



QSOX PE



**THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY THE
PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

**PO BOX 10402
LINTON GRANGE
6015**

NOVEMBER 2002

Notice of Meeting

The monthly general meeting of the **PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY** will be held on **THURSDAY EVENING, 21 NOVEMBER, 2002** commencing at 20:00 (8pm) **at the St Hugh's Church Hall, Newton Park!**

Being the last meeting of the year, we will enjoy a cheese and wine evening as soon as the business is over. (Last time, Beavan didn't even sit down for it!)

PEARS will supply a few boxes of wine and fruit juice as well as cheese, biscuits and dip – and perhaps even a bit of icecream. All concerned should bring their own glasses, plates, cutlery etc. – whatever gets dirty, you take it home to clean it!

See you there!

Wrinkly Ravers

Remember the December Rave, which will be held on **Thursday, 5 December 2002** at **Saddles**, Retief Plain shopping centre, Summerstrand, opposite Something Good.

The November one was held at Saddles and about 15 people joined up to partake of the various goodies. All the orders were so well prepared that nobody had any real idea of yet another venue for the last rave of the year.

Can you imagine a waiter remembering all your orders without noting them down, and then providing the right stuff to the right people? This place has one.

HAVE YOU JOINED THE SARL ?

The SARL must gain extra members in order to come out on the reduced membership fees during the current year. They require at least 250 newcomers just to balance the books for the year, and several more in order to write off the past losses due to an inadequate flow of newcomers.

You, the non-member, decided that the reduction was necessary before you rejoined. *Have you done so?*

An application form to join the League can be downloaded from the SARL web site, www.sarl.org.za



The Chairman's Chat

PEARS was most certainly on the map with this year's JOTA, having two stations on the air. ZS2PE operated from Andrew Rabie school, with Ewalt ZS2EHB, Bill ZS2ABZ, Al ZS2U and Martin ZR2MR being the main movers.

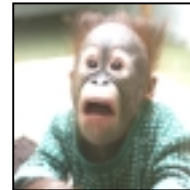
In Port Alfred, ZS2JAM also made its mark, being operated by John ZS2J, Phil ZS2PP and Pat ZS2PJP. And to crown it all, both stations made it into their respective local newspapers. Many thanks to all who assisted and supported these two stations.

The President's net seems to have gone down rather well. There were not too many questions/comments from our part of the fairest Cape, and it came as a most pleasant surprise to have so many call-ins at the end – the listeners were there *en masse*. I wonder how many there would have been if our network to the west of PE had not failed so inopportunistically the previous day Murphy is alive and well, and could not have timed it better!

Chris ZS2AAW is probably tired of hearing all the “thank you's” for the effort he puts into designing and installing the repeater network, maintaining it, attending to packet problems atop the Slipper, upgrading, etc. The oft-heard words “tell Chris that such 'n such is not working...”. If this were the army Chris, you would be receiving a medal for input beyond the normal call of duty. Dare I say “thank you” once again?

73 & 88,

Beavan ZS2RL



OPERATING PRACTICES

Amateurs of longer standing are no doubt tired of reading about my philosophy of Hamnet/ECARES only being involved during major disasters when other emergency services are overtaxed with emergency communications, especially if their communications systems are partially or wholly out of action.

Emergency organisations seem to be coping pretty well with the everyday emergencies so we see little action. Of course, if we come across any emergency during our travels, we may well be able to assist.

Normally, we should be enjoying our hobby, and if in the process we improve our operating abilities and/or station efficiency, all the better. This is a matter I wish to address.

Many amateurs spend much of their time, if not all their time, nattering on the repeaters or playing around with computers. I do not condemn this, but feel that it would be a good idea to also spend some time doing things that improve their operating skills. Here are some examples:

Six metre Dxing or two metre simplex Dxing

This has the advantage that both ZR and ZS amateurs can participate. As with other aspects of the hobby, how successful you are will depend on both operating skill and station efficiency.

Dxing on the high frequency bands

This can really be a challenge if you intend doing more than just chatting to strong stations. There are many awards to aim for. The most popular is the DXCC

award, which requires contact with at least one hundred different countries.

When you have done this, there are endorsements for contact with further countries.

