

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY THE
PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 10402
LINTON GRANGE
6015

February 1998

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The President and Vice-president of the SA Radio League will visit Port Elizabeth to meet members and non-members of PEARS and the SARL on Saturday, 21 February 1998. In the circumstances it has been decided to postpone our normal monthly general meeting to that afternoon, i.e. **SATURDAY, 21 FEBRUARY** instead of the usual Friday date.

The meeting will be held in the Walmer Scout Hall, Fordyce Road (4th Avenue area) and will commence at 14:00. Normal PEARS business will be disposed of as quickly as possible, so that the visiting Councillors can be given the floor.

There will be a **bring-and-braai**, the Club supplying the fires, salads, bread rolls and cartons of wine. Participants are asked to provide their own eating and braaiing utensils, crockery, glasses and other liquid refreshments – and, of course, the goodies they want to braai.

It is likely that Chris and Jan will want to determine the causes of the relatively low SARL membership level, which is one of the reasons for inviting non-members. If you have any thoughts

– perhaps personal gripes – in this regard, *please write down the details now* and express your views at the meeting. Do provide supporting details, but let's do it in our typically friendly fashion without any acrimony. It is imperative that the SARL Management be properly informed as to what has to be done to regain SARL popularity so as to breathe new life into the League to the advantage of us all.

Please spread the news of this meeting to all your ham friends – not only *members* of the Club or the SARL but **non-members too**, from the Border to Mossel Bay. Non-members are particularly welcome so as to enlighten the Councillors on the reasons that licensees have for abstaining from League membership.

If you think your children or XYL may get bored with the discussions, you may wish to have them arrive at, say, 15:30, getting there in time for the socializing part.

• If you plan to attend, please let Trevor ZS2AE know. You will usually find him on the 2m link, or phone him at 041 32-1746.


Technical Evening

The next technical evening will be on Thursday, 26 February 1998, starting at 20:00, in the Clubhouse (Municipal Disaster Management Centre), Westview Drive, Mill Park, Port Elizabeth.

The last technical get-together was attended by nearly 30 people, and what an interesting evening it turned out to be! André ZS2ACP showed how neatly a CB set can be converted to operate on one or more ham bands. At this month's meeting we will finalise this subject and André will demonstrate one of his converted radios.

If time permits, the digital display that can be incorporated into a converted set, to indicate the frequency rather than simply a channel number, will also be dealt with; and Des will demonstrate a frequency counter unit that he will have completed by then.

He also hopes to have a Phase Locked Loop circuit going, and the working thereof will be explained.

Ideas for future meetings include designing circuit board layouts from printed circuit diagrams using a computer, and understanding circuit diagrams. 



A Word

From the Chair

*I*t seems the time has come for all those disgruntled ex-members of the SARL to come out of the woodwork and face the challenge. The President of the SARL, Chris Turner, ZS6GM, and Jan Schubart, ZS6ARV have taken cap in hand and scheduled a trip to Port Elizabeth on **Saturday the 21st of February**. Chris would like to hear what local hams have to say, and also obviously communicate what is going on up in the Gauteng area and, more specifically, with HQ.

I welcome them, and hope that we can extend the hand of warmth and friendliness with which Port Elizabeth has made a name for herself. If you have had lots to say about the "way things are going", please join us for a social get-together on the Saturday afternoon. I hope that many things can be straightened out at the meeting, whereafter we can all enjoy a chat around the braai fires.

Chris is very keen to make their trip worthwhile, in having as many hams from the surrounding areas present too. So the PEARS Committee extends this invitation to **ALL Hams, whether members of PEARS or the SARL or not**, from anywhere within the Eastern Cape, to come and join the fun!

Plenty of fun was had by many youngsters at various schools around the country, during the official opening of the Year of Science and Technology. What made it great for us was the participation of various schools here in the Eastern Cape. Thanks for those operators who gave of their time (and probably patience) and took up the challenge of manning a station. From the reports after the event, it proved fruitful in arousing interest amongst the youngsters at the schools involved. Lets keep them interested!

Finally, my congratulations go to Nicholas, ZR2NDT, on being elected the Chairman of the PEARS Young Amateurs Club. I am sure that this group will satisfy the different needs of the new amateurs entering the fold. Lets encourage them on the air whenever possible.

