



Q SX-PE

JUNE
2026

NEWSLETTER FOR THE DISCERNING RADIO HAM

PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY



Chris, ZS2AAW at the AGM
enjoying some
ZS2DD ice-cream.

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PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
ESTABLISHED EXCELLENCE IN AMATEUR RADIO

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Disclaimer










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YOUR COMMITTEE

Meet the team behind your Club!

Thank you to each of our committee members for their time, dedication and support.

| | |
|--|---------------|
|  Kevern | ZR2BK |
|  Chris | ZS2AAW |
|  Glen | ZS2GV |
|  Vaughan | ZS2VR |
|  Andrew | ZS2AFB |
|  Mike | ZS2MIC |
|  Patsy | ZS2PTY |
|  Odette | ZS2OD |
|  Andre | ZS2ALN |

CLUB NEWS

Football on the Air - Really?

<https://www.wc2026ses.org/>



The FIFA World Cup Tournament being hosted across North America will have Football fans at the edge of their seats from the first kick-off on 11 June through to the final whistle on 19 July.

Matches will be held in 16 host cities, starting with Mexico City on 11 June. Other matches will be held across the USA and Canada with the final being in New York on 19 July.

While Football fans will be watching the games, Radio hams will be calling "CQ - Football on the Air" from the stadiums on match days. Operators will be using 1x1 callsigns (like W1C, W2C, K0C, K4C) from the US cities, while Canada will use VC3F and VB7F, and Mexico 4A1MTY, 4A1GDL, and 4A1CMX. Operators will target CW, SSB, and digital modes on the HF bands and will only operate on match days from venues where the matches are being played.

While with 48 teams, this will be the biggest tournament in the tournament's history and FOTA will be there to share the fun and excitement.

This Amateur Radio Event (FOTA) is not affiliated with the FIFA World Cup Tournament.

More information is available on :<http://www.wc2026ses.org> or by email to info@wc2026ses.org



MINUTES OF PEARS MONTHLY MEETING

Held at the German Club on the **21st April 2026 at 19h30**

Welcome:

Chairman Kevern ZR2BK welcomed all present.

Attendance: Approximately 14 attendees. As per Register.

Apologies: ZS2GS, ZS2PTY, ZS2AFB, ZS2GS, ZS2GKP, ZS2AG

Acceptance of previous meeting's minutes:

Proposed: ZS2ECH

Seconded: ZS2VR



Matters arising: None

Finances:

- ZS2MIC had reported that all was in good standing.
- Paid ICASA licences, Iron Man comms will donate R5k, thanks to those who volunteered. Events keep the club afloat.
- Club subs are due before the May PEARS AGM. Only paid up members may vote at the AGM. 23rd May at the German Club. 14h00 boot sale, 15h00 AGM, order supper afterwards and socialise.

Events : None in May

RAE: Nearing completion. 2 weeks left. Exam on the 16th May

Repeaters

- Power at Slipper has been stable for some time now. UHF link still faulty. New batteries costs have escalated, so parked for now, leave till after the AGM.
- Uitenhage repeater being prepped.
- Longmore connected to Town repeater due to the Slipper UHF fault



SARL AGM

- Organising committee met before the club meeting.
- Register for the AGM please. ZS2's must attend in person for support. No admission fee for conference delegates
- Friday social - 46, AGM - 42, Saturday Gala Dinner - 58, 10 partners going to SANCOB
- Friday 18h30 braai, Saturday 08h00 registration, 09h00 AGM start, lunch at the Boma (boerewors rolls) 14h00 ZR2TX talk at the Boma on Meshcore. ZS2G to run HF station.
- Gala dinner 19h00 Saturday.
- Awards, and a buffet. Chicken Ala King, white rice, roast Lamb and gravy, Greek salad and roosterkoek, and a dessert.
- Working on a sponsor for Friday evening ice cream after the braai.
- ZS2PS, please arrange banners - will get them to ZS2AAW

PEARS AGM

- Link will be posted for nominations for awards.
- Please nominate!
- Looking for a QSX editor... ZS2AG standing down at the AGM



General:

ZS2G

This Saturday - 40m club contest. ZS2G may do a field station in Lorraine. 5 - 6 pm

ZR2NT

Cutoff time for the SARL function? This Friday. AGM itself one can just pitch up and attend.

