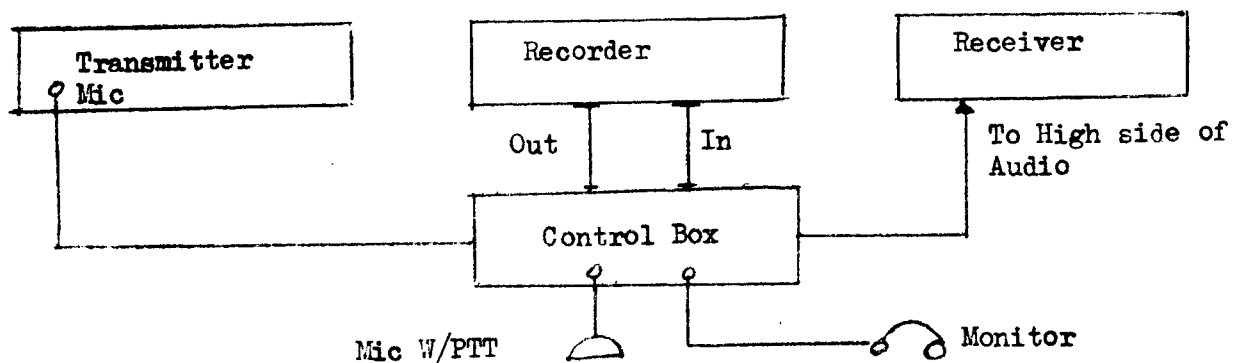
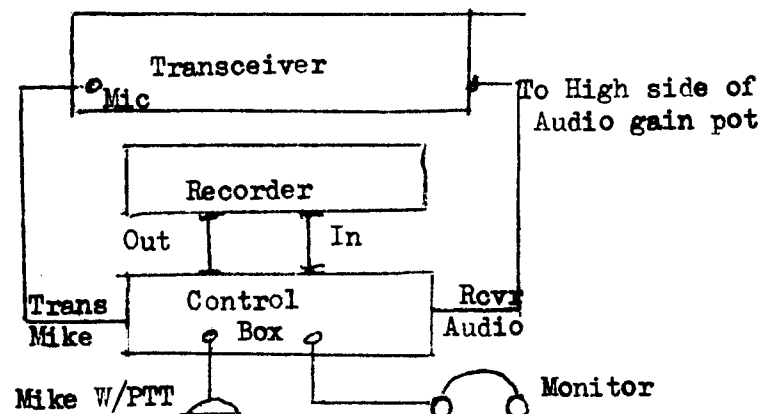
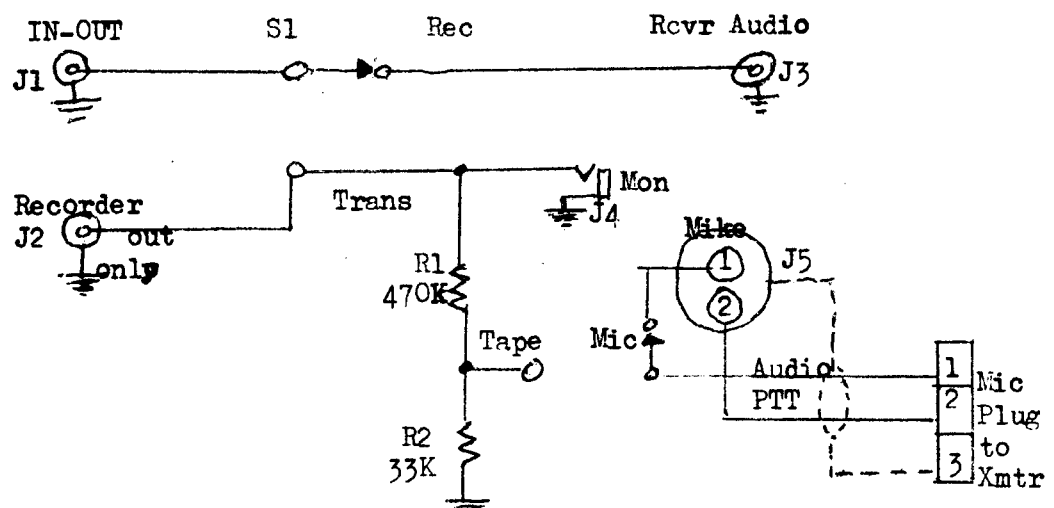


FIGURE 2.



At times a tape recorder can be a useful accessory to any amateur station. One obvious use is relaying information directly to another phone station on the net. Instead of laboriously repeating or paraphrasing the message, why not record it on tape and retransmit it to the other station?

