

THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY THE
PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

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March 1999

NOTICE OF MEETING

The monthly general meeting of the **PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY** will be held **a week later than usual**, i.e. on **Friday, 26 March 1999** commencing at 20:00 (8pm) in the Municipal Disaster Management Centre, Westview Drive, Mill Park, Port Elizabeth (Civil Defence Centre).

The **change of date** was prompted by the fact that our normal date will occur during the period of the Grahamstown Science Festival, in which several of our members will be directly or indirectly involved, and also in view of the long weekend.

Lynne ZS2MM has arranged for Mr. Brent Apple to tell us about his stay on Antarctica. He will show a series of slides and will also relate a few anecdotes that include references to our old friend Bud Voortman ZS1B, who visited Antarctica recently and maintained a ham station on board the supply ship.

Tea, coffee and munchies will be available during the interval.

Wrinkly Ravers

The **next rave** will be on **Thursday, 1 April 1999** at the Zwartkops Yacht Clubhouse. Now *there's* an auspicious date that's just *looking* for abuse! **1 April!** I have a feeling that some of the regular old fogies could get up to all sorts of shenanigans on such a day, so *keep your wits*, such as you still have, about you.

But 1 April or not, the Wrinklies *will* have a great time as usual, so join your buddies around 12 noon and have a good natter before going in to dine. Smoothies are also welcome.

There were 25 people at the March rave, including Bob and Lynn Furzer N6BFM and Mike and Ray Rowlands ZS6AFG. A great time was had by all.

Sobering thought: *You don't stop laughing because you grow old - you grow old because you stop laughing!* That, of course, won't worry the Wrinkly Ravers.

AGM EARLY WARNING

The AGM of our Society is planned for 22 May 1999. In terms of our Constitution, any motions that you would like to submit for discussion at the AGM must reach the Secretary by not later than the April 1999 general meeting.

A formal announcement of the AGM, indicating time and venue, will appear in the April issue of QSX-PE, and any motions will be published in the May issue.



A Word from the Chair



/ note with interest the comments recently heard from one of our local hams, in appreciation of the assistance he has received in getting going with a computer.

It is great to know that the good old ham spirit still lives on. With a simple on-the-air call for assistance with old PC parts, all sorts of bits and pieces have sprouted from the junk boxes of many local hams, and it seems more than one complete computer could have been built up with the proceeds! Well done chaps, and thank you for living up to the amateur reputation. I am sure the ham concerned will get many hours of pleasure from operating with his new toy.

Congratulations go to the recent licensees not only for getting their call signs, but also for coming onto 2m and making themselves known. It is always a pleasure to welcome new voices onto the airwaves. There is no need to feel shy - we all started exactly where you are now, agreed - some a lot longer ago than others!

Finally - remember our club AGM is looming, so get your thinking caps on as to future committee members. Consider who you would like to be our Society's office bearers, talk to them, and then speak up at the AGM!

73,

Chris ZS2AAW

HAMNET / ECARES NEWS

General Meeting

This took place on Wednesday, 24th February where our guest speaker was Ian Gray from the National Sea Rescue Institute. Ian gave us a good rundown on the operation, from the radio side, of the NSRI and proved very interesting.

The NSRI members certainly seem very dedicated. Any volunteers?

Emergency Equipment

At the February meeting of PEARS, Lynne ZS2MM suggested that I print a list of equipment required for emergency operation, so here goes.

It is difficult to make a list of requirements as this will vary from one individual to the next. It depends, for instance, on how often you travel and over what distances you travel.

What you take with you depends also on how well prepared you feel you should be. Each person should draw up his or her own list of requirements. Here are suggestions, some of which may seem obvious, but

what is obvious to one may well not be to others.

First should be various aids, if any, such as glasses, hearing aids, etc. Also medication if any. Take at least a two day supply.

Don't forget your driver's licence, which you should always have with you anyway, and it also serves as an ID if you are unable to supply this information yourself.

Have a MedicAlert bracelet if applicable. Keep a list of telephone numbers to contact in the event of any emergency. Have at least one transceiver available.

