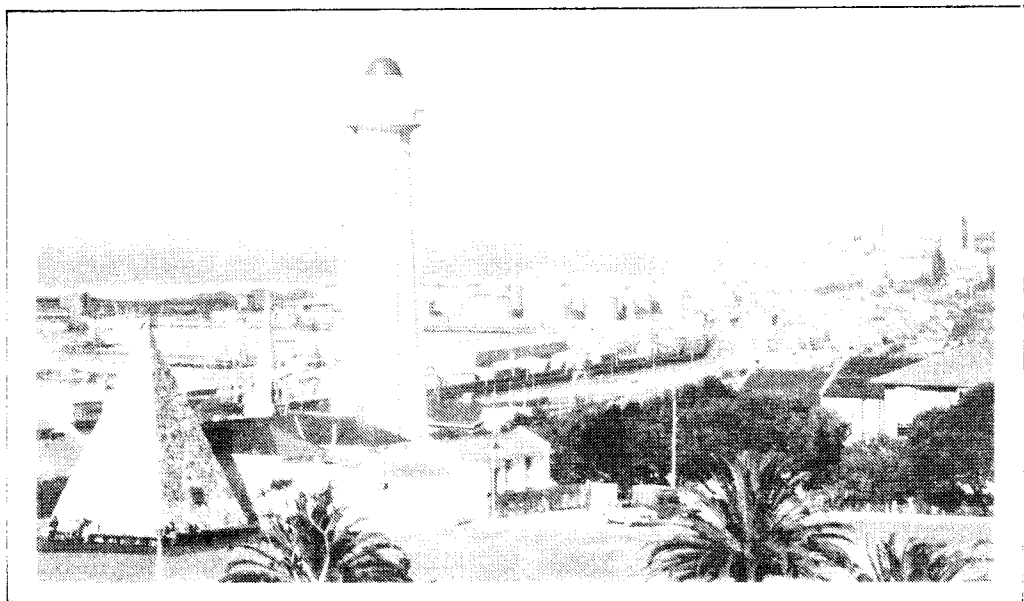




Q S X P E



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

P.O. BOX 10402
LINTON GRANGE
6015

08 / 89

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

CHAIRMAN	Marge Weller	ZS2OB	30-4597
VICE CHAIRMAN	Brian Weller	ZS2AB	30-3498
SECRETARY	Dick Schonborn	ZS2RS	55-2244
TREASURER	Colin Robertson	ZS2CTR	30-0570
RALLIES/SOCIAL	Beavan Gwilt	ZS2RL	30-6968
SPECIAL EVENTS	Dick Schonborn	ZS2RS	55-2244
AWARDS	Bill Hodges	ZR2AAN	51-2580
MEMBER	Lynne Crothall	ZS2MM	35-4671
HAMNET	Al Akers	ZS2U	30-2983
EDITOR - QSX-PE	Marge Weller	ZS2OB	30-4597

REPEATER WORKING			
GROUP - CHAIRMAN	Trevor Scarr	ZS2AE	32-1746
LIBRARIAN	Colin Ashwell	ZS2AO	31-2471
PACKET WORKING	Lionel Coombe-		
GROUP CO-ORDINATOR	Davis	ZS2DD	32-1770

BULLETIN ROSTER

DATE	COMPILER	40m NET	2m NET
27 Aug	Brian ZS2AB	ZS2AB	ZS2RL
3 Sep.	Colin ZS2CTR	ZS2CTR	ZS2MM
10 Sep.	Al ZS2U	ZS2U	ZR2AAN
17 Sep.	Dick ZS2RS	ZS2RS	ZS2AB
24 Sep.	Bill ZR2AAN	ZS2RL	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 Slipper Repeater	145,100 / 145,700 MHz
Cockscomb Repeater	145,000 / 145,600 MHz
Beacon (CW Id ZS2PE)	144,910 MHz
University Repeater	145,175 / 145,775 MHz
6 meter beacon (ZS2SIX CW Id)	50,005 MHz
Kareedouw Repeater	145,075 / 145,675 MHz

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

NOTICE OF MEETING

Members are reminded that the meeting will take place on FRIDAY 25TH AUGUST, 1989 AT 7P.M. AT THE PHYSICS DEPARTMENT OF U.P.E. In order to accomodate the University Staff who are very kindly giving of their own time to allow to visit and view their work, the meeting will start at 7 P.M. SHARP and those intending to be there should meet at the University Entrance not later than 10 minutes to 7. Al ZS2U will be on hand to escort us to the venue. We will be having our tea and eats at the University after the meeting. This is an opportunity not to be missed and we hope to see many of you there.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Members are reminded that the Annual General Meeting of the Branch will take place on Saturday 16th September at a time and venue still to be announced. The meeting will consider the annual reports and elect a new Committee and the business of the meeting will be followed by a bring-and-braai. Full details will be announced on future bulletins and in QSOX-PE.

