

November 2014



Fountains Mall Rally – November 2014 (see page 3)

This Newsletter is published by the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 10402, LINTON GRANGE, 6015
Editing by Christopher ZS2AAW

EASTERN CAPE REPEATER NETWORK DIAGRAM

UPDATED

Enclosed as the centre page

UPDATED

PEARS Monthly Meeting

Tuesday 18th of November, 7:30 pm

PEARS will celebrate the last meeting of the year with a social and snacks – please join us for a party!
at the Italian Sporting Club, 17 Harold Road, Charlo.

WRINKLY RAVERS

The regular monthly lunchtime meetings of the Wrinklies take place every first Thursday of the month at 'Beyond Beans' in Newton Park. 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!!!!

DIARY OF EVENTS

8 November	Fountains Mall Rally
9 November	PEARS HF Contest
11 November	Armistice Day
15-16 November	SARL National Field Day
15-16 November	SARL VHF/UHF/Microwave Contest

FOUNTAINS MALL RALLY - 8 NOVEMBER 2014

Tony, ZR2TX

PEARS has been approached to provide safety comms support at this local event in Jeffreys Bay. A small scale one, only requiring 5 or 6 radio ops, so an ideal opportunity to get involved in the excitement of rally comms, before the big one in July ☺

Stage details are:

SS1	FOUNTAINS MALL 1 (Tarmac)	10:08
SS2	SWART RIVIER 1 (Gravel)	10:20
SS3	SWART RIVIER 2 (Gravel)	11:11
SS4	FOUNTAINS MALL 2 (Tarmac)	11:37
SS5	FOUNTAINS MALL 3 (Tarmac)	12:26
SS6	ZUURBRON (Gravel)	12:47
SS7	GAMTOOS 1 (Gravel)	13:18
	BRUNCH BREAK	14:08
SS8	SPEKBOOM LAPA 1 (Gravel)	14:46

SS9	GAMTOOS 2 (Gravel)	15:14
SS10	SPEKBOOM LAPA 2 (Gravel)	15:55
SS11	FOUNTAINS MALL 4 (Tarmac)	16:56
SS12	FOUNTAINS MALL 5 (Tarmac)	17:37

Please contact Tony ZR2TX if you would like to join a team or be involved in the event. Newcomers are welcome! (Might be a bit late for this year, but notify Tony anyway, for next year)

THE PEARS NATIONAL VHF/UHF CONTEST

16 – 18 JANUARY 2015

Mike Bosch, ZS2FM

1. Introduction

The PEARS National VHF/UHF contest will take place on 16 –18 January 2015, and is open to all licensed amateurs in the RSA, as well as non-members of the SARL, including those from the neighbouring states. The aim of a VHF/UHF contest is to stimulate activity on these bands, make as many long distance contacts as possible, establish new records, encourage the improvement of VHF/UHF equipment and advance amateur radio. This is a 44-hour dual contest for analogue and digital modes, it will reflect changes of propagation over the two days and offer a wonderful camping period with lots of fun for field stations. Amateurs are requested to participate in both the contests and keep the bands alive.

2. Dates and Times.

The first 22 hour session of the VHF/UHF contest starts at 18:00 CAT on Friday 16 January and closes at 16:00 CAT on Saturday afternoon 17 January. The second 22 hour session commences immediately after 16:00 CAT on Saturday and ends at 14:00 CAT on Sunday 18 January 2015.

3. Categories

(a) Base Station - a base station is the normal home or fixed station. It may be operated by one or more amateurs as long as they use their own call signs.

(b) Field Station - a field station is a temporary station set up in a caravan, tent or motor vehicle and may erect any type of antenna system but must use their own portable power supply. One or more amateurs may operate it but they must use their own call signs.

(c) Club Multi-Operator Station - A Club Multi-operator station can only operate under the Club's call sign. It may use many operators, since all five bands can be worked at the same time, and beginners should be encouraged to participate. A club multi-operator team may operate either from a base or a field station as desired.

(d) Rover Category – A Rover is a mobile station that operates from a stationary position in any four grid squares during a session. Rover activity should be encouraged as they create a lot of extra activity during a VHF contest and could appeal to townhouse amateurs.

(e) Limited Category – This category is limited to a total of 4 hours divided into two 2 hour periods during each session, and may be scheduled during any part of a session operating from any fixed grid position as a base or field station or from a stationary mobile.

