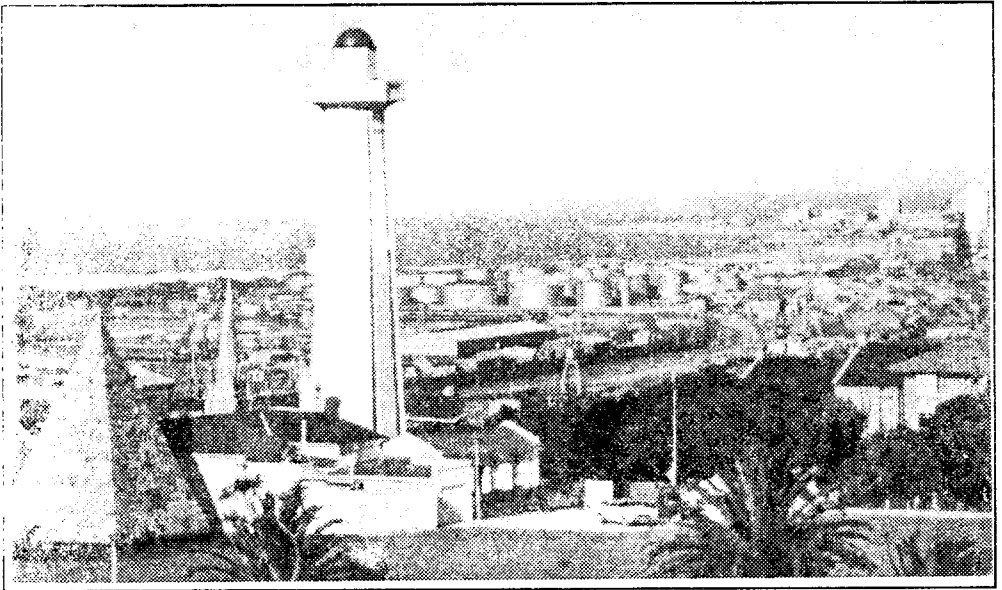




Q S X  
P E



THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY THE  
PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Web site: [pears.8m.com](http://pears.8m.com)

e-mail [glaaks@iafrica.com](mailto:glaaks@iafrica.com)

P.O. BOX 10402  
LINTON GRANGE  
6015

**April 2000**

# NOTICE OF MEETING

The monthly general meeting of the PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY will be held on **Friday 14 APRIL 2000** commencing at 20:00 (8pm) in the Municipal Disaster Management Centre, Westview Drive, Mill Park, Port Elizabeth (Civil Defence Centre).

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A WEEK EARLIER THAN USUAL due to the Easter weekend coinciding with our normal meeting night.**

Mr. John Lemon's projected talk was 'washed out' last month because the CD Centre was filled with cardboard boxes destined for distress areas and we were unable to hold a meeting. However, he will give us his talk on the history of the VW Beetle at this month's meeting. Turn up for a most absorbing discourse about this ever-popular little car.

Tea or coffee and biscuits will be laid on after the talk, and that will be followed by the normal business.

## Wrinkly Ravers

The next rave will be on **Thursday, 4 May 2000** at the usual venue, i.e. the Zwartkops Yacht Club Clubhouse. Rock up between 12:00 and 12:30 and place your order while enjoying a chat with the best.

The March gathering was once again well patronized, and things look promising for the future. A lot of fun is had and the food is good, so make a note of the date and join us.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JAARVERGADERING

The Annual General Meeting of the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society will be held on **Saturday, 13 May 2000**, in the Walmer Scout Hall, Fordyce Road, Walmer (near 4th Avenue), starting at 15:00 (3pm).

The Agenda is as follows:

1. Welcome
2. Minutes of 1999 Annual General Meeting
3. Chairman's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. Club awards
6. Election of Chairman
7. Election of Committee
8. Discussion of motion/s
9. General
10. Close of Meeting

Please note that any motions that you would like to have discussed at the AGM must be in the hands of the Secretary by not later than the April 2000 general meeting of the Society

Die Jaarvergadering van die Port Elizabeth Amateurradio Vereniging sal op **Saterdagmiddag 13 Mei 2000** in die Walmer Verkenner-saal, Fordyceweg, Walmer (naby 4de laan) plaasvind en sal om 15:00 (3nm) begin.