THIS AND THAT

ALGOA/VOLKSWAGEN RALLY.

Many thanks to all those members who took part in the Rally and to Beavan ZS2RL for his organisation. Also to Colin ZS2CTR who with Beavan spent a long time travelling the route and testing the feasibility of radio access.

WELCOME.

A hearty welcome to two new members of the Branch: **Mike Smuts ZS4XE**, who is waiting for his ZS2 call and his new QTH, and **Basil Paul**, who is studying in Port Elizabeth. We hope you have a long and happy association with the Branch.

S.A.R.L. H.F. PHONE CONTEST.

Don't forget the Phone contest to take place on Sunday 28th August. We hope that as many of the Branch members as possible will take part. The rules are to be found in the May/June /July edition of Radio ZS.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

To date, most members have renewed their subscriptions and we hope that those outstanding will do so at the earliest opportunity. Please post your subs and form to P.O. Box 10402, Linton Grange or give them directly to Colin ZS2CTR. If you have mislaid your form, the Branch will provide another with all the correct details. They must not be sent directly to Headquarters. Those of you who have paid will have received your receipt and membership card with this issue of QSX-PE.

NEW COMMITTEE.

The time has come to think about a new Committee again - it is amazing just how quickly a year passes by. If you are willing to stand for Committee or would like to propose someone for a position, please get the permission of that person FIRST and then pass on the information to the present Committee. A minimum of 8 Committee members will ensure that each one doesn't have too much work to do and bulletins only come round once every two months.

MOVING HOME.

Trevor ZS2TJ and Pat Elliott are moving home to Fern Glen in the very near future and we hope that you settle in well and get your antennas up. We would really like to hear you on the air more often, Trevor.

CONGRATULATIONS.

To Mervyn ZS2F and Natalie Akers on the birth of their new baby and to Al ZS2U and Jo ZS2W on a new grandchild.




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MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH
OF THE S.A.R.L. HELD ON FRIDAY 21ST JULY, 1989.

PRESENT: 44 members and visitors.

APOLOGIES: as noted in register.

The Chairman welcomed all and especially Mike ZS4XE and Basil Paul, both of whom had just joined the Branch. Also Chris ZS2S, Van ZS2Y, Jack ZS2KU, Rob ZR2AAQ and Owen ZS2HZ and Tina who were leaving to settle in the U.K. A special welcome also to the ladies.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the meeting having been circulated in QSX-PE were taken as read, with the correction of a name. Proposed by Lynne ZS2MM and seconded by Viv ZS2VM.

ARISING: It was mentioned that details of the bumper stickers had been sent to Radio ZS. Raphy ZS2SP offered three others for comment.

CORRES:

- (1) Several Branch newsletters
- (2) Council Minutes
- (3) Letter re Jota

ARISING: (1) Several sections of the Council Minutes were read to the meeting and the Chairman was instructed to write expressing the strong feelings of members on these items, particularly the need to fund raise. What were subs to be used for?

(2) We felt that we would continue with our own newsletter as this served as a notice of meeting, and Radio ZS would probably not be received in time. It was noted that the Editor of Radio ZS received a fee of R500 per issue and this was felt to be out of proportion.

(3) Although the idea of the free QSL bureau was laudable, there is no such thing as a 'free lunch'. It was felt that the discontinuance of stickers should have been phased in over a period to allow branches and members to make use of the stickers in their possession. This was a waste of money.

(4) Raphy ZS2SP said that the change from Cape Town to Johannesburg had taken place very quickly and there appeared to be rather powerful forces in Johannesburg.

(5) After discussion on Presidential chains, delegates to overseas conferences, etc, Lynne ZS2MM asked whether Branches could object to the manner in which Council was spending money.

