

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 14th of April 2026.

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:

RADIO AMATEUR EXAM NEWS:

The closing date for entries for the May RAE is at midnight on Friday 17 April. The RAE team has indicated that no late entries will be accepted. All required documentation must be in PDF format. If you still wish to enter, go to mysarl.org.za and follow the link to RAE to enrol online. The exam will be written on Saturday 16 May 2026

THE 2026 SARL AGM – 2 MAY 2026:

At 09:00 CAT on Saturday 2 May 2026, we will need 147 SARL members present at the Willows Conference Centre – in person or represented by proxy, before the meeting can start. Less than 147 members represented, there will be no AGM. The AGM is a face-to-face meeting with internet streaming. Voting on the motions will take place during the AGM.

A quorum shall consist of not less than ten (10) percent of the total number of League members entitled to vote, whether present at the meeting or represented by proxy. There are 1 471 SARL members eligible to vote. A quorum for any motion to be considered for the amendment of the Constitution and/or the Rules of the League, shall consist of not less than fifteen (15) percent of the total number of League members entitled to vote, whether present at the meeting or represented by proxy. 15% = 220 members for voting on Motions 5 and 6.

AGM Registration: If you are attending in person or want to follow on the streaming channel, you need to register for the SARL National Convention at [mysarl](http://mysarl.org.za). We have received 29 registrations to attend at AGM in person, 8 of those are Councillors! Where are the Eastern Cape amateurs – PEARS, Border Radio Club and the Cape Coast Radio Club?

If you want to view the AGM online, you need the link to the video platform! Register, then submit your proxy vote. No online voting. Those attending in person will receive a goody bag and take part in a lucky draw for a HF radio.

Appointment of Proxy: If you are attending online or cannot attend at all, submit your proxy vote. We have received 36 proxies to date. The Proxy Form is available online on the AGM page at [mysarl](http://mysarl.org.za). Election of the Council: There are five (5) vacancies on Council with eight (8) nominations to fill the vacancies. Voting opened at 00:01 CAT on Thursday 2 April and will close at 23:59 CAT on Friday 24 April 2026. The link to the Council election page is at [mysarl](http://mysarl.org.za).

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To date 182 members have cast their vote = ZS1 – 55; ZS2 – 24; ZS3 – 6; ZS4 – 8; ZS5 - 9 and ZS6 – 80.

This is your AGM, so register for the AGM or submit your proxy and cast your vote for the councillors, 24th of April is the closing date for voting. Do it now!

A BRIEF UPDATE ON SOUTH AFRICA'S PICO BALLOONS:

As of Friday 10 April 2026, ZS1AFB-1 is currently the sole South African pico balloon still aloft, caused a bit of a stir yesterday, as nothing had been heard for more than 40 hrs! However, the silence was broken at 22:38 with spots reported by no less than 10 stations! It is currently mid-Pacific en route to South Africa in its sixth lap of the earth and has covered 216 000 km over 93 days.

WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY – 18 APRIL 2026

World Amateur Radio Day, held on 18 April each year, is celebrated worldwide by radio amateurs and their national associations which are organized as member-societies of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). It was on this day in 1925 that the IARU was formed in Paris. ARRL co-founder Hiram Percy Maxim was its first president.

The IARU is very pleased to announce the theme of: "Advancing the Spirit of Amateur Radio Through Innovation." In celebration of this event, ZT4T, operated by Jan, ZS4JAN will be active on 40 and 80 m as the weather permits. QSL via the SA-QSL platform, a direct special event QSL card is available on request. QSL cards will also be handed over at the SARL National Convention in Port Elizabeth.

PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low levels during the week. There are currently 5 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 17. The 30 to 10 m bands may provide some good DX fun especially in the late afternoons. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

17 April – the May RAE Registration Closes

18 April – World Amateur Radio Day.

22 and 23 - Lyrids Meteor Shower

CLUB NEWS:

Corrie ZS6CDB to give feedback and update of the April club meeting:

Call Jacques ZS6MAV, for any AMSAT feedback and update:

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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!