

Q S X P E

*Port Elizabeth Branch of the
South African Radio League*

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



National Call	145.5 Mhz
P.E. Repeater	145.05/65
Grahamstown	145.15/75
Lady's Slipper	145.10/70

ZS2PE

Bulletin: Sunday 08h40
HF: 40m – 7098 KHz
VHF: FM-145,700 MHz

MAY 1985

Port Elizabeth Branch

▶NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETING◀

THE MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE WILL BE HELD AT THE SCOUT HALL, VAN PLETTENBERG STREET, KABEGA PARK ON FRIDAY 17th MAY, 1984 AT 8.15P.M.

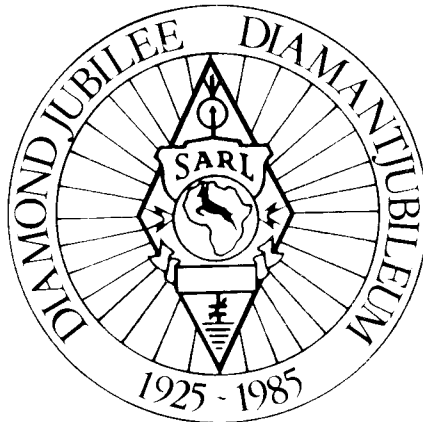
Committee

CHAIRMAN: Brian ZS2AB(303498)	VICE CHAIRMAN: Dick ZS2RS (322111)
SECRETARY: Marge ZS2OB(303498)	TREASURER: Pete ZS2PJ (301493)
AWARDS: Gordon ZS2GK(306776)	Trevor ZS2AB(321746)
QSOX-PE: ZS2OB and ZS2AB	

bulletin roster



19th May	Pete	ZS2PJ
26th May	Trevor	ZS2AE
2nd June	Gordon	ZS2GK
9th June	Brian	ZS2AB
16th June	Dick	ZS2RS



SPECIAL BRANCH OFFER TO MEMBERS.

DO YOU OWN A VHS VIDEO RECORDER? IF YOU DO, YOU CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR MONTHLY SPECIAL OFFER.

DUE TO A VERY GENEROUS DONATION TO THE BRANCH, WE ARE ABLE TO OFFER, EACH MONTH, 1 OR POSSIBLY 2 BLANK VHS 3-HOUR TAPES AT THE UNBEATABLE PRICE OF ONLY R15 EACH.

THE PROCEEDS OF THESE SALES WILL GO ENTIRELY INTO THE FUNDING OF QSOX-PE. CONTACT MARGE ZS2OB FOR THESE TAPES.

FIRST COME-FIRST SERVED.

THIS and THAT

CONGRATS On behalf of the Committee and members, we would like to extend congratulations to Peter Neveling ZS2PD on his engagement to Alison Coetsee and we wish them a long and happy life together.

Welcome A very warm welcome to Harry Manan who has recently re-joined the Branch. His interest in Amateur Radio has been rekindled and we hope you go on to getting your licence this time Harry.



On 16th June, the PE Branch will be setting up a stand at the static Airshow being presented by the Algoa Flying Club at the airfield. We will be having an operative station and a display of old radio equipment. If you have any items of particular interest, please let the Committee know, and also if you will be available on that day to man (or woman) the stand. Thanks.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

On Friday 3rd May, in honour of the Diamond Anniversaries, both of the League and the Branch, 28 members and families celebrated the event at the Himalayan Restaurant. Having discovered that snow shoes and oxygen equipment was entirely unnecessary, but that bottled r.f. was definitely high on the provisions list, a good time was had by all and the opinion was expressed that the Branch should have a birthday every six months. If we all didn't get a year older every six months, we might even consider the idea!

D.F. HUNT

On Sunday 28th April, in spite of very blustery winds and rather cold weather, several intrepid DF hunters took part in the first hunt that the Branch has had for several years. Brian ZS2AB was fox, and to make it a bit easier for the first-timers, transmitted for longer periods. Although holding down maps was a little difficult in the high winds, and although two DF sets gave up the ghost (perhaps they needed the oxygen equipment?) nearly everyone managed to find the foxhole. Trevor ZS2AE and Julie made it first, followed by Pete ZS2PJ and sons and then Clive ZS2RT and family. Bill Hodges, whose set packed up, got so near, but never quite made it. We are looking forward to the next time and hope we have a few more hunters.