Die Sakelys is soos volg:

1. Verwelkoming
2. Notules van 1999 Alg. Jaarvergadering
3. Voorsitter se verslag
4. Tesourier se verslag
5. Klubtoekennings
6. Verkiesing van Voorsitter/voorsitster
7. Verkiesing van Komitee
8. Bespreking van mosie/s
9. Algemeen
10. Sluiting

Neem asb. kennis dat enige mosies wat u graag op die sakelys vir die AJV wil plaas, die Sekretaris teen nie later nie as die April 2000 algemene vergadering van die Vereniging moet bereik



## *A Word* *From the Chair*



*T*he Grahamstown Science Festival is currently underway, and has again provided an excellent opportunity for local hams to gather and socialise whilst manning the stand at the Albany Science Museum. My thanks to all those who have volunteered their services in this regard, and especially to Richard and Ralph, ZR2CLI and ZS2IV who travelled from East London to help out on Saturday. Their timing could not have been better, as the stand was in dire need of a fully licensed amateur to oversee HF operation.

*I*t was unfortunate that the HF beam could not be utilised due to lack of space or adequate fixing points. This would have provided a nice feature in front of the museum. And some of the comms channels promised by yours truly suffered rain damage, and failed to work properly even before the festival began! Such is Murphy. Thanks to Phil for making his down-converted Wefax signal available originally – I apologise that we could not use it full-time through the temporary equipment at Governorskop. Next time...

*A*s can be expected, I have been rather busy around the house for a change, and not surprisingly as our expected time of arrival of our first one draws rapidly closer. In order to devote more time to family life after the end of June, I will gracefully step down as Chairman and hand the reigns over to the next elected person. So start thinking about your nominations.

*I*t has been a great pleasure being at the helm of such a dynamic society. And the quality of a club can only be drawn from that of its members – YOU!

Many thanks.

God Bless

73,

*Chris* ZS2AAW

# HAMNET / ECARES NEWS

## Amateur Emergency Organisations

It was recently asked on the air, in view of all the emergency organisations currently in existence, whether there is any point in having, or a need for, amateur emergency organisations.

Under normal circumstances, the ordinary, everyday emergencies are dealt with by these emergency organisations. It is during major disasters that radio amateurs come into their own and there are several reasons for this.

There is an extra communication requirement at such times which the normal emergency services are not equipped or are ill-equipped to handle. This is extra traffic and some at least different to the normal traffic.

Bear in mind that these people are not communicators but emergency workers, whereas radio amateurs are communicators and, through their knowledge and experience of communications, are better able to organise, improvise or whatever is required under these abnormal conditions.

The emergency services may also have their communications facilities partly or wholly inoperative due to the disaster. Amateurs may even be able to help them to get their systems going again.

Amateurs may be at the disaster site or able to get there before the emergency services. Even under so-called 'normal' emergency situations, amateurs may be first on the scene or the first who are able to assist with communications.

It is seldom that we are likely to be so involved but, when the occasion presents itself, we will be able to serve a very useful purpose.

There may be those who feel we are not involved enough in emergencies, but bear in mind that amateur radio is our *hobby*, and the emergency aspect is only for exceptional circumstances. If you wish to be involved in emergency situations on a regular basis then you should join an organization such as the National Sea Rescue Institute.

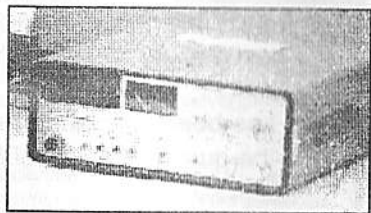
## Social

We welcome Tony ZR2AI, who has also joined ECARES. Good to have you aboard too, Tony.

73,

**Al Akers ZS2U**  
Provincial Director,  
Hamnet East Cape/ECARES

## FROM THE SCIENCE FEST —



↑ One of André ZS2ACP's excellent pieces of home-brew equipment on display

↪ General view of the PEARS stand, with Bill ZS2ABZ, Marc ZR2BLK (mostly hidden), Greg ZS2RE, Nicolas ZR2NDT and Paul, son of ZR2A

# FIELD DAY CONTEST

AL AKERS ZS2U

The site used for the contest over the weekend 11-12 March 2000 was my small-holding off the Draaifontein road, with one station set up in my Kombi and the other in a tent.

Equipment used was a Kenwood TS450 and a Yaesu FT757. Antennas were a dipole for 160 metres, random wire for 80m and 40m and a groundplane for 20m.

In view of all the rain we have had so far this year we were indeed fortunate to have had a beautiful weekend.

