



ZR6FD logo

Drukwerk
printing
ZS6BJPL

Papier / Paper
ZS6JPL

WATTS

03 - 2008

Year 78 +3m

Monthly newsletter of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club
Maandelikse nuusbrieff van die Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub.



PARC, PO Box 73696 Lynnwood Ridge 0040, RSA



<http://www.zs6pta.org.za> mail:zs6pta@zs6pta.org.za

Bulletins :145,725MHz 08:45 Sundays / Sondae

Relays : 1840, 3700, 7066, 10135, 14235, 51400, 438825, 1297000kHz

Activated frequencies are announced prior to bulletins

Swapshop: Live on-air after bulletin 2m and 40m

Bulletin repeats | herhalings : Mondays 19:45 on 145,725 MHz

160m anyone? Low-band dxer Ed ZS6UT in his shack.

More on p3



In this issue

- Minutes 2 Feb Notules
- Member's pages Lede-bladsye
- Member activities Lede-bedrywighede
- SARL Field Day
- Technical items Slide rule demise Tegniese items
- DAB demise
- Page eight Bladsy agt

In hierdie uitgawe

Next Meeting 12 March 2008

Time: 19:30 for 20:00
PARC Clubhouse
South Campus
University of Pretoria
SE cnr University and
Lynnwood roads

PARC Management team / Bestuurspan Oct. 2007- Sept 2008:

Committee members

Chairman, Fleamarkets	Alméro Dupisani	ZS6LDP	chairman@zs6pta.org.za	012-567-3722	082-908-3359
Secretary, Vice Chairman Rallies, Social, Hamnet	Johan de Bruyn	ZS6JHB	secretary@zs6pta.org.za	012-803-7385	082-492-3689
Treasurer, Database, DF hunts	Richard Peer	ZS6UK	treasurer@zs6pta.org.za	012-333-0612	082-651-6556
Repeaters, Technical	Craig Symington	ZS6RH	technical@zs6pta.org.za	083-259-3233	083-259-3233
SARL liaison	Pierre Holtzhausen	ZS6PJH	zs6pjh@qtsp.co.za	012-655-0726	082-575-5799

Co-opted / Geko-opteer:

Repeaters, technical	Johan Lehmann	ZS6JPL	jlehmann@csir.co.za	012-841-3648	083-300-8677
Auditor	Position open				
Newsletter/Kits	Hans Kappetijn	ZS6KR	editor@zs6pta.org.za	012-333-2612	072-204-3991
Asset control	Andre v Tonder	ZS6BRC	andreh.vtonder@absamail.co.za	361-3292	082-467-0287
Klubfasiliteite, vlooiemark	Willie Greyling	ZR6WGR	willie@up.ac.za		082-940-2490
Webmaster (non-member)	Wesleigh				
Hamnet, projects	Roy Newton	ZS6XN	newtonr@telkomsa.net	012-547-0280	
Historian/Awards	Tjerk Lammers	ZS6P	zs6p@iafrica.com	012-809-0006	
Public Relations	Graham Reid	ZR6GJR	greid@wol.co.za		083-701-0511
	Thobile Koni	ZS6TKO	toko40@mweb.co.za		082-493-2483
Tea	Molly Peer	ZR6MOL	molly@peer.co.za	012-333-0612	
	Doreen de Bruyn	ZR6DDB		012-803-7385	082-857-9691

Minutes of the monthly club meeting of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club held at the South Campus of the University of Pretoria on 2 Feb. 2008

Welcome: The acting chairman welcomed all present.

Present: As per club register, 17 members and 3 visitors.

Apologies: Almero ZS6LDP, Johan ZS6JHB, Hilary ZR6HAP, Edwin ZR6ESP.

Personal: Sympathies were noted for Bill ZS6KO at the passing of his sw Mary.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were published in Watts and taken as read. Proposed by Brian ZR6BJ and seconded by Deryck ZS6KQ. It was noted that the financial report was given by ZR6CK.

QSL Cards: Hans ZS6KR requested that someone could collect the Qsl cards from the League.

Finances: The bank statement for January is not yet available. The closing balance for December was R99000. R7086 was spent on radio equipment for the repeater and the radio licences have been paid, being 4 repeater licences and the ZS6PTA licence.

Rallies: Johan ZS6JHB was not present.

Fox Hunts: The proposed date is 23 February and the fox is to be decided.

Social: The social will be a lunch get together at a venue to be announced on bulletin.

Projects: Roy ZS6XN was not present. He is working on a few projects.

Flea Market: The PARC autumn flea market will be held on Saturday 8 March at the south campus of the University starting at 08:00. Magda ZS6MVW and family will be doing the usual eats and Richard ZS6UK will be doing the cool drinks.

Contests: The SARL field day takes place next weekend, they will listen out on 7066 and other frequencies. Hans ZS6KR, Pieter ZR6AHT, Johan ZS6JHB, Ivan ZS6CCW and Pierre ZS6PJH will be camping at site 40Km north of Pretoria. The VHF/UHF contest is the weekend of 15/16 March.

A suitable venue is being researched.

General: Vince ZS6BTY gave advanced notice that a Block House project is planned for the latter half of the year. Contacts are required to be able to establish stations at forts and block house in and around the city.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Wednesday evening 12 March 8pm.

Editorial

A new feature that will pop up in WATTS is advertising. Any member is free to apply to the committee/editor for placement of a small advert at a small fee.

It is an avenue for commercial suppliers to at least make their name, product and phone number known to our members and beyond.

Larger spreads may be done on printed 'flyers' which can accompany printed WATTS and be an additional electronic mail file to email subscribers.

Adverts will generally not get space on this page but will find a home wherever a niche is available. One sixth page like this example is very acceptable.





Amateur Electronic Supplies

Your Affordable Amateur Radio Dealer

Johan Lehmann ZS6JPL
083 3008677 / 012 8413648
aesham@telkomsa.net







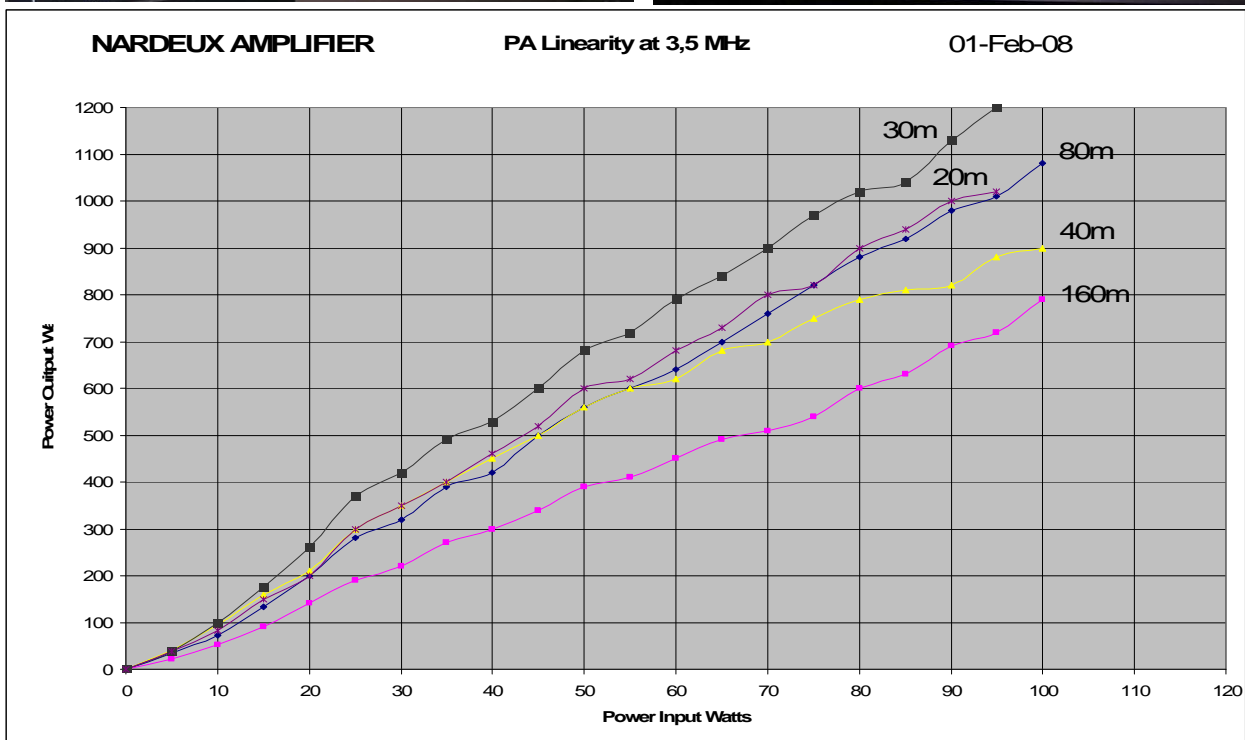
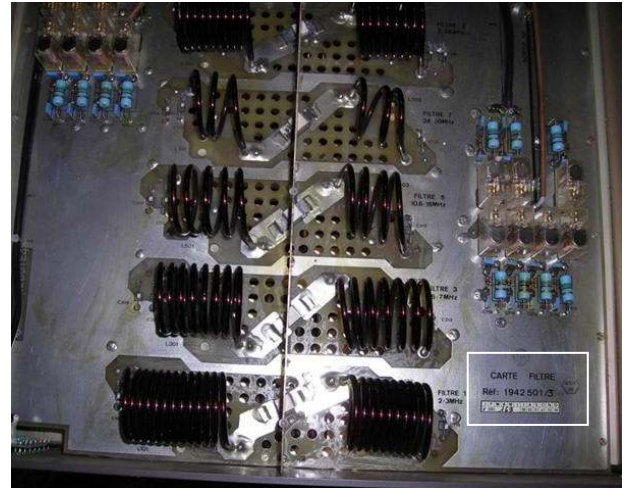








