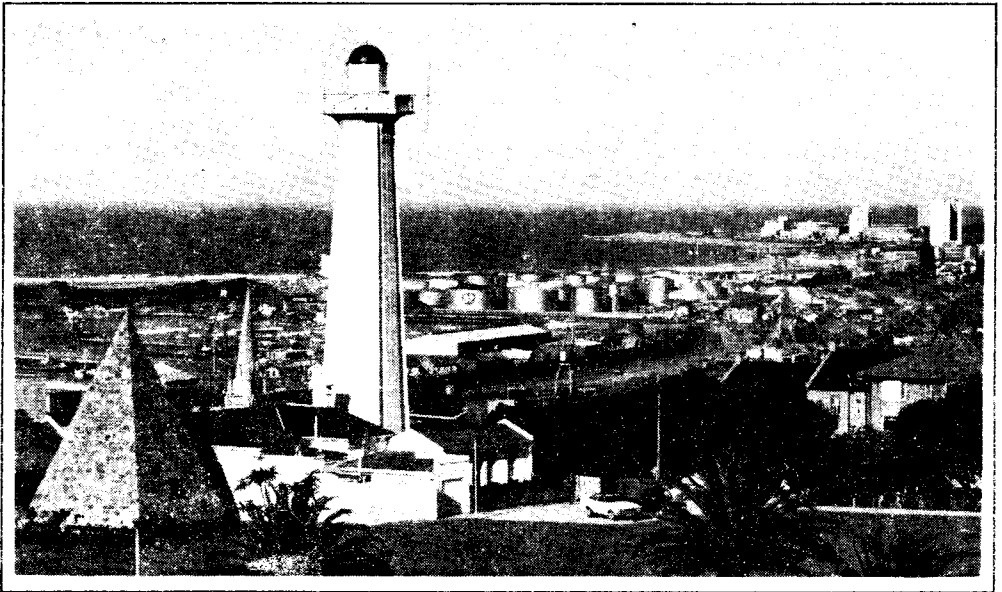




Q S X
P E



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

P.O. BOX 10402
LINTON GRANGE
6015

February 1996

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

The next monthly general meeting of the Branch will take place on **Friday, 16 February 1996** in the Civil Defence Centre, Westview Drive, Mill Park, Port Elizabeth starting at 20:00 (8 pm).

Listen to bulletins for the subject to be discussed. Vodacom again could not make it to our last meeting but they have apologised profusely and assured Owen that they will yet get to delivering the long-awaited talk, and it could happen at the February meeting.

Refreshments will be available as usual during the break in proceedings.

ZS2FM hears Oz TV on 6M

After months of close monitoring of the Australian TV band adjacent to 6 metres, Mike Bosch ZS2FM picked up the video signals of two television stations on 16 January. The frequency 64,250 MHz is used by two Australian stations on opposite sides of the country and Mike was able to beam in onto them, providing sufficient evidence that the

signals emanated from 'down under'.

Some weeks earlier, Lionel ZS2DD copied strong signals on 6 metres from Marion Island. The propagation mode was thought to be short meteor bursts, but openings can also be expected now from Sporadic-E conditions. The Marion Island beacon is on 50,200 MHz.

Special Meeting discusses Important Issues

At a special general meeting of the Branch on 1 February, attended by 24 persons including a few non-members whose input was invited, it was:

- decided to reject the proposed new constitution and to urge that no further steps be taken to replace the existing Constitution until the League is back on track financially and that the root causes of the League's unpopularity among licensees are determined and eliminated [unanimous];

- agreed that IARU membership is a must but, for

the present, meetings abroad should only be attended if sufficient sponsorships are obtained such that the League's own funds are not used [unanimous];

- agreed that enforced membership of the League as a prerequisite for holding a ham licence is unthinkable in a democratic country [only 2 votes in favour].

The Branch also felt that the practice of regarding non-replies from branches as 'yes' votes is undemocratic and unconstitutional. Ω



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A Word from ZS2RS

The Chinese have a name for every year, e.g. the year of the horse, or cat or monkey etc. 1996 in South Africa is surely the year of the League.

We have now reached the proverbial crossroads and some significant happening is imminent.

A well-attended special meeting of the Port Elizabeth Branch was held to discuss some very pertinent issues and on the whole the consensus was virtually unanimous: "Don't tamper with the Constitution until the League is back on track, particularly financially."