73,

Chris, ZS2AAW

E-mail Address

Please note the new e-mail address for Hamnet/ECARES, which is ecares@intekom.co.za

Secretary/Treasurer

Due to pressure of work, Mike ZS2IC has resigned as Secretary/-Treasurer. We thank him for all his efforts in the past and are glad that he will still be assisting to a lesser extent. Neil ZR2NT has kindly consented to take over this position as from the beginning of February.

Nets

The six metre net is functioning well with some five members reporting in each week. We have decided to change the starting time to 1900. The two metre net has not produced any response as yet, so it will be discontinued at least till further notice.

Legal Liability

The chances of a legal liability claim is pretty small, but if it does occur, it could be a very expensive business. ECARES is not in a position to assist members financially in such an event. Neither is Hamnet or the SA Radio League in a position to assist members. See Hamnet News in the September 1996 issue of QSX.

This is one of the reasons why ECARES expects only emergency message handling from its members. This of course does include assessing

the emergency situation and informing the emergency services in order for them to perform their duties as effectively as possible.

Make sure that the messages you handle are done as accurately and efficiently as possible.

The decision to assist in any other way rests entirely on the individual ECARES member. If you do assist, make sure you are suitably qualified to do so. You may feel that it is best not to do anything and thus avoid any legal liability.

I am led to believe that if it can be proved that you are in a position to assist and you do not, you are also open to a legal liability claim. I would think that, in view of this, a court of law would be biased in favour of you, the defendant, in a claim where you make an effort to assist.

It is, however, better to avoid this, and that is all the more reason why it is advisable to belong to an emergency organisation like ECARES so that you learn how to handle emergency situations.

73

Al Akers ZS2U

Provincial Director,
Hamnet East Cape/ECARES

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, HELD AT THE MUNICIPAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT CENTRE, MILL PARK, PORT ELIZABETH ON FRIDAY, 16 JANUARY, 1998

Present & Apologies: As per register. Apologies tendered on behalf of Duppie ZS6BDD.

Opening: Chairman Chris welcomed everybody, and in particular Jimmy Duck who will be attending the next series of technical classes. Jim France was also congratulated on his recently acquired callsign ZR2JRF.

Phil ZS2PP made one of his rare appearances and was duly welcomed.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Proposed by Lynne ZS2MM and seconded by Dick ZS2RS.

Guest Speaker: It seems nobody could be found who felt a desire to speak to us, so there was none.

Matters Arising: None.

Finance & Membership: Treasurer Clive was not able to attend, But it had been reported at the committee meeting that all was well.

Correspondence:

1. A letter/article had been received from Roger ZS1J about antennae. This will be published in QSX.
2. A letter received from aspirant Charles Havenga re classes/literature/assistance in preparing for the RAE. The officer in charge of technical training (Des ZR2DH) will contact Charles.

General:


1. CW operators are needed to assist with morse classes. Please contact Des ZR2DH.
2. As part of the program to cater for the needs of younger members, Shawn ZR2SC will be hosting a braai at his home on 31 January 1998.
3. The XYL of Mike ZS2XE is still in hospital. The meeting extended best wishes to them both.
4. The Chairman reported on his meeting with the Youth Council Chairman Mynhardt where ways and means of engendering interest among young members was discussed. Inter alia, the consensus was that young members' activities must remain under the umbrella of PEARS.
5. This is the Year of Science & Technology. Activities will be concentrated in the E. Cape over Easter. We should utilise this opportunity to promote AR.
6. There will be a science fair in Grahamstown over Easter, aimed at school children. We have been invited to participate, and Phil ZS2PP volunteered the services of himself and Ewan ZS2EN.

7. There is to be a school link-up via VHF. Chris ZS2AAW will liaise with Colin ZS2CR on this.
8. On Saturday 17 January there will be a telecon link-up with the Chairmans' indaba in Jo'burg. Chairman Chris ZS2AAW will relay it on the 145.650 MHz town repeater.
9. The Uitenhage repeater only worked for a few hours after being installed towards the end of last year. Replacement equipment is on order, plus UHF link equipment for hooking it up to the 650 or 700 repeater.
10. Steelwork has been purchased for the repair to the mast of the Grahamstown repeater. The faulty bits are at the top of the mast, and volunteers are required to do the necessary.
11. New equipment and UHF link-up goodies have also been ordered for the town repeater.
12. Deadline for licences is 31 January 1998. Many members have not yet received renewal notices, SATRA HQ seemingly being in a bit of a muddle. Renewals can be done at SATRA's offices in Norwich Union building.
13. Trevor ZS2AE reported that he had seen Owen ZS2AZ that evening, and Owen had sent 73's to the meeting.

