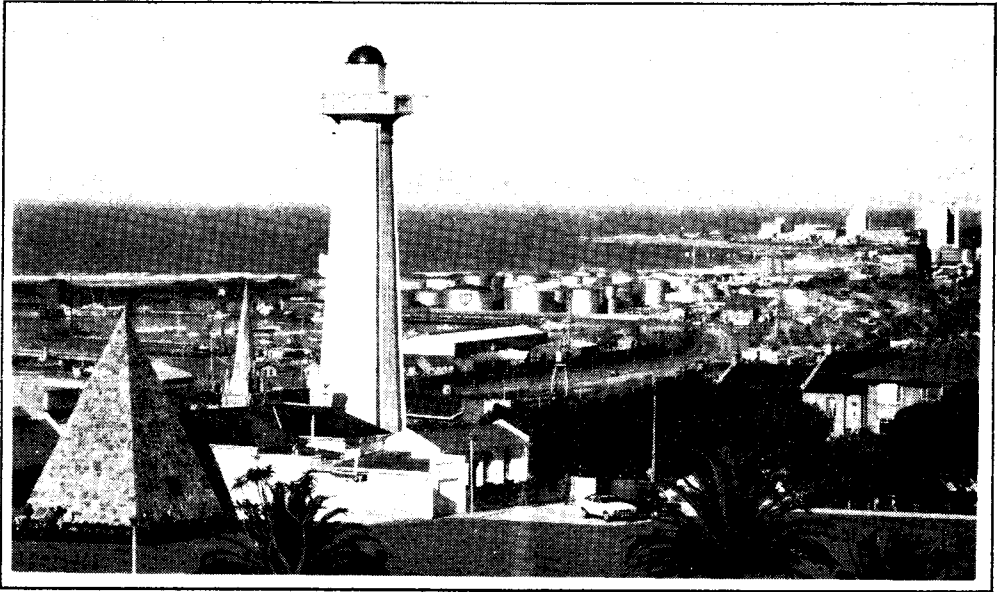




Q S X  
P E



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

P.O. BOX 10402  
LINTON GRANGE  
6015

**April, 1994**

## APPENDIX A - 1

Although Branch meetings are normally held on the third Friday of every month, the Committee decided to break from tradition this month and let the meeting take the form of a joint get-together with the UD (Uitenhage-Despatch) Group at their regular monthly social bash in Uitenhage. An announcement to this effect was made on the Sunday bulletin and a total of 25 to 30 people, about half of them from PE, turned out for an enjoyable evening at the Escom Clubhouse.

Unfortunately some of the leading lights of both the UD and the Bay groups were ill or otherwise precluded from attending. Nevertheless, the gathering proved a great success and should, perhaps, be repeated at regular intervals.

Remember, **DO NOT GO TO THE USUAL BRANCH MEETING PLACE THIS FRIDAY EVENING** as you may get lonely.

## \$\$\$ FLEA MARKET \$\$\$

ANONYMOUS PE CHAIRMAN

As members are no doubt aware, that is, if they had been paying any attention to Branch affairs at all, the Committee, being an assembly of very erudite Ladies and Gentlemen, is also therefore, logically, a source of wisdom and very clever ideas, subject, of course, to the laws of nature and of economics, the latter regrettably so, but not necessarily obedient to those of man, and also, sometimes, but not necessarily so, as long-winded and confused as this sentence has been!

Seriously, a good idea surfaced at the most recent committee meeting. The suggestion is that members bring along any hobby related equipment they no longer want to General Meetings, for sale. This obviously excludes old motor cars and nagging wives.

The goodies can be displayed in the cubicles on the side, with price tag attached. If you want something out of the deal then the Treasurer will decide what the Branch's cut is to be. But naturally we are hoping that in most cases it will be an outright donation to the Branch.

So please bring along all that stuff that's cluttering up your shack to the next meeting, and help to swell the Branch funds.