ZR2BK

- Proposed to go another year without subs increase, will re-consider in 2027. Meeting agreed.
- Investigating a radio room setup with antennas etc, will provide update at the AGM.

ZS2DH

- Please, ZS2 bums in seats at the AGM. We are within 20 of the last year JHB total, would be great to top it!!
- Please nominate for PEARS AGM Awards
- Need new people on PEARS committee
- ZS6LUK in Port Alfred looking for WAZS

Closure:

Meeting ended at 19h56

Next meeting 19th May 2026

Speaker:

Brandon Zietsman ZS6LZ - 5 days of SOTA in Lesotho.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Greetings to all our members,

We are excited to publish this first QSX edition with Dave, ZS2DH as the new editor. The QSX has also been updated to a more modern look. Thank you to Dave for offering his time for the QSX.

Very important, please note the monthly meeting has been moved to the 23rd of June 2026, at the German Club. The meeting was moved due to the 16th being a public holiday. Tony, ZR2TX will be giving a talk on how to update your Meshcore node over the air (OTA). The Meshcore network has seen some expansion into the Western Cape in the last few weeks, with repeaters being erected in Plettenberg Bay.

Thank you to everyone that could attend the Annual General Meeting in May. If you have not paid your subs yet, please reconsider and renew your membership with the club. Congratulations to the RAE students that passed their exam and are now members of the club. We are excited to have you as part of our amateur community.


And with a new committee, comes new ideas. We are going to be concentrating on uplifting the social aspect of the club, in order to lift the comradery between members, and increase the eyeball QSO's. There will be much more from me in the next issue, but in closing, a reminder to listen to our bulletins every Monday evening at 20:00 CAT on the Slipper Repeater. The SARL News is also read on Sunday Mornings at 08:15 on the Slipper Repeater.


Stay warm and enjoy all the fun filled contesting and activities this month.


**73,
Kevern, ZR2BK**



PEARS AGM

 The Annual General Meeting of the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society was held on the 23rd of May 2026 at the Sundridge Scout Hall in Port Elizabeth.

 The Annual Financial Statements were presented and accepted by the members present.

 The Chairman delivered his annual report followed by the announcement of the annual awards to Club members.



TROPHIES

HRO/PEARS Ham of the Year – Andrew, ZS2G

Ham Spirit Trophy – Andrew, ZS2G

ZS2OB DX Trophy – Theunis, ZS2EC

ZS2JIM QSX Contributor Trophy – Kevern, ZR2BK

ZS2AB Constructor's Trophy – Alan, ZS2R and Neil ZR2NT

ZR6DX Noel Hammond Award – Shanelle, ZS2SHM

Merit Certificates:

ZS2BK, Andre; ZS2DL, Donovan and ZR2BK, Kevern



ACHIEVEMENT CERTIFICATES

ZS2EC, Theunis; ZS2RT, Clive; ZR2TX, Tony; ZS2DH, Dave

Appreciation Certificates:

ZS2AAW, Chris; ZS2ALN, Andreas; ZS2G, Andrew; ZS2OD, Odette; ZS2VR, Vaughan; ZS2SG, Shaun; ZS2AG, Ashley; ZR2NT, Neil; ZR2TX, Tony



OLD TOPPIE AWARD

ZS2DK, Mitch



ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The election of the new Chairman took place, and Kevern, ZR2BK was re-elected as the Chairman.



RESIGNATIONS

Resignations from the committee received were ZS2AG, Ashley and ZS2DH, Dave. They were thanked for their endless years of service.



NEW COMMITTEE

The new committee was elected with two new members.

- ZS2AAW, Chris
- ZS2VR, Vaughan
- ZS2AFB, Andrew
- ZS2GV, Glen
- ZS2MIC, Mike
- ZS2PTY, Patsy
- ZS2OD, Odette
- ZS2ALN, Andreas



The meeting was closed, and a braai social was held, and very well attended. Thank you to all the members that came out and supported the Club by being there for the AGM.



