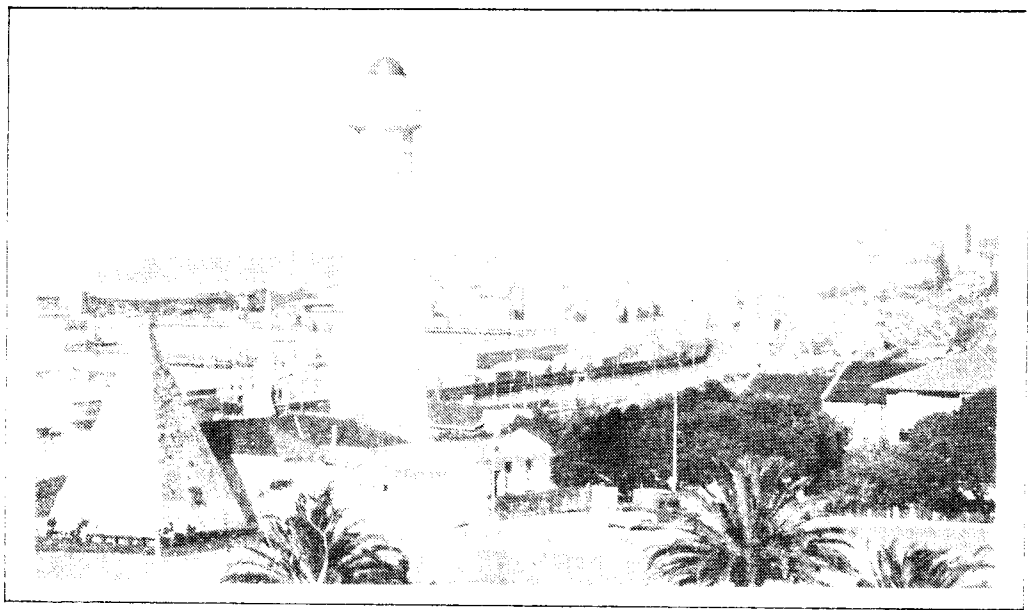




Q S X  
P E



THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY THE  
PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH OF THE SOUTH  
AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE.

P.O. BOX 10402  
LINTON GRANGE  
6015

03 / 89

P O R T            E L I Z A B E T H            B R A N C H  
COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN	Marge Weller	ZS20B	30-4597
VICE CHAIRMAN	Brian Weller	ZS2AB	30-3498
SECRETARY			
TREASURER	Colin Robertson	ZS2CTR	30-0570
SPECIAL/SOCIAL	Beavan Gwilt	ZS2RL and	30-6968
EVENTS	Dick Schonborn	ZS2RS	55-2244
AWARDS	Bill Hodges	ZR2AAN	51-2580
MEMBERS	Lynne Crothall	ZS2MM	35-4671
HAMNET	Al Akers	ZS2U	30-2983
EDITOR - QSX-PE	Marge Weller	ZS20B	30-4597
REPEATER WORKING			
GROUP - CHAIRMAN	Trevor Scarr	ZS2AE	32-1746
LIBRARIAN	Colin Ashwell	ZS2AO	31-2471

BULLETIN ROSTER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>COMPILER</u>	<u>40m NET</u>	<u>2m NET</u>
26 March	Colin ZS2CTR	ZS2CTR	ZR2AAN
2 April	Beavan ZS2RL	ZS2RL	ZS2MM
9 April	Dick ZS2RS	ZS2RS	ZS2AB
16 April	Bill ZR2AAN	ZS2MM	ZR2AAN

SUNDAY BULLETIN INFORMATION

Primary Frequencies for bulletins at approximately 08.40a.m.  
H.F. 7098 kHz in 40 metre band. VHF 145,650 MHz - Town Repeater

BULLETIN UPDATE

7.30p.m. - 3695 kHz in 80 metre band - relay on 145,775 MHz,  
with possible relay on 51,600 MHz - incorporating VHF news.

