

September 2023



This Newsletter is published by the Port Elizabeth Amateur
Radio Society

Next PEARS Monthly Meeting

Will be at the Italian Club on the 19th September 2023



From the Chair

Who says nothing happens in a club? Well a lot happens in PEARS every month and this month is no exception. Firstly, due to several reasons including requests from club members the meeting shifts back to the Italian Club for September. We have been promised that things will be better and that we will be looked after so let us give them the benefit of a try. We have nothing to lose and everything to gain and if it does not work out we will go back to the scout hall again. Then at this point we will have had the antenna building workshop on the 16th September and my thanks to Vaughn ZS2VR for basically putting the thing together. I would have liked to have seen more participants but I am sure those that were there had fun. This exercise was in lieu of a future fox hunt and as a result please listen out for any announcements in this regard. It is also time to start thinking about our November social evening again so please be on the lookout for an announcement on this and how to go about booking your ticket to this fun filled evening.

At this point I know I sound like a broken record but thanks so much for the continued support with call in's after the bulletin on a Monday evening, it really is appreciated and now, if you listen about 30min earlier you can catch a rebroadcast of the SARL Sunday bulletin. Thanks to Rory, ZS2BL, for this initiative.

Please support the club further by attending the monthly meetings and bring a friend.

That's it from me for this time.

Most importantly "Say Hello"!

PEARS, WE LIKE BEING YOUR CLUB

73,

Donovan, ZS2DL

FROM THE EDITOR

Here's wishing 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. Please do not send me QSX material on WhatsApp as I am inundated with WhatsApp messages and I will miss your material.

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 Walmer Scout Hall on the 15th August 2023 at 19h30

Welcome:

Chairman Donovan ZS2DL welcomed all present.

Attendance:

Approximately 18 attendees. As per Register.

Apologies:

ZS2DK, ZS2GLP

Acceptance of previous meeting's minutes:

Proposed: ZS2AG

Seconded: ZS2VR

Matters arising:

None

Finances:

Mike has reported that all is in order.

Donovan mentioned the battery purchase, and subsequent return when they arrived damaged.

General:

ZS2DL

SARL certificate handed out – Brian Jones ZS6BV ZS6 SOTA award, goes to ZS2VR.

Contests– Donovan discussed the full contest calendar, and the lack of support for the PEARS-run contests being the national VHF/UHF contest, and the ZS2 QSO Party. The Border Radio Club's and PEARS' members would earn multipliers, but there were no logs submitted from either club. Do we wish to continue with these contests? Dates for the next VHF/UHF contest are 12-14 January 2024, we will go ahead as is, but please make an effort to get a club station going. Without support, this will be the last one. ZS2PG requested announcements on the bulletin as to current contests. ZS2EC already does this on WhatsApp.

QSL cards – ZS2EC still had many cards, as no-one collected. They have been posted now, and will probably not arrive

TransBaviaans feedback given to the meeting. Comms is on Longmore, 145.625MHz

SARL field day – a weekend away? Needs someone to make arrangements – camping and braai? Have used the Voortrekker campsite in the past. Otherwise it will end up at the Jamtin 2. Date is the 1st weekend in Sept. ZR2BK will try to generate some interest.

ZS2JIM

Fox hunt antenna building date available is 16 September for the Scout hall. Need to prepare raw materials as required, and get an attendee list going. ZS2DL will be taking names. ZS2VR mentioned that Builders Warehouse has 2.5m x 6mm aluminium rod at approximately R80 per length. Spilhaus for 20mm high pressure water pipe which is nice and rigid.

Maybe add these contests and events into QSX as part of the month ahead calendar

ZS2DH

16-24 September, SA National parks are open. Good time for a social...

25 September – Spring SOTA day, also need chasers. Posts on the SOTA watch, Europe on 10m looking for summits, beaming South.

Closure:

Meeting ended at 19h59

Next meeting 19h September 2023.

Andrew ZS2G presented the Smith Chart and some examples of its uses.

CHAIRMAN

Donovan Van Loggerenberg (ZS2DL)

SECRETARY

Christopher Scarr (ZS2AAW)

Calling Back the Past

Port Elizabeth of Yore: Ushering in Electricity and Lighting

Continued from August 2023 QSX

By [Dean McClelland](#)

Swartkops Power Station

The growth of the system was such that in 1948 the Mount Road Power Station had been extended to its maximum capacity on the existing site, and the City Council then decided to purchase power from the Electricity Supply Commission. There was considerable debate among city councillors and ratepayers as to whether Mount Road should be expanded or a new power station built. In the latter part of the 1940s, the Port Elizabeth Municipality turned to Eskom for assistance. By 1949 it had been decided that Eskom would establish a



Cable laying team

power station in the area to assist the municipal supply. Mr. AM Jacobs, Eskom's second chairman, was personally responsible for the overall design and layout of what was to be-

come Swartkops Power Station. The power station would be built in the Swartkops area of Port Elizabeth, drawing its water supply from the river of the same name. The Commission agreed to establish a

new power station at Swartkops, where suitable facilities for the generation of electricity existed.

By 1950, levelling and terracing of the site had begun and contracts awarded for the main station building steelwork. Meanwhile orders were placed for the new plant, including two 95 400 kg/hour boilers and two 20 000 kW turbo-generators at an estimated cost of £3 142 000. The power station was expected to be in operation in the middle of 1953. It was designed for three 20 000kW turbo-generators initially, and thereafter 30 000 kW sets as required.



1951 to 1952 saw the terracing for the main building and the foundations of the boiler room completed, excavation of the foundations of the turbine room and the construction of the chimney stacks were going ahead and railway lines for the coal supply were also being laid. Since the orders were placed, estimated equipment costs had risen by

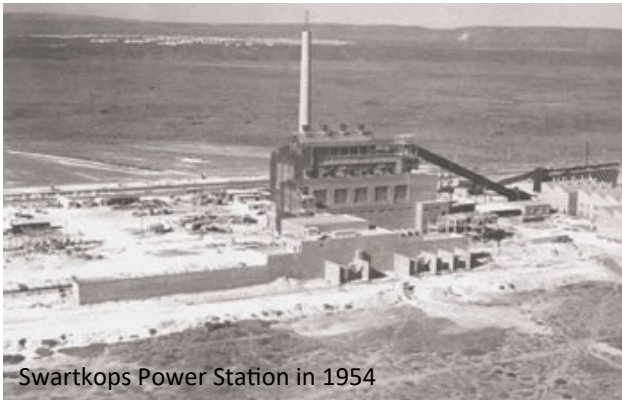
£1 million so that when the first ICAL boiler and Parsons turbo-generator were installed a year later than expected, they cost well over £4 million. The station's associated village for employees was also established, consisting of two blocks of flats and some eighty houses.

As the initial Swartkops Power Station approached completion, the City Council, desirous of retaining the right to generate all the power in its own area, purchased this station, which at that time had an installed capacity of 40,000 kW. While this relieved the pressure of the increasing demand on Mount Road Power Station for the time being, it soon became evident that additional plant would have to be installed at Swartkops, and the first extension of 20,000 kW capacity was therefore brought into operation in time to assist the undertaking in meeting the winter load

of 1958.

Water from the North End Lake was used by the Mount Road Power Station

Boiler 1 was lit for the first time on 28 April 1954 at 21:54 and Turbine 1 started some eleven hours later. Swartkops commenced operation on Saturday 1 May. Mount Road Power Station was kept available until November, while Swartkops was still being tested, then underwent necessary overhaul and repair. By the end of the year, Swartkops was operating at its maximum output. The introduction of this new source of power in the region led to an immediate growth in customers. December 1955 saw supplies to both residential and business customers grow by between 10 and 11% each over the previous year's figure. By now however, Escom's



new power station was under different ownership.

Subsequent Operation

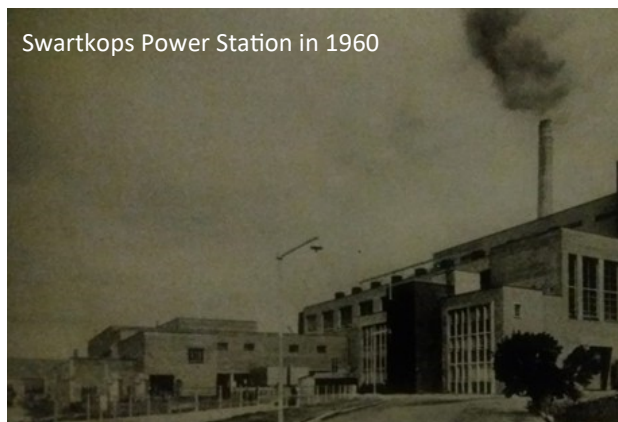
Two further extensions to the generating Station, comprising two 30,000 kW Turbo-Alternators and three 210,000 lbs./hr. Installa-

tion of boilers have been carried out by the Municipality, and the generating capacity then stood at 120 MW. A fourth 30 MW Extension was then constructed and brought into service in 1967. As of April 1955, Port Elizabeth's power stations, Swartkops and Mount Road supplied the city and surrounding area's needs.

Taming the Great Monster

Escom's 1954 *Annual Report* noted that Swartkops was established in 'different circumstances'. At the time it was normal for power station licences to establish an area or undertaking where electricity would be supplied. In Port Elizabeth however, Escom did not apply for a supply area as the municipal supply served such a large area that it was thought there would be no other customers. In short, Swartkops was expected to supply Port Elizabeth alone, and it was licensed to do that. In addition, the construction of the power station strained Escom's human and financial resources, as this period was a time of expansion in which several other power

stations were either being planned or constructed. These included Hex River, Salt River 2 and Umgeni Power Stations. A solution was found in 1953, while Swartkops was still being erected. In June, the Port Elizabeth Municipality offered to purchase the power station from Escom. The Municipality made the offer based on several factors, including: Municipal ownership of both Mount Road and Swartkops Power Stations would obviate the need for duplicate sets of costs for personnel, maintenance and repair. This meant significant savings. The Municipality would benefit from the modern infrastructure at Swartkops, namely workshops and offices. Swartkops would be under local control. It was not uncommon for Municipalities to own their own power stations. Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town and Bloemfontein owned their own power stations. City officials and businesses wholeheartedly supported the purchase. The City Council approved it 17 votes to 2. Escom was not averse to the offer, as it would ease the strain on its resources and the Port Elizabeth Municipality was in any case the only customer. The unprecedented nature of the sale notwithstanding (it was the only time Escom has ever sold one of its power stations), ministerial approval was obtained and Swartkops was sold for £8,8 mil-



Swartkops Power Station in 1960

lion. Nevertheless, Escom's relationship with this area did not cease. The Commission reserved 10 MW of the power station's capacity for emergencies and in 1963 established a small Eastern Cape Undertaking for local farmers.

By 1995, with a new government installed and a Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) underway, Swartkops was called back to service. On 9 January, the station was back in regular operation, with 48 new jobs created as a result. Swartkops' operation would help to limit demand on Eskom. The following year however, saw Eskom offering the Municipality a tariff structure that made the power station, by now 42 years old, uneconomical. The decision was taken to retain Swartkops for emergency purposes once more. At least one more 'bit of excitement' was to be had. In March 1996, coal overheated in the storage bunkers at the station. Firefighters had

to be called to the site, to flood the coal to prevent a fire. Soon however, there would be little need for a coal supply that supplied a daily rate of consumption of 2000 tons. On 4 June 1996, without any ceremony, Swartkops went into standby mode. Equipment was maintained and standby fuel kept at hand so that it could be ready to operate within twelve hours. A school pupil who visited Swartkops when it



Swartkops Power Station

was closed in 1996, remarked that he left feeling 'a bit sad that this great monster had been suddenly tamed in a space of a few hours'. Engineering consultants Merz and McLellan were appointed to make recommendations about the power station's future. Although Swartkops was now

in reserve, it still had to be maintained. The Municipality had to budget R28 million a year for this. Moreover the power station was by now considered to be obsolete. Merz and McLellan recommended closure. On 11 November 1997, after almost half a century of operation and again without any ceremony, the station was finally closed down. Some employees were retrenched or took retirement and others were redeployed within the municipality. Tenders were invited to dismantle Swartkops. RUKO Projects was awarded the contract to dismantle the plant, and with remove the asbestos. 1999 however, brought news that might have saved Swartkops from its fate. It was suggested that an industrial development project in the Eastern Cape, the Coega Industrial Development Zone, required local power. A Port Elizabeth-based energy company, Energy Ventures Group (set up by the Swedish power generation giant ABB) began investigating the R700 million refurbishment of Swartkops for this purpose. Finance could not be found however and the project was shelved.

In 2002, Swartkops Power Station was still standing. Its six 76,2m chimneys remain

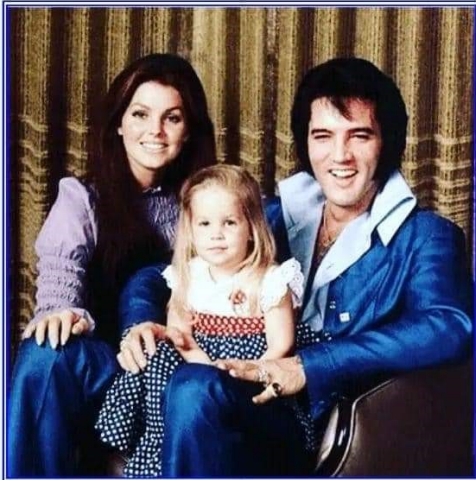
Year	Total Units Generated
1928	14,302,448
1929	21,371,893
1930	25,143,090
1931	29,657,228
1932	31,460,422
1933	37,256,814
1934	43,116,518
1935	50,183,678
1936	55,964,633
1937	67,259,704
1938	75,171,079
Total capital invested	over £1,150,000
Present capacity of plant	36,000 Kilowatts
Total mileage U.G. cables and O.H. lines	398

a landmark in the area. The HV yard and the automated control room are still active and the buildings are used by RUKO to reprocess scrap. The company has been contracted to redevelop the site and various options are being assessed. Only time will tell when this Eskom-built power station will vanish from the Swartkops landscape altogether.

Sources

Port Elizabeth: A Social Chronicle to the end of 1945 by Margaret Harradine (2004, Historical Society of Port Elizabeth, Port Elizabeth)

Port Elizabeth: From a Border Garrison Town to a Modern and Industrial City edited by Ramon Lewis Leigh (1966, Felstar Publishers, Johannesburg)



Prisilla Beaulieu Presley *N6YOS - KC6IWA* Multi gifted lady, born Priscilla Ann Wagner, Brooklyn NY in 1945. Ms. Presley's biological father expired in a aircraft accident when she was an infant. Her mother Anna remarried, Col. Paul Beaulieu, a pilot in the USAF.

Elvis met Priscilla during his U.S. Army stint in Weisbaden Germany, Priscilla was 14 years of age.

Today Priscilla Presley protects Elvis' legacy and successfully builds her own with writing, acting and supervising Graceland.

In a 2005 interview at a Toyota Women's Conference in Lexington KY, Ms. Presley expressed her feelings about ham radio and her career demands precluded her to continue in a hobby that she said "was really addictive!"

She allowed her ham ticket to expire in 2000. Ms. Presley was listed in the 1990 call book as KC6IWA and N6YOS, under her maiden name.

Priscilla and Lisa Marie are both Scientologist's, introduced to the religion by actor John Travolta in 1979.

It is not really known how Priscilla got the ham radio bug, it is thought thru her publicist or one of her long time friends possibly Marco Garibaldi film producer. Wouldn't it be a thrill to answer Priscilla's CQ and have a QSO!

<http://heritage.eskom.co.za/swartkops/swartkops.htm>

Port Elizabeth: City of Industrial and Commercial Opportunity (1938, Issued by the Port Elizabeth Publicity Association)



CLINT GOUVEIA

Long wave radio fans mourn fading frequencies

By Chris Baraniuk

Technology of Business Reporter

As he turned the dial gently but purposefully, the sound of people speaking in foreign languages and the lilt of unfamiliar music burst through a haze of crackle and buzz.

Clint Gouveia was only about seven years old at the time, listening to long wave radio in bed, late at night.

"I could hear all these voices from far away," he recalls. "It inspired me to want to see the world when I got older, to travel, which eventually I did."

Back then, in the late 1970s, there were dozens of long wave stations broadcasting. Now, only a handful are left. Among them are those in Denmark and Iceland - but they are due to shut by the end of 2023 and during 2024, respectively.

The only other remaining broadcasters in the world using the long wave band are those in Romania, Poland, Algeria, Morocco and Mongolia.

"The band is basically almost dead," says Mr Gouveia, who enjoys listening to radio stations from his home in Oxford. "It all feels a bit sad, really." He adds that, when a long wave station shuts, he makes an effort to record its last moments.

Among those who have urged the BBC to continue supporting long wave are Blur's drummer Dave Rowntree, [who also recalls listening to long wave](#) radio as a child.

The BBC has not yet confirmed when, exactly, it will cease long wave broadcasts. A private firm, Arqiva, owns and operates the Droitwich transmitter in Worcestershire.

In a statement, Arqiva says, "The current long wave network assets have been operational for 36 years and are energy intensive." They add that "significant further re-investment" is required to continue long wave broadcasting.



Some reports have suggested that the long wave service has become too expensive to maintain, especially now that energy prices are so high following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Plus, [an article in The Guardian in 2011](#) claimed that only a small number of spare valves were still available for the transmitter.

"Long wave is coming to the end of its life as a technology," a BBC spokeswoman tells BBC News, adding that Radio 4 long wave is currently set to continue broadcasting beyond March 2024.

"We always work closely with organisations that support vulnerable audiences

around the time of any platform closure, ensuring we migrate listeners to our other platforms in a timely and sensitive manner," she says.

The long wave transmitter at Droitwich also supplies a service called the Radio Teleswitch Service (RTS), which beams energy tariffs to some electricity meters. Just under one million such meters are still in use in the UK.

"Customers should contact their electricity supplier at the earliest opportunity to arrange for their RTS equipment to be upgraded to a smart electricity meter," a spokesman for Energy UK says. He adds that Energy UK and other bodies are seeking to extend RTS provision until December 2025.



Interference can give long wave broadcasts character says John McCullagh.

The death of long wave, when it comes, will be mourned by many radio fans, says John McCullagh, president of the Radio Society of Great Britain.

"It has a particular resonance that people like to listen to," he says, describing the noisy sound of the long wave band, which can be affected by lightning and interference from electrical devices, such as LED lights. That lack of high fidelity is not loved by all but it does give long wave its own character, he explains.

Given enough power, and the right conditions, long wave signals from a lone transmitter can travel for thousands of miles.

"A lot of European countries are quite nicely sized for long wave in the sense that one long wave transmitter can do the country," says Chris Greenway of BBC Monitoring, who has been tracking the demise of long wave services.

But in Asia, Mongolia is also a prime example - a large country with a small population where the cost of putting an FM network in place, requiring many transmitters, would perhaps be hard to justify, he points out.



Long wave transmissions allowed the BBC to reach the whole of the UK .

The BBC first began broadcasting on long wave in 1925, from a transmitter in Daventry.

It was this that allowed the BBC to "claim to be a national broadcaster," argues Mr Greenway. The signal [was strong enough](#) to reach up to 94% of the population at the time.

Among the long wave services that have come and gone over the years was Atlantic 252. It used a transmitter in Co Meath, Ireland that went on to carry Irish radio station RTÉ Radio 1 on the same frequency. RTÉ Radio 1 ceased its long wave broadcasts in April this year and the transmitter was demolished in July.

Many ex-pats still use long wave signals to connect with their home country, says Jessica Foley, a lecturer at the Institute of Art, Design and Technology in Co Dublin.

This was the case for many Irish people living in Great Britain, until RTÉ Radio 1 shut its long wave service. The station continues to be available on other frequencies and platforms.

It is worth investing in long wave transmitters, even if they only serve a relatively small number of people, suggests Dr Foley: "It is a question of culture and how willing we are to tolerate the minority."

Long wave also provides a connection to things "as vast as the cosmos", she adds. A phenomenon called the skywave effect enables some radio signals to travel further at night. This is because a layer in the Earth's atmosphere called the ionosphere cool down, making it more reflective. Electromagnetic signals can, as a result, bounce back towards the ground and cover greater distances.

Mr Gouveia says, proudly, that he has been able to listen to radio broadcasts from Mongolia, in part thanks to this effect.

However, the equipment required to hear long wave broadcasts is arguably now obscure. It wasn't always like that.

In his spoken word song "On Hyndford Street", the Northern Irish singer Van Morrison recounts many memories from his childhood.

He appears to allude to how the skywave effect helped to bring one now defunct, but formerly much-loved station - Radio Luxembourg, which broadcast on long wave and then medium wave from 1951 - to listeners on distant shores:

"And in between the silence there was conversation,
And laughter, and music and singing, and shivers up the back of the neck,
And tuning in to Luxembourg late at night."

Obscurity Does Not Equal Security

Some of the world's top hackers worked their way into an orbiting cubesat known as Moonlighter to help the US Air Force and US Space Force expose vulnerabilities that could pose cybersecurity threats. The global competition, known as Hack-A-Sat 4, recently announced the winners following the Finalist rounds held in August. A team from Italy, known as HACK-eroni captured the top honors.

With skills in RF communications, reverse engineering, satellite operations and vulnerability research paramount to success, a group of 40 full time Northrop Grumman employees - known as SpaceBitsRUs (Space Bits Are Us) took up the challenge too, landing the fourth-place spot. A number of hams were on the team, including Brian Wilkins, KO4AQF, and Wyatt Neal, KD8AQS, the team hacking lead.

Brian, who is a satellite enthusiast, a former AMSAT member and a recipient of the Satellite VUCC award, told Newsline in an email that being a ham helps deliver relevant skills for this kind of challenge. He said [quote]: "Operators gain expertise in radio wave propagation, modulation, and antenna design, allowing them to understand satellite communication protocols and frequencies. Additionally, knowledge of software-defined radio technology enables intercepting, decoding, or modifying satellite signals." [endquote]

It has clearly paid off, not just for the government-sponsored contest but for the Northrop-Grumman team as well, which placed second in the Finals for Hack-A-Sat 3. The real prize, however, is awareness. As Brian told Newsline, this serves as: [quote] "a wake-up call to the industry. Obscurity does not equal Security." [endquote]



The Amateur in You, Part 1

What have you been pondering?

The disruptive mode of FT8

In case you haven't heard of FT8, it's a digital data ham radio mode of communication, designed for *weak signal decoding*. Instead of using your voice to contact another ham, you use your computer or other digital communication device to make the contact with another FT8 station. FT8 can be used on any legal amateur data frequency, but is most often used on HF bands. It requires software that can control (and record) the exchange, and must be synchronized to an internet clock.

This weak signal decoding is one of the greatest strengths of FT8. Making a contact by SSB (single sideband) can be difficult if the signal is weak or accompanied by a relatively large amount of noise. Even DSP (digital signal processing) filtering can only help so much, before the signal strength is overpowered by the noise. FT8 uses FEC (forward error correction) and special DSP algorithms to distinguish a true signal from surrounding noise, and can therefore decipher signals far below the noise threshold of SSB.

Weak signal decoding has the advantage of allowing ham radio communication when conditions, such as sunspot numbers, are not favorable enough to support SSB. You might recall that **higher numbers of sunspots** will result in a greater amount of solar radiation, which promotes SSB propagation in the HF range. But even when sunspot numbers are low, FT8 can filter out the noise that hides the very weak signals, and make the contact.

Recently, FT8 has come under some criticism, due to the way it makes its contacts. It's possible, for example, that a station sending CQs on FT8 will get contacted and confirmed by a distant station running FT8, all without any user intervention from one or either end. The contention is that this method of making contacts doesn't seem like the ham radio that

we're used to. There's a feeling by some who have worked hard to obtain some award, such as DXCC, that this new method somehow cheapens their awards, thereby devaluing amateur radio as a result.

In my youth, I remember mowing many lawns so I could purchase the local ice cream fad: a Triple-decker Hecker. When I was finally able to pay for one, I saw another kid simply get handed one by his dad. Suddenly, I felt cheated, like all the work I had put into that cone was somehow devalued, cheapened. It wasn't until years later that my more mature self realized another person's experience doesn't need to define my own. For all I know, that kid completely deserved that cone, but I'm not his judge. I knew I had earned my Triple-decker Hecker, and once I realized nothing was going to change that, it was a lot easier to feel happy for somebody else's successes, because I stopped comparing them to mine.

Bottom line is that FT8 doesn't devalue amateur radio, but enhances it. I have a friend who has found "traditional" amateur radio very difficult, due to his speech impediment. When I introduced him to FT8, he thought he had finally found ham heaven, and really took off with it, because he could still enjoy one aspect of ham radio, without having to stumble over his words. Now, instead of enduring the embarrassment of having to repeat nearly everything he says, he sends his information, then reads the reply on the screen, and logs the contact.

So, FT8 might not be for *all*, but it's yet another way for *some* to do ham radio, especially if that's their only mode, and it's gaining popularity daily.

Naji Ratzlaff, KNØJI (kn0ji@arrl.net)

Radio-communication Account

Radiokommunikasierekening

Payment stub

Region code:
Streekkode:

7 9 4 5 5

Licence no./Lisensieno.:

0 0 1 4 2 5 4 7 0

Allocation:
Toewysing:

1309

Betalingsteenblad

Licence fee/Rental/Levy:
Lisensiegeld/Huur/Heffing:

0 0 0 1 2 0 0

FIVE CC

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY PAYMENT

The Honourable/Prof./Dr./Rev./Mr./Mrs/Miss
Sy Edele/Prof./Dr./Ds./Mnr./Mev./Mej.

CC FIVE
43 CLARENDON STREET
MOUNT PLEASANT
6001 PORT ELIZABETH

HIERDIE VORM MOET BETALING VERGESEL
Lic. no.: 01425470 Region code: 79455
Lic.-no.: Strekkode:

Region: EASTERN CAPE
Streek:

Amount: R***12,00
Bedrag:

Final date for payment: 90/03/09
Laaste betaaldag:

This account may be paid at any post office
Hierdie rekening kan by enige poskantoor betaal word

Date/Datum		DESCRIPTION OF ITEM/BESKRYWING VAN ITEM		BALANCE B/F BALANS O/B		R c	
1990		AMATEUR				12,00	
		ACCOUNT I.R.O. : 43 CLARENDON STREET MOUNT PLEASANT PORT ELIZABETH					

SARL FIELD DAY

by Gert ZS2GS

PEARS arranged a field day at The Noordhork Ski Boat Club, about 15 km outside of Port Elizabeth. The original idea was to erect a tent and that members could camp there for the weekend.

Rainy weather was forecast and it was decided to use one of the indoor braai facilities as our shack.

As the competition was to start at 10:00 (CAT). The following members arrived at 09:00 to assist me to erect the field station, namely Dave ZS2DH, Donovan ZS2DL, Andrew ZS2G, Kevern ZR2BK (All the way from St Francis), Shaun ZS2SG and Odette ZS2OD. A big thanks to these members

During the course of the day Allan ZS2BO and Patsy ZS2PTY came and said hello but did not operate. However I heard Allan ZS2BO operate from his QTH. Vaughan ZS2VR also arrived and erected a magnetic loop coupled to his 20 amp output rig, Vaughan made 2 contacts on 20 metres and 2 on 40 meters. The other operators used only 40 meters and made about 30 contacts mostly with division 1. Late in the afternoon Andrew ZS2G erected his own 20 meter antenna and made a few contacts.

At about 12:00 the fires were lit and a good social was also has by all

As far as I am concerned Saturday was a success, I am very disappointed on the Sunday when no one attended and I was left alone to take down the mast and antenna that I could not do on my own. Fortunately some of the Ski Boat Club staff members came and assisted me.

I find it very frustrating that when an event is arranged and it is so badly attended and I am not only referring to the field day but other events as well

Once again thanks to all that assisted and participated.

73

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

September

24 Shaun Baumeister ZS2L
24 Dylan MacDonald ZS2MAC
28 Glen Cummings ZS2GV

October

01 Eric Hosten ZS2ECH
04 Donovan van Loggerenberg ZS2DL
06 Danny Liebenberg ZS2E
09 Tejas Gajjar ZS2TG
12 Trevor Hartwig ZS2TJ
12 Neil Thomas ZR2NT
13 Llise Dodd ZS2LLD

Spouse Birthdays

September

20 Ellie Goosens Rudi ZR2RCG
25 Sarita Brand Albert ZS2BA
26 Caryn Pearson Graham ZS2GKP
22 Elsa Vermeulen Johannes ZS5JPV

October

03 Kerstin Purdon Neill ZS2NIL
08 Vanessa Scarr ZS2VS Christopher
ZS2AAW

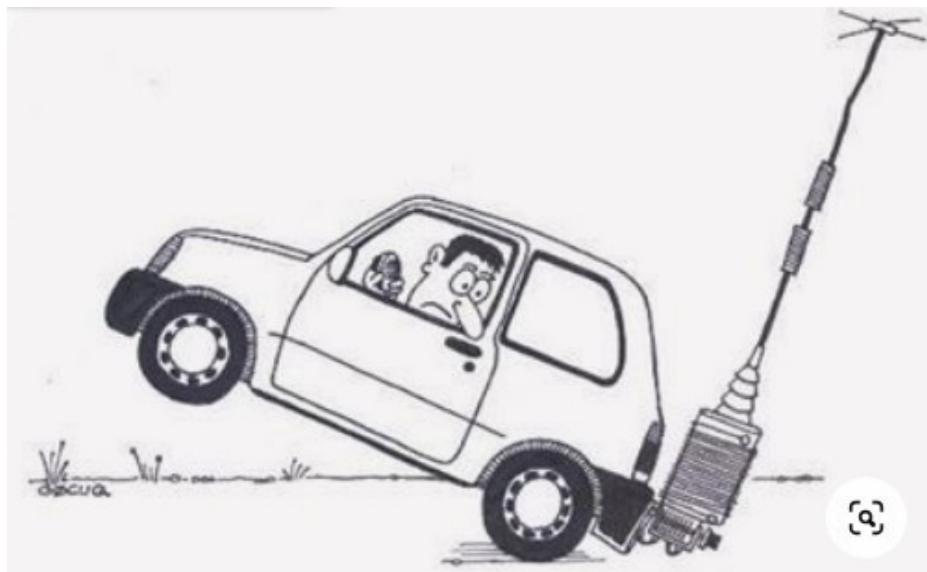
Anniversaries

September

23 André Yolande Ollphent
27 Graham Caryn Pearson

October

01 Oct Tony Deidre Allen
12 Donovan Rosalie van Loggerenberg



SUNDAY SARL AND MONDAY
EVENING PEAR'S
BULLETINS

PEAR'S 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 145.650MHz.

PEAR'S 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

18-Sep	Ashley	ZS2AG
25-Sep	Jimmy	ZS2JIM
02-Oct	Paul	ZS2PS
09-Oct	Rory	ZS2BL
16-Oct	Jimmy	ZS2JIM
23-Oct	Paul	ZS2PS
30-Oct	Chris	ZS2AAW
06-Nov	Mike	ZS2MIC
13-Nov	Dave	ZS2DH

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

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Our 2023/2024 PEARS Committee

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, 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
Secretary, Repeaters, Website updates, QSX emailing, club database	Christopher Scarr	ZS2AAW	christopher[at]peham.co.za	082 925 6367
SARL liaison, Hammies, Youth, Contest Scoring	Dave Higgs	ZS2DH	om[at]zs2dh.co.za	082 387 5657
Technical/repeaters, Search and Rescue & Emergency comms	Glen Cummings	ZS2GV	glenvanessa[at]gmail.com	082 411 2743
Socials, Scouts interface, "Jamtin" club 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
Public relations, special events displays	Paul Schoeman	ZS2PS	paul.costcutters[at]gmail.com	083 582 9660

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	<----- IRLP available on this subnet
145.050/650 88.5Hz, Narrow 12.5k	145.025/625 88.5Hz, Narrow 12.5k	145.075/675 Wide 25k	431.050/438.650 Wide 25k	
Cockscomb	Viewlands	<----- These form linking hubs for events, hence no tail	DMR	D-Star
431.000/438.600 Add 88.5Hz for squ tail	431.075/438.675 Add 88.5Hz for squ tail		430.675/438.275 QTH: ZS2VA	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	Grahamstown	Cradock	Noupoort (link only)
145,100/700 88.5Hz, Narrow 12.5k	145,150/750 Wide 25k	145,050/650 Wide 25k	438,750 / 438,675 Wide 25k
Colesberg	Kareedouw	Plett	Brenton
431,075/438,675 Wide 25k	145,125/725	145,175/775	145,075/675

APRS/Packet network:

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

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.**