PEARS AGM



MEMBER PROFILE

ZR2BK



PERSONAL BACKGROUND



Where and when were you born and where did you grow up?

I was born in Port Elizabeth in 1988 and grew up in Uitenhage.



What is one childhood memory that still makes you smile?

Eating an entire pot of warm milk tart my mother has just made.

What do you do for a living?

I am the Technical Services Manager for St Francis Links, responsible for essential services, electrical supply, IT as well as Security. I am also a Law Enforcement Officer of the Kouga Municipality.



What is something about your early life that people might find surprising?

I absolutely loved the outdoors, especially hiking in Groendal and being a Cub and later a Scout.



What is something you're surprisingly good at?

I would say my ability to learn and adapt quickly.

What do you think the future has in store for the hobby?

The hobby is evolving, and I believe that amateurs must adapt to the change. There is so much to explore in this hobby and this needs to be promoted.



INTERESTS BEYOND RADIO



What hobbies do you enjoy outside of amateur radio?

Serving the public, it is in my blood, especially in times of disaster.



What books, music or films do you enjoy?

I love watching Law & Order!

What is your favourite way to relax?

Believe it or not, flying out of PE visiting the family up North.



AMATEUR RADIO JOURNEY

When and how did you first get involved in amateur radio?

2019 and strangely enough it was my interest as to how our radios worked at the salt mine. I started to investigate how to obtain licenses etc and came across the SARL website. From there it was just mind-blowing.

What was your first callsign and your first radio?

ZR2BK and my first rig was (and still is) an ICOM 2370.

Who or what inspired you to get licensed?

Determination. I was a self study due to the distance from the QTH to PE for classes. I also believe seeing other amateurs in action by watching videos really inspired me.

What parts of the hobby do you enjoy most (HF, VHF, contesting, etc.)?

I would have to say field days, or any contest in the field. Being on top of the mountain or at a field day working pile ups.

What is your proudest or most memorable radio moment?

I would have to say working 76 callsigns in South Africa with Dave, ZS2DH on the top of the mountain in the Addo Elephant Park. That was an experience for a new amateur that I cannot forget.

What is the most unusual or distant contact you've ever made?

Working Bouvet Island!



What equipment are you currently running in your shack?

For VHF/UHF I am using a Yaesu FTM-400XD, and for HF a Yaesu FT-710.

In the vehicle I have my IC-2730 and in the go box an IC-706 MK2G.

What project(s) are you currently working on (radio or otherwise)?

Allstar Nodes - and using them to link repeaters as well. Soon Slipper will be fully functional on Allstar with a Link to Kareedouw Berg.

YOUR PEARS CONNECTION

How did you first get involved with the PEARS?

With the RAE and automatically becoming a member of the Club.

What do you enjoy most about being part of the PEARS?

The greatest part for me is events and being outdoors with fellow members having a good time at field days.

What would you like to see more of in the PEARS or the QSX magazine?

Projects that fellow amateurs in the Club are busy with. One does not hear of anyone sharing their knowledge with the Club.



BULLETINS



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.



REPEATERS

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| PE Town VHF | 145.650 MHz |
| PE Town UHF | 438.650 MHz |
| Lady Slipper VHF | 145.700 MHz |
| Lady Slipper UHF | 438.700 MHz |
| Longmore VHF | 145.625 MHz |
| Viewlands UHF | 438.675 MHz |
| Cockscomb UHF | 438.600 MHz |



Stay connected.
Stay informed.



Thank you for keeping our frequencies active and our community connected.




73!