BRANCH V.H.F. SERVICES PROVIDED

TOWN REPEATER (P.E. CENTRAL)	145,050 / 145,650 MHz
GRAHAMSTOWN REPEATER	145,150 / 145,750 MHz
LADYS GLIPPER REPEATER	145,100 / 145,700 MHz
COCKSCOMB REPEATER	145,000 / 145,600 MHz
BEACON (C.W. ID ZS2PE)	144,910 MHz

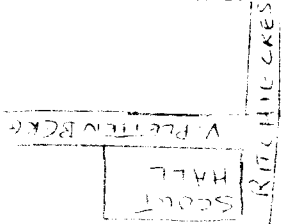
MORE DETAILS OF OTHERS IN THE AREA NEXT MONTH.

\*\*\*\*\* WE LIKE BEING YOUR BRANCH \*\*\*\*\*

# INVITATION

You are invited to attend a Social Get-together which will take place to inaugurate the merger of the two local Branches. This will be on Saturday 18th March at 7p.m. and will be held at the Scout Hall, corner of Ritchie Crescent and Van Plettenberg St. Kabega Park. The Branch will provide some wine and cold-drinks and each member is asked to provide one plate of eats enough for several members, so there will be plenty of variety. Please bring your own glass and any other liquid refreshment you might want.

Wives and partners are also invited. See you there!



WOLTEMARDE ST

CAPE RD  
PICK N PAY HYPER



# THIS AND THAT

## CONDOLENCES.

All the Committee and members of the Branch wish to extend their deepest sympathies and condolences to Attie ZR2DY and his wife Anna on the tragic death of their daughter and her fiance in a motor accident recently. You are in our prayers and thoughts.

## RESIGNATION.

We unfortunately are losing our Secretary, Owen ZS2HZ as he and his family are returning to the U.K. shortly. Many thanks to you and Tina for your help and support with Branch functions in the past and we hope you settle down soon, but that we still hear from you on the air.

## PACKET RADIO SYSTEM.

The new crystals have arrived for the H.F. and V.H.F. rigs and are being set up and run on test probably from the OTH of Lionel ZS2DD and once everything is running satisfactorily, the system will be set up on its proposed site.

## ANTENNA RESEARCH.

A group of local amateurs intend doing some research into shortened antennas. The group presently consists of Chris ZS2S, Al ZS2U and Stoffel ZS2C. Anyone interested in participating can contact one of the group as soon as possible.

## SOUNDING BUSY IS ON OFFER.

Ever worked from home? Feel lonely without the bustle of the office around you? Feel embarrassed when you realise that people at the other end of the phone must be hearing Radio 5 or the Cricket commentary in the background? ----- Feel lonely and embarrassed no longer. Switch the stereo over to tape and load a cassette offered by Ms Laura Newman of Kingston, New York. It delivers a continuous background cacophony of typewriters, the irritating clicking of p.c. keyboards and filing cabinet drawers being opened and getting stuck.

## OPERATION FROM MIR SOVIET SPACE STATION

Operation is again taking place with the call MAMIR on the primary frequency of 145,550 MHz FM with 145,650 MHz as a secondary frequency in the simplex mode. The operators have difficulty speaking English so give only your callsign and name, speaking slowly and using standard procedures.

### HAPPY EASTER

We take this opportunity to wish all our members and their families a happy and blessed Easter and to those who will be away on holiday, have an enjoyable and restful time. If you are going to be on the road, please take extra care and come back safely.

### CARAVAN RALLY

A date to enter in your diary - make a ring around the weekend on your calendar. This will take place during the weekend of 8th and 9th April, and will be held at Sea-acres (old Homewood Camping Ground). All members are invited to come along for a braai/picnic on Sunday 9th - not too far to ride, so let's see if we have double the numbers from last year. Please contact Beavan ZS2RL for further details.

### MARCONI DAY

On Saturday 22nd April, Marconi Day is being commemorated with special event stations being set up in United Kingdom, Canada, United States, Italy and several other countries. The Branch has decided to join in the 'celebrations' and will be setting up a station using the callsign ZS2MAR. We hope to have a good display of equipment, ranging from the very old to the very new, including packet radio, SSTV, WEFAX and also showing the use of computers in Amateur Radio. Videos and slides will be shown at various times during the day. The venue will be at the Newton Park Methodist Church Hall, corner of 3rd Avenue and Newton Street (next to Grand Bazaars). If you have any item you feel might be of interest to the general public as well, please let Marge know.