Keep at least a small medical kit in your vehicle. A raincoat. One of those plastic raincoats takes up very little space in the boot.

These items are considered a must.

More next month.

73,

Al Akers ZS2U
Provincial Director,
Hamnet East Cape/ECARES

FOR SALE * WANTED * SWOP

FOR SALE

* Kenwood model R-1000 receiver in good condition—**Trevor Scarr ZS2AE**, tel. 32-1746.

WANTED

* Good tribander beam—**Neville Roebert ZS2NR**, 1 Cambridge Road, King William's Town.

* Scrap FT707 transceiver for spares—**André Botes ZS2ACP**, tel. 379-2058.

PEARS CERTIFICATES & AWARDS

Following the change from branch to society status in July 1996 it was decided to scrap the certificates and awards previously issued by the Branch and create an entirely new set in their stead. Readers (not necessarily members of PEARS) are reminded that the following *certificates* are available upon application, subject to the conditions indicated:

CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT

1. **VHF:** On achieving a minimum of 50 points, with endorsements for each additional 50 points up to a maximum of 200.

One point is scored for every contact within the applicant's own Maidenhead Locator System grid square, five points for each contact in an adjoining grid square and twenty points for each contact outside these areas.

"Grid square" means the four-character Maidenhead locator level, e.g. KF26.

All contacts must be made from within the same grid square.

2. **CW:** Recognising two-way radio-telegraph contacts with fifty *different* stations. Endorsements for 100, 250 and 500 contacts. A new certificate will be issued for 1000 contacts.
3. **QRP:** On establishing contacts with stations in twenty *different* grid squares. Endorsements for each additional twenty up to 100 grid squares.

The maximum power permitted is five watts output to the antenna.

Miscellaneous provisions

- Contacts must be *direct*, i.e. no repeaters or relays may be used and no assistance from other stations is

permitted.

- Only one contact with a particular station may be counted.
- Contacts made before 1 January 1997 do not qualify.
- Logs, signed by the chairman of the applicant's club or by two other amateurs, shall be submitted with the application to the PEARS Awards Manager.
- The decision of the Committee regarding eligibility of contacts and scoring will be final.
- Although the certificates will be issued free for the time being, the Committee reserves the right to raise a charge for future certificates.

OTHER AWARDS

1. **MERIT AWARD:** At the discretion of the Committee, this award is made to persons who have rendered outstanding service to the Society. The award is presented at the annual general meeting.
2. **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:** At the discretion of the Committee, an award is made in recognition of a special or unusual achievement. It may be presented at any monthly general meeting or such other occasion as decided by the Committee. Ω

GARDEN ROUTE RADIO CLUB NOTES

by Casey Nootenboom ZS1AAS

Our first official meeting for 1999 was held on the 21st. February 1999 at the Mossgas Information Centre, Mossel Bay. Because the venue is fully booked every Saturday for many months ahead for weddings, we could only get it on a Sunday. This unfortunately did not agree with several members. As a result the attendance was somewhat disappointing. This was a pity as the weather was ideal.

The Mossgas information centre is situated in the old power station, overlooking Santos Beach. All present considered it an ideal venue. We will definitely use it in future, but will have to plan far ahead for a Saturday booking.

From 12pm we gathered and the braai fires lit up early. (The traditional Sunday-braai) and right away we decided to hold the formal part of our meeting next to the braai area.

Casey (ZS1AAS) opened the meeting and welcomed everybody present, especially a new member David Petzer ZR1DJP, who recently passed the exams with a 79% pass. Congratulations, David.

At present the club is too small for a formal committee. We operate with a few co-ordinators under the leadership of Casey. At the meeting changes to the co-ordinator team were discussed. Due to pressure of work Johan, ZS2JST resigned and was replaced by Chris. Saney, ZR1S also joined the team. Dennis, ZS1UV remains as the Old Man to keep the others on their toes.

Club finances were explained by Casey. Some funds will have to be set aside for upgrades to the Dana Bay repeater.

