

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 18th of August 2026.

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:

SILENT KEY:

It is with deep regret that the Sasolburg ARC must announce that the key of Thinus Wessels, ZS4TW of Deneysville went silent in the early hours of Tuesday 28 July 2026. We express our sincere condolences to his wife Daleen, family and many friends.

THE SECOND AFRICAN ROVER MOOT:

The Council of the SARL extends a word of thanks to Stephan, ZS6SKY and Wayne, ZS6ORB for their planning and execution of the two radio days during the Second African Rover Moot at Arrowe Park in Benoni. A lot of positive feedback has been received. Council also thanks Brian, ZS6YZ and Willem, ZS6WIM for their contribution to the Second African Rover Moot. Thank you for keeping amateur radio active.

EXPAND YOUR AMATEUR RADIO BOOK LIBRARY:

The SA Amateur Radio Development Trust has several ARRL books available this month at discounted price. For details about the available stock and where to download an order form, visit www.amateurradio.org.za. Books include ARRL Antenna and satellite handbooks. You can complete the order and send it to admin@amateurradio.org.za. You will then be advised if there are still stocks and the book or books will be reserved in your name. Payment must then be made within 3 days.

PICO BALLOON NEWS:

ZS6SRC-37 is now in its fifth circumnavigation of the Earth. It is presently over Australia again at an altitude of 12,28 km after travelling 163 000 km over 50 days. ZS6SRC-39 using the larger Windreiter balloon has mostly travelled at an altitude of 15,9 km. Its last transmission was 2 days ago and reported to be on the eastern side of Australia.

The ZS1ERZ-14 launch by the Eden ARC was planned for yesterday, Saturday 15 August, weather permitting, from the Ystervark Point Lighthouse during the 29th International Light-house/Lightship Weekend (ILLW).

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PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity for the week is expected to be at very low levels. There are currently 6 sunspot regions with simple to slightly magnetic configurations visible. There is a low probability for C-class, and a very low 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 38. The 20 and 30 m bands may provide some DX fun especially in the early evenings. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

26 August - International Dog Day

29 August - The West Rand Boot Sale

CLUB NEWS:

SEPTEMBER CLUB MEETING:

We are looking forward to enjoy our September monthly club meeting, on Saturday the 12th of September 2026 at our clubhouse in Ysterhout Street, Birchleigh from 14h00 onwards. Please save the date!!! See you all there!!!

Call Jacques ZS6MAV, for any AMSAT feedback and update:

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

We have no birthdays and one anniversaries on our list for the 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. _____

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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 Gert ZS6GFS and compiled by Corrie ZS6CDB.

Thank you for having listened!