(f) New 144,400 MHz FM Category – The main objective of this new divisional category is to encourage the younger generation, or even some old-timers, to participate and get the taste of a VHF contest using simplified rules. You may operate any type of equipment or antennas on 144,400 MHz FM, fixed or mobile, to make many contacts and only exchange signal reports, learn about propagation, have fun and short chats to compare notes etc. You can score 10 points for each contact that you make in your own division or 20 points from another division. Stations from other categories and divisions may also QSY to this frequency and give you some points, of course, they will score their normal one point per kilometre, but you must give them your grid locator. There are two sessions so you can work the same station twice and score extra points, or hook up with a station that you missed during the first session. Sponsors have been approached in different divisions to provide prizes for their divisional winners in this category. The names of the sponsors and prizes will be posted on the SARL VHF Forum. (Rory Norton, ZS2BL, has kindly offered to donate a dual 2M/70cm Yagi antenna valued at R850-00 to the Division 2 winner in this category. Thank you Rory).

4. Contest Frequencies

50,200 – 50,250 MHz SSB/CW

50,250 – 50,300 MHz Digital

50,350 – 50,400 MHz FM

70,100 – 70,150 MHz SSB/CW

70,150 – 70,175 MHz Digital

70,200 – 70,275 MHz FM

144,200 – 144,250 MHz SSB/CW

144,250 – 144,300 MHz Digital

144,350 – 144,400 MHz FM

432,200 – 432,250 MHz SSB/CW

432,250 – 432,300 MHz Digital

432,350 – 432.400 MHz FM

1296,200 – 1296,250 MHz SSB/CW

1296,250 – 1296,300 MHz Digital

1296,350 – 1296,400 MHz FM

NOTE 1: To avoid pile-ups on the calling frequencies of 50,200 MHz or 144,200 MHz SSB, it is suggested when activity is high to call on these frequencies but continue the contact 5 – 15 kHz higher up the band, as done during HF DX contests. So tune around at times.

NOTE 2: CW stations call 1 kHz above the SSB frequency, (for example 50,201 MHz), so as to be audible to SSB stations too, but must work CW stations 20 kHz higher in frequency (i.e. 50,220 MHz).

NOTE 3: In view of the fact that VHF amateurs are widely spread out across the country, it is important to know when and in what direction they are transmitting. Therefore spotting and any form of liaison will be permitted to solve this problem.

5. Contestants

All *ZU/ZR/ZS amateurs may participate as well as amateurs from the six neighbouring states i.e. Namibia (V5), Botswana (A2), Zimbabwe (Z2), Mozambique (C9), Lesotho (7P), and Swaziland (3DA), and only contacts with these states will count. [*ZU stations are currently not permitted to operate on 50 MHz (6 metres) or 1296 MHz (23 cm) according to the Government Gazette].

6. Reports & Scoring

A valid contact consists of an exchange of call signs, signal reports and the location, such as the 6 digit Maidenhead Locator or co-ordinates. Stations in five categories (a – e) claim one point per kilometre, but points may only be claimed for one (1) analogue and one (1) digital contact per station on the same band during a session. Rover stations can be worked from different grid squares and will count as new contacts. The number of four digit grid squares worked on a band by Rovers multiplies the scores on that band.

7. Log Sheets

(a) Separate log sheets are required for digital or analogue, but please separate the different bands. The top of each log sheet must indicate CATEGORY, FULL NAME, CALL SIGN, LOCATOR and E-MAIL ADDRESS. All certificates will be e-mailed.

(b) The simplified log sheets require only the DATE, TIME, FREQUENCY, CALL SIGN of station worked, SIGNAL REPORTS received and LOCATOR of station worked. Please note that Rover stations must add the suffix /R to their call signs (e.g. ZS6XYZ/R).

(c) All entries must be submitted to PEARS not later than 15 February 2015 and their decision will be final. The postal and e-mail addresses are given below. The names of

✖ Note: To check the status of a connection:
 Send the 4 digit DTMF code only
 An interrupted tone indicates OFF
 A continuous tone indicates ON

To switch a point ON:
 Send the 4 digit code plus a *
 To switch a point OFF:
 Send the 4 digit code plus a #

Any isolated repeater continues to work as a normal local repeater, but is not linked to the network.

