

April 2024



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**

Next PEARS Monthly Meeting will be on Tuesday,
16th April at the Italian Club.



From the Chair

We are fast approaching the AGM again. It really is hard to believe that it is that time again.

Time simply goes by far too fast for my liking. So please diarise 2pm 1 June at the Walmer Scout hall for our AGM. As usual there will be the boot sale at 2pm and the AGM at 3pm and the Braai at 4pm. Please come and be part of your clubs Annual General meeting. Come see who wins a trophy, who knows it may be you.

Come see who will be the new committee and Chairman, it could be you. Or simply just come and have fun! I look forward to seeing all of you there.

Please also use the link on zs2pe.co.za to vote for the recipients of the awards. It's a fun way of having your say and also takes a lot of pressure off the committee to not have to decide these things.

After all the awards are for you, the members.

Please also remember to call in after the Monday Bulletins and remember the transmission starts at 7pm already with a re-broadcast of Amateur Radio international with the host Hans

ZS6AKV.

Most importantly remember to “Say Hello”!

See you all on the 16th April. Our Guest Speaker will be Johann Harmse from MTN.

PEARS, WE LIKE BEING YOUR CLUB

73,

Donovan, ZS2DL

FROM THE EDITOR

Every week I appeal to members on the weekly bulletin for articles to be published in QSX. They do not need to be about Ham Radio, but articles that would be of interest to all. Please guys I need your help.

Here's hoping you enjoy reading this edition of QSX. 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 19th March 2024
at 19h44

Welcome:

Chairman Donovan ZS2DL welcomed all present. (late due to RAE classes being presented beforehand)

Attendance:

Approximately 22 attendees. As per Register.

Apologies:

ZS2DH, ZS2DK, ZS2GKP, ZS2GS, ZS2BO

Acceptance of previous meeting's minutes (January):

No meeting held in February due to the venue not being available

Proposed: ZS2AG

Seconded: ZS2RT

Meeting stood in silence for ZS2KU who tragically passed away in a motor accident.

Matters arising:

None

Finances:

Mike has reported that all is in order.

Only costs were electricity availability at Slipper, and ISP costs.

License renewals are the next big expense. Certain licenses like the digipeaters will be cancelled

General:

Meeting Venue: Donovan summarized the events leading up to the February monthly meeting that was cancelled at the Italian Club. Propose that a meeting be organised with them to iron out the issues. They are keen for us to return, at a discounted rate. The meeting felt the German club should be investigated in detail. Set up the Italian Club meeting and decide from there.

Slipper:

Propose to fix the site, rewire the cabin, fix the door and take ZS2NT up on the security gate on the IN-SIDE. Work party to clear the bush, ZS2PTY has brush cutter equipment available. Then install JUST the VHF repeater running on mains at first. ZS2NT also recommended the tower be painted to prolong its life, before it starts rusting.

Silent Key:

Quintus ZS2KU funeral is tomorrow 14h30 at St Marks, also being streamed on YouTube.

Kevern gave a summary of the Kouga Wilderness contest outing recently.

Closure:

Meeting ended at 20h27.

Andrew ZS2G then presented some practical Morse Code facts and features.

Next meeting 16h April 2024.

CHAIRMAN

DONOVAN VAN LOGGERENBERG
ZS2DL

SECRETARY

CHRISTOPHER SCARR
ZS2AAW



WHO DONATED THREE OF THE CLUB'S TROPHY AWARDS

If awarded at this year's club Annual General Meeting, the recipient of the **ZS2AB – Constructors Trophy** and the recipient of **ZS2OB - DX Trophy** might like to know who originally donated these two trophies to the club.

The photo below, taken in 1985, is of two past members, husband and wife Brian ZS2AB and Marge Weller ZS2OB, who made these awards available.

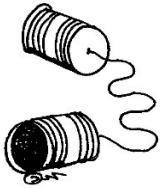
As far as I can remember, Marge Weller ZS2OB has been the only female Chairman of the Club from 1989 – 1992.

Brian ZS2AB was Club Chairman from 1985 to 1988.



Left: Marge Weller (ex) **ZS2OB** and right: (Late) Brian Weller **ZS2AB**

A few years later, Marge Weller (left) also donated **the Ham Spirit Trophy** to the club.



From the JAMTIN.....

Not too much happening at the Jamtin during the past few weeks. QRZ now shows 50 confirmed QSO's in 43 countries. So ZS2JIM has got a way to go still.

What did happen last month was an event called the Addo Trail Run. Was slightly different this year, there is a lot of development happening in that part of Addo so the organisers had to change the route. For our check point team, it meant moving from the top of a ridge, where we had good comms, to the valley where we had no comms. This meant setting up a cross band repeater close to our old spot and testing this as we drove into the valley.

This set up worked so well that I was able to hit our repeater with a handheld and have the freedom to walk around the check point. And that's where the comedy of errors started.

At some point I decided to put my handheld on top of my vehicle while I worked in the campsite. Then my XYL remembered that I asked her to move the vehicle to make more space. Radio falls off vehicle and gets run over. It still sort of worked but the screen didn't survive. So, it was back to main rig.

Next comedy involved one of our CP helpers deciding to unfold her faithful camping chair and relax. Chair decided no and collapsed. Then it was the XYL's turn, she somehow got the vehicle's key slammed in the door. The electronic bits of the key shot out into the

long grass. After some frantic searching we found all the bits, clipped everything back together and thank goodness it worked.

Our last scene was whilst dismantling the large event gazebo for set up for the event. This involves pulling the pipe frame apart. These pipes are linked with an elasticised chain so they stay together while you fold them up. Our intrepid helper pulls the pipes apart, the chain breaks and shoots into his hand. My first knowledge of this is when my XYL calls me to bring the first aid kit. Quite a bit of blood involved, so wash off, dry and apply bandage.

Apart from these small interruptions the event went off well. Comms were excellent across the check points and as always, the organisers were extremely grateful for PEARS assistance.

These events are a lot of fun, you get to go to places the general public never goes and camp in some magnificent areas. And at the same time play radio. I would encourage anyone who has not been part of these events to make enquiries and join the fun. Speak to ZR2TX Tony Allen or any of the committee members.

ZS2JIM is in the Jamtin most Fridays working mainly 15m into the northern hemisphere.

Remember

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

73

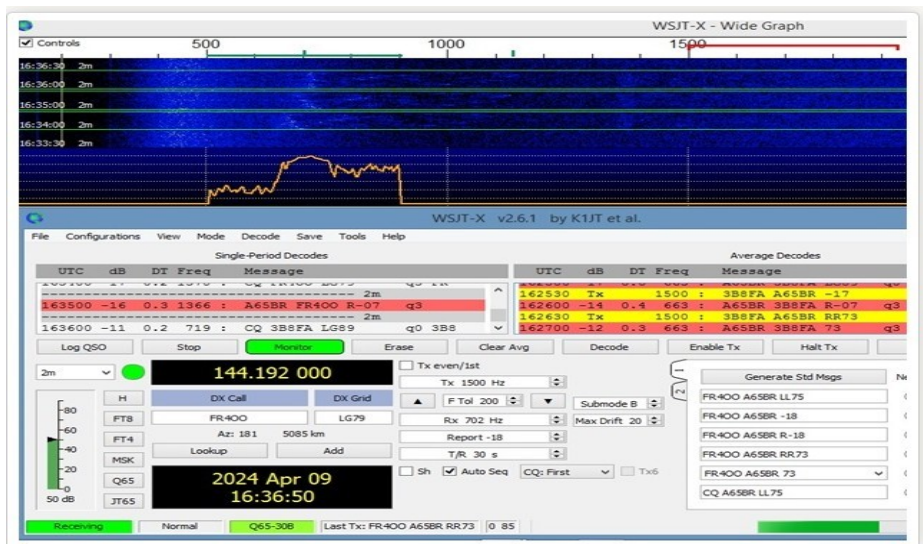
ZS2JIM

First TEP contact at 144 MHz made from Mauritius - 9th Apr 2024

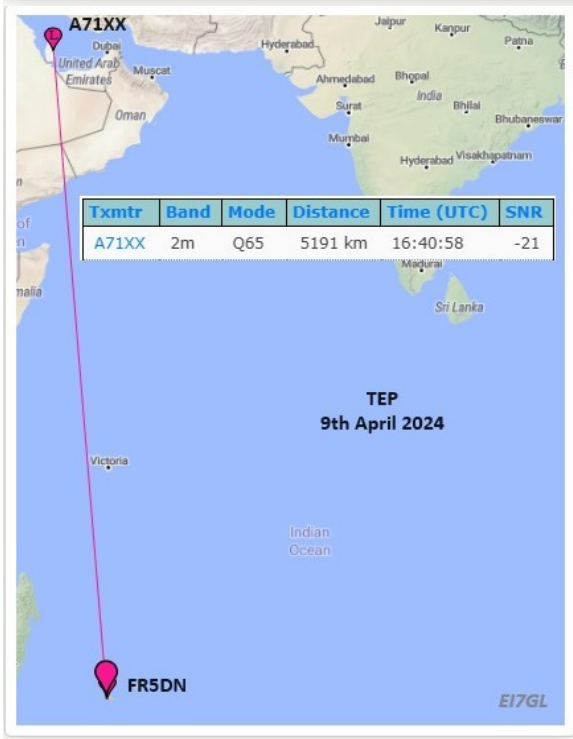
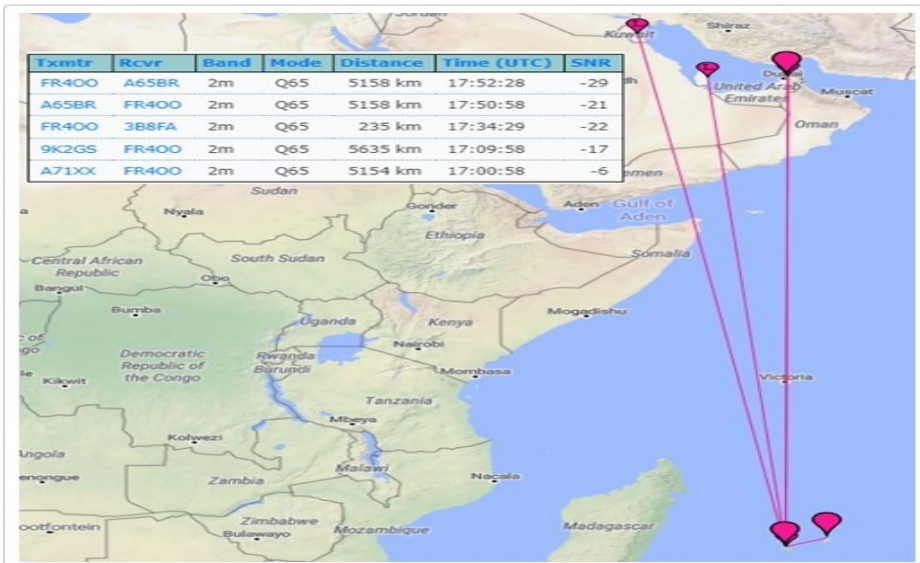
On the **9th of April 2024**, 3B8FA in Mauritius made the first Trans-Equatorial Propagation (TEP) contact on the **144 MHz** band from that country when he completed a contact with A65BR in the UAE. As the screen grab shows above, there was also a path to A71XX in Qatar.



This screen capture below from Oleg, A65BR shows the contact on the Q65 mode.



FR400 on Reunion Island also had the same TEP as the previous day to A65BR, A71XX and 9K2GS.



Just to keep the report as complete as possible, there was also a path from FR5DN to Qatar...

Looking at the maps, there is almost certainly a TEP path from Madagascar (5R) north to Kuwait but it just needs someone to be active from that country.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

April

16 Danie Steyn ZS2DRS
16 Hans Rohwer ZR2AX
22 Allan Bowles ZS2BO
28 Christopher Scarr ZS2AAW

May

03 Anmar Swart ZR2AS
08 Jimmy DeBeer Jimmy
11 Jan Swart ZS2JS
14 Rory Norton ZS2BL
17 Matthew Saayman ZS2SA

Spouse Birthdays

April

18 Annelize Baker Aldrin ZS2AGB
24 Deidre Allen Tony ZR2TX

May

03 Anmar Swart Johan ZS2PDS
17 Lyn Barker Les ZS2VA
18 Mark Dodd Liise ZS2LLD
21 Cecilia van der Heide Jacques ZR2JH

Anniversaries

April

08 Mitch Colette ZS2CR Rundle ZS2DK
11 Aldrin Annelize Baker ZS2AGB
21 Rory Jackie Norton ZS2BL
23 Patricia (Patsy) Neels Kruger ZS2PTY
27 Albie Mia Gibson ZS2AZ

May

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

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 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

15th Apr	Rory	ZS2BL
22nd Apr	Donovan	ZS2DL
29th Apr	Kevern	ZR2BK
6th May	Chris	ZS2AAW
13th May	Mike	ZS2MIC
20th May	Dave	ZS2DH
27th May	Ashley	ZS2AG
3rd Jun	Chairman	
10th Jun	Treasurer	

<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
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Treasurer	Michael Steenkamp	ZS2MIC	zs2mic[at]jgen.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
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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 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	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 431,075/438,675 Wide 25k	Kareedouw 145,125/725	Plett 145,175/775	Brenton 145,075/675

APRS/Packet network:

ZSONTP 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.