



April 2026



This Newsletter is published by the Port Elizabeth Amateur
Radio Society

Editing by Ashley Goosen ZS2AG

QSX-PE - Newsletter for the discerning Radio Ham

PEARS Monthly Meeting will be on
21st April 2026 at the German Club.



From the Chair

Greetings to all our members, I trust you have had a good break over Easter and spent time with your families, and been active on the air.

These upcoming few weeks will be busy, as we host the SARL AGM at the Willows Resort. If you have not already registered to attend the AGM, please do so by going to mysarl.org.za, and click on the AGM button. You do

not need to attend the Friday night braai and dinner, but we would like to have as many of you present for the physical AGM on the Saturday morning. At time of writing this article, only 41 members from across the country are physically attending the AGM. If you physically attend, there is a draw for a HF radio as well. This is our time to make PEARS shine! Tony, ZR2TX will be giving a talk after the AGM on Meshcore, and Andrew, ZS2G will be setting up a HF field station.

If you are unable to attend the AGM, please fill out the proxy form available on the mysarl.org.za website. Also, the voting for the new five councillors is still open and closes on the 24th of April.

The PEARS AGM will be held in May; the preliminary date is on the 16th of May (Saturday) at the German Club. The AGM will be preceded with the traditional boot sale. Please look out for announcements and check your email for confirmation of the date.

The link is available on the PEARS website to nominate members for awards. Please take the time, think long and hard, and vote for who you believe should be worthy of these awards.

The Annual Subs are also due and are payable by the end of April. Only those members in good standing will be allowed to vote at the AGM.

I wish to personally thank all those members who willingly made themselves available for all our events. This past event, the Ironman, the club received a donation of R5000. Without your support our club would have higher subs, and these events help to keep costs down. Thank you to everyone for your contribution.

The RAE course is going well, and the candidates have done their HF assessments. Thank you to Vaughan, ZS2VR and Shaun, ZS2SG for your contribution and running the RAE for the club.

I look forward to seeing you at both AGM's, and until then....

73,

Kevern, ZR2BK

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 the May copy of QSX, please let me have your contribution by email to qsx.zs2ag@gmail.com.

The May edition will be my last as editor as I am stepping down as editor and from the committee at the AGM. I wish to thank all that have supported QSX over the past few years. It has indeed been an honour to have been its editor.

73,

Ashley ZS2AG

Minutes of PEARS Monthly Meeting

Held at the German Club on the 17th March 2026 at 19h30

Welcome:

Chairman Kevern ZR2BK welcomed all present.

Attendance:

Approximately 15 attendees. As per Register.

Apologies:

ZS2DH, ZS2PTY, ZR2CRS

Acceptance of previous meeting's minutes:

Proposed: ZS2AG

Seconded: ZS2RT

Matters arising:

None

Finances:

ZS2MIC reported that all was in good standing.

No income in the last month. Due to pay ICASA renewals of R3 940 and Slipper electricity

We are in the third year of some 5 year licences, so the club has saved some R600 this year alone

Events

Addo Trail Run this coming weekend.

After that is Ironman, 19th April.

RAE

8 candidates, classes are at the German Club, going well

Repeaters

- Slipper power was restored after 8 days without. Batteries needed 7 Litres of water. Escalated to

get power restored. But UHF Repeater seems faulty, to be removed for repairs. Will purchase 2x

tubular cell batteries for Slipper. Meeting in support.

- Uitenhage repeater has been delivered to ZS2AAW for prep for re-installation
- Mount Rd work Party still to be organised. New repeater, wifi link to Slipper, battery water, etc

Social

- Fox hunt planned for 18th April 09h00 from the German club. Beer and grub afterwards in the bar.

Fox will be Andrew Bouwer ZS2AFB. Will send out a broadcast message

- Meshtastic repeater requested for Longmore, to be installed by ZS2ECH.

SARL AGM

- Please register for the AGM events (Friday night, Saturday AGM, Saturday evening gala event.