The League needs your support as well as that of ex members. If you are in a position to scrape together the wherewithal please consider continuing your membership or, if necessary, rejoining. Hopefully a new, more affordable package can be formulated in the very near future.

As stated by several persons on packet recently, the League needs to be truly representative of all amateurs in South Africa, and representation can only be achieved through membership. The time has come for South African amateurs to stand together on this issue and accept that the League has a very real and significant role to play in the future and regulation of our very interesting hobby.

Last, and by no means least, do not let individuals cloud your thinking and judgement. After all, with all of us it's a case of 'here today and gone tomorrow'.

73,

Dick ZS2RS

HAMNET NEWS

Monitoring

Organising a monitoring system among voluntary members for emergency purposes is fraught with problems. Fortunately, major disasters, in the East Cape anyway, are rare, but this means that a person may monitor one or other emergency frequency even for years without any emergency calls. It is understandable, then, if a person loses interest.

Then there is the problem of how a monitoring frequency should be utilized. The initial view might be that the frequency should be kept clear of all but emergency communications. Members soon lost interest if nothing happens on the frequency. On the other hand, if operating on the frequency is encouraged, the monitoring stations may well find the constant chattering on the frequency annoying and either switch off their sets or tune to another frequency.

There is also the problem that someone wishing to pass emergency traffic could not break in because of these lengthy QSOs, especially if his signal is much weaker than the others. This happened recently on forty metres.

So what is the answer? After years of experience and thought on this subject I still have not come up with a completely satisfactory solution and I somehow doubt that there is one. Considering the rarity of major disasters and that we are only volunteers, I feel it is not fair to expect members to monitor long hours day in and day out. We do, after all, have our own lives to lead.

The present situation is about as good as we are likely to get, where many of us

monitor one or other repeater and some monitor or operate on one or other of the HF emergency channels, that is 7070 kHz and 3695 kHz.

I do have one request to all members. By all means operate on the emergency HF channels to keep them active. However, please keep your overs and QSOs short and leave reasonable breaks between overs to allow for breakers with emergency traffic. If you wish to have a long QSO or it starts to develop into one, please move to another frequency.

Some amateurs may feel that monitoring for emergencies is a job for Hamnet members. Wrong. Providing communications during emergencies is one of the ways that we justify our existence and a way for us to provide a community service. Monitoring is part of this and it is rather selfish to expect the few Hamnet members to handle it all.

Hamnet members represent only a small proportion of the amateur population (about 10% in the East Cape). How much more effective, then, is the monitoring if we all do so and with less of a burden on the Hamnet members. I am pleased to say that in the past, on the few occasions that I have called for help, it has often been non-Hamnet members who have answered, which goes to prove the point that the more who monitor, the better.

73

Al Akers.

**Provincial Director,
Hamnet East Cape**

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE HELD AT THE CIVIL DEFENCE CENTRE, MILL PARK, PORT ELIZABETH ON FRIDAY, 19 JANUARY 1996

Present & Apologies: As per attendance register (35 members attended)

Welcome: Chairman Dick ZS2RS welcomed members and visitors with a special welcome to visitors Joe Jasson ZR2EJ, Rob Salmon ZR2RW, Phil Hopper ZS2PP, Alex Gogos ZR2T and Keith Fensham ZR2KF.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 1995 and as circulated in the January issue of QSX-PE were taken as read. The adoption was proposed by Viv Moore ZS2VM and seconded by Al Akers ZS2U.

Matters Arising: No matters were raised.

Finance: Treasurer Clive ZS2RT reported a sound financial position with our current balance of savings and investments at R14 650.

Correspondence: A letter from Poppie ZS1AFZ and Danie ZS2AEC re their great appreciation for the DX award was read out to the members.

New Business: New business was confined to discussion on the Branch attitude re the proposed draft Constitution. The Chairman stressed that the implications from these proposals were to be taken seriously in the interests of maintaining a good constitution representative of all members' aspirations for a strong League. It was resolved to hold a special general meeting on the 1st February to formulate a reply representative of the thoughts of those concerned members who attend.

General

1. Owen ZS2AZ reported back on progress made in restoring order out of chaos re our library. Old magazines relating to radio and electronics were up for grabs.
2. Owen also reminded the meeting that the trip to Plett was still on and that details would soon be available.
3. Pam Hopper was congratulated on passing her morse test at 5 words per minute.
4. Stoffel Carr, ZS2C presented the meeting with a bakkieful of very useful scrapped electronic gear with countless usable, and so rare, components.
5. Chris ZS2AAW reported that the Grahamstown repeater would be off the air for a short while. Ingress of water into the UHF equipment appears to be the culprit. The Knysna repeater was also sulking in that it would transmit but not receive. This would be attended to.