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MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE HELD AT THE SCOUT HALL, VAN PLETTENBERG STREET, KABEGA PARK ON FRIDAY 19th APRIL, 1985.

PRESENT: 37 members and visitors.

APOLOGIES: ZS2RB, ZS2SI, ZR2EY.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting especially Vi ZS2BR, Bette ZS2LO and Cyril ZS2KX, the ladies, all the regulars and the visitors, especially Owen ZR2HZ.

The Chairman said that before we got down to the business of the meeting, he had a very pleasant task to perform in presenting Life Membership Awards to Vi and Cyril. These had been proposed by the Branch to the 1985 A.G.M. and had been unanimously approved and he had pleasure in handing the badges and certificates to Vi and Cyril. Cyril thereafter thanked the Branch and said that one could only get out of the League what one put into it and he had discovered that once he had become involved with Committee work he had realised that League affairs were much more interesting and satisfying and he urged all the members to become actively involved and to give Council the chance it deserved with running the League to the best of its ability and that when all was said and done, the fees for membership were not very high. Cyril and Vi received whole-hearted applause.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting held 15th March, 1985, having been published and circulated in QSX-PE were taken as read proposed by Peter Wilken ZS2GW and seconded by Lynn Crothall ZS2MM.

- ARISING: 1. It was reported by Lionel ZS2DD that the 2 meter beacon was running, the keyer was complete, the p.s.u. to be completed and an antenna to be made. The site was already approved.
2. With regard to the DF hunt, the Chairman suggested that it be postponed for one week because there were a number of items necessary and these would be explained to those interested, after the meeting.
3. The Social Outing to celebrate the Diamond Anniversaries of the League and the Port Elizabeth Branch is to be held on Friday 3rd May and would take the form of a meal at the Himalayan Restaurant. The following said they would like to attend: ZS2RS, ZS2AE, ZS2AO, ZS2PJ, ZS2GW, ZS2GK, ZS2AJ, ZS2BY, ZS2TJ, ZS2VM, ZS2WG, ZS2AP, ZS2JS, ZS2AB, ZS2OB and Bill Hodges, making a total of 30 including partners. The Secretary would make the necessary booking. The restaurant is unlicensed.

CORRES: 1. Several Branch Newsletters.

2. Letter from ZS6AKV re National Technical Linkup on 5th May.

- GENERAL: 1. With regard to the repeater to be set up on the Tierhoekberg (Cockscomb range) Brian reported that the helicopter appeared to be here only one day per week and it was decided to make a deadline of 4 or 5 weeks before we arrange to go up the mountain on foot although it was very steep and would need quite a lot of helpers. It might be necessary to leave this until the weather was warmer and the days longer.
2. The motions which had been discussed at the A.G.M. were then presented to the members and the Chairman advised on the voting.

The most important item being the budget this was discussed at length and although there was dissatisfaction expressed at the big increase in subs, it was mentioned that it was a mere R3 per month, or less than the cost of one meal out for two people and that members should give Council a chance to prove that it could do better in the future. Brian urged members to wait at least a year before judging and if they felt like it, they could stop their membership next year! He said that Council were budgeting for a 15% drop in membership and hoped that Port Elizabeth Branch would come nowhere near that figure. It was also mentioned that if members wished to pay their subs in instalments, constitutionally they were free to do so, and they could inform the Treasurer if they so wished. This would be completely confidential.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed and tea was taken. ZS20B had provided a cake in the form of a '60' with sixty candles for the occasion.

sgd:
B.A. Weller ZS2AB
Chairman

sgd:
M.T. Weller ZS20B
Secretary

SUBSCRIPTIONS

We have received from Headquarters the breakdown of the 1985/86 subs and they are as follows:

Entrance Fee:	All classes R15.			
	TOTAL	H.Q.	BRANCH	RADIO ZS and Callbook.
Full Membership	R36.00	R20.00	R10.00	R6.00
Associate	36.00	30.00	-	6.00
Junior	21.00	10.00	5.00	6.00
Spouse	15.00	10.00	5.00	-
Pensioner	18.00	8.00	4.00	6.00
Incapacitated	18.00	8.00	4.00	6.00

As you will notice, the Pensioner Membership is actually R8 lower than was at first anticipated, so this will come as a great relief to many. Also the spouse membership was anticipated at R26, and we see there is no contribution to Radio ZS. Perhaps each household will only receive one copy.

