

Q S X P E



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

WEBSITE: www.qs1.net/zs2pe

**PO BOX 10402
LINTON GRANGE
6015**

J U N E 2004

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

The monthly general meeting of the PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY will be held on Thursday, 18 June 2004 at the St Hugh's Church Hall, Newton Park, starting at 20:00 (8 pm).

Although nothing has been arranged for the evening, there may be some mention of those who will be able to help at the VW Rally. Unfortunately there has been nothing forthcoming from the Rally people, so we just have to wait and see. In the mean time, you can get your station up and ready for action.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be supplied by Bill ZS2ABZ, and remember there is a **bring and buy** table with which you may dispose of your excess goods and, perhaps, get a little more.

Wrinkly Ravers

We had 12 members at Barney's on 3 June, including Lynne ZS2MM. Everyone seemed to be quite happy with what they got.

Our next one will be on Thursday, 1 July at Barney's Steak Bar, Circular Drive, Lorraine. See you there?

YOUR PEARS SUBS ARE OVERDUE!! If you have not paid, you will have to somehow, somewhere, scrounge R50 for Ordinary membership or R30 for each family member, otherwise this will probably be your last issue of QSX!


PEARS AQ 2-METRE CONTEST RESULTS

Congratulations to the winners of this contest, who are, for fixed stations, Theunis ZR2EC, and, for field stations, Allan ZS2R.

Full results are:

<i>Fixed Station:</i>	ZR2EC	201
	ZR2DX	197
<i>Field Station:</i>	ZS2R	6091
	ZS2AJ	2507
	ZS2J	1818
	ZS2U	1606
	ZS2ABZ	722

When analyzing statistics of this contest it becomes clear that this is a new ball game and, when it comes to contesting, participants would need to do a rethink on their modus operandi.

It was gratifying to see so many portable operators. Allan did quite a bit of mountain climbing to get to his site, and deserved to win by a clear margin too. 



from *The* *Chairman*

Our AGM has come-and-gone, and I'm sure that I can speak on behalf of everyone when I say that it was a success. It was great to see you all, and especially nice to see the "out of towners".

Last years committee has been re-elected and we look forward to serving the hobby for another twelve months. The focus, this year, will be on identifying opportunities to show-case amateur radio, and to possibly find a permanent home for the club.

Several suggestions have been put forward, and they will all be thoroughly investigated. It would appear that the main criteria is location – the club-house should be easily accessible, and ideally we need a little space to erect antennas. Given the high cost of petrol, the club-house should be centrally situated. We want a club that is utilized frequently by members and visitors.

Congratulations to George Pearson and Gert Schwarz who sat for the RAE last month, and now hold the call-signs ZR2GLP and ZR2GPC respectively.

Al, ZS2U informs me that the next RAE preparatory course will be very well supported, with around 20 candidates attending. The majority of them are from the mountain rescue club. We need to identify other service organisations where a synergy can draw an interest in what amateur radio

has to offer. Thanks (in advance) for your hard work Al.

Please don't forget that June 16 is Kids Day, and the club hopes to set up at least one station for this event.

I note on the SARL website that Hamnet is investigating the possibility of establishing a repeater system between Johannesburg and Durban – possibly funded via the R50 000 grant they received from the Department of Transport.

My initial reaction to this news item is "what a waste of money". Are we seeing the old "Gauteng First" syndrome raise it's ugly head once again? I'm not au fait with Hamnet's objectives, but I believe that these funds could be put to far better use, elsewhere. I would be interested to hear your views on this subject.

One often hears fellow hams complaining about inactivity on the bands. Take a leaf out of the American telephone company AT&T's advertising campaign from a couple of years ago "Make the call, make it happen", or perhaps more relevant to amateur radio "Take the call, make it happen"!

When you hear someone calling on the air, invest five minutes in your hobby and talk to them.

73

Rory, ZS2BL

HAMNET / ECARES NEWS

As a result of a discussion between the League President, Graham Hartlett and myself at our April meeting, I have retracted my resignation from the SA Radio League. And, as Council appears to have been too busy with other matters, they missed the opportunity to kick me out of positions I held previously, which means I am still Provincial Director, Hamnet East Cape, chief invigilator for the RAE and Morse examiner.

Graham, whose portfolio on Council is Hamnet, told me that he sees no reason why Hamnet and ECARES could not work together. I told him that this has been the policy of ECARES since its inception, and we shall continue to co-operate with Hamnet.

At the PEARS AGM, the Hamnet shield was presented to Stoffel Carr ZS2C for his long service to Hamnet and ECARES, which includes repairing PRC77 and A44 sets for our six metre operations and his regular appearance on our Wednesday evening nets. Thank you, Stoffel, your efforts are very much appreciated.

As many of our members appear to have forgotten about our six metre nets, we hold

these on Wednesday evenings at 20h00 on 52,950 MHz.

In the past I have monitored Lady's Slipper and/or Town repeaters whenever possible and shall continue to do so, but in addition I now also monitor National Call, 145,500 MHz.

SOCIAL

Ken ZS2OC has been suffering for a long time with inflammation of the nerve endings. Glad to hear that he has now completed his medication and is pretty well back to normal.

Ewalt ZS2EHB recently underwent a ligament operation and is making good progress.

We welcome Serge Smetryns ZR2SJE and Terence van der Linden ZR2VDL to ECARES and glad to have you aboard. When are we going to hear you on the air, Serge?

73,

Al Akers,
Provincial Director:
Hamnet/ECARES

PEARS VHF / UHF CONTEST

Al Akers, ZS2U

A bit of research has revealed that there are about three times as many hams in the Port Elizabeth area compared to the East London area. Yet, during the contest in January, the number of hams in the East London area who either participated or gave points to participants was 32% more than those in the Port Elizabeth area.

In view of this being *our* contest, it does not look so good, does it?

WHO KNEW *R.G. Henwick, ZS2L (ex ZT2Q), 71 Upper Pier St, Port Elizabeth?*
Was he perhaps the first radio ham in South Africa? Dennis Green wants to know.

