

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 8th of April 2025.

This is **ZS6KTS**, being operated by Alvin ZS6ASK, 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 CUSTOMER PORTAL OVERLOADED:

ICASA has confirmed that their portal for licensing is experiencing heavy traffic causing an overload situation with the portal going offline. This prevents many people from paying their annual amateur radio license fee and other spectrum users from paying their licence fees. ICASA has engaged its portal hosting company to resolve the problem. If the problem is not resolved within a few days, ICASA may consider extending the payment deadline of 30 April. Currently, no such decision has been made. One solution to overcome the current impasse is to log onto the portal late at night or early in the morning when the demand is lower.

100 YEARS OF THE INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO UNION:

April 2025 is a centennial milestone for the International Amateur Radio Union. Founded in Paris in 1925, the IARU is the worldwide federation of national amateur radio organizations. The membership of IARU consists of more than 160 member-societies in as many countries and separate territories. The ARRL serves as its International Secretariat.

Each year, World Amateur Radio Day on 18 April honors this global organization of goodwill. The IARU has chosen the theme of "A Century of Connections: Celebrating 100 Years of Amateur Radio Innovation, Community, and Advocacy" for WARD 2025. The ARRL's Ham Radio Open House is centred around sharing the international asset of amateur radio with the public. Radio knows no borders; all are welcome to be a part of amateur radio. Find or host an amateur radio event in your area to help share our hobby in your community.

SAIEE OPEN DAY:

The next Open Day at the SAIEE takes place on Saturday 3 May. The AWA invites you to come along and join us and have a day of viewing our Amateur Heritage. Bring the wife and kids along and have a picnic on the grounds. Looking forward to seeing you there.

The AWA will have a display at the National Convention celebrating 100 years of the SARL. The AWA will be taking part in the Flea Market after the AGM. Anyone wanting to bring along some Jewels to dispose of are welcome to do so. Contact Andy, ZS6ADY or Renato, ZS6REN.

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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 7 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 118. 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:

12 and 13 April – the Africa FT4 DX Contest

12 to 20 April – Pesach

13 April – the ZS4 QSO Party

15 April – the end of the SARL 6 m challenge

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.

Need as many members as possible to come and enjoy the afternoon with us. Please bring along any unused or surplus equipment that you wish to contribute to the club. As mentioned previously we want to have a table at the Mega Flea market in May at the SARL National Convention where we can sell the equipment to raise funds for the club.

If anybody is busy with a project or has just completed a project, please bring it along and do a bit of show-and-tell. As usual and if we have enough members that are interested, we will end the meeting with the traditional bring and braai, so make sure you bring something to enjoy afterwards.

We will have some cold drinks in the cooler box, so make sure to bring some cash to feed the green monster!!! See you all there!

Call Jacques ZS6MAV, for any AMSAT feedback and update:

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

We have one birthday on our list for this week. Jenny XYL of Barry ZS6OY celebrating her birthday today. 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:

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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, read by Alvin ZS6ASK and compiled by Corrie ZS6CDB.

Thank you for having listened!