

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 2nd of December 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

Read 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:

CONGRATULATIONS PAUL, ZS6NK:

Paul, ZS6NK has informed SARL News that DXCC Entity no 201 on 6 metres has been confirmed. He says it took eleven years to confirm 100 DXCC entities and twenty-four years to confirm the next 101 DXCC entities. Congratulations Paul!

THE DECEMBER RADIO ZS:

The December 2025 issue of Radio ZS is ready for downloading. Find out how to get your club in Radio ZS, get on the air for the ARRL 10 metre contest and get set up with VarAC. There are two articles about the BACAR-13 launch and we visit the Orion Primary school and their contact with the ISS. Danie, ZS1OSS talks more about FreeDV - digital voice for HF, Brandon, ZS6LZ takes us with him on his mini-SOTA expedition and we visit the Hood Point Lighthouse. We look at D-STAR, MeshCom 4.0 Gateway and state that knowing your equipment leads to confidence in preparedness. No, the Worked All ZS is not the only amateur radio award in the world, read about all of the awards and certificates that are available around the world. And more in this issue.

THE DECEMBER YOUTH ON THE AIR MONTH:

During the entire month of December, many young radio amateurs around the world will be active with YOTA (Youth on the Air) as the suffix in their call signs. ZS9YOTA is available for use by Clubs and individuals who want to host the young people. Many of these young amateurs are encouraging other youth to be active on the amateur radio bands. Some will give demonstrations at their schools, introducing amateur radio to friends while making QSOs or enjoying a great pile-up. Licensed and unlicensed youth (with the help of a licensed operator) will be making QSOs. Everyone is reminded that this could be the first radio contact ever for some newcomers. Help fill their logbooks! Read more on page 13 of the December Radio ZS and visit <https://www.ham-yota.com/>

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THE COOL AWARDS PROGRAMME:

It is with a mix of gratitude and sadness that we announce the shutdown of The COOL Awards programme. After careful consideration, we have made the difficult decision to discontinue the service due to insufficient growth and participation. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the dedicated individuals who supported and participated in The COOL over the years. Special recognition goes to: Ed, ZS6UT; Mike, ZS6MSW; Ludwig, ZS5CN; Ian, ZS6IAI; Charles, ZS1CF; Eddie, ZS6BNE; Danny, ZS5DG; John, A2NEW; Wolter, ZR6HAM; Woody, ZS3WL and Dave, ZS6AZP.

Many have come and many have come and gone, and while some chose not to participate, we remain grateful for the community that formed around The COOL. The system depended on continuous growth to remain viable, and despite our best efforts, we were unable to sustain the necessary level of engagement. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Special congratulations go to Mike, ZS6MSW, a front-runner in the COOL Awards and an absolute COOL supporter. Your enthusiasm and dedication have been truly inspiring.

NEED A BOOK? GET IT ON BLACK FRIDAY

The SA Amateur Radio Development Trust online book shop is offering a Black Friday discount on all stock items this Black Friday. For more details, visit www.amateurradio.org.za. This offer is valid until 15 December 2025.

PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low to moderate levels. There are currently five 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 98. The 10 to 30 m bands may, especially in the early mornings and late afternoons, provide some good DX fun. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

3 December - International Day of Persons with Disabilities
5 December - International Volunteers Day and World Soil Day
6 December - the ZS6PTA Flea Market and the ZS4SRK Club meeting
6 and 7 December – the ARRL 160 m contest

CLUB NEWS:

DECEMBER CLUB MEETING:

We are looking forward to enjoy our monthly club meeting and year end function this coming Saturday the 6th of December 2025 at our clubhouse in Ysterhout Street, Birchleigh from 14h00 onwards.

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If you have not indicated if you will be attending please do so before the end of tomorrow as we need to finalize the catering arrangements.

We will have something inserting on the braai, so come and enjoy the afternoon with us as we celebrate the year.

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 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. _____

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!