We made 110 contacts in total as compared to 113 contacts last year. The score was also slightly lower than last year, ironically just about equal to the score lost by the comparatively poorer support from the local (PE area) hams.

We had our share of excitement in that, on Saturday, I nearly tramped on a puffadder while erecting an antenna and on Sunday Garth ZS2HB nearly tramped on one while taking down an antenna. This is rather surprising in that it is several years since I last saw a snake on the property. [Seeing Al dispatch the snakes with a *machete* suggests that he might have been trained by the notorious Panga Man. I thought he was making cutlets—Ed.]

It was rather disappointing that only six people visited the site. Thanks for their assistance one way or another go to the following:

- Bill ZS2ABZ helping to fix a tent, mowing the grass at the site, erecting station and antennas and dismantling again and especially for operating for most of the contest period.
- Stoffel ZS2C for erecting station and antennas, dismantling and operating.
- Neil ZR2NT for loaning a tent, fixing it first, erecting station, dismantling again and a visit.
- Garth ZS2HB and Elize for helping with dismantling the station.
- Cyril ZR2H for constructing a portable toilet.
- Des ZS2ABU, Beavan ZS2RL, Colin ZS2CR, Garth ZS2HB, Viv ZS2VM, Rory ZS2BL and André ZS2AL, who took the trouble to give us points.


73,  
Al ZS2U

## Use Your RF Gain Control!

Most people seldom, if ever, make use of the RF gain control on their receivers, perhaps because in many cases the facility affects the S meter reading. However, its judicious use can be very beneficial under certain circumstances. For example, it reduces interference from intermodulation products, strong adjacent stations or those that are splattering, and it reduces the irritation from static (QRN).

Turning down the RF gain also renders an incoming SSB signal more easily understandable for those not conversant with this mode, e.g. non-hams, scouts, visitors to special event stations etc.

It also cuts down the background mush and surging of interference between incoming phrases, and should invariably be used when recording or relaying an SSB signal, thus improving the recording or outgoing relay quality.

Use your RF gain control intelligently. It is there for several useful purposes! 



# GARDEN ROUTE GRUMBLINGS

BY ROGER DAVIS zs1J

Helping out in a charity shop one day a week often brings me into contact with many interesting items that are brought into the shop for sale. Last year, I discovered a TMC (Telephone Manufacturing Company) Crystal set, MkII complete with the original high impedance headphones, that was in a box of junk which, if I had not been there, would have been thrown out with the garbage.

I brought the set home and was amazed to find that, on connecting up a 69 foot wire antenna and tweaking the cats whisker, I was able to copy 702 from Div. 6 quite well at night.

Realising that it had little value in Knysna, I took it over to England with me last year and phoned a couple of dealers, eventually selling the unit for the charity for R1000.

This last week, a book came in titled "Telephony", published in 1905 and, although the book deals mainly with the twisted pair, it has a very small chapter on *WIRELESS TELEPHONY*.

The first sentence in this chapter begins: "The transmission of intelligence by electricity has reached, in its broadest sense, its final stage of development".

Perhaps this statement is correct: not much of today's verbal pollution is intelligence!

Anyway, this chapter shows a picture of the "Collins Wireless Telephone" and I am more than curious to know if this was the start of


the Collins that all amateurs know.

A Mr. Frederick Collins stated that, in the first series of his tests with his equipment, he achieved a distance of a mile, whilst "articulate speech has been transmitted and received, under favourable conditions, a distance of three and a half miles".

In all the books that I have on early wireless, this is the earliest date that I have found mention of wireless telephony.

It would appear that Mr. Collins managed this feat by using capacitances and inductances to obtain a more or less perfect sine wave from a spark transmitter and used a carbon microphone in the antenna lead to modulate the carrier.

The receiver was a liquid detector using a platinum point with a platinum plate in an alkaline solution between the antenna and the high impedance earpiece.

Sounds like just the job for the next QRP project. 



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# Power Supply Over Voltage Protection

## Re-Visited

BY BRYAN HAEFELE ZS2BH\*

I have seen a host of circuits for "crow bar" type over-voltage protection incorporated into power supplies. These vary in principle, but more often than not involve a SCR or other device shorting to ground and thereby blowing a fuse. Some of these short circuit devices are coupled to the output of the supply and the supply carries a 20 Amp fuse!!!!

Well, it is amazing how quickly they can also blow all the transistors in the output in the process. Some of us have deviously inserted the fuse to be blown between the smoothing capacitor and the regulating transistors thinking that a short at this position cannot do any harm to the regulation circuitry.