The 145,600 repeater, at Dana Bay, which is under the wing of ZS1M and with the help of ZR1DJP, is going to be

upgraded with a stronger repeater (24 V Storno) with a 25 Watt output. Thanks to Dave Perry for his help and support. A 24 Volt power supply with battery backup is the next big buy. Can anybody help?

Thanks for the nice maps about the 2mtr links that QSX PE provided in a previous issue. We made copies and distributed them to the local hams. A more detailed map regarding the linkup between Cape Town and the Eastern Cape will follow as soon as the installation has been completed.

The good news is that linkup installation will start early next week (9th of March at Riversdale). In a later newsletter we will give more details about the 70cm linkup that will be implemented.

The 5 wpm Morse code test proposals were discussed. Most members agreed with the SARL decision on this touchy subject.

Saney, ZR1S suggested that we have a joint meeting with our neighbours, the Still Bay hams. It seems that there are something like 13 Radio Amateurs in that area. How many are active is another thing, but we supported his idea and will make contact soon.

Pierre, ZS1DBP visited Mosselbay recently, and put in a strong request for members to join HAMNET. With the new linkup coming soon it will just make things so much easier to provide help to any member of the public in an accident, etc. The club members decided to take a strong move in this direction, and contact will be made with the West Cape Director regarding membership. Our club is too small to "go it alone" and we will join up with either the West or Eastern large clubs in this matter.



[TO PAGE 7 ⇨

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 19 FEBRUARY 1999

Present & Apologies : As per the register and additional apologies from ZR2ABU, ZS2FM, ZS2PF and ZS2RT .

Opening : Chris ZS2AAW opened the meeting and welcomed all

Minutes of the previous meeting : Acceptance proposed by Lynne ZS2MM and seconded by Gus ZS2MC.

Matters arising :

Grahamstown Science Fair –

The design of the mural backdrop was discussed,

Neil ZR2NT gave feedback on his correspondence regarding ideas and designs,

A detailed discussion followed on logistics and ideas for the festival,

It was decided that for the duration of the festival the ZS2PE call sign will be used .

Finance : Clive ZS2RT reported finance as being :

Savings—R346.30

Investment—R28076.90

Licence fees for all our repeaters have been paid.

Correspondence : None

General :

VHF contest report - All outstanding logs must be submitted by the end of February.

Al gave a reminder about the forthcoming Hamnet/ECARES meeting to all concerned with it.

Closure : The Chairman closed the meeting at 20H40.

Chris indicated that, due to short notice, the guest speaker could not make it.

He then asked people from the floor to give a short talk on their specific interests or

experiences in Ham radio and Lionel ZS2DD and Al ZS2U responded with off-the-cuff talks.

This proved to be very interesting and all agreed that it should be done in future when no speaker is available.

Tea and biscuits were enjoyed before members departed.

GARDEN ROUTE RC NOTES [FROM PAGE 6]

Chris (ZS1M) mentioned that the club should promote itself to the outside world. We will send a regular newsletter regarding our activities to all known amateurs in the area, other clubs and the SARL. The membership should be increased and new potential Hams be encouraged to do the exams.

A wonderful day ended as the sun was setting over Mosselbay harbour, with the

smell of braai smoke in the air. The next meeting date will be announced soon. This will probably be at Ebb and Flow, Wilderness during May. The Mossgas Centre has been booked well in advance for the first Saturday in July.

This is it from ZS1GRC, The Garden Route Radio Club.

73 and hope to see you soon at our meetings.

Easy Shortwave Receiver

FROM AN ARTICLE BY KEITH RANGER G0KJK

This regenerative receiver was designed to cover the bands 40 to 17 meters and could be powered by a 9V PP3 battery drawing only 5mA. The prototype later included an audio amplifier, LM 386, on the board but with a higher current draw. The supply voltage was varied between 5 and 12 volts with only a small difference in performance.

