

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 9th of December 2025.

This is **ZS6KTS**, being operated by Gert ZS6GFS, 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:

SARL AWARDS, COUNCIL NOMINATIONS AND MOTIONS:

The nomination forms for the various SARL awards and trophies are available from the SARL website, as are the forms for submitting a motion or a point of discussion at the 2026 AGM.

In terms of Rule 16.9 of the Constitution and Rules, 50% of the Councillors will step down at the 2026 AGM. A retiring member may offer himself for re-election only if he is proposed and seconded as provided for in these rules.

The nomination forms for the various awards and to serve on Council is available at <https://mysarl.org.za/sarl-agm-2026/>. Please complete the forms and obtain all required signatures on one document. The closing date for award nominations, motions, points of discussion and Council nominations is midnight on Saturday, 31 January 2026 and they must be sent only to secretary@sarl.org.za. DO NOT wait until Friday 30 January 2026, do it now.

THE 2026 SARL DIARY OF EVENTS:

The 2026 SARL Diary of events is available for download from <https://mysarl.org.za/the-2026-sarl-events-calendar/>. Three additional activities have been added and a spelling mistake has been corrected.

THE IARU REGION 1 - DECEMBER 2025 YOTA MONTH:

December is YOTA Month when several youngsters from Member Societies will become active on the air with YOTA as suffix in the call signs. From 00:00 UTC on Monday 1 December to 23:59 UTC on Wednesday 31 December 2025, international YOTA stations, operated by young amateurs in their teens and early 20s, will attempt to make many contacts worldwide with each other. This event is aimed at our young generation and is an excellent opportunity for clubs to get youngsters on the air who are interested in or want to find out more about Amateur Radio.

It is not a formal contest, but a way to get our current young amateurs on the air contacting hundreds of other youngsters around the world. The SARL will register the special call sign ZS9YOTA on the YOTA website for use by Clubs and individuals during the month of

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December. All radio amateurs are welcome to enjoy a QSO with the youngsters. Please note that some of them are new to the radio hobby, while others are more experienced.

You are listening to a news bulletin of the South African Radio League. If you are taking to the highways and byways this holiday, please drive carefully.

“SPACE SAILORS” SEEKING DOWNLOAD HELP:

The ARRL reports that students at Cornell University are asking radio amateurs to help in listening for signals from the retroreflective laser sail Alpha CubeSat launched on 3 December. Read more [at https://www.arrrl.org/news/space-sailors-seeking-download-help-from-ham-radio-operators](https://www.arrrl.org/news/space-sailors-seeking-download-help-from-ham-radio-operators). Information about the Alpha CubeSat can be found at <https://alphacubesat.cornell.edu/>

HELP WITH METEOR SCATTER EXPERIMENT:

The Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) is seeking operators and monitors to participate in a series of upcoming meteor scatter (MS) experiments. Operations will take place on 12 and 13 December 2025, over a 48-hour period, during the Geminids meteor shower. This is a combination ‘special event’ and a contest to generate contact data during meteor scatter events using 10 metres (28,145 MHz) and 6 metres (50,260 MHz). Suggested operating procedures can be found at www.hamsci.org/msqp. No special station equipment is required but the experiment uses the MSK144 operating mode as part of the WSJTX suite. The functionality is much like using FT8 and is easy to use. For more information on the operating guidelines for the activity, visit www.hamsci.org/msqp-rules.

PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at moderate levels. There are currently 8 sunspot regions with simple to complex magnetic configurations visible. There is a high probability for further C- and M-class solar flares. If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around 137. The 10 to 30 m bands may provide some good DX fun, especially in the early mornings and late afternoons. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

10 December – International Human Rights Day and Provincial schools close (officially)

11 December – International Mountain Day

13 and 14 December – The Geminids Meteor Shower and the ARRL 10 m contest

14 to 22 December – Chanukah

16 December – The Day of Reconciliation

21 December – The Summer solstice @ 15:02 UTC

21 and 22 December - The Ursids Meteor Shower

25 December – Christmas Day

26 December – Day of Goodwill

31 December – Old Year’s Eve; the end of the YOTA Month, the SARL Centenary Marathon QSO Party and the DX Marathon

1 January – New Year’s Day and the start of the 2026 DX Marathon

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3 January – The ARRL Kid's day

CLUB NEWS:

DECEMBER WEEKLY NEWS BULLETINS AND JANUARY CLUB MEETING:

This is the last bulletin for 2026, we will continue with a weekly net every Tuesday night at 19h30 for those members that are still in town or able to connect and up for a round or two. The bulletins will commence again on Tuesday the 6th of January 2026. Our 1st club meeting for 2026 will be on Saturday the 10th of January 2026 at our clubhouse in Ysterhout Street, Birchleigh from 14h00 onwards.

DECEMBER CLUB MEETING: Call Corrie ZS6CDB for feedback and update:

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 by ZS6GFS and compiled by Corrie ZS6CDB.

Thank you for having listened!