Even more difficult is the CWDXCC (with endorsements) and then there is the five band DXCC. Other awards are Worked All States (USA), Worked All Europe, Worked All Zones and All Africa Award, and more.

Contests

There are a number of different contests. On vhf and uhf there is our own (PEARS) contest held in January. The SARL holds several hf and vhf contests annually.

The premier DX contests are the CQ Worldwide contests. The cw section takes place over the weekend of 23rd and 24th November. Here is some good practice for those wishing to brush up on their morse.

ORP

Operating QRP is quite a challenge, especially if you try working DX.

Rallies

The Volkswagen rally held in July each year is good operating experience as well as testing the effectiveness of your portable station.

So how about seeing more activity in these fields? It is a most rewarding experience.

Talking to some amateur friends at the PEARS Wrinkly Ravers luncheon the other day I recounted some of my early years in radio (wireless) and was encouraged to commit some of my memories to paper. There are many other amateurs with similar or better recollections of their early days and they should also be encouraged to record them. (*How about it, you guys? – Ed*)

In about 1934 broadcasting first came to the Eastern Cape with the building of a medium wave transmitter at Grahamstown. The transmitter had a power output of about 10 kilowatts. This station was well heard in Port Elizabeth and I started to build crystal sets to try to hear it for myself.

Somewhere I managed to lay my hands on a galena detector assembly. It was made on an ebonite base with the small piece of crystalline galena held in a brass cup with a screw-on cap securing the crystal and leaving the top open for the “cat’s whisker” which was held in a small brass rod.

The one end of this rod was insulated with an ebonite handle. The middle had a brass ball which fitted into a vertical brass holder. The other end had a small collet, which grasped the copper wire cat’s whisker.

The copper wire that I used came from any available source and was as thin as possible. It was wound into a spiral over a small drill and the two ends were straightened. One for the adjustment rod, the copper then being bent at right angles so that the other end could be adjusted to the crystal.

The crystal circuits I tried came from whatever book could be found with a circuit diagram. A tuning condenser (capacitor in later terminology) was taken from an old wireless set, I can’t remember which. The coil was wound of coil wire resurrected from old motorcar windscreen wiper motors and any other source of old wire. I also bought double cotton covered wire at the local wireless shop. Headphones were given to me and they were a rather old 2000 ohm type.

I built numerous sets, but could never receive Grahamstown, which is about 80 miles (130 km) from Port Elizabeth. Without fail, just when I thought that I was beginning to hear something, Algoa Bay radio ZSQ would come blasting in. All I ever heard was this station and, not being able to read Morse, it was plain gibberish.

This continued in 1935 until one day I found a new idea in the Afrikaans children’s magazine

Jongspan for a set that used a tapped coil. This coil was wound on an old dictaphone cylinder container, about 65mm diameter and consisted of 100 turns, each of the first 10 being tapped and the remaining turns being tapped every 10 turns.


The coil was mounted on a piece of wood with a vertical front panel of plywood. On the vertical panel, two switches were made using brass paper fasteners arranged in a circle, with a centrally pivoted brass connector arm made from the long brass end of one of the old 4,5 volt dry batteries then available. The coil was joined to the fasteners so that the left-hand one gave single turns and the other 10 turn steps. With this set I was to make progress.

I heard from school friends that one of the boys had put up a very long and high aerial between trees at his home in Fairview, so I went to visit him, complete with my new crystal set. After a few minutes on this large aerial I was astounded to hear Grahamstown broadcast.

Having noted the switch settings I promptly went home (Second Avenue, Villiers Road, Walmer) and, in the evening, ever so faintly, I was able to hear the broadcast.

My aerial was a piece of old coil wire about 40 feet (12 metres) long in the tree behind our house. The galena crystal had to be carefully adjusted to find the most sensitive spot before the station could be heard. The crystal adjustment was so delicate that if anyone came into my bedroom and walked too heavily on the wooden floor the crystal would jump and the station lost.

I often sat and listened to the programmes till late at night. In those days the stations would sign off at 11pm with the National Anthem. One evening I heard Grahamstown sign off and, as they switched off their carrier, there, very faintly, was a voice saying “This is Durban Wireless signing off”. This only ever happened once.

That is the sum total of my recollection of those early crystal set days. 