TO PAGE 6▶

MINUTES [FROM PAGE 5]

6. Zululand Branch complimented us in their newsletter on our excellent repeater network and the meeting extended congrats to Chris ZS2AAW and the team.
7. A suggestion was put forward that Westering High School be assisted with a free copy of the Branch's WEFAX software. Vic ZS2SZ was helping them with the hardware.
8. Garth ZS2HB stated that a Councillor had asked whether the Branch would be prepared to take over publication of Radio ZS. It was agreed that the Branch could not undertake the task although members could offer a fair amount of help in other ways with production of the magazine.

Talk on Antennas: After the tea break, during which members also browsed through the parts brought along by Stoffel, Al ZS2U gave a practical demonstration of how to building very functional VHF antennas and a 6 metre beam from readily available parts at minimal cost. Al also reminded the meeting of the forthcoming QSO party.

The meeting closed at 22:15

We're OFF TO PLET on 18 FEB

Members of the Branch will be visiting Roger ZS1J on his farm near Plettenberg Bay on **Sunday, 18 February 1996.**

In fact, all hams along the Eastern and Southern Cape are invited to this long-projected get-together, which promises to be an event to remember. There will be a bring and braai at midday, so take along all that you require in the line of eats and drinksh, platesh, glasshesh, knivesh, forksh etshetera and join the hicappy throng.

There will also be a 'swop shop' so take along anything that you want to get rid of - No! ***NO! Not HER!!*** - and come back with someone else's junk.

For those who would like to make a weekend of it, Roger has located two cottages that can each accommodate up to five people. The charge for each *cottage* (not person) is R100 a night. Those who would like to avail themselves of these facilities can phone Roger at [04457] 7842 for more information.

How to Get There

- pass Plettenberg Bay from the East and continue for about 12 km. You should see a sign 'The Potter' on your left. At the next crossroad turn left. An airport sign will be seen.
- Continue for exactly 3.5 km. On your right you will observe a horse paddock and the Farm 'White Webs'. You've arrived!

I won't tell you how to get *back* from there.

Q

A DUO OF DELTAS

In this article we present two versions of the well-known *Delta Loop* antenna. The first is a more common variety, which was constructed and tested by André, ZS2AL and we thank him for this report on his findings. The second loop presented here is a variation on the theme that was developed by Bill Browne, ZS2BY, who is a senior member of the Port Elizabeth Branch.

André reports thus on the more usual version (figure 1):

This is a wire antenna that really works very well. Do not be put off by the loop dimensions - the antenna takes up very little space once it is in the air. It is certainly superior to the normal inverted vees etc!!

Calculating Total Wire Length:

Formula: $1005/f$ (MHz) = length in feet, and that $\times 0,3048$ = metres, so for **40 metres**:

$$\begin{aligned} 1005/7,050 &= 142,554 \times 0,3048 \\ &= \mathbf{43,450 \text{ metres}} \text{ and} \\ \frac{1}{4}\lambda \text{ Stub Length} &= 43,450/4 \\ &= \mathbf{10,863 \text{ metres}}. \end{aligned}$$

Construction:

The wire size used is 0,9 mm. One side of the loop is a half wavelength (21,725m) The other two sides leading to the feedpoint are each a quarter wavelength (10,863m). For the $\frac{1}{4}\lambda$ stub use **good quality TV co-ax**.

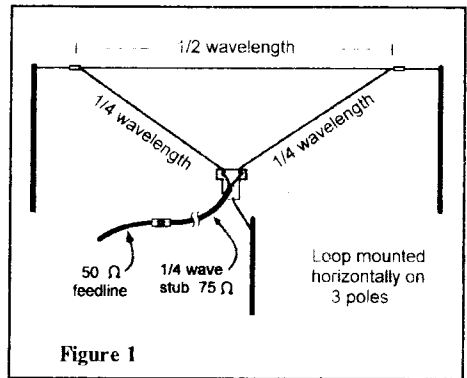
I used rings cut from 40mm PVC pipe at both ends of the $\frac{1}{2}\lambda$ section as insulators. Give the wire a twist at each insulator to prevent it from sliding through and thus distorting the shape of the delta as it is raised, which would affect the SWR. The loop is horizontal relative to

earth.

If the SWR must be adjusted, cut the wire at both sides at the feed point.

