

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 3rd of September 2024

This is **ZS6KTS**, being operated by Johan ZR6JT, 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 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:

SILENT KEY:

The President, Council and Members extend their sincere condolences to Kelley Dorey and her family on the passing of Kelley's Mom on Thursday 29 August 2024.

THE SEPTEMBER 2024 RADIO ZS:

The September 2024 issue of Radio ZS was uploaded to the League website on Wednesday 28 August. Click on Publications on the left-hand menu and then on Radio ZS Downloads.

We visit the Green Point and the Shelley Point Lighthouses for feedback on the Lighthouse Weekend. Then Woody takes us to a lighthouse with a difficult name in Iceland. We look at the rich history of ham radio culture and preview the Yaesu FTX-1F portable HF transceiver. Gary, ZS6YI tells us about stacking of Yagi antennas, Pravin, ZS5LT has plans for a 2-meter backpack quad antenna, Warren, ZS6AKW/4 shows how to improve RFI cancelling, Mat, ZS6PEG has converted a Ham4 rotator into a super rotator and Kevern, ZR2BK takes us to the Transbaviaans Cycle Event.

Chris, ZS6GM asks, "Do you give an accurate signal report?" and we look at the background noise on the HF amateur bands. Danie, ZS1OSS talks more about the Winlink Wednesday Check-Ins, and we visit HK1TL - the first ever 432 MHz EME station from South America. In the Museum Piece, we read about Edwin Armstrong and the Superhet Receiver. There is also a Worked All ZS Challenge and more in this 160-page issue.

BACAR FLIES AGAIN:

On the morning of Saturday 12 October 2024, a Balloon Carrying Amateur Radio (BACAR) is scheduled to launch from the Trichardt Model Air strip near Secunda. The event, co-ordinated through the Secunda Radio Club, ZS6SRC will be the twelfth flight and is named BACAR-12.

The idea is to construct a series of 1U cube satellites (10 x 10 x 10 cm) weighing not more than 500 g and string them together on the end of a hydrogen filled weather balloon and then 'fly' the payloads and see how the equipment works in a near space environment. While people are preparing their CubeSats, the chase team prepare and deploy to hopefully retrieve the string of CubeSats that parachutes to the ground after the balloon bursts. Some of the

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payloads include crossband repeaters, parrot repeaters, LORA trackers, WSPR beacons, SSTV payloads and APRS trackers.

If traveling to Secunda for the 5 AM meet on the Saturday is a bit much, there are camping facilities available at a very reasonable price through ZS6SRC. For more information or to participate contact Christo Kriek, ZR6LJK at christo.kriek@sasol.com or after hours on 082 907 9685.

PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low to moderate levels. There are currently eight sunspot regions with simple to slightly complex magnetic configurations visible. There is a high probability for C-class and a low to moderate probability for M-class solar flares. If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around 161. The 10 to 20 m bands may provide some good DX fun especially in the late afternoon and early evening. The 6 m band may also hold some pleasant surprises. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

14 and 15 September – the ZS SOTA Spring Activity Weekend

22 September – Spring Equinox

24 September – National Braai Day and Heritage Day

CLUB NEWS:

SEPTEMBER CLUB MEETING AND SARL FIELD DAY:

KARTS will be participating in the SARL Field Day HF contest this coming Saturday 7 September 2024 at Blaauwpan. The contest starts at 08h00 and we want to contest till the evening. However we will need assistance setting up and packing up the field station. We would like to start at 07h00 and will appreciate any help. There are 2 stands available for members that want to camp and maybe do some fishing.

We will also have our monthly club meeting starting at 14h00 at the same venue at Blaauwpan. For those attending please bring along a camping chair. We will provide fire for those wanting to braai something afterwards. There is a map on the website with directions to Blaauwpan.

Kindly contact any committee member for more info.

Looking forward to an enjoyable day!

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

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

Call Jacques ZS6MAV, for any AMSAT feedback and update:

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BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

We have no names on our list for the week.

If we have missed 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. _____

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 by Corrie ZS6CDB and read by Johan ZR6JT.

Thank you for having listened!