\$\$\$ \$\$\$

## *CQ de ZS2RL*

Thank you for the compliment you paid me by electing me as next Chairman of the Branch, to follow in the footsteps of Colin ZS2CR (ex ZS2CTR for those of you who don't recognise the new callsign) who has been obliged to relocate to East London at the behest of his employer. But as one wag quipped after the election at the Special Meeting, the good news is that you are only stuck with me for six months until the next AGM! In more serious vein, I will give of my best and hope that after the six months have passed they will be viewed as a constructive period in the Branch's history.

Amateur radio is many things to many people. Ask a thousand Hams why they follow the hobby, and you will get a thousand answers. But an analysis of those replies will show that the following phrases form a common and recurring theme .... "friendship" ... "technical interest" ... "decent bunch of okes" ... "common interests" ... "social".

Let us focus on this commonality, and endeavour to make our Branch a place where everyone feels welcome and at home, and where any aspect of our hobby may flourish if the seed is there.

-----

It seems I have broken a long-standing tradition where the incoming Chairman is supposed to do the bulletin immediately following his election.

Well, my excuse is that we were caravanning at Jeffreys Bay for the weekend and I certainly didn't expect to end up in the hot seat! In a rare moment of honesty I might be persuaded to admit that there was a small possibility that perhaps this tradition had momentarily slipped my mind.

Imagine the scene in the caravan if a QSP had been received at 0830 on Sunday reminding me of said tradition - consternation,

panic and heart failure!

Thanks again to Sharon ZS2SL for keeping the show on the road.

-----

By now you will be aware of the changes that have taken place in the Committee. Nothing radical, just a minor realignment of responsibilities.

If I may single out anybody, I would like to thank Vic ZS2SZ for agreeing to collate articles for QSX, Sandy ZS2LN for arranging the printing, and Garth ZS2HB for making his experience available and assisting in other ways.

As always, articles for publication will be most welcome.

-----

If you peruse the back page of this esteemed publication you will notice that Lynne ZS2MM has agreed to take on the portfolio of Inventory Control.

This is something new, for which I take full and total blame. Our Branch has various moveable assets – TS 130S, beam antenna, banners, mast, books, 2m rigs, etc. – and I bet no single member can tell me where each item is.

Lynne's task will be to track down all these goodies and keep a log of where they are. So if you know of something which is being carefully kept somewhere, please give her a buzz.

73

*Beavan*

---

**Inflation is being broke with a lot of money in your pocket.**

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

---

# HAMNET NEWS

AL AKERS, ZS2U

The most important general election in our lifetime is just around the corner. Anyone who believes that everything will go smoothly, without any trouble, is living in a dream world. What will happen, how serious it will be and to what extent it will affect us remains to be seen. It is in our own interests to be as well prepared as possible for any eventuality, though we do not necessarily have to go overboard on it.

★ Have telephone numbers of emergency organisations easily accessible.

★ In an emergency, when in doubt, phone the SA Police.

★ For Hamnet purposes, phone Al ZS2U at 30-2983 or Ken ZS2OC at 73-1856, or call on VHF on **145,500 MHz** (National Call) simplex first, then try one of the local repeaters. The HF frequencies are 7070 kHz and 3695 kHz. **Hamnet members particularly are requested to monitor the above frequencies**, especially on or around the election date or when there are signs of trouble. Your help may be required.

Probably the safest place to be during the election period is at home, but even here we should be prepared.

Many businesses will be closed over the election period. We may experience power failures of short or long duration. There is the possibility of vandalism, looting or even worse.

We should therefore make our homes as safe as possible: have a first-aid kit available. Stock up on non-perishable foods (tinned foods, milk powder, flour, sugar, cereal, teabags etc.). Keep containers of water handy. Have some form of emergency lighting and cooking (candles, torches, gas stoves etc.). Make sure your vehicle petrol tanks are full (petrol pumps do not function during a power failure).

If you have any queries or matters you wish to discuss, contact Al or Ken.