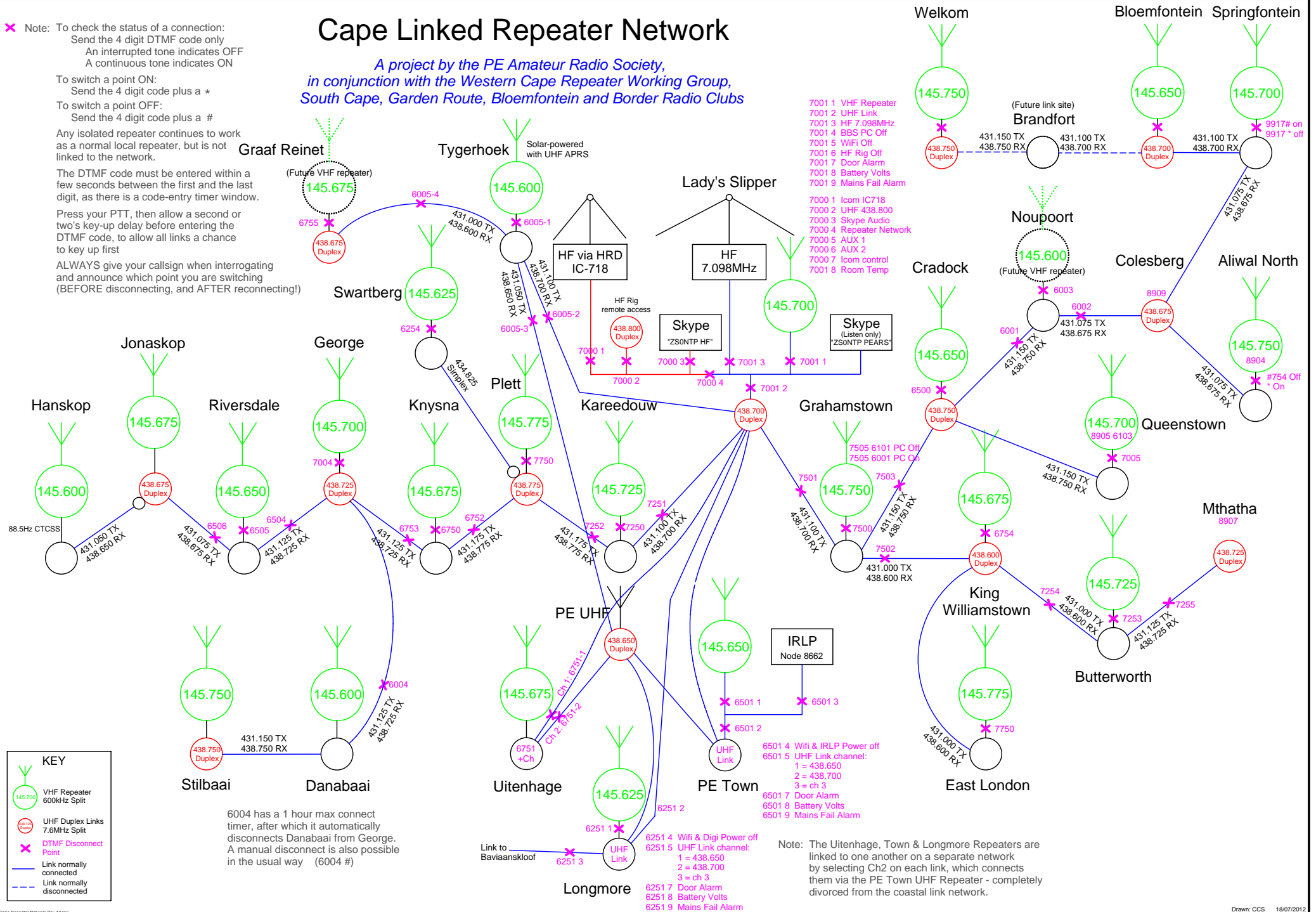
The DTMF code must be entered within a few seconds between the first and the last digit, as there is a code-entry timer window.

Press your PTT, then allow a second or two's key-up delay before entering the DTMF code, to allow all links a chance to key up first

ALWAYS give your callsign when interrogating and announce which point you are switching (BEFORE disconnecting, and AFTER reconnecting!)