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH
AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY HELD AT St HUGH'S CHURCH HALL,
NEWTON PARK, PORT ELIZABETH ON 17TH OCTOBER 2002**

1. Present and Apologies

As noted in the attendance register with apologies

2. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed the 20 odd members in attendance

3. Acceptance of the previous minutes

Proposed ZS2AE (Trevor) Seconded
ZS2RT (Clive)

4. Matters arising from previous minutes

No matters arising.

5. Finance

Clive, our treasurer, reports that club finances are still sound. Delivered costs of QSX run at R409 p.m. Blackboard for use at the hall cost R358 (2400 x 122)

6. Correspondence

IN Several copies of Practical Wireless from Dave G3KMG and CD's for Ham Radio use. Club news letters from other clubs. Application for CW award from ZS6XT. Bank statements.

OUT Several e-mails regarding the irregular CW testing and the ill-fated SARL bull on rally comms. Registration of ZS2JAM as an educational callsign. Letter to St Hugh's Church booking the hall for 2003.

7. General

1. The JOTA week-end over 19/20th October at the Andrew Rabie High School. The local club Callsign will be ZS2PE and the Port Alfred gathering ZS2JAM run by John (ZS2J). Ewalt hopes to have stations set up for Packet Radio, SSTV and QRP CW transmissions. Weather permitting, a Bring & Braai will be held on site.
2. The Spring Bash has been arranged for the 9th of November at the Island. Costs are R10 per car and R3 per person....please come along and enjoy the social outing.
3. The repair and conversion of a mobile screen belonging to the Church into a blackboard

for our club use, was completed at a cost of R358. Labour donated free of charge !

4. Chris (ZS2AAW) reported that the HDD controller in the BBS computer suffered a fatal heart attack rendering the BBS inoperative. Surgery by Chris repaired the ailing unit and is now functioning properly again. The HF rig, hit by electrical storms, has been removed for repair with parts donated by the late ZS2CR. Back-up batteries need replacing at approximately R800 and general maintenance of Antennas and the equipment housing will have to be organised soon. Volunteers please contact Chris. Costs were approved. Maintenance inspections on repeaters towards the Western Cape and Free State will be carried out by Chris during salt mine inspections. An appreciative vote of thanks to Chris and Trevor for their time and effort in maintaining the "BEST" of the best.
5. QSX assistance committee to be organised by Viv and Garth.
6. Rory appointed Webmaster for PEARS, will register PEARS.org
7. Our participation in the Grahamstown Sci-Fest 2003 was rejected due to lack of support and no material gain for Ham Radio in general..
8. The extra-ordinary "Cape" President's net will take place Sunday at 20h00 and ALL are invited to participate (including non SARL members.)
9. The saga of irregular CW testing continues in spite of many complaints country wide, ICASA feel they can do little about it at this late stage due to lack of material evidence provided by persons with direct knowledge of these alleged happenings.
10. Colin, ZS2AO reported that Phil (ZS2PP) and Ewan (ZS1EN) will both be in the White house here in PE next week

The **meeting** closed at 20.40. Tea & coffee followed perusal of the Junk pile. **Q**

Flea Power

Roger Davis, ZS1J

Some weeks ago, I was asked by a ZS6 ham, who I have a regular morning sked with, if I had a crystal in the top end of 40 metres as he wanted to make a small crystal oscillator for some experiments with various mobile antennas. Fortunately, I have a large collection of old FT 243 crystals, that most old timers will remember, as they were the back bone of many single valve cw transmitters in the post war years.

Before sending off the crystal, I checked its activity in a crystal tester, with the circuit below, and it started me thinking about doing some tests of my own using the crystal tester as a signal source.

I selected another crystal, which gave an output on 7076 in the tester and I connected my G8KW trap dipole to the output socket for a frequency counter. I then measured the current drawn by the oscillator at 12 volts and it gave a reading of 2 mA, giving a power input of 24 mW.