- Book on google forms online.

- Add link on the PEARS site to the SARL AGM events registration.

- Some surprise awards, one is a new award in the name of a PEARS member, can't divulge yet!

- AGM booklet available on the 2nd April. Motions etc

PEARS AGM

- 16th May proposed
- 14h00 boot sale, 15h00 AGM. Social supper option at the German Club afterwards.
- Voting form for the awards again as per usual. New awards will be added, look out for them.
- Paul ZS2PS has the banners, to be used at the AGM
- SARL will sponsor a PEARS Gazebo

ZS2BK equipment

- ZR2BK is taking pics and assembling details, will be posted online under the usual sales page.

Field Day

- At Nieshoutkloof, great venue
- ZR2BK, ZS2KP, ZS2G, ZS2DH, ZS2OD attended
- Even 160m was operated – 2 contacts
- Thanks to ZS2G for all the antennas provided
- September Field Day – book the Voortrekkers Kampterrein NOW already!

ICASA

- License renewals – reminder before the end of the month

Club facility

- ZR2BK trying to arrange a home for PEARS to set up a similar place to the Jamtin. Radio

Operating Room, transceiver tests, decent antenna up, etc.

Private, hopefully at no cost

General:

ZS2AFB

- Can we have uniform shirts for the SARL AGM volunteers?
- Slipper – window comparator for the mains voltage protection?

ZS2BO

- Slipper VHF is useless! Antenna and feeder issue suspected, will be looked at

ZR2BK

- QSX – PLEASE Send articles, email to Ashley in Word format.
- Please take photos of the Addo Trail Run Checkpoints this weekend
- Guest speakers are scarce – suggestions welcome!

Closure:

Meeting ended at 20h05

Next meeting 21st April 2026

Speaker:

none

CHAIRMAN

KEVERN BURGER ZR2BK

SECRETARY

CHRISTOPHER SCARR
ZS2AAW



Andreas ZS2ALN and Odette ZS2OD participating in the SARL QRP contest on 4 April 2026, with RAE candidate, Twanet , looking on.

Bulletin Roster

27 April	Rory	ZS2BL
4 May	Kevern	ZR2BK
11 May	Dave	ZS2DH
18 May	Chris	ZS2AAW
25 May	Incoming Chairman	?
1 June	Incoming Vice Chairman	?
8 June	Incoming Secretary	?
15 June	Incoming Treasurer	?

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

April 2026

22 Allan Bowles ZS2BO

28 Christopher Scarr ZS2AAW

May 2026

03 Anmar Swart ZR2AS

08 Jimmy De Beer ZS2LTW

11 Jan Swart ZS2JS

14 Rory Norton ZS2BL

Spouse Birthdays

April 2026

24 Deidre Allen Tony ZR2TX

May 2026

03 Anmar Swart Johan ZS2PDS

Anniversaries

April 2026

21 Rory Jackie Norton ZS2BL

23 Patricia (Patsy) Neels Kruger ZS2PTY

May 2026

02 Johannes (Joe) Daschell Geldenhuys
ZS2JO

03 Ettiene Petro Lotter ZS2LE

05 Bennie Suzette Greyling ZR2BC

Sunday SARC and Monday Evening PEARS Bulletins

PEARS provides a local reading of the SARC 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.

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.

Our 2025/2026 PEARS Committee

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	zs2mic[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	Vaughan Rizzo	ZS2VR	vaughan[at]netaddress.co.za	082 882 6555
Technical/repeaters, Search and Rescue & Emergency comms	Glen Cummings	ZS2GV	glenvanessa[at]gmail.com	082 411 2743
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Fox hunts, Field Days	Andrew Bouwer	ZS2AFB	andrew[at]bouwer.cc	072 546 7836

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
RAE Training	Shaun Gilbert	ZS2SG	gaswise3[at]gmail.com	083 672 5241

(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	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.**