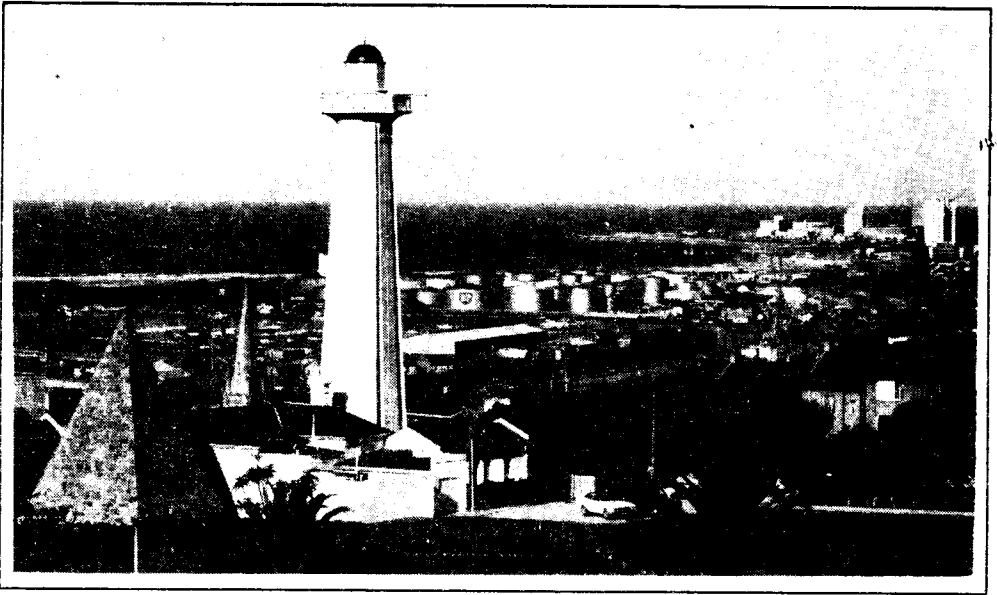


Q S X
P E



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PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

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P.O. BOX 10402
LINTON GRANGE
6015

February 2001

NOTICE OF MEETING

The monthly general meeting of the PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY will be held on **Friday 16 February 2001** commencing at 20:00 (8pm) in the Municipal Disaster Management Centre, Westview Drive, Mill Park, Port Elizabeth (Civil Defence Centre).

Apart from any other talk, there will be a short screening of the official video tape that was made of the Science Festival in Grahamstown last year, in which the PEARS stand was featured. For light relief, we will also show an impromptu video of our stand made by Garth and featuring Greg, looking and sounding like an old hand at broadcasting, describing off the cuff yet with great aplomb the various items on display.

Tea, coffee and something to chew will be available

Wrinkly Ravers

The next rave is scheduled for Thursday, 1 March 2001. Beavan has spoken to management at the Ocean Basket restaurant, behind/above the filling station opposite the Apple Express terminal at Humerail, and they will be happy to accommodate our group, so join the other Wrinklies there and enjoy a pleasant hour or two. Smoothies are also welcome, of course.

Beav will also try to arrange a visit during the morning to the harbour control room to inspect their communication equipment before we move to the Ocean Basket for our lunch. Please listen to bulletins for final arrangements.


VISIT TO PLETTENBERG BAY

You may recall the disappointment when our planned visit to the farm of Nita and Roger Davis ZS1J outside Plett last November was washed out at the last minute. However, the good news is that the event will now take place on **Saturday, 17 March**. As usual, it will take the form of a bring and braai, the fires and grids being provided by Roger.

There will be a **big give-away of many useful bits and pieces that Roger is no longer able to use in his shack**. In addition, participants may bring along any items that they wish to dispose of in a **boot sale**, so this is your opportunity to swap your junk for someone else's!

Please let Bill Hodges ZS2ABZ know (tel. 581-2580) if you plan to attend, and whether you require a lift or have a spare seat in your vehicle that someone else could use and share fuel costs with you.

TO REACH THE VENUE:— About 12 km west of Plettenberg Bay on the N2, near a cellular telephone tower, you will find a dirt road crossing, with a small signpost indicating an airfield to the south.

Turn southward down this gravel road (provincial route P1770) and 3½ km along, you'll reach the turnoff to the farm WHITEWEBBS on the right. That's where it's all about. 