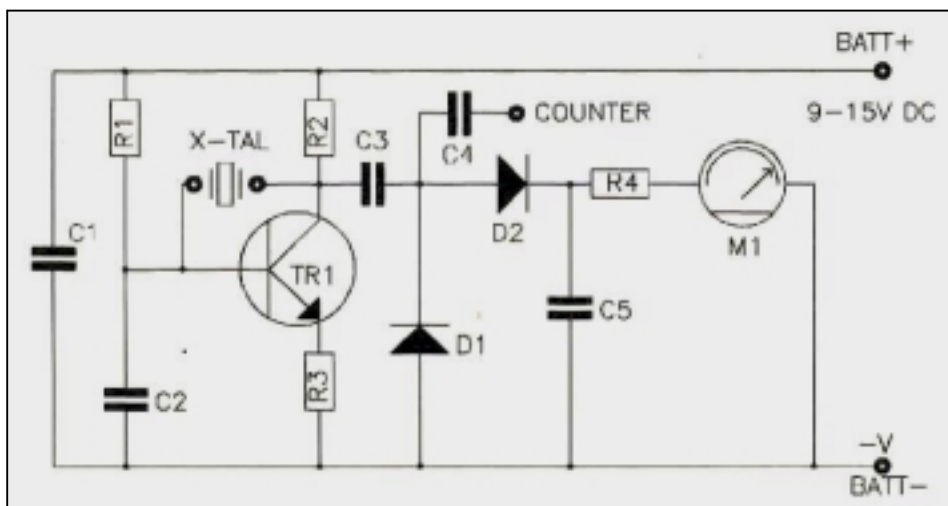
After conducting my tests, I decided to measure the actual power being radiated and the only way that I could

measure this miniscule power level was to use an oscilloscope on the output to the antenna. Finding this rms voltage and doing the necessary calculations, I found that my output power at the antenna was approximately 100 *microwatts*, or 0.1 of a *milliwatt*.

The reason that the output is this low is due to the fact that the antenna is extremely loosely coupled to the oscillator through the two seriesed capacitors C3 and C4.

Whilst in a QSO on 40 with John, ZS2J, I asked him if he could hear the flea power on 7076 and I was very surprised that he confirmed that it was audible and asked me to key it. I coupled up my electronic key and sent a series of dashes, which were received R5, but no signal strength.

Later that same day, I received a phone call from Peter, ZS2PL, to tell me that this signal was also copied by a ham in Aliwal North, a straight line distance of 500 kilometres. 20 micro watts per 100 kilometres or 5 kilometres per micro watt. I wonder if this is some sort of record for QRP. 📻



THE PEARS NATIONAL VHF/UHF CONTEST

24-26 JANUARY 2003

The Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society's national VHF/UHF contest will take place on 24-26 January 2003, and is open to all amateurs. This 48 hour long contest is scheduled for the best time of the year to make long distance Tropo contacts on the 144, 432 and 1296 MHz bands.

The 50 and 144 MHz bands also provide Meteor Scatter contacts in the mornings and Sporadic-E openings could appear in the daytime, so keep an eye on the VHF beacons.

In order to keep the playing field level and fair to all, the contest is limited to South Africa and neighbouring countries only. Make it a radio fun time!

Dates and Times

The VHF/UHF contest commences at 18:00 SAST on Friday 24 January and closes at 18:00 SAST on Sunday 26 January 2003.

Categories

There are five categories; four analogue and one digital.

1. Fixed Station
2. Field Station
3. Multi-operator Station
4. Digital (DSP) Station
5. QRP 2 Metre Station

Analogue stations compete in their respective categories and divisions only, but may score points from contacts with those in other categories and divisions, except the digital modes. All stations may compete for the longest distance award on the bands authorized for their categories.

Frequency Channels

50,200 – 50,240 MHz	SSB/CW
50,240 – 50,280 MHz	DSP
50,400 – 50,450 MHz	FM
144,200 – 144,240 MHz	SSB/CW
144,240 – 144,280 MHz	DSP
144,400 – 144,450 MHz	FM
145,475 – 145,575 MHz	FM
432,200 – 432,240 MHz	SSB/CW
432,240 – 432,280 MHz	DSP
433,450 – 433,500 MHz	FM
1296,200 – 1296,240 MHz	SSB/CW
1296,240 – 1296,280 MHz	DSP
1296,450 – 1296,500 MHz	FM

Contestants

All South African amateurs as well as those in the six neighbouring countries i.e. Namibia (V5), Botswana (A2), Zimbabwe (Z2), Mozambique (C9), Lesotho (7P) and Swaziland (3DA) may compete, and only contacts with these countries will count. A fixed or field station owner may allow other operators to use his/her station on condition that each operator uses his/her own call sign and participates as a separate entity.