DIARY OF EVENTS

JUNE

2026




















| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4  SARL Top Band QSO Contest  Sonja Swart XYL:ZS2JS  Daniel Herselman ZS1ND | 5  SARL Top Band QSO Contest | 6  SARL Top Band QSO Contest  ARRL DX Digital Contest |
| 7  SARL Top Band QSO Contest  ARRL DX Digital Contest | 8 | 9  Vanessa Cummings XYL:ZS2GV | 10  Tim Joubert ZS2X | 11 | 12 | 13 Queens of the Mountain  SARL VHF/UHF FM Contest |
| 14 Queens of the Mountain Hammies QSO Party  Sherise Cilliers XYL:ZS2TC | 15  Ashley & Jenny Goosen | 16 SARL Youth QSO Party  Ian Moore ZS2IJ | 17 World QRP Day | 18  Kevern & Eugenie Burger  Tapiwa Gundu ZS2TAP | 19  Louisa Rautenbach XYL:ZS2JR  Neville Bowden ZS2N | 20  SARL 20m Club Contest |
| 21 HAPPY Father's Day | 22  Kelly Cummings ZS2KC | 23  PEARS MONTHLY CLUB MTG  Beverley Higgs XYL:ZS2DH | 24 | 25 | 26  Anschen Conradie XYL:ZS2JC | 27  ARRL Field Day |
| 28  ARRL Field Day | 29  Vaughan Rizzo ZS2VR | 30  John Ashworth ZS2GB | Other notable birthdays in June 1:Patty Loveless (KD4WUJ)Country music singer known for multiple CMA awards and strong support of amateur radio. 3:King Juan Carlos I of Spain (EA0JC)the former King of Spain one of the most famous royal amateur radio operators. 7:Prince Talal of Saudi Arabia (SU1VN/P) of the Saudi royal family.Active in Middle Eastern amateur radio circles. 14:Burl Ives (KA6HVA) Actor, folk singer, now SK was a beloved entertainer and active ham. 20:Chet Atkins (W4CGP, ex-WA4CZD) The legendary guitarist & producer, sadly now SK. His birthday and SK date are both in June (born June 20, SK June 30). | | | |



DIARY OF EVENTS

JULY

2026

| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 SARL Newbie QSO Party |
| 5 ZS5 QSO Party  Nico Oelofse ZS4N | 6 | 7  Aldrin Baker ZS2AGB | 8  Ronel Du Plessis XYL:ZR2BA | 9  Mario Tiran ZS1AMT | 10  Mitch Rundle ZS2DK | 11 IARU HF Championships  Gert Schoeman ZS2GS  Marius Rautenbach ZS2JR  Glynn Rudman ZS2SWL |
| 12 IARU HF Championships  Sandra Bowden XYL:ZS2N | 13  Cyril Hislop ZS2EJ | 14  Alex Gogos ZR2T | 15 | 16  Annelie Taute XYL:ZS1AAZ  Anton Brits ZS2ST | 17 | 18 SARL Winter QRP Contest   Marius & Louisa Rautenbach |
| 19 ZS2 QSO Party | 20 | 21  PEARS MONTHLY CLUB MTG | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 SARL 40m Club Contest   David Higgs ZS2DH |
| 26 ZS1 QSO Party | 27  Helle Bernard XYL:ZS2MB | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



03 June

Tim Joubert

ZS2X

04 June

Daniel Herselman

ZS1ND

16 June

Ian Moore

ZS2IJ

18 June

Tapiwa Gundu

ZS2TAP

19 June

Neville Bowden

ZS2N

22 June

Kelly Cummings

ZS2KC

29 June

Vaughan Rizzo

ZS2VR

30 June

John Ashworth

ZS2GB

02 July

Mario Tiran

ZS1AMT

05 July

Nico Oelofse

ZS4N

07 July

Aldrin Baker

ZS2AGB

10 July

Mitch Rundle

ZS2DK

11 July

Gert Schoeman

ZS2GS

11 July

Marius Rautenbach

ZS2JR

11 July

Glynn Rudman

ZS2SWL

13 Jul

Cyril Hishop

ZS2EJ

14 July

Alex Gogos

ZR2T

16 July

Anton Brits

ZS2ST

25 July

David Higgs

ZS2DH

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Spouse birthdays

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 02 June | Vanessa XYL of Glen Cummings | ZS2GV |
| 04 June | Sonya XYL of Jan Swart | ZS2JS |
| 14 June | Sherise XYL of Tristen Cilliers | ZS2TC |
| 19 June | Louisa XYL of Marius Rautenbach | ZS2JR |
| 23 June | Beverley XYL of David Higgs | ZS2DH |
| 26 June | Anschen XYL of Johan Conradie | ZS2JC |
| 08 July | Ronel XYL of Basie Du Plessis | ZR2BA |
| 12 July | Sandra XYL of Neville Bowden | ZS2N |
| 16 July | Annelie XYL of Manie Taute | ZS1AAZ |
| 27 July | Helle XYL of Mark Bernard | ZS2MB |



