

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 13th of February 2024

This is **ZS6KTS**, being operated by Corrie ZS6CDB, with the weekly news bulletin of the Kempton Park Amateur Radio Technical Society.

This bulletin is being transmitted on the 2m Kempton Park Repeater, on 145.6625 MHz

Only if Echolink is available: Echolink users can connect to ZS0AWA-L (ZS6KTS, or node 8041), to listen to and partake in the news bulletin.

Welcome to everyone on frequency. Please stay tuned for some interesting SARL and Club news items.

SARL NEWS:

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE 2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION?

The Cape Town Amateur Radio Centre (CTARC) will be hosting the 2024 SARL National Convention at the Garden Court Nelson Mandela Boulevard, corner of Melbourne and Coronation Roads in Cape Town. The SARL AGM will run from 09:00 to 13:00 CAT on Saturday 20 April, it will be a face-to-face meeting. The Awards Dinner will be held at 18:30 for 19:00 on Saturday evening.

A SARL Communication was sent out to members on Sunday 4 February containing information about the booking of accommodation at the Hotel, as well as booking and payment for the Awards Dinner. Also, information about the Saturday afternoon programme. Another option for Saturday afternoon is a cable car ride up Table Mountain, a walk to Maclear's Beacon and a SOTA and Fauna and Flora activation from there. Or a boat trip to Robben Island and activate IOTA AF-064.

Register for the SARL National Convention at <https://forms.gle/iFMfeRUESfwx8y3N9>. Proxy forms will be made available once the Convention Booklet has been issued. Can the Western Cape beat the Pretoria AGM attendance record of 351? See you in Cape Town in April!

ICASA LICENCE FEES

The SARL has engaged with ICASA about the new ICASA licence fees for the licence year from 1 April 2024 to 30 March 2025. ICASA has indicated that the electronic system must be updated with the new fees, then the process of generating the invoices will begin. Licence holders will be notified by e-mail when their invoices are ready to be downloaded from the ICASA Customer Portal. As soon as the SARL gets a copy of the new licence fees, it will be communicated to members.

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MARIEPSKOP REPEATER:

The Mariepskop (Hoedspruit) 70 cm repeater is up and running at full strength again. Coverage is very wide and stretches from White River in the south to well north of Phalaborwa. If visiting the Kruger National Park, the repeater can be worked from Skukuza in the South to 30 km north of the Mopani Rest camp. When visiting Kruger, take a 70 cm radio with you and make contact. Thank you to Johan, ZS6AF and Contact Communications in Nelspruit for providing the technical facilities and maintenance. The Repeater transmits on 439,000 MHz with input on 431,400 MHz with the usual 88,5 CTCSS tone. Please send reports to Chris, ZS6GM, his contact details via the callbook.

PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low to moderate levels. There are currently ten sunspot regions with simple to complex magnetic configurations visible. There is a high probability for both C and M-class solar flares. If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around 129. The 10 to 30 m bands will especially in the early morning and late afternoon provide some good DX fun. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

13 February – World Radio Day

14 February – Valentine's Day

21 February – Armed Forces Day (sinking of the SS Mendi)

CLUB NEWS:

MARCH CLUB MEETING & AGM:

Notification of the AGM will go out tomorrow 14th of February 2024 of our annual general meeting and also on the WA group. The AGM will be held on Saturday 9th of March 2024 at the QTH of Etienne ZS6ZA full details will be on the AGM notification. All paid up members are invited to attend. We will also be competing in the SARL National Field Day on the same day, more detail will be shared about this closer to the date by Johan ZR6JT, our club contest Manager.

AWA SATURDAY MORNING NET:

The AWA is using the KARTS repeater for about 2 hours on Saturday mornings to relay the AWA net from 08h30 to about 10h00. Club members are reminded of this arrangement and to join the net.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP:

With KARTS nearing our financial year end in December you stand to renew your membership. Please note it is only due from the 1st of January 2024. This is just a reminder. Could ALL members fill in the form (honorary members as well). We need to update our records.

Note: Our Club Constitution

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“b. All subscriptions shall be due and payable in advance at the beginning of the Club’s financial year, being 1 January. The final date for subscription renewal payment will be the last day of February.

c. A member whose subscription is in arrear shall not have the right to vote until arrears have been paid.

d. A member shall be deemed to have resigned from the Club if, by the last day of February, his subscription renewal fee has not been paid. No membership applications shall be considered as from 1 March until after the AGM.”

Good news. You have several options to complete your membership form.

Option 1 – Fill in attached pdf by clicking in the different fields and submit by clicking on SUBMIT button. (PC option)(<https://get.adobe.com/reader/> click on link to download Acrobat reader for free if you don’t have it on your PC.)

Option 2 – Print or fill out form in MS Word (see attached Word document) , Scan the signed document and return via email (or hand it to me at the next club meeting).

Option 3 - Press Ctrl + click on link to open

<https://forms.zohopublic.com/karts/form/KARTSMembershipApplicationRenewal/formperma/mUV6SiNQimYc3wuwhrCsd12TuNyskw5eQG0vTHAUlgk>

Option 4 - Scan the QR code with your phone to open form on your phone.

Corrie ZS6CDB, to give feedback of the January club meeting

Call Pieter ZS6PJE, Technical Manager to give feedback and update:

Call Etienne ZS6ZA, for an update on HF happenings:

Call Jacques ZS6MAV, for any AMSAT feedback and update:

Call Johan ZR6JT, Contest Manager to give feedback and update:

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

We have one anniversary for the week. Barry ZS6OY and his XYL Jenny celebrate their anniversary on Thursday the 15th of February. Congratulations from all of us hope you have a great day and year ahead.

If we have missed out on your big day, please contact any committee member to update our records.

ADDITIONAL NEWS:

If there is anyone who would like to share any additional or any specific club news with the listeners, you are welcome to call in now.

1. _____ 2. _____

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SWOP SHOP:

This is your opportunity to advertise a swop, or any amateur equipment for sale.

Please note that NO prices are to be quoted on air. Only a description of the items and your contact details must be provided.

1. _____ 2. _____

That brings us to the end of tonight's bulletin.

You have listened to the weekly news bulletin of the Kempton Park Amateur Radio Technical Society, compiled and read by Corrie ZS6CDB.

Thank you for having listened!