### THIRTY (OR MORE, OR LESS) RAND DRAW

A voluntary fund-raising effort will be held at meetings in the future. Members who wish to contribute R1 will be able to take part in a draw to be done at the monthly meetings. The prize will be half of the amount collected and the balance put into the Branch savings accounts for future purchases. Remember, it is purely voluntary and no one will know if you take part or not.

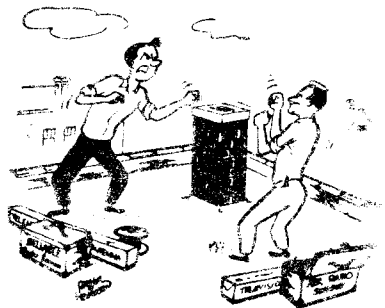
### JAMBOREE-OF-THE-AIR.

It certainly has been a good year for the Branch, and we have another feather to add to our caps. The J.O.T.A. held during October last year at Gilsands was judged the best in a nationwide competition sponsored by Otis Elevators. For those of you who weren't there, besides the Amateur Station, there were all methods of communication on display, and the visitors, although they were not allowed to talk on the Ham station, were able to use walkie-talkies, CB rigs, DF hunting, and there were videos and slides on communication shown most of the day. Our station managed to work all the awards available and Mrs. Tiny Packwood was beside herself with delight when she heard that the Group had won the R10 000 first prize. This will be used to pay for the new ablution block and hall recently built. She asked that all involved be specially thanked for their efforts.

### CARPET SAMPLES IN THE HAM SHACK.

While shopping for a new carpet several years ago, I stumbled on a pile of 45 x 60cm samples with nicely finished borders being sold for a dollar each. I bought several. What does this have to do with amateur radio? Well, one sits on my workbench to protect the surface from scratches and wear. It also protects radios from scratches and dings while I'm working on them. I selected a tightly woven, light-coloured pattern for this so that small screws and parts wouldn't disappear. Another sample ended up beneath my very large daisy-wheel printer, helping to silence its operation. Another found its home under a fairly large HF linear amplifier. When you do move something heavy like an overstuffed filing cabinet, use the carpet samples under it and it will slide easily. (Peter Bertini K1ZJH - Ham Radio)

hi



*"We've had a report that our communications satellite is dropping out of orbit, but there is no cause for alarm."*

Minutes of General Meeting of the Port Elizabeth Branch of the S.A.R.L. held at St. Martins Church on Friday 17th February 1989

Present: 28 members and visitors.

Apologies: ZS2s LW, KU, MM, VM, DT, JS, AAN, G and MF.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting especially Dieter DF1SE Raphy ZS2SP, Al ZS2U, Stoffel ZS2C. Julian S83M and Garth ZS2HB.

Minutes: The Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated in QSX PE and were taken as read, proposed by ZS2RL and seconded by ZS2MC.

Arising: (1) It was with great pleasure that we could announce that ZS2PE/P had won the Field Day competition by a long way and would receive a trophy at the A.G.M. Al ZS2U had come first in the single operator cw section and Bud ZS2CA had come second in the single operator phone section. Thanks were extended to all those who had helped in any way.

(2) The result of the merger of the two Branches had been published in QSX-PE and all the new members were warmly welcomed.

Corres: Several Branch newsletters and Council minutes.

Letter of resignation of Owen ZS2HZ as Secretary. He and his family intend returning to the U.K. later this year.

Repeaters: Trevor ZS2AE reported that Grahamstown Repeater would be re-instated tomorrow - 18th Feb. The installation of the Kareedouw repeater had been delayed by about 10 days. A full report on progress of the proposed link would be given to the Chairman to report back to the A.G.M. Colin ZS2CTR was thanked for his donation of a three element yagi for repeater use.