The Chairman's Chat

January was quite a month – we all suffered the traditional PXT, there was the ever-popular VHF/UHF contest, and the cherry on the top was the visit by Hans ZS6ALJ to our Society. To those that are not into the world of acronyms and buzz-words, PXT stands for Post Xmas Trauma: the anxiety you experience when you survey the budgetary damage caused by Xmas profligacy. But it was fun, and also a time of the year when we are reminded that there are more important things than money.

Thanks go to Al ZS2U and all his helpers for setting up and operating a club station in the contest. It is unthinkable that PEARS should not be represented in the PEARS VHF Contest!

As monthly meetings go, January's meeting was well attended. The braai preceding the meeting was most pleasant – good weather, good company, good beer. As most of you know by now, our President *inter alia* informed us of changes that are and will be taking place in the SARL. One of the potentially more contentious issues is the proposal that membership of the SARL will be part and parcel of being licensed to operate – the annual licence fee (something like R70) will include SARL membership. ICASA have insisted that this be a fully democratic process, so the proposal will only go ahead if the majority of licensed amateurs (not only SARL members) support it.

There is bound to be a lot of emotion surrounding this issue, but bear the following in mind: there is no escaping the fact that the SARL is the only organised body that represents the interests of radio amateurs in dealing with the various authorities. The cost of this is borne by SARL members – it follows that non-SARL members have had a free ride insofar as the protection of their hobby is concerned. Is this fair?

73,

Beavan ZS2RL

HAMNET / ECARES NEWS

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Clive Fife ZS2RT has been appointed as Treasurer for *ECARES* as from February 2001.

Ralph Hall ZS21V has been appointed as Assistant Provincial Director, *ECARES* for the East London area where he will share duties with Matt Wallace ZS2MW. Thank you both for taking on these duties.

We welcome the following new members to *ECARES*:

Johannes Geyer ZS2OT in Jeffreys Bay, J P Human ZR2XTC from Port Elizabeth and Richard Seddon ZR2CLI from East London. Glad to have you aboard. J P has already become active on the six metre net.

We are sorry to hear that Louis ZS2CB has not been well lately and Lou ZS2BJ has been in hospital, and we hope that both are well on the mend.

OPERATING PRACTICES

It is very important to pass information accurately during emergencies. Lives could depend on this, even your own or your family's.

To do this you need to speak slowly and clearly and pronounce your words properly. Make sure your equipment is operating efficiently.

Conditions during an emergency are such that this is certainly not the

time to learn correct operating practices. These should come naturally and for this to happen means that you should normally do so.

It is a good idea to evaluate your operating practices on a regular basis.

While monitoring the repeater frequencies, I have noticed operating practices which leave something to be desired. One glaring example is that some amateurs give their call signs so badly that you cannot tell who they are unless you recognise their voices.

Another problem noted is the variation in deviation from one station to another. Manufacturers of transceivers can only set up deviation based on an average voice level, but some people have soft voices and others have powerful voices.

I am sure that all transceivers have either an external or internal microphone level control and even if it is a bit of an effort, an attempt should be made to adjust this control to obtain the correct deviation.

It is possible that part of the problem lies with one or other of the repeaters and one can hope that those responsible will be able to rectify this with time.

73,

Al Akers ZS2U
Provincial Director,
Hamnet East Cape/ECARES



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AT THE JANUARY MEETING

The SARL President, Hans Potgieter ZS6ALJ, visited PE on Friday, 19 January and was given the floor after a very short business session. He highlighted the League's services to, and activities on behalf of, its members – some of which also benefit non-members – and stressed the need to improve the SARL's membership figure. He called for amateurs throughout the country to support the League.

Amsat Award to André

Hans also used the opportunity to hand to André Botes ZS2ACP the book prize that was awarded to him by SA Amsat about a year ago but which, like the certificate, had not materialized. André received the



Hans hands André Botes ZS2ACP his book prize from SA Amsat

Satellite Experimenter's Handbook as the prize for being the first South African to work 25 different stations on separate passes of Sunsat.

Compulsory Membership of SARL

Questioned about the mooted obligatory membership of the League, he confirmed that the SARL would benefit from an arrangement whereby, in order to possess a ham licence, one would have to belong to the League. For this to happen, the SARL would have to be reconstituted as a chartered body.