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# SKYLIGHTS

GARTH LAAKS ZS2HB

While serving in Transkei, and involved with the licensing of Capital Radio's megawatt medium-wave transmitter in the north-western area adjoining Lesotho, I considered turning out thousands of simple absorption wavemeters, with which I could make a small fortune from the rural communities near the transmitter site. Imagine having an electric light in one's hut for the first time, and FREE except for a small one-time cost for the apparatus! No batteries, no electricity bills, not even an on-off switch.

Unfortunately, I mentioned the idea to the Capital Radio chiefs and they implored me not to go ahead. Strange as it may seem, the absorption of power from thousands of these little devices near the transmitter could, apparently, have a significant effect on propagation of the signal to the Witwatersrand target area.

It was with some amusement, therefore, that I came across the following item under the above title in a cutting, the source of which I cannot determine:

"Believe it or not, leisure-plot owners in Hamburg, Germany, have lit up their shacks with RF from the Hamburg Radio medium wave transmitter! How did this come about? They had the station's transmitting antenna almost overhead, and a sharp "electronica" soon found out that a tapped tuned circuit produced 24 hours of free-of-charge light. An antenna forest rose over the entire area.

"Sensational news travels very fast and soon a police raid ended the RF bonanza...in court. But - they found out that 'electronic air piracy' was not an offence. Soooo.. a compromise was struck. All were discharged with a warning not to commit 'electricity theft' again."

Fine, but what I want to know is this: If those same thousands of people near the Capital Radio transmitter tuned their portable radios (instead of their little 2HB electric lights) to the station's frequency, would that also reduce the strength of the signal reaching the Witwatersrand? If so, and if they all suddenly switched off their radios or changed to another programme, would there be a deafening bang in Jo'burg as all the loudspeaker cones popped out of their frames? If not, does all that RF, if left unused, just hang about in the vicinity or does it eventually move off to where it feels it is wanted?

*Absorption wavemeter?* A simple device used commonly in days gone by for determining the frequency of a transmitter. It consists of a tuned circuit (coil-capacitor combination) to which an ordinary torch globe is coupled inductively. Rotating the tuning capacitor until the globe glows at its brightest indicates the frequency on a calibrated scale. Improvements could include a diode and meter instead of the globe for a sharper indication (making it a field strength meter too), and an earphone so that one can monitor AM transmissions. But you *knew* that, didn't you?

# THE TRUTH ABOUT ANTENNA GAIN

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TO CQ VERWOERDBURG

## INTRODUCTION

I recently borrowed a book entitled "The Truth About CB Antennas" by W6SAI and W2LX from a work colleague active in the professional mobile radio field. He was rather embarrassed to actually admit he had the book in his possession, but really he had no reason to be – the book gave, in my opinion, one of the best explanations I have seen on empirically determining maximum possible gains achievable by various antenna types enabling all of us to see through those wild claims often made by manufacturers and even some amateurs.

The system is based on certain "ground rules":-

### The Seven Ground Rules

The following seven ground rules provide you with an accurate 'yardstick' of performance for any antenna. Here they are, using the theoretical isotropic radiator as the reference point of performance:-

- Rule #1* - The fundamental comparison antenna is the isotropic radiator and its gain is zero decibels.
- Rule #2* - The gain of the half-wave dipole antenna is 2,1 decibels over the isotropic reference antenna.
- Rule #3* - The gain of a single Quad loop driven element is 4,1 decibels over the isotropic reference antenna.
- Rule #4* - The gain of an antenna which has a *single* parasitic reflector or director element is 5 decibels over the gain of the antenna driven element itself.
- Rule #5* - Additional parasitic *directors* provide additional gain in a decreasing manner. One additional director element (over the first director) provides 2 decibels gain. Each additional director thereafter adds about 1 decibel additional gain.  
After 4 or 5 directors are added, the improvement in gain is negligible. (Only one reflector element is effective in a simple beam antenna, so adding additional reflectors produces no additional gain).
- Rule #6* - When both parasitic reflector and director(s) are used, the *reflector* gain figure is reduced from 5 decibels to 3 decibels.
- Rule #7* - Antenna gain measured in the vertical plane cannot be counted again in the horizontal plane, and vice versa.