The output is to a crystal earpiece, which gives adequate reception. High resistance headphones can also be used very effectively but please note that low resistance, 8 ohm, headphones will prove disappointing. Do not use them for this receiver! A crystal earpiece gives correct impedance matching and ample volume with this circuit without actually requiring an AF gain control.

This project can be built at very little expense. A good sized tuning knob should be used as tuning is sharp, and especially if your main interest is receiving SSB. Both SSB and CW are received with the circuit gently oscillating.

The only areas where difficulty is likely to be encountered is in winding the tuning coil and providing the exact amount of capacitance for connection to the rotary switch to cover three or more amateur bands. The following is offered for guidance – your version of this circuit could provide different stray capacitances, so experimentation to

cover the exact amateur frequencies desired must be an accepted principle.

The tuning coil uses a total of 28 turns of 26 swg enamel covered copper wire, centre-tapped (at 14 turns) for the input from Q1, on a T-50-2 red toroid core. The capacitance required to give the three desired bands was 3.3pf (17m), 22pf (20m) and 150pf (40m).

Should you wish, a fourth position on the rotary switch with a capacitance of perhaps 68/100pf could give the 30m amateur band.

Alternatively, you could provide a 150pF polycon tuning capacitor for continuous coverage to do away with the need for the rotary switch and capacitors for individual bands.

The circuit was originally intended for reception using a crystal earphone. However, provision has since been made on the printed circuit board, shown full-size below, for the receiver to feed into a LM386 chip for powerful loudspeaker use. Unfortunately, a PP3 battery is no

longer sufficient in this case since this modification will draw significantly higher current!

Connect an outdoor aerial and use a slow-motion dial to make SSB

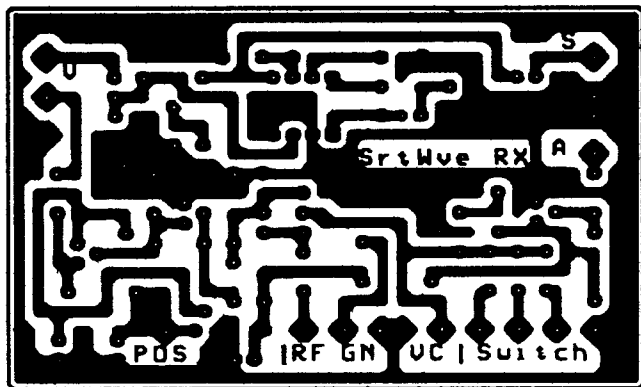


Fig. 1—Printed circuit board for the shortwave receiver (copper side, actual size)

reception, in particular, much easier. The experiments and refinements are over to you!

An actual-size template for the copper side of a suitable printed circuit board for the receiver, including the AF amplifier, appears as Fig. 1. A board can be obtained from MTS Electronics, Port

Elizabeth.

If you wish to omit the audio amplifier, you can connect a crystal earphone between ground and the point marked X on the overlay board and in the circuit diagram.

Fig. 2 is the circuit diagram, while the component overlay is shown in Fig. 3. ■

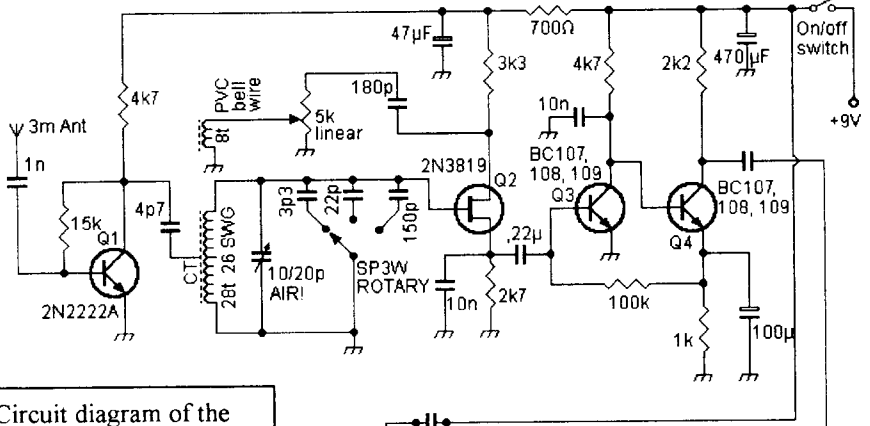


Fig.2—Circuit diagram of the shortwave receiver with optional audio amplifier.