Sometimes we can luckily survive such an incident, but with a hefty smoothing capacitor in the order of 100 000 microfarads even shorting it out here can blow some or all of the transistors due to the transient voltages set up by this violent action.

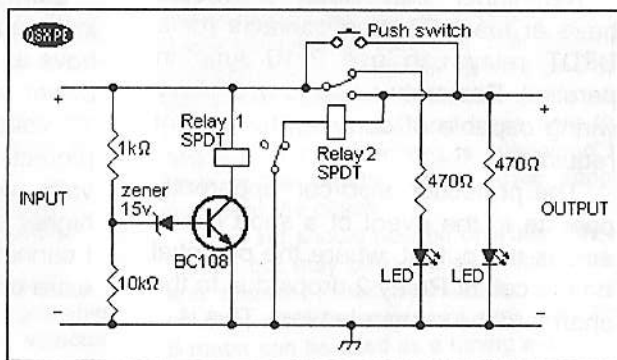
The mere thought of creating a short circuit just goes against my grain! It just seems technically the wrong thing to do. I came across a circuit that originated with a Mr. Peet Venter at the U.O.F.S. and modified it slightly for my own supplies.

This circuit does not blow fuses, but simply disconnects the rig from the power supply as soon as the voltage rises above 15 volts. I think this

deserves the attention of QSX readers and I publish it here for those that may find it useful.

If you follow the circuit you will see that, when the power supply is switched on, no power appears at the output, but the voltmeter on the power supply shows a reading (Relay 2 open). You can then check that the voltage is safe.

Pressing a pushbutton switch momentarily energizes Relay 2 and when released the relay remains latched.



*Add-in overvoltage protection for a power supply*

A monitoring circuit consisting of two resistors, a 15-volt zener diode and a BC108 transistor watch the voltage and remain inactive whilst below 15 volts. If the voltage rises above 15 volts, Relay 1 energizes as the BC108 switches on, and this disconnects power to the coil of Relay 2, which in turn releases to switch power to the rig off.

The meter is still active and you can then check the voltage with the rig

disconnected from the power supply..... No sparks! No fireworks! What a disappointment. <GRIN>  
*[Wot?!?! No smoke? That's no fun!-Ed.]*

LED indication of the trip has been added in order to show that the trip condition has occurred. Also LED indication of power on the output is also provided in this circuit diagram. The trip indication is optional, but I do recommend indication of power output at the very least.

As this unit can operate as a stand-alone unit it can be built into a dedicated box with meters etc. in the event of a shortage of space. If space allows, it can be incorporated inside the power supply itself too.


Remember that Relay 2 should have at least 20 Amp contacts (or a DPDT relay can use 2x10 Amp in parallel). Remember also to use heavy wiring capable of carrying the current required.

The protection also can apparently operate in the event of a short circuit across the output, where the potential on the coil of Relay 2 drops due to the short and the relay releases. This is

claimed by the original designer of the circuit, but has not been tested by the author.

Remember that, in the event of a power failure, the supply has to be reset by a press of the pushbutton to reactivate the protection again. This could be an added advantage in case of a power surge on restoration of power. Your rig is protected from this type of event.

Some who claim that relays are too slow to protect may question the circuit. The average rig requiring a 13.8 volt supply is built to operate on a car's electrical system, which more often than not is appreciably above this voltage.

Some measure of regulation is included in the circuitry of most rigs. I have an HF rig that has lived through a power supply that started putting out 21 volts for a significant time. If the protection trips at between 15 and 17 volts, which is only a couple of volts higher than the recommended supply, I cannot see that the few milliseconds extra delay is significant. 

\* Tel. [041] 365-4100

## FOR SALE ★ WANTED ★ SWOP

### WANTED

\* **SWR meter and antenna rotator**—Anthony Bruyns, tel. 041 373 2335, Cell: 082 800 2900, Fax 041 373 1444, or e-mail anthony@magnetic.co.za

### FOR SALE

\* Kenwood TR-851A synthesized **70cm all-mode transceiver** -- R1 500,00; Kenwood TS430 **HF transceiver** (RX perfect, TX intermittent output -- fine as **general coverage RX**) -- R600,00—Colin Robertson ZS2CR, tel. 041 502-9130 (W) or 041 364-3014 (Home)



# CB CONVERSIONS TO 10 METERS

BY ANDRÉ BOTES ZS2ACP

The 10 meter band has been wide open for some time now with DX being worked daily. Now is the time to get the soldering iron hot and to get stuck into that old CB set that has been lying unused in the garage for ages!

