Nov-Dec 2022

Ho Ho Ho CQ CQ CQ
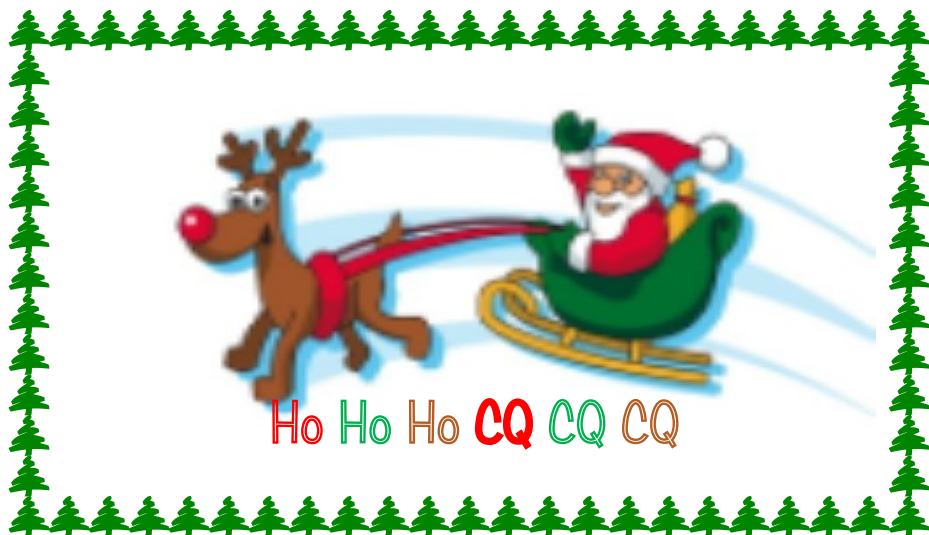
This Newsletter is published by the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society

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

25th November 2022

FROM THE CHAIR

As the year starts drawing to a close so does PEARS monthly meetings and this month on the 25th of

November will be our last meeting for 2022. Actually it's more an excuse for a great social get together than a meeting and I once again encourage you if you have not done so already to book your spot for this evening on our website www.zs2pe.co.za click on supper evening and the page will lead you through The process. We really hope you will join us for this fun evening.

I think it would be appropriate also for me to pay tribute to 'Beavan Gwilt, ZS2RL who passed away on the 20th of October. Beavan and indeed his XYL Mel have been members of PEARS since 1984 some 38 years and will be sadly missed. We have lost several members in the past few years and this is always hard to come to terms with. I think the lesson I take away from this loss is make the most of every day and indeed make the most of the privileges that our hobby allows us and enjoy it as best we can. Life is too short not to enjoy some of it with friends and like-minded people.

Then we welcomed back Ashley ZS2AG after his USA odyssey. Glad to have you back Ash. Please also continue to support him with any contributions you may have for QSX.

Please continue to support the Monday Evening Bulletins and call in and try and support the club by attending the meetings and get togethers we arrange for us to enjoy.

The HF Bands are opening up nicely now and several DX-peditions are happening and are due to start over the next few months. The Big one being 3Y0 Bouvet! #2 on the most wanted list!

Is your station Ready?

See you all on Friday 25th.

Until Next time.

73,

Donovan, ZS2DL

Amateur Radio is the best back up Communication in the World!

FROM THE EDITOR

Hi Everyone, Allow me at this time to wish you well for the upcoming festive season.
I also wish you happy reading this edition of QSX and if you have an article or two that you would like published in future copies of QSX, please let me have your contribution by email to qsx.zs2ag@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support of QSX and the articles you have submitted for this issue.
73,

Ashley ZS2AG

Minutes of PEARS Monthly Meeting

Held at the Italian Club on the 18th October 2022 at 19h30

Welcome:

Chairman Donovan welcomed all present. Welcome to Tracey, XYL of Barry ZS2EZ.

Attendance:

Approximately 18 members present.

Mention was made of ZS4S John Smith having gone silent key. While not a club member, he was well known in Military circles. Condolences to his friends and family.

Apologies:

ZS2JIM, ZR2BK

Acceptance of previous meeting's minutes:

Proposed: ZS2AG

Seconded: ZS2ECH

Matters arising:

None

Finances:

All in good standing as reported by the treasurer.

Crossways event has paid. Transbaviaans payment expected shortly, thereafter claims will be paid.

Addo trail run has not paid, so those claims have not been paid.

General:

QSX

Thanks went to Ashley for the great effort on the club newsletter while overseas.

Please support him with articles for the next edition.

Christmas/end of year social evening

November meeting is the last for the year - 25th is booked. Please go online and make your booking.

Payment either before the event via EFT, or cash at the door. Orders are essential, no order - no meal…

Closure:

Meeting ended at 19h46

Next meeting is the social evening, 25th November.

ZS2EZ addressed the meeting as regards HF operating and logging software.

Donovan ZS2DL	Chris ZS2AAW
CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY

From the JAMTIN........

WOW! What more can I say? The guys have really climbed into the JAMTIN and have made fantastic progress on various upgrades.

Outside, ZS2G has got most of the rust removed and applied a few layers of undercoat and topcoat. The plan is for ZS2NIL to finish this off with a layer of paint which he will spray on to get a good finish.

Ultimately, we would like to finish off the outside with some signage such as PEARS / HAMNET logos. We would like to see all 4 containers onsite identified in a similar fashion.

Inside, the general clean up continues with ZS2G adding a lick of paint, sorting out the antenna routing, whiteboards and pin boards, the silent key memorial board, the list just goes on and on.

ZS2CJ added a chest of drawers from ZS2VA so the smaller items that were cluttering up the shelving are now tucked away in a drawer. We will be making an inventory of all items so we can keep track of what's in the JAMTIN, what to keep and what to offer for sale.

On the operational side, the new antennae are performing well. ZS2G has plans for additional antenna so watch this space. Some weeks ago, on 40m ZS2JIM heard a call from a ham in Australia, unfortunately low down in the noise but this was a fantastic indication of what can be achieved.

Some great goings on in the JAMTIN, as always you are more than welcome to come visit, bring a radio and operate or use the available HF radio in the JAMTIN. Just contact ZS2JIM and get a date to operate.

On a personal note, my health has been keeping me away from the JAMTIN but there are many members who have access and if I am not available, I am sure a plan can be made.

We are excited about the progress made with this project and would like to see more members making use of this facility.

Many thanks to the team of members who have stepped up to make this project a reality.

 JAMTIN is there for you

ZS2JIM

A VISIT TO HAMNET WESTERN CAPE

By Gert ZS2GS

While in Cape Town during October 2022, it came to my attention that Hamnet Western Cape had been requested to put up a field station at an air show at the Stellenbosch airfield. I contacted Michael Taylor, ZS1MJT, the director of Hamnet in the Western

Cape and asked him if I can join them at the air show. He informed me that I was welcome to do so.

I arrived at the airfield at about 08:00 to find that Sybrand, ZS1CJ, had already erected a mast which was attached to his Land Rover and was busy setting up his radio. The mast is about 8m high and is an all aluminium

mast and only weighs 20 kg.

During the course of the morning a number of contacts was made on 40 m. Sybrand allowed

me to use his radio and I made contact with Theunis, ZS2EC and a few others. Also present was the following Hamnet members, namely Michael Taylor (ZS1MJT) Fred da Silva (ZS1ZV) and James (ZS1JMS)

Rescue services were allocated an area of about 1,5

tennis courts in size and the following rescue services were represented. The Western Cape Government that had on display a number of drones that varied from small to large.

The Wilderness search and rescue unit that consists of a number of volunteers and operate in a similar manner as the mountain club, but do not do abseiling or high angle rope work.

K9 rescue unit, A number of private persons whose dogs have been trained to locate missing persons. There was about 8 dogs with their handlers and most of the handlers were females.

The Western Cape SAPS diving unit. Apparently the mountain club and NSRI were also invited but were not present.

I noticed that all the Hamnet members wore their reflective jackets of bibs and that each had a Hamnet membership card in a pocket on their jackets or bibs. I asked Michael (ZS1MJT) about the membership cards and he informed me that he has the card machine with him and that he had sent out a letter to each of the divisional directors of hamnet informing them that their members can apply for a membership card. He said that he had received no requests from division 2.
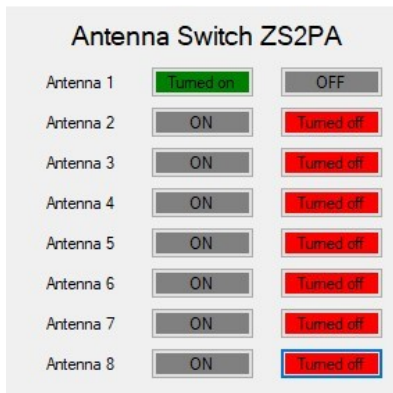
For those who are members of Hamnet can apply directly to him and he will produce a card for you.

You have to supply him with a passport size photo, your full names and call sign. This can all be done via WhatsApp on the following number 082 453 1175.

The ZS2PA Arduino Antenna Switch

Wanting more antenna switches this is the idea I came up with. Since I have way to many antennas up. Main antenna is an explorer 14 with the 40 meter add on (kindly donated by ZS2DL), a 6m/4m combo, 2 meter yagi, 2 meter vertical, a vertical for 10,15,20,40,80 meter by high gain, a G5RV and another vertical ,think it is a Diamond antenna and more.
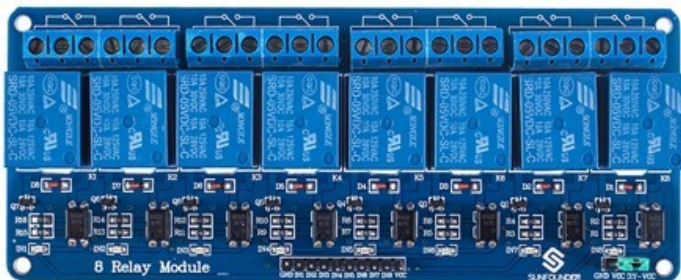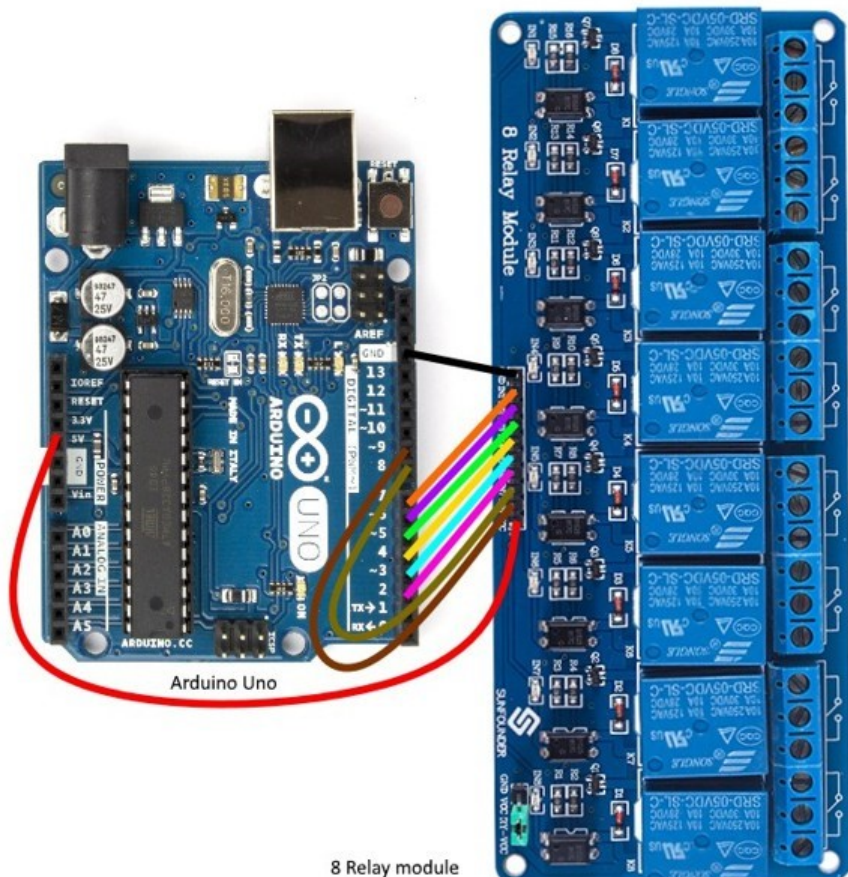
So I built this…

First off all I used Visual 2017 Studio to create the above. You can download in but it is 8,6gig. I can create the same but anyone's call sign.

Then you are going to purchase an Arduino ? (can be any of the makes) Cable can be purchased at the same place. (www.hobbytronics.co.za) and a 8 way relay board. Think at the time it came to R300 for everything.

Once you have everything you have to wire it up

8 Relay module

In this picture on the Arduino is wired from pin 9 to pin 2. Don't it will not work wire it up from pin 12 to pin 5.

Great then upload your script to your Arduino. Plug your Adruino Uno board into your PC and select the correct board and com port.

Here is the script

const int relay1Pin = 12; //Relay 1 attached to digital pin 7 of Arduino Uno
const int relay2Pin = 11; //Relay 2 attached to digital pin 6 of Arduino Uno

```
const int relay3Pin = 10; //Relay 3 attached to digital pin 5 of Arduino
Uno
const int relay4Pin = 9; //Relay 4 attached to digital pin 4 of Arduino
Uno
const int relay5Pin = 8; //Relay 5 attached to digital pin 3 of Arduino
Uno
const int relay6Pin = 7; //Relay 6 attached to digital pin 2 of Arduino
Uno
const int relay7Pin = 6; //Relay 7 attached to digital pin 8 of Arduino
Uno
const int relay8Pin = 5; //Relay 8 attached to digital pin 9 of Arduino
Uno
void setup()

 pinMode(relay1Pin, OUTPUT); //initialize the relay1Pin as an output
 pinMode(relay2Pin, OUTPUT); //initialize the relay2Pin as an output
 pinMode(relay3Pin, OUTPUT); //initialize the relay3Pin as an output
 pinMode(relay4Pin, OUTPUT); //initialize the relay4Pin as an output
 pinMode(relay5Pin, OUTPUT); //initialize the relay5Pin as an output
 pinMode(relay6Pin, OUTPUT); //initialize the relay6Pin as an output
 pinMode(relay7Pin, OUTPUT); //initialize the relay7Pin as an output
 pinMode(relay8Pin, OUTPUT); //initialize the relay8Pin as an output
 //by default all relays set to HIGH
 digitalWrite(relay1Pin, HIGH);
 digitalWrite(relay2Pin, HIGH);
 digitalWrite(relay3Pin, HIGH);
 digitalWrite(relay4Pin, HIGH);
 digitalWrite(relay5Pin, HIGH);
 digitalWrite(relay6Pin, HIGH);
 digitalWrite(relay7Pin, HIGH);
 digitalWrite(relay8Pin, HIGH);
 Serial.begin(115200); //initialize serial communication at 115200 bps

void loop()

 int pos;
 if (Serial.available()) {
  delay(100);
  while (Serial.available() > 0) {
   pos = Serial.read();   //reads the value sent from Visual Basic
   if (pos == '0')
    digitalWrite(relay1Pin, LOW); //
   else if (pos == 'a')
```
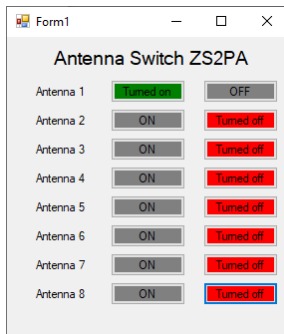
```
  digitalWrite(relay1Pin, HIGH); //
else if (pos == '1')
  digitalWrite(relay2Pin, LOW); //
else if (pos == 'b')
  digitalWrite(relay2Pin, HIGH); //
else if (pos == '2')
  digitalWrite(relay3Pin, LOW); //
else if (pos == 'c')
  digitalWrite(relay3Pin, HIGH); //
else if (pos == '3')
  digitalWrite(relay4Pin, LOW); //
else if (pos == 'd')
  digitalWrite(relay4Pin, HIGH); //
else if (pos == '4')
  digitalWrite(relay5Pin, LOW); //
else if (pos == 'e')
  digitalWrite(relay5Pin, HIGH); //
else if (pos == '5')
  digitalWrite(relay6Pin, LOW); //
else if (pos == 'f')
  digitalWrite(relay6Pin, HIGH); //
else if (pos == '6')
  digitalWrite(relay7Pin, LOW); //
else if (pos == 'g')
  digitalWrite(relay7Pin, HIGH); //
else if (pos == '7')
  digitalWrite(relay8Pin, LOW); //
else if (pos == 'h')
  digitalWrite(relay8Pin, HIGH); //
```

Note that there is no place to code your COM port. You must contact me via email andrew.prideaux@gmail.com I will put it in the programme.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays
December
01-Dec Ronald Drescher ZR2AD
02-Dec Kevin O'Donoghue ZS2KO
05-Dec Johan van Vuuren ZS2JV
05-Dec Clive Fife ZS2RT
07-Dec Damien Field ZS2DLF
13-Dec Craig van Loggerenberg ZS2LR
13-Dec Thian De Jager ZS2Y
15-Dec Lance Henegan   ZS2LB
18-Dec David Van Der Sandt Dave
25-Dec Graham Pearson ZS2GKP

January
10-Jan Tony Allen ZR2TX
15-Jan Ashley Goosen ZS2AG

Spouse Birthdays
December

02-Dec Antoinette Liebenberg Danny ZS2E
09-Dec Cheryl Schroder Colin ZR2CRS
23-Dec Noel Hislop Cyril ZS2EJ
24-Dec Colette Rundle ZS2CR Mitch ZS2DK

25-Dec Bettie Greef Isak ZS2ZG
January

08-Jan Juan Ras Hugo ZS2HR
24-Jan Suzette Greyling Bennie ZR2BC

Anniversaries
December
01-Dec Johan Wanda van Vuuren ZS2JV
12-Dec Johan Anmar Swart ZS2PDS ZR2AS
12-Dec Clive Jane Fife ZS2RT
16-Dec Barry Lindi Bester ZS2BB
19-Dec Eric Isolda Hosten ZS2ECH ZS2IW
21-Dec Llise Mark Dodd ZS2LLD
23-Dec Cyril Noel Hislop ZS2EJ
28-Dec Albert Sarita Brand ZS2BA

January
03-Jan Allan Brenda Whitehead ZS2R
13-Jan Quintus Dubennette Moolman ZS2KU
17-Jan Jimmy Barbara De Scande ZS2JIM
19-Jan Tejas Dixeeta Gajjar ZS2TG
22-Jan Andre Renette van Deventer ZS2BK
24-Jan Shaun Adele Baumeister ZS2L

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.

If copy is unintentionally infringed, we apologise. The newsletter is published as a free service to Amateur Radio Operators and friends.

Sunday SARL and Monday evening PEARS Bulletins

PEARS provides a local reading of the SARL bulletin every Sunday morning at 8:15 in Afrikaans read by Kevern ZR2BK and 8:30 in English read by Rory ZS2BL, transmitted through the Town 2M Repeater on 145.650 MHz.

PEARS bulletins are transmitted on Monday evenings at 20h00 on the Lady's Slipper repeater, 145.700 MHz, 88.5Hz, Narrow and 438.700 MHz, no CTCSS Wide. (Standby option is 145.650MHz Town repeater 88.5Hz, Narrow)

Bulletin Roster		
28-Nov	Chris	ZS2AAW
05-Dec	Mike	ZS2MIC
12-Dec	Kevern	ZR2BK
19-Dec	Ashley	ZS2AG
26-Dec	Glen	ZS2GV
02-Jan	Jimmy	ZS2JIM
09-Jan	Shaun	ZS2SG
16-Jan	Donovan	ZS2DL

Our 2022/2023 PEARS Committee

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

PORTFOLIO	NAME	CALLSIGN	EMAIL	CONTACT No
Chairman, RAE classes, Technical Workshops, HF tests	Donovan van Loggerenberg	ZS2DL	zs2dl[at]hamradio.co.za	082 852 4885
Vice Chairman, SARL liaison, Hammies, Youth, Contest Scoring	Dave Higgs	ZS2DH	om[at]zs2dh.co.za	082 387 5657
Treasurer	Michael Steenkamp	ZS2MIC	zs2mic[at]igen.co.za	082 523 5677
Secretary, Repeaters, WiFi	Christopher Scarr	ZS2AAW	christopher[at]peham.co.za	082 925 6367
Technical Workshops, RAE class assistance, HF tests	Shaun Gilbert	ZS2SG	gaswise3[at]gmail.com	083 672 5241
Technical support & maintenance	Kevern Burger	ZR2BK	k.burger[at]stfrancislinks.com	083 401 9587
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
QSX Editor	Ashley Goosen	ZS2AG	qsx.zs2ag[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	Longmore	Uitenhage	Town UHF	
145.050/650	145.025/625	145.075/675	431.050/438.650	<----- **IRLP** available
88.5Hz, Narrow 12.5k	88.5Hz, Narrow 12.5k	Wide 25k	Wide 25k	on this subnet
Cockscomb	Viewlands	<----- These form	DMR	D-Star
431.000/438.600	431.075/438.675	linking hubs for	430.675/438.275	145.175/775
Add 88.5Hz for squ tail	Add 88.5Hz for squ tail	events, hence no tail	QTH: ZS2VA	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	Grahamstown	Cradock	Noupoort (link only)
145,100/700	145,150/750	145,050/650	438,750 / 438,675
88.5Hz, Narrow 12.5k	Wide 25k	Wide 25k	Wide 25k
Colesberg	Kareedouw	Plett	Brenton
431,075/438,675	145,125/725	145,175/775	145,075/675
Wide 25k			

APRS/Packet network:

ZS0NTP Node	ZS0KDK APRS Digi	ZS0KDB APRS Digi	
Lady's Slipper	Mount Road	Longmore	
434,800 1200bd	434,800 1200bd	434,800 1200bd	
439.850 9600 bd			

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.