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P.O. Box 10402, LINTON GRANGE, 6015

Editing by Ashley Goosen ZS2AG

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

Next PEARS Monthly Meeting

Will be at the Italian Club on the 16th January at the Italian Club or tba.



From the Chair

Bring on 24 November. I cant wait. Yes its that time of year again, when PEARS has a party! Finally all plans are in place to have a supper evening at the Italian club on Friday 24 November starting at 6pm. The Supper takes the form of a spitbraai with all the trimmings and Ice Cream with chocolate sauce! Please support the club and come and spend some time with us. Bookings are essential so please visit www.zs2pe.co.za and follow the link

to supper evening. I look forward to seeing all of you there. And remember it is open to the whole family wives, children and even mother in law! Hi.

Please also remember our exciting Raffle, which see for a nice Yaesu FT4XE Dual band handheld. Tickets are only R50 and how you get it is by paying your money into the PEARS bank account and using your Callsign and the word Raffle as the reference. Mike ZS2MIC and Chris ZS2AAW will then allocate you tickets based on the multiples of R50 you have deposited. We hope to have the draw at our supper evening.

Please support this initiative as the funds are in lieu of repairs to Lady Slipper high site after we have been the target of thieves twice in the past month. If you have bought a ticket already thank you so much, but there is no reason not to buy another. Hi.

The RAE is now also a thing of the past for this year and we have had both

guys from PE pass. So we have two new young hams in the club and I would like to welcome them. Gordon ZR2GW and Glynn ZS2SWL.

They both did extremely well and I am very proud of their efforts. I encourage the Club to be inviting to them and nurture their enthusiasm.

Once again thank for all the support around the Monday bulletins it is appreciated greatly.

All that is now left is to say thanks to all of you for being PEARS this year. May God bless each one of you with his Peace this Xmas season and may 2024 be a blessed year for all of us.

That's it from me for this time.

Most importantly remember to "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 Italian Club on the 17th October 2023 at 19h30

Welcome:

Vice Chairman Kevern ZR2BK welcomed all present.

Attendance:

Approximately 15 attendees. As per Register.

Apologies:

ZS2DL, ZS2TAH, ZS2DK & CR, ZR2BC, ZS2GKP, ZS2BIC, ZS2JIM, ZS2GS

Acceptance of previous meeting's minutes:

Proposed: ZS2PA

Seconded: ZS2AG

Matters arising:

None

Finances:

Mike has reported that all is in order.

Raffle has contributed to a R3900 increase in savings a/c. Raffle tickets are still available, deposit EFT

with callsign and "raffle" as reference.

General:

ZR2BK

24th November end of year supper evening is confirmed here at the Italian Club. Pricing is not yet confirmed. Link on website for booking of meals will be set up as before. Will also be the raffle draw winner announcement function.

ZS2MIC expanded on the arrangements for the end of year social. Club has made arrangements so we are good to go. Thanks to Mike for handling the arrangements.

Hobbies fair feedback was given by Paul ZS2PS. Will try to take the display

to schools. Next hobbies fair is in March 2024

Dave ZS2DH and ZS2VR went to Hangklip near Graaf Reinet for SOTA. Mike also activated SOTA at Slipper on the past weekend, with 7 DX contacts on 20W!

QSOX was distributed by email. Thanks Ashley

Kevern read out the reminder message regarding JOTA this coming Saturday 21st as received from Jimmy

ZS2JIM. 09h00-15h00 at the Jamtin Scouts have been welcomed to pop in any time. Visitors welcome.

ZS2JAM callsign will be used. There will be a field station there too, (ZS2MIC).

Repeater wise – Cockscomb is back up and working, thanks to the SAPS. Slipper still has no DC backup, but is also not being loadshed at present. There are some plans to secure the main access gate to themountain, and a meeting with those that offered assistance, to be held to secure the container. Feedback was given re the case of theft opened, which was dismissed due to insufficient evidence. Discussion was held on the security improvements to be made.

ZS2AG

More articles for November (final) QSOX for the year are needed. Please support, articles before the 23rd

November. Will remind members via news and bulletins.

Closure:

Meeting ended at 19h56

Next meeting 24h November 2023 (Supper evening).

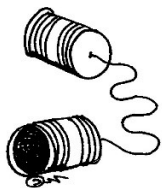
Andrew ZS2G presented some hands-on instruction and demonstration of filter testing and their response curves, illustrating a twin parallel tuned circuit with adjustable coupling, and the effect that under- and over-coupling has on the passband characteristic. Thanks Andrew

VICE CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY

KEVERN BURGER (ZR2BK)

CHRISTOPHER SCARR (ZS2AAW)



From the JAMTIN.....