Obligatory membership by all hams would result in a considerable reduction in subscriptions (licence fees would be included in the subs) and therefore greatly benefit League members. On the other

hand, as Beavan pointed out, for *non-members*, it would represent a considerable increase over their present R27 licence fee alone.

Recent AGM decisions authorized the SARL to pursue the matter. However, ICASA had indicated that, before it could consider enforced membership of the League, all licensees would have to be allowed to vote on the matter. It seems, therefore, extremely unlikely that forced membership will come to pass.

Perhaps the League needs to ascertain what is keeping non-members away from the body and then *act* on the information so gleaned.

CW Certificates Handed Over

It's not just *any* palooka whose certificate of competency in CW is brought to PE by the President of the League and handed to him personally. This honour befell Jim France (then ZR2JRF, now ZS2JF) and several members were needed to restrain him from kissing OM Hans.

XYL Margaret France, ex ZR2BCG, is still fretting over not being there and losing



Jim France receives his CW certificate from SARL President Hans Potgieter

out on the chance to give Hans a hug in return for *her* certificate.

SARL to Handle the RAE

Hans mentioned that ICASA had agreed in principle that the SARL should take over the responsibility *in toto* for setting up, imposing and moderating the RAE. The SARL will also take over the issuing of callsigns, but not the actual licences.

One wonders what further delays will be introduced with one body allocating callsigns and the other the licences.

RAE on Demand

Plans are afoot to permit of setting RA examinations virtually on demand, and not only on two fixed dates annually. There will need to be a minimum number of candidates to justify the setting up of an exam – perhaps ten or twelve.

FEATHER IN PEARS' CAP

The SARL President closed his talk by commenting that he always likes to hear the views of PEARS because we are a go-ahead club, very much in touch with what is going on in the world of Amateur Radio, and we do not hesitate to speak our minds

on important issues.

SATEPSA HONOURS PEARS

The SA Telecommunications and Electrical Power Supply Authority (SATEPSA) presented PEARS with a plaque in recognition of PEARS' contribution to the community, especially concerning Hamnet/ECARES dedication



Beavan accepts the plaque from SATEPSA Chairman Ken Victor ZS2OC

and the initiative of providing backup communication facilities in case of Y2K difficulties. The presentation was made to PEARS Chairman Beavan ZS2RL by Ken Victor ZS2OC, who is Chairman of the local branch of SATEPSA.

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 19 JANUARY 2001

Welcome: The chairman welcomed those present. Special welcome to the SARL President Hans, ZS6ALJ. Also to others that we haven't seen for a while, and the new members/recent RAE qualifiers.

Present & Apologies: As noted in the attendance register.

Minutes of the previous meeting: Proposed: ZS2JS, Seconded: ZS2ABZ

Matters arising: None

Finance: Licences paid - R780
RAE manuals R500

Members 140 paid up, 24 unpaid to date.

Correspondence: A rather nice Christmas card to PEARS from Cyril ZR2H – thanks to him.

General:

- Function at Roger's ZS1J on Saturday 17 March (postponed from last November). The day after the monthly meeting. Roger can accommodate people in two chalets of 5 each,

as long as each is well filled, and a donation to cover laundry costs.

- Technical classes start Thursday 25th January. Greg added further detail. He asked for any others wishing to join to contact him ASAP.

- Bill is off to Ireland tomorrow – enjoy it Bill!

- Lynne passed on regards to everyone from Owen, ZS2HZ. He may visit SA in November.

- Clive reminded the meeting of the VHF contest on the go at the time, and of the club station at ZS2U's location at Lovemore Heights.

- Ken, ZS2OC took the floor for a few minutes to give the meeting a presentation on SATEPSA and its workings. Head committee wanted to give PEARS an accolade for all the assistance provided in the Eastern Cape in various services the hams provide. Ken presented a certificate to the Society as a token of their appreciation.

Meeting closed at 20h10. The floor was then given to Hans, ZS6ALJ, who gave a presentation of the SARL and its achievements/activities. ☐

PEARS VHF / UHF CONTEST

AL AKERS ZS2U

It would appear that conditions around the country were not as good as during the last contest, but activity nevertheless was high. Certainly here in the East Cape it was a pleasure to have so many stations active.

