

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

Good evening, it is Tuesday 15th of September 2026.

This is **ZS6KTS**, being operated by Anton ZS6WG, 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 MEMBERSHIP:

Have you renewed your SARL membership yet? The invoices were sent out in May 2026. Maybe you have just forgotten about it. Visit mysarl.org.za/shop/, select the appropriate membership category and pay online. Alternatively, you can pay by EFT into the SARL bank account. The banking details are available at mysarl.org.za/membership-rates/. It is the right thing to do.

Clubs are reminded about their Club affiliation – it can have an influence on hosting an exam centre for the October RAE. This matter was reported on in SARL News for 6 September, the response has been poor.

PICO BALLOON NEWS:

As of Friday, ZS6WBT-1, flying aboard the larger Windreiter balloon, has completed its first circumnavigation of the Earth and is presently midway across the Indian Ocean towards Australia. After 25 days, it has covered 42 489 km at an average altitude of 15,5 km. The reported temperature is -35 °C, and the solar panel voltage is 4,2 V. All is looking very solid indeed.

PROPAGATION REPORT:

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that solar activity is expected to remain at low levels during the week. There are currently seven sunspot regions with simple magnetic configurations visible. There is a high probability of C-class solar flares and a low probability of M-class solar flares. If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around 59. The 30 to 15-metre bands may, especially in the late afternoons, provide some DX fun. For more information, please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

DIARY OF SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

18 to 24 September – The IARU Region 1 General Conference
19 and 20 September – The ZS SOTA Activity Weekend
23 September – The Spring Equinox and provincial schools close
24 September – The National Braai Day and Heritage Day

THE 27TH IARU REGION 1 GENERAL CONFERENCE:

The 27th IARU Region 1 General Conference will be held at the Parkhotel Schönbrunn in Vienna, Austria. The opening Plenary will take place on Saturday, 19 September 2026, and the Final Plenary on Wednesday, 23 September 2026. The SARL will be represented by Nico, ZS6QL, and Dennis, ZS4BS. The ÖVSV, the Austrian Member Society, will be celebrating its 100th anniversary with a festive theatrical performance on 21 September 2026.

The Conference will be an in-person meeting, with online streaming of the C3 and Plenary meetings. The Working Group and Committee chairmen may organise streaming of their meetings, and the links will be made available closer to the Conference. The Conference Papers have been made available on the conference website at conf.iaru-r1.org/documents/. There is also a link from MySARL. The papers are divided into the Conference Committees: C2 Credentials and Finance, C3 General Administrative and Organisational, C4 HF, C5 VHF+, C7 EMC and C8 Youth

THE ZS SOTA SPRING ACTIVITY WEEKEND:

The ZS SOTA Spring Activity Weekend is on the air on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 September. You still have this week to do your planning and share summit information on the ZS-SOTA WhatsApp group. Yes, not everybody can make it to a summit, so get on the air as a chaser and work the activators. Get more information on page 72 of the 2026 SARL Contest Manual and have fun activating and chasing.

CLUB NEWS:

Call Corrie to give feedback of the September club meeting:

Call Jacques ZS6MAV, for any AMSAT feedback and update:

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:

We have one birthday on our list for the week. Debbie XYL of Brand ZS6PES celebrating her birthday today. Happy birthday from all of us, hope you had a great day and that the year ahead will be just as great!!!

If we have missed out on your big day, please contact any committee member to update our records.

ZS6KTS NEWS BULLETIN

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 Anton ZS6WG and compiled by Corrie ZS6CDB.

Thank you for having listened!