Let's try some examples:-

**Example** : *What is the power gain of a 3 element Yagi beam?*

**Answer** : The 3 element Yagi beam is made up of a dipole (the driven element which is "excited" by the transmitter), a reflector element and a director element. We are making comparison against an isotropic radiator (Rule #1) so that is our reference, or starting point. Rules # 2, 4 and 6 apply.

The power gain is:-

Dipole gain = 2.1 dB (Rule #1)

Reflector gain = 3.0 dB (Rule #4 and #6)

Director gain = 5.0 dB (Rule #4)

Antenna gain = 10.1 dB compared to an isotropic radiator.

**Example** : *What is the power gain of a 4 element Quad beam?*

**Answer** : The 4 element Quad beam is made up of a Quad loop driven element, a reflector element and two director elements. We are making comparison against an isotropic radiator (Rule #1) so that is our reference, or starting point. Rules # 3, 4, 5 and 6 apply.

The power gain is:-

Quad loop ele-

ment gain = 4.1 dB (Rule #3)

Reflector gain = 3.0 dB (Rule #4 and #6)

1st Director gain = 5.0 dB (Rule #4)

2nd director gain = 2.0 dB (Rule #5)

Antenna gain = 14.1 dB compared to an isotropic radiator.

**Example** : *What is the power gain of a 2 element Yagi beam using a Director?*

**Answer** : The 2 element Yagi beam is made up of a driven element and a single director. We are making comparison against an isotropic radiator (Rule #1), so that is our reference, or starting point. Rules # 2 and 4 apply.

The power gain is:-

Dipole gain = 2.1 dB (Rules #1 and #2)

Director gain = 5.0 dB (Rule #4)

Antenna gain = 7.1 dB compared to an isotropic radiator.

Got the idea? Antenna gain is determined simply by adding up the individual gain figures according to the Ground Rules.

### The Dipole Antenna as reference

Some antenna manufacturers publish gain figures for their beams that are referenced to a dipole antenna instead of an isotropic radiator. What happens to the Ground Rules in this case? Simple. Omit Rule #1, thus subtracting 2.1 decibels for the total



gain figure.

Thus, in the first example, the power gain of a 3 element Yagi beam is estimated to be 10.1 dB over an isotropic radiator. The gain figure of this antenna, compared to a dipole, is 2.1 dB less, or 8.0 dB. This comes about since using the dipole for comparison means that the starting point for computation is 2.1 decibels higher than if the isotropic radiator was used for the starting point.

Likewise, in the second example, the power gain of a 4 element Quad beam over a reference dipole is 2.1 dB less than when compared to an isotropic radiator. Specifically:  $14.1 - 2.1 = 12$  decibels gain over a comparison dipole.

Finally, in the third example, the power gain of a 2 element Yagi beam using a director over a reference dipole is 5 decibels.

### Comparison Between Two Different Antennas

The Ground Rules also may be used to compare one antenna against another. This is done in the same fashion, using the Ground Rules and adding gain figures. Strictly speaking, vertical and horizontal antennas cannot be compared against one another as far as actual gain goes, but such a comparison is meaningful in terms of results, and provides the operator with a real-life comparison between vertical and horizontal polarisation.

**Example** : *How much additional gain does a 4 element Quad show over a 3 element Yagi beam?*

**Answer** : The gain of the 4 element Quad is determined to be 14.1 dB over an isotropic radiator. The gain of the 3 element Yagi beam is determined to be 10.1 dB over isotropic. The 4 element Quad has an advantage of  $14.1 - 10.1 = 4$  decibels over the Yagi.