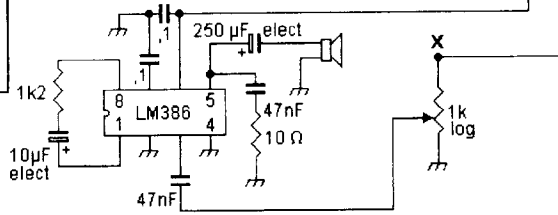
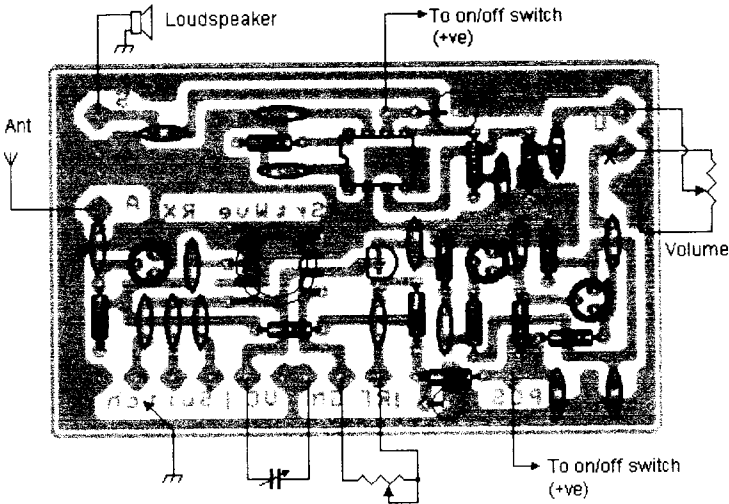


Fig.3—Overlay of the printed circuit board of the shortwave receiver



QSX-PE

DIY Dummy Load

VIV MOORE ZS2VM

On occasion it is desirable to tweak the transmitter amplifier to get maximum power out but one does not want to put a signal out on the bands and create interference. For this, one uses a load that the transmitter sees as a matched output impedance – in the case of most amateur equipment, a 50 Ohm load – that hardly radiates any signal.

If you have a dummy load and an in-line wattmeter, the job is easily done. Here is a simple device to tune up your 2 meter transceiver for maximum power output. It can be built for a few rands.

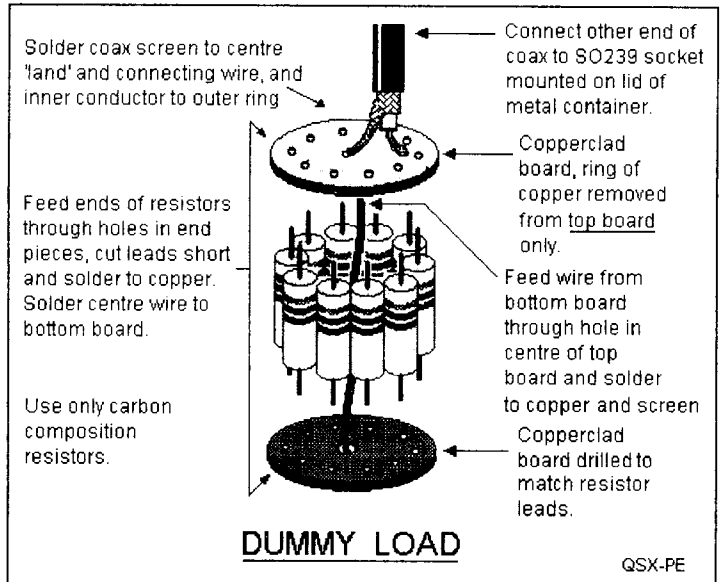
The usual problem with constructing a dummy load is finding a 50 ohm resistor which will handle enough watts and also remain relatively non-reactive at 145 MHz. With the design shown here, this problem is solved by using a number of easily obtainable one watt composition resistors in parallel, and immersing the result in a small can of oil or salt-free seasand.