Cape Linked Repeater Network

*A project by the PE Amateur Radio Society,
 in conjunction with the Western Cape Repeater Working Group,
 South Cape, Garden Route, Bloemfontein and Border Radio Clubs*



KEY

- VHF Repeater 600kHz Split
- UHF Duplex Links 7.6MHz Split
- DTMF Disconnect Point
- Link normally connected
- Link normally disconnected

6004 has a 1 hour max connect timer, after which it automatically disconnects Danabaai from George. A manual disconnect is also possible in the usual way (6004 #)

- 6501 4 Wifi & IRLP Power off
- 6501 5 UHF Link channel:
 - 1 = 438.650
 - 2 = 438.700
 - 3 = ch 3
- 6501 7 Door Alarm
- 6501 8 Battery Volts
- 6501 9 Mains Fail Alarm

Note: The Uitenhage, Town & Longmore Repeaters are linked to one another on a separate network by selecting Ch2 on each link, which connects them via the PE Town UHF Repeater - completely divorced from the coastal link network.

the winners as well as a complete list of all the scores will be posted on the SARL VHF Forum and the PEARS website in March 2015.

8. Awards

PEARS will award certificates to the analogue and digital winners as listed below, and sponsors will donate their prizes directly to the respective divisional winners.

(1) The grand overall national winner and first and second runner-up on analogue or digital modes are based on the stations which scored maximum points on all the bands in the three categories (a) Base, (b) Field and (c) Club Multi-operator.

(2) The longest distance on analogue or digital achieved on each band exceeding 400 kilometres.

(3) The Divisional overall winners who scored the most points on all the five bands in each of the three main categories (a, b and c) on analogue or in the digital modes. This will offer every division an opportunity to win certificates in the main categories.

(4) Participants in the Rover and Limited categories, can only qualify as an overall winner or runner-up based on their maximum scores on all the five bands. Likewise the 144 MHz FM category will only feature a winner and runner-up but in their respective divisions.

9. Further Information

For further information please contact the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 10402, Linton Grange 6015, Port Elizabeth, or e-mail: mikecbosch@gmail.com or Cell No. 084 612 9600.

Minutes of the October PEARS meeting

- Clive confirmed that the clubs finances are intact.
- Clive also confirmed that he is collecting money for the ordered T-shirts. Barry reminded everyone that the artwork for the shirts is still available from the last batch that were printed.
- A notion was passed that the club makes a small donation to Londt Park for the use of its fields for the open day on the 16th November.
- Tony gave a report back on : the R.T.A. + Rally + J.O.T.A.
- Three candidates pitched up for the R.A.E. transceiver test.
- Donovan has received the white board that he requested for R.A.E. classes.
- Chris thanked John for the transport of equipment received from Emcomm in Natal.

- The meeting was followed by an interesting talk given by Tony on the SARTRACK software used for APRS tracking.

CONGRATULATIONS	
<p style="text-align: center;">BIRTHDAYS – November</p> <p>05 Andre Botes ZS2ACP 05 Chantelle Rohl (Linton ZS2ICE) 06 Viv Moore ZS2VM 06 Anne vd Linden (Terrence ZS2VDL) 08 Martin Ras ZS2MR 12 Laetitia Rautenbach (Gerrit ZS2XD) 14 Dorothy Clarke (Ron ZS2MF) 23 Colin Schroeder ZR2CRS 26 Isolda Williams ZS2IW</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ANNIVERSARIES – November</p> <p>03 Ron & Dot Clarke ZS2MF 17 Barry & Joan Jackson ZS2H 20 Beavan & Mel Gwilt ZS2RL 20 Stoffel & Shirley Carr ZS2C 30 Garth & Elize Laaks ZS2HB</p> <p style="text-align: center;">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.</p>



Patton staggered home very late after another evening with his drinking buddy, Paddy. He took off his shoes to avoid waking his wife, Kathleen.

He tiptoed as quietly as he could toward the stairs leading to their upstairs bedroom, but misjudged the bottom step. As he caught himself by grabbing the banister, his body swung around and he landed heavily on his rump. A whiskey bottle in each back pocket broke and made the landing especially painful.

Managing not to yell, Patton sprung up, pulled down his pants, and looked in the hall mirror to see that his butt cheeks were cut and bleeding. He managed to quietly find a full box of Band-Aids and began putting a Band-Aid as best he could on each place he saw blood.

He then hid the now almost empty Band-Aid box and shuffled and stumbled his way to bed.