### **Rule #7 - What does it signify?**

**Rule #7** - "Antenna gain measured in the vertical plane cannot be counted again in the horizontal plane, and vice versa" has not been mentioned so far. This rule applies to "cross-polarised" antennas or any antenna type that may be operated with either horizontal or vertical polarisation. For example, if a certain antenna has 6 decibels power gain in the horizontal position, and also 6 decibels power gain in the vertical position, it cannot be said that the total antenna power gain is 12 decibels. Some antennas, moreover, have complex feed systems that permit radiation in both horizontal and vertical planes. In this case, the power is divided equally between the planes, each plane receiving one half of the transmitter power. Simply, the rule means that antenna gain cannot be counted twice.

### Four Ground Rules for Vertical Antennas

A second test of four Ground Rules applies to vertical antennas such as the ground plane, the half-wavelength vertical, and the 5/8 wavelength vertical, as these antennas are not beams in the true sense and have no parasitic elements. The rules are:-

- Rule #1 :** The fundamental comparison antenna is the isotropic radiator and its gain is zero decibels.
- Rule #2 :** The gain of a ground plane antenna is 0.3 decibel over the isotropic reference antenna.
- Rule #3 :** The gain of a vertical half-wavelength (dipole) antenna is 2.1 decibels over the isotropic reference antenna.
- Rule #4 :** The gain of a 5/8 wavelength vertical antenna is 3.3 decibels over the isotropic reference antenna.

Working from the above Ground Rules, it can be seen that the power gain of a vertical half-wavelength antenna is 1.8 decibels over a ground plane, and the power gain of a 5/8 wavelength vertical antenna is 3.0 decibels over a ground plane.

The "truth table" below summarises the maximum theoretical gain figures for several common types of antennas:-

<b>TRUTH TABLE OF ANTENNA GAIN</b>		
<b>ANTENNA TYPE</b>	<b>DECIBEL GAIN OVER ISOTROPIC RADIATOR</b>	<b>DECIBEL GAIN OVER HALF-WAVE DIPOLE ANTENNA</b>
ISOTROPIC RADIATOR (A THEORETICAL ANTENNA ONLY)	0	-2.1
GROUND PLANE	+0.3	-1.8
HALF-WAVE DIPOLE ANTENNA	+2.1	0
5/8 WAVE ANTENNA	+3.3	+1.2
QUAD LOOP ELEMENT	+4.1	+2.0
2 ELEMENT YAGI BEAM	+7.1	+5.0
3 ELEMENT YAGI BEAM	+10.1	+8.0
4 ELEMENT YAGI BEAM	+12.1	+10.0
2 ELEMENT QUAD BEAM	+9.1	+7.0
3 ELEMENT QUAD BEAM	+12.1	+10.0
4 ELEMENT QUAD BEAM	+14.1	+12.0

Well, there it is - you should never be fooled again!

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL/SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH OF THE SA RADIO LEAGUE HELD ON FRIDAY 18 MARCH 1994 AT THE CIVIL DEFENCE CENTRE, MILL PARK.**

**Present:**

Over 50 members and visitors.

**Apologies:**

As per attendance register.

**Welcome:**

The meeting opened at 20:00 with the chairman welcoming all present, especially those who had not been seen at meetings lately. The speaker, Capt. Brian Turner of the SAP, was also welcomed upon arrival. Colin apologised for the lack of seating due to the overwhelming number attending.

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

The minutes as published in the February QSX were taken as read, adoption by ZS2AZ, seconded by ZS2ML.

**Finance:**

Not all AGM accounts as yet received. Bank statement reads R17645,73, R4000,00 still to be deducted. Raffle brought in R2400,00 of which PE Branch raised R800.00.

**Correspondence:**

Vic Plumridge - looking for economical 2m transceiver.

Mike ZR2MBM - transferred membership to HQ.

Iris Hayes - thanked Branch for wonderful weekend and "send-off before she kicks the bucket". Branch can be proud of YL's and XYL's, who made the AGM very special.