SWR Results *without* an antenna tuner

7,010 MHz - 1,0	14,175 MHz - 1,8
7,050 MHz - 1,1	14,200 MHz - 2,3
7,090 MHz - 1,2	14,250 MHz - 2,9
21,200 MHz - 2,6	28,400 MHz - 2,6
21,250 MHz - 2,7	28,450 MHz - 2,8
21,300 MHz - 2,9	28,599 MHz - 3,0



Comparison with a Dipole

- ★ On average two S-points better on receive and transmit
- ★ Man-made noise level lower
- ★ Modulation 'fuller' on transmit
- ★ Signal more consistent during deep QSB.

Conclusion

Excellent results were obtained with both

local and DX. Although the antenna under test was cut for the 40 metre band, it performed very well on the higher bands when used with an antenna matcher. I also loaded up this antenna on 80 metres

but found the signals 1,5 S-points lower than with a dipole. Obviously the results would vary due to location and material used.

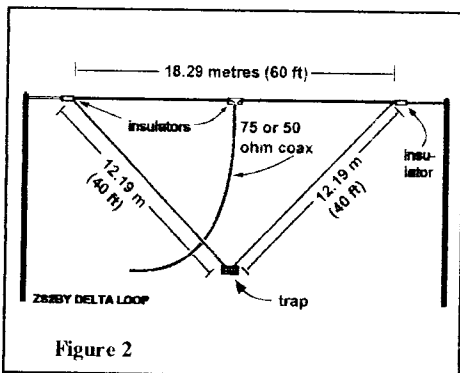
The ZS2BY Delta Loop

This version of the loop antenna (figure 2) has a top section of 18,29 metres (60 ft), while the sides are each 12,19 metres (40 ft) long. It is suspended vertically, i.e. the sides hang down towards the earth and are terminated on a trap. The antenna is fed in the centre of the horizontal top section using 75Ω or 50Ω coax.

Bill has not furnished actual figures, but he assures us that the SWR is within limits on all bands without an antenna matcher. Nevertheless, he recommends the use of a matching unit

The height is not critical, provided that the low point is out of reach for people walking beneath it. That means the top should be suspended about 12 metres above ground.

The trap consists of a parallel-tuned circuit using a coil of about three turns on a 50 mm former and a capacitor of



between 1000 and 2000 pF with a rated working voltage of 1 kV. The trap should resonate on 3,6 MHz.

Ω

FOR SALE ★ SWOP ★ WANTED

FOR SALE

- ★ FT101E transceiver with workshop manual and spare final tubes; TH3 Mk III beam with balun and long heavy duty coax; Ham IV rotator with long control cable - Len de Klerk ZS2TT ☎ 503-1401 (work) or 35-3316 (home)

WANTED

- ★ Coax Switch - Graham Butcher ☎ 71-1933 (home)
- ★ Chick ZS2LM is looking for a volunteer to help him wire up his homebrew linear - he doesn't trust himself with all those volts running around wild!
- ★ Icom handheld, dual-bander or with second RX e.g. IC-2SRA- Alex Gogos ZR2T, ☎ 30-9133 home/work

□ Al ZS2U writes: "With reference to the answer to the sweet puzzle in the November QSX - I can remember Flit. Garth can't. Shame!"

[Ed. writes: "Just who is this Al chappie? Have I met him?"]

Ω

Fiddlers' Corner

Make a DC Meter and RF Probe

Amateur Radio can be extremely inexpensive: it depends on the approach to the hobby. 'Rolling your own' is one way of reducing the cost. Not *only* that, but normally one also gets more pleasure and satisfaction out of using something that you have built yourself than out of one of those commercial black boxes that you have bought.

One of the main objectives of Amateur Radio is to educate – and creative construction of radio and electronic equipment is fun while doing just that. In the series of articles that we will print in Fiddlers' Corner, local hams will try to provide some interesting ideas and hints especially for the newcomer to the game. Viv Moore ZS2FM, a compulsive fiddler, kicks off with the following article.

During construction of equipment one will make DC voltage measurements that require an instrument with high input impedance so as not to load the circuit and give false readings. Modern digital multi-meters ("test meters") have a high input impedance but only the very expensive analog multi-meters can be used safely. What follows is a device which has a high input impedance and, when added to an analog meter, will enable you to make DC voltage measurements without loading the circuit.

