



Logo by ZR6FD

# WATTS

01-2015

Year 85 + 1m

Monthly Newsletter of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club  
 Maandelikse Nuusbrief van die Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub

PARC, PO Box 73696, Lynnwood Ridge 0040, RSA

<http://www.parc.org.za> @ [zs6pta@zs6pta.org.za](mailto:zs6pta@zs6pta.org.za)



**Bulletins : 145.725 MHz on Sundays / Sondag at 08:45**

Relays: 1.840, 3.700, 7.066, 10.135, 14.235, 51.400, 438.825, 1297 MHz

Activated frequencies are announced prior to bulletins

**Swopshop : 2m and 7.066 MHz live on-air after bulletins**

Bulletin repeats on Mondays / herhalings op Maandae : 2m 19:45



*Wine Jubilee  
 ZS 85 PTA  
 1930 - 2015*

*The Committee of Pretoria Amateur Radio Club hereby wishes all Members and their Families a Happy and Prosperous 2015*

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### Next Events

- Club Social Meeting :**  
 Thursday 8 January at 7:00PM at SAM's
- Club Committee Meeting :**  
 Thursday 22 January at 7:00PM at SAM's



*Let's Twist Again! Happy 2015!!*

### **RAE Classes for the May 2015 Examination**

Starting on 20<sup>th</sup> January. Presented by Vincent Harrison  
 ZS6BTY at the TUKS clubhouse. See contact details on p2.

## PARC Committee Members / Komiteelede : 2014 – 2015

<b>Chairman, Social &amp; Rallies</b>	Johan de Bruyn	ZS6JHB	<a href="mailto:zs6jhb@gmail.com">zs6jhb@gmail.com</a>	012-803-7385	079-333-4107
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	Jan Pienaar	ZS6OB	<a href="mailto:pienaarja@gmail.com">pienaarja@gmail.com</a>		082-447-7823
<b>SARL liason</b>	Fritz Sutherland	ZS6SF	<a href="mailto:fritzs@icon.co.za">fritzs@icon.co.za</a>	012-811-3875	083-304-0028
<b>Treasurer</b>	Andre van Tonder	ZS6BRC	<a href="mailto:andre.vtonder@absamail.co.za">andre.vtonder@absamail.co.za</a>	361-3292	082-467-0287
<b>Web co-ordination</b>	Graham Reid	ZR6GJR	<a href="mailto:greid@wol.co.za">greid@wol.co.za</a>		083-701-0511
<b>RAE, Bulletin co-ordinator</b>	Vincent Harrison	ZS6BTY	<a href="mailto:zs6bty@telkomsa.net">zs6bty@telkomsa.net</a>	012-998-8165	083-754-0115
<b>Contests</b>	Pierre Holtzhausen	ZS6PJH	<a href="mailto:zs6pjh@telkomsa.net">zs6pjh@telkomsa.net</a>	012-655-0726	082-575-5799
<b>Repeaters</b>	Craig Symington	ZS6RH	<a href="mailto:zs6rh@hotmail.co.za">zs6rh@hotmail.co.za</a>		081-334-6817
<b>Fleamarket</b>	Almero Dupisani	ZS6LDP	<a href="mailto:almero.dupisani@up.ac.za">almero.dupisani@up.ac.za</a>		083-938-8955
<b>Clubhouse</b>	Pieter Fourie	ZS6CN	<a href="mailto:pieterzs6cn@gmail.com">pieterzs6cn@gmail.com</a>	012-804-7417	083-573-7048
<b>Photographer, Technical</b>	Theo Bresler	ZS6TVB	<a href="mailto:theo@bresler.co.za">theo@bresler.co.za</a>		082-698-1742
<b>Auditor</b>	Tony Crowder	ZS6CRO	<a href="mailto:tcrowder@telkomsa.net">tcrowder@telkomsa.net</a>	011-672-3311	
<b>Historian, Archives, Awards</b>	Tjerk Lammers	ZS6P	<a href="mailto:zs6p@iafrica.com">zs6p@iafrica.com</a>	012-809-0006	
<b>Secretary, WATTS newsletter</b>	Louis de Wet	ZS6SK	<a href="mailto:louis.zs6sk@gmail.com">louis.zs6sk@gmail.com</a>	012-349-1044	072-140-9893
<b>Contests</b>	Jaco Cronje	ZR6CMG	<a href="mailto:jaco.cronje@moboxgroup.com">jaco.cronje@moboxgroup.com</a>		076-319-1057

### Birthdays – January / Verjaarsdae - January

05 Pierre Holtzhausen ZS6PJH  
09 Carel Kruger ZS6CPK

12 Gustav Snyman ZS6BWN



#### Spouse's Birthdays (Jan)

25 Magriet, Spouse of Tobie Jansen van Rensburg  
ZS6ZX

#### Anniversaries / Herdenkings (Jan)

05 Almero ZS6LDP and Louise du Pisani  
07 Johan ZS6JHB and Doreen ZR6DDB de Bruyn  
17 Charles ZS5CH and Sharon Thompson  
20 Hans-Peter ZS6AJS and Helga Knoepfler

### Lief en Leed / Joys and Sorrows

Fritz Sutherland ZS6SF recently underwent a major back operation. The operation was a success, and Fritz has been discharged recently, and is recovering at home. The Committee and Members of PARC hereby wish Fritz a speedy and full recovery.

### Diary of Events – January 2015 / Dagboek van Gebeure – Januarie 2015

11	NRAU - Baltic Contest SSB : 06h30 – 08h30
11	NRAU - Baltic Contest CW : 09h00 – 11h00
11	DARC 10m Contest : 09h00 – 10h59
17	LZ Open Contest : 00h00 – 04h00
17-18	Hungarian DX Contest : 12h00 – 12h00
23-25	CQ 160m Contest CW : 22h00 – 21h59
24-25	REF Contest CW : 06h00 – 18h00
31/1 – 01/02	UBA DX SSB Contest : 13h00 – 13h00

**Dates for 2015 PARC Flea Markets :**  
**28<sup>th</sup> March ; 2<sup>nd</sup> May ; 25<sup>th</sup> July ; 31<sup>st</sup> October**  
**Please contact Almero Dupisani ZS6LDP for any enquiries**

### PARC SUBS / LEDEGELD FROM / VAN 30-06-2014

Bank	First National Bank	Ordinary Members / Gewone Lede : R150 Spouses / Pensioners : R50	<b>Your call sign must appear as statement text!</b>
Branch Code	25 20 45		
Account No	546 000 426 73		

Please remit your subs in time to our Treasurer, or pay per transfer into the PARC account  
Betaal asb. u ledegelde betyds aan ons Tesourier, of betaal per oorplasing in die PARC rekening

### South African Radio League – 90 Years

The year 2015 celebrates the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the South African Radio League. Following short on the SARL, Pretoria Amateur Radio Club celebrates it's 85<sup>th</sup> Jubilee. These milestones illustrate the rich histories of both Organizations and all the Radio Hams which made these achievements possible.

To celebrate this milestone for the SARL, which was formed in May 1925, a special callsign will be made available for clubs and individuals to use for limited periods during 2015. As the first radio contact in South Africa was made in Port Elizabeth by Edward Alfred Jennings, the first person to use the ZS90SARL call-sign will be Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, of PEARS.

Give ZS90SARL a call and celebrate 90 years of SARL and the first transmission from Port Elisabeth. ZS2EC will be operating ZS90SARL from 1 January till 11 January 2015. Clubs and amateurs wishing to use the call-sign from their station are invited to send their requests to [sarl90@sarl.org.za](mailto:sarl90@sarl.org.za) with suggested dates and planned operation. For more information, please visit the SARL website.

### South African Radio League National Convention

The 2015 South African Radio League National Convention will take place in the City of Roses, Bloemfontein from 17 to 19 April 2015. The Convention is hosted by the Bloemfontein Amateur Radio Club at the Bains Game Lodge. More details and booking forms will be available on the [SARL web](#) soon

### International Amateur Radio Events

Two very interesting Amateur Radio Conventions/Exhibitions are to take place during June 2015 in Texas, USA, and Friedrichshafen, Germany. More information is provided below.