One can run 20 watts into this setup for a few minutes without the oil even getting warm.


The device is constructed by wiring ten 470 ohm or eleven 560 ohm resistors together as shown in the diagram. Then the assembly is soldered to the end of a piece of RG-58 coaxial cable. Next, punch a hole in the top of a baby food can. Slip the coax through, and seal the hole with epoxy. Then fill the can with a

high viscosity motor oil, such as SAE 30 or 40 or thoroughly washed fine sea sand. Close the can tightly. Then connect a PL-259 connector to the free end of the piece of coaxial cable.

Alternatively, a SO239 coaxial socket can be mounted onto the lid of the can, to which the assembly is



connected internally via a short length of coaxial cable before immersing it in the oil or sand. Any coaxial 'jumper' lead with a PL259 plug can then be connected to your dummy load.

Connect your SWR meter between the rig and the dummy load and, using the 'set' scale, tune for maximum reading. 

PEARStalk

PEARS IS ZS2000 FOR Y2K!

In view of all the hype surrounding the year 2000, PEARS thought it appropriate to acquire the call sign ZS2000 – pronounce it ZS2000 if you will. Since SATRA will not reserve a call sign, we have taken it out now already so that we are not 'pipped at the post' for next year. The general idea is to use ZS2000 on any appropriate occasion, especially as the hype builds up to a crescendo later in the year. Hopefully we will derive some publicity for PEARS and benefit for Ham Radio in general.

How about entering a Club station in the various South African contests, especially the HF Field Day event in which we have not participated for some years now? (What about erecting it at Hobie Beach – i.e. where the crowds are – perhaps *right on Shark Rock Pier?*). Or the Society could organise some simple competitions (maybe even include some special feature in next year's edition of PEARS' newest National VHF/UHF Contest).

There will probably be dozens of special Y2K events organised by other bodies, especially at and over the New Year/Millennium, to which we might attach ourselves and get Ham Radio into the public eye.

Have you any ideas? Let us know early so that we can start organising activities well in advance.

TALKING ABOUT Y2K...

I suppose you have all checked your computers for Y2K compliance?

You have set the date to 31 December 1999 and the time to 11.59 pm, and sat for a minute or so to see whether it clicks over to the new Millennium, Saturday 1 January 2000.

But your computer has two clocks, and that tests only the DOS one. It's the BIOS Real Time Clock that tells DOS what the time is upon boot-up. If the RTC doesn't know about the year 2000, it will report the wrong date to DOS. So set the date and time as you did, then *switch off the computer for a minute or two*. When you boot up, the date should read Saturday, 1 January 2000 if the RTC is Y2K compliant.

However, check also that both the DOS clock and the RTC know that 2000 *is* a leap year. Set the dates to 28 February 2000, time 11:59pm, and ensure that both clocks click over to Tuesday, 29 February 2000, the DOS clock when you do not switch off, and the RTC when you do.

CRADOCK ON STREAM AGAIN

Chris ZS2AAW, aided by Trevor ZS2AE as well as Donald ZS2BW of Cradock, carried out extensive work on the repeater recently, replacing the lightning-damaged power supply and swapping the repeater unit for a Storno, as well as improving the filtering and earthing system. An additional filter was installed to reduce interaction from the Cradock digipeater, which was moved from its previous site to the voice repeater enclosure.

The call sign of the digipeater was changed to ZS2CDK at the same time

to regularize the licensing situation.

SUNSAT SAYS "I AM ALIVE"

After numerous postponements, Sunsat was eventually launched on 23 February and, after an initial scare when it failed to respond to commands, ground control asserted its authority and brought the satellite under control. So far all the systems tested appear to be working properly, and the digispeaker was commanded to announce "I am alive!".

It seems that we should not expect the amateur facilities to be enabled before the end of March, and possibly a little later. The priorities are, of course, the scientific packages and these have to be thoroughly tested before any attention can be given to the amateur gear.