Construction of DC Meter

Use copper-plated printed circuit board material, and separate the board into isolated squares by drawing a hacksaw blade across the copper surface, cutting away just enough to remove the copper covering. This leaves "islands" of copper that are used for mounting the components. Apply just enough heat from your soldering iron to flow sufficient solder onto the square for the component lead connection.

One can connect the unit to your analog multi-meter, switched to the 0-100 μA scale, or build a complete voltmeter by adding a 0-100 μA meter.

Measuring RF Voltages

At some stage one will want to measure the strength of RADIO FREQUENCY signals

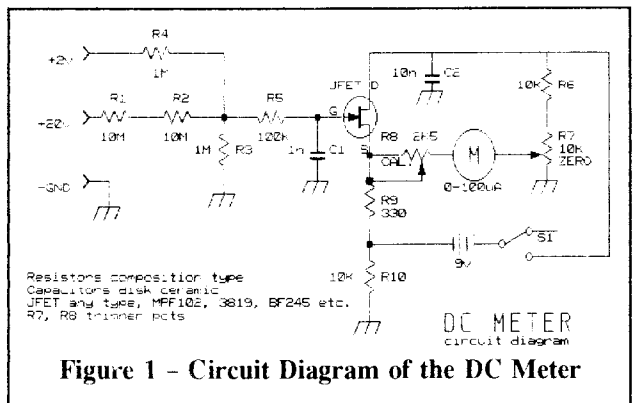


Figure 1 – Circuit Diagram of the DC Meter

being generated in equipment. To this end an RF probe can be added ahead of the high impedance device. It is a simple piece of equipment that converts RF into DC.

RF Probe Construction

The components should be encased in a metal container. A piece of 13 mm copper water pipe about 80 mm. long would be suitable. Two wooden plugs (or some other non-conductive material) are fashioned to fit the ends of the pipe. One of the plugs has a metal pin (25 mm. nail) inserted through it to act as the probe. The other has a hole large enough for the co-axial cable to pass through.

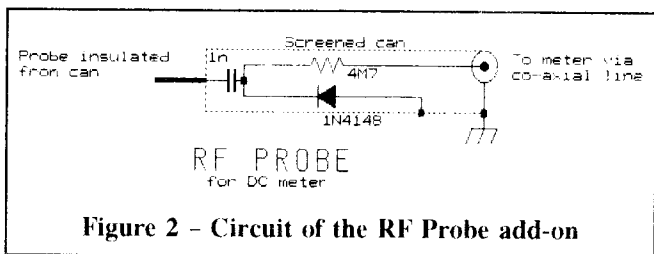


Figure 2 - Circuit of the RF Probe add-on

Assemble the components and solder them to the pin in the first plug. Insert the other plug in the copper tube and pass a length of co-axial cable through it. Solder the cable to the components and draw it back, pulling the assembly into the tube.

Where the cable exits the unit, expose a small area of the screening and solder onto it a short length of wire, with the other end soldered to the tube. Take care not to overheat the co-axial cable while doing this.

Take a 300 mm length of insulated multi-strand wire, attach a crocodile clip to one end and solder the other end to the tube. A plug or plugs suitable to fit the voltmeter is attached to the co-axial cable and voila! You can read RF voltages.

The RF probe can also plug directly into a digital meter switched to a DC voltage scale.

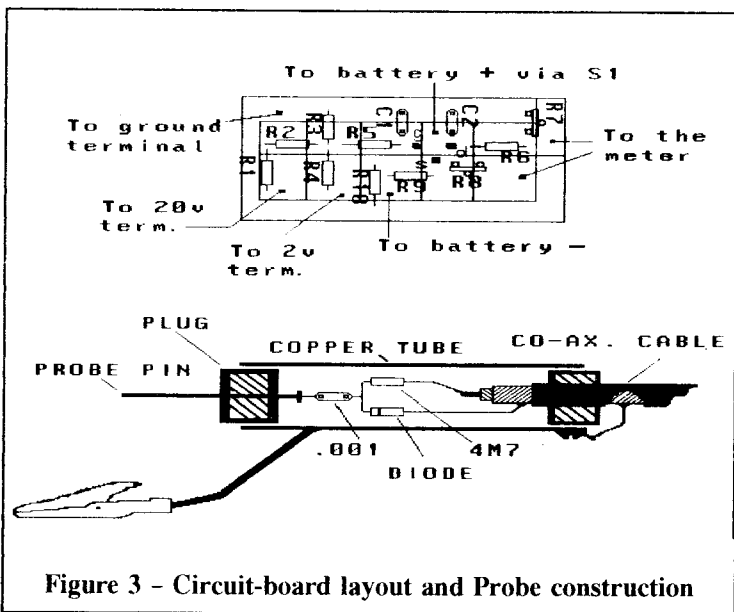


Figure 3 - Circuit-board layout and Probe construction

Circuit-board layout for the DC meter and construction details of the RF probe are as shewn in Fig.3.