Wedding Anniversaries

| | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| ♥ | 15 June | Ashley & Jenny Goosen | ZS2AG |
| ♥ | 18 June | Kevern & Eugenie Burger | ZR2BK |
| ♥ | 18 July | Marius & Louisa Rautenbach | ZS2JR |



YOUR DOSE OF DX

Mozambique, C9. Vasily, R7AL and Slav, OK8AU have been active as C91RU from Ressano Garcia, Mozambique since 1 June. Length of stay is not known. They operate CW and digital on 80 to 10 metres when time permits. QSL via Club Log's OQRS. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/C91RU> for possible updates.

Tanzania, 5H. Chas, NK8O will be active again as 5H3DX from Tanzania between 8 June and 2 July. In his limited spare time, he will operate CW and digital modes on 40 to 6 metres. QSL via LoTW, or direct to home call.

Maldives, 8Q. Ivan, LU8MIL will be active holiday style as 8Q7ML from the Maldives (AS-013) on 7-14 June. He will operate SSB and digital modes using QRP on 20 to 6 metres. QSLs will be available upon request via the e-mail address listed on his QRZ profile.

Turkmenistan, EZ. David, DL7ZM (OE6NZZ) will be active again as EZ/DL7ZM from Turkmenistan between 7 and 14 June. As in previous years, this is not a DXpedition, but a research and education project on propagation. Main activity will be on 6 metres (50 110 kHz, CW and SSB) with 100 watts to a 3-element Yagi; "shortwave probably more around 8 AM local time" (3 UTC) on 20 metres (14 020 CW and 14 200 SSB), 15 metres (21 020 CW and 21 200 SSB) and 10 metres (28 020 CW and 28 550 SSB) with 100 watts to a vertical antenna or dipole. All frequencies are +/- 5 kHz. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/DL7ZM> for updates. QSL direct to home call.

Germany, DL. Look for DL0WRTC, DL2026W, DL2026R, DL2026T and DL2026C to be active between 1 June and 31 July "to support and accompany" the World Radiosport Team Championship 2026. QSL via Club Log's OQRS, LoTW, DCL (DARC Community Logbook), or via DK5ON. See <https://hamaward.de/wrtc26-award-rules/> for the award.

Germany, DL. Look for DF26FIFA, DF2026WM (Weltmeisterschaft, i.e. World Championship), F2026C, DF2026M and DF2026U to be active between 10 June and 20 July "to celebrate and accompany" the men's football (soccer) world championship (FIFA World Cup 2026) to be held in Mexico, Canada and the USA. QSL via Club Log's OQRS, LoTW, DCL (DARC Community Logbook), or via DK5ON.

France, F. Commemorating the 82nd anniversary of the Normandy Landings (D-Day, 6 June 1944), members of the Caen Radio Club will be active as TM6DDAY between 6 and 20 June. They will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 80 to 6 metres from the Merville Gun Battery site situated on the eastern flank of the landing area codenamed Sword. QSL via F6KCZ.

Italy, I. Launched in 1904, the 'Elettra' was a two-masted steam yacht that Guglielmo Marconi used as a floating laboratory for many experiments. Part of her keel stands in the grounds of Villa Griffone, at Pontecchio near Bologna, from where ARI Fidenza (IQ4FE) will be active as IY4PRC during the Museum Ships Weekend (6-7 June).

Miquelon Island FP - Once again Eric, KV1J will be active as FP/KV1J from Miquelon Island (NA-032) from 27 June to 13 July, including activity in the IARU HF World Championship (11-12 July). He will operate primarily SSB and digital, plus some CW and digital, on 80 to 6 metres, "generally on the highest frequency band open" with a focus on 12, 10 and 6m. QSL via LoTW, Club Log's OQRS, eQSL, or via KV1J direct or bureau). See <http://www.kv1j.com/fp/July26.html> for more details.