Closure: The meeting closed and refreshments were taken.

Note by Ed.– I like our Secretary's humour and am often tempted to leave his comments and terminology (intended for my eyes only) in the Minutes just as he writes them but, being a formal sort of thing, I have to excise most of them. Here are some examples that came with the latest Minutes:

"Complaint from the underpaid secretary – see what happens when we do not have a guest speaker? 'General' goes on endlessly and I have to wear my fingers to the bone banging the keyboard."

Regarding the volunteers required to climb the repeater tower: "Suitable admiration, praise and recognition will be heaped upon said volunteers after successful completion of said job. Soil will be heaped upon the less-than-successful." 





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UNCHAIN YOUR CLARIFIER

ANDRÉ BOTES ZS2ACP

If you have converted a CB set to operate on the amateur bands – see Roger Davis ZS1J's article in Radio ZS, October 1997 and André ZS2ACP's version of a conversion as demonstrated at our technical gatherings – the modification discussed here will enable you to use the clarifier on both receive *and* transmit. This will enable you to select transmit frequencies *between* the 10 kHz spots. It also extends the range of the clarifier from the usual 2 kHz or so to about 10 kHz.

ON PHILIPS, SBE LC, COBRA, and PRESIDENT RADIOS:

1. Remove the wires connected to both outer pins on the clarifier potentiometer. Leave the centre wire as is. Remove any resistor attached to any of the pins of the clarifier pot.
2. Connect one side of the pot to ground on the PC board.
3. Connect the other side of the pot to a convenient point that supplies 8V on both receive and transmit. This voltage can be found on the large flat voltage regulator bolted to the side of the set.
4. Locate and remove diode D36 and resistor R143.
5. Locate the varicap diode D37 and lift the anode end (the end that *does not* have the stripe or band) from ground, then connect a 10 μ H choke in series between the diode and ground.

This modification allows 8–10 kHz shift on receive and transmit.

ON THE TELEFUNKEN STARFIRE RADIO:

The clarifier is built into the microphone and it is consequently difficult to mark the positions on the control. The following additional modifications can therefore be done:

1. Locate the squelch control potentiometer and disconnect all wiring connecting to it. If you choose not to remove the wires at both ends, insulate the ends that you have disconnected so that they do not cause a shortcircuit. The set is now permanently unsquelched.
2. *On the inside of the set*, remove the blue wire from behind the microphone socket and solder it to the centre pin of the former squelch control.
3. Follow steps 2 to 5 detailed above for the other makes of radio.

In all cases use a frequency counter (or second receiver) and mark the outer ring of the control for exact transmit frequency.



POLARITY ADAPTOR

Protect your rig from reverse polarity

CONDENSED FROM 73 MAGAZINE, JULY 1980

From time to time one comes across a motor vehicle that uses a positive earth system rather than the more common negative earth. If you use various cars – for example, the pool vehicles of your ‘saltmine’ – and run your handheld or portable radio off the cigar lighter socket, you could burn out your expensive rig if it ‘sees’ the wrong polarity.

Even if you know the car’s polarity you could still run into trouble. In previous years, car dashboards were of metal and, since the cigar lighter barrel was bolted onto it, it automatically assumed the same polarity as the ‘earthed’ pole of the battery. Only one wire was needed to power the lighter socket – it connected the centre pin of the lighter socket to the ‘hot’ battery lead, usually through a fuse. There could be no doubt about the polarity.

Today, dashboards and motor car consoles are made of non-conductive materials such as plastic which cannot be used as the ‘return’ lead to the battery. Consequently, there are two connections to the lighter socket – one to the ‘hot’ side of the battery and one to the most convenient ‘earth’ point on the car.

This leaves it possible, unfortunately, for the leads to the cigar lighter socket to be reversed, in which case the earthed pole of the battery, i.e. the car’s bodywork, will be connected to the centre pin, while the barrel of the lighter socket will be connected to the hot lead of the battery!

You could unwittingly burn out your

rig by plugging it into the cigar socket even if you *know* the car’s battery polarity matches that of your rig. (At least one ham I know experienced this situation and he had a fair battle to get compensation for the cost of a new rig – Ed.)

