

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 1st of September 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:

SEPTEMBER 2026 RADIO ZS:

The September 2026 issue of Radio ZS was uploaded to the League website on Friday 28 August. Why a battery weighs more when it is charged is something to think about. We look at zero-gravity CW paddles, the ZS6BVR field strength meter, ZS6STN in your pocket, 4 pin crystal oscillators and the everyday multimeter and its maintenance. What is FreeDV?

There is feedback about amateur radio at the Second Africa Rover Moot, the ZS SOTA Winter and Queen of the Mountain Weekend and ZS1CRG at the Cape Point Lighthouse. Have a look at the awards from the Namibian Amateur Radio League and the Worked Zone 38 Award. Woody, ZS3WL talks about the lighthouse that moved 880 metres in 23 days and we look at the Radio Set B25 SA and B26 SA in the Museum column. And more.

EXPAND YOUR AMATEUR RADIO BOOK LIBRARY:

The SA Amateur Radio Development Trust has several ARRL books available this month at discounted prices. For details about the available stock and where to download an order form visit www.amateurradio.org.za. Books include the 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 is stock on hand and the book or books will be reserved in your name. Payment must then be made within 3 days.

For the satellite enthusiast there are two books - Amateur Radio Satellites for Beginners will introduce you to new experiences that you may have thought were out of your reach. Start reading and discover how easy it can be!

The ARRL Satellite Handbook brings the thrill of satellite communications within your reach. Filled with understandable descriptions and illustrations, this book includes all the tools you need to participate in this exciting field. It's designed to give a broad introduction to the subject, whilst providing the practical fundamentals you need to explore, track and operate ham radio satellites on your own.

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

PICO BALLOON NEWS:

ZS6WBT-1, flying aboard the larger Windreiter balloon, has covered an impressive 20 000 km in the ten days since launch, maintaining an average altitude of approximately 15,5 km. It is currently reporting an ambient temperature of -36 °C, with excellent solar illumination and a solar-panel voltage of 4,15 V.

PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity for the week is expected to be at low to moderate levels. There are currently 6 sunspot regions with simple to 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 74. The 15 to 30 m bands may, especially in the early evenings, provide some good DX fun. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

2 September – Secretary's Day (and not all secretaries are female!)

11 to 13 September – Rosh Hashanah

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 one anniversaries on our list for the week. John ZS6LS and his XYL Roelie will be celebrating their wedding anniversary on Sunday the 4th of September. Congratulations from all of us hope your 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. _____

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

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!