The Ham Com Amateur Radio Convention will take place during 12 – 13 June 2015 at the Irving Convention Centre in Las Colinas, Texas, USA. More than 50 commercial vendors will exhibit their equipment. Various speakers will present technical papers on various subjects, while workshops and special interest group meetings will take place. For more information visit the Convention website at <http://www.hamcom.org/>.



The Hamtronic International Amateur Radio Exhibition will take place during 26 – 28 June 2015 at the Messegelände Centre in Friedrichshafen, Germany. This trade show will host more than 200 exhibitors of radio amateur equipment. For more information visit <http://hamradio-friedrichshafen.com>

### SARL Membership

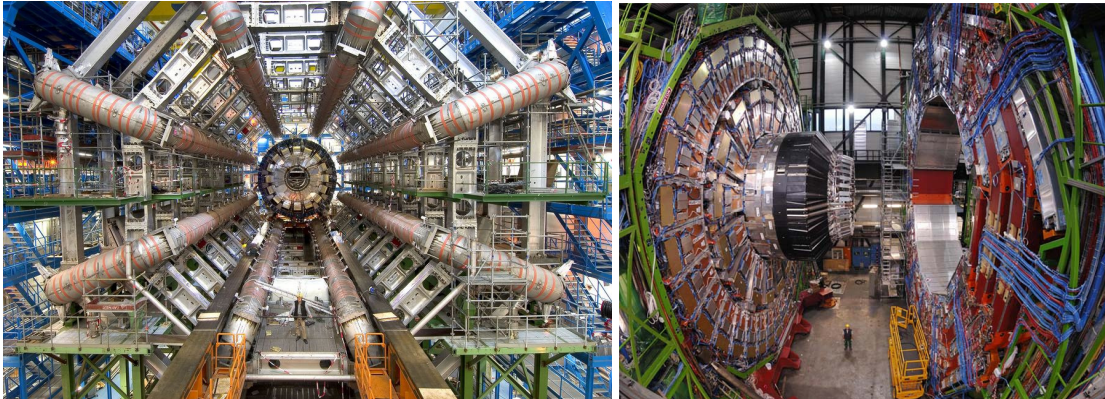
Following a discussion on the SARL forum, it was decided that Form B from now does not need to be completed in order to renew amateur radio licences. ICASA will send out renewal reminders in January 2015, and licence fees are due on 1 April.

Radio Amateurs can exercise their option to pay for 5 years in advance. Please send an email to [dkuhr@icasa.org.za](mailto:dkuhr@icasa.org.za) and advise him that you are converting to a 5 year licence, which will amount to R500, saving R100. Please ensure that when paying your licence to inform ICASA of your licence number and callsign.

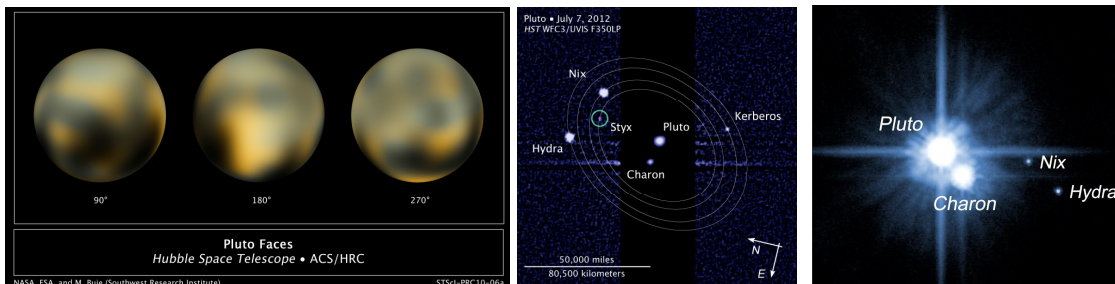


## On the Science Front 2015

On the International scientific front, a number of major events will take place during 2015. Here are some to wet the appetite:



Physicists will be watching the [Large Hadron Collider](#) in Geneva in March when the particle smasher is set to return to action after a two-year closedown. Having turned it off and then turned it on again, scientists will be hoping the great device – which was used to discover the [Higgs boson](#) in 2013 – will be restored to even greater power. Its beams of protons were smashed into each other at joint energies of 8 trillion electron volts (Tev) when the device closed for its upgrade. After its reboot, it should be possible to create collisions of up to 13 Tev. At this level, it is expected the LHC – a 27km tunnel under the Jura mountains – will create a host of new particles that will help scientists at CERN unravel more of the mysteries of the structure of matter and the laws that govern the sub-atomic world.



