



February 2025



Ladies Slipper Hiking Trail near Port Elizabeth

This Newsletter is published by the Port Elizabeth Amateur
Radio Society

Editing by Ashley Goosen ZS2AG

QSX-PE - Newsletter for the discerning Radio Ham

Next PEARS Monthly Meeting will be on Tuesday,
18th March 2025 at the German Club.

From the Chair



Dear Members,

Another month has flown by and thank you to Ashley for another edition of QSX. Without your contributions the publication of QSX would not be possible.

As advertised, The PEARS's monthly meetings have found a new home, the German Club in Port Elizabeth. The time stays the same, 19h30, just another venue. The first meeting at the new venue is on Tuesday the 18th of February at 19h30. Tony, ZR2TX will be giving a presentation on Meshtastic.

On the DX side, the 2024 DX Marathon results have been released. In Africa, Donovan, ZS2DL came second, while Paul, ZS2PS came 6th. Congratulations to Donovan and Paul. Also, PEARS came first in Africa! What a great achievement! Thank you to all who submitted their logs.

The South African Radio League's National Field Day and FM VHF/UHF Contest takes place on the 8th to the 9th of March. Please look out on the various communication channels for where we will be running a station as a club

for you to participate in.

Two events are coming up, the Addo 100 miler from the 21st to the 23rd of March. This event requires camping out in the greater Addo Elephant National Park and some other close by areas included in the new route. On the 30th of March is the Ironman in Port Elizabeth. Should you be available to assist, please let Tony, ZR2TX know. We need all the volunteers we can get for these events, especially the Addo 100 miler. These events bring good income in for the club.

Club bulletins are broadcast every Monday evening on the Lady Slipper repeater, at 20h00 CAT. Preceding the bulletin is a rebroadcast of Amateur Radio Today by Rory, ZS2BL. Please tune in to the bulletin and call in on the post bulletin net.

On a final note, best wishes to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries all the best and to many more.

73,
Kevern

FROM THE EDITOR

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 the PEARS Committee Meeting

Held at the Italian Club on the 28th January 2025 at 18h45

Welcome:

Chairman Kevern ZR2BK, welcomed all present.

Present:

ZR2BK, ZS2AAW, ZS2GV, ZS2DH, ZS2AG, ZS2VR ZS2MIC, ZS2DL, ZS2PS

Apologies:

None

Acceptance of minutes:

Minutes of previous meeting were reviewed and accepted

Proposed: ZS2AG

Seconded: ZR2BK

Matters arising:

None

Finance:

Savings R 19 638.11

Investment R 60 202.51

Expenses for Jan – March 2025:

- Italian club monthly rental of R300 x3 =R900
- Electricity 700 x3 = R2 100
- ICASA licences ~ R5 000
- ISP costs of R580 cancelled now in December, so this is a saving.

General:

ZR2BK

Thanks to ZS2DL for the container upgrade at Slipper, done in December, Diesel costs also covered by Donovan, thanks DL/HRO!

2 Events in December went off smoothly.

RAE – registration opens end of Jan. 4 names already. Hoping for more. Ideal is 6 or 7 candidates.

Jamtin – whatsapp received from Scouts. Rental comes to an end in Feb. Scouts want to use it for training purposes. Need to reclaim the Silent Keys board and maybe the big map (ZS2PS offered). Tower came from ZS2BK, so is a PEARS asset.

VHF Contest is done. About 10 logs received. Most operated one day only (Saturday). Digital was only 2 logs. Thanks Paul for going to the effort of activating Olifantskop.

SARL competition in March will see them going back to Olifantskop.

Club meeting venue:

Italian Club has changed to Monthly fees to be paid in advance. R300 per month.

German Club can accommodate us, they have various halls, restaurant works, bar is stocked, R400 per month, so slightly more, but service and reliability is a better bet. Field days also possible on their premises. Braai place available. Propose a supper evening for the first meeting PEARS holds at the new venue. Cancelled ISP costs will cover this monthly cost. Tuesdays are available. Meeting agreed unanimously to try this.