A few minor changes can turn a CB set into a super sensitive 10 meter rig that can be put to good use on this very active DX band. We will be looking at two different groups of CB radios as the modifications to these differ considerably: (1) sets using the 8719 PLL chip (Phillips, Telefunken, SBE, Cobra, President etc.) and (2) sets using the pll 02a PLL chip (GE, Midland, Major, Tedalex etc.)

## 1. Sets using the 8719 PLL

This PLL has limited binary lines available and modification to the PLL only will not allow sufficient movement into the 10 meter band. By changing the tripler crystal, (usually 11.1125 is fitted as standard) the frequency can be moved to 28 MHz with ease.

A few exchange xtal frequencies and corresponding 28 MHz frequencies are quoted:

11.4 MHz xtal	27.825 to 28.265
11.5 MHz xtal	28.100 to 28.565
(most active DX section)	
11.6 MHz xtal	28.400 to 28.865

The above frequency spread is possible with sets fitted with a 40 channel selector switch. If a 9 channel selector is fitted, 90 kHz will be available, starting  $\pm 190$  kHz higher in the band than the frequencies indicated above.

## 2. Sets using the pll 02a

Sets using the 02a can be moved far more easily and further by simply disconnecting pin 8 of the ic from positive and then connecting it (bridging it) to pin 7. (To disconnect pin 8 from positive, cleanly cut away a small length of the land on the pc board using a sharp model maker's knife).

By doing this simple mod the frequency will move by 128 channels or 1.28 MHz.

Channel 1 will thus become 28.245 and channel 40 will move to approximately 28.645.

Sets with a 9 channel selector will start  $\pm 190$  kHz higher in the band for obvious reasons.

Once the modifications have been done, it will be found that the set does not receive or transmit, as the VCO will be out of lock. Simply locate the VCO coil (L13 in the case of the Phillips, Telefunken etc) and measure the voltage at the lock detector pin of the PLL ic (pin 6 on the 8719 and 02a).

In the case of sets using the pll 02a, the VCO coil is normally located in a fairly large rectangular metal can or a square green plastic enclosure. Ensure the channel selector is set to channel 20 and carefully adjust the VCO slug for 3 volts. Use a non metallic adjusting tool and make sure the negative of the voltmeter is connected to earth or the negative of the power supply *but not to the chassis*.

The set should now be operating on 10 meters but may be down on output power and receive sensitivity. Simply peak the receiver coils for maximum sensitivity (the S meter can be used as a tuning aid).

Repeat the alignment of the transmitter as per the manual and a minimum of 12 watts PEP output power should be possible.

I have used my converted CB radio for the past two months and have worked 55 DXCC countries on 10 meters to date. Reports received have been more than favourable and few DX stations believe that the rig is a converted "Charlie Bravo".

■ Watch for a binary up-down counter and digital display project in a future issue of QSX to enhance the above modification and also a further expansion to other ham bands. ☺

Who said there's...

## NO SMOKE WITHOUT FIRE?

ANON (but the typing looks suspiciously like ZS1J's)

Listening to Garth ZS2HB recounting the story of the smoke escaping from his brand new Icom rig reminded me of the time when I was employed in an R&D laboratory, with a communications company in London, in 1966.

One of the lab technicians, whom I shall call Derek, was working on a new digital signalling system for the New York Stock Exchange, required to photograph the trace on an oscilloscope. As none of the lab scopes was good enough for this task, a Hewlett Packard scope with attached camera was ordered.

The day the scope arrived, the technician took the unit out of the packing and had the scope on his bench ready for testing when the tea bell rang.

Those of you who may have worked in London in the 1960's will know that, if a tea bell rings, all work, no matter how urgent, comes to a complete standstill and the troops disappear down to the canteen.

Normally, the lab. would be completely empty for the 10 minute tea break, but a certain technician, who shall remain nameless, forwent his cup of the steaming brew as there was a golden opportunity for a prank, on a very grand scale.

The oscilloscope was moved to one side of the bench and, with a small drill, a tiny hole was made through the centre of the bench and a length of small, flexible plastic hose was pushed

up into the hole. The other end of the pipe was routed to a workbench which backed onto the one in question. The oscilloscope was now moved back into its original position.