Easter Island, CE0Y. Manu, CE3YMR will be active as 3G0YM from Easter Island (SA-001) between 20 and 27 June. He will operate SSB and digital primarily on 40, 30 and 6 metres, with activity on 60, 20 and 10 metres depending on local conditions. QSL direct to home call.



DX WITH A FLAIR OF HISTORY

Nick Totterdell (G4FAL) via the Amateur Radio Daily on hamweekly.com

The **RSGB** and the BBC Amateur Radio Group will be activating four special calls to mark the closure of BBC Long Wave transmissions on 198kHz (1500m) after more than 90 years. The Long Wave transmitters at Droitwich in Worcestershire, Westerglen near Stirling and Burghead overlooking the Moray Firth, will be closed down on 27 June 2026.

GB1500M will be active for one week from 21-27 June 2026 and may be activated from G, GM, GW, GI, GJ, GD and GU, by RSGB and BBCARG members over the period. GB198LW will be activated by Cray Valley RS (England), GB198END by Moray Firth ARS (Scotland) and GB198KHZ by Stirling and District ARS (Scotland) during the week 21-27 June 2026.

Full details are on the RSGB website <https://rsgb.org> - search for "**BBC Long Wave Shutdown**."
A commemorative QSL card will be available for any QSOs or SWL reports via M00XO OQRS.

DX WITH A FLAIR OF SOTA

Colorado Summits On the Air will be active August 1st and 2nd for the **Colorado 14er Event**. Two bonus days will take place July 30 and 31.

During the Colorado 14er & Mountaintop Event, amateur radio operators from around Colorado will be activating Summits On The Air (SOTA) peaks and communicating with other radio amateurs across the state and around the world.

Colorado has over 1700 **Summits On the Air (SOTA)** peaks to choose from and activators are asked to post activation details as an alert on the SOTAWatch website - so check there for information on where and when to chase!

Why call it the 14ers? The **Colorado 14er Event** was started in 1991, about 19 years before the SOTA program was set up in Colorado. As SOTA grew in popularity, this event expanded from just the 14000-foot mountains (14ers) to include all the SOTA summits in the state.

According to the event's website (www.ham14er.org) "We call it the Colorado 14er & Mountaintop Event because, well, that's where it all started and the 14ers are the iconic summits in the state." An annually on the first full weekend in August. Adding two bonus days to the start makes the event this year from 30 July to 2 August.

Join the fun by chasing them from South Africa! A point worth making is that of the time difference. Most activators (at the mountain tops) will want to get off the peaks by latest 18:00 UTC due to lightning Concerns.



AMATEUR RADIO STATION EARTHING

Chris Turner, ZS6GM

In this first part of the article published by Chris, we look at what Earthing your station means, why it is important, and some basic terms of reference. Next month we will look at Earthing types and their implications for Radio Amateurs.

Amateur Radio Station Earthing

This guide is intended for licensed radio amateurs who have passed the Radio Amateurs Examination and assumes a knowledge of electrical principles and safety practice. The information herein is provided in good faith, and the author cannot be held responsible for misuse or misunderstanding. Any electrical work should be undertaken by a suitably qualified electrical contractor.

Why Earthing is Important

The purpose of earthing (also known as grounding) is to avoid or minimize the danger of electrocution or fire due to earth leakage current flowing through an undesired path and to ensure that the exposed metal parts of electrical appliances or other electrical installations do not become 'live' with respect to [mass] earth.

Another reason for earthing is to protect sensitive equipment such as amateur radio and computer equipment against mains borne impulses from static or lightning discharges.

In addition to the foregoing, amateur radio installations require earthing to radiate radio frequencies efficiently from an antenna, to bleed off static electricity from antenna systems, to provide a measure of lightning protection, as well as the safety requirements of an appliance with a conducting enclosure or fittings in the close proximity of others.

South African Standard, SANS 10142-1 provides the code of practice for low voltage (230/400 Volt) electrical installations in South Africa.