Her Quote: "It's not what you get out of a Branch, it's what you put in".

QSL - for JOTA for Lynne and Julian.

Ed Langley ZS2PU - moved to King William's Town, donated R100,00 to Branch for rig - Accepted gratefully.

Dudley ZS2AW looking for grid-dip meter, ad in QSX.

Novice 2EOADH - seeking Algoa CW award.

**General:**

AGM was great success, thanks to all. President commented that it was the best venue in or out of SA that he has attended. Colin felt it was a pleasure to be the chairman of a Branch hosting such an excellent AGM.

Discussion — Building Fund to be proposed. Beavan ZS2RL to investigate availability of municipal land — buy or lease — maybe land out Sunridge Park way available. Viv then proposed and Beavan to go ahead.

Books available from AGM — take advantage as Branch received 10% and members do not have to pay postage etc.

Rally — Beavan to handle VW rally this year, which will run from George to PE. HF stations may be needed. Date — Friday 15 and Saturday 16 July.

Baycom Modems — 5 more interested. Any others to contact Vic ZS2SZ. Martin has redesigned board, now 1/3 original size.

SA Gun Association — open day middle of May. Eight people needed to assist. HQ approved. Contact Robin ZR2A.

Motor Sport — Off-road rally, Algoa Motor Club 26 March — 4 needed to assist in Zuurberg area. Number of amateurs volunteered. Beavan taken names etc., will fax HQ for permission.

Trophies from AGM handed out to Barry ZS2H and Don ZR2DL.

Business closed at 9.15pm.

### **Guest Speaker:**

Capt. Brian Turner was welcomed by Colin and introduced to members. He then gave a most interesting and informative talk on the new SAP UHF/Microwave Simulcast Communication System.

Capt. Turner was thanked for the talk and he then left for a further appointment.

### **Special General Meeting:**

Colin formally resigned the post of Chairman. Nominations for chairman were then called for and Beavan ZS2RL, Barry ZS2H and Sharon ZS2SL were nominated. Beavan was voted in by secret ballot as new Chairman. Congratulations to you.

Three new committee members were then elected: Barry ZS2H, Vic ZS2SZ and Lynne ZS2MM. Congratulations once more.

Dick then presented Colin with a farewell gift from the Branch. The Branch would miss him as membership had increased tremendously under his capable chairmanship. Colin, Rosemary and family were wished well for their move to East London.

Colin thanked all and said he was sad to be leaving, felt that

life and amateur radio would not be the same outside of PE.

### Tea Break:

The YLs and XYLs put on excellent tea and eats (left over from the AGM welcoming party). Thanks, ladies.

### Closure:

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9.30pm.

## BULLETIN ROSTER & PROCEDURES

- 145,700 Compiler reads on this frequency and does call-ins.
- 7,098 If possible, the compiler should also do a simultaneous transmission on this frequency for the sake of audio quality.
- If unable to do so, then the person taking call-ins on 7,098 should do a relay from 145,700.
- 145,750 Relay of Branch bulletin and call-ins by ZS2ABZ.
- HQ bulletins: Relay of English and Afrikaans HQ bulletins onto 145,700 to be performed by ZS2WG or ZS2SZ by mutual arrangement.

**A roster showing the operators responsible for the various transmissions and relays on specific dates for the ensuing month or so will appear on the back cover of each issue of QSX.**

## OLYMPIC SPORTS?

FROM BARRY ZS2H's BULLETIN

As reported in the March issue of Radio ZS, ARDF – or, for the uninitiated, Amateur Radio Direction Finding – is growing so fast that it is likely to become an OLYMPIC SPORT!

Can you imagine **THROWING A JAVELIN** AR style, like a 2m long Yagi? Of course, the thrower might even project it further than a signal for which the thing was designed to transmit. Then, of course, there is the **POLE VAULT**. In this one, the competitor (operator) jumps over a 7 MHz dipole using a five-band trapped vertical as his pole.