We congratulate the Stellenbosch University, and especially the team who put so much work into designing and constructing Sunsat.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

Hopefully all our members have been putting a little something aside every month towards their annual subscriptions to PEARS. Our financial year ends this month and subs (once again no change since last year) fall due on 1 April.

Treasurer Clive ZS2RT has announced that he will make a point of being at the March meeting in order to relieve all the members of their cash. Those who do not attend the meeting are asked to let Clive have their subs by the most convenient means.

SA CONTEST RULES AVAILABLE

The SARL has published a blue book containing particulars of all the South African amateur radio contests.

Copies can be ordered from League HQ at a cost of R15 each, including p&p.

Al Akers ZS2U reports that the rules for the Hamnet Simulated Emergency Contest are incorrect in the book. A correct version can be downloaded from the PEARS web site pears.8m.com.

PALESTINE ON THE AIR

The DX community wasted no time in mounting a full-blown DXpedition to the newly listed DXCC entity of Palestine. The E44DX operation commenced on 16 February, shortly after the call sign was released to the Palestine Wireless Society by the Palestinian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.

During its first 48 hours, E44DX logged more than 10,000 contacts. The team also met the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who expressed his support for ham radio and sent his regards to the world-wide amateur community.

SARL APPOINTS TECHNOLOGY TASK GROUP

The SARL Council has decided to promote new technology in Amateur Radio, expressing the view that the image of Amateur Radio as a collective group of people doing research and developing new technologies – or applications for new technologies – is fast fading. Council has consequently established an Amateur Radio Technology Task Force to develop a strategy for exploring new technologies and assessing their applicability and possible incorporation into Amateur Radio.

"Within the [Amateur Radio] group there appears to be little new

technological activity and the few who are engaged in this field do not publish and share their expertise to involve more amateurs," says the SARL.

"There is work going on in EME, VHF, Microwave, propagation, digital communications etc. TAPR in the USA is leading the field with several new developments. The SARL, as the national society of Radio Amateurs, has an obligation to its members and Amateur Radio as a whole to take the lead."

Tony Reumerman ZS6AOG has been appointed to lead the group. Volunteers wishing to join are invited to contact Tony at 011 792 6583 or by e-mail: tony@ecssa.co.za

An Intecnet is planned for Sunday, 28 March from 20:00 to 21:30.

MORE HAM RADIO ON THE SILVER SCREEN?

A research company reviewing a script for a new movie involving ham radio entitled *Frequency* has consulted the ARRL. The film, starring Dennis Quaid, is about a young boy from New York who loses his father in a fire in 1969. Years later, the son is reunited with his late father via ham radio. While the story line may be a bit far-fetched for some, says the ARRL's announcement, the movie may give Amateur Radio some additional positive exposure on the big screen.

JORDANIAN ROYAL HAMS

Last month we mentioned that the late King Hussein's widow, Queen Noor, held the call sign JY2. According to Jennifer Gagne, N1TDY, reporting on the passing of Hussein, her call sign is actually JY1NH.

Jennifer says: "All members of the Jordanian royal family automatically

have amateur radio privileges in Jordan. Although the new king does not appear to have a call sign, his brother, the former Crown Prince Hassan, is JY2HT, while his cousin, Prince Raad, JY2RZ, is chairman of the Royal Jordanian Radio Amateur Society.

PEARS NATIONAL VHF/UHF CONTEST


As reported last month, this new event, held on 16/17 January, seems to have been well supported. Mike Bosch, the driving force behind it, has perused logs received from 40 operators, although at least 270 took part around the country.

Results will be published in QSX next month, but the following are a few excerpts from comments offered by participants:

"My first contest and I really enjoyed it,"—Pieter ZS6XT.

"Good participation – enthusiastic and friendly operating, newcomers observed. Bands: please add 23 cm! Thanks for interesting contest,"—Bert ZS6HS.

"I wholeheartedly agree that, to keep the contest as fair as possible, overseas contacts to be ignored,"—Jenny ZS6FBI.