DO NOT FORGET:

To help those who would find it difficult with subscriptions, it has been decided that you may pay your subs in two or three instalments. Please advise the Treasurer if you will be doing this, or send a post-dated cheque with the second half of the subs.

We would really not like to lose your valued membership and as the Chairman said last month, let the Port Elizabeth Branch be among the few Branches which will not lose the anticipated 15% membership. Let us go from strength to strength.

WHO'S THAT KNOCKING AT MY DOOR?

For ten years now, amateur radio enthusiasts in Europe have been upset by interference emanating from the Soviet Union. The pulses of high energy that interrupt their broadcasts sound like a hammer and have been nicknamed Woodpecker.

There is no clear pattern in Woodpecker's transmission schedule. It starts and stops for no apparent reason. Broadcasts usually last for around half an hour, during which the frequency changes - apparently to use the maximum possible frequency and shortest possible wavelength, according to reception conditions. The frequency is usually around 7 megahertz which interferes with the amateur radio wavelength of around 40 metres. But Woodpecker may operate at up to 20 megahertz.

Woodpecker is by far the most powerful broadcasting station on Earth. It appears to comprise several transmitters operating at powers up to 50 megawatts each, generating constant power across a bandwidth of 200 kilohertz.

By comparison, the BBC's most powerful VHF radio transmitter broadcasts at less than 200 kilowatts, 1/250th of the Woodpecker's strength. A wide band-width is essential for jamming now that communications systems continually hop, under computerised control, between a large number of frequencies in a chosen band.

Amateur radio enthusiasts manage to operate in Woodpecker's bandwidth only by using muting circuits which transmit and receive the gaps between the pulses. But if the transmission switched to a continuous wave, the muting system would not work, and all communications in the band would be destroyed.

On nights when Woodpecker is off the air, Soviet radio operators, who claim to be amateurs, appear on the airwaves. They ask amateurs in the West how well they are being received and ask for details of the time, frequency, reception point and strength of their signal to be sent to a box number in Moscow.

The Soviet amateurs appear to use high-quality equipment transmitting at powers up to 10 kilowatts. In most countries, amateurs are limited to 400 watts of transmission power. The Soviet broadcasters usually speak good English, but are not interested in the kind of conversation that is normal among radio hams. After learning how their signal is being received, they usually sign off, say hams in the West. All this has led to a growing suspicion that these amateurs are not what they seem.

Barry Fox.

(From "New Scientist" 28 February 1985)

Thanks to Colin ZS2AO

WORRY.

- 40% of what you worry about never happens.
- 30% of what you worry about is in the past.
- 12% of what you worry about is needless (e.g. your health)
- 8% of what you worry about is real.
- 4% of what you worry about, you can do something about.
- 4% of what you worry about, is going to happen anyway.

(Thanks to Leo Smithies)

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musik



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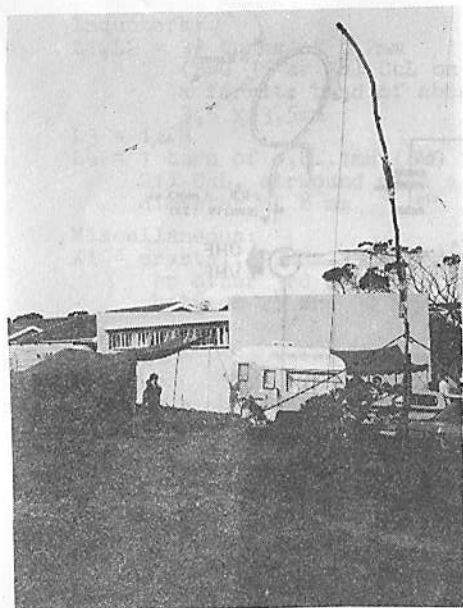


HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS.

AT THE APRIL BRANCH MEETING VI CRUICKSHANKS ZS2BR AND CYRIL GOODMAN ZS2KX WERE AWARDED THEIR HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP WHICH HAD BEEN UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE 1985 NATIONAL AGM IN PRETORIA, AFTER A NOMINATION BY THE BRANCH THAT THESE TWO AMATEURS BE REWARDED FOR THEIR MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HOBBY.