In the morning, Patton woke up with searing pain in both his head and butt and Kathleen staring at him from across the room.

She said, 'You were drunk again last night weren't you?'

Patton said, 'Why you say such a mean thing?'

'Well,' Kathleen said, 'it could be the open front door, it could be the broken glass at the bottom of the stairs, it could be the drops of blood trailing through the house, it could be your bloodshot eyes, but mostly it's all those Band-Aids stuck on the hall mirror.'

Sunday Bulletins

PEARS provides a local reading of the SARL national bulletins in Afrikaans at 08h15 and English at 08h30. The club bulletins are transmitted immediately after the SARL English bulletin, i.e. at about 08:45 on 7098 kHz as well as the 2m linked network that provides coverage from Butterworth to George and up to the Free State and their environs.

A recorded rebroadcast of the society bulletin takes place on the Eastern Cape Linked Repeater Network every Monday night at 20h00, courtesy of Ewalt, ZS2EHB.

Bulletin Roster

2 November	Nick	ZS2NT
9 November	Chris	ZS2AAW
16 November	Johannes	ZS2JO
23 November	Tony	ZR2TX
30 November	Theunis	ZS2EC
7 December	Chris	ZS2AAW
14 December	Nick	ZS2NT

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



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Your Society's Committee for 2014-2015

Chairman	Nicholas Thompson ZS2NT	082 490 0824	Nick.peham[at]gmail.com
Vice Chairman, Technical/repeaters	Glen Cummings ZS2GV	082 411 2743	glenvanessa[at]gmail.com
Secretary, Functions organising	Patsy Kruger ZS2PTY		patsy[at]peham.co.za
Treasurer	Clive Fife ZS2RT	041 367 3203	clive[at]peham.co.za
Public Relations	Johannes Geldenhuys ZS2JO	082 320 3032	Johannes[at]s4.co.za
Events, Rally organising	Tony Allen ZR2TX	082 956 2920	tony.zr2tx[at]gmail.com
QSX Distribution, Contests, Awards, ZS2PE	Theunis Potgieter ZS2EC	082 766 8830	zs2ec[at]vodamail.co.za
Technical/repeaters, WiFi	Chris Scarr ZS2AAW	082 925 6367	christopher[at]peham.co.za

CO-OPTED POSTS

RAE Examination Admin.	<i>Vacant</i>	-	-
Assessors	Rory ZS2BL Chris ZS2AAW Donovan ZS2DL Bill ZS2ABZ	072 026 8909 082 925 6367 082 852 4885 041 581 2580	rory[at]commco.co.za christopher[at]peham.co.za zs2dl[at]hamradio.co.za zs2abz[at]isat.co.za
Hamnet scoring	Al ZS2U	041 360 2983	al[at]peham.co.za
Contest Committee	Theunis ZS2EC	082 766 8830	contest[at]peham.co.za
PEARS VHF/UHF Contest	Mike ZS2FM	084 612 9600	mikebosch[at]gmail.com
Meetings catering	Bill Hodges ZS2ABZ	041 581 2580	zs2abz[at]isat.co.za
QSX Editor	<i>Vacant</i>	-	-

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 145,050/650	Town UHF 431,050/438,650	Uitenhage 145,075/675	Longmore 145,025/625	IRLP available on this subnet
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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 145,100/700	Grahamstown 145,150/750	Cradock 145,050/650	Noupoort (link only) 438,750 / 438,675
Colesberg 431,075/438,675	Kareedouw 145,125/725	Plett 145,175/775	Brenton 145,075/675

Packet network:

ZS0NTP-2 Packet Node Lady's Slipper 144,800 1200bd 439,850 9600bd 434,800 1200bd APRS	ZS0NTP BBS Lady's Slipper On all node frequencies	ZS0GHT-2 Packet Node Grahamstown 144,800 1200bd 434,800 1200bd 439,850 9600bd (to LS)	ZS0CDK-2 Digi Cradock 144,800 1200bd
	ZS0KDJ APRS Digi Mount Road 434,800 1200bd	ZS0KDB APRS Digi Longmore 434,800 1200bd	ZS2ABZ-4 WMR918 WX Station 144,625 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.**

Disclaimer.

Note: The Editor, nor any PEARS club member, shall not 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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RETURN TO**

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6015

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and those who like to fiddle with ELECTRONICS,
COMMUNICATIONS or COMPUTERS