A simple solution exists for the foregoing problems. The polarity-directing circuit shown in figure 1 can be fitted either in a separate box between the cigar lighter plug and your handheld radio, or inside the case itself if you use a ‘portable’ type radio.

The diodes are not critical, but they must be able to carry the current drawn by the radio in the worst case. Any 1N4000 series diode will work well for radios up to 10 Watts.

It is best if the diodes have a forward-current capacity of perhaps twice the fuse value, just in case of a catastrophic short in the radio. This will help ensure that the fuse blows before any diodes fail, so there will be that many fewer parts to replace.

The diodes ensure that the battery voltage obtained from the socket reaches the radio with the correct polarity, irrespective of which terminal of the car’s battery or the socket itself is ‘earthed’.

The battery voltage seen by the radio is reduced by about 1.5 volts (two diode drops) but performance should not be severely degraded.

That was simple enough. However, another danger still exists: if your rig uses the opposite polarity to that of the car, and even if you use the device in figure 1, the metal case of your rig will

be 'hot' with respect to the metalwork of the car. If the two should touch, a short circuit will result and you could damage the rig or, at least, blow a fuse.

Remember, if you connect the rig to an antenna that is fixed to the car, the outer braiding of the connecting coaxial cable is earthed at the antenna end. It will therefore provide a direct current path between the metalwork of both the rig and the car, with unfortunate results.

To overcome this, it is necessary to provide DC isolation between the two. In the case of a 'portable' type rig, the SO239 socket can be removed and replaced using nylon machine screws and nuts, slipping nylon washers over the screws between the socket and metal case.

A .001 μ F disc ceramic capacitor must be connected between the socket and the chassis which, although blocking the DC path to earth, is transparent to RF.

For hand-helds, or as an alternative

to isolating the socket from the radio itself, a small plastic box can be fitted out as shown in figure 2.

A magnet-mount antenna will not need isolating in this manner provided that the magnet base and coax braiding do not come into direct contact with bare metal. It is nevertheless advisable to consider using the isolator 'just in case'.

Some rigs have a 'floating' polarity in which the circuit earth is not connected direct to the metal case. In the latter event, there is nothing to worry about from metal-to-metal contact with the car body.

To check whether your radio has a floating or dedicated earth, disconnect it from its power source, turn the power switch on and check whether there is continuity between the metal case and either of the terminals to which the battery normally connects. A zero or low resistance reading indicates that the rig has a *dedicated ground*.

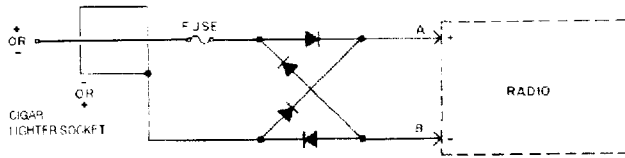


Fig. 1. Depolarizing circuit. Diodes should have a current rating greater than the fuse value.

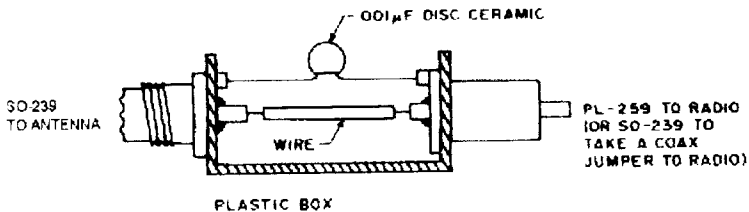


Fig. 2. Dc-isolation in antenna line.

QSX NOW ON INTERNET

If all goes according to plan, this issue of QSX should appear on a newly developed Internet home page by the time you receive your hard copy through the post. At least one foreign reader – a friend of Vic ZS2SZ – will make use of the facility, having asked some time ago if we could do so. (Such is the fame of QSX!)

Thanks go to Gary ZR2ABU, who has set up the home page and will continue to service and develop it.

Commiserations go to your hapless Editor, who had to do battle with a new

word processor that can handle the html format needed for constructing a home page.

You can reach our page at

<http://users.iafrica.com/g/gi/>

glaaks/ (all one word).

Sorry about that mouthful, but it's the way our service provider does things.

Check it out anyway! Any suggestions for improving the page will be welcome. E-mail us at glaaks@iafrica.com, or telephone the Editor (see p.15).