Wifi:

Wifi link ZS2AAW to Mount Road purchase was approved by the meeting, but first we will try a reclaimed 5GHz link that ZR2BK has available. This will enable DMR, DSTAR, IRLP, Echolink and also future AllStar nodes to link repeaters where needed, to other regions as an option

Longmore

Interference from Southern Cape Eden Radio Club – hitting Longmore on either a link or VHF frequency. Approach them to please change configuration or frequency.

Hammies

ZR2BK organised a possible trip for Hammies to Shamwari. Offer still stands since 2021 when it was first requested. Youth sprint, Youth Day or a similar contest weekend to be chosen. Liasing with Lunga from EL. Will also count as a park activation.

Club Activities suggestions:

- Fox hunt every quarter?
- Learning CW via classes on air with ZS2DL
- Construction – antennas with ZS2VR, Every Tuesday constructors/programming evening on Zoom with ZS2R/ZR2NT
- DXpedition – plan one!
- Trans-Atlantic contacts on VHF (not satellite or EME). Resuscitate the VHF beacon/s

ZS2AG

QSX articles are needed earlier in the month as he still has saltmine stuff to do. Can't be at the last minute.

ZS2MIC

Need to reinstate the repeaters – Slipper performance is shocking, suspect the antennas are wrong. More activity will generate more interest in club activities.

ZS2DL

Slipper cancellation is concluded, so he would like to sponsor R500 a month towards Slipper. Paperwork is needed. ZS2MIC will look into it.

ZS2AAW

Equipment from the late ZS2RL to be advertised on the web as before. Funds for the widow.

Closure

Meeting closed at 19h37

Next meeting 17th February 2025.

CHAIRMAN

KEVERN BURGER (ZR2BK)

SECRETARY

CHRISTOPHER SCARR (ZS2AAW)

P.E.A.R.S. VHF / UHF CONTEST

By Glen ZS2GV

What does a person do when the club contest clashes with a family occasion ?

Combine the two....

The family do was in Jefferies Bay at a double storied house in Wave Crest with a good view towards P.E. and its surrounding mountains.

Thankfully Vaughan, ZS2VR, had run a workshop last year to build a 2M yagi for fox hunting.



Well, this antenna and the Yaesu FT-817 were smuggled into the vehicle. The 817 was chosen in case someone wanted to try ssb on 2M.

I managed to hear the following stations: ZS2GS and ZS2ACP. I managed to work : ZS2DL; ZS2SG and ZS2N. Not too bad I suppose considering the setup....



The Results of the 2025 Summer SARL QRP Contest (2025 Leg1)

The results of the SARL QRP Contest held on 18 January 2025 have been released.

The results are available on the SARL website under Contest Results.

Congratulations to the winners in each category,

The QRP and 1 Watter Champion, the QRP Mode Pro's and the QRP Chaser Pro.

Awards

1st	Kobus, ZS6BOS	- 131	Points	QRP Champion, QRP 1 Watter and Phone Mode Pro
2nd	Brandon, ZS6LZ	- 90	Points	
3rd	Phillip, ZS6FY	- 82	Points	
4th	Keith, ZS6HI	- 73	Points	
5th	Gerrit, ZS6KF	- 58	Points	
6th	Ryan, ZS6GGR	- 52	Points	
7th	Kobus, ZS6KBS	- 50	Points	
8th	Peet, ZS3PL	- 44	Points	
9th	Petrus, ZU3PL	- 44	Points	
10th	Lee, ZR6LC	- 42	Points	
11th	Cape Radio Group, ZS1CRG	- 34	Points	
12th	Matthew, ZS6MDV	- 33	Points	CW and FT8 Mode Pro
13th	Mark, ZS6MDX	- 31	Points	
14th	Dieter, ZS1DWH	- 24	Points	
15th	Graham, ZS6GL	- 23	Points	
16th	Stewart, ZR1WT	- 23	Points	
17th	Keverne, ZS1ABU	- 21	Points	
18th	Theunis, ZS2EC	- 20	Points	
19th	Justin, ZS6JGP	- 15	Points	
20th	Danie, ZS6DPS	- 13	Points	QRP Chaser Pro