Finance: Colin ZS2CTR reported that we had R5 311,82 in our accounts after expenditure for the month, which included the payments for licences, electricity, HQ share of subs, purchase of QSL stickers. Brian ZS2AB said he had sold the last of the scrap cable and had received R245 which he handed to Colin. Raphy asked what amount would be transferred from the Algoa Branch. Stoffel could not give an exact amount at this stage.

General: (1) The next general meeting will take place on the third Saturday of the month and will take the form of a party

at the Kabega Scout Hall to celebrate the merger of the two Branches. The Branch will provide liquid refreshment and members will be asked to bring a plate of eats. Wives, etc are also invited.

(2) At very short notice we had been asked to provide articles for another issue of Radio ZS. Apparently only those Branches which had volunteered copy at the last A.G.M. were put on a roster and our turn had come round again. Several members had already promised copy and some articles had already been sent. Many thanks.

(3) Several events are planned for March and April. A caravan rally to be held on 8th/9th April and Beavan would make arrangements for a site and further details would be published on bulletins and in QSX-PE.

On Saturday 22nd April, Marconi Day is being commemorated and it was hoped that the Branch would set up a special station at a central venue, including a show of equipment old and new, videos, slides and incorporating the use of computers in order to attract more young people to the hobby. A special callsign ZS2MAR would be applied for. Stations in Canada, New Foundland, Ireland, England, Italy and USA would also be on the air that day. Headquarters would be informed and the press.

(4) Lionel Wrankmore mentioned that the Ankervas School was having an all day fete on 11th March and had asked if an operating station could be set up. Helpers would be needed.

(5) Bud ZS2CA said that he had been requested by Dick ZS5FB to help promote more participation in contests. This year there would be prizes in the form of handbooks, etc. Perhaps branches could help by sponsoring prizes. Bud was prepared to help as much as possible and said he would ask several others to assist. Discussing the Field Day, it was felt that there were too many categories and that several rules could be changed. We would let the Contest Manager know our ideas.

#### Discussion of Motions.

A resume of discussion at the meeting is given below for those who were unable to attend.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4. No discussion necessary. Carried.

Nos. 5 and 27 were discussed at this stage as being pertinent and logical to Motions 1 to 4. Carried.

Nos 6, 7, 9. This idea had been mooted at previous A.G.M.s and were likely to be carried, and was logical for all the reasons mentioned. Perhaps the long weekend in May which had just been proclaimed would be suitable. Carried.



- No. 12 follows on Nos. 6, 7, 9. Carried.
- No. 8. Should be every year. Lost.
- No. 10. There had been a case where a motion had been withdrawn because the proposer had seen that upon discussion, it would have been lost. Carried.
- No. 25. Discussed with No. 10. Delegates discretion.
- No. 11. Carried.
- No. 20. Discussed together with No. 11. If No. 11 is carried then No. 20 falls away. Carried.
- Nos. 13, 14, 15. These are just the administrative procedure which would follow if Nos. 6, 7, and 9 are carried. We felt that there should be one proviso. If the A.G.M. is on a specific date each year, then 31 days might be enough, otherwise perhaps 60 days would be better. Carried.
- Nos. 16 and 17. This could be a good thing and Councillors could be elected from the whole of South Africa, provided they paid their own travel expenses to and from meetings. Carried.
- Nos. 18 and 19. Carried.
- No. 21. We felt that the wording should be "may consist of up to 12 members, of whom 75% should be licensed amateurs" Carried.
- No. 23. Follows on No. 21, in same proportion. Carried.
- No. 22. We felt that this was introduced to save costs, because a move of HQ from Cape Town was likely to result in other costs being increased. A special meeting could be held when necessary between these times. Carried.
- No. 24. After explanation of previous procedures this was carried.
- No. 26. Carried.
- No. 28. We suggest that the word 'will' be changed to may, but this must be only on the recommendation of the Branch Committee. Carried - with the amendment.
- No. 29. Carried.
- No. 30. Lost. No. 35 was considered at this time. Carried.
- No. 31. Carried.
- No. 32. Lost.
- No. 33. Lost - it was stated that several members here had not paid their licences by due date, but they had not been cancelled and the further administration required would just cause further problems with the accounts department at the P.M.G.'s office.
- No. 34. The members were basically against this motion. We must keep in step with the rest of the amateur world, and the alternative could be just a glorified C.R. band. Lost.
- No. 35. Carried - about the only constructive motion!
- No. 37. Lost - it was felt that a permanent address, with con-

tinuity of QSL facilities and administration was needed and that the implementation of this motion could lead to a major split in the League.