As mentioned on page 2, the number of attendees at the technical evenings is growing very nicely. The photograph above shows a part of the crowd at the last get-together.

FOR SALE



WANTED



SWOP

FOR SALE – from the shack of Owen ZS2AZ

★ Icom IC 751 **HF TX/RX** with Icom RC-10 **remote control** keypad frequency controller; 20A homebrew **13.8V power supply**; Homebrew **ATU**; 1 Amp **variable power supply** 10-30 V homebrew; **Soldering irons** - assortment; Weller quick heat transformer **soldering gun**; **PC Board drill** 12 V hand held; **2M Yagi** 10 element (collapsible); Assortment **transistors and ICs**; Assortment **plugs/sockets, diodes, LEDs, caps, resistors etc.**; QRP – assortment of **parts and assemblies, filters etc**; **Extension speaker in box** and assortment of **other speakers**; **RG58U coax** – miscellaneous lengths and **PL259 plugs**; Marconi marine **SSB/DSB TX/RX as spares** (no info.) – Contact **Trevor ZS2AE** tel. [041] 32-1746 to view.

PEARStalk

Irish Coffee?

It is reported that Chick recently saw his friend Paddy carrying an unusual-looking item and, with typical Irish quizziness, asked what it was.

"A Thermos flask," replied Paddy.

"What do you do with a Thermos flask?" asked Chick.

"Oh," said Paddy, "If you put something warm into it, it keeps the stuff warm for several hours. If you put in something cold, it keeps the stuff cold."

A week later, Paddy saw Chick carefully carrying a flask and called to him: "I see you got yourself a Thermos flask, Chick. What have you got in it?"

"Two cups of hot coffee and an ice-cream," replied Chick proudly.

Club AGM

The annual general meeting of the Club will be held some time in May. If you wish to place a motion on the agenda for discussion at the AGM it must reach our Secretary by not later than the April general meeting. The motion must be in writing and signed by the proposer and seconder, who must be paid-up members of PEARS.

This is also a good time to think who you wish to nominate for the Committee at the AGM and ensure that he or she will fall for it.

SARL AGM Motions

Motions for the *SA Radio League's* AGM on 2 May must reach the Secretary of the League by 28 February. They must also be signed by the proposer and seconder, both of whom must be fully paid-up members of

the SARL (*not necessarily PEARS members*). Remember, if the proposer or seconder does not personally attend the meeting and has not issued a proxy for another fully paid-up member of the SARL to represent them, the motion will not be discussed.

Commercial Stations on 40m

There has recently been some discussion about missionaries and other commercial users at the bottom end of the 40 metre band. Chris Turner ZS6GM clarified the position at the January SARL Indaba, saying:

"In the following countries the band 7000 to 7050 is allocated to commercial users on a Primary basis as an alternative allocation to the Amateur Service, which means that hams are not permitted to use this portion of the band in these countries:— Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Tanzania, Angola, Iraq, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia and Togo.

The ITU regulations rule that any transmissions by commercials in these countries are legal and can therefore not be treated as intruders but must be treated with respect and may not be interfered with."

Non-licensed Persons on Ham Bands.

On several occasions radio amateurs have queried the participation in special on-the-air events by non-licensed persons. The SARL has clarified the ruling issued by the Regulator in this regard.

"In terms of the radio regulations, both local and international, a ZR may

not operate on frequencies of 30 MHz and below. There are, however, certain *very specific* occasions when any person not licensed to operate on HF may speak over an amateur radio station or be relayed over an amateur radio station. This includes novices, ZR's and others who do not hold *any* amateur licence, such as students, Scouts, Lions etc.

A special dispensation exists in South Africa and in most countries abroad that is applicable to certain special events such as JOTA, CQ HOUKOERS, HUNTING LIONS, YARIA, LOCAL CLUB NEWS BULLETINS and club on-the-air activities, e.g. INTECNET etc. An amateur station officially participating in a special event may permit another person to speak over his amateur station in order to communicate with other stations participating in the event.

The [appropriately licensed] amateur must himself be in control of the station at all times, and may not permit the unlicensed person to control the station.

An official club station may allow another amateur who is not necessarily licensed for the particular class of licence to be relayed over the station for purposes of reading the club's bulletin or to take part in the club's activities. As above, the amateur controlling the station must be licensed for the particular frequencies and modes being used at the time.