NASA's New Horizons spacecraft is expected to fly by Pluto and its largest satellite, Charon and explore the area for approximately 5 months, until the distance gets too great. The spacecraft will then enter the Kuiper Belt and eventually leave the Solar System.

Launched on 19 January 2006, the New Horizons was given a Jupiter gravity assist on during February 2007. Having travelled for 3268 days up to now, the spacecraft is expected to reach Pluto during July 2015 which is within approximately 193 from now. The New Horizons website <http://pluto.jhuapl.edu/> can be consulted for more information and scientific resources.

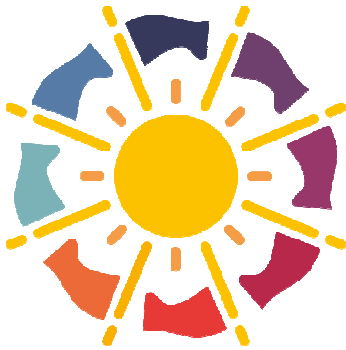


Launched in September 2007, the Dawn space probe is intended to study two of the most massive objects in the asteroid belt – the protoplanet Vesta and the dwarf planet Ceres. Dawn completed a fourteen month survey of Vesta during 2011-2012, and is currently en route to Ceres. It is expected to arrive in April 2015. The main objectives of the mission is to answer questions about the formation of the Solar System, and test the feasibility of its Ion Drive. Visit <http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov/> for more information



**Tim Peake**, 42, will become Britain's first official astronaut when he flies on a Soyuz spacecraft to the international space station in November. Several British-born men and women have already flown into space, but as privately paid crew of commercial missions or through their US citizenship. By contrast, Peake – a former army helicopter pilot – is an official member of the European Space Agency's astronaut corps.

Peake began ESA's astronaut basic training course in September 2009 and graduated in November 2010. Peake, who was born in Chichester, West Sussex, will stay on the ISS on a six-month mission which has been named Principia after Isaac Newton's text on the laws of motion and gravity, *Principia Mathematica*.



The International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies, 2015 (IYL 2015) will take place from 19-20 January 2015 in Paris, France. This United Nations observance aims to raise awareness of the achievements of light science and its applications, and its importance to humankind. Awareness will be raised on how optical technologies promote sustainable development and provide solutions to global challenges in energy, education, agriculture, communications and health.

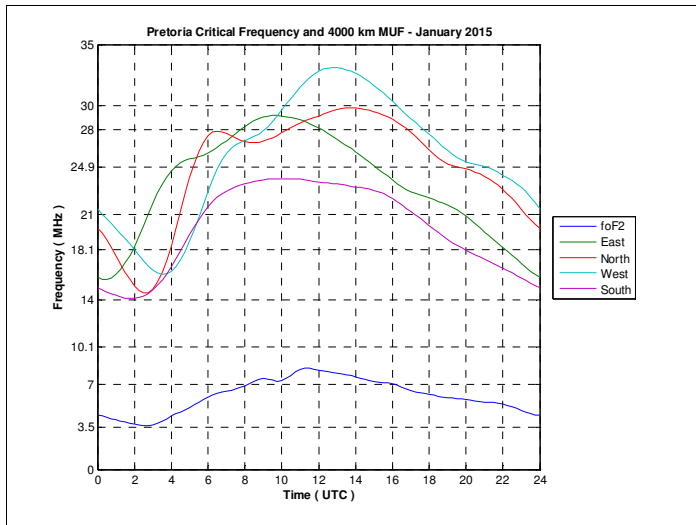
The International Year of Soils, 2015 (IYS 2015) was declared by the 68<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly. In addition to increasing the awareness and understanding of the importance of soil for food security and essential ecosystem functions, the IYS wish to raise full awareness of the profound importance of soil for human life. The IYS wish to educate public of the role of soil in climate change, poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