No. 38. Lost - HQ has been in the Transvaal before and was not successful in many respects. Members must not be confused by what can be done by Branches at local level in the Transvaal - could they do the same for Branch members in other provinces. The P.M.G. does not want people 'popping' into his office, all correspondence must be in writing which is done equally successfully from Cape Town. The QSL Bureau is efficiently run where it is. Even if HQ were situated in an existing Clubhouse in Div. 6 salaries of administrative staff would immediately be higher and therefore there is no question but that subs would increase and probably quite dramatically. The AMSAT and SAATI functions could continue to be run from Div. 6 provided there is communication between the divisions.

No. 39. Lost.

No. 40. Lost - would a certificate really encourage members to stay as members, particularly if they had to apply for it themselves. It would add to costs and work.

General. This was felt to be unreasonable. Many members felt that the motions were not addressing the real problems of Amateur radio and instead of petty fighting, we should be trying to find ways to attract members. We should not be prepared to accept the 'crumbs' handed out to us and that we needed some aggressive marketing with the authorities. We should state what we want and be prepared to fight for it.

The meeting was then closed and Beavan was thanked for the eats. Members were reminded that the next meeting would be held on Saturday 18th March and would be followed by a party to mark the merger of the two branches.

sgd: M.T. Weller ZS20B  
Chairman

sgd: R.W. Schonborn ZS2RS  
Acting Secretary



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## A FEW HINTS AND TIPS FOR CONSTRUCTORS WIVES.

Since the main purpose of this magazine is to encourage and instruct our men-folk in a new hobby, I have prevailed upon the editor to allow me a little space to present the other side of the coin - a wife's-eye-view of amateur electronics. As the wife of a keen electronics man myself, it seems only fair to pass on to other wives a few hints and tips picked up over the years. His new hobby does cause some slight (?) disruption of the domestic scene. Of course, some of the lads may have workshops, or rooms set aside for their hobby. This is fine, girls, but do persuade him to fix up an intercom, otherwise you'll never speak to him.

My husband works on the dining-room table in our all-purpose living room. This way, we do occasionally manage to exchange the odd word, but this arrangement can lead to domestic friction. Electronic equipment may be functional but it most certainly is not decorative, and all those trailing wires do have a nasty habit of getting entangled with the cleaner! If he is messy with the soldering-iron, try to get some newspaper between the carpet and the flying solder - it's hell to try to get blobs of the stuff out of the Axminster/Wilton. I have yet to solve the problem of getting it off the wallpaper, although this can usefully provide an excuse for demanding a change of decor.

Of course, your husband's new hobby will have its fringe benefits. As he becomes more proficient, he will be able to make all sorts of useful gadgets for the home and car - or so I am told! Let's face it though, these marvels of science seldom seem to materialise. In my experience, electronic test equipment breeds only more electronic test equipment. Still, I don't really want and electrically heated loo seat, do you?

This can be an irritating hobby, but bear with it. Ask him what he's making - even if you don't understand one word of the answer - sympathise when it doesn't work (it never does at first), don't use his soldering iron as a tin opener and your marriage will probably survive this new interest. After all, while he's immersed in his transistors and integrated circuits, he's not got his mind on other birds, neither is he in the local with the boys. Mind you, there have been times when I would have liked to get my hands on that chap with the radiocontrolled model boat. Well, how would you like solder all over your stove?  
(by June Burn. With acknowledgments to Everyday Electronics)



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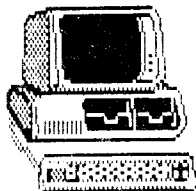
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