Stations known to have been active were Bathurst 2, Cradock 1, East London 10, Grahamstown 1, Jeffreys Bay 3, King Williams Town 1 and Port Elizabeth 28.

There were a few stations active along the South coast, but it would appear that only Mike ZS2FM managed to contact any of them. He did also have a contact with Burt ZS6HS.

It was great to have Ken ZS2KMC and Peet ZR2PET setting up a field station on some mountain. How about a short write-up for QSOX on your portable operation?

There were a few contacts made between East London and Natal. What really helped to keep the interest high was that Port Elizabeth amateurs were able to contact East London and King Williams Town amateurs much of the time over the whole contest period.

Theunis ZR2TP made a few changes to his antenna in his limited space in an effort to contact East London. 'JP' ZR2XTC, who only recently obtained his licence, and Mervyn ZS2F with a hastily erected 3 element beam at gutter height managed to make a few contacts with East London

Field stations operated by André ZR2A outside Grahamstown, Donald ZS2BW near Cradock, Nigel ZR2ND near Bathurst, Karl ZR2KKK at Nanaga and Allan ZS2BO at Jeffreys Bay added spice to the contest.

Operators at the PEARS Club Station at Lovemore Heights were Alex ZR2T, Rory ZS2BL, Ewalt ZS2EHB and Al ZS2U.

We were honoured with a visit from no less than the League President, Hans ZS6ALJ and also Chris ZS2AAW, Anne ZR2XT, Garth ZS2HB and Elise, Clive ZS2RT, Dudley ZS2DR and Mervyn ZS2F.

Fortunately the weather was kind to us and by all accounts everyone had a great deal of fun.

■ *We had a complaint from some Capetonians that they could hear distant stations but were prevented from working them because some chaps in between, unable to hear the 'DX', were nattering to each other on the 'contest' channels.*

The moral of the story is: **do not engage in local chats on channels that are earmarked for contests – or satellite operations – even if you cannot hear anyone actually using them at the time!–Ed.**

ERUDITE ADAGES

- You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- Speaking of ageing, forget the health food! We need all the preservatives we can get.

USING A DIP METER

BY VIV MOORE ZS2VM

A dip meter is an extremely useful multifunction instrument in the radio shack. It is used mainly for determining the resonant frequency of de-energized RF circuits or as a non-oscillating absorption frequency meter. It has many practical applications, including use as an RF signal generator.

The frequency dial is adequate for most checks, with a typical accuracy within 10%. Used in combination with a receiver, one can get to a more accurate frequency.

The circuitry is usually very simple, consisting of an oscillator and sometimes an amplifier to drive the meter when checking de-energized circuits. The oscillator coil is mounted externally so that it may be brought close to the circuit to be tested.

When used as an absorption frequency meter to check *live* circuits,

the meter rises instead of dipping when the frequencies coincide. On some units the oscillator is disabled in this mode.

Coupling the instrument

The coil of the instrument should be brought close to the inductor of the circuit to be tested as depicted in Figures 1a and b. Figure 1c shows the *wrong* way to attempt the coupling because the fields would be at right angles to one another.

The dial on the unit should be rotated until an indication occurs on the meter (you may need to try more than one of your meter's plug-in coils, depending on the frequency involved and the range of each coil).

While the coil of the dip meter should be held close enough to the unknown circuit to obtain a useful indication, the further they are from one another the more accurate the frequency reading will be.

On the odd occasion one may not be able to place the meter physically close to the circuit under test, in which case one can use a link consisting of a few turns of wire at each end of a length of twisted cable (see Figure 2a).

To test circuits using toroidal inductors one will

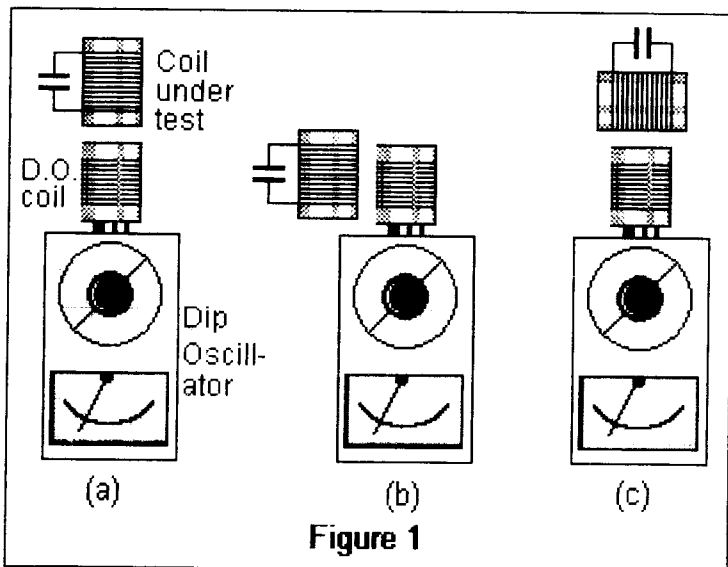


Figure 1

find that a dip cannot be obtained because of the enclosed field in the toroid. One will then have to couple to the inductor by means of a link as shown in Figure 2b.

An antenna is also a tuned circuit and its resonant frequency can be checked by temporarily connecting a link coil across the feedline and bringing the dip meter close to the link (Figure 2c).

Such a link coil, consisting of two or three turns of wire terminated on crocodile clips, should be made up and, like the others described in this article, kept as permanent accessories for other uses as well.

Using as a signal source

Sometimes, when troubleshooting a receiver, you will want to inject a signal

However, one can lead the signal into the area with a short length of coax terminated in a coil consisting of a few turns of wire. The link coil is placed near – or even over – the coil of the dip meter.

The free end of the coax can be held near the injection point without actually touching the circuit. If that does not provide enough signal input, the coax can be coupled to the circuit via a small capacitor of about 10 to 100pF.

Absorption Wavemeter

The dip oscillator's tuned circuit and amplifier function as an RF detecting circuit and the unit can be used as an absorption wavemeter to check a live circuit. The oscillator is typically switched off when used in the wave-

meter mode, but this is not essential.

By coupling a short antenna via a few turns of wire around the coil of the dip meter it can be used as a field strength meter (Figure 2d). Placed a little distance away from an antenna, adjustments to the

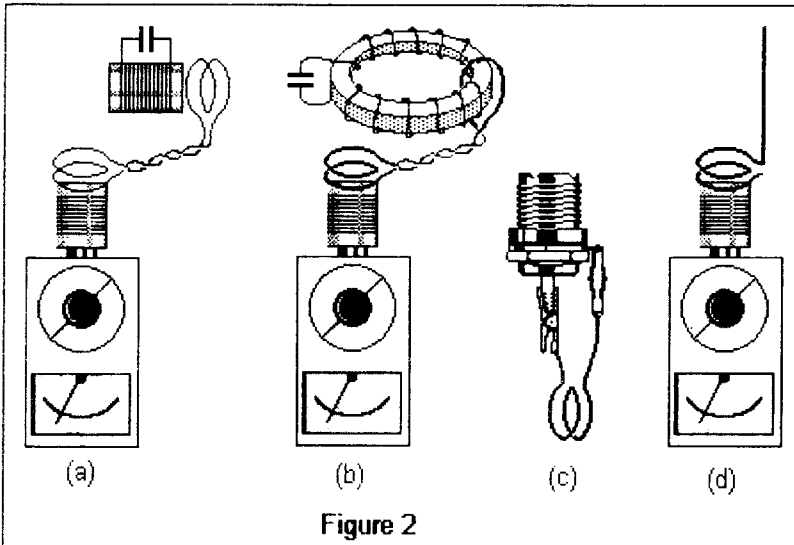


Figure 2

into an RF circuit, for example to serve as a beat frequency oscillator (BFO).

It is not always convenient to poke around inside the receiver with the whole dip meter in order to bring the coil close to the area of injection.

transmitter and/or antenna will cause the meter reading to rise or fall.

Metal Detection

The dip oscillator will be affected when its coil is swept closely across a

metal object of any kind. If the signal from the oscillator is monitored on a receiver in the CW mode, any sudden change in the tone from the loudspeaker will be audible. The oscillator can therefore be used to find cables, water pipes, metal enclosures in walls etc.

Determining Value of Capacitors or Inductors

To determine the value of a capacitor, one can connect it across an inductor of known value and check the resultant parallel tuned circuit with the dip oscillator, noting the frequency on the dial or on a separate receiver. To calculate the value of the capacitor, use the formula

$$C(\text{pF}) = \frac{25350}{L(\mu\text{H}) \times f^2(\text{MHz})}$$

Similarly, to determine the value of an inductor it should be connected across a capacitor of known value and the frequency noted. The formula for calculating the value of the inductor is:

$$L(\mu\text{H}) = \frac{25350}{C(\text{pF}) \times f^2(\text{MHz})}$$

A suitable 5 μH inductor to use as a standard accessory can be made up on a length of 16mm o.d. white plastic water pipe. Wind a coil of 20 turns of 24 gauge wire spaced over 15mm. Secure the ends of the coil to the pipe suitably and terminate the wires on a pair of crocodile clips, to which the capacitor under test can be connected.

Crystal Frequencies

To determine the fundamental frequency of a crystal, clip the link mentioned under *coupling the instrument* to the crystal, bring the coil of the link close to the dip oscillator and tune for an indication on the meter.

Conclusion

There are many other uses to which your dip oscillator can be put, limited largely by your own ingenuity: traps, quarter-wave coaxial line lengths, harmonics, spurious oscillations, standing waves etc. to name but a few.

We hope to bring you a construction article for a handy dip oscillator in the near future. It is still under development at present.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

MTS Electronics, owned by Des and Belinda Herselman ZR2DH and ZR2CH, often quoted as a source of PC boards featured in QSX, is moving to Commercial Centre in Commercial Road, Sidwell.

It is expected that the old telephone number will remain on divert initially but Des will let us know the new number in due course.

Good luck at the new QTH, Des & Belinda.

DON'T FORGET!

WE'RE GOING TO PLETT!

Remember our planned visit to the farm of Nita and Roger Davis ZS1J on Saturday 17 March. Directions are given on page 2, so don't throw this issue of QSX in the waste bin or worse.

Which reminds me of the sign that AI ZS2U reports seeing outside a house in Amsterdam Hoek recently. It read: There's no other house nearby this house that looks like this house, so this house is the house!

ON FURTHER REFLECTION...

FROM KEN TREMEER ZS2BWB

I would like to thank Lionel (ZS2DD) for responding to my article about 2M Aircraft Reflected Signals. I found his comments most interesting and, although they describe experiments undertaken in the 60's, it is pleasing to note that enthusiasts still continue to use the technique by "bouncing" signals off the empty hulk of the Mir Space Craft, in order to establish two-way qso's.

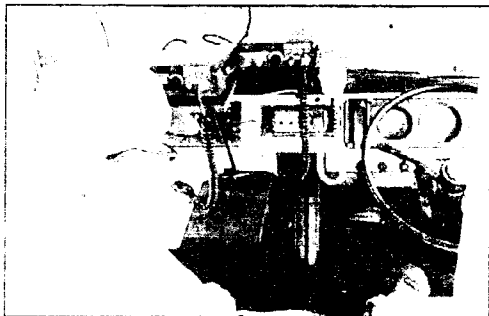
Since my original article appeared in QSX, I came across an article by Roger (ZS1J) entitled "Deflection By Reflection" in the October 2000 edition of Radio ZS, describing the strange phenomenon of signal flutter caused by various objects, including aircraft. In addition, I have reliably learned that enthusiasts in Durban and Johburg have for some time been establishing contact, on an almost daily basis, by using early morning aircraft flights to reflect and enhance their signals, between their respective cities.

I am a great believer in coincidence, and the fact that several widely separated authors have, during the same time frame, raised similar thoughts, leaves me with conviction that the technique should be investigated further.

Thank you for your input and the inclusion of my article in the Newsletter.

Fraternally, Ken ZS2BWB.

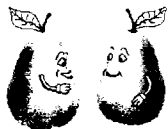
PEARS CLUB STATION IN VHF/UHF CONTEST



ABOVE - Al Akers ZS2U at the radio controls in his KOMICAR (Kombi Carrying Amateur Radio) which served as the PEARS club station in the PEARS National VHF UHF contest.

RIGHT - Al's Komcar and antenna system in the veld on Lovemore Heights.





PEARstalk

SUNSAT GOES SILENT

Sunsat Oscar 35 has gone silent. The last communication with South Africa's first satellite was on Friday 19 January 2001 at 15.22 when the ground control station at the University of Stellenbosch was engaged in routine maintenance on the satellite.

The ground control station made this announcement yesterday after two weeks of intense recovery action. All efforts to make contact with SUNSAT have failed.

Recovery efforts will continue but the confidence level that any success will be achieved is very low.

SUNSAT was the University of Stellenbosch's first satellite and has contributed much to the development of satellite capability in South Africa during its two years in orbit.
intecnet.

RAE FEE RISES

The Chief Examiner for the SARL RAE, Rassie, ZS1YT, has announced that the next Radio Amateur Examination will be conducted on 10 May 2001 at 19:00 SAST.

Entries for this examination close on 10 April 2001. The entry fee is now R100-00 and *late entries will be accepted till 17 April at a fee of R200-00. Any entries received after 17 April will be deferred to the November examination. [Is there any justification for the doubling of the fee for late entries? Is it normal practice in an amateur context? Is the SARL encouraging newcomers this way?—Ed.]*

Entry forms are available on the SARL website at www.sarl.org.za or by

fax from the National Amateur Radio Centre at 011 675-2393.

The syllabus and examples of RAE questions can also be found on the SARL website.

MIR TO BE DESTROYED SOON

Russia's space centre announced on 21 January that the ageing Mir space station has been "practically stabilised" after a breakdown of its orientation system the previous week. "The gyroscopes are running again, but they need some time to function normally," a spokesperson said.

The latest glitch in a series of technical problems plaguing the 15-year-old station forced Russia's mission control to postpone blast-off of the supply ship Progress. It was subsequently rescheduled to dock at the Mir space station on January 27 at the start of a hazardous operation to ensure Mir's safe destruction.

The operation envisages Progress lowering Mir's orbit to an altitude of 80km above the earth, hitting the atmosphere at an angle at which most of it will burn up. The remains are expected to splash down into the Pacific Ocean on March 6, a week later than the date originally set.

SARL AGM IN CAPE TOWN

We guessed wrong in last month's QSX. We did not expect any club to be able, in the short time allowed, to come up with detailed plans for holding the next SARL AGM in their city and thought that, since Rustenburg had already done a lot of planning for 2000 but were forced to cancel, they might simply resuscitate them.

However, five clubs in the Western Cape found it possible to hurriedly get together and not only agree to co-host the AGM but come up with all the details required by the SARL.

Their presentation, made at the recent Council meeting by councillor Rassic Erasmus ZS1YT from that region, was successful and the 2001 AGM will be held in Beilville on 28 April.

The beauty of the Cape will be a welcome break from Gangster's Paradise. Since the Friday and following Tuesday are public holidays, some members might make a long weekend of it and let their families enjoy a visit to the AGM city as we did in happier times.

LICENCES PAID?

Did you got a liksens?

Your ham licence should have been paid by 31 January. If you did not receive a reminder from ICASA, you can take your last year's reminder (statement) to the Post Office and twist their arm into taking your money, or you can send a cheque to ICASA direct.

SARL CALLBOOK DOES HAVE ADDRESSES

Many members were disappointed with the SARL's 'callbook' on CD because it did not appear to have the addresses of licensees, merely name, callsign, town and membership status.

It has been pointed out that double-clicking on an entry will bring up the individual record, which contains the

address information. In many cases the addresses are given as PO box numbers, but that is all the data that the League has.

REPEATER SETUP FOR BULLETINS

It has been recommended that, for PEARS bulletins, the East/West switch between our system and that of the Western Cape should be switched *off* and that people using the Dana Bay/Stilbaai and Cradock repeaters should switch their facilities on or off to suit themselves.

The main South/East coast system from George to Umtata and the Cradock spur is normally linked and should not need to be interrogated for bulletin transmissions. It should only be necessary to couple the HF transceiver.

It is believed that there are hams at the various spurs with DTMF facilities who can switch their local repeaters into or out of the link as they wish. If there is any problem with this, please let a PEARS committee member know so that specific repeaters can be linked for you by the bulletin readers if necessary.

The above decision is based on the knowledge that some repeater users have a stronger community of interest in their own areas than with PEARS and they may wish to use the repeaters for their own purposes around bulletin times. ☺

FOR SALE ★ WANTED ★ WANTED

WANTED

* **HF transceiver** — Michael Mkrakra (licence pending)—Tel. (041) 585-8321 (W) or (041) 373-4199 (H)

* **FTV-650 HF to six metre transverter** for Yaesu FT-101 or FT-201 — Jim Duck ZR2JRD, tel (042) 293-2708 or reach him via packet @ZS0NTP.

Congratulations...

on your birthdays:

February

- 18 Peter Flynn ZS2PF
- 19 Gary Laaks ZR2ABU
- 20 Vic Batt ZR2BBH
- 20 Jim Duck ZR2JRD
- 22 Henning Kriel
- 25 Ralph Hall ZS2IV
- 26 Henry Danielson ZR2HPD
- 26 Dick van den Berg ZS2VV
- 29 Wolf Gerstle ZS2WG

March

- 2 Mentoor Steyn
- 3 Nita Davis XYL of ZS1J
- 6 Lizelle Russouw XYL of ZR2DWR
- 13 Maureen Vroom XYL of ZS2NV
- 13 Magret Ras XYL of ZR2MR
- 14 Ali Mathieson XYL of ZS1EM
- 15 Susanna Bosch XYL of ZS2FM
- 16 Anne Butcher XYL of ZR2GIB

on your anniversaries:

February

None in this QSX period (18 February
– 17 March)

March

- 2 Belinda ZR2CH & Des Herseiman ZR2DH
- 3 Anne & Graham Butcher ZR2GIB
- 3 Merle & Louis Jordaan ZR2J
- 4 Pamela & Jack Koen ZR1JAC

op jul roepseine: Henry Danielson ZR2HPD, Martin Ras ZR2MR, Mark Hugo ZR2M and Dean Russouw

ZR2DWR. Dit sal gaaf wees om jul stemme gereeld op 2m te hoor, manne!

on upgrading to ZS: Margaret and Jim France ZR2BCG and ZR2JRF, now ZS2HM and ZS2JF respectively.



Sick List: ZS2QN had new heart valves installed but has again been admitted for another operation..

Bryan ZS2BH lost his voice for a while. It started to return but left him in the lurch again.

We hope you will both be fully recovered soon.

Out of Town: Bill Hodges ZS2ABZ should be back from Ireland around now. Welcome back, Bill. Hope you picked up some good Irish jokes for us.

Welcome New RAE Candidates

Lyle Laaks and Brett Tapson (both aged 13) and Selwyn Cornelius, as well as correspondence course candidates, Vernon van der Watt Dolphin Nel and André Roets.

Sex Change: Colin ZS2AO points out that he had a grandson, not a granddaughter as reported last month. Also, he says he would get no work done if he were employed at Baywatch, as also reported last month. He would be too busy monitoring swimsuits. He actually works at BayWorld in PE!

Shame. ☹

Your Society's Committee

Chairman, Awards	Beavan Gwilt ZS2RL	360-6968
Vice Chairman, QSL collation & mailing	Trevor Scarr ZS2AE	367-1746
Secretary, repeaters, packet	Chris Scarr ZS2AAW	368-1344
Treasurer, Assets Control	Clive Fife ZS2RT	367-3203
Social, Refreshments	Bill Hodges ZS2ABZ	581-2580
QSL Editor	Garth Laaks ZS2HB	368-1101
e-mail the Editor at	glaaks@iafrica.com	
Technical Classes, RAE	Greg Maynard ZS2RE	581-0991
Librarian	Neil Thomas ZR2NT	487-2403
Special Events	Ewalt Bouwer ZS2EHB	933-3482
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	
Craddock	* 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 (ZSONTP)	144,625
Packet Rose Switch ZSOGHT-3,046101 (144,675 in/out) or 046102 (UHF out to BBS).....	144,675
2m Beacon (ZS2VHF CW ID, FSK) (horizontally polarized, 160W ERP).....	144,415
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
11 Feb	ZS2EHB
18	ZS2RL
25	ZS2AE
4 Mar	ZS2AAW
11	ZS2RT
18	ZS2ABZ
25	ZS2HB

DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY

16 Monthly meeting

MARCH

1 Wrinkly Rave at Ocean Basket restaurant

17 Visit to ZS1J near Plett

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