When the multitude returned after being suitably restored with a hot beverage, the technician took out the manual and switched on the scope. Whilst he was setting up the display, a cry of alarm issued from his lips as a wisp of smoke began curling from the new and very expensive acquisition.

The unit was switched off and disconnected from the mains and the covers were removed for a visual inspection. It was reconnected to the power and switched on and all appeared to work fine, so the covers were re-assembled and the unit was once again tested, only to find that smoke issued forth from the scope.

This scenario went on for a good 15 minutes, with many other technicians scratching their heads and offering advice, when one of them smelt the smoke and declared that it was neither resistor nor transformer but Peter Stuyvesant! The ruse was up!

Have you checked your shack desk, Garth? ☹

### Hapless Headlines:

- Plane Too Close to Ground, Crash Probe Told
- Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
- Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
- Two Sisters Reunited After 18 Years at Checkout Counter

**ERRATUM**—In last month's QSX we quoted the subscriptions for Spouse and Student categories of membership as R35. **That should have read R30.** Our apologies!

# PEARStalk

## ITRACK PROBLEM?

Bryan Haefele ZS2BH notes that some of the satellite boys have been having problems with ITRACK. He suggests that they should try the program STSPPLUS which is available either from him or the web site [www.natsar.org/sattrack](http://www.natsar.org/sattrack).

The program is Y2K compliant and very nice to operate, says Bryan. *Winpack users can even use the KEPS MANAGER add-on for Winpack and update the "keps" automagically.*

Bryan will be happy to provide further information to any ham needing assistance.

## LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND

Ron Marlow, ZS1RON, invites queries from anyone who may be interested in the operation of a special event station in the international lighthouse weekend due to happen later this year.

He can be contacted by e-mail at [crotchet@iafrica.com](mailto:crotchet@iafrica.com).

## SPECIAL EVENT STATION

If you worked Elephant Rock Island, which was activated by a group of ZS1 hams under the call sign ZS31ER from 31 March to 9 April 2000, you may send a QSL to Barry Fletcher (ZS1FJ), P.O. Box 53319, Kenilworth, 7708 or, if you are a member of the SARL, via the Bureau.

Elephant Rock is situated at the 31st parallel, some 200 metres off the West coast of South Africa, about 25Km west of Vredendal and 4 miles North of the Olifants River mouth. It is

about 100 to 150 metres long and about 50 to 75 metres wide with the highest point about 50ft above sea level.

The site used to be called Morrel's Rock many years ago but is locally known as Robeiland (Seal Island). It is a Nature Reserve.

## 2 METRE SKEDS FROM WEST CAPE

Mike Bosch reports that Johan Terblanche ZS2JST of Mossel Bay is looking for two-way contacts on 144,450 MHz FM with Port Elizabeth and East London.

A number of other hams in his area and further west are currently erecting horizontally polarized Yagi beams. They will be beaming towards PE from 18:30 to 19:00 and/or 20:30 to 21:00 daily, weather permitting.

The best time to look for long distance contacts on Tropo is during high pressure conditions. A low pressure system is a 'no-go' for 2 Metres.

During the last PEARS VHF contest Johan ZS2JST and David ZR1DJP of Dana Bay pinned the S-meters on FM here in Port Elizabeth and even recorded S9 signals from the back of local beams.

Johan's cell number is 082 820 4369 should you wish to arrange a sked with him.

## SUBS ARE DUE

March 31 being the end of PEARS' financial year, subscription renewals falls due on 1 April. We hope all

current members – and those who overlooked their renewals this past year – will let Clive have their bucks without too much delay.

## QSX INDEX

Thanks to Cyril ZR2H and Viv ZS2VM for preparing an index of all articles of possible interest that have appeared in QSX over the past ten years.

This involved paging through all the back numbers of a decade of QSX and noting anything that they thought we might want to refer to. Originally intended as a ready check on technical type items so we do not publish the same thing twice, they expanded their range to other types of article, detailing them under various headings.

## WHO BORROWED MY BOOK?

Someone borrowed Volume 1 of my RSGB Radio Communication Handbook – a blue hardcover – some time ago and I cannot recall who it was. Would the person who borrowed it kindly let me have it back soon as its mate, Volume 2, is pining for it?

## PEARS WEB SITE REVIVED

Chris Scarr ZS2AAW, aided and abetted by André ZR2A in Grahamstown, has taken over management of the PEARS web site which, as reported last month, Gary ZR2ABU (who initiated it) is no longer able to tend.

