

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 30th of September 2025.

This is **ZS6KTS**, being operated by Stephen ZS6SKY, 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 if club Echolink is not available 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:

JOTA AND CQ HOU KOERS IN OCTOBER:

JOTA - JOTI, the world's largest amateur radio and digital Scout events, promoting friendship and global citizenship, will be back on the air from 17 to 19 October 2025. JOTA - JOTI is an annual event with Scouts from across the world connecting with each other by amateur radio (JOTA) and using the internet (JOTI). JOTA - JOTI is held on the third full weekend of October each year, coordinated by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). Scouts wanting to participate in JOTA will need the support of at least one licensed amateur radio operator or the support of a local amateur radio club. For participation in JOTI, Scouts will need access to a computer, phone or tablet, and an internet connection. For registration and all the details, visit JOTA-JOTI 2025 A World Shaped by Youth <https://www.jotajoti.info/>

CQ Hou Koers, the amateur radio event of the Voortrekkers takes place on Saturday 18 October and encourages QSOs between Voortrekker Commandos in South Africa and Namibia as well as QSOs with JOTA stations. Start the ball rolling by contacting your local Scout Group, Guide Company and/or Voortrekker Commando and offering your amateur radio service.

ARE YOUR BACAR PAYLOADS AND/OR GROUND STATIONS READY?

Two weeks to go. As mentioned in the recent bulletins and in HF Happenings 1165, BACAR-13 will be travelling to the edge of space on Saturday 11 October at around 07:30 CAT and the BACAR team would really value your participation, so how do you get involved?

If you are flying a payload, be sure that its registered and be onsite before the launch early on launch day. If you are not flying a payload, come through to the TRMC Model Flying Airfield in Trichardt/Secunda for the launch day fun if you can, and/or get your ground stations ready to track the balloon, use the crossband repeaters and receive the telemetry and SSTV transmissions from wherever you are.

As a helpful aid, here are the details of some of the registered payloads that you can prepare for. The Jeugland Club VHF SSTV on 144,600 MHz; the Sandton Club UHF SSTV on 433,400 MHz; the ZR6TG APRS on 144,800 MHz and SSTV on 144,500 MHz; the BACAR team UHF APRS on 433,775 MHz, LORA APRS on 434,65 MHz, RTTY on 433 MHz and LORA on

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

433,600 MHz; the ZR6WT WSPR beacon on 28,12614 MHz channel 93; the ZS6WBT LORA on 868 MHz and the ZS6CYE LORA on 433,775 MHz and APRS on 144,8 MHz.

Are you new to SSTV and wish to receive the images from the edge of space? Then here is a very simple approach. Tune your HT or other radio to the SSTV frequency. Load and activate the Robot36 App on your Android mobile phone or MMSSTV on your Windows PC. Let your mobile phone or PC listen to the output of your radio speaker and when the transmission starts, be amazed, and then go and show your friends and family. Yes, it may help to have a good antenna connected to the radio, the AMSAT SA Yagi pointing towards Secunda is ideal, but either way, enjoy the magic.

Are you new to WSPR and want to receive or track the WSPR beacon? Then here is a simple approach. Connect your PC with the WSJTx App to your radio. Select WSPR mode and the 10m band. Watch the ZR6WT WSPR beacon spots being received on WSJTx. Or connect to wsprtv.com, plug in the call sign ZR6WT, channel 93 and 10m band, and track it on the map. Standby for more details but this should certainly be enough to get your BACAR tracking ground station started. Oh, do not forget that if you successfully decode the quiz embedded in the ZS6STN UHF SSTV images, and publish your images and answer, you may even get to win the Takealot voucher over and above the amazement and bragging rights that you will receive from your fellow amateurs, family and friends.

There are now two weeks to go to the BACAR centenary launch on Saturday 11 October. Get excited and get ready.

THE OCTOBER 2025 RADIO ZS:

The October 2025 issue of Radio ZS will be available for download from Monday 29 September. There are three articles for the YLs in this issue, Chris, ZS6GM poses the question, To Resonate or Not to Resonate and we ask what happens when you press the magic TUNE button. NASA is looking for volunteers to track the Artemis II Mission, get information about the DX Marathon Sprint Programme which kicks off on 18 October and we look at the Phoenix 4 m dipole and an omni-directional mixed polarisation antenna for 50 & 70 MHz. And there is more in this issue.

The IT Team is busy uploading the Radio ZS archives, you will find the link to previous issues at <https://mysarl.org.za/radio-zs-archives/>. This is still work in progress.

PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low to moderate levels. There are currently 10 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 124. The 15 to 30 m bands may, especially in the late afternoon and early evening, provide some DX fun. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 1 and 2 October – Yom Kippur
- 2 October – the SARL 80 m QSO Party
- 3 October – Provincial Schools close
- 4 October – Eastrand Radio Club open day and flea market
- 4 to 10 October – World Space Week

EASTRAND RADIO CLUB OPEN DAY AND FLEA MARKET:

This is an official invite to join us at our open day and flea market, on 4 October 2025, at our clubhouse situated at Arrowe Park, 5 Ebernezer road, Arrow Park, Benoni, 9am for 10am till 1 pm.

We invited the SARL to come out to the Eastrand. Guy Eales ZS6GUY is the Vice President, and will be attending. So its a chance to find answers to those questions you always wanted to know the answers for, about the SARL, what the SARL does, how to log in to the new website? the SA QSL system etc.

Why come? Well it's a shorter distance to travel to than the Westrand or Pretoria. It's a chance for you and your club members to meet like minded hams, and for them to come sell their wares (R20.00) per table or a donation to our club.

Borrie rolls and cold drinks will be on sale on the 4th. Come and see our clubhouse and enjoy the day under the shade of the oak trees and in our safe and secure and beautiful grounds at ArrowePark, we even have our own Island. Looking forward to seeing you at our open day.

CLUB NEWS:

OCTOBER CLUB MEETING:

Please save the date 11th of October 2025. We are looking forward to enjoy our monthly club meeting on Saturday the 11th of October 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 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.

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 by Stephen ZS6SKY and compiled by Corrie ZS6CDB.

Thank you for having listened!