"Thanks for very nice VHF/UHF competition. The general spirit throughout the contest was very good. What I did find, is that not many hams were aware of the contest, better promotion and advertising should solve the problem. The 48 hour duration caused a lot of debate, although my personal feeling is in favour of this. Spending a prohibitive amount of time preparing for a short duration contest seems stupid. One suggestion I have, though, is that the 48 hour period be made 6 hours earlier. Thanks a lot for a very interesting event and looking forward to the next one,"—Dion ZS6DEB
OTL Radioklub. 

Congratulations...

on your birthdays:

March

- 16 Anne Butcher XYL of ZR2GIB
- 21 Andrew Gray ZS2G
- 22 Peggy Moore XYL of ZS2VM

April

- 2 Shawn Corder ZR2SC
- 5 Mike Jones ZS2MJ
- 5 Ré Martin, XYL of ZR1S
- 5 Heather Hoole, XYL of ZS2ABM
- 5 Louise Knobel, XYL of ZS2ABC
- 13 Graham Butcher ZR2GIB
- 16 **Schalk van der Merwe ZS2Y – His 80th!**
- 17 Allan Ansell
- 17 Helen Staples XYL of ZS2AAS

April

- 6 Kathy & Wolf Gerstle ZS2WG
- 8 Marlene & Andrew Gray ZS2G
- 10 Rietjie & Selwyn Staples ZS6SS
- 14 Margaret & John Raven ZR2ABH

on your new call signs Anthony Marran ZR2AE, Cyril Hislop ZR2H and Johan Pretorius ZR2BKD of PE, André Mulder ZR2A of Grahamstown.

on your marriage Shaunna Hillmer and Gary Laaks ZR2ABU on 27 March; Angela Davis, daughter of Roger and Nita, of Plettenberg Bay. We wish you all happiness for the future.

on your engagement Collette Schönborn ZR2CBS and Ian Swart.

on your anniversaries:

March

- 21 Maureen & Neil Fulton ZS2MG



IRIS MOVES QTH

We were happy to learn a few weeks ago that Iris Hayes, ZS2AA, had been up and about, chatting more easily to friends and acquaintances and generally making visible progress in her recovery following the stroke that she suffered during October last, a week or so before her 95th birthday.



A recent Border Amateur Radio Club bulletin reported that Iris has decided to give up her home of many years in Kidds Beach, and we hope that she will still be able to operate a ham station at her new home.

Our thoughts are with you, Iris, and we trust that you will soon be your old self again, back on the air with us, and perhaps even involved with some of your community activities once more.



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Treasurer, Assets Control	Clive Fife ZS2RT	32-3203
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Assisting QSX collation/distribution	Trevor Scarr ZS2AE	32-1746
Technical Classes, Social	Shawn Corder ZR2SC	360-7369
Librarian	Des Herselman ZR2DH	54-2911 (W)
	Cell 083 261 5402 (All Hrs)	

PEARS' VHF/UHF & Other Services

REPEATERS

Town VHF	# 145,050/650	Kareedouw	† 145,125/725
Town UHF	# 431,050/438,650	Knysna	* 145,075/675
Cockscomb	145,000/600	Lady's Slipper	* 145,100/700
Cradock	* 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 can also be linked as required. † 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, 160W ERP)	144,410
6m Beacon (ZS2SIX CW ID) (horizontally polarized, 25W ERP)	50,005
6m Simplex Link with Lady's Slipper 2m Repeater (vertically polarized)	51,400
Wefax Relay (Meteosat)	145,350
Web Site	pears.8m.com

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 as well as Cradock 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 Repeater link
14 Mar	ZS2RS
21	ZR2JH
28	ZS2RT
4 Apr	ZS2ABZ
11	ZS2HB
18	ZS2AAW

DIARY DATES

MARCH

17-23 Science Fest G'town
20/21 SARL VHF/UHF C'Test
26 MONTHLY MEETING

APRIL

1 Wrinkly Rave
11 Hamnet Simltd Emgcy C'test

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