IN THE PICTURE ABOVE, VI AND CYRIL DISPLAY THEIR CERTIFICATES AFTER THE PRESENTATION. ACCOMPANYING THE CERTIFICATES ARE S.A.R.L. LAPEL BADGES IN RED ENAMEL, BEARING THE WORDING 'HONORARY LIFE MEMBER'. OUR CONGRATULATIONS AGAIN TO THESE TWO WORTHY RECIPIENTS. THANKS TO CLIVE ZS2RT FOR ACTING AS OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER.

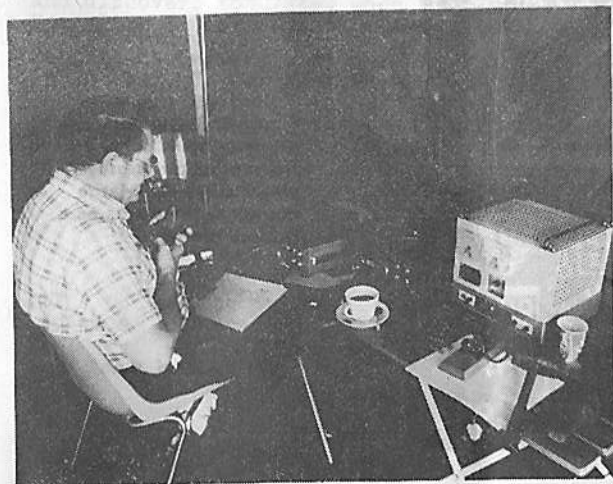
JAMBOREE-OF-THE-AIR 1984.



Left: The Sunridge Park Scout Hall where the Station ZS2JAM was set up in October, 1984. Shown also are the refreshment caravan manned by mothers of the Scouts and also the tent where a second station was operative. In the background, can be seen the three-element beam lent by Dick ZS2RS and the curved pole erected by the Scouts for the dipoles. Wonder what the radiation pattern looked like?



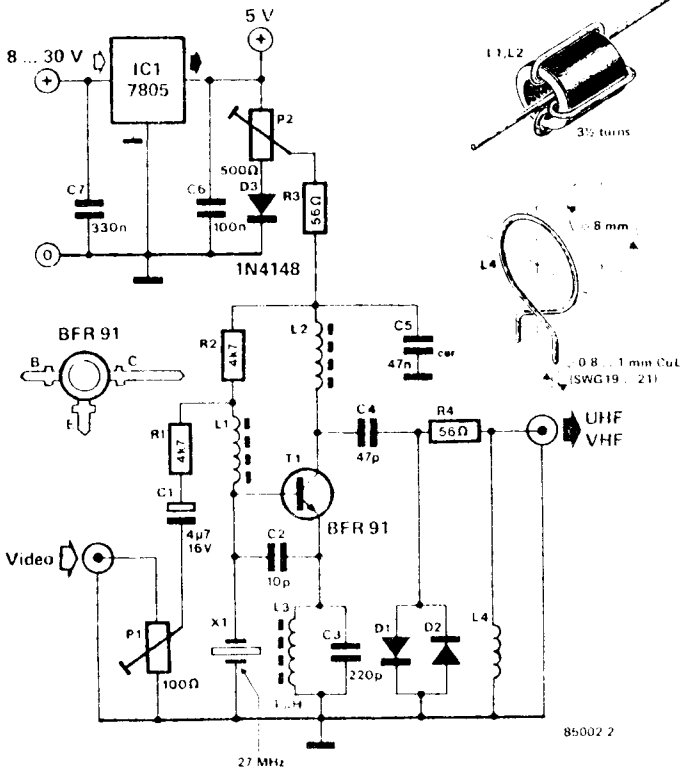
Above: Trevor ZS2TJ operating in the hall at the SSTV rig, keenly watched by Tiny Packwood one of the chief Scout organisers in P.E.



Left: Brian ZS2AB at the mike of the second station in the tent.

Many thanks to Clive ZS2RT for the photographs.