**THROWING-THE-HAMMER** merchants are not left out. Grab your 2m handheld by the rubber duck and hurl the thing. You probably have done this a couple of times anyway. **HURDLES?** Now, this is quite easy. All you do is run from the big bang and leap over a series of 10m cubical quads for the gates.

Have you any other suggestions for AROS – Amateur Radio Olympic Sports? The sender of the best will receive two free tickets for the 1994 Winter AROS. But forget about track events. Zola has been **RUNNING BAREFOOT** for years. **Ω**

# *Congratulations...*

## **Birthdays - April**

- 3 Theuns Potgieter ZR2BG  
Ria, XYL of Garth Laaks ZS2HB
- 4 Iona, XYL of Eric Gertenbach  
ZS2CV
- 5 Mike Jones ZS2MJ  
Heather, XYL of Jimmy Hoole  
ZS2ABM
- 9 Piet Blom ZS2PB
- 11 Simone Pukall-Olivier ZS2YL  
Ron Harvey ZS2RU
- 13 Graham Butcher ZR2GIB
- 16 Hans Rohwer ZR2AX  
Schalk van der Merwe ZS2Y
- 17 Allan Ansell ZS2AJ
- 18 Jock Morris ZS2MD
- 19 Margaret, XYL of Waldie Bartie  
ZS2WM
- 20 Trevor Scarr ZS2AE  
Kay, XYL of Ron Harvey ZS2RU  
Joey, XYL of Des Petit ZS2ABU
- 22 Alan Bowles ZR2BL  
Doris Edwards ZS2DJ  
Marge, XYL of Jim van Loggeren-  
berg ZS2LR
- 23 Colin Robertson ZS2CR  
George Bowes ZS2QN
- 24 Arthur, OM of Doris Edwards  
ZS2DJ
- 28 Chris Scarr ZS2AAW
- 30 Sorette, XYL of Philip  
MacGeoghegan

## **Anniversaries**

- 6 Cathy and Wolf Gerstle ZS2WG
- 10 Rietjie and Sel Staples ZS6SS
- 15 Claire and Jack Smailes ZS2SM
- 29 Hanni and Gerhard Baum  
ZR2JB/ZS2UM

## **Wedding Bells**

Congratulations and best wishes to Simone ZS2YL and Keith ZR2AAX on their marriage on 26 March 1994. It's not just any ol' bodies whose marriage makes it into the Headquarters bulletin. HQ didn't mention that this raises the number of hams in the local Olivier clan to **six** (at the last count, anyway). Rumour has it that the family is considering changing their surname to Oli**ses** and they may even go for the Guinness Book of Records - or maybe Vic will just settle for the Guinness.

## **Qualifications**

Congrats to Renee Olivier ZR2ABD on obtaining a National Diploma (Information Technology). (No wonder she was so adept at getting the voting information onto the **large** screen during the AGM).

## **New Callsigns**

Congratulations also to Elizabeth and Michael Jasson, XYL and son of Joe, who have at last received their callsigns after passing the exam last November. They are ZR2EJ (Elizabeth) and ZR2MIC (Michael). All good things come to those who wait... and wait... and wait... HI.

Shawn Hobson is also sporting a callsign, ZR2SCH. Congrats to you too, Shawn!

Some have grown tired of their callsigns and turned them in - but in exchange for new ones! Martin

Layton, ex ZS2ABN, became ZS2ML and our immediate past Chairman, Colin Robertson ZS2CTR, has shortened his call to ZS2CR.

**Welcome** to PE. Lourens van Niekerk ZR6AKB, from Brakpan. We trust that you and your family will enjoy your stay in the Friendly City.

#### **Affirmative Action?**

Two members recently applied to the PMG's office for licences and received replies that "there were no vacancies"... Appears that the application forms had ended up at the employment office. Glad to report that the matter was sorted out and both are now "employed" and sport new ZR callsigns.