Submitted for publication by Theunis ZS2EC

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

February 2025

18 Carlin Mitchell ZS2NM
18 Peter Flynn ZS2PF
19 Gary Laaks ZS2GRL
25 Kevern Burger ZR2BK
26 Jacques van der Heide ZR2JH
28 Basie Du Plessis ZR2BA
29 Wolf Gerstle ZS2WG

March 2025

01 Rudi Goosens ZR2RG
08 Errol Kleinhans ZS2EK

Spouse Birthdays

February 2025

25 Jacqui Saayman Matthew ZS2SA

March 2025

01 Wendy Gilbert Shawn ZS2SG
03 Daphne Galpin Paul ZS2PG

Anniversaries

February 2025

22 Matthew Jacqui Saayman ZS2SA
23 Colin Cheryl Schroder ZR2CRS

March 2025

03 Tim Teresa Joubert ZS2X
15 Arno Cheryl du Preez ZS2ABT
18 Andrew Roslyn Prideaux ZS2PA

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 at 8:30 in English read by Rory ZS2BL, transmitted through the Lady's Slipper Repeater on 145.700MHz.

PEARS Bulletins are transmitted on Monday evenings at 20H00 through the Lady's Slipper repeater 145.700MHz 88.5Hz Narrow, which is coupled to the Longmore Repeater 145.625 MHz 88.5Hz Narrow.

Bulletin Roster

24-Feb	Chris	ZS2AAW
03-Mar	Mike	ZS2MIC
10-Mar	Donovan	ZS2DL
17-Mar	Ashley	ZS2AG
24-Mar	Paul	ZS2PS
31-Mar	Vaughan	ZS2VR
07-Apr	Rory	ZS2BL
14-Apr	Kevern	ZR2BK
21-Apr	Dave	ZS2DH

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

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Our 2024/2025 PEARS Committee

These committee members can be reached as a group by sending email to [committee\[at\]peham.co.za](mailto:committee[at]peham.co.za)

PORTFOLIO	NAME	CALLSIGN	EMAIL	CONTACT No
Chairman, Technical support & maintenance	Kevern Burger	ZR2BK	k.burger[at]stfrancislinks.com	083 401 9587
Vice Chairman, SARL liaison, Hammies, Youth, Contest Scoring	Dave Higgs	ZS2DH	om[at]zs2dh.co.za	082 387 5657
Treasurer	Michael Steenkamp	ZS2MIC	zsmic[at]igen.co.za	082 523 5677
Secretary, Repeaters, QSX emailing, club database	Christopher Scarr	ZS2AAW	christopher[at]peham.co.za	082 925 6367
RAE Training	Donovan van Loggerenberg	ZS2DL	zs2dl[at]hamradio.co.za	082 852 4885
Technical/repeaters, Search and Rescue & Emergency comms	Glen Cummings	ZS2GV	glenvanessa[at]gmail.com	082 411 2743
QSX Editor	Ashley Goosen	ZS2AG	qsx.zs2ag[at]gmail.com	082 372 6696
Public relations, special events displays, Scouts interface, "Jamtin"	Paul Schoeman	ZS2PS	paul.costcutters[at]gmail.com	083 582 9660
RAE Training	Vaughan Rizzo	ZS2VR	vaughan[at]netaddress.co.za	082 882 6555

CO-OPTED POSTS

PORTFOLIO	NAME	CALLSIGN	EMAIL	CONTACT No
Contest Liaison Officer	Theunis Potgieter	ZS2EC	zs2ec01[at]gmail.com	064 901 8079
Events & Rally organising	Tony Allen	ZR2TX	tony.zr2tx[at]gmail.com	082 956 2920
Website renewal and updates	Graham Pearson	ZS2GKP	gpearson[at]blsmedical.co.za	082 321 4798

(Please note: The "@" sign has been replaced with "[at]" in the above addresses 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	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 145,100/700 88.5Hz, Narrow 12.5k	Grahamstown 145,150/750 Wide 25k	Cradock 145,050/650 Wide 25k	Noupoort (link only) 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 Lady's Slipper 434,800 1200bd 439.850 9600 bd	ZS0KDK APRS Digi Mount Road 434,800 1200bd	ZS0KDB APRS Digi Longmore 434,800 1200bd	
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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.**