Another year just about gone with some activity around the JAMTIN.

The QRZ log book is now 29 countries with 28 confirmed QSOs. The Italians are the most active with 10 contacts followed by the Germans with 7.

ZS2CJ , Chad, or as he is now known ON9CJ, is still elusive but hopefully he will come through soon from Belgium.

Apart from participation in various contests by ZS2G, ZS2EC and others, there were 2 events that were Jamtin highlights.

The first was the foxhunt antenna building technical workshop, the second was ZS2G's overnight stay to work some DX.

The foxhunt antenna building workshop was as a result of a very successful foxhunt run by ZS2GS and his brother from Cape Town.

ZS2VR provided the bill of materials and with the help of a few members the participants each built a very professional looking mini yagi antenna.

ZS2G's overnight DX started on the Saturday late afternoon with the building of a 40m antenna with radials laid out on the ground. We were joined by ZS2DL who made some CW contacts. Over the next hours ZS2OD made some local contacts and ZS2G managed to contact Indonesia.

Sunday morning, I returned to the Jamtin, ZS2G had moved to the 15m antenna. ZS2OD made her first DX contact to a ham in Germany. I continued calling CQ and made 2 difficult QSO's to France.

After the second QSO, a very strong signal came through from a ham with a very Australian accent. He has a VK callsign so it wasn't France. Turns out it was VK5KI on Kangaroo Island on the Eastern side of Australia. We were on the long path to Australia. One of those anomalies of the ham hobby.

Remember, Jamtin is available for all hams. I am there most Fridays from about 16h00/19h00+. I also try and post my DX contacts on the Technical WhatsApp group so if you are in your shack, you can try make contact as well.

Remember

Jamtin is there for you..... Just say HELLO

73

ZS2JIM

ZS2BK's Road to Satellite DXCC and VUCC

Hi, here is just some history of my passion for Sats Ops. Lic'ed in 1975 and from early days a great interest in Amateur Sats. My 1st Sat was Oscar 6 and AO-7 after I acquired VHF/UHF SSB/CW equipment to work through AO-7.

In those early days there were not any cell phones with Apps or Internet for predictions or doppler control of the Rig's frequencies . All manual VFO control to counter the doppler effect which on UHF and LEO Sat the swing from start to finish (AOS to LOS) of a pass can be as much as 18khz. So if no doppler adjustment is done you loose the other station very quickly.

You ran your own predictions all text (no graphics) from weekly keplerian elements you copied from W1AW in CW . Then entered these Keps into your Prediction program written in Basic or Fortran producing reams of paper indicating the particular chosen Sat to track in terms of Date/Time and Azim/elevation where to point your yagi's to and track the Sat.

Thanks to progress and availability of new technologies we now use a mouse and click for quick and automated Keplerian updates.

So even with all this progress and development in Satellites since my introduction in 1975, its still taken me 48yrs to achieve DXCC Sats (oribiting no GEO) currently at #108 entities and VUCC Sats currently at #270 Grids ZS #1.

For the past 5yrs I have lived in a retirement village with all its restrictions and challenges but still manage my daily activity on the birds.

CU on the Sats sometime.

73 Andre

ZS2BK

HALFWAVE VERTICAL ANTENNA

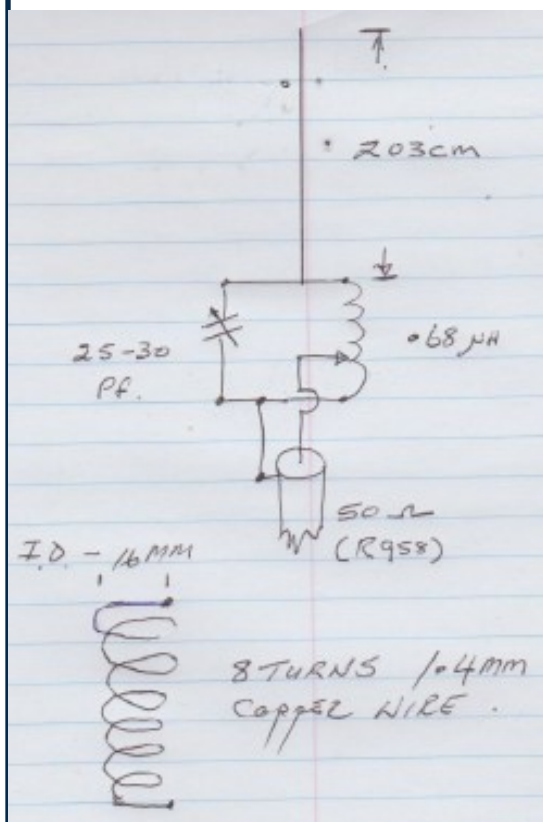
By Andre Botes ZS2ACP

The parallel tuned circuit is easy to construct from material in the junk box. The antenna works exceptionally well and no ground plane radials are required.