Front page: Ed's shack became richer with a Nardeux transmitter (extreme right on photo) that took a bit of research in order to be able to understand its operation as it came without handbooks. He has now figured it out and its linear amplifier is now integrated into his set-up. The adjacent Grintek linear (Transworld design) now takes second place. His exciter is usually an IC746. Some close-up views are shown below:



Amplifier performance into a dummy load as measured by Ed. Note that it was not designed for 160m but still manages a considerable output. 40m performance appears to be the odd one out above 500W and is currently difficult to explain. The kinks can partly be measurement errors. Distortion figures have not yet been measured and it is unknown what the manufacturers claim.

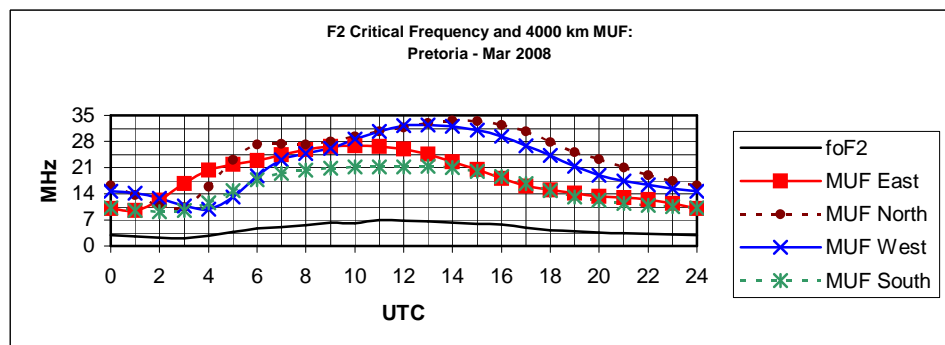
Long Term HF Propagation Prediction for Ma. 2008 (courtesy Vince ZS6BTY)

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 frequency that will reflect when you transmit straight up. E-layer reflection is not shown.