The simple control box described in this article makes this procedure a cinch. It has the following operating features:

1. Off-the-air recording may be monitored on the receiver speaker or earphones at any audio level without effecting the recording level.
2. Recorder output may be monitored either for cuing in or transmitting purposes without tying up either the transmit or receive function.
3. Recorder output is reduced to the same level as average microphone output during transmit so that it is unnecessary to readjust microphone gain when switching from microphone to recorder.
4. No modification of the tape recorder or other equipment is required other than adding a short audio cable to the audio gain control of the receiver or transceiver.

A block diagram of the setup is shown in Fig. 1. and the schematic diagram of the control box in Fig. 2. S1 switches the recorder from receiver to transmitter, and S2 switches the transmitter microphone input from microphone to recorder, as required. Resistors R1 and R2 form a voltage divider that drops the recorder output to approximate microphone level. High impedance earphones are directly connected to the high side of the voltage divider for cuing in and monitoring purposes.

Generally speaking, there are two types of tape recorder interconnection available. Most tape decks have separate inputs and outputs but many of the older tape decks have only one connection which serves as both input and output, depending upon whether the recorder is in the "record" or "play" mode.

If your recorder has an "in-out" terminus, switch S1 must be operated along with the recorder when changing from "record" to "play". If your recorder has separate inputs and outputs switch S1 should be left in the REC position at all times. The recorder will then always be properly connected when switching to "record" or "play" at the recorder.

Monitoring while recording may be done conveniently by listening to the receiver speaker or earphones. On playback, the recorder is monitored with earphones connected directly to the recorder output.

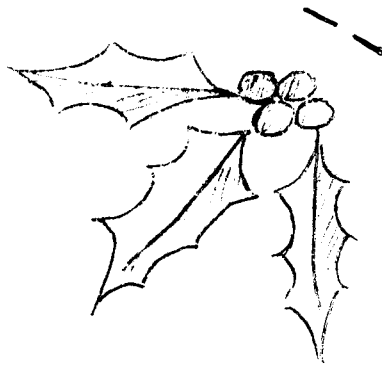
The original unit was housed in an old meter case. This permits mounting the controls at a convenient angle. The meter hole was covered by a small aluminium panel upon which the control switches are mounted. The microphone and monitoring jacks are mounted in the meter case binding post holes after reaming them out to size. All other remaining cables and connectors are brought out on the rear of the meter case. Wiring of course is simple and not critical since this is only an audio switching device. However, make sure all connectors are properly grounded to avoid hum problems.

A gadget such as this ordinarily does not get much use around the station, but when it is needed it is a real operating convenience. It surely beats haywiring the tape recorder with clip leads and riding the gain, trying to maintain proper output level to the transmitter.

With thanks to "73" and W6PPO.



# THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS



'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the shack,  
Not a creature was stirring except OM Mac,  
The Coax was hung by the chimney with care,  
The standing wave ratio stayed low with it there.  
The wife in the bedroom and I at the mike,  
Had just settled down for a long DX night.  
Then out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang from the rig to see what was the matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutter, threw open the sash,  
The moon on the crest of the ninety-foot tower,  
Gave no hint at all that I ran too much power.  
When what to my wondering eyes should appear  
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer.  
With a little old driver so lively and quick,  
That I knew in a instant it must be Saint Nick.  
More rapid that eagles his coursers they came,  
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name.  
"On Dasher, on Dancer, the long path is fading,  
Old Mac will miss Spratly if we keep him waiting,  
To the top of the rock, to the top of the wall,  
Now dash away, dash away, dash away all".  
So up to the housetop the coursers they flew,  
With a sleighfull of gear and Saint Nicholas too.  
And then in an instant I heard on the roof,  
All the clattering noise of each galloping hoof.  
All bundled in fur from his head to his foot  
His clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.  
I drew in my head and was turning around,  
When down the chimney he came with a bound.  
A bag full of gear he had slung on his back,  
And he looked like an old pedlar just opening his sack.  
He pulled out a box with my name on the front  
And then he exclaimed, "I don't mean to be blunt,  
But the rig that you're using has seen its best days,  
With this gear you should make DXCC by May".  
He spoke not a word but went straight to his work,  
He set up the gear and then turned with a jerk,  
And laying a finger alongside of his nose,  
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.  
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,  
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.  
But I heard his exclaim ere he drove out of sight,  
"Happy hamming to all, and to all a Good Night!"



Adapted by Phil Wright, VS6DR.

From Ohm Magazine. Dec. 1972.