The only other occasion when a non-licensed individual is permitted to speak over an amateur station is in the case of an emergency or natural disaster, when officials participating in the rescue operation may be relayed over the amateur station."

SARL Helps SATRA with Licences

The SARL has been assisting SATRA with the issuing of licences to candidates who successfully passed the November Radio Amateur Examination. This follows from an urgent meeting held this week between SATRA and the SARL to resolve the problems caused by the delay in the issuing of licenses and callsigns.

As SATRA's computer system was not expected to be operational for some time yet, the SARL offered to assist with the issuing of temporary licences to the successful candidates.

Licence Renewals

Did you receive your licence renewal reminder from SATRA? If so, you should settle up if you have not already done so. If you have *not* received the reminder by the end of February it would be wise to send a cheque for R27 to SATRA with your name, address and callsign, making it clear in your note that it represents your renewal fee for your amateur radio licence for 1998.

Alternatively, you can go to the Post Office with your last year's form and ask them to issue a *third party receipt* for your R27 renewal fee.

Legally SATRA does not *have* to send you a reminder. You *know* that you have to renew your licence by 31 January. So, even if SATRA doesn't get the rest of the reminders out this month as they expect, don't wait *too* long before you take action.

Councillor Nominations

The SARL has called for nominations for six Councillors. These

must reach SARL HQ by 15 February and must include the nominee's CV (maximum 200 words) and his signed undertaking to accept the position if he is elected. Nominations must be signed by the proposer and seconder.

RAE Classes

Things look good in this regard, with 18 interested persons at the initial class at the Disaster Management Centre and 8 at the Newton Technical College. Classes will be held on Monday evenings at the DMC, with a parallel series of lectures at the College on Wednesday evenings.

A great big 'thank you' must go to Shawn ZR2SC, in particular, for talking to the schools and securing the interest

of the pupils and the school authorities alike. An encouraging feature is the fact that *two school teachers* are also taking the course, which means that we can expect them to pass on their enthusiasm for the hobby to their current *and* future pupils.

Young Ham Development

Shawn is not only recruiting young people into the hobby but is also actively ensuring that he retains their interest between classes. He has organized an embryo 'Young Ham's Group' within PEARS, and is keeping the newcomers together by way of activities such as braais and other happenings.

Wrinkly Ravers!

THE NEXT RAVE — ER, LUNCHEON — WILL BE ENJOYED ON THURSDAY, 5 MARCH. THE HONOURABLE WRINKLY ONES MEET THUS ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AND HAVE A GREAT GAS (BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE MEAL!). CONTACT KEN ZS2BWB IN GOOD TIME TO PUT YOUR NAME ON THE ROLL.

THE MARCH ONE WILL AGAIN BE HELD AT THE ZWARTKOPS YACHT CLUB. HOWEVER, THE QUESTION OF FUTURE VENUES WILL BE DISCUSSED SO, IF YOU HAVE A PREFERENCE FOR SOME OTHER JOINT, COME AND SAY YOUR SAY.

And while you sit in your rocking chairs pondering the question, here's something else for you wrinkly old coots to think about!

SENIOR CITIZENS ARE THE NATION'S LEADING
CARRIERS OF AIDS!
Hearing aids, Band aids, Walking aids, Medical aids,
and most of all...
Monetary aid to their children.

Congratulations...

on your birthdays:

February

- 24 Joan Grunewald XYL of David ZS2DCG
- 26 Dick vdBerg ZS2VV
- 29 Wolfgang Gerste ZS2WG

March

- 3 Nita Davis XYL of ZS1J
- 10 Mike Smuts ZS2XE
- 14 Ali Mathieson XYL of Ewan ZS2EN
- 15 Susanna Bosch XYL of Mike ZS2FM
- 21 Andrew Gray ZS2G
- 22 Peggy Moore XYL of Viv ZS2VM

on your anniversaries:

February

- 15 Vanessa & Chris Scarr ZR2VM/ZS2AAW (data received after closing of last month's issue)

March

- 2 Belinda & Des Herselman ZR2CH/ZR2DH
- 3 Anne & Graham Butcher ZR2GIB
Merle & Louis Jordaan ZR2J
- 21 Maureen & Neil Fulton ZS2MG

met die slaag van die GG-eksamen

Daniel Burger ZR2B, wie die 5 wpm toets met gemak deurgekom het en nou ook die roepsein ZU1DB gebruik.

on your new callsigns Malcolm Williams ZR2MW and Jim France ZR2JRF.

on your marriage Johannes Joritsma on 27 December, so a little bird tells us, but it didn't have the name of the bride! Congrats to you both, if we have our facts right.