Reports and Scoring

A bona fide contact consists of an exchange of call signs, signal reports sent and received and location such as town/city and suburb or Maidenhead locator or co-ordinates. (Note: Serial numbers are not required for this contest.)

Categories 1, 2, 3 and 4 stations claim one point per kilometre while those in category 5 (QRP) score ten points for each contact. Points may be claimed for only one contact with the same station on the same band.

Fixed Station

A fixed station with a single operator, is the normal home or base station using mains power and any man-made structure pre-existing on the site including antennas. Other operators may share a fixed station but only as single operators using their own call signs.

Field Station

A field station is a temporary station with a single operator set up in a tent, caravan or parked motor vehicle with suitable antenna systems. Mains electric power may not be used, but portable power plants, batteries or solar-electric panels are permitted. Other operators may also share a field station but as single operators using their own call signs.

Multi-operator Station

A multi-operator or club station operates under one call sign only, either as a field or

fixed station using multi-operators. These stations compete countrywide with one another, the winner as well as runner-up are determined by the highest combined score on all four bands.

Digital Station

This category uses the digital (DSP) modes such as JT44, FSK441 and/or PSK31 etc on the 50, 144, 432 and 1296 MHz bands. Operators of the analogue categories may also participate in the Digital category, but as a separate entity. The highest combined score obtained country-wide on all four bands determines the winner and runner-up.

QRP Station

The QRP category is intended for beginners or those who are only equipped with low power FM transceivers not exceeding 10 watts. This category is limited to 2 metre FM only, but a QRP station may work any other station in the designated FM channel ranges in this band.

Any type of antenna may be used but all operating must be done from the same site. Even mobile operation is permissible as long as the vehicle is parked in the same location whenever contest calls are made.

Log Sheets

Separate log sheets are required for each band worked. The top of each log sheet must indicate Band, Category, Name, Call Sign and Postal Address of contestant as well as the Location of the station. Log sheets must reflect Date, Time, Frequency, Call Sign of station worked, Signal Reports given and received as well as Location of the station contacted.

All entries must be submitted to PEARS by the end of February 2003 and their decision will be final. The address is printed below.

Awards

Certificates will be presented by PEARS to the two stations who achieve the longest distance on each band, the divisional winners in each category and band as well as the overall Multi-operator and Digital winners and their runners-up.

Further Information

For further information please write to Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society, P.O. Box 10402, Linton Grange 6015, Republic of South Africa, or contact ZS2FM at Tel. 041 581-2425 or Cell 084 612 9600. 

FOR \$ALE ★ WANTED ★ SWOP

WANTED

* Old Johnson Viking Ranger for spares or transformer from same or similar. 700 - 350 - 0 - 350 - 700 @ 200 mA. 5 volts @ 4 A and 6.3 volts @ 4 A. Primary either 117 or 220 volts. — Roger ZS1J, tel. 044 532 7842.

* Two metre synthesized rig, about 10 watts. — Vic Plumridge ZS2VP, tel. 046 648 1928

* Military badges and medals, especially (but not exclusively) German World War II items — André Botes ZS2ACP, tel. 041 379 2058.

FOR SALE

* Icom 730 HF + Daiwa SWR + Home Brew ATU – R2 700; 40A+ Home Brew Power Supply – R800; 2m All Mode Kenwood TR751E – R2 250; TE Systems 2m 160w Linear Amp. – R1 400; Kenwood SMC-34 Speaker/Mic for hand held, new – R150 — Richard Borello ZR2RB, Tel. 028 316 3059, Box 1172 Hermanus 7200. All items at QTH of ZS2D, 042 296 2675, Jeffrey's Bay.