(6) Mike ZS4XE said that he noticed the name of the Leagues Patron did not appear in Radio ZS on the front page as before.

FINANCE: Colin ZS2CTR tabled the income and expenditure for the month. The financial state of the Branch was very good with savings of more than R7000.

GENERAL: Repeaters: Trevor ZS2AE gave a report on the recent Repeater Working Group meeting. He also put forward a proposal regarding the linking of existing repeaters. Members were asked to put forward their proposals.

Rally: Beavan ZS2RL tendered his apologies due to illness and Brian ZS2AB gave a resume of the requirements for the Rally.

Hamnet: Al ZS2U reported that there was now a new national co-ordinator.

Members were reminded that the August meeting would be held at the Physics Department of the University of P.E. Members were asked to meet not later than 7 p.m. at the entrance and Al would escort them to the venue. Tea would be taken there.

Raphy ZS2SP said that he had visited the Publicity Department re the QSL cards. They are printing new cards and we would have details as soon as possible.

The Chairman mentioned that Buck ZS1VPs expenses to attend Council meetings were +/- R500 per month and branches in Cape Town had contributed to his expenses of the first meeting.

The Editor of Radio ZS had phoned the Chairman thanking the Branch for their articles. He would like I.D. size photographs of the authors.

Subs are due now and the Treasurer said that 89 members had renewed to date.

CQ Hou Koers was mentioned but this unfortunately clashed with the Rally. Members were also reminded of Jota on 21/22 October and the Field Day Contest as well as the S.A.R.L. HF contests.

Raphy circulated a copy of the Government Gazette including the new Radio Regulations. If these were not printed in Radio ZS at an early date, they would be included in QSX-PE.

Jack ZS2KU showed his homemade 'Garden Hose Special' HF antenna. Chris ZS2S said there would be a Junk sale at his home the Sunday after the meeting.

At this stage, the meeting was closed and tea was taken. Thereafter a very interesting and informative slide show and talk was given by Buddy ZS2CA on C.P.R. and members were invited to try out the technique on 'Resusci-Annie'. Buddy was thanked for his time and effort.

sgd: M.T. Weller ZS2OB
Chairman

sgd: R.W. Schonborn ZS2RS
Secretary

THE PACKETEER ADDICTIVE SYNDROME.

by Mike Bailey, KB6LSO - QST November 1988.

BEEN SPENDING MORE AND MORE TIME ON PACKET RADIO?
HEED THIS WARNING BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

As a psychiatrist who is also an active ham, I have used Amateur Radio as an escape from the pressures of a busy practice. Until recently, there had been very little overlap between these two aspects of my life. Over the past year, however I have become increasingly aware of what I believe to be a new psychiatric disorder worthy of further study.

As you well know, over the last several years packet radio has revolutionised information transfer by radio. A significant proportion of hams have embraced this new technology and used it to further enhance their enjoyment of their radio hobby.

Let the User Beware!

However, some psychiatric casualties have occurred. I have observed individuals for whom packet radio no longer is a pastime, but an obsession similar to some psychiatric disorders. There is a pattern to the symptoms of these individuals that initially resembles a depression, but, for reasons that will become apparent, should be classified as an addictive disorder. I have therefore named the syndrome the Packeteer Addictive Syndrome (PAS).

PAS Stages

The first stage of PAS is marked by an increase in energy and a heightened mood. During this stage, the ham has expressed an interest in packet radio, talked with other hams about it, read available literature, and perhaps ordered equipment. Although they may appear preoccupied at times, they maintain their usual level of social and occupational functioning. The affected individual may even appear better than usual, as his mood is elevated in anticipation of receiving his equipment. He may become elated or euphoric and may display a significant increase in energy level as he connects the equipment and programs in the software.

Unfortunately, the individual soon becomes extremely frustrated and discouraged as find that modifications to his equipment and/or software are necessary to get on the air. Due to the myriad of radios and computers, it is inevitable that modifications will be required, and as this is a new technology, documentation to cover all possibilities does not exist.

Thus, the ham contacts other hams (packetees) feverishly in an attempt to obtain information on how to get his rig operational. They may work themselves into a state of exhaustion as they try different software parameters and pin connections for hours at a time. They become obsessed and may neglect social and family obligations. Depression and irritability are hallmarks of this stage. Although suicidal thoughts have not as yet been observed in this second stage, this possibility may exist. Despite the depressed mood, the energy level remains high, distinguishing this from other types of depression seen by psychiatrists.

