

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 15th of April 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 KEY:

It is with deep regret that we must announce that the key of Fredericus de Vries, ZS1ADD (also known as Prof) went silent on Friday 28 March 2025 at the age of 88. We extend our sincere condolences to his son Frikkie, family and friends.

SARL BRIEFS SABS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON THE INCREASING RF NOISE LEVEL:

On Tuesday 8 April 2025, the SARL briefed the South African Bureau of Standards EMC Technical Committee (SABS TC73) on the increasing level of radio frequency noise on the HF spectrum, which is also slowly creeping into the VHF and higher frequency bands as more and more devices, which in addition to their designed purpose, unintentionally generate radio signals. The SARL was invited by the TC3 chairman, Frans Cebisa, to address the issue under agenda item 7, "Emerging needs."

"There are many culprits in the scenario. We keep developing and manufacturing devices which unintentionally are generating radio frequencies often over a wide frequency spectrum as by-products," Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV told the committee. "Amongst these devices are LED lights from the ones we have at home to street lights, traffic lights, solar installations and electric car chargers to list some. The list is endless and increasing at an exponential rate. We cannot sit back, because even if the desired noise limits are agreed, there are many rogue manufacturers and dealers which happily sell the 'noise generating' devices, leaving out filter circuits to cut costs."

He told the committee that RF noise was like climate change, it keeps creeping up. Scientists have warned the world about the impact of CO2 on the climate and how weather patterns will change. Governments have been slow in reacting and today we all suffer from the consequences. We should not let this happen to the radio frequency spectrum.

"We need to put programmes into place to collect and document evidence to convince spectrum regulators and industry bodies that unless action is taken to regulate against unwanted and unintentional RF transmissions, which are just noise, radio communication is going the same way as climate change."

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

He briefly explained the success of the DARC ENAMS and the SARL experimental RF noise monitoring projects and shared the URLs of two excellent video presentations. He ended the presentation by calling for stricter enforcement of compliance to EMC Standards, installing several Interference Field Strength Measurement systems, reporting in to a central data base, to collect meaningful data to strengthen the case for greater vigilance and enforcement to protect the radio frequency spectrum.

After Q&A, the chairman requested the SABS TC73 committee members to share their views before the next meeting so that a plan of action can be formulated for discussion at the November 2025 meeting.

PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low levels. There are currently nine 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 87. 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:

15 April – The end of the SARL 6 m challenge

18 April – Good Friday, ZS100SARL and ZT4T active for World Amateur Radio Day and the registration for the May REA closes

20 April – Easter Sunday

21 April – Family Day

22 and 23 April – The Lyrids Meteor Shower

23 April – English Language Day

24 to 26 April – The IARU 100 and Region One 75 celebrations in Paris, France

WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY - 18 APRIL 2025:

Every year on 18 April, radio amateurs worldwide take to the airwaves in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day. It was on this day in 1925 that the International Amateur Radio Union was formed in Paris. Today, amateur radio is more popular than ever, with more than three million licensed operators!

The IARU is very pleased to announce the theme for 2025 as, “Entering the Next Century of Amateur Radio Communications & Innovation.” World Amateur Radio Day is an opportunity to reflect on our achievements since 1925. We should celebrate our diverse community and the advances and innovations we have made as we look forward to celebrating the IARU centenary next weekend.

In celebration of this event, ZS100SARL and ZT4T will be active on Good Friday, 18 April. Members of the Boland Amateur Radio Club will be on the air with the special call sign ZS100SARL from 08:00 to 20:00 CAT. For now, the station will be mainly on 40 m SSB, but

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

bands may also change depending on conditions. The idea is to give mainly Southern African stations, the opportunity to contact ZS100SARL. Logs will be uploaded to SA-QSL where contacts can be confirmed.

ZT4T, operated by Jan, ZS4JAN will be active on 40 and 80 m as the weather permits. QSL via the SARL Electronic QSL, a direct special event QSL card is available on request.

THE IARU CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS:

The IARU 100-year celebration will be on Saturday 26 April at the Hotel Pullman in Paris. The event is arranged by the IARU Secretariat.

IARU Region One will be celebrating its 75th anniversary on 24 and 25 April in Paris. Part of the celebration is the Region One interim meeting, which will take place at the FIAP, located in the heart of Paris. On Friday evening, the Region One 75-year celebration Gala Dinner will be held on a private cruise on the River Seine.

On Thursday 24 April, the HF Committee (C4) and the VHF Committee (C5) will meet between 14:00 and 18:00 CAT. On Friday 25 April, the day starts with a plenary meeting at 08:30 followed by the C4 and C5 meetings at 10:30 CAT. At 13:30 CAT, the EMC committee (C7), the Technology Working Group and the VHF Committee will meet. From 15:30 to 17:00 CAT, the IARUMS/Intruder watch information, the Satellite information and the Youth committee (C8) meetings will be held. The various documents to be discussed can be found at <https://conf.iaru-r1.org/documents/>.

All the meetings are face-to-face with online attendance via the Zoom platform. Various SARL councillors, working groups and coordinators will be attending online.

CLUB NEWS:

APRIL CLUB MEETING:

Corrie ZS6CDB to give feedback of the April club meeting:

Call Jacques ZS6MAV, for any AMSAT feedback and update:

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

We have no birthdays or anniversaries on our list for this week.

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. _____

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

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 and compiled by Corrie ZS6CDB.

Thank you for having listened!