Basic requirements of an Earth system are to:

- protect human lives
- provide safety for electrical devices and appliances from leakage current.
- keep voltage stable on the phases of a 3-phase supply (If fault occurs on any one phase).
- protect electric system and buildings from lightning.
- avoid the risk of fire in electrical installation systems.



Terms used in Electrical Earthing

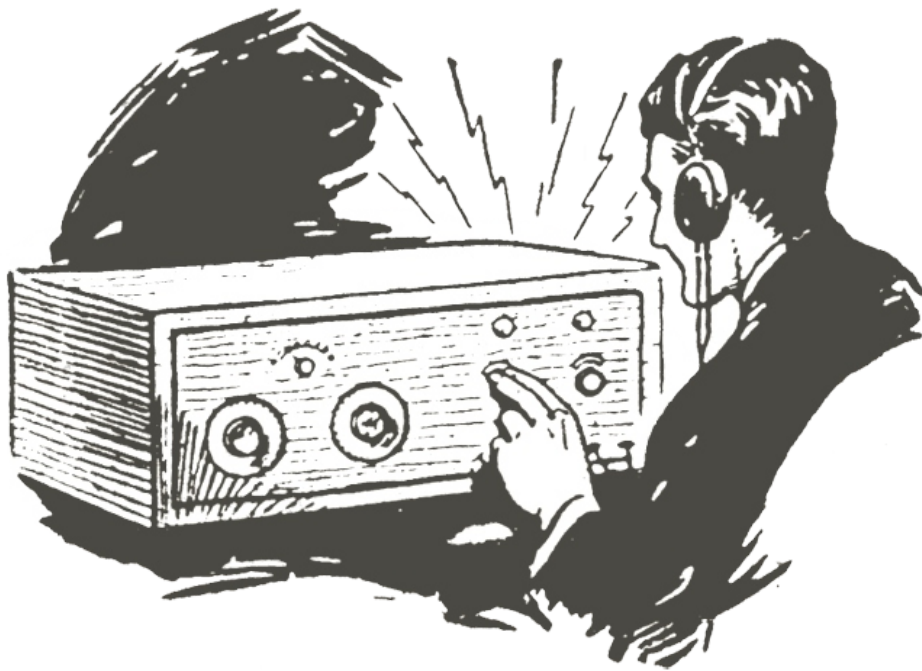
- **Earth:** The connection between an electrical installation via a conductor to the buried plate or rod in the [mass] earth.
- **Earthed:** When an electrical device, appliance or wiring system is connected to the earth through an earth electrode, it is said to be "Earthed".
- **Earth Electrode:** A conductor (or conductive plate) buried in the earth for electrical earthing system. It is known as an Earth Electrode. Earth electrodes may have different forms such as, conductive plate, conductive rod, metal water pipe or any other conductor with low resistance.
- **Earthing Lead:** The conductor wire or conductive strip connected between Earth electrode and the Electrical installation system
- **Earth Continuity Conductor:** The conductor wire, which is connected among different electrical devices such as distribution board, plugs and appliances.
- **Earth Resistance:** This is the total resistance between earth electrode and earth in Ω (Ohms). Earth resistance is the algebraic sum of the resistance of earth continuity conductor, earthing lead, earth electrode and earth.
- **Electricity Distributor:** Frequently referred to as the Utility company, is the supplier of electricity to the consumer. In South Africa this is usually either Eskom or a local municipality.
- **Line:** High potential leg of the incoming power supply or a phase in a three phase system.
- **Mass Earth:** Mother earth or real ground.
- **Neutral:** Low potential or earthed leg of the incoming electricity supply and is the star point on a 3 phase electrical supply.
- **PEN:** Combined Neutral and Protective conductor on an incoming supply.
- **PME:** Protective Multiple Earth, a system where multiple earth electrodes are connected to the protective earth conductor.



THANK YOU

As we close this month's newsletter, thank you to all our members for your continued support, participation, and enthusiasm for amateur radio. Whether you are active on the air, taking part in club activities, or simply enjoying the hobby from home, you are an important part of our club community.

Until next time, stay safe, enjoy the airwaves, and keep making contacts.



Disclaimer

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