VHF/UHF TV modulator



85002 2

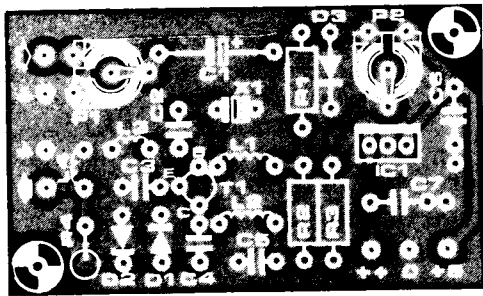
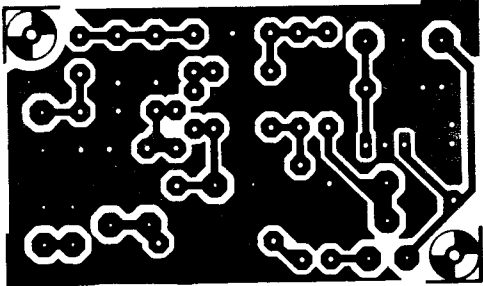


Figure 2. In this circuit diagram we see that the 27 MHz oscillator is based on transistor T1 and the harmonics are generated by Schottky diodes D1 and D2.

Figure 3. Fortunately the printed circuit board for the modulator is only single-sided. The large copper surface acts as a ground plane.

COMPONENT LIST FOR VHF/UHF TV MODULATOR.

Resistors:

R1, R2 = 4k7
R3, R4 = 56Ω
P1 = 100Ω preset
P2 = 500Ω preset

Capacitors:

C1 = 4.7/16V
C2 = 10 p
C3 = 220 p
C4 = 47 p
C5 = 47 n, ceramic
C6 = 100 n*
C7 = 330 n*

Inductors:

L1, L2 = 3½ turns of 0.2mm
(SWG 35 or 36) CuL on
a ferrite bead of about
3.5 x 3.5mm
L3 = 1μH
L4 = 1 turn of 0.8..1mm (SWG 19..
21) CuL, airwound with a
diameter of 8 mm

Semiconductors:

D1, D2 = 1N6263 (Ambit/Cirkit)
D3 = 1N4148
T1 = BFR91 (Ambit/Cirkit)
1C1 - 7805*

Miscellaneous:

X1 ≠ crystal, 27MHz (3rd overtone)
or other 3rd overtone crystal
between 25 and 30 MHz

* = not needed if the circuit
is powered from a stab-
ilised 5V supply.

DON'T QUIT.

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will
And the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When funds are low and debts are high
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't ever quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns
As everyone sooner or later learns.
And many a failure has come about
When we might have won had we stuck it out.
Don't give up, though the pace seems slow,
You may succeed with another blow!

Often the goal is nearer than
It seems to faint and faltering man,
Often the struggler has given up,
When he might have captured the victor's cup
And discovers too late, when the night slips down
How close he had come to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you can never tell how close you are
It may be near when it seems afar.
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit
It's when things seem worst that you MUSTN'T QUIT.

Author Unknown.

(Thanks to Buck ZS2RM)

DID YOU HEAR about the flashy car that middle-aged men of the
northern suburbs have taken to buying? A menoporsche.
that the only people advocating birth control are those
who have been born?
about the gay lawyer who gives legal aids?

(Thanks to Robbie ZS2RB for these)

2

COMPONENT LIST FOR THE NEW TV MODULE

HEREWITH A COPY OF A LETTER RECEIVED BY THE BRANCH RECENTLY FOR THE INFORMATION OF THOSE CONCERNED.

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1985-03-26

The President
South African Radio League
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8000

RECEIVED 29 MAR 1985

Dear Mr Siegel

RECEPTION OF WEATHER SATELLITE SIGNALS

I am pleased to inform you that in response to representations which were received from Southern Africa Amsat it has been decided exceptionally to permit radio amateurs to receive satellite signals from the weather satellite for experimental purposes. Each licensee should however apply individually to this office for the necessary experimental licence for which a fee of R8,00 per annum will be levied.

An application for an experimental licence must be made by means of a T122 and T123 forms in duplicate which are obtainable from this office as well as from certain radio dealers. It should be clearly stated on the form that the licence is required by an amateur for weather satellite experimental purposes, please.

Yours faithfully


POSTMASTER GENERAL

Never 8 June
State show 16 "

Old newspaper?