

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 1st of April 2025.

This is **ZS6KTS**, being operated by Anton ZS6WG, 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 (or ZS0AWA-L), 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:

ICASA SPECTRUM LICENCES:

Please Note – the SARL does NOT deal with Spectrum Licences. The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA) is mandated to deal with all Spectrum Licences (of which amateur radio is a very small part!)

The ICASA Customer Portal went live at midnight on Tuesday 25 March 2025. If your Spectrum Licence is expiring on 31 March 2025, then the ICASA system will have sent you an e-mail to notify you about the renewal. The ICASA system is slow, because everybody is trying to download the renewal invoice, and upload the proof of payment!

DO NOT PANIC – you have until 30 April 2025 to upload the proof of payment to the ICASA Customer Portal – your licence will not expire and go up in smoke on April Fool's day!

The ICASA bank details are Nedbank Corporate Client services; Account no: 14 62 00 29 27; Branch: 146245 and use your ICASA license number as the payment reference. Do not pay the ICASA fees to the South African Radio League.

The SARL Manages your Licence? If your ICASA Spectrum Licence is managed by the SARL, you will receive a renewal addressed to Mr N. Hammond with your call sign. Noel Hammond, the RAE Manager, registered your call sign on the ICASA system before you wrote the RAE, so that when you received the RAE results, you could get on the air. You must decide on a 1, 2-, 3-, 4- or 5-year licence, do the EFT to the ICASA account and send a copy of the proof of payment to rae@sarl.org.za. The PoP will then be uploaded on your behalf and later the RAE Manager will send you a copy of your licence.

THE APRIL 2025 RADIO ZS:

The April 2025 edition of Radio ZS will be available for download from the SARL website by Monday, March 31. We are looking forward to the 100th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union, we visit the Quion Point Lighthouse and the field day sites of the Sandton ARC and PEARS. PEARS also tells us about the ADDO Trail Run. We look at SWR, the use of wire mesh for antennas and ask what happened to Shortwave Radio. And more.

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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 5 sunspot regions with simple to slightly complex magnetic configurations visible. There is a moderate to 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 114. The 10 to 20 m bands may provide some good DX fun especially in the late afternoon and early evening. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

2 April – World Autism Day

5 April – The ZS6PTA Flea Market

8 April – Provincial Schools Open

CLUB NEWS:

APRIL CLUB MEETING:

Please save the date 12th of April 2025. We are looking forward to enjoy our monthly club meeting 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 this week. Connie ZS6CGV will celebrate his birthday on Friday, 4 April. Happy birthday 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.

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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. _____

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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 by Anton ZS6WG and compiled by Corrie ZS6CDB.

Thank you for having listened!