Q

QUO VADIS SARL?

MIKE BOSCH, ZS2FM

I do not normally like to get involved in Branch or League politics, since I am by nature a Radio Amateur experimenter and constructor. However, current developments in the Amateur Radio world which placed RADIO ZS as well as the South African Radio League on the endangered list, are of great concern to me as this could mean the end of Amateur Radio in this country. Of course, so is the increased subscriptions which reduced our membership even further, and more fragmentation of a wonderful amateur organization could mean the deathknell!

The answer to the RADIO ZS problem is quite simple: double the circulation, increase the number of pages and produce 12 issues annually! The greater circulation would reduce the unit cost of the magazine, have greater appeal to the advertisers and therefore sell more advertising, all of which could make RADIO ZS self-supporting. Perhaps we could even tie up with some other allied radio group etc. and share the cost of the magazine.

The only snag is how to implement it? RADIO ZS, like its pre-war forerunner QTC, is the real mouthpiece of our SARL and copies are also distributed to member societies of Region 1. The old QTC's as well as early issues of RADIO ZS featured detailed news of the leading branches such as Johannesburg, Pretoria, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, East London, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town etc. which was read with great interest by all Hams.

Unfortunately the advent of local newsletters slowly built a cocoon around each branch and their respective news items were no longer available to other branches. In this way amateurs of all branches lost contact with each other and what they were doing in their particular branches.

If the leading branches (i.e. those who can afford it) would purchase a page or half in RADIO ZS, they could publish their editorials, chairmen's chats and personal news of the activities of their members etc. In this way

they could reduce the size and cost of their own newsletters, and 2500 amateurs or more could read all about the accomplishments of the different branches.

Many excellent articles and circuits appear in local newsletters but, unfortunately, these cannot be enjoyed by other branch members. Therefore, these articles should rather be submitted to RADIO ZS and printed at their cost. Several local amateurs, including Garth Laaks ZS2HB, have shown their support for this idea.

Most HF amateurs should by now be aware that Amateur Radio Mirror International has been on the air for many years on Sunday mornings at 10:00 SAST, transmitting interesting news to a large number of listeners. One Sunday morning I heard a non-League member occupying this channel at the time who at first refused to QSY, claiming that nobody owns a particular frequency, and also made some very uncouth utterings. It is ironical that this non-member contributes nothing towards the IARU who (with the support of the SARL) is the ultimate protector of the very HF band he is using.

On VHF we have another situation where amateurs who have never belonged to the League are happily using branch repeaters free. Is this a form of gate-crashing? It makes you think, doesn't it????

A few years from now we could be faced with a new type of problem when, for example, many more young amateurs are operating from the townships, not having been exposed to amateur protocol and not being members of the SARL. This could create chaos on the bands!

Perhaps the idea that the SARL should issue licences to all radio amateurs is not such a bad concept after all, as this will empower the SARL to control the behaviour of all South African amateurs on the air i.e. Black and White!

Q

Bits and Pieces

Newcomers' Net

Are you a newcomer on the air? If so, why not join the newcomers' net which operates on 145,3 MHz simplex? There is no particular time or day of operation, but if you give a call you stand a good chance of getting a reply.

The purpose of the net is to have chats with other newcomers and to discuss operating practices and technical subjects. See you there!

Intecnet Controller Required

Following Beavan's promotion he will be more frequently required at various meetings called at short notice and he will, therefore, not be able to commit himself to any ham activity in advance of the event. This means that he will not be available to organise or participate in the VW Rally comms net, nor can we rely on his being available to control the switching of the Eastern Cape telephone and VHF links during Intecnets and the like.

Beavan assures us that the control box is not complicated or difficult to construct, nor is its operation any cause for consternation, so a volunteer - or more than one - to take on this task would be appreciated. Beavan will provide the circuit diagram and construction data for the controller.

IRC's again available in SA

Following the SA Post Office's recent readmission to the Universal Postal Union it has become possible to participate in the international reply coupon scheme once more. Consequently, one can now buy IRCs - although at the time of writing many post offices might not yet have received their stocks.