---

### *Other News...*

We were sorry to hear of Mervyn Akers ZS2F having a heart attack recently. Hope you recover fully and quickly, Merv. Take care, old sport.

Andries van Wyk ZS2P has taken his baby daughter to Cape Town for an operation. Andries, our thoughts are with you, your XYL and the little one. May she be healed and make a good recovery.

Thanks go to Isak ZR2Z for his donation of an ex-army (WW II vintage) BC-221 frequency generator, which was put up for grabs at the UD Branch meeting and fetched R25. The guys could not have known that, back in the good ol' days, anyone who had a BC-221 was reckoned to be SOMEONE, like the guys who owned Hallicrafters' SX-28 receivers. Ah, yes! Them was the days...

Remember that *Amateur Radio Mirror International* is now broadcast on 7205 kHz on a 100 kilowatt AM transmitter of Sentech, alias the SABC technical wing. It is not only a mite stronger than the SARL transmitters, but the modulation is readable in the Eastern Cape! I haven't checked whether it is *wider*

Good luck to all those studying for the May RAE examination. The Civil Defence Centre will not be available to us from 22 April until 3 May so, after the two talks on *Interference* you will have at least two weeks to yourselves before we can get together for further revision if you so wish. Please use this break to consolidate your knowledge, practise calculations etc.

\*

We've just heard about the shipwrecked sailor who had been drifting alone on a raft for weeks. Suddenly he saw a giant ocean liner approaching him. As the ship pulled up beside the raft, the captain leaned down over the rail and called out in a worried voice: "Where are we?" [When did you skipper an ocean liner, Owen?]

## Port Elizabeth Branch Committee

Chairman, Rallies	Beavan Gwilt ZS2RL	30-6968
Vice Chairman, Library	Barry Jackson ZS2H	30-3052
Secretary, Uitenhage/Despatch Liaison	Sharon Layton ZS2SL	922-7958
Treasurer, Hamnet Branch Liaison	Clive Fife ZS2RT	32-3203
Awards	Peter Flynn ZR2PF	46-4096
Projects, Repeaters, Packet	Wolf Gerstle ZS2WG	30-1510
	Martin Layton ZS2ML	922-7958
Tea Convener, JOTA, Field Day	Dick Schönborn ZS2RS	56-3908
OSX, IPHA	Vic Olivier ZS2SZ	30-2440
Inventory Control	Lynne Crothall ZS2MM	35-4671

## Branch VHF & Other Services

### REPEATERS

Town VHF	145,050/650	Kareedouw	145,125/725
Town UHF	431,050/438,650	Lady's Slipper	145,100/700
Grahamstown	145,150/750	Uitenhage	145,075/675

### OTHER SERVICES

Packet Bulletin Board (ZS0NTP)	144,675
Digipeater (Grahamstown - ZS0GHT)	144,675
2m Beacon (ZS2VHF CW ID)	144,910
6m Beacon (ZS6SIX CW ID)	50,005
6m Link with Lady's Slipper 2m Repeater	51,400
Wefax Relay (Meteosat)	145,350

## Sunday Bulletins

Branch bulletins are transmitted on Sundays immediately after the Headquarters English transmission, i.e. at about 09:45, on 7098 kHz (40 metres) as well as on 145,700 and 145,750 MHz in the 2-metre band.

DATE	COMPILE, READ & CALL- INS ON 145,700	PE BULLETIN TRANSMIT ON 40 m	CALL-INS ON 40 m
17 April	ZS2SZ	ZS2SZ	ZS2WG
24	ZS2RT	ZS2RT	ZS2ML
1 May	ZR2PF	ZS2RS	ZS2RS
8	ZS2WG	ZS2WG	ZS2SL
15	ZS2ML	ZS2ML	ZS2RL
22	ZS2RS	ZS2RS	ZS2H
29	ZS2SL	ZS2SL	ZS2MM

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