BAND PLANNING RECOMMENDED USAGE OF SPECTRUM 144.000 to 146.000 MHz

Provided by Ken Tremeer, ZS2BWB

Power limit... 26dBW...400 W PEP

- 144.000 - 144.035. EME (SSB/CW) Moonbounce only.
- 144.035 - 144.150 CW ONLY 144.050 Cw calling.
 - 144.100 Meteor scatter calling.
 - 144.140 - 144.150 Cw working.
- 144.150 - 144.400 SSB & CW 144.150 - 144.160 Ssb working
 - 144.175 Microwave talk-back.
 - 144.195 - 144.205 Ssb (random) Meteor Scatter.
 - 144.260 Emergency comms (priority).
 - 144.300 Ssb calling.
- 144.400 - 144.490 BEACONS
- 144.490 GUARD BAND Sarex uplink.
- 144.500 - 144.990 ALL MODES (non channelised) 144.500 Sstv calling.
 - 144.525 SSTV talk-back (ssb)
 - 144.525 - 144.575 (see note 1)
 - 144.600 RTTY calling/working (FSK)
 - 144.625 - 144.675 Packet radio.
 - 144.700 Fax calling
 - 144.750 - 144.825 Extended repeater inputs.
- 144.990 - 145.000 GUARD BAND
- 145.000 - 145.200 FM REPEATER INPUTS.
- 145.200 - 145.325 FM SIMPLEX 145.200 Paired with 145.800 Manned space coms.
 - 145.225 Emergency coms priority.
 - 145.250 Slow morse transmissions.
 - 145.300 RTTY (afsk).
- 145.325 -145.450 FM REPEATER OUTPUTS.
- 145.450 - 145.600 FM SIMPLEX 145.500 Fm calling.
 - 145.550 Club & exhibition talk-in.
- 145.600 - 145.800 FM REPEATER OUTPUTS.
- 145.800 - 146.000 SATELLITE COMS 145.800 Is paired with 145.200 (Manned space coms)

NOTE 1. Temporary measure pending re-organisation of band plan to accommodate Digital Modes.

NOTE 2. It should be noted that the frequencies recommended above, were last published/updated by SARL. approximately six years ago. If you are in possession of more up-to-date information, please transmit this to the Editor of QSX. 



pearstalk

RAE RESULTS RELEASED

The results of last month's RAE became available on Thursday, October 24. Out of a total of 111 who enrolled, 99 candidates passed. Official letters will soon be mailed to candidates.

Both Port Elizabeth candidates passed. They are Bruce Samuel, ZR2BS, son-in-law of Ashley Goosen, and Otto van Rooyen, ZR2VAN.

Our thanks to the RAE examiner, Rassie Erasmus ZS1YT, and also to Al Akers, of PEARS, who undertook the task of invigilator.

PRESIDENT'S NET FOR AMATEURS IN WESTERN AND EASTERN CAPE

On account of poor propagation conditions during the weekly President's net, the President of the SARL, Sid Tyler ZS6AYC, agreed to have a special net on Sunday evening October 20 at 20:00 SAT for amateurs in the Western and Eastern Cape.

The net was carried out by telephone to Stellenbosch and their repeater system, and to Port Elizabeth where, Beavan relayed it onto the Eastern Cape repeater network. Amateurs used the opportunity to put questions to the President.

SA RADIO AMATEUR DOES WELL

Every two years the international moonbounce (EME) amateur community meets. In the most recent one, there was also a competition for the best low noise preamplifiers in the bands from

144 MHz to 10 GHz. Submitted preamplifiers were measured by the HP equipment at the Czech Academy of Science.

What was certainly a big surprise to us all was that Ivo Chladek, ZS6AXT, achieved the following places:

- 1st for his 5760 MHz preamplifier
- 2nd for his 432 MHz preamplifier and
- 3rd place for his 2304 MHz pre-amplifier.

Our congrats to Ivo.

THIRD PARTY TRAFFIC ON AMATEUR BANDS

With reference to the news item in the bulletin of Sunday 29 September in connection with 3rd party traffic on amateur bands, the SARL was approached by affiliated clubs to have the agreement to also include club members who are not SARL members.

The SARL will speedily convene a meeting with the authority, ICASA, where this issue will again be discussed in order to achieve clarity.

Sid Tyler ZS6AYC phoned us later to say the short and the long of it is that ZS6BUU gave a talk down in Cape Town, an individual present got the bull by the horns and that gave rise to the bulletin item that only Hamnet members may participate.

Sid has confirmed with ICASA that nothing has changed – rally comms are provided under the auspices of Hamnet, but any licensed amateur may participate. All that is required is for the

organisers to inform SARL of the event (type, name, date, place) and the call-signs of operators.

NB– the blunder was none of SARL's doing – it was an independent effort by somebody who shall be nameless, but who perhaps should have known better. Pity that items that might affect ICASA are not first forwarded to the President for his approval.

TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUN SPECIAL EVENT STATION

Umbraphiles will be able to view a total eclipse of the Sun from the Northern and North Eastern regions of Limpopo Province, South Africa, on 4th December. The eclipse commences at approximately 0500 UTC (0700 SA Time) and ends two and a half hours later, depending on one's location.

A group of Amateur Radio Operators from ZS5 and ZS6 will operate a Special Event Station – ZS6SOL – to cover the occurrence. They will be on the air from 30th November through to 7th December whilst mobile and will give a commentary from the South bank of the Limpopo River, leading up to, and again, shortly after the eclipse itself.

You are invited to share your experience with them on 40 , 20 and 15 meters – probably around 7,075., 14,200 and 21,155 MHz depending on band conditions.

Please QSL via the Bureau to Willie ZS5WI or direct to PO Box 1064, Eshowe, 3815 enclosing a stamped, self addressed envelope with your card.

Amateurs and short wave listeners are also invited by the Witwatersrand University to participate in a propagation research project during the solar eclipse. The project involves the monitoring of a number of medium wave broadcast frequencies prior to and during the

eclipse. The project is being coordinated by the Department of Physics at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Regular updates will be carried on SARL news and be available on the SARL Web at www.sarl.org.za.

MOTIONS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Motions for submission and consideration at the Annual General Meeting of the SARL on 29 March 2003 in Bloemfontein are invited from members.

Each motion must contain the following:

1. A concise description of the motion;
2. A motivation in support of the motion;
3. A proposer and a seconder must sign each motion.

Nominations and motions must reach the Secretary by no later than 30 November 2002. They must be addressed to The Secretary, SARL and mailed to P O Box 1721, Strubensvallei, 1735 or faxed to 011 675 2793. Other contact details are Tel 011 675 2393 and E-Mail: admin@sarl.org.za.

QRP HF BEACON IN PLETTENBERG BAY

Roger, ZS1J, near Plettenberg Bay, has erected a beacon on 7076 kHz. He would be pleased to receive reports, especially from distances greater than 500 km, by email at info@forestwagontrails.co.za.

NEW BATTERIES FOR LADY'S SLIPPER

The meeting approved that new batteries should be acquired for the repeater system at Lady's Slipper at R370 plus vat each.

While doing his maintenance work

recently, Chris also discovered that the final transistors of the HF rig on the hill had been damaged, and he undertook to repair the system using spare units on hand.

He also said that a work party for the repeater site would be required soon to put spikes in the ground and also to remove rust from the cabinet, applying Rust-Stop, and then painting it. He would announce via a bulletin when he is able to do the work.

NO COLLECTION FOR TEA

It has been decided to run a draw at R2 a time at club meetings. Half of the amount so collected will go to the winner and the other half to the Society.

The decision was prompted by the fact that the dish provided at the tea table was not used as well as one may have wished.

SCIENCE FESTIVAL AT G'TOWN

After receiving an invitation to participate in the festival next year the whole matter was considered and it was decided *not* to take part in 2003. There does not appear to have been any *amateur radio* takers from the past two or three shows, and a lot of work and travelling was incurred on each occasion.

It was suggested that we would be far better off participating in some local show, e.g. the Splash festival, and this was accepted.

ANYONE FOR DX?

Al Akers ZS2U would like to hear from anyone who wants to establish a DX Club. He feels that HF is not properly catered for and that a lot of fun can be

created by working DX.


Anyone who wants to record his name on a local DX list should contact Al. If it gets off the ground we will see a monthly DX column in QSX.

GOOD AMATEUR PRACTICE

FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth has endorsed a list of several points that he feels help to define the concept of "good amateur practice". Amateurs always need to remember that "our rights end where another person's begin."

The following are part of Hollingsworth's guide to good amateur practice:

- * Giving a little ground – even if you have a right not to – in order to help preserve Amateur Radio and not cause it to get a bad name or hasten the day when it becomes obsolete.
- * Respecting band plans, because they make it possible for every mode to have a chance.
- * Realizing that every right carries responsibilities, and just because you may have a right to do certain things doesn't mean it's right to do them in every circumstance.
- * You don't "own" or get preference to use any frequency.
- * Not operating so that whoever hears you becomes sorry they ever got into (or tuned in on) Amateur Radio in the first place.