The IRCs will cost you R5 each and the person to whom you send one will be able to exchange it in his country for *postage stamps* to the value of the highest airmail rate applicable in that country for an air-mail letter weighing up to 10 grams to any place abroad.

Similarly, a foreign IRC received in South Africa will be good at any South African post office for stamps equal to the highest tariff in force at the time for a 10 gram airmail letter to any foreign destination - at present R1.65 - even if the card or letter you intend to send will cost less.

IRC'S cannot be exchanged for cash. However, many recipients do not bother to exchange them even for postage stamps but merely pass incoming IRCs on to some other DX station from which they earnestly want a QSL card.

RAE Classes start

The preliminary meeting on 30 January was attended by about 15 people, apart from the lecture team, but unfortunately only seven decided to go for it. Classes started on 5 February but there is still time for any others to join, so if you know of any likely candidates please get them to contact Bert, our RAE Administrator, as soon as possible. His telephone number is on page 15.

Special Event Stations

- The Swedish club station SK7JC will use the special call 7S7JC during February 1996 to celebrate its 20th anniversary. It will operate on 3515 and 7015 kHz on CW and on 3715 and 7065 kHz on SSB. A special QSL will be issued.
- STS76 is due for launch on 21 March.

At least three licensed hams will be aboard, namely Richard Searfoss KC5CKM, Linda Godwin N5RAX, and Ronald Segal KC5ETH. Shannon Lucid, Mission Specialist, may also have a call sign by takeoff time. He will join the MIR crew and remain there for five months.

The Uplink frequencies to be used are 144.450 and 144.470 MHz, and the downlink frequency 145.840 MHz. **Please don't call on the downlink frequency!**

The 51.6 inclination of the orbit should often favour the Southern and Eastern Cape.

- ZS64RI operated from Robben Island from 26 to 28 January. For some strange reason, QSLing is via KA1JC.

Free State QSO Party

A packet message tells us that 23 February 1996 is Free State Day. On Sunday 25 February 1996, from 15:00 to 18:00, listen out for 'CQ FREE STATE' or 'CQ VRYSTAAT'. The Free Staters would like to give everybody an opportunity to have a QSO with them on 160, 80, 40, 20, 6 and 2 Metres, 70 and 23 Cms.

Free State stations will give RS(T) plus 3 letters indicating town or city, other stations give RS(T) plus a serial starting at 001. One point per QSO, and the same station may be worked *once per mode per band*.

Log sheets must be posted by 15 March 96 to Box 6673, Bloemfontein, 9300 and they should indicate the following: Time; Station Worked; RS(T) Sent; RS(T) Received; Band/Freq; Mode; AND, after the last entry, YOUR TOTAL SCORE.

NB- If you work ZS4B or ZS4BFN, multiply the final score by TWO. If you

work *both* ZS4B and ZS4BFN then multiply it by FOUR.

Bulletins Available by Fax

A recent HQ bulletin announced that the HQ bulletins will be available to branches in advance by fax. Is this the forerunner to an announcement that branches are free to also *transmit* the bulletins on their own frequencies simultaneously with the usual HQ transmission, as suggested in the motion from PE to the forthcoming AGM?

Thoughts on RAE, CW Exams

A suggestion in the new Zululand Branch's newsletter is that the speed of the CW test should be inversely related to one's pass level in the RAE exam. A high pass mark in the RAE would require, for example, a 5 wpm CW test, while someone who just scrapes through the RAE would have to do the full 12 wpm.

Sounds like a good idea, which would make it easier for the highly qualified technical ham to get his ZS licence without much effort.

Considering the high pass rate of over 90% again for the latest RAE exam, compared with the norm in most other examinations, it is clearly time for negative marking to be introduced. This was discussed at the 1994 AGM held in Port Elizabeth and the principle agreed upon, but nothing has been done yet.

Come to think of it, where is that book of 600 RAE questions that we were promised some years ago?

└ Last month we reported that Vic ZS2SZ had gotten Lynne's beam back up on her tower. In fact, Vic and Chris ZS2AAW did the job. Thanks, both of you. (Where does Chris find the time for all the ham things he gets up to for the Branch and its members?) Q

Silent Keys— We learned with deep regret of the passing of two Branch stalwarts, Andy Smith ZS6TD and Eric Gertenbach ZS2CV during January, both following heart attacks. Eric, who had over 300 countries to his credit, worked mostly on CW and would have turned 81 this month. We extend our deepest sympathy to the respective families.