The adage has it that, if you want a job done promptly, you should give it to a busy man. Just where Chris finds the time to do all the work that he does for us is something of a mystery, but he has already attacked the web site and will soon start updating it.

Thanks again, Chris.

Of course, it will be something to do in the wee hours while you rock little Chris junior to sleep with one foot.

- Visit our site: [pears.8m.com](http://pears.8m.com) and check the changes for yourself.

## EAST TIMOR ON 20M

Theuns Potgieter, ZR2TP, reports hearing 4W6UN from East Timor from about 16:30 our time on 14250 kHz. The net controller is W6BMG.

It seems that 4W6UN will be on the net frequently so give a listen if you need this prefix.

## 2M LINK EXTENDED

Some Free State hams and even a Kimberley operator have been heard on our linked repeater system of late. At least some of the contacts have been established via a repeater near Thaba 'Nchu.

## LANGUAGE

Several members, while happy that our linked repeater facilities are systematically being extended to other Divisions, have expressed concern at what might happen when it eventually reaches Gauteng. Considering the well-known problem experienced up there with bad language, it might be wise to install a one-way DTMF facility!

On the other hand, we have noticed with some regret that an increasing number of hams using the East Cape repeater network no longer feel the need to mind *their* language. The hells and damns have become so commonplace that the next lower level, the bloodies and buggers and worse, have now also become frequently heard expressions on two metres here, as on the HF bands.



*That's how it all started in Gauteng!*


This is a pity, because it lowers the tone of Ham Radio. Moreover, it's an insidious procedure: if nobody raises his voice against the use of this kind of language, it signals general acceptance, and then someone will take the vocabulary a step further. Then *that* will become the new standard. And

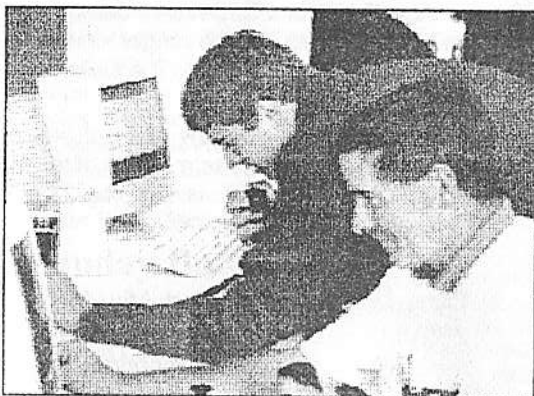
soon our acclaimed repeater system will sound like that infamous Gauteng group or the modern TV show.

Come on, chaps. Let's maintain a standard of decorum and keep things proper down our way. Remember, SATRA warned against bad language a while ago, even if "anything goes" on TV.

## PEARS AT THE SASOL SCIENCE FESTIVAL

PEARS had a stand at the Science Festival in Grahamstown again this year, with packet radio, weather fax, slow scan TV, morse code, HF, VHF and UHF operation being demonstrated as well as a number of homebrew projects. Several contacts were made via Sunsat – in spite of our initially having no 70cm antenna erected and we had to use the 2m Slim Jim for both transmitting and receiving.

Below and on page 4 are a few photographs of the occasion. 



*Bill ZS2ABZ (foreground) busy on HF while Nicolas ZR2NDT discusses something on the VHF link.*



*Greg ZS2RE explains the hobby to a visitor while Chairman Chris ZS2AAW adjusts the equipment*

## FOR SALE ★ WANTED ★ SWOP

### WANTED

\* Early model Valve linear amplifier in any condition — Dudley Forsyth ZS2AW, tel. [046] 622 3985

### FOR SALE

\* Commercially made stainless steel 14 MHz vertical antenna complete with bracket, R50 — Dudley Forsyth ZS2AW, tel. [046] 622 3985



# Congratulations...

## on your birthdays:

### **April**

- 16 Schalk van der Merwe ZS2Y
- 17 Allan Ansell
- 17 Helen Staples XYL of ZS2AAS
- 18 Anthony Marran ZR2AI
- 20 Trevor Scarr ZS2AE
- 20 Joey Pettit XYL of ZS2ABU
- 22 Allan Bowles ZS2BO
- 23 George Bowes ZS2QN
- 23 Colin Robertson ZS2CR
- 26 Soekie Moolman XYL of ZS2KU
- 28 Chris Scarr ZS2AAW
- 29 John Hugo ZS2J
- 30 :Louis Jordaan ZR2J