Birthdays

Maart

Verjaarsdae



01 Elsa, dogter van Elmarie ZR6AXF en Johan ZS6JPL
 01 Albert, seun van Elmarie ZR6AXF en Johan ZS6JPL
 04 Johnny ZS1BAJ
 05 Martha Louisa, lv van Attie, ZS6REY
 09 Helga, sw of Hans-Peter ZS6AJS
 10 Gary ZR6GK
 11 Kaye, daughter of Heila and Melvyn ZS5MF
 12 Rita, sw of Vitor ZS6VG
 17 Gerda, sw of Roger ZS6RJ
 21 Frances, ZR6AUT

March

Anniversaries Herdenkings

13 Bernice en Pieter ZR6KSA (4)
 16 Marelise en Pierre ZS6PJH (12)

21 Martie, lv van 'JB' ZR6YV
 22 Julian ZS6AOU
 22 Ivan ZS6CCW
 25 Doreen ZR6DDB, lv van Johan ZS6JHB
 26 Bernadette, dogter van Bernice en Pieter ZR6KSA

Siekeboeg

Fred ZS6MRA moes alweer besoek afle by die hospitaal maar sterk nou tuis aan.

Nuwe Lede

Welkom aan Hannes ZS6HDT
Welkom aan Marnix ZS6MCM

Diary | Dagboek (UTC times)

Ma 01-02 ARRL SSB International Contest 0000-2400
 02 Hamnet 40m Simulated Emergency Contest
08 PARC flea market 08:00 (CAT)
12 PARC evening meeting. (1940 hallicrafters film)
 15-16 SARL VHF/UHF contest
 15-16 Russian DX Contest 1200-1200
 29-30 CQWW WPX Contest SSB 0000-2359

FUTURE MEETING DATES

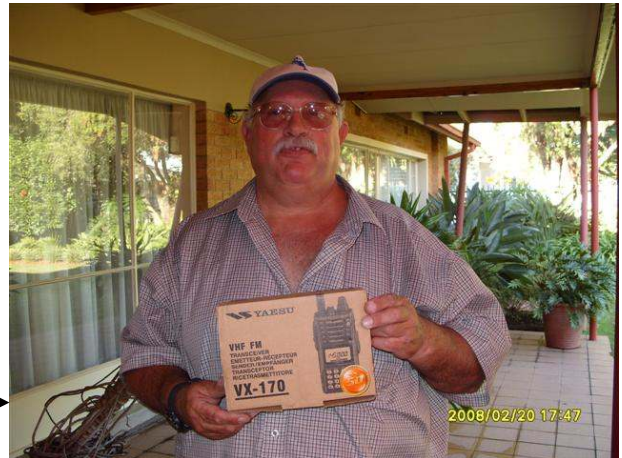
Even months: Saturdays 14:00
Odd months: Wednesdays 20:00

Apr	12	2008		
Jun	14	2008	May	14
Aug	09	2008	Jul	09
Oct	11	2008	Sept	10
Dec	13	2008	Nov	12

Apr 11-13 SARL AGM in Bloemfontein

Snippets | Brokkies

- **Graham Reid ZR6GJR** has volunteered to revamp our website. We should have news soon.
- **PARC** won the Sept 2007 VHF/UHF Contest with flying colours. (WATTS Dec 2007) winning the team a Yaesu hand-held donated by Kobus ZS1DC (ZS6UZ) of Let's Play Radio.
- On 12 February as many as 70 call-ins on VHF and HF respectively were recorded in anticipation of winning a Yaesu hand-held from a lucky draw and correctly answering the mystery music title played by bulletin reader Tjerk ZS6P. **Ivor ZS6ICS** was the lucky one → The radio was donated some time ago by Hank ZS6USA who has returned to the US.
- **Johan ZS6JPL** het Echolink (ZS0JPL-R uitgaande) aan ons 725 herhaler permanent gekoppel. Ons word nou 24/7 wêreldwyd gehoor!
- **Tjerk ZS6P** has entertained us with new-style club bulletins that have everyone listening. Keep up the good work Tjerk!



SWAP SHOP

Due to various issues regarding advertising on Swap Shop, both on the SARL website and the PARC Sunday morning sessions, and by advice of the SARL, the PARC committee has deemed wise the reading of a Charter prior to every Swap Shop session. The Charter simply formalizes long-standing rules and indemnifies the PARC of any complicity in irregularities should they arise. The Charter reads thus:

"All communication shall be strictly Radio-Amateur hobby related, of non-commercial nature and embody only the following:

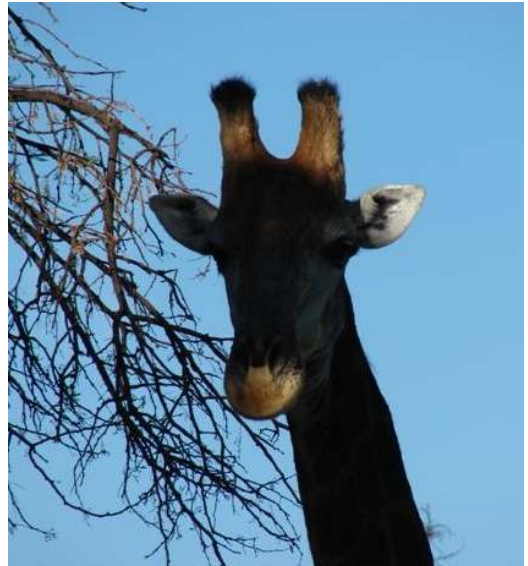
1. Used radio and peripheral equipment
2. Used literature, computers and interfaces
3. Used equipment requirements
4. Transaction desired excluding monetary value
5. Name, call sign, location and telephone number

Amateurs transgressing Regulation B3 (1a) of 2005 do so at their own risk and the PARC will accept no responsibility"

SARL Field Day 9-10 Feb. ZS6PJH, ZS6CCW, ZS6KO, ZS6JHB, ZR6DDB, ZR6AHT, ZR6LHT, ZR6HVG



Camp and antennas at an Elandsriver game farm 40 km N of Petoria



No, I don't want to be a dipole support



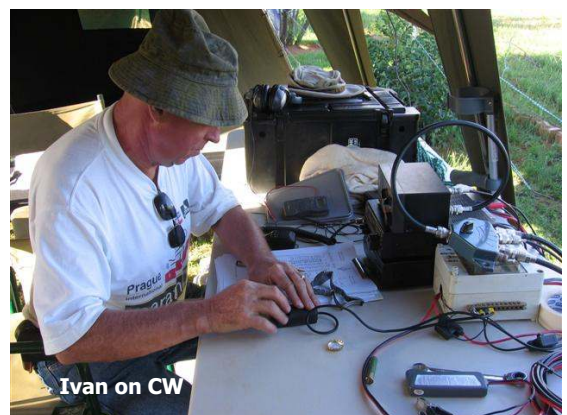
Some of the inhabitants



Igor



Hans, Pieter en Pierre wat aflos



Ivan on CW

PARC Lunch 17 Feb. – DROS, Hatfield



Vlasta, Rae, Bill ZS6KO, Johan ZS6JHB, Doreen ZR6DDB, Richard ZS6UK and Molly ZR6MOL.

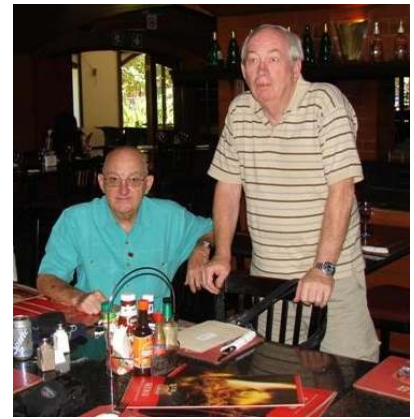
Mike ZS6AFG



Sylvia and Vlasta



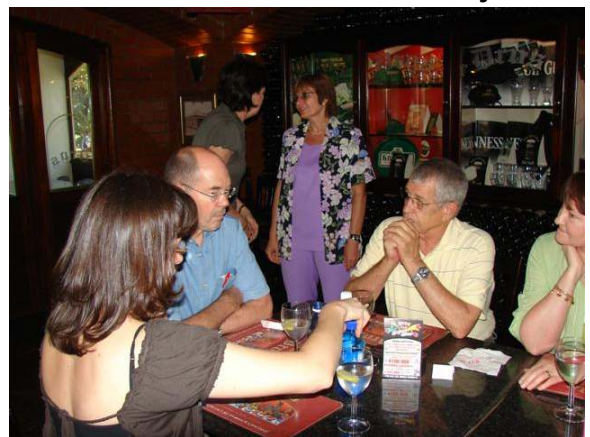
Louise en Almero ZS6LDP



Mike ZS6AFG and Tjerk ZS6P



Pierre ZS6PJH en familie



Estie ZR6STB, Doppies ZS6BAQ

Nico ZR6VT en Iv Hester

The demise of the slide rule

from the www

For over 300 years, since its invention in 1620 by William Oughtred, the slide rule played an ever-increasingly important role in the development of commerce, taxation, weaponry, navigation, astronomy and engineering. Becoming extremely sophisticated, the slide rule penetrated all branches of technology and by the middle of the 20th Century millions of rules had been produced.