Hollingsworth notes that the list "doesn't touch on a lot of other technical issues, such as using 1500 W when your signal report received is 40 over 9." Good amateur practice," he said, "just means a lot of things that can't always be quantified." 

Condolences — We learned with regret of the passing on 6 November of Joey Pettit, XYL of OM Des ZS2ABU. She had been ailing for quite a time and spent the last week or so in hospital. She was discharged but passed away at home. Our condolences go to Des and family.

Congratulations...

on your birthdays:

November

- 17 Cheryl du Preez, XYL of ZS2ABT
- 18 Cornelia Geyer, XYL of ZS2OT
- 18 Martha Terblanche, XYL of ZS1I
- 21 Shaunna Laaks, XYL of ZR2ABU
- 26 Fred Strutt ZS2JS
- 28 André Crouse ZR2A
- 28 Elizabeth Jasson ZR2EJ
- 28 Nellie van Zyl, LV van ZS2Z
- 28 Ed Durrant ZS2DI

December

- 5 Clive Fife ZS2RT
- 6 Phil Kauffmann-Sorenson ZS2NP
- 6 Lionel Coombe-Davis ZS2DD
- 7 Natasha Bruyns ZR2BCS
- 7 Dawid Petzer ZR1DJJ
- 13 Kay Strutt ZS2JS
- 15 Derek Hislop ZR2DJH
- 18 Anne Olivier ZR2ABC
- 20 Marlene Gray, XYL of ZS2G
- 20 Marlene Ashwell ZR2ED
- 20 Donald Jacobs ZS2BW
- 21 Paul de Vos ZS2ABY
- 21 Ron Clarke ZS2MF

on your anniversaries:

November

- 17 Joan & Barry Jackson ZS2H
- 19 Jeanette & André Mulder ZS2AJ
- 20 Shirley & Stoffel Carr ZS2C
- 20 Mel & Beavan Gwilt ZS2RL
- 27 Maggie & Ian Moore ZR2IJ

December

- 8 Barry & Graham Griggs ZS2ABK
- 9 Dot & Vic Plumridge ZS2VP
- 10 June ZS2JJ & Mike Jones ZS2MJ
- 11 Ingrid & Dawid Petzer ZR1DJJ
- 11 Marlene ZR2ED & Colin Ashwell ZS2AO
- 12 Jane & Clive Fife ZS2RT
- 12 Santie & André Greyling ZS2ACG
- 15 Dawn & Derek Hislop ZR2DJH
- 16 Maureen & Bert von Rahden ZS6LP
- 19 Lida & Dirk Ligthelm ZS2D



Sick Parade: Phil, ZS2PP, has had an operation in a local hospital here in PE. It was quite an experience! *NOT the operation*, but living, eating and bathing in the place.... We hope you will get better real soon, Phil.

On the way home to Port Alfred the car drove into an embankment and was badly smashed. Neither Pam nor Phil were seriously injured.

Travelling: Collette Schönborn, ZR2CBS, daughter of Dick, has left for a one-month (possibly extending to two months) stay in Qatar, in the Persian Gulf. She is a Quantity Surveyor for a big building undertaking. Imagine the looks on the Qatar faces when a *woman* turns up to survey their quantities! 📷

Your Society's Committee

Chairman, Awards.....	Beavan Gwilt ZS2RL	360-6968	gwilt@telkomsa.net
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Treasurer; Assets Control.....	Clive Fife ZS2RT	367-3203	cfife@freemail.absa.co.za
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Technical Classes, RAE (ex com) .	Al Akers ZS2U	360-2983	
Special Events	Ewalt Bouwer ZS2EHB	933-3482	ewalt.b@freemail.absa.co.za

PEARS' VHF/UHF & Other Services

REPEATERS

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

* These form the PEARS long-range 2-metre repeater system, also linked to which are East London 145,775 MHz, 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, 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
17 Nov	ZS2RL
24	ZS2AAW
1 Dec	ZS2BL
8	ZR2H
15	ZS2RT
22	ZS2EHB
29	ZS2ABZ

DIARY DATES

NOVEMBER

21 PEARS meeting and Cheese & Wine party (Remember, it's a Thursday)

DECEMBER

5 Wrinkley Rave

* We like being your Society *