

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 18th of March 2025.

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

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

SARL NEWS:

SILENT KEYS:

It is with deep regret that we announce that the key of Evert van der Horst, ZS6AQW went silent on Friday 7 March 2025. We extend our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

It is with deep regret that we announce that the key of Marthinus Delport, ZS6MRJ went silent on Tuesday 11 March 2025. Marthinus would have celebrated his 77th birthday on 24 March. We extend our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

LAST OPPORTUNITY TO REGISTER FOR THE SARL CENTENARY SYMPOSIUM:

The programme for the Centenary Technical Symposium can be downloaded from the SARL web. The symposium will take place on the WebEx video conference platform on Saturday 22 March 2025 from 09:00 - 15:00. Participation is free, but registration is required. The link to register can be found on the SARL website home page. The programme offers a wide variety of subjects representing the wide scope of activity amateur radio offers. Registration closes at 17:00 on Friday 21 March. If you have not yet registered, do so now.

THE SARL MEETS WITH ICASA:

A delegation of the SARL under the leadership of President Nico van Rensburg, ZS6QL met with the ICASA Licencing Department at the Authority's Centurion campus on Wednesday last week.

The main item on the agenda was the new revised Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The SARL had submitted a draft which was developed by the SARL Science and Technology Workgroup (STWG) at the January meeting. ICASA presented their input to the document. After discussion it was agreed that the SARL would consider the amended MoU and provide feedback. The STWG will review the ICASA version of the document at its meeting on Wednesday this week, after which the MoU will be considered by Council. Once the SARL and ICASA agree on the final document it will be reviewed by ICASA's legal department before it can be sent for approval to the ICASA Council.

Also on the agenda was discussion of sharing the call sign database and the various implications imposed pertaining to the Protection of Personal Information Act (PoPIA), the

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creation of special call signs for contest stations, general administration of Amateur Radio, the cool off period of call signs before re-issuing to new applicants and the administration of beacon licences. After robust discussions, the SARL will submit documentation requesting changes in the regulations required to facilitate the SARL proposals. As far as the call sign database is considered, various ways to comply with PoPIA were discussed and will be referred to ICASA's legal department.

Under any other business, the question of the legality of licensing and issuing a call sign to a robot was discussed. While ICASA is of the opinion that new technology needs to be embraced, the current licensing regime would require to be adapted to facilitate this. The SARL will develop a document to set out the scenario that was recently presented to the association. The next meeting will be towards the end of May this year.

Nico van Rensburg commented that he was pleased with the meeting's outcome and the openness with which the agenda items were discussed by ICASA's delegation. He also thanked Vice President Guy Eales, Brian Jacobs and Hans van de Groenendaal for their attendance and contribution.

REGISTER FOR THE 2025 SARL NATIONAL CONVENTION:

The 2025 South African Radio League National Convention will celebrate the SARL's 100th birthday over the weekend of 16 to 18 May 2025. The event will take place at the Royal Elephant Hotel and Conference Centre, located corner of Willem Botha and Wierda Road, Eldoraigine, Centurion with the Pretoria ARC as our hosts. The Convention registration form is available at <https://forms.gle/yi5Td1UqWWntkXQC9> as well as on the front page of the SARL website.

On Friday 16 May, the Pretoria ARC is celebrating its 95th birthday at the hotel and you can attend at R300 per person, members of PARC speak to your committee.

On Saturday 17 May, after breakfast, the 2025 SARL AGM will be held. The PARC is busy arranging a partner's programme with the Menlyn Shopping Centre as a possibility.

After the AGM, the Mega Flea Market and exhibits by Clubs, SARL Hamnet and other interest groups will start. There will be lunch available at the venue for own costs. Saturday closes with the SARL Awards Dinner at the hotel at R350 per person. The weekend closes on Sunday 18 May with breakfast and departure for home. Clubs, Interest Groups and Radio Dealers are reminded to contact Almero du Pisani, ZS6LDP on e-mail almerodps@gmail.com to arrange for your Club's participation on 17 May. Is the Pretoria ARC the only Club participating?

Accommodation options. At the Royal Elephant Hotel - a double room with breakfast included @ R1 855 per night. When booking, speak to Katlego Phasha at 012 658 8000 and PLEASE used the words South African Radio League or SARL! Or you can book at one of the many guest houses and guest lodges in the area. On page 7 and 8 of the March 2025 Radio ZS, you will find a list of guest houses.

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PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low to moderate levels. There are currently 11 sunspot regions with simple to 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 122. The 10 to 20 m bands may, especially in the late afternoon and early evening, provide some good DX fun. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

17 March – St Patrick's Day

20 March – Autumn Equinox @ 08:58 UTC

21 March – Human Rights Day, World Downs Syndrome Day and the Namibian Independence Day

22 March – the SARL Centenary Technical Symposium

CLUB NEWS:

APRIL CLUB MEETING:

Please save the date 12th of April 2025. We are looking forward to enjoy our monthly club meeting and AGM on Saturday the 12th of April 2025 at our clubhouse in Ysterhout Street, Birchleigh from 14h00 onwards.

Call Jacques ZS6MAV, for any AMSAT feedback and update:

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

We have one birthday on our list for the week. On Sunday the 23th it's the birthday of Andrew ZS6AJK. Congratulations from all of us hope you have a great day and year ahead.

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.

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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. _____

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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, read and compiled by Corrie ZS6CDB.

Thank you for having listened!