### **May**

- 1 Marge Weller ZS2OB
- 6 Joan Browne XYL of ZS2BY
- 6 Anne Smithers ZR2XT
- 10 Attie Barnard ZS2Q
- 15 Merle Jordaan XYL of ZR2J
- 16 Dot Plumridge XYL of ZS2VP
- 19 Johannes Pieterse ZR2JLP
- 20 Marjorie Forsyth XYL of ZS2AW

## on your anniversaries:

### **April**

- 21 Elizabeth ZR2EJ and Joe Jasson ZR2JLJ (who is still awaiting his ZS call)

### **May**

- 2 Shirley Winter XYL of ZS2MC

on your new calls Dave ZR2MM and Carl ZR2CMM Malcolm. (Carl is the son of Dave).



Sick List: Pat Pullinger ZS2PAT had an op in Johannesburg recently. Hope you're back home well and kicking by now, Pat.

- Roger Davis ZS1J decided to have a hernia fixed. He sounds fine.
- Ken Tremeer ZS2BWB is doing fine on his bionic hip. He no longer needs a safety belt when he climbs the tower – a magnet should do nicely.
- George Bowes ZS2QN has not been well and has undergone a series of tests in PE. We hope all is fine by now, George.

Gadding: Peggy and Viv Moore ZS2VM are about to wing their way to the USA for a couple of months to visit family. Wonder if he'll be replacing all his ham gear while they're there?

- Joan and Bill Browne ZS2BY have left for their half-yearly sojourn in Pretoria. And just as we were getting used to your regular presence at our meetings again, Bill! Keep well, you two.

Welcome to Basil Haarhoff ZS6NA from Pretoria, who has settled in Oyster Bay. 📍

## Your Society's Committee

Chairman, Repeaters, Packet .....	Chris Scarr ZS2AAW	368-1344
Vice Chairman, Secretary .....	Beavan Gwilt ZS2RL	360-6968
Treasurer; Assets Control.....	Clive Fife ZS2RT	367-3203
Awards, Refreshments,.....	Bill Hodges ZS2ABZ	581-2580
QSX Editor .....	Garth Laaks ZS2HB	368-1101
e-mail the Editor at.....	glaaks@iafrica.com	
QSX Collation/Distribution, repeaters, packet .....	Trevor Scarr ZS2AE	367-1746
Technical Classes (convening/administration).....	Cyril Hislop ZR2H	360-8482
Technical Classes (lectures) .....	Viv Moore ZS2VM	360-4433
Librarian .....	Neil Thomas ZR2NT	487-2403
Special Events, Social.....	Cyril Hislop ZR2H	360-8482
Youth Affairs.....	Greg Maynard ZS2RE	581-0991

## PEARS' VHF/UHF & Other Services

### REPEATERS

Town VHF .....	# 145,050/650	
Town UHF .....	# 431,050/438,650	
Cockscomb .....	145,000/600	
Colesberg.....	* 431,075/438,675	
Cradock .....	* 145,050/650	
Grahamstown.....	* 145,150/750	
	Knysna .....	* 145,075/675
	Lady's Slipper.....	* 145,100/700
	Noupoort.....	* 431,150/438,750
	Uitenhage.....	# 145,075/675

\* These form PE's long-range 2-metre repeater system, also linked to which are East London 145,775 MHz repeater, George 145,700, Danabaai 145,600, Stilbaai 145,750, Butterworth 145,725, King Williams Town 145,625 and Umtata (438,725 duplex). It is further extendable to Cape Town via the WCRWG system. # These can also be linked as required.

### 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

## 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 as well as Cradock and environs. PEARS' 7098 or 3640 kHz transceive facilities are also remotely linked as needed. In addition, the SARL's 40m operations on 7082 or 7066 kHz or Hamnet's 7070 kHz can be remotely patched into the 2m network, in receive-only mode or with full transceive capability for interactive events.

Date	Prepare and Read on 2m Repeater-link
9 Apr	ZS2ABZ
16	ZS2RL
23	ZS2AE
30	ZR2H
7 May	ZS2AAW
14	Chairman
21	Vice Chairman

### DIARY DATES

#### APRIL

- 14 PEARS monthly meeting
- 18 World Amateur Radio Day
- 27 Youth for Am Radio in Afca

#### MAY

- 4 Wrinkly Rave
- 13 PEARS AGM

**\* We Like Being Your Society! \***