2015  
International  
Year of Soils



One of the big questions technology companies, including Apple, Samsung and Google, are asking is: why would anyone buy a smartwatch? All see fitness as one of the most convincing answers so far. The smartwatch – wrist-worn devices capable of running apps and connecting to the internet, usually via a paired smartphone – is a young category, but health has already emerged as one of its key selling points. Samsung's **Gear 2 and Gear Fit** devices are good examples, capable of measuring their wearer's steps and heart rate, and transmitting that data to a smartphone to provide feedback. Rival models from Sony, LG and Motorola have similar health features. Soon, they will be joined by the **Apple Watch**, which will track general activity as well as harder workouts, feeding everything back to a health app on the owner's iPhone. All these companies hope that the appeal of better fitness tracking will encourage people to buy this early generation of smartwatches, with their drawbacks – battery life rarely longer than a day, for example.





## Long Term HF Propagation for January 2015

### DX Operating

The graph shows the 4000 km maximum useable frequency (MUF) to the East, North, West and South from Pretoria for the first hop using the F2 layer.

### Local Operating

The F2 critical frequency (foF2) is the maximum F-layer frequency for short range communications.

See also the Propagation tab at <http://www.parc.org.za/>

Courtesy Vincent ZS6BTY

C/O NELSPORT & 801 MALMESBURY STR, WINGATE PARK, PRETORIA [S25.49.36 & E28.16.07]

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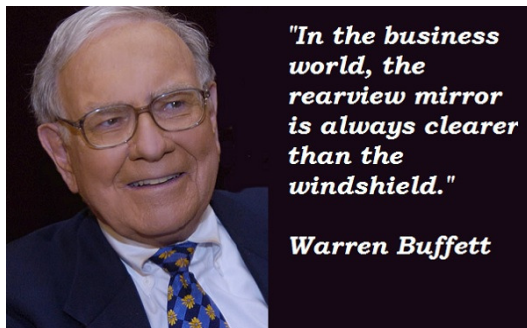
## QRV Services offers the following expertise:

- General equipment and Television repairs
- Small-scale design and manufacturing
- Precise frequency and power calibration
- Technical writing
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party scrutiny of projects and documents
- MFJ 259/69 Analyzer repairs and calibration
- Ham radio and solid state amplifier repairs
- Valuation of ham estates and their disposal.

### Products:

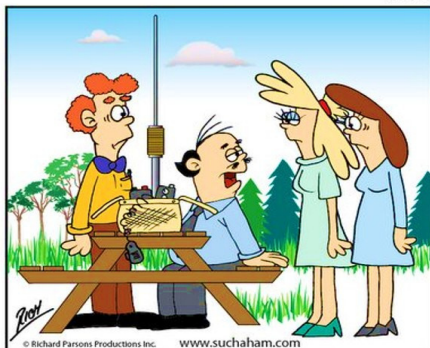
- Legal limit 30m and 40m dipole traps
- Linear power supply O.V. protection kits
- 30A DC switching supplies
- 30A DC Anderson Power Poles
- Connectors RF and Audio
- Plug-in triple sequential industrial timers

Contact Hans at 012-333-2612 or 072-204-3991



SUCH A HAM

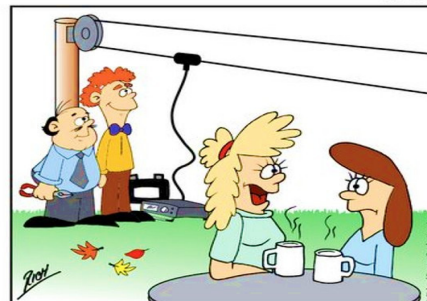
SH-012



We thought YOU were bringing the food.

SUCH A HAM

SH-005



Stan & Cliff have been working all day on installing my clothesline, Mary.