

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 9th of June 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:

THE NOVICE NET:

Last week the net was hosted by Keith ZS6Hi and we had eleven active novices and guru's participating and several listeners. Questions ranged from, what are the repeater frequencies and what frequencies should be monitored, to making contacts and breaking into nets on HF. Guru's gave answers and insights from grid square apps, getting registered on QRZ.com, propagation tips and maximising distance on VHF, as well as that the antenna is more important than the transceiver.

This coming Wednesday evening, 10 June at 19:00 CAT, the net will be hosted by Matthew, ZS6MDV and let us see where the questions take us, as there are a myriad of interesting facets of Amateur Radio to explore, such as satellites, CW, Digital, BACAR, Picos, Contesting, SOTA, POTA, Heritage, RDF, RaDAR, SSTV, Astronomy and the list goes on.

Please diarise to join the Novice net this coming Wednesday evening at 19:00 CAT, whether you are a Novice or a Guru, via an interconnected repeater, Echolink or Allstar node near you, to meet and greet, share knowledge, grow confidence and build our community.

CHU - CANADA'S OFFICIAL SHORTWAVE TIME SIGNAL TO GO SILENT:

The National Research Council of Canada (NRC) has announced that the shortwave broadcasts of Canada's official time signal station, CHU, will be discontinued on 22 June 2026. Including experimental time broadcasts in 1923 under the call sign 9CC, and then VE9OB, CHU began regular broadcasts in 1938... for 103 years. The station broadcasts on three frequencies, 3 330, 7 850 and 14 670 kHz.

CHU is equivalent to the WWV and WWVH time stations operated by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in the United States, which began operating with experimental broadcasts in 1919 and regular broadcasts in 1926... 106 years. WWVH broadcasts time and frequency information 24 hours per day from the Island of Kauai, Hawaii.

In Canada, there has been widespread unofficial speculation as to why CHU is being shut down. Radio Amateurs of Canada President Allan Boyd, VE3AJB / VE3EM, said the decision to shut down the CHU station is of concern.

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"The decision to discontinue the CHU time signal service is both concerning and disappointing for the amateur radio community and many other users across Canada. For decades, CHU has provided a reliable national standard for time and frequency calibration, serving not only radio amateurs but also educational, scientific, and technical users. As Canada's national amateur radio association, Radio Amateurs of Canada recognizes the historical and practical importance of this service and regrets the loss of a unique Canadian resource that has been a trusted part of our communications infrastructure for generations." [Source: The ARRL Letter for 4 June 2026.]

PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at moderate levels during the week. There are currently 8 sunspot regions with simple to complex magnetic configurations visible. There is a high probability for C-class and a 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 30 to 15 m bands may especially in the late afternoons provide some good DX fun. Please visit the website paceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

10 June – The Novice Net

13 and 14 June – The ZS SOTA Activity Weekend and the Queens of the Mountain event

15 June – a school holiday

16 June – Youth Day

20 June – The AWA Open Day

AWA OPEN DAY:

The AWA will be having an open day at the SAIEE Museum on Saturday 20 June from 10:30 CAT. Bring along any old items you want to dispose of or just come along for an eyeball QSO. Boerie rolls will be on sale. The address of the SAIEE is 18a Gill Street, Observatory

CLUB NEWS:

JUNE CLUB MEETING:

We are looking forward to enjoy our June monthly club meeting, this coming Saturday the 13th of June 2026 at our clubhouse in Ysterhout Street, Birchleigh from 14h00 onwards. Please save the date!!! See you all there!!!

As per the feedback received last week after the analysis that was done on Monday the 27th of April, the tower maintenance that was planned as part of the May club meeting was put on hold.

We will discuss the next steps and formulate an action plan regarding the tower maintenance that was planned as part of the May club meeting was put on hold. We will also continue with the balloon project and do the same to ensure we reach our goals.

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As usual and if we have enough members that are interested, we will end the meeting with the traditional bring and braai.

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 one birthday on our list for the week. Barry ZS6OY celebrating his birthday on Saturday the 13th of June. Congratulations from all of us, hope you have a great day!!!

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 Stephen ZS6SKY and compiled by Corrie ZS6CDB.

Thank you for having listened!