During this time the slide rule took many forms. The linear slide rules with lengths ranging from 3 to 40 inches, circular slide rules, long scale slide rules of the tubular and grid-iron forms and watch type calculators. By 1968 they had reached their zenith in terms of refinement and popularity.

And then by 1975 they were gone.

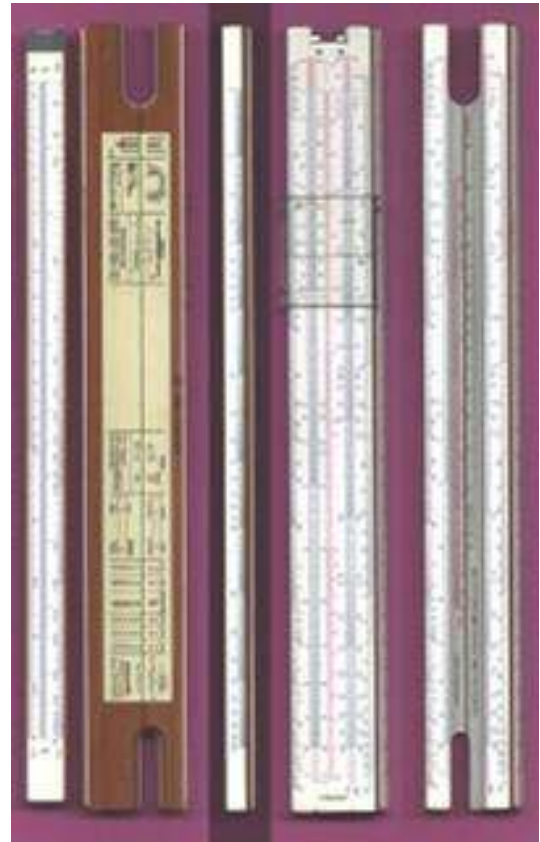
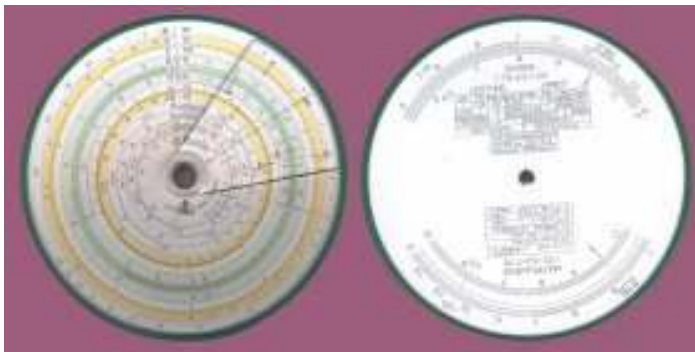
Displaced by the development of the micro-processor.

In the history of science and technology never had an invention of such importance disappeared so quickly.

<http://www.sliderules.info>

<http://sliderules.lovett.com>

<http://www.sliderulemuseum.com>



S172_Faber-Castell_1-98_Elektro

Top left: 1903 Sperry USA Pocket calculators

Bottom left: Faber 8-10 Circular Rod

Germany flicks off-switch on DAB. Struggling to be heard

Published Monday 28th January 2008 11:57 GMT

Germany will end Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) next year after a ten year experiment. Public radio stations demanded another €180m to keep it going, but the independent commission responsible for the allocation of licence fees says it is over.

DAB has been under development since 1981, and Germany was the first country in Europe to start test transmissions. However, the technology never caught on - only a couple of public and regional radio stations participated in experiments and 200,000 digital receivers were sold.

Part of the problem is that analogue FM never went away and most people didn't seem to care for the clear digital-quality sound, and were left nonplussed by such benefits as easy tuning and message displays with song names and titles.

DAB is struggling almost everywhere in Europe. The standard never really succeeded in Europe except in Denmark and the UK, where this year the upgraded DAB+ format will be launched (including podcast services). Experts believe Digital Multimedia Broadcasting (DMB) and DVB-T have surpassed DAB technically. German public broadcaster ARD says it will somehow continue experiments with digital radio.



Read the small print

Your editor recently bought four NiMH AA batteries and cycled them with an analyzer and found they did no better than 2550 mAh. Why? The small print says so!

This does not apply to all brands but be careful when buying a bubble pack purely by the big print.

Still useful?

Cut this page out and place in a prominent position in your shack

S.A. PHILIPS (PTY.) LTD.



ELECTRONICS DIVISION

EQUIVALENT GUIDE 1960

VALVE	PHILIPS TYPE	HAM PRICE			
		£	s.	d.	R. C.
866A	DCG 4/1000 G	1	0	7	2.06
872A	DCG 5/5000 GB	3	10	5	7.04
3B28	DCX 4/1000	2	2	6	4.25
4B32	DCX 4/5000	4	19	0	9.90
6083	PE 1/100	5	14	0	11.40
4-65A	QB 3/200	7	19	5	15.94
6155	QB 3/300	8	10	0	17.00
6156	QB3.5/750	13	16	3	27.63
7527	QB 4/1100	15	8	2	30.82
6146	QB 05/40	1	17	5	3.74
6883	QE 05/40 F	1	17	5	3.74
6159	QB 05/40 H	1	17	5	3.74
7378	QE 08/200	12	4	5	24.44
5895	QQC 04/15	2	11	0	5.10
5894	QQE 06/40	7	9	0	14.90
5763	QE 03/10		19	2	1.92
813	QB 2/250	8	6	0	16.60
807	QE 06/50		19	2	1.92
832A	QQE 04/20	6	7	6	12.75
100TH	TB 3/350	9	2	0	18.20
250TH	TB 4/800	15	12	6	31.25

Send Postal Order to:

S.A. PHILIPS (PTY.) LTD.

ELECTRONICS DIVISION

P.O. BOX 7703 - - - JOHANNESBURG

ROMEO (PTY.) LIMITED

38 HOUT STREET — CAPE TOWN

P.O. Box 2894

★

NEW!

FRONT-END GELOSO RADIO KIT

Will transform any Radio Set with a 4.6 mc/s into a Double Conversion Communications Receiver.

Nett Price: **£18.0.0**

★

On request we will send to Radio Hams a copy of a

50-PAGE 1959 RADIO CATALOGUE

Free of Charge!

S.A. ELECTRONIC SERVICE

(PTY.) LTD.

RADIO SERVICE DIVISION

4 VOORTREKKER STREET, BENONI
Phones 54-1818, 54-1794 — Tel. Address: RADSER

Manufacturers of AMPLIFIERS, RECEIVERS and TRANSMITTERS

Stockists of RECEIVER and TRANSMITTER COMPONENTS

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE

The fruit seller walks up to the car and says:

"Perske, perske. Lekke perskes. Net vyf rand virrie laanie."

The guy in the car says: "Is hulle soet?"

The fruit seller says: "Dja menee, kyk hoe stil sit hulle!"

Three guys selling snoek on the corner shout:

"Hier's djou snoek"

The guy in the car says: "Wat vra julle vir daai snoek?"

One guy replies: "Ons vra hulle niks, wil djy dalk hulle iets vra?"

Many years ago in Scotland a new game was invented.

It was ruled "Gentlemen Only ...Ladies Forbidden" and thus the word GOLF entered into the English language.

The first novel ever written on a typewriter: Tom sawyer.

If a statue of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died of wounds received in battle. If the horse had all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

In Olde England

In the 1400,s a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb.

Hence we have: "the rule of thumb"

In Shakespeare's time mattresses were secured on bed frames with ropes, the mattresses tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on.

Hence the phrase: "good night, sleep tight"

In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts.. So when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them: "mind your pints and quarts and settle down"

Hence the phrase: "mind your P's and Q's"

Pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim or handle, of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service.

"wet your whistle" is the phrase used inspired by this.

It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.