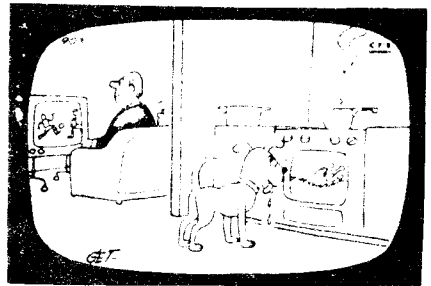
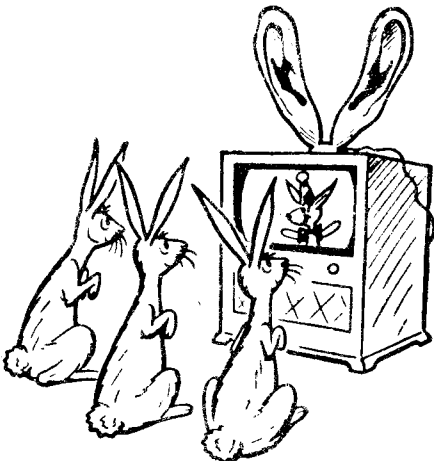
The syndrome enters the third, and chronic stage as the packeteer begins to spend increasing amounts of time at his computer and radio. If there is only one computer that is used by the entire family, then arguments may erupt as the affected individual monopolizes it. As the packeteer compulsively connects with others, searches out new nodes and explore bulletin board services, he becomes obsessed, further ignoring his social and family obligations. He is heard less and less on the local ham radio nets, ignores the HF bands completely and forgets his Morse code as he picks up a new vocabulary punctuated by "digipeater," "CTEXT," "PACLEN," etc.

Soon he may have excluded nearly all of his former friends and family and communicates only with other packeteers. As the syndrome progresses, he may spend all his spare time hunched over his video screen, his eyes chronically inflamed as his 'hobby' monopolizes his life. In spite of marked impairment in his social and family involvement, occupational functioning usually remains adequate, perhaps to ensure sufficient income for antennas, transmitters, etc.

At this stage, if equipment fails, every effort is made as the packeteer frantically attempts to get back on the air. If unable to do so, he may appear distant, depressed and listless, resembling someone who has a severe organic or endogenous depression. Sometimes spontaneous remissions have been observed at this stage if family members and friends are able to coax him back into his former lifestyle.

No Cure Yet.

Currently, there is no known cure for PAS. Further research into treatment modalities will need to be undertaken, for as packet radio becomes more popular, it is anticipated that the number of individuals afflicted with Packeteer Addictive Syndrome will increase. However, self-help groups (Packeteers Anonymous) may be useful in controlling the progression of this syndrome until a cure is found. Perhaps the ARRL (SARL?) could take the lead by appointing a task force to look into the problem. I would also encourage a healthy dialogue about this disorder in the pages of QST (Radio ZS) and invite any 'recovered' packeteers to tell their stories as an inspiration to others.



WHAT A GAS!

Cows of the World can warm the Globe by "Letting Off"
- and that's no bull!

Global warming is all a load of hot air - emitted from the rear end of a cow. Enough flatulence and our polar caps will melt, seas will rise and the world will be transformed into a reeking hothouse. That is, if you believe West German chemist Dieter Ebhalt who has produced startling calculations to prove the worlds collective cow f..ts emit enough methane into the air to bathe the entire globe in warmth.

According to Mr. Ebhalt, the amount of methane emitted in a cows f..t is 200 grams a day. Multiply this by the number of cattle on earth - 1300 million - and you get a staggering 100 million tons of methane blown off into our atmosphere each year. Enough says the learned West German, to raise temperatures round the globe.

A load of hot air? Not so, say fellow environmentalists, who are scratching their heads and grovelling through waste to solve the mystery of how 500 million tons of methane are leaking into the atmosphere each year - threatening to turn the globe into a sweltering hothouse. But then, consider the effect of rear-end hot air, and letting off becomes no laughing matter.

Molecule for molecule, methane traps 25 times as much of the suns heat in the atmosphere as carbon dioxide. Each year 50 million more tons methane enter the atmosphere than leave it. In 50 years, say the eggheads, methane will replace CO2 as the worlds most hazardous greenhouse gas.

