



# WATTS

## Pretoria Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Website: [www.parc.org.za](http://www.parc.org.za)

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*WATTS Monthly Magazine of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club*

## PARC QRP Contest



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To every reader, supporter, and contributor who's tuned in to Watts—thank you. Whether you've shared a story, sparked a laugh, or simply kept the signal strong by reading along, you're part of what makes this frequency worth broadcasting.

We'd love to hear more from you. Got a quirky club tale, a burning question, a bright idea, or a moment worth amplifying? Send it our way at [Watts@PARC.co.za](mailto:Watts@PARC.co.za). The mic is always open, and your voice keeps the airwaves alive.

Stay curious, stay connected—and keep the dial on Watts. 73

## Stay Connected

- WhatsApp Group: Contact any committee member
- Bulletins: 145.725 MHz (Sundays 08h45)
- Relays: 439.025, 438.225, 145.725, 7.066 MHz + Echolink
- Swopshop: 2m & 7.066 MHz live after bulletins
- Rebroadcast: Mondays 19h45 (2m)



# Housekeeping



***Want to stay in the loop with PARC?***  
If you'd like to join the PARC WhatsApp group, simply share your contact details with any committee member — we'll make sure you're added and welcomed aboard!

## PARC ANNUAL CLUB FEES: PARK JAARLIKSE LEDEGELDE

|                    |                            |  |  |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Bank</b>        | <b>First National Bank</b> | <b>Ordinary Members / Gewone Lede : R200</b><br><b>Spouses and Pensioners : R100</b> | <b>Your call sign must appear as statement text!</b> |
| <b>Branch Code</b> | <b>25 20 45</b>            |  |  |
| <b>Account No</b>  | <b>546 000 426 73</b>      |  |  |

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

Please Note : If your Club fees are not paid up to date, birthday details cannot be displayed in Watts

### Membership Fees & Financial Year Reminder

To help members stay in sync with club commitments, please note that our financial year runs from **1 July to 30 June**. Membership fees are payable annually during the month of July, marking the start of our new financial cycle.

We encourage all members to renew their subscriptions in July to ensure uninterrupted participation in club activities and communications.

**\*\* If membership fees remain overdue for three months, the membership will automatically be marked as inactive.**

**Each member is responsible for updating and maintaining their personal information on the website.**

# Birthdays | Verjaarsdae, Joys and Sorrows | Lief en Leed

## Members' Birthdays — February | Lede Verjaarsdae — Februarie

| Date        | Name                | Callsign |
|-------------|---------------------|----------|
| 03 February | Willie Greyling     | ZR6WGR   |
| 04 February | Louis de Wet        | ZS6SK    |
| 08 February | Jannie Badenhorst   | ZR6BBX   |
| 09 February | Kenny Martin        | ZS6KMM   |
| 16 February | Pat Scheider        | ZS6XYL   |
| 16 February | Pierre Smit         | ZS6PS    |
| 16 February | de Jager Burger     | ZS6ZO    |
| 21 February | Nickus de Vos       | ZS6US    |
| 23 February | Hendri Ehlers       | ZS6HFE   |
| 23 February | Pete Smith - Curren | ZS6PJ    |
| 28 February | Basie Du Plessis    | ZR2BA    |

Wishing you loud signals, clear frequencies, and zero interference on your special day. Happy birthday!

## Spouses' Birthdays — February | Gade Verjaarsdae — Februarie

| Date        | Member                 | Callsign | Spouse        |
|-------------|------------------------|----------|---------------|
| 05 February | Neels Heydenrich       | ZS4CFH   | Nicolene      |
| 10 February | Kenny Martin           | ZS6KMM   | Paddy         |
| 16 February | Corlia Smit            | ZS6CHS   | Pierre        |
| 23 February | Pine Pienaar           | ZS6OB    | Erika         |
| 23 February | Martie Venter (Ehlers) | ZS6MV    | Hendri Ehlers |
| 24 February | Cobus Kruger           | ZS6TLX   | Adri          |
| 28 February | Jacques Snyman         | ZS6QS    | Connie        |
| 28 February | Zack Pienaar           | ZR6ZAK   |               |

May your celebration be filled with laughter, love, and new adventures. Enjoy your special day!

## Members' Birthdays — March | Lede Verjaarsdae — Maart

| Date     | Name                   | Callsign |
|----------|------------------------|----------|
| 01 March | Ben Greyling           | ZS6YVC   |
| 05 March | Martie Venter (Ehlers) | ZS6MV    |

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Name</b>      | <b>Callsign</b> |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 08 March    | Trev Thomsen     | Z21GX           |
| 14 March    | Uys Classen      | ZS6UