

April 2013



Armoured mobile bug with two antennae.

This Newsletter is published by the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 10402, LINTON GRANGE, 6015

Editing by Eric ZS2ECH

QSX-PE - Newsletter for the discerning Radio Ham

Download QSX-PE from www.zs2pe.co.za/Newsletter/Newsletter.htm
or www.commco.co.za/pears.htm

PEARS Monthly Meeting

Tuesday 16th of April, 7:30 pm

Nick ZS2NT on "AV - what is it?"

at the Italian Sporting Club, Charlo, 17 Harold Road.

Why not wear a name badge with your call sign to the meeting so that everyone can get to know each other.

From The Chair:

I trust you all had a restful Easter break and made use of the wet weather to catch up on all the inside tasks, yeah right, you lay on the couch watching TV just like me.

Here is an early heads-up for the AGM. It will be held on 11 May at 15h00, venue: the Italian Club. The traditional Boot Sale will start around 14h00. Braai fires will be available so bring along something to burn and enjoy the social afterwards.

The serious part of the AGM is electing your new committee. This is an important exercise as it allows you to set the direction you wish the club to follow. As I indicated at the beginning of the year I will be stepping down as Chairman but will still make myself available to serve on the committee should the members so wish. This means that some other poor sucker needs to be coerced into taking up the reins. Please use this time to canvas suitable candidates to prevent the embarrassing situation of having no-one to vote for on the day. Many of the existing committee have indicated that they are available for re-election but that does not preclude you from bringing in new blood.

The Ironman competition takes place on Sunday 14 April and PEARS members will once again be assisting with communications. As a result we will be using the 145.650 repeater for the duration of the event so please excuse us for tying up that frequency all day. By all means feel free to monitor and listen in to the activities.

The speaker at this month's meeting will be Nick ZS2NT who will explain to us what it is he does with his time while not asleep. Jokes aside I think this will be of interest to most members.

See you all at the next meeting.

73 Tony ZR2TX

WRINKLY RAVERS

The next regular monthly lunchtime meeting of the Wrinklies will take place on Thursday the 4th of April at GEORGIOS (ex Cattle Baron) in Sunridge Village. You will only be excused if you have a "more" important appointment, or you do not have any wrinkles. Come join the folks for some tremendous company and fun, whether you have wrinkles or not. **SEE YOU THERE!!!!**

PEARS CLUB SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE 1ST OF APRIL 2013

It is that time of the year again and club subscriptions are now due. R100 per member. Spouses pay R30 and students R30. Wifi fees are R150 per month.

The Club's banking details are: Nedbank Savings; Account No: 221 252 7594; Branch Code 121217.

When making a bank deposit please use your call sign as a reference.

PEARS VHF/UHF 2013 Contest Results

Analog national winners:

Category	6 m	4 m	2 m	70 cm	23 cm
Single op. base	ZS1NAZ	ZS2OC	ZS4N	ZS2OC	ZS1NAZ
Single op. field	ZS2VDL	ZS2VDL	ZS2BO	ZS2ABB	ZS2ABB
Limited period field	ZS2U		ZS2U	ZS2U	

Analog divisional winners:

Band Division	6 m			4 m	2 m			
	1	2	6	2	1	2	4	6
Base	ZS1NAZ	ZS2OC	ZS6A	ZS2OC	ZS1NAZ	ZS2OC	ZS4N	ZS6PX
Field		ZS2VDL		ZS2VDL		ZS2BO		
Band Division	70 cm			23 cm				
	1	2	6	1	2			
Base	ZS1NAZ	ZS2OC	ZS6PX	ZS1NAZ				
Field		ZS2ABB			ZS2ABB			

Analog participant scores:

Category	Call	6 m	4 m	2 m	70 cm	23 cm
Base	ZS1NAZ	123048		2568	14	14
	ZS2ACP	1464				
	ZS2OC	4014	378	7124	3735	
	ZS4N			10556		
	ZS6A	22380				
	ZS6PX	2822			336	96
Field	ZS2ABB			36834	6789	314
	ZS2BO		500	46543	5688	
	ZS2KKK			18732	5934	
	ZS2VDL	24475	584	44926	5418	
Limited field	ZS2U	1388		9068	3333	

No participants for base limited period, multi-op or rover categories.

Digital national winners:

Category	6 m	2 m
Single op. base	ZS1NAZ	ZS1NAZ

Digital participant scores:

Category	Call	6 m	2 m
Base	ZS1NAZ	42936	3822
	ZS2ACP	7200	3056
	ZS6PX	4506	

Longest distances:

Band	Analog			Digital		
	From	To	Dist. (km)	From	To	Dist. (km)
6 m	ZS1NAZ	ZS6NK	1535	ZS1NAZ	ZS6NK	1535
4 m	ZS2OC	ZS2BO & ZS2VDL	86			
2 m	ZS1NAZ	ZS6BUN	1265	ZS1NAZ	ZS6BUN	1265
70 cm	ZS2ABB & ZS2KKK	ZS2TED & ZS2U	208			
23 cm	ZS2ABB	ZS2WG	157			

Photovoltaic film recharges mobile phones with light

Copied from: <http://www.france24.com/en/20130226-photovoltaic-film-recharges-mobile-phones-with-light-0>

French startup Wysips, based in the southern city of Aix-en-Provence, has developed a clear photovoltaic film that fits into a mobile phone screen, allowing the screen to recharge the phone when exposed to light. A transparent film that costs just one euro (\$1.30) to make could bring an end to the anguish of mobile phone users facing the dreaded dead-battery message.

Wysips, a startup based in Aix-en-Provence, southern France, has developed a photovoltaic film which can be built seamlessly into a mobile phone screen and deliver the joy of life to a flat battery.

At the world's biggest mobile fair in Barcelona, Spain, the gadget was luring interest from handset manufacturers and its inventors said they hoped the first mobiles equipped with the Wysips film will be in stores by the end of this year.

Wysips chief executive Ludovic Deblois showed off a prototype of a smart-phone equipped with the film at the Mobile World Congress. By just shining a torch on its screen, the mobile's battery icon showed that it had started to recharge.

"With 10 minutes in the sun you will be able to communicate for two minutes. To recharge completely you will have to expose it for six hours, so our technology is not necessarily for a full recharge but rather for an energy boost for specific applications," Deblois said.

"For example, for security if you have to make an emergency call. So if you arrive at the airport and you have your boarding pass on the mobile you can't have a telephone that runs out of battery so you can just put it in the light and recharge it."

Similarly, the film can get mobile phone users out of a fix when batteries go flat just when the time comes to pay a restaurant bill, or buy a train ticket.

But in developing regions it could be even more important, Deblois said.

"The African continent interests us in terms of market because there are more than 500 million people with a mobile telephone but it is a continent that is only 40 percent electrified, which means people need energy to recharge their telephones," he said.

"And the usage is not the same so the telephone is exposed much more to the sun, so you could even get to complete autonomy of the telephone in that region."

Wysips plans to license the technology to handset manufacturers, who would decide the final price to be paid by consumers. The cost of the film, however, is only about one euro per unit, Deblois said.

After three years of research and development, the prototype is complete and a manufacturing line with a capacity of eight million units is being prepared in Aix-en-Provence to start output in April, he said.

The factory is aimed only at proving that the product can be mass produced, however. Wysips expects handset manufacturers to produce the screens themselves, and it hopes the first such phones will be on the market by the end of 2013.

Later, the new factory will be used to produce similar films for other products. "We are in the midst of developing applications for watches, electronic price tags in supermarkets, and home thermostats," the company chief said.

"There are plenty of other applications."

Kenyan Boy's Invention Scares Off Lions

By Alyssa Danigelis

Copied from: <http://news.discovery.com/tech/alternative-power-sources/kenyan-light-scares-off-lions-130226.htm>

Thirteen-year-old Kenyan Richard Turere faced a serious problem: Hungry lions were attacking his family's precious herd of cattle. So the enterprising boy came up with an ingenious, low-tech solution to keep them away.

Lions are a constant threat to farmers around Nairobi National Park in Kenya. Cattle were their preferred late-night snack. Turere, 11 years old at the time, was charged with protecting his family's cows, sheep and goats. He noticed that the lions stayed away when he moved around at night with a flashlight, CNN's Teo Kermeliotis reported.

A few weeks later Turere came up with a low-cost solution that came to be known as "Lion Lights." He attached LEDs to poles around the animals' area and faced them outward. Turere programmed the lights to flicker intermittently, resembling a human with a flashlight. He hooked them to a switch box and powered them with a solar panel and an old car battery.

Since Turere set up the Lion Lights, his family has not lost a single animal to lions, CNN reported. The boy's invention spread and he's helped his neighbors install their own versions. So far 75 similar systems have been set up in the country.

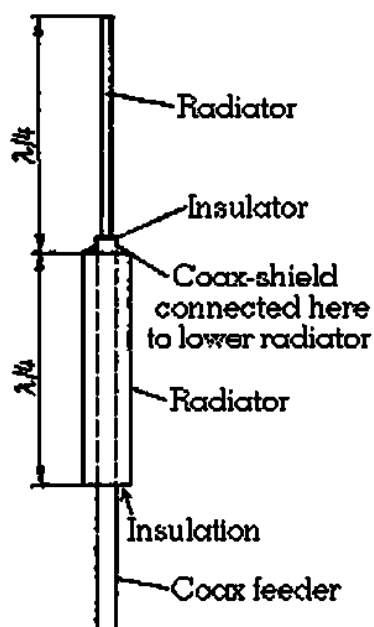
Turere's work impressed Kenya Land Conservation Trust executive director Paula Kahumbu and her colleagues, who helped him get a scholarship at one of the country's best schools. And last year he was featured in a video entitled "My invention that outsmarted lions" (video), spoke at the TED conference in Nairobi, and has been invited to speak this week at TED 2013 in Long Beach, California.

The Lion Lights are being praised for saving cattle, saving lions, and saving money. Conservationists appreciate its humane approach. As for Turere, he dreams of being an aircraft engineer and pilot. If anyone can make flying greener and more efficient, I'm sure it's this promising young man.



SHORT RANGE TWO METRE ANTENNAS – PART 3

BY AL AKERS – ZS2U



A half wave antenna is a consideration as there is no need for a ground-plane and it has a gain of 1,8 dB over a quarter wave antenna. A half wave antenna is normally fed at the centre, but in this case it means running the feed line next to the lower quarter wave and this results in high antenna currents on the feed line with all its associated problems, such as radiation from the feed line and matching. A way round this is to use a tube for the lower quarter wave and run the feed line inside to the centre point. Thus the tube screens the feed line from the radiation. This method is fraught with problems and is not recommended. If you do consider it, I suggest you first contact Ken ZS2OC and discuss it with him.

Feeding a half wave antenna at the bottom end avoids the radiation pickup on the feed line, but presents a matching problem because the antenna impedance here is high. There are several ways of solving this and these will be dealt with in future issues of QSX.

← Half wave centre fed vertical antenna. Image copied from:
<http://1313poppy.home.comcast.net/~1313poppy/easytuneantenna/>

SKA joins IBM to build computer systems

By Chantelle Nicholas, News24

Copied from: <http://www.news24.com/Technology/News/SKA-joins-IBM-to-build-computer-systems-20130311>

Cape Town – The Square Kilometer Array (SKA) is joining Astron, the Netherlands Institute for Radio Astronomy, and IBM in a four-year collaboration to research extremely fast, but low-power exascale computer systems.

The research is aimed at developing advanced technologies for handling the massive amount of data that will be produced by the SKA.

The SKA is an international effort to build the world's largest and most sensitive radio telescope, which is to be located in Southern Africa and Australia to help better understand the history of the universe.

New era of computing

The project constitutes the ultimate Big Data challenge, and scientists must produce major advances in computing to deal with it. The impact of those advances will be felt far beyond the SKA project, helping to usher in a new era of computing.

When the SKA is completed, it will collect Big Data from deep space containing information dating back to the Big Bang more than 13 billion years ago.

The aperture arrays and dishes of the SKA will produce 10 times the global internet traffic, but the power to process all of this data as it is collected far exceeds the capabilities of the current state-of-the-art technology.

"It would require 7 gigawatts of power if we were to build the computers for the SKA using current available technologies. This is equal to two to three nuclear power plants. So obviously, this isn't an option, which is why we are looking at several ways to reduce the energy demands. Optical technology, microservers and 3D water-cooled chips are just some of the technologies," Dr Ton Engbersen, Dome project leader, IBM Research, told News24.

He said the Access Patterns team is developing a Big Data depository architecture for optimising the management of SKA data.

"In computing, data is stored in a variety of ways, or tiers, depending on how often it is needed and the cost of the storage medium. Magnetic tape is the least costly form of storage, but data retrieval is slow. Disk drives are more expensive, but faster to access.

"Data storage on memory chips is lightning quick, but extremely expensive. Typically, database administrators move data from tier to tier based on rigid policies and schedules. The Access Patterns technology will learn from its interactions with the data and parcel it out to the storage medium that's most appropriate for each piece at a particular moment in time.

"Regarding the conversion, IBM scientists have developed a prototype analog to digital converter that generates one billion analog-to-digital conversions per second operating from a single 1V supply, with a total power consumption of 3.1mW — approximately 30 times less than what a cellphone uses when it's idle."

According to him IBM scientists have a roadmap that will put the power of a supercomputer into a desktop size computer by 2025.

"The Dome project is first building an IT roadmap for the SKA. Scientists are first tackling this enormous challenge, but they could imagine using sensors and remote access technologies for overall maintenance."

Collaboration

As part of the global effort to solve this unprecedented challenge, last year, Astron and IBM launched a public-private partnership called Dome, to develop a fundamental IT roadmap for the SKA.

The collaboration includes a user platform where organisations from around the world can jointly investigate emerging technologies in high-performance, energy-efficient computing, nanophotonics, and data streaming.

Through its SKA South Africa unit, the National Research Foundation is now a user platform partner in Dome.

"The Dome collaboration brings together a dream team of scientists and engineers in an exciting partnership of public and private institutions. This project lays the foundation to help the scientific community solve other data challenges such as climate change, genetic information and personal medical data," said Simon Ratcliffe, Technical Coordinator, Dome-South Africa.

Scientists from all three organisations will collaborate remotely and at the newly established Astron & IBM Centre for Exascale Technology in Drenthe, the Netherlands.

Research

"The Dome research started last year and SKA SA started a few weeks ago. The IBM scientists in Zurich will be meeting with Ratcliffe next week," Engbersen said.

Scientists from SKA South Africa will focus on visualising the challenge. Fundamental research will be conducted into signal processing and advanced computing algorithms for the capture, processing, and analysis of the SKA data so clear images can be produced for astronomers to study.

They will desert proof technology. The Dome team is researching and prototyping microserver architectures based on liquid-cooled 3D stacked chips. The team in South Africa will extend this research to make the microservers rugged or "desert proof" to handle the extreme environmental conditions where the SKA will be located.

Scientists will also focus on software analytics. The 64 dishes of the MeerKat telescope in South Africa will be used for the testing and development of a sophisticated software program that will aid in the design of the entire computing system holistically and optimally, taking into account all of the cost and performance trade-offs for the eventual 3 000 SKA dishes.

"The Dome research has implications far beyond astronomy. These scientific advances will help build the foundation for a new era of computing, providing technologies that learn and reason. Ultimately, these cognitive technologies will help to transform entire industries, including healthcare and finance," Engbersen said.

"For example, we are designing a system for storing information that learns from its interactions with the data and parcels it out in real time to the storage medium that's most appropriate for each bit, which can also be applied to medical images."

"Dome is not only innovating in the laboratory, but our user platform is setting a new standard in open collaboration," said Dr Albert-Jan Boonstra, Dome project leader, Astron.

"In addition to SKA South Africa, four additional organisations are expected to join in the coming weeks including universities and small and medium-sized businesses located in the Netherlands."

The initial five-year Dome collaboration is realised with financial support of the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation (EL&I) and from the Province of Drenthe.

IBM and Astron scientists will be hosting a SmartCloud virtual recruiting event on 26 March for several open positions within the Dome project.

SKA

The Square Kilometre Array project is a global science and engineering project to build the world's largest radio telescope.

The SKA will see back to a time before the first stars lit up. Optical telescopes see the light from stars. Before stars existed there was only gas; a radio telescope with the sensitivity of the SKA can see back in time to the gas that existed before stars were even born.

The SKA will address a wide range of fundamental questions in physics, astrophysics, cosmology and astrobiology. It will be able to investigate previously unexplored parts of the distant Universe.

The SKA will be built in Southern Africa and Australia. There will be 3 000 dish antennas, each about 15m in diameter as well as two other types of radio wave receptor, known as low- and mid-frequency aperture array antennas.

The mid-frequency aperture arrays will be built in South Africa and are envisaged to be a major component of the SKA Phase 2.

The antennas will be arranged in five spiral arms and the dishes in Southern Africa will extend to distances of at least 3 000km from the centre of the core region. Construction of the SKA is expected to begin in 2017 and conclude in 2024.

A South African company has been awarded the contract to build 64 antennas for the new MeerKAT radio telescope. Although they were being designed in Germany and the United States, South Africa owns all related intellectual property rights.

The MeerKAT is the precursor instrument for the giant Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio telescope.

According to the report, two contracts due to be awarded before the end of March were for the antennas' foundations, or radio signal receiving dishes, and a site security contract.

Another contract to install 200km of optical fibre cabling on-site would likely be awarded during the second quarter of the year.

The Square Kilometre Array (SKA) and MeerKAT radio telescope projects have been allocated R1.9bn over the next three years, according to the 2013 Budget tabled by Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan.

THE VHF SPECTRUM AND ABOVE

VHF & UHF ANTENNAS

Professor Heinrich Hertz used a wavelength of 60 cm (500 MHz) to demonstrate his historic radio spark transmission in 1888. His antenna consisted of two 40 cm square metal plates connected to each end of the spark gap to act as an antenna, and the receiver consisted of a half wave resonant loop of wire with a small spark gap located at the top. His transmitting antenna was actually a centre fed half-wave dipole configuration with the spark gap connected at the centre of the antenna, but later Hertz also experimented on a wavelength of 5 metres (60 MHz) with a rod type dipole and capacitive balls at each end. Guglielmo Marconi also started his experiments on 60 MHz but migrated to long waves around 1 000 metres.

THE YAGI BEAM ANTENNA

The Yagi beam antenna, which comprises a reflector, driven element (radiator) and a number of directors, was invented by Prof. Hidetsugu Yagi and Dr. Shintaro Uda in 1926, and since then it became the most effective antenna on VHF and UHF. About 20 years ago Guenter Hoch, DL6WU, designed the very successful long boom Yagis for 144 MHz, 432 MHz, 1,3 GHz and 2,3 GHz. These Yagi beam antennas are now being superseded by a new series of low temperature (low noise) antennas with maximum side lobe suppression. Ljubisa Popa, YU7EF, designed many Optimized Wideband Arrays (OWA) with clean patterns, which were also tried by Justin Johnson, GOKSC, and found to be excellent. Finally GOKSC decided to develop his own and in the process he invented a new type the Loop Fed Array (LFA) that he patented, and is now being marketed commercially and for military use, but all his LFA antenna designs are free for radio amateurs to use.

VHF & UHF YAGIS

The old adage that a transmitting system is only as good as its antenna system could be rewritten; a VHF/UHF transmitting station is only as effective as its high gain Yagi arrays. There is no sense in spending thousands of Rands on a fancy looking VHF/UHF transceiver with all the bells and whistles but skimping on the antenna system and ending up with a vertical antenna. Radio astronomers have already discovered about sixty years ago that maximum results can only be obtained by increasing the gain of the antenna system. When it comes to high gain beam antennas then the sky is really the limit, but unfortunately many radio amateurs may have space problems and the cost of an expensive beam antenna may also deter some. If space is the limit then stack two smaller Yagis, but if you live in a townhouse then try and get permission to locate one or more Yagis in the roof pointing in the desired directions, which will be much more effective than a vertical. You may find it a lot easier to assemble the elements on to the boom inside the roof. Anyway try and construct your own Yagi antenna, it is cost effective and not that difficult to build and well worth the trouble - the more elements the more gain! If you have a problem with the construction then just ask for help from a radio amateur, or if you can't put up a Yagi then try a horizontal loop.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM A BEAM ANTENNA

Remember that you must first hear a distant VHF station before you can even think about working it. So the first step is to listen if you can hear any of the 50 MHz and/or 144 MHz beacons on the air as this will give you an idea whether your station needs further improvement. Meteor scatter signals on 50 MHz (the Magic band) could be audible on most mornings around sunrise, but should be very strong during meteor showers. Then look out for Tropo openings during the warmer months as well as in the early mornings or at night, which can produce strong signals over long distances from beacons or amateurs on 50 MHz but especially on 144 MHz (the Tropo band). Country-wide contacts are possible on VHF and UHF if you are equipped with a high gain Yagi array, and the appearance of the unexpected super Sporadic-E openings will be the cherry on the cake if you are wide awake to detect it.

Regards Mike, ZS2FM

ERRATA

Please note that the "Barlow Wadley Loop" in last month's issue should have read the "Wadley Loop" and it was invented by Dr Trevor Wadley.

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday school.

'Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved.'

'Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?' his Mother asked.

'Well, no, Mom. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!'

VHF NEWS

LOCAL BEACONS

50,007 MHz FSK – ZS2X near Port Elizabeth
 50,044 MHz CW – ZS6TWP Polokwane
 50,050 MHz CW – ZS6JON Krugersdorp
 50,070 MHz CW – ZS6AYE near Nelspruit
 50,080 MHz FSK – ZS1SIX Cape Town
 50,321 MHz FSK – ZS5SIX near Pietermaritzburg

70,010 MHz CW – ZS6JON Krugersdorp
 70,025 MHz CW – ZS6WAB Polokwane

144,410 MHz CW – ZS6WAB Polokwane
 144,415 MHz CW – ZS4BFN Bloemfontein
 144,420 MHz CW – ZS5J Richards Bay

144,435 MHz CW - ZS1NAZ Cape Town
 144,440 MHz CW – ZS6JON Krugersdorp

 432,460 MHz CW – ZS6JON Krugersdorp

 1296,800 MHz CW – ZS6JON Krugersdorp

DX BEACONS

50,0016 MHz CW – Z21SIX Harare, Zimbabwe.
 (1 870 km from Port Elizabeth)
 50,300 MHz CW – VK0RTM Mawson Station, Mac
 Robertson Island, Antarctica. (4 430 km).
 144,418 MHz JT65b – FR5DN Reunion Island.
 (3 247 km). This beacon can be heard on SSB too.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Last year about this time I was so excited to complete my 2m EME WAC (Worked All Continents).
 Some EME Guru's then said: now VUCC (ARRL's VHF/UHF 100 locator Qso's).
 Well, to date 10 months later I've been blessed with 111 EME qso locations (Nelson I hope not?).
 Yip it's slow but at least the moon's batteries don't run flat, Hi.
 73, Andre - ZS2BK

HAMNET SIMULATED EMERGENCY CONTEST – MARCH 2013

I was impressed with this contest because there was so much activity. The operating was excellent and from all appearances, everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly. That was the aim of the contest!

Congratulations to the winners who are:

Single operator stationary mobile	ZS5J
Single operator portable	ZS6LJK
Multi operator portable	ZS5HAC
Single operator base station	ZS5PO

Single operator Stationary mobile		Single operator Portable		Multi operator Portable		Single operator Base station	
ZS5J	1890	ZR6LJK	1449	ZS5HAC	1500	ZS5PO	2352
ZS6ADY	1332	ZS2U	1098	ZS1SKR	1440	ZS6RHL	1995
		ZS6WBT	480			ZS4DZ	1764
		ZS6BNE	72			ZR6NGB	1204
						ZU6FR	1185
						ZS2DK	1104
						ZS2J	1026
						ZS6APT	980
						ZS6YE	222
						ZS5R	72

THE PEARS MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH OF MARCH 2013 AT THE ITALIAN CLUB, PORT ELIZABETH

WELCOME

The chairman, Tony ZR2TX, welcomes the meeting.

ATTENDANCE

As per the attendance register.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Mitch ZS2DK proposes the acceptance of the minutes. It is seconded by Colin ZR2CRS.

GENERAL

Tony ZR2TX informs the meeting of the date for PEARS's Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM will take place on the 11th of May 2013 at the Italian Club, 14H30 for 15H00. A boot sale will take place at 14H00 and everyone is invited for a bring-and-braai after the AGM. Tony reminds the meeting that he will unfortunately not be available to take the chair for 2014. Members are urged to be ready with proposals for the new committee when attending the AGM.

The Ironman 2013 will take place on the 14th of April and Tony still needs a few volunteers for the communication team. Radio comms for the event forms an integral part of the organizers planning.

Tony ZR2TX gives feedback of a meeting arranged by the Emergency Medical Services. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the Western Province and Gauteng. The meeting was called because there is a need for an umbrella organization which can operate across provincial borders in emergency situations. Such an organization will assist with rescue needed off the main road. It will not be affiliated by organizations such as the Radio Amateurs, or the Mountain Club, but will consist of voluntarily organizations such as the Mountain Club, Radio Amateurs, 4x4 clubs, etc. Volunteers will be on call, but under no obligation to assist in emergency situations. Volunteers will be refunded if they do assist and expenses occur.

Al ZS2U speaks about the PEARS Annual VHF contest. He informs the meeting that there is little interest in the contest and he proposes that it should be simplified. He will look into the matter and put a proposal forward that can be discussed by interested parties.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Clive ZS2RT presented a healthy financial report. He reminded the meeting that subs are due from the 1st of April 2013.

REPEATER NEWS

Chris ZS2AAW says that the Lady Slipper's Wi-Fi box is rusted and needs to be repaired.

The PE ham email server has a problem with scams and junk mail. Unfortunately there is not much that can be done to solve the problem.

The link between Cradock is repaired. Chris ZS2AAW is looking for a lift to Queenstown for equipment that has been repaired for the Queenstown repeater.

ICASA

Barry ZS2H asks what the update is on the ICASA licensing issue. Tony advises everyone to pay their license fees of R120 to ICASA.

CLOSURE

The meeting ends at 20H15 and after refreshments Glen ZS2GV gives an entertaining talk on "What GV does for a Life".

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Sunday Bulletins

PEARS bulletins are transmitted on Sundays immediately after the SARL English transmission, i.e. at about 08:30 on 7098 kHz as well as the 2 metre linked network that provides from Butterworth to George and up to the Free State and their environs. PEARS 7098 or 3640 kHz transceiver facilities are also remotely linked as needed. In addition, the SARL's 40 m operations on 7082 or 7066 kHz or Hamnet's 7070 kHz can be remotely patched to the 2 m network in receive only mode or with full transceive capability for interactive events.

A recorded rebroadcast of the bulletin takes place on the Eastern Cape Linked Repeater Network every Monday night at 20h00 courtesy of various volunteers who rotate this duty.

Bulletin Roster

31 March	Tony	ZR2TX
7 April	Glen	ZS2GV
14 April	Llise	ZR2LLD
21 April	Clive	ZS2RT
28 April	Freddy	ZR2FM
5 May	Chris	ZS2AAW
12 May	Patsy	ZS2PTY

The bulletin readers are always looking for something to announce. If you have something to contribute, please forward it to the next reader.



CONGRATULATIONS

BIRTHDAYS – April

01 Joan XYL of Barry ZS2H Jackson
 01 Rosalee ZS2DN XYL of Donovan ZS2DL van Loggerenberg
 03 Theunis ZS2EC Potgieter
 05 Mike ZS2MJ Jones
 05 Rey XYL of Saney ZR1S Martin
 07 Christel XYL of Michael Opperman
 10 Neels ZS2ND du Plessis
 11 Adele XYL of Shaun ZS2L Baumeister
 11 Francois ZS2FS Searle
 11 Ruth ZR2RS Stasiak
 13 Graham ZS2GIB Butcher
 13 Lizette XYL of Nico ZS4N Oelofse
 16 Hans ZR2AX Rohwer
 19 Conrad ZS2HUM Human
 20 Trevor ZS2AE Scarr
 22 Allan ZS2BO Bowles
 24 Deidre XYL of Tony ZR2TX Allen

28 Chantelle XYL of Richard ZS2RA Ashworth
 28 Christopher ZS2AAW Scarr
 29 Ross ZS2ROS Minnaar
 30 Louis ZS2EN Jordaan

ANNIVERSARIES – April

02 Liezel and Francois ZS2FS Searle
 04 Vanessa and Glen ZS2GV Cummings
 06 Cathy and Wolf ZS2WG Gerstle
 08 Colette ZS2CR and Mitch ZS2DK Rundle
 09 Charmaine and Otto ZS2Q Van Rooyen
 17 Lisa and Grant ZR2GEC Currin
 23 Patsy ZR2PTY and Neels Kruger
 27 Deo and Jaco ZS2JK Kotze
 28 Elsabe and Louis ZS2EN Jordaan

If you are a member and your birthday or anniversary details are omitted or incorrect, please notify Clive ZS2RT (or any committee member) to update our records.

DIARY OF EVENTS

30 – 31 March	CQ WPX SSB Contest
4 April	80 m QSO Party
6 April	RaDAR Contest
14 April	International Vintage Contest
14 April	SpecSavers Ironman Port Elizabeth
16 April	PEARS monthly meeting at the Italian Sporting Club
18 April	World Amateur Radio Day
20 April	SARL QRP Contests
20 – 21 April	CQMM DX Contest
1 May	ZS3 Sprint
11 May	PEARS AGM at the Italian Sporting Club

Your Society's Committee for 2012/2013

Chairman, Events organising	Tony Allen ZR2TX	082 956 2920	tony.zr2tx[at]gmail.com
Vice Chairman, Technical/repeaters	Glen Cummings ZS2GV	082 411 2743	glen[at]peham.co.za
Secretary, Events organising	Llise Dodd ZS2LLD		llise[at]peham.co.za
Treasurer	Clive Fife ZS2RT	041 367 3203	clive[at]peham.co.za
Social, Meetings	Patsy Kruger ZS2PTY		patsy[at]peham.co.za
Public Relations	Johannes Geldenhuys ZS2JO	082 320 3032	Johannes[at]s4.co.za
Events	Fred Leibach ZR2FM	086 619 9650	fredl[at]postnet.co.za
QSX Distribution, Contests, Awards	Theunis Potgieter ZS2EC	082 766 8830	zs2ec[at]qsl.net
Technical/repeaters, WiFi	Chris Scarr ZS2AAW	082 925 6367	christopher[at]peham.co.za

CO-OPTED POSTS

RAE Examination Admin.	Donovan ZS2DL	082 852 4885	zs2dl[at]hamradio.co.za
Assessors	Rory ZS2BL	072 026 8909	rory[at]commco.co.za
	Chris ZS2AAW	082 925 6367	christopher[at]peham.co.za
	Donovan ZS2DL	082 852 4885	zs2dl[at]hamradio.co.za
	Bill ZS2ABZ	041 581 2580	zs2abz[at]isat.co.za
VHF, Hamnet contest scoring	Al ZS2U	041 360 2983	al[at]peham.co.za
Contest Committee	Theunis ZS2EC	082 766 8830	contest[at]peham.co.za
	Mike ZS2FM	084 612 9600	mcbosch[at]webafrica.org.za
Meetings catering	Bill Hodges ZS2ABZ	041 581 2580	zs2abz[at]isat.co.za
QSX Editor	Eric Hosten ZS2ECH	072 8414 693	qsx[at]peham.co.za

Replace [at] with @ when you want to send an email (this is done 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	Town UHF	Uitenhage	Tygerhoek	Longmore
145,050/650	431,050/438,650	145,075/675	145,000/600	145,025/625

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
145,100/700	145,150/750	145,050/650	438,750 / 438,675
Colesberg	Kareedouw	Plett	Brenton
431,075/438,675	145,127/725	145,175/775	145,075/675

Packet network:

ZS0NTP-2 Packet Node	ZS0NTP BBS	ZS0GHT-2 Packet Node	ZS0CDK-2 Digi
Lady's Slipper 10,151 LSB 300bd APRS 144,800 1200bd 438,275 1200bd (FWD) 434,875 9600bd	Lady's Slipper On all node frequencies	Grahamstown 144,800 1200bd 434,800 1200bd (FWD) 439,850 9600bd	Cradock 144,800 1200bd
434,800 1200bd APRS Cape Linked System	ZS0KDJ APRS Digi	ZS0KDB APRS Digi	ZS2ABZ-4
	Mount Road 434,800 1200bd	Longmore 434,800 1200bd	WMR918 WX Station 144,625 1200bd

VHF Beacon: 50,006 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.**

TO:

**IF NOT DELIVERED
RETURN TO**

Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society
PO Box 10402
LINTON GRANGE
6015

AMATEUR RADIO is the hobby for RADIO EXPERIMENTERS
and those who like to fiddle with ELECTRONICS,
COMMUNICATIONS or COMPUTERS