Sick list: Mattie Smuts was in hospital for a while but is out again. Mattie and her OM, Mike ZS2XE, are moving to a frail care facility shortly. Owen Thomas ZS2AZ making nice progress at Fairhaven. You're all in our thoughts and prayers.

Gadding: Vic Oorlede – sorry, Olivier – ZS2SZ has slipped away to Bloem for a while, apparently to read tombstones.

Hanni ZR2JB and Gerhard Baum ZS2UM have returned after a couple of months in Europe without our prior approval. They thought their children would enjoy their first white Christmas, but the weather was against them.

New Members: Neville Vroom ZS2NV of Bathurst and Anthony Bruyns ZR2APB, son of Athol, have joined the Premier Club. Welcome, both of you. We hope you will derive great pleasure from your association with us.

Ladies' Page coming!

We have been asked to provide something of interest for the ladies in Q8X and hope to bring you the odd recipe (so you can spoil your OMs a bit) and an occasional puzzle (just to keep the old grey matter active).

Contributions will be appreciated. Cake recipes *must* be accompanied by a fresh, complete example of the finished product. No doodgools, please!

Your Society's Committee

Chairman, Repeaters, Packet	Chris Scarr ZS2AAW	38-1344
Vice Chairman: Social	Dick Schönborn ZS2RS	38-5070
Secretary, Awards	Beavan Gwilt ZS2RL	30-6968
Treasurer, Assets Control	Clive Fife ZS2RT	32-3203
Social - Assisting with Assets Control	Lynne Crothall ZS2MM	35-4671
Ex-committee - refreshments at meetings	Bill Hodges ZS2ABZ	51-2580
QSO Manager & distribution	Trevor Scarr ZS2AE	32-1746
Ex-committee - QSO Editor & layout	Garth Laaks ZS2HB	38-1101
Technical Classes	Des Herselman ZR2DH	54-2911 (W)
		Cell 083 261 5402 (All Hrs)

PEARS' VHF & Other Services

REPEATERS

Town VHF	145.050/650	Karcedouw	† 145.125/725
Town UHF	431.050/438.650	Knysna	*145.075/675
Cockscomb	145.000/600	Lady's Slipper	*145.100/700
Craddock	*145.050/650	Uitenhage	145.075/675
Grahamstown	*145.150/750	Theescombe	† 145.175/775

* These form PE's long-range 2-metre repeater system, to which the East London 145.125/725 MHz repeater and the George repeater on 145.100/700 are also linked.

† These are privately owned repeaters and are not included in the PEARS linked repeater system.

OTHER SERVICES

Packet Bulletin Board (ZSØNTP)	144.625
Packet Rose Switch ZSØGHT-3.046101 (144.675 in/out) or 046102 (UHF out to BBS)	144.675
2m Beacon (ZS2VHF CW ID) (horizontally polarized)	144.910
6m Beacon (ZS2SIX CW ID) (horizontally polarized)	50.005
6m Simplex Link with Lady's Slipper 2m Repeater (vertically polarized)	51.400
Wefax Relay (Meteosat)	145.350

Sunday Bulletins

PEARS bulletins are transmitted on Sundays immediately after the SARL English transmission, i.e. at about 08:45, on 7098 kHz as well as the 2 metre linked network that provides coverage from East London to George and environs via the linked repeater system described above. PEARS' 7098 or 3640 kHz transceive facilities are also remotely linked as needed. In addition, the SARL's 40m transmissions on 7082 or 7066 kHz, alternatively 7070 kHz, can be remotely patched into the 2m network, either in receive only mode or for full transceive capability for interactive events.

Date	Prepare and Read on 2m Rptr link
15 Feb	ZS2AE
22	ZS2MM
1 Mar	ZR2DH
8	ZS2AAW
15	ZS2RS
22	ZS2RT

DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY

21 PEARS SPECIAL

Monthly Meeting (Sat)

26 Technical evening

MARCH

5 Wrinkly Ravers luncheon

14/16 SARL VHF/UHF Contest

★ We Like Being Your Society! ★