At a recent West Berlin conference, reported in the New Scientist, the worlds most renowned scientists blew off steam about the most likely culprits of rocketing methane releases - cattle, termites, putrefying waste tips, rice paddies and bogs (the marsh type) not the toilet type.

It was here that mans most successful domestic creation - the cow - came under fire. Horror statistics - bacteria in the guts of cattle convert up to 10% of cattle feed into methane; the worlds cattle population has doubled in the past 40 years; there is now one cow for every four human beings - produced the alarming conclusion that the placid cow could heat man off much of the surface of the earth.

The hot debate focussed on micro-villians too - the tiny industrious termite caught as much flack as the lumbering cow. Dutch atmospheric chemist Paul Crutzen - who once caused a commotion by warning that a nuclear holocaust could trigger a nuclear winter - estimates there are already 250 000 billion termites swarming over two thirds of the worlds land area - and chomping a third of the worlds green matter.

Working in laboratories, he and scientists from the United States and Kenya found that the bacteria lurking in the guts of termites change most of their woody meals into carbon dioxide and methane. While most scientists tentatively put the figure at five million, Crutzen believes that termite waste could emit up to 150 million tons of methane a year - almost a third of the total.

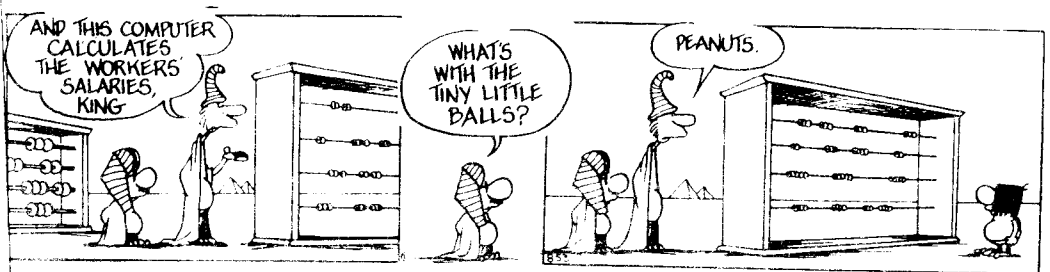
As for man; it is not his rear end but his hotheaded top end which is creating mayhem with the planetary cleansing system. Crutzen and others put the blame squarely on homo sapiens for encouraging methane producing bacteria which - unable to tolerate oxygen - took refuge two billion years ago in swamps, coral and the guts of animals like termites and herbivores.

Scientists estimate that bacteria now thriving in man-created waste tips and rice paddies push out 220 million tons of methane a year as they go to work destroying old food and paper packages.

As the globe warms, they warm, millions more tons of methane trapped under the sea and in Arctic tundra, will also be released, hotting up our surrounds even more.

Potent cattle wind aside, it is man who is his own arch-enemy, they charged. Who but man and his waste could produce enough hot air to heat himself off the face of the earth?

Natal Sunday paper, July 10th, 1989. Submitted by Colin ZS2CTR.





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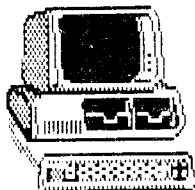
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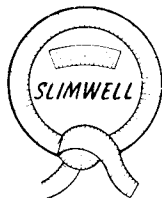
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HAMNET NEWS

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Have you checked lately to see how prepared you are for an emergency?

The water supply situation is steadily deteriorating. On the other hand, the end of August and beginning of September is the most likely time for floods in Port Elizabeth. There may be other disasters that raise their ugly heads. What would you do for lighting and cooking if we experience a long term power failure? Have you got an emergency medical kit? What about an emergency food and water supply? Is your communication equipment fully functional?

MUNICIPAL WESTERN AREAS CIVIL DEFENCE CONTROL BUILDING

The cubicle made available for radio amateurs has been fitted with a shelf for equipment, power terminals for battery power, a charger and a feed from outside so that a petrol engine generator can supply power in the event of a power failure. A two metre antenna has been erected and there is also a spare coaxial feed to a box under the eaves.

Thanks go to Stoffel, ZS2C and son Quinton, Ken ZS2OC, Vic ZS2SZ and son Keith and Jack ZS2KU who assisted in various ways with this installation.

73

Al ZS2U - Hamnet Liaison, Port Elizabeth Branch.