

April 2022



This Newsletter is published by the Port Elizabeth Amateur
Radio Society

P.O. Box 10402, LINTON GRANGE, 6015

Editing by Ashley Goosen ZS2AG

**QSX-PE - Newsletter for the discerning
Radio Ham**

PEARS Monthly Meeting

19:30h at the Italian Sporting Club, 17 Harold Road, Charlo

The next meeting at the Italian Club will be on the

19th April 2022

FROM THE SEMI - CHAIR:

DONOVAN ZS2DL

VICE CHAIRMAN

Having filled in for Gert after his resignation the past few months has been interesting getting used to the running of the club again after more than 10 years. But one thing I can say is that this club never stands still and there is always something happening, which is tremendous to see.

Just this past month we have again assisted with a mountain bike event as well as the Ironman African Championships. Our Ladyslipper Repeater has been recommissioned after being out of order for several months and servicing of other sites that require constant service such as Longmore has been and continues being serviced to the best of our ability.

Monthly meetings are showing signs of awakening and we were blessed with a tremendous turnout at the March meeting and I would encourage everyone to continue this trend. It truly makes all the effort the committee puts in feel worthwhile.

This being the Final QSX before the AGM I would like to remind everyone of our AGM on the 21st of May at the Walmer Scout Hall. Remember you are PEARS and as a result I look forward to welcoming each one of you personally as you continue the fine traditions which PEARS is renowned for.

And Finally on behalf of the Committee thank you for all the support we have received the past year from each and everyone.

73,

Donovan, ZS2DL

Minutes of PEARS Monthly Meeting

Held at the Italian Club on the 15th March 2022 at 19h30

Welcome:

Acting Chairman Donovan ZS2DL welcomed everyone. Special welcome to the RAE students (5).

Attendance:

Approximately 30 people present.

Apologies:

ZS2GS, ZS2ZA

Acceptance of previous meeting's minutes:

Proposed: ZS2EC

Seconded: ZS2RT

Remembrance

The meeting stood in memory of Ewalt ZS2EHB who went SK on 12th March 2022

Matters arising:

Slipper tower work: Donovan thanked the Slipper team, ZS2GV, ZR2BG, ZR2BK, ZS2AAW. Slipper VHF and UHF is now operational, HF and other services to come later. Ready for Ironman comms. Club bulletins have moved back to Slipper.

Sunday SARL bulletins: Ewalt's passing has left a void in reading the Afrikaans bulletin on a Sunday morning. Theunis ZS2EC has offered to continue this service. Remain on 650 for this, linked to 625 and 675 in future. And remotely linked to 700 for the Sunday SARL bulletin reading when remote control is possible.

Club shirts: Kevern will take orders until end of March. Meeting was informed on the pricing etc. Payments due by end of March as well. Please use CALLSIGN and SHIRT as reference.

Jamtin: Jimmy has set up a station at the Jamtin, He is usually there every Friday 5 –9pm. OM Bill's TS130S is there for use by licensed amateurs. Will run some practical's and possibly the RAE candidates transceiver operators tests from there.

AGM Awards: In the past it used to be the committee that decided. ZS2AAW sent out a link on email and WhatsApp groups where these nominations can

be done using online google forms. Please make use of it. Will add to the PEARS web site too. Nominations close at the April meeting.

Finances:

All in good standing. Meeting was updated by ZS2MIC. 18x Licenses have been paid.

General:

ZS2AAW: • ZS2DD estate equipment on display and available for donations towards club funds.

ZS2PG brought a box of bits available for donation to the club.

ZR2TX updated the meeting on events.

- Coming weekend is Addo Trail Run, all points are covered.
- Following weekend is the Nanaga MTB race. Need 4 to 5 people on Sunday 27th.
- The first weekend in April is Ironman weekend. Lots of people needed. Combining full and half into one event.

ZR2CRS: Silent keys – maybe put up an honour's roll, not sure how far back records go. Propose the Jamtin. Colin will sponsor engraved nametags.

ZS2DL: • Web site content is moving to a more modern wordpress based server, and being updated and looked after by Dave ZS2DH...

ZS2EC: • Theunis looking for 4 operators to run a club CQ WPX station 27 March. For a Distributed category, all operators must be in the same country, minimum 4 operators to make a team. Please contact ZS2EC if interested

ZS2DH: Al ZS2U is the third ZS2 to be inducted into the SARL hall of fame, following Iris Hayes ZS2AA (sk) and Mike Bosch ZS2FM (sk). Congratulations to Al! Thanks to Dave for his effort in motivating these awardson SARL council.

Closure:

Meeting ended at 19h51

Next meeting on April 19th

Donovan presented the Scarborough reef DXCC entity DVD

VICE CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY

DONOVAN VAN LOGGERENBERG (ZS2DL)

C SCARR(ZS2AAW)

PEARS 2021 Annual General Meeting Minutes

22 May 2021 @ 15h00

QTH – Walmer Scout Hall, Fordyce Rd

Welcome

The Chairman ZS2GS welcomed all present, and made a special mention of the Swart family – multiple members having just written the RAE earlier to-day.

Silent Keys (since our 2019 AGM)

The meeting stood for a moments silence in memory of the following members:

- ☐ ZS2H Barry Jackson 2019/12/29
- ☐ ZS2HD Henry Danielson 2020/01/21
- ☐ ZS2PP Phil Hopper 2020/05/06
- ☐ ZS2DD Lionel Coombe-Davis 2020/11/25
- ☐ ZS2NF Barry Nugent 2021/04/19

Present and apologies

All present were asked to sign the attendance register.

Apologies tendered before the meeting:

ZR2BC, ZS2BIC, ZS2BK, ZS2GIB, ZS2LLD, ZR2AX, ZS2CJ, ZS2MHN, ZS2DK, ZS2CR, ZS2DLF, ZS2GKP

Apologies noted from the floor: None

33 signatures, with 6 apologies noted in the attendance register.

Minutes of the AGM May 2019

These were unavailable

Matters arising

Not applicable

Treasurer's report

The financial statement was sent out prior to the meeting. ZS2PG and ZS2U

took a copy.

The treasurer ZS2MIC explained the income and expenses statement as circulated.

ZS2CRS asked re the Wifi expenses vs the income – ISP costs are for the club DSTAR and DMR repeaters and APRS, we no longer offer wifi services to members. ZS2JV complimented the savings and positive balances.

Once discussions were concluded, the chairman asked for a proposer and seconder for the treasurer's report

Proposed - ZS2CRS

Seconded - ZS2ACP

Chairman's report

The chairman tabled the past year's report, highlighting the various activities that the club had taken part in, notably event communication weekends and numerous exercises and social gatherings.

We have once again come to the end of another year, one which had many challenges, but was well dealt with by all. PEARS AGM minutes 2021-05-22.docx

Activities : Due to Covid most of the events that we normally provide the comms for during the year were cancelled. On the other hand it seems if members became more active in ham radio during lock down. Judging by the contest results I noticed names on the log sheets, that normally do not take part in contests. Let's keep it up. Events are starting to take place again and I am sure members are going to queue to take part so that they can get out into the open again. The PEARS VHF / UHF contest was well supported and a good time was had by all that went up to Olifantskop to operate from there.

Hamnet held two emergency comms exercises during the year, one at the Voortrekker camp site and one at the Scout hall. Both were well attended and went off well. These exercises / contests are the ideal platform to learn HF operations especially field stations.

In my previous report I mentioned that Uli ZR2A was working hard at getting to be accepted to take part in the WRTC in 2022. Only 10 participants are allowed and Uli made it. Good luck Uli. I know that you are leaving our shores at the end of July but we will surely watch out for the results of the WRTC.

Unfortunately due to lock down restrictions no social events could be held.

Finances : The financial statements of the club have again been audited by an external auditor and again free of charge. A big thank you to Mr Oosthuizen. Mike ZS2MIC thanks for arranging it once more. Again, like last year, events were few and far between, thus our income was not so great. However we had an income of over R15 000 from equipment sold that had been donated by members who have either given up the hobby or from deceased estates. If it was not for the R15 000 the club would have made a loss. Thanks to all whom donated items, some of which has been or will still be installed at the scout hall (Jim's Jam Tin) Chris ZS2AAW, thank you for managing the sale of the donated items.

Container : Under the guidance of Jimmy (ZS2JIM) and those who assisted him, a lot was done at the container. The tower is up with VHF and UHF yagi's attached.

With the VHF yagi simplex contacts have been made to East London, quite an achievement.

Soon a HF antenna will go up for those who do not have HF capabilities at home can then go to Jim's Jam Tin and work HF.

Lady Slipper Tower. The second hand 16 meter tower that the club purchased has been transported from Hogsback by a contractor and is at my QTH at the moment. The contractor will hopefully erect it on Lady Slipper during June of this year.

Awards: I am very proud to announce that PEARS reeled in a number of SARL awards. To the best of my knowledge it is the first time in many years that so many members of PEARS obtained so many awards in one year.

Just listen to this:-

1. Thirteen SARL members were awarded the Jack Twine merit award and 5 of them are from PEARS Uli ZR2A, Rory ZS2BL, Ewald ZS2EHB, Beavan ZS2RL and Andre ZS2ZA

2. Technical Excellence award Andre ZS2ACP for his CB to HF conversation

3. CW Trophy, Uli ZR2A Highest score on one band

4. Hammies Youth Development Excellence award Dave ZS2DH for his involvement in the development of amateur radio in the Bisho area.

5. Certificate of recognition, Mrs Mel Gwilt for her continuous support of

Beavan, ZS2RL. She is always by his side during events.

6. Last but not least and ladies and gentlemen this one makes me proud to be a member of PEARS. Club participation award for the highest participation in CW, HF and phone contests, none other than PEARS.

ACHIEVEMENTS WAZS : ZS2ACP 1200, ZS2EC 1000, ZS2DH 400

ZS2GS 300, ZS2SG 200, ZR2BK 200

What an achievement by PEARS and its members. Let's do it again during the coming year and not only maintain those that we have won, but get one or two more. A number of members also did very well in various contests. I am too scared to mention names, as I might just leave out a name and offend the member or embarrass myself. For just taking part and submitting a log sheet is an achievement in itself. So all I am going to say here is look at the list of a certificates and trophies that will be awarded later on.

A club is nothing without its members. To you one and all as members of PEARS I thank you for your support to the committee, the club, other members and myself. Without your support the club could not have reached the highs that it did. Thank you all. The camaraderie in the club is high at the moment and the reason I say so is because I have noticed the assistance members give to their fellow members whether it be advice or physical assistance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my committee for their loyal support and assistance during the past year and again for the fact that they were prepared to go that extra mile to stay on the committee for an additional year, when an AGM could not be held. Without my committee members, who are each very competent in their respective portfolios, I would have failed this club of ours.

I now present my report for adoption, and call for a proposer and a seconder

GJ Schoeman (ZS2GS)

CHAIRMAN

Proposed - ZS2EC

Seconded - ZS2PG

Uli explained the WRTC concept to the meeting, in response to a question. Bologna, Italy in July 2023.

Motions

There were no motions submitted for discussion at this year's AGM

General

- ☐ ZR2NT asked about license renewals – he has a problem that it shows incomplete. Chris offered to assist him.
- ☐ ZR2A - Thom ZS2BBG in St Clairs Way Lovemore Heights passed away a year ago – there is still a tower on site that is available, for the taking. Interested parties to contact Uli.

Awards

Dave ZS2DH handed out SARL awards that he brought to the meeting:

- ☐ Jack Twine awards from 2019 – ZS2ACP, ZS2DL, ZS2GV
- ☐ Jack Twine awards from 2020 - ZS2EHB, ZS2BL, ZS2RL, ZS2ZA, ZR2A
- ☐ Certificates
 - Special award of recognition – Mel, XYL of ZS2RL, for her support
 - Silent Keys Memorial trophy – Highest score in HF CW contest – ZR2A
 - Anon Trophy – highest score on any one band in HF CW contest – ZR2A
 - Club participation award – in HF CW and phone Contests – PEARS (ZS2GS accepted)
 - Radio ZS 4m floating trophy – promoting 4m band activities – ZS2ACP
 - Tinus Lange 7066 Technical Excellence award – ZS2ACP

The Chairman handed out the following 2021 PEARS Awards:

2021 Awards

Merit: (Certificate)

Jim ZS2JIM For his efforts and contribution to the Jam Tin

Uli ZR2A Editor of QSX

Chris ZS2AAW Work done on the repeaters and updating the clubs records and uploading into website.

Appreciation Award: (Certificate)

Tony ZR2TX Events co-ordinator

Donovan ZS2DL RAE classes

Theunis ZS2EC Competition co-ordinator

Damien ZS2DLF Assisting other hams with tower work

Andre ZS2ZA Assisting other hams with tower work

Mike ZS2MIC Assisting other hams with tower work

Achievement: (Certificate)

Andre ZS2ACP WAZS 1200

Theunis ZS2EC WAZS 1000

Jim ZS2JIM ZS2LN 2m simplex comms PE / EL (Tropoducting)

Dave ZS2DH POTA contact made from Addo to Kruger National Park

Kevern ZR2BK POTA contact made from Addo to Kruger National Park

Andre ZS2ZA 2m simplex comms with ZS1TR in Agulhas (Tropoducting)

Ou Toppie Award: (Certificate)

Beavan ZS2RL

Al ZS2U (+10 Year endorsement)

ZS2OB DX Trophy: (Cup + Certificate)

Uli ZR2A Having done very well with contesting during the last year

ZS2AB Constructor's Trophy: (Cup + Certificate)

Andre ZS2ACP

PEARS Merit Cup: (Trophy + Certificate)

Jimmy ZS2JIM

W. Watson VHF Trophy (Cup + Certificate)

Andre ZS2ACP Very active with the Namib stations on VHF

Ham Spirit Trophy: (Cup + Certificate - Cup donated my Marge, ZS2OB)

Kevern ZR2BK

HRO/PEARS Ham Operator of the year (Cup + Certificate)

Uli ZR2A

The Chairman then stood down and asked ZS2RL to preside over the election process for a new chairman.

Election of chairman

Nominations for chairman were invited:

Who	proposed by	seconded by
ZS2GS	ZS2PF	ZS2ABZ
ZS2DL (not prepared to stand for chairman)	ZS2JV	ZS2GV

No further nominations were received, Gert was elected as chairman. He was given the reigns and asked to invite nominations for committee

Election of committee

Nominations for committee were invited: ZR2A and ZR2TX standing down. ZS2JIM, ZS2GV, ZS2AAW, ZS2MIC, ZS2GS remain available.

Who	proposed by	seconded by
ZS2DL	ZS2EC	ZS2JV
ZR2BK	ZS2DL	ZS2DH
ZS2GV	ZS2DH	ZS2ABZ
ZS2JIM	ZR2CRS	ZS2IW
ZS2MIC	ZS2ZA	ZS2EC
ZS2AAW	ZR2NT	ZS2PTY
ZS2AG	ZS2GS	ZS2ABZ
ZS2DH	ZS2DL	ZS2JV

ZS2DL recommended closer ties with the SARL council, and hence the nomination of ZS2DH

Nominations were ceased. The committee was congratulated.

The chairman called the meeting closed at 16h08

SIGNED:

Chairman _____

CQWPX 2022 Contest

By Theunis ZS2ECH

We. ZS2G and ZS2ECH arrived on Friday afternoon at the Jamtin.

We unpacked our equipment and set it up.

Andrew ZS2G started to assemble the 2 element beam for 15m meters with the help of ZS2SG and then erected it

Later that evening I helped ZS2G Andrew to erect the vertical for 40m.



On Saturday morning at 02h00 SAST I started calling CQ CONTEST on 40m



Later on Saturday ZS2G Andrew started on 15m with the help of his Big Ameritron linear push-

ing 500 watts.

Later I took over keeping up with his serial number.

Later that evening Andrew connected the vertical antenna and i then proceeded with my serial number again having fun with the linear until i reached my final total of 58 qso s for 40m band



We went back to 15m band and proceeded with ZS2G Andrew serial number and eventually made 180 qso's on 15m band

This was a 4 man team operation

ZS2EC, ZS2G, ZS2PS and ZS2PS

We used the club call sign ZS2PE



We all had fun and enjoyed it

Our next contest will be CQWW SSB in October hopefully we will be better prepared.

73 de ZS2EC Theunis

FROM THE EDITOR

Hi Everyone, I wish you happy reading and if you have an article or two that you would like published in future copies of QSX, please let me have your contribution. Thanking you for those who have submitted articles for this issue.

73, Ashley ZS2AG

IRONMAN and IRONMAN 70.3 for 2022

From Jimmy ZS2JIM

Sunday April 3rd dawned not so bright but pretty early for those hams who had put their hands up to assist with the 2022 Ironman event.



I was probably the first up at 03h00 getting my kit together to be at the Venue Operation Centre (VOC) by 04h00. When I got there the Event Safety officer, Andre, was already there checking that everything was still good to go.

ZS2GV had, during the week, setup a repeater on top of the NMU building so I just needed my mobile antenna and 5 watts from my Yaesu and I was sorted. I also had the luxury of mains power in the VOC so I could connect my power supply and save batteries for any possible power failure.

Pretty soon the rest of the VOC players started



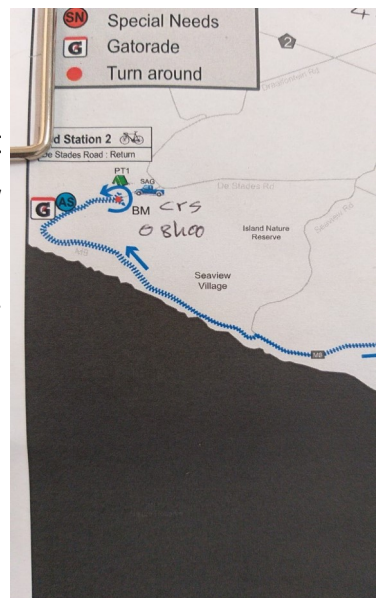
arriving. Ironman administrators, Medics, SAPS, Security people and the various municipal officials who would look after water, sanitation, electricity and beach operations.



The weather was rainy and cold, the sea was a bit rough so a decision had to be made regarding the swim section

of the event. It was decided that the swim section would be shortened to 700m from 3.8km and only the Ironman Pros would participate in the swim. This ended up as a good decision as the pros mentioned that conditions were extremely difficult and treacherous.

We had 9 operators in the field, ZR2CRS at the furthest point at Maitlands, ZS2PG on the Seaview road, ZS2GS at Rover raceway, ZS2ECH/ZS2IW at the Schoenmakerskop corner and ZS2DH, ZS2BIC, ZR2TX spread along the beachfront. We also had ZS2RL working from home, compiling the penalty points incurred by participants.





Comms during the event varied from excellent along the beach-front to good for the outlying areas. The only ex-

ception was the point manned by ZRSCRS where comms were non existent. We had tested comms earlier in the week, only to find that the position we tested from was not the position we needed to be in on the day.

So we need to do some



work on how to improve comms from this point.

All in all a good event, not too many incidents. I think the fact that most of the field didn't swim helped the condition of the athletes. When they swim, very often they swallow too much water and this upsets them for the day.

Ironman is a different event for us, unlike the normal bush events. Nevertheless, quite challenging and very enjoyable. Should you wish to join the members who assist with these events, please speak to ZR2TX, Tony, and he will advise you of the various events coming up.

ZS2JIM



ADDO 100 MILER

By ZS2GS

The event started of with the 100 mile runners starting from the Addo National Park Offices on Friday the 18th of March, 2022 at 13:00.

I was posted at check point (CP) Foxtrot with the lead runners due there at about 19:00.

I was in position by 18:00. I made use of my dual band radio in my vehicle and used the antenna that is mounted on the front bumper. to do a radio check with the VOX on 145.350 MHz simplex. Tony ZR2TX who was maning the VOX gave me a good signal report. As time went by I occasionally spoke to VOX with no problems.



After the sun had set I called VOX a few times and either got no reply or a very soft one that I could not hear what was said. At one stage I heard Tony saying that he was copying me loud and clear.

I noticed that my S meter was showing an incoming signal of S1 – S2 yet there was no other radios nearby. Thinking that my radio was playing up, I switched on another radio, that also gave me S1 – S2.

I then erected a 6 meter mast with a diamond dual band antenna on top, still the same. After taking down the mast I decided to drive to higher ground. I was about 50 meters away from my designated point that I noticed that the incoming signal had stopped. So what was generating a RF signal? I turned around and slowly drive back to my point. When I was about 8 meters away from my point the incoming signal reappeared.

I then clicked that the Gazebo (see attached photo) with all the refreshments in, had fairy lights (LEDS) going. I left my vehicle about 10 meters from the Gazebo and had no interference. I then setup a cross band from 145.350 to 433.350. I sat at the Gazebo with a hand-held and had no interference on UHF and good comms to the VOX.



The last of the 100 mile runners passed my point at about midnight and we could all have a rest until about 07:00 when the first of the 76 km, that started at 05:00 came through followed by the 44 km runners that started at 06:00. The last of the runners past my CP at 12:30 on Saturday

The cut off time for the 100 mile runners was 37 hours (Sunday 02:00) The first male runner completed the course in 21 hours and 11 seconds and the first female in 25 hours 5 seconds.

There were a large number of withdrawals due to cramping etc., but there were no major incidents. It was long hours, but it was good to be out in the veld again and breath clean air.

Accolades for PEARS

Excerpt taken from Live Adventure to PEARS members on the 30th March 2022.

Now let's talk about the incredible work that PEARS does, and what a difference you make to our lives on race weekend.

You all KNOW what a critical role you play at Addo. It's simply impossible for us to manage race logistics, and critical race safety, without the radio network that you provide. At any moment, we can get a message out to the CPs, arrange an extraction, get an update on the runners - you are our eyes and ears.

Not to mention the post-race information/reports that you supply, which enables me to follow up with runners that needed help out there once the race is done. Words are so inadequate - I just don't know convey to you our eternal gratitude.

Our date for 2023 is 17-19 March. We really look forward to working with you again!

Again, a huge thank you for your support over the years. We couldn't do it without you, and we appreciate you more than you know.

With much love,

Sheena & Sian
Live Adventure
0722934974

Trials and tribulations of building a Hexbeam

Most projects start off during daytime, early in the morning with all the components bought and ready to go. The Hex beam started with a stealthy raid on my XYL's kitchen drawer where she keeps her cutting boards. I needed a thick strong plastic sheet and well she had them. (It's a lot easier to ask for forgiveness than permission)

I have been building wire antennas since passing my exam a few years ago



with varying degrees of success. Delta loops for 40m and 80m that works like a charm. A Windom that went up and I just could not get that damn thing down fast enough for it was just so noisy with QRM

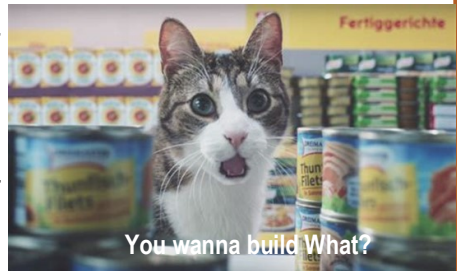
So far, the favourite is a simple dipole for 30m, those 2 wires and 100 watts have

worked way more DX than 14m of wire should have any right to.

The hexbeam has a few advantages that hams that do not have the space, time or resources to go full on multi element beam.

Think of it as 5 two element beam antennas on top of each other.

It is compact and symmetrical. You would need a light weight mast and rotator, some guys even use an Armstrong rotator and they work well.



An example of an Armstrong rotator.

This particular model is way out of my league

Continued on Page 16

5 bands fed with a single feedline (10m 12m 15m 17m 20m)

Great F/B ratio and gain of up to 6.8 Db.

Since the impedance is near or close to 50ohm on all bands a tuner is not needed.

It covers both CW and the SSB portion of the bands.

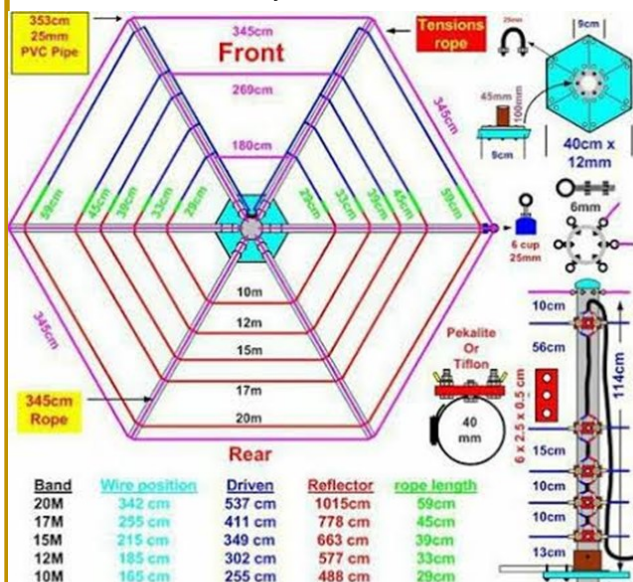
Low radiation angle making it ideal for DX

Windproof. We need that here in the Bay. There is simply just not enough place for the wind to grab hold of on a hex.

On the minus side

It's more difficult to construct and finetuning it may be a bit complicated.

I decided to bite the bullet and go for it. Keeping in mind that the parts may not be available locally and some substitution had to made here and there.



I started with the baseplate. This is the part that gives the entire antenna its shape and strength. I made a pilgrimage to Eurosteel in Deal Party and bought a slab of aluminium 400x400x20. Price, arm, leg, kneecap and first born. They do not take cash so your XYL will find how much that lump of grey metal costs. Then the 6 spreaders, I bought six 4m x 25mm PVC pipes and a 2m x 40mm PVC pipe for the centre mast. Overseas they use fibre-glass but it was just

**5 Band
Hexbeam
Antenna
Y11QEA
6/1/2010**

I started with the baseplate. This is the part that gives the entire antenna its shape and strength. I made a pilgrimage to Eurosteel in Deal Party and bought a slab of aluminium 400x400x20. Price, arm, leg, kneecap and first born. They do not take cash so your XYL will find how much that lump of grey metal costs. Then the 6 spreaders, I bought six 4m x 25mm PVC pipes and a 2m x 40mm PVC pipe for the centre mast. Overseas they use fibreglass but it was just impossible to find reasonable priced items in our town.

A length of coax and I could start.

First mark out the dimensions on the all slab. I then carted the lot to my brother in law's house (He is not a ham so he stays in a house, not a QTH) whom just happens to have a rather big industrial lathe in his garage. The slab came back the next day cut to size and with a nice 40mm hole dead centre.

Now It was Christmas time and everything was shut down so it was just about impossible to find 25mm U-bolts. Another DIY job and 12 U-bolts appeared. That is a grand total of 24 holes to be drilled in the baseplate, each at least 3 times. When the pilot drill broke off halfway through a hole towards the end of the job, I will freely admit that the air in the garage was a very deep colour of blue

In the meantime, each spreader was cut to length, and the offcuts were used to check the spacing of the U-bolts.

An eyelet was fitted to the cap onto each spreader and glued down with a liberal dose PVC glue.

Now the next part involved an amount of precision. The centre mast had to be marked exactly where each element will go. The final part for the baseplate, a pipe with a flange that bolts onto the bottom of the baseplate arrived and yes, that involved more drilling, reaming and threading those



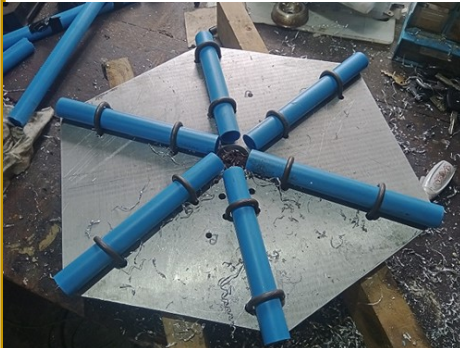
Baseplate as it arrived from the lathe



All the U-bolts fitted. Marathon drilling session done!

holes.

Now it was time to move it outside and put it together



Base plate with the offcuts from the spreaders to check if all will fit



The centrepost. Everything just held in place with zip ties to make working on it easier

Now it was time to move it outside and put it together

Best is just to stand it in a 20l paint tin, couple of bricks at the bottom for some weight and you are A for away.

The next issue I had was rope, I needed a type that could handle UV rays, not stretch, lightweight, and not break easily. Not your average DIY shop rope. Eventually I found what I was looking for at a place that sold yachting supplies. After a chat to the salesman, we managed to narrow it down to one particular make. Salesman pointed out that it had pink stripes in it so and suggested I wait until the next order when a more suitable colour might be in stock. Told him doesn't matter, my near vision is shot and it's going to be high up. He then said 400 bucks.

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The next issue I had was rope, I needed a type that could handle UV rays, not stretch, lightweight, and not break easily. Not your average DIY shop rope. Eventually I found what I was looking for at a place that sold yachting supplies. After a chat to the salesman, we managed to narrow it down to one particular make. Salesman pointed out that it had pink stripes in it so and suggested I wait until the next order when a more suitable colour might be in stock. Told him doesn't matter, my near vision is shot and it's going to be high up. He then said 400 bucks.

For the elements I am using stainless cable, 1mm. Main reason for using that is that it does not rust (yet) I have used it before and the most important one, I have miles of the stuff in my garage.

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Bit more detail on the weather proofing of the centre post

Nearly complete. The line on the upper left goes to my 30m dipole. ZS 2.5 CAT was a great hinderance during this part of the build. She loves rope and Zip ties. Note the nearly invisible rope.

Now comes the difficult part, I will cut the elements and fit them one by one starting with the 20m element, according to the dimensions on the diagram of YI1QEA and check each with for SWR etc as I fit them. I expect this to take a bit of time as the unwritten law of antenna building is that anything affects everything

I hope to have this up and running in the 2022 CQWW WPX contest

Parts list and approximate prices

Baseplate R700.00; Spreaders and centre post ...R540.00; Rope(100m) R400.00; Endcaps for pipes less than R100; Zip ties R200 but I have a lot left. Drillbits, Steel wire, 2m coax, heat shrink, terminals and miscellaneous megafiers all from my junk box. Machining, you can DIY but a brother-in-law that has a lathe is handy



This is how I managed to fix the wire elements to the spreaders



73

Paul ZS2PS

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

April

22-Apr Allan Bowles ZS2BO
28-Apr Christopher Scarr ZS2AAW

May

03-May Anmar Swart ZR2AS
08-May Jimmy DeBeer Jimmy
11-May Jan Swart ZS2JS
14-May Rory Norton ZS2BL
17-May Matthew Saayman ZS2SA
22-May Saney Martin ZR1S

Spouse Birthdays

April

18-Apr Annelize Baker Aldrin ZS2AGB
24-Apr Deidre Allen Tony ZR2TX

May

03-May Anmar Swart Johan ZS2PDS

17-May Lyn Barker Les ZS2VA
18-May Mark Dodd Liise ZS2LLD
21-May Cecilia van der Heide Jacques
ZR2JH

Anniversaries

April

21-Apr Rory Jackie Norton ZS2BL
23-Apr Patricia (Patsy) Neels Kruger
ZS2PTY

27-Apr Albie Mia Gibson ZS2AZ

May

02-May Johannes (Joe) Daschell
Geldenhuys ZS2JO
05-May Bennie Suzette Greyling ZR2BC
16-May Mark Michelle Duppa-Whyte
ZS2DW
16-May Peter Jacqui Ryder ZS2PR

DISCLAIMER

Please note:

The Editor, nor any PEARS club member shall be held liable for errors and/or omissions in any article and/or drawing contained in this newsletter. Furthermore, any view expressed is not necessarily that of the Editor, any committee member or other members of the Club. The material contained in this newsletter is not meant to defame, purge, humiliate and/or hurt someone's person or feelings.

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**Sunday SARL and Monday
Evening PEARS
Bulletins**

PEARS provides a local reading of the SARL bulletin every Sunday morning at 8:15 in Afrikaans and 8:30 in English and are transmitted through the Town repeater in 145:650 MHz as well as on 70cms 438:650 MHz.

The local SARL bulletin is read by Theunis ZS2EC in Afrikaans and Rory ZS2BL in English.

Bulletin Roster

18th Apr	Mike	ZS2MIC
25th Apr	Dave	ZS2DH
02nd May	Kevern	ZR2BK
9th May	Ashley	ZS2AG
16th May	Glen	ZS2GV
23rd May	Chairman	??
30th May	Vice Chair	??
06th June	Secretary	??
13th June	Treasurer	??

<http://www.zs2pe.co.za/bulletins.html>

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Our 2021/2022 PEARS Committee

These committee members can be reached as a group by sending email to [committee\[at\]peham.co.za](mailto:committee[at]peham.co.za)

PORTFOLIO	NAME	CALLSIGN	EMAIL	CONTACT No
Chairman				
Vice Chairman, RAE Examination Admin & Classes, HF assessor	Donovan van Loggerenberg	ZS2DL	zs2dl[at]hamradio.co.za	082 852 4885
SARL liaison, Hammies, Youth, Contest Scoring	Dave Higgs	ZS2DH	om[at]zs2dh.co.za	082 387 5657
Technical support & maintenance	Kevern Burger	ZR2BK	k.burger[at]stfrancislinks.com	083 401 9587
Treasurer	Michael Steenkamp	ZS2MIC	zs2mic[at]igen.co.za	082 523 5677
Repeaters, WiFi, Secretary	Christopher Scarr	ZS2AAW	christopher[at]peham.co.za	082 925 6367
Technical/repeaters, Search and Rescue & Emergency comms	Glen Cummings	ZS2GV	glenvanessa[at]gmail.com	082 411 2743
Socials, Scouts interface, "Jamtin" Scouts operating container	Jimmy De Scande	ZS2JIM	jimmy.descande[at]gmail.com	083 650 9422
QSO Editor	Ashley Goosen	ZS2AG	ashleygoosen[at]gmail.com	082 372 6696

CO-OPTED POSTS

PORTFOLIO	NAME	CALLSIGN	EMAIL	CONTACT No
Contest Liaison Officer	Theunis Potgieter	ZS2EC	zs2ec01[at]gmail.com	064 901 8079
Events & Rally organising	Tony Allen	ZR2TX	tony.zr2tx[at]gmail.com	082 956 2920

(Please note: The "@" sign has been replaced with "[at]" in the above addresses to try to prevent spamming)

PEARS' VHF/UHF, Packet & Other Services

Local Repeaters: These repeaters form a separate sub-net in the PE - Uitenhage - Despatch area.

Town VHF 145.050/650 88.5Hz, Narrow 12.5k	Longmore 145.025/625 88.5Hz, Narrow 12.5k	Uitenhage 145.075/675 Wide 25k	Town UHF 431.050/438.650 Wide 25k	<---- IRLP available on this subnet
Cockscomb 431.000/438.600 Add 88.5Hz for squ tail	Viewlands 431.075/438.675 Add 88.5Hz for squ tail	<---- These form linking hubs for events, hence no tail	DMR 430.675/438.275 QTH: ZS2VA	D-Star 145.175/775 QTH: ZS2N

Cape Linked System Repeaters:

These form the PEARS long-range 2-metre repeater system, in conjunction with the Border, Southern Cape and WCRWG systems. See www.zs2pe.co.za/Repeaters/repeaters.htm for more details.

Lady's Slipper 145,100/700 88.5Hz, Narrow 12.5k	Grahamstown 145,150/750 Wide 25k	Cradock 145,050/650 Wide 25k	Noupoort (link only) 438,750 / 438,675 Wide 25k
Colesberg 431,075/438,675 Wide 25k	Kareedouw 145,125/725	Plett 145,175/775	Brenton 145,075/675

APRS/Packet network:

ZS0NTP Node Lady's Slipper 434,800 1200bd 439.850 9600 bd	ZS0KDK APRS Digi Mount Road 434,800 1200bd	ZS0KDB APRS Digi Longmore 434,800 1200bd
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VHF Beacon: 50,007 MHz FSK – ZS2X, 25 Watts into 2 element Yagi beaming north.

Banking details (for subs & donations): NEDBANK SAVINGS ACCOUNT No. 221 252 7594, Bank code 121217, A/C name: Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society. **Please use call signs as a reference.**