The half wave radiator is constructed from any copper wire and cable tied to any non metal material like wood or pvc pipe. I used a piece of Indian cane.

The tuned circuit consists of a coil of .68 micro henry and a variable capacitor or trimmer of 25-30pf.

The centre of the feedline (rg58 is fine) is tapped onto the coil from the earth end, at about 3 turns. Find the best match by trial and error. Adjust the trimmer for lowest swr. I managed 1.2 swr on the one I built.



The coil was air wound using 1.4mm copper wire (not critical) on a 16mm piece of pipe, as a former. Total length of the coil was 30mm. The pipe is then discarded.

The coil and cap was housed in a plastic box, normally used for joining pvc conduit piping. Seal the box with silicon or rubberised glue to keep moisture out. A so239 socket can be mounted on the box, or the coax cable can be soldered directly to the components.

Hope to hear some new call signs soon on 70.2mhz. The 4m net is active every Monday evening from 1900 SAST.

A GREAT EXPERIENCE DURING CQWWSSB

I had a experience of a lifetime when I had the chance of operating from one of the most professional ham stations, being that of ZS2PA,Andrew, who lives in Uitenhage.

I arrived there about just after 2pm on Friday. While unpacking my bags, Andrew explained the ins and outs or the do's and don'ts. I set my alarm for 01h45 sast that's 00:45 utc.

After an informal discussion at about 22h00, I decided to go to bed and only fell asleep at midnight.

I switched on the IC7300 at precisely 02h00, 00:00utc and heard a few stations on 40m band but signals were weak.

I then proceeded to the other bands and found activity. I tried a few stations. In all I thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and made 309 qso's, working a number of new countries but again a professional setup makes a difference

I want to thank and congratulate ZS2PA, Andrew for his hospitality and giving me the chance to operate from his shack.

73,s from Zs2ec,Theunis

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

November

21 Aidan van Loggerenberg ZS2CV
23 Colin Schroder ZR2CRS
25 Michael Steenkamp ZS2MIC

December

01 Ronald Drescher ZR2AD
02 Schalk Van Vuuren ZS4Z
02 Kevin O'Donoghue ZS2KO
05 Clive Fife ZS2RT
07 Damien Field ZS2DLF
13 Craig van Loggerenberg ZS2LR
13 Thian De Jager ZS2Y
13 Rhys Naude ZS2FRN
15 Lance Henegan ZS2LB
18 David Van Der Sandt Dave
25 Graham Pearson ZS2GKP

January

10 Tony Allen ZR2TX
15 Ashley Goosen ZS2AG

Spouse Birthdays

November

26 Isolda Hosten ZS2IW EricZS2ECH

December

02 Antoinette Liebenberg Danny ZS2E
02 Jennifer Goosen Ashley ZS2AG

03 Nadia Herselman Daniel ZS1ND
09 Cheryl Schroder Colin ZR2CRS
23 Noel Hislop Cyril ZS2EJ
24 Colette Rundle ZS2CR Mitch ZS2DK
25 Bettie Greef Isak ZS2ZG

January

08 Juan Ras Hugo ZS2HR
15 Janine Oosthuizen Gavin ZS2GAV

Anniversaries

November

27 Ian Maggie Moore ZS2IJ

December

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

January

03 Allan Brenda Whitehead ZS2R
06 Daniel Nadia Herselman ZS1ND
09 Lance Lani Henegan ZS2LB
13 Quintus Dubennette Moolman ZS2KU

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 145.650MHz.

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

27-Nov	Jimmy	ZS2JIM
04-Dec	Paul	ZS2PS
11-Dec	Rory	ZS2BL
18-Dec	Donovan	ZS2DL
25-Dec	Kevern	ZR2BK
01-Jan	Chris	ZS2AAW
08-Jan	Mike	ZS2MIC
15-Jan	Dave	ZS2DH
22-Jan	Ashley	ZS2AG

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Our 2023/2024 PEARS Committee

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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.**