FOR \$ALE ★ WANTED ★ SWOP

FOR SALE

- * **Boat winch** with about 15 m of 6 mm s/s wire rope. Used for raising/lowering mast – R100; +/- 30 m lengths of almost-new **RG232 and RG58 coax.** – R10 each; Portable 4-element **VHF beam** for field work – R20 — Beavan Gwilt, ZS2RL, tel. 083 445 7647.

THAT was OUR A G M

Well, our PEARS AGM has come and gone and the venue at the 1st Kabega Scout hall was able to accommodate all the guests and visitors – I think there must have been something around 50 or more people.

There were members from way outside the Nelson Mandela Metropole, for example Dudley Forsythe ZS2AW, John Hugo ZS2J, Peter Liebenberg ZS2PL and Dirk Ligthelm ZS2D, and there were also several other members and friends whose names I was not able to get hold of.

The weather was really good, and upon our arrival at the place we saw some tables just off the pavement (there was no perimeter fence) loaded with odds and ends to be bought.

The meeting went off smoothly and we were glad there was no rain – the roof showed several holes, which would have let the rain come in.

Last year's minutes were accepted and there was a schedule showing our assets following a query at the previous AGM.

The outgoing committee was duly re-elected without any further proposals. We thank them for what they have done in the past year and their re-election must suggest that the membership has full confidence in them for the next one. On the other hand, maybe nobody wanted to get themselves nominated and have to find good reasons why they cannot serve!

Our subscriptions for the current (2004/05) year was approved, but with input from the membership it will go up to R60 for an ordinary member next year. Because QSX is not posted to family members, their share will remain R30.

Old Toppie Awards *with free future*

membership were awarded to Vic Plumridge ZS2VP and Dudley Forsythe ZS2AW.

The **PEARS Southern African VHF Century** two-metre analog bronze class award went to Al Akers ZS2U. This is the first certificate issued in terms of the recently introduced SA VHF Century Award.

Trophies went as follows:

ZS2OB DX Trophy (cup and certificate) : Ken ZS2BWB

ZS2AB Constructors Trophy (cup and certificate) : Donald ZS2BW

Ham Spirit Trophy (cup and certificate) : Neil ZR2NT

Merit Cup (cup and certificate) : Barry ZR2DX

Appreciation Award Certificates went to Beavan ZS2RL, Cyril ZS2EJ, Trevor ZS2AZR, André ZS2AJ, Jim ZS2LR, Bill ZS2ABZ, Al ZS2U and Julie and Trevor ZR2EY / ZS2AE.

Trevor ZS2AE asked that we also award Johan Terblanche, ZS1I, an appreciation certificate in view of his regular contributions to QSX. This was agreed to unanimously.

After the meeting we adjourned outside, where a really good braai fire had been prepared for us by Martin Ras ZR2MR, Henry Danielson ZR2HPD and Steve van der Watt. Bill Hodges ZS2ABZ moved around handing out cake, when it struck somebody that it was his 60th birthday and so everybody gave him the usual birthday song.

There was a couple of boxes of wine and cool drink, and then to end the function later there was a serving of ice cream. I saw more than one going back for more, but I won't say who.

As usual, a very well prepared AGM and braai, with all the usual additives. ☺

AUSTRALIA'S NEW LICENSING STRUCTURE

Trevor M5AKA of the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society says the Australian Regulatory body the ACA has just announced the new Australian Licensing structure which will comprise:

- Foundation amateur licensing option – the lowest level licence offering basic operating privileges.
- Standard amateur licensing option – the middle level licence offering higher privileges than the foundation licence. Existing novice and novice limited licensees will translate to this

level.

- Advanced amateur licensing option – the highest level licence offering the most operating privileges. Existing unrestricted, intermediate and limited licensees will translate to this level.

None of these licences will require knowledge of morse code.

The new Foundation licence will have 10 watts output on the following bands: 3.5-3.7 MHz, 7.0-7.3 MHz, 21.0-21.45 MHz, 28.0-29.7 MHz, 144-148 MHz and 430-450 MHz.

HISTORIC MORSE CODE RADIO STATION WILL RETURN TO THE AIR

Richard Dillman, W6AWO Member of the Maritime Radio Historical Society reports that, in the annual event that has become known as the "Night of Nights", historic Morse code radio station KPH will return to the air in commemoration of the last commercial Morse message sent in the United States.

KPH, the ex-RCA coast station located north of San Francisco, will return to the air for commemorative broadcasts on 12 July at 1701 PDT (13 July at 0001 GMT), 5 years and one minute after the last commercial Morse transmission in the US.

These on-the-air events are intended to honor the men and women who followed the radiotelegraph trade on ships and at coast stations around the world and made it one of honor and skill.

Transmissions are expected to continue until at least 0700 GMT.

For this fifth annual Night of Nights one frequency for the equally historic coast station KFS may possibly be activated.

Veteran Morse operators will be on duty at the receiving station at Point

Reyes, CA listening for calls from ships and sending messages just as they did for so many years before Morse operations were shut down.


The original KPH transmitters, receivers and antennas will be used to activate frequencies in all the commercial maritime HF bands and on MF as well.

KPH will transmit on 4247.0, 6477.5, 8642.0, 12808.5, 17016.8 and 22477.5kc on HF and 500 and 426kc on MF.

Many of the transmitters will be 50s vintage RCA sets.

Reception reports may be sent to: Ms. DA Stoops P.O. Box 381 Bolinas CA 94924-0381 USA

Denice is a former KPH operator and was the first female telegrapher hired at the station.

Further information may be found on the Maritime Radio Historical Society Web site at <http://www.radiomarine.org> or by contacting Richard Dillman at +1 415-990-7090 (email: rdillman@igc.org) or Tom Horsfall at +1 510-237-9535 (email: wa6ope@hotmail.com). 

SATELLITE NEWS

from Barry Murrell ZR2DX

VUSAT TESTING

William Leijenaar PE1RAH advises that testing has been started to get HAMSAT (or in amateur circles called VUSAT) 100% working and ready for launch. During the final testing last year there were some minor problems detected, and the satellite was not launched. William is currently back at ISRO in Bangalore to help with testing and getting the satellite in shape for its launch in summer this year.

He can not give any technical details and date of launch, but wants the Amateur Satellite world to know that in the background much work is in progress. The satellite will give amateurs two new linear mode-uv transponders in an 800km LEO orbit... and for free...

ISS EXPEDITION 9

As the International Space Station orbits the Earth with its new resident crew in command, its old crew – Expedition 8 Commander and NASA ISS Science Officer Michael Foale and Flight Engineer Alexander Kaleri – are now on Earth.

Expedition 8 spent 194 days in space. During this mission, Foale became the U.S record-holder for most cumulative time in space. He now has 374 days in orbit.

Returning to Earth with Expedition 8 is European Space Agency (ESA) Astronaut André Kuipers of the Netherlands. He flew to the Station with Expedition 9 under an agreement between ESA and the Federal Space Agency of Russia.

Expedition 9 Commander Gennady Padalka and NASA ISS Science Officer Mike Fincke officially took command of the Station at 1:47 p.m. EDT Thursday April 22 when the hatches to Soyuz 7 were closed.

On Monday, the two crews held a change of command ceremony. As Foale handed Padalka unofficial command of the "planet's only existing base camp" in space. Foale said, "We are leaving you with an ISS that is as capable and worthy as we received it."

Padalka said that he and Fincke "pledge to carry on the legacy of human space flight that those before us have forged for the future generation of explorers." They arrived at the Station in their Soyuz at 1:01 a.m. EDT April 21, and following leak checks and hatch opening, they entered the orbiting laboratory at 2 a.m. EDT.

Expedition 9 is the third two-person ISS crew. Padalka, a colonel in the Russian air force, is a space flight veteran who spent 198 days aboard the Russian Mir space station in 1999. Fincke is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force, and Expedition 9 is his first trip to space. He is excited about the opportunity.

AO-40 RECOVERY STATUS

Stacey Mills W4SM of the AO-40 Command team reports : "AMSAT-DL have produced a table that demonstrates that the "mystery effect" has taken AO-40 into highly unfavourable ALON.

Attempts at communication are likely to be futile until conditions improve in early and mid July. It is noted that unfortunately optimum squint in late July corresponds with a very bad solar angle. ...stay tuned."

FO-29 RECEPTION REPORTS WANTED

JARL FO-29 command team wants FO-29 reception reports. The recent FO-29 shut down problem is not due to the Under Voltage Controller (UVC). The cause is unknown.

To analyze the problem, the command team would like to receive the following information: 1. night pass CW telemetry data; 2. analog transponder status (status and the time); 3. the time analog transponder stopped; 4. other reference info.

Please send the report to lab2@jarl.or.jp. Please use the subject 'FO-29 reception report'. 📧

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY HELD AT THE St HUGH'S CHURCH HALL, NEWTON PARK, PORT ELIZABETH ON 15 APRIL 2004

Welcome:

Rory ZS2BL welcomed all who had made the effort to attend, and extended a special welcome to SARL President Graham Hartlett ZS6GJH and his XYL Natasha ZR6NHA.

Present and Apologies :

As noted in the attendance register.

Acceptance of Previous Meetings Minutes :

Proposed : ZR2AG Seconded ZS2U.

Matters Arising:

Nil

Correspondence:

In: Newsletters from clubs, Letter from NMM re Lady's Slipper Highsite.

Out: None

Finance:

The treasurer reported that the books are with the auditor, so no report was available..

Social:

The AGM of the society is to be held on Saturday 22 May at 14h00 at the Scout Hall,

Fordyce Road, Walmer. The business of the meeting will be followed by a bring-and-braai.

Special Events:

The Mountain rescue club will be sending 15 members to attend classes and write the RAE during the year. This will be sponsored by the Metro.

Repeaters:

ZS2AAW gave a summary of repeaters and the packet BBS; the packet BBS problems appear to be resolved, and that the BBS is currently running on test in his garage. A new crystal is required for the HF radio on Lady's Slipper. There appears to be a frequency problem (faulty crystal?) on Mount Kemp, causing distortion towards East London. The Knysna repeater is out, and ZS2AZR is looking into the problem.

General:

- Neil ZR2NT mentioned that the replacement base for the tower at Governors Kop is ready for galvanising, and will

be ready for installation soon. Volunteers are required for this job.

- ZR2DX advised that QSL cards were brought from HQ after the SARL AGM, and were available for members.

Barry ZR2DX then gave a summary of events at the SARL AGM, and called on SARL President Graham Hartlett ZS6GJH to address the meeting with an outline of his President's Address from the AGM. Graham also expounded on where the SARL is heading this year, and answered questions from the members.

After the address by Graham, Barry ZR2DX handed an award to Al ZS2U which was made at the AGM for his performance in the annual Hamnet Contest. Tea and refreshments were then served, and several local amateurs took the opportunity to chat informally with the SARL President. 📷

FROM THE AGM **



Dudley ZS2AW receives his Ou Toppie certificate from the Chairman



Al ZS2U receives the first Southern Africa VHF Century Award certificate

DIODE AND LED TESTER

From Johan Terblanche ZS11

The polarity markings on LED's (Light Emitting Diodes) seem to be a common cause of confusion. The polarity may be indicated by a flat section on one side of the body or by one lead being shorter than the other, but different manufacturers are not consistent as to which lead they are marking!

Rectangular and other shaped LED's often rely on lead lengths as the only indication, which is not very helpful if the component has been used previously and the leads shortened.

Sometimes you can peer at the innards through the casing and establish the polarity from this, but you still have to remember which bit is which electrode – and some LED's do not have see-through bodies.

The connections of LED displays can be particularly difficult to establish – especially those with several digits. You could connect the LED to a battery via a suitable resistor, but this can be fiddley and is not much help with infrared devices. Also the maximum reverse voltage for an LED is about 4V, so you could damage it if you are using a 9 V battery for testing.

The simple Diode and LED Tester presented here costs very little and will indicate the polarity of almost all types of LED and other diodes with no risk of damage. The average test current is about 5mA, which is sufficient to illuminate the LED being tested.

The unit has two test probes and two indicator LED's. The diode of the LED to be tested is simply connected either way round between the test probes, and the cathode connection is indicated by the LED closest to that connection illuminating.

The unit can be used to test all conventional LED's including the multi-

color types and IR devices. The only types of LED that cannot be tested are those containing additional circuitry, such as the flashing and constant-current types. It can also be used to check most silicon and germanium diodes and rectifiers providing they can withstand a test current of 10mA.

Zener diodes can be tested for forward drop but not for zener effect, although this is sufficient to prove if they are alive or dead. The unit can also be used for basic diode tests on bipolar transistors, although the test current may be too high for the base connection of some devices.

CONSTRUCTION

The prototype was built on a small PCB as shown. Two new LED's should be used for D1 and D2 – so you can be sure the polarity is correct!

None of the component values are critical so they can be varied to some extent to use what you have available. The two LED's can be the same colour, or they can be coloured to match the relevant test leads.

For the test leads, two short lengths of flex fitted with small insulated crocodile clips are ideal. These should pass through small holes in the case, close to the relevant LED, and knotted on the inside to prevent stress on the PCB if they are pulled.

TESTING AND USING

When this unit is initially switched on, both LED's should light. If the two test leads are touched together both LED's should extinguish.

Connect a diode between the two leads, and one of the LED's should go out. The LED that remains lit should be the one closest to the lead that is connected to the cathode of the test diode.

The cathode end of the diode is normally marked with a band. Reverse the polarity of the diode and check that the other LED remains on.

Now try the same thing with an LED. The same results should be obtained, and the test LED should light both times.

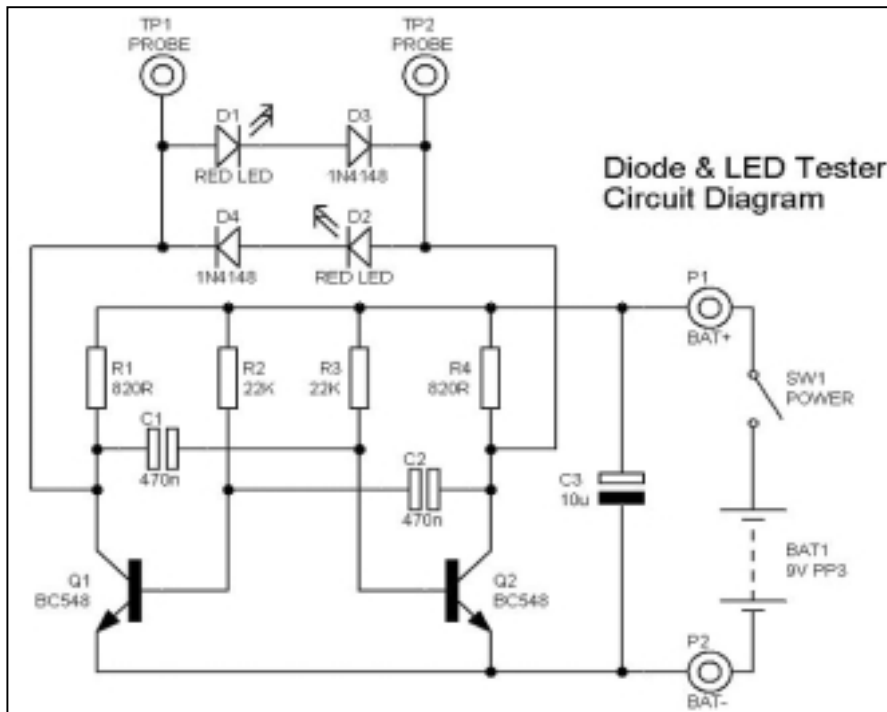
If these tests are successful the unit is working correctly.

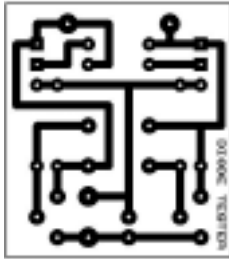
Parts List

2 x R1, R4 820R Resistor
2 x R2, R3 22K Resistor
2 x C1, C2 470 nF Capacitor
1 x C3 10uF Elec. Cap
2 x Q1, Q2 BC548 Transistors
2 x D1, D2 Red 5mm LED
2 x D3, D4 1N4148 Diode
1 x SW1 Min Slide Switch
1 x Batt1 PP3 Battery
1 x PP3 Battery Clip
2 x Miniature Insulated Crocodile Clip
1 Case
2 x 5mm LED Clip
Ass Req'd Flex cable.

REFERENCES:

Electronic Projects Online
Article published by Paul Stenning and
obtained from WebEE at
<http://www.web-ee.com>

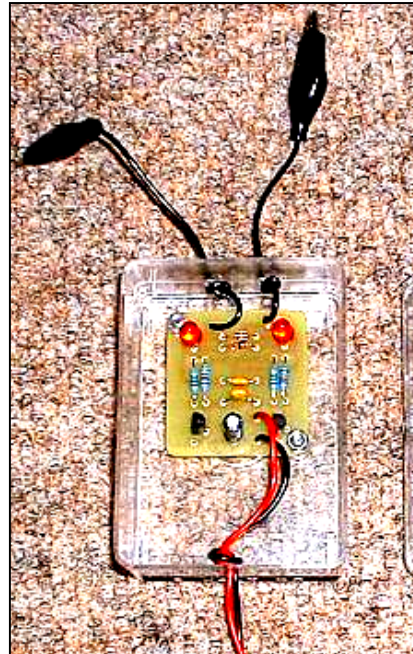
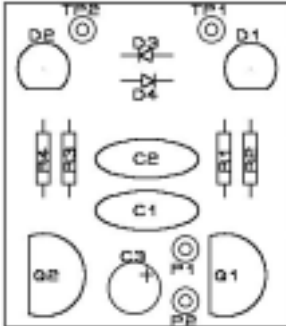




Left – Printed circuit board.

Below – Component layout.

Right – Photograph of the unit.



VHF DIGITAL NEWS

from Barry Murrell, ZR2DX

I2FAK RUNS EME WSJT SKEDS WITH S.AFRICA

Through the efforts of Derek Gravett ZS5Y (SARL Councillor for VHF Activities), Franco I2FAK ran a 2m EME sked using WSJT's JT65B mode on the evening of 26 May. Dave ZS5DJ was very close to completing the contact before running out of moon! They will try again, and should be able to complete under better lunar conditions.

EME FOR AFRICA PROGRESS REPORT – MAY 2004

Hal ZS6WB reports on the project:

The EME For Africa project remains on track with the small four-Yagi array now having a target date of early July for completion and testing. There is a very good possibility of it being used in neighbouring countries in late July and early August as

well as for other operations later in the year.

Two slightly damaged M2 2M7s are being repaired and two more similar antennas are being constructed to complete the array. A manually rotated az & el antenna mount for the small portable tower is the next project with the major components already available and just requiring some minor material and hardware (and time) for completion.

As the system will be used primarily for portable operation ease of assembly, rapid disassembly and transport will be major considerations and a kit of key hardware spares and tools will be included. A missing nut or tool could be a major disaster in the middle of the Kalahari Desert.

A TE Systems Model 1452G Solid-State Linear Amplifier capable of producing 350-400 watts has been generously donated by Dave, KJ9I for the project. It has already

been received and tested and is available for use for EME operations by operators in neighbouring countries.

I have been in contact with a group of the US & Canada that will be mounting a DXpedition to Lesotho, Swaziland and Mozambique beginning at the end of July and lasting until mid-August. One of the operators has already had some WSJT experience and will be updating his computer with the latest software before leaving for Africa.

The group is being assisted here in South Africa by ZS6WPX who will be supplying them with HF antennas and a trailer that is expected to also have sufficient space to carry the small 144 MHz EME array. Although their trip had been planned as a strictly HF operation, Neil VA7DX has indicated that he will be willing to do some VHF operation (including EME) as time permits.

Zimbabwe is our nearest neighbour to the north and as most of you know, the economy there is in a shambles with inflation putting purchases of modern equipment out of reach of most Z2 amateurs.

In preparation for our local VHF contest, I have been trying to find anyone in the country who has any multimode VHF equipment and have so far been unsuccessful. The only operators with 144 MHz equipment that I have located so far in Zimbabwe are limited to FM-only and hams with computers are equally rare.

I have recently found an operator with a computer who would like to try 144 MHz WSJT operation, but does not have multimode capability or the ability to update his station. Is there perhaps a VHF club (or an individual) that would be willing to loan or donate a multimode transceiver that is suitable for WSJT operation and is compatible with the 1452G amplifier which requires 10-25 watts drive.

In the past Zimbabwe had a very active group of radio amateurs, but the present political climate forced many of them to leave the country. Obviously Zimbabwe is

also not a popular choice for DXpeditioners and probably the only way for Z2 to become active on EME will be with outside assistance to one of the few local operators remaining in the country.

Funds are still very short and donations would be extremely helpful to be used for materials in the ongoing construction of antennas for the project. Even the smallest contribution is a great help and will help to get better signals out on more bands. Thanks to those who have already made a contribution. It is your assistance that has helped to get the project off the ground.

At the moment we are having difficulty sourcing connectors for the several 50, 144 and eventually 432 MHz antennas that will be constructed as funds and time permits. If anyone has any spare female F & N connectors in their junkbox similar to those used in the M2 antenna connector block that they would be willing to donate I would appreciate hearing from you. I can be reached by email at zs6wb@telkomsa.net

We are also in urgent need of a few IC-706 accessory plugs for some local newcomers to WSJT. The interfaces are being constructed locally, but the ICOM distributor does not stock the plugs we need to connect them.

We have a VHF digital contest at the beginning of July and would like to get as many as possible operational before then. If anyone can help out on this, I will be happy to reimburse you for your costs.

PEARS VHF DIGITAL AND MICROWAVE CONTEST

A reminder that this contest takes place on the weekend of 2-4 July 2004. Rules have been published in QSX, and can also be found on both the PEARS and SARL websites.

There has been considerable interest shown in this contest from around the country, and high activity levels are expected. Some stations have indicated that they intend trying to make Digital EME contacts for this contest! 📡

P.E. AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY ASSET REGISTER - 2004

Miscellaneous Items

ASSET	Serial No	Location	Condition
Kenwood TS-130S	2070708	QTH ZS2AAW	Good
Kenwood TM-V7 VHF+UHF Mobile	11200019	QTH ZS2AAW	New in 2001
HF Tri-bander Antenna	-	QTH ZS2AAW	Well used
Antenna Mast – 15m	-	QTH ZS2AAW	Weathered
Mast staywires and stakes	-	QTH ZS2ABZ	Weathered
MFJ CWR-685E Telereader	521052	QTH ZS2AAW	Working
Pentium 166MHz Desktop PC		Lady's Slipper	Packet Node
486DX33 Desktop PC		Lady's Slipper	Packet BBS
P100 PC Built-up into Storno case	-	Governorskop	Packet Node
486DX33 PC Built up into Storno case	-	Cradock	Packet Node
Kantronics KAM TNC		Lady' Slipper	BBS TNC
Kantronics KPC9612 TNC		Lady' Slipper	BBS TNC
MFJ1270B TNC	01022261	QTH ZS2AAW	Ex Rose Sw
MFJ1270B TNC	01011004	QTH ZS2AAW	Ex Rose Sw
MFJ1274 TNC	02015156	QTH ZS2AAW	Purchased
15m Aluminium Tower	-	Governorskop	Vandalised
5x2.4m PortaCamp office	-	Governorskop	Rusted, poor
15m Sectional Pole	-	Lady's Slipper	Fair
5x2.4m PortaCamp office	-	Lady' Slipper	Repaired

Repeater Equipment

Model	Installed at	Frequency	Serial No	Comments
CQF9662	Colesberg	438.675MHz	F8509F007820	UHF Duplex link
CQF662-12	Noupoort	431.075MHz	C41897	Link to Colesberg
CQF662-12	Noupoort	431.150MHz	C41894	Link to Cradock
CQF614	Cradock	145.650MHz		VHF Repeater
CQF662-12	Cradock	438.750MHz	F63958	UHF Duplex link
CQF614	Governorskop	145.750MHz		VHF Repeater
CQF662-12	Governorskop	431.100MHz		Link to Lady's Slipper
CQF662-12	Governorskop	431.000MHz		Link to Mt Kemp
CQF662-12	Governorskop	431.150MHz		Link to Cradock
CQF614	Governorskop	144.675MHz		VHF Packet
CQF662-12	Governorskop	430.675MHz		UHF Packet Backbone
CQF9662	Governorskop	434.875MHz		UHF Packet 9k6
CQF614	Lady's Slipper	145.700MHz		VHF Repeater
CQF662-12	Lady's Slipper	438.700MHz		UHF Duplex Link
CQF614	Lady's Slipper	144.625MHz		VHF Packet
CQF662-12	Lady's Slipper	438.275MHz		UHF Packet Backbone
CQF9662	Lady's Slipper	434.875MHz		UHF Packet 9k6
MICOM	Lady's Slipper	HF		HF Access
Bosch KF451	Kareedouw	431.100MHz		Link to Lady's Slipper
Bosch KF451	Kareedouw	434.825MHz		Link to Knysna
CQF614	Knysna	145.675MHz	F51239	VHF Repeater
CQF662-12	Knysna	434.825MHz	F63552	Link to Kareedouw
CQF662-12	Knysna	431.125MHz	F54517	Link to George
CQF614	Mount Road	145.650MHz		VHF Repeater
CQF662-12	Mount Road	431.100/050		Link to Slipper/Town UHF
CQF662-20	Fedlife Building	438.650MHz		UHF Repeater
CQF614	Uitenhage	145.675MHz		VHF Repeater
CQF662-12	Uitenhage	431.100/050		Link to Slipper/Town UHF

Future equipment already prepared

Model	Prepared for	Frequency	Serial No	Comments
CQF662-12	Kareedouw	431.100MHz	C41893	Link to Lady's Slipper
CQF662-12	Kareedouw	434.825MHz	K46475	Link to Knysna
CQF662-6W	Swartberg	431.150MHz	C19050	Link to Stilbaai

SATEPSA Equipment in Eskom Sites

Model	Installed at	Frequency	Serial No	Comments
CQF9662	Northbank	431.075MHz	F7449 004864	Link to Colesberg
CQF662	Noupoort	Eskom ch10	F52152	Link to Renosterberg
CQF662-12	Renosterberg	Eskom ch10		Link to Noupoort
CQF9662	(Pearston)	431.150MHz	F7449 004863	Link to Cradock
CQF9662	Lady's Slipper	431.100MHz		Link to Lady's Slipper

SPECIAL EVENT STATION GB2BMR

from Tom Davies

The following story is of interest to me, as I landed in the D-Day assault as a 19 year old rifleman in the King's Regiment. I was wounded on the beach and evacuated to the UK. Some months later, I returned to my Regiment and took part in the campaign in Holland, the Rhine crossing and the advance through Germany to the Baltic coast near Luebeck. We then helped to liberate Denmark and ended up in Copenhagen.

Memories ! I can't believe that it all happened 60 years ago – Tom.

GB2BMR, D-DAY 60th Anniversary Special Event call sign, has been issued to the Beaumanor & Garats HaY Amateur Radio Society for the month of June. Contacts with RAFARS, RNARS, RSARS and any other related clubs or individuals will be a pleasure.

We will be operating on HF 80, 40, 20, 10 and V/UHF 2, 70cm from June 3 2004 to June 8 2004 and as often as possible between 8 June and 27 June.


The Society will be operating this special event call sign from Beaumanor Park, the second world war site where the Y-Service received enemy messages to send to Bletchley Park for decoding.

Leicestershire County Council Education Department have kindly allowed the society to use H Hut to operate from. H hut was manned by the Experimental Wireless Assistants, many of whom were originally radio amateurs.

The Beaumanor site was intercepting (receiving) German Army signals (Wehrmacht) and therefore played a major part in the D-Day landings and the subsequent push by the allies into France. The intercepts that they made and passed to Bletchley Park allowed the Allies to know many of the planned movements by the Axis forces of troops and armour.

The people at Bletchley Park referred to the staff at Beaumanor as their "Beauties" due to the vital information they intercepted and passed to Bletchley for decoding.

The Station's main operators will be: Kevin G6SSX, Ted G1LGO, and Mike G1YVR.

Visitors are most welcome. Anyone who has worked here will know all about the site, but for first timers it is a "must see place". 

Pearstalk



(Some of these items are from SARL bulletins and ZS4BS Dennis Green's HF Newsletter)

KID'S DAY

The SARL Kids Day will be run on Wednesday 16 June 2004. The activity will start at 09:00 and end at 13:00, giving four hours of fun. **Our own Kids Day station** will be at the beach entrance to the Casino. Come and visit, maybe even supervise the kids' operations for a while – and how about also contacting the station from time to time to keep interest going.

Participating stations must register as an educational station with the SARL.

The SA Antique Wireless Association (SA-AWA) and the SA Airways Museum Society (SAAMS) will be running a station from the SAAMS club house in Gauteng.

PEARS MW, DIGI VHF CONTEST

Hal, ZS6WB says:

The PEARS Microwave & Digital VHF Contest scheduled for the weekend of 2 to 4 July looks like a good turnout and high activity levels can be expected. For VHF testers that have not yet tried the digital modes, why don't you team up with an active participant either as part of a multi-operator effort or just as an observer to see what the fuss is all about.

If you have a laptop computer and can assemble a portable digital station, maybe the Rover category is for you. You can operate from several different grids if you wish with each grid operation counting as a separate entry.

From each location you can work all stations possible and they can work you once in each grid. As each grid square is another multiplier, you will be very much in demand.

There is a great opportunity for a Cape Town Rover near the intersection of grids

JF86/JF87 and JF96/JF97 where only a short move and a few minutes time will put you into another grid.

Please let me know what your plans are for the contest and if you don't plan to operate, then let me put you in touch with someone in your area who will be participating.

There will probably also be Microwave Fixed and Rover activity and if you are interested in those bands this could also be a good opportunity to see the microwaves in action.

RESULTS OF PEARS NATIONAL VHF/UHF CONTEST

We are pleased to announce that there were participants from all six divisions in the contest and that a total of 68 logs were received. Here are the divisional analogue winners with their points scored.

50 MHz: ZS1NAZ – 2 691, ZR2DX – 5 010, ZR6ZL/4 – 20 810, ZS6WB – 854. (Field) ZR2GB and ZS2KW – 5 618.

144 MHz: ZS1NAZ – 650, ZS2CLI – 29 865, ZR3CDK – 241, ZR6ZL/4 – 17 565, ZS6WB – 3 932. (Field) ZR2GB and ZS2KW – 44 350. (QRP) ZR2GJ/1 – 360, ZR5DK – 700.

432 MHz: ZS1NAZ – 632, ZS2PE – 1 050, ZR3CDK – 241, ZR6ZL/4 – 4 236. (Field) ZR2GB and ZS2KW – 2 810.

Here are the digital overall winners and runners-up with points scored.

50 MHz: ZS1NAZ – 107 562, ZS6WB – 100 488.

144 MHz: ZS6WB – 66 070, ZS1NAZ – 61 884.

432 MHz: ZS6WB – 1 316, ZS4SS and ZS6ANZ – 1 008.

Longest distances achieved in kilometres.

50 MHz: Analogue ZR1EL to ZR6ZL/4 – 1 179 km. Digital ZS1NAZ to ZS6WB – 1 305km.

144 MHz: Analogue ZS2AH to ZS5LEE – 450 km. Digital V51E to ZS6WB – 1 406 km.

432 MHz: Analogue ZR2DX and ZS2PE to ZR2GB and ZS2KW – 248 km. Digital ZS4SS and ZS4ANZ to ZS6WB – 127 km.

1296 MHz: Analogue ZS6HS to ZS6EGB – 18 km.

RADIO AMATEUR'S EXAMINATION

The first RAE for this year took place on 20 May. Two candidates from this area wrote and passed the exam, and have already been issued with their call signs (see page 18). We congratulated the SARL and Rassie the examiner, but our congratulations must also go to Al Akers, who has been responsible for teaching the two and for sitting in as local scrutineer during the exam.

Special congratulations must surely also go to Miss B. R. Herholdt, of Durbanville. She passed the class A examination **at the age of 9 years** and must now wait for the new regulations to come into effect before she may use her call sign.

Another person to be congratulated is Vee Antal, the SARL's office manager, who has also passed. Vee is going to tackle the Morse code immediately in order to qualify for a ZS.

Back to the ranch, as it were: Al reports that there are some 22 local people interested in the second 2004 exam, on 18 November, most of them being members of the mountain club.

He will commence his weekly series for the November exam **on Thursday, 5 August**, starting at 1800 until 1930. They will be held in the EP Veteran Car Club clubhouse, in Conyngham Street, off Cape Road. The SABC and Sentec have their offices further along the road.

SARL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council of the SARL meets every six weeks by teleconference. If you have a

matter that you wish to have discussed by the Council, please send it to the Secretary of the Council. Such messages must reach the Secretary one week before the Council meeting.

The Secretary then forwards it to all the members of the Council, but for the attention of the Councillor in whose portfolio it resorts.

HAM RADIO-CARRYING ROCKET HOPES TO REACH SPACE

The ARRL newsletter

An amateur rocket team is hoping to send a 6,4 m tall rocket carrying a ham radio avionics package into the fringes of space. The launch by the Civilian Space Xploration Team (CSXT) could occur as early as Monday, May 17, from Black Rock Desert in Nevada.

The GoFast rocket will transmit telemetry on the 33 cm amateur band and Amateur TV at 2,4 GHz using a high-quality color camera.

Once the rocket goes up, appropriately equipped amateurs may be able to receive signals from the approximately 2 W transmitters onboard, even at some distance from the launch site.

Assuming all goes well, the suborbital vehicle will, on its own momentum, attain an altitude of 100 km or 62 statute miles – high enough to be considered "space" – linger there for a couple of minutes then arc back to Earth some 26 miles downrange. If successful it would mark the first amateur rocket launch into space.

CLOSING OF Z2 QSL BUREAU

The closing of the Z2 QSL bureau cannot pass without recalling some magnificent achievements of, and contributions made by, Zimbabwean radio amateurs to amateur radio in the past.

The most outstanding that the general amateur radio community may probably remember are the first EME contacts in Africa by Peter Carey, then ZE5JJ and now ZS6JT and residing in Centurion, Gauteng.

Peter was the first to achieve EME in Africa and he did it on 432 MHz with Dr.

Allen Katz which resulted in the first WAC in the world on 432 MHz for Dr. Katz. Later Peter conducted a QSO with Dr. Charles Suckling on 1296 MHz, again another first in Africa.

HISTORY OF SARL TO BE COMPILED

Natascha Hartlett ZR6NHA, the XYL of SARL President Graham ZS6GJH, has embarked on a project to compile the history of the SARL. PEARS members are urged to send any information to her to assist with this project. She can be contacted via Graham's e-mail address (zs6gjh@icon.co.za) or to PO Box 15241, Lambton, 1414. Alternatively information can also be forwarded to SARL HQ.

RADIO ZS

The March-April issue of Radio ZS is available for download on the SARL website at www.sarl.org.za. It is 1.6 MB in size.

The editor is looking for articles for the next issue of Radio ZS and requests members to submit material for publication. Suitable photographs for the cover of Radio ZS are also required.

The material can be sent in MSWord or WordPerfect format. Pictures can be sent as jpg or bmp files. Items may be emailed to radiozs@sarl.org.za or sent to the call book address of Dennis ZS4BS.

INDY 500 SPECIAL EVENT STATION

The Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club (W9IMS) has been designated the official Amateur Radio club of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway – the first time a ham radio club has received this distinction.

A W9IMS special event operation ended on Sunday, May 30, the day of the Indy 500. However, W9IMS also will operate special event stations for the other two races in the Indianapolis Motor Speedway's Triple Crown – the United States Grand Prix (Formula One) June 20 and the Brickyard 400 (NASCAR) August 8. Those operations will begin about three weeks

before each race and end on the respective race days.

Operation will centre around 7,240, 14,070 (PSK31), 14,240, 21,340, 28,340, 50,140 and 144,240 MHz.

SUBS TO RISE NEXT YEAR

At the recent AGM it was decided that PEARS subscriptions for the 2004/2005 financial year should be fixed at R60 per full member. This is the first time that it has been adjusted since PEARS came into being back in July 1996.

For family members the figure remains unchanged at R30. In most cases, QSX is not delivered to these members.

The increase was due to rising costs of production of QSX (postage as well as the odd printer cartridge) as well as other running costs.

RADIO ZS FOR MEMBERS ONLY

At the Council Teleconference on 2 June the suggestion raised regarding Radio ZS being made available electronically to non-members, brought up by John ZS2J at the PEARS AGM, was tabled by Barry ZR2DX. The Council decided emphatically NOT to make Radio ZS freely downloadable, feeling that this is a fundamental perk of membership. 📧

CALL SIGN TAGS

The SA Antique Wireless Association does not charge membership fees. They make call sign tags and the income pays for QSL cards, their licence fees etc. The tags are of gold cotton thread on a black



background, suitable for sewing onto a shirt or cap as depicted below.

These tags are available from Willie Axford, ZS5WI, P.O.Box 1064, Eshowe, 3815. Cost is R30, which includes return postage. 📧

Condolences: We were sorry to learn of the passing on 21 May of Attie Barnard, ZS2Q, after his admission to hospital suffering from a heart attack. Our condolences go to Annamarie, family and friends.

To those celebrating special days (20.6 to 17.7) we say

Have a Happy Day... 

... on your birthdays

June

- 20 Jo-Anne Durrant, XYL of Ed. ZS2DI
- 23 Denny Davies, XYL of Tom ZSL037
- 28 Pieter Liebenberg ZS2PL
- 28 Ken Tremeer ZS2BWB

July


- 3 Julie Scarr ZR2EY
- 5 Nico Oelofse ZS2N
- 6 Martin Venter ZS6AZV
- 7 Jim van Loggerenberg ZS2LR
- 9 Janet Goosen, XYL of Ashley ZR2AG
- 11 Isaac Greeff ZS2ZG
- 13 Cyril Hislop ZS2EJ
- 16 Hendrina Pearson, XYL of George

... on your anniversaries

June

- 20 Bernice and Bryan Marshall, ZS1NQ
- 24 Blanka and Vic Batt, ZR2BBH
- 24 Ali and Ewan Mathieson, ZS1EM

July

- 2 Sally and Donald Jacobs ZS2BW
- 4 Marge ZS2OB and Brian Weller ZS2AB
- 10 Hendrina and George Pearson 
- 12 Julia and Bill Atteridge ZS2V
- 12 Liz and Allen Lubbe ZS2AEG
- 12 Joan and George Bowes ZS2QN
- 13 Janet and Ashley Goosen ZR2AG
- 15 Magret and Martin Ras ZR2MR



New Member: Our greetings go to Steve van der Watt, who joined our ranks recently. We hope you will feel part of us and enjoy yourself, Steve.

New Call Signs: We congratulate George Pearson and Gert Schwarz for passing the recent RAE. They have their call signs and we should be hearing them on the bands. They are: George ZR2GLP; and Gert: ZR2GPC.

We also congratulate the SARL and the RAE examiner, Rassie Erasmus ZS1YT, for the quick turn-around of the RAE papers and issue of the candidates' licences. 📄

Your Society's Committee

Chairman, Awards.....	Rory Norton ZS2BL	585-9330	rory@commco.co.za
Vice Chair,	Chris Scarr ZS2AAW	368-1344	cvscarr@intekom.co.za
Secretary, Internet Website	Barry Murrell ZR2DX	083 717 9210	zr2dx@mnet.co.za
Treasurer; Assets Control	Clive Fife ZS2RT	367-3203	cfife@absamail.co.za
Repeaters, packet,.....	Chris Scarr ZS2AAW	368-1344	cvscarr@intekom.co.za
Social, Refreshments,	Bill Hodges ZS2ABZ	581-2580	whodges@absamail.co.za
Special Events	Ewalt Bouwer ZS2EHB	933-3482	ewalt.b@freemail.absa.co.za
QSX printing and info	Ashley Goosen ZR2AG	372-2052	ashleygoosen@xsinet.co.za
QSX Editor (ex com).....	Garth Laaks ZS2HB	368-1101	glaaks@iafrica.com
QSX distribution (ex com)	Trevor Scarr ZS2AE	367-1746	t&j.scarr@intekom.co.za
Technical Classes (ex com) ...	Al Akers ZS2U	360-2983	makers@firestone.co.za

PEARS' VHF/UHF & Other Services

REPEATERS

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

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 to the 2m network, in receive-only mode or with full transceive capability for interactive events.

Date	Repeate and Read on 2m Repeater Link
13 June	ZS2ABZ
20	ZR2DX
27	ZS2BL
4 July	ZS2EHB
11	ZS2AAW
18	ZS2RT

<u>DIARY DATES</u>
<u>JUNE</u>
11-13 PEARS mid-year Digital Contest
16 Kid's Day
17 PEARS MONTHLY MEETING and possibly VW RALLY DATA
<u>JULY</u>
1 Wrinkly Rave

* We like being your Society *