Congratulations

your birthdays:

February

- 22 John Rivers ZS2DO
- 25 Ralph Hall ZS2IV
- 26 Dick van der Berg ZR2ABH
Waldie Bartie ZS2WM
- 29 Wolf Gerstle ZS2WG

March

- 15 Susanna Bosch XYL of Mike
ZS2FM
- 16 Anne Butcher XYL of ZR2GIB

on your anniversaries:

February

- 24 Doris & Arthur Edwards ZS2DJ
- 25 Karen & Glenn Weiss
- 29 Ria & Garth Laaks ZS2HB

March

- 2 Belinda & Des Herselman ZR2DH
- 3 Anne & Graham Butcher ZR2GIB
Merle & Louis Jordaan ZR2J

on your new callsigns: Celia Salmon ZR2RW, Keith Fensham ZR2KF and, although not a member of the PE Branch, we especially congratulate ZR2SW Sheldon, of East London who, at the tender age of 14, has the callsign ZR2SW and is busy with his morse as well as a host of projects that he wants to get his hands into.

Stadig oor die klippe, Sheldon, but it's good to hear such enthusiasm for things technical.

on passing the CW test: Pam Hopper, XYL of Phil, who should soon be sporting a ZU licence.

on your promotions Athol Bruyns ZS2CM, which unfortunately takes him away from us to Johannesburg, and Beavan Gwilt ZS2RL to top of his Department as City Electrical Engineer. Do we get free electricity now, Beav?

op jou QRP prestasie Fanie Swiegers ZS2EM wie die Tak se QRP-20-toekenning verdien het – *met slegs 300 milliwatt dubbelsyband!* Knap gedaan, Fanie.

Welcome to our new RAE candidates, whose names we will publish next month.

Tolsions as lede, Poppie ZS1AFZ en Daniel Oosthuizen ZS1AEC van Bellville, wie om praktiese redes na die Kaapstadtak oorgegaan het. Dankie vir die tyd wat julle by ons deurgebring het. Maar *julle* gaan *ons* ook mis, hoor!

New Callsign: Theuns Potgieter, formerly ZR2BG, who is back in our area again from a stint in Cape Town, now holds the call ZR2TP. **Q**

Port Elizabeth Branch Committee

Chairman; Special Events	Dick Schönborn ZS2RS	38 3010 51-3272
Vice Chairman	Al Akers ZS2U	30-2983
Secretary	Bert van der Poel ZR2USA	55-2690
Treasurer; Assets Control	Clive Fife ZS2RT	32-3203
assisting with Assets Control	Lynne Crothall ZS2MM	35-4671
Social, Library	Owen Thomas ZS2AZ	38-4134
assisting with refreshments at meetings	Bill Hodges ZS2ABZ	51-2580
Repeaters, Packet	Chris Scarr ZS2AAW	38-1344
QSX Manager	Trevor Scarr ZS2AE	32-1746
assisting as QSX Editor/layout	Garth Laaks ZS2HB	38-1101
Technical Classes	Gerhard Baum ZS2UM	30-5224

Branch VHF & Other Services

REPEATERS

Town VHF	145,050/650	Grahamstown	*145,150/750
Town UHF	431,050/438,650	Kareedouw	145,125/725
Cockscomb	145,000/600	Lady's Slipper	*145,100/700
Cradock	145,050/650	Uitenhage	145,075/675

* East London access to the coastwise linked repeater system is on 145,450 MHz *simplex*

OTHER SERVICES

Packet Bulletin Board (ZSØNTP)	144,675
Digipeater (Grahamstown - ZSØGHT)	144,675
2m Beacon (ZS2VHF CW ID)	144,910
6m Beacon (ZS2SIX 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 08:45, on 3640 and 7098 kHz as well as the 2 metre linked repeater network giving coastwise coverage from East London to George and beyond via 145,750 (Grahamstown), 145,700 (PE Slipper), 145,650 (Knysna) 145,700 MHz (George) repeaters and 145,450 simplex in East London. Extending the system to HF is also controlled remotely.

Date	Prepare and Read on 145,700
18 Feb	ZS2AZ
25	ZS2RS
3 Mar	ZS2U
10	ZR2USA
17	ZS2RT
24	ZS2AE

DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY

- 16 Branch Meeting
 - 18 Trip to Plet
 - 25 Free State QSO Party
- #### MARCH
- 30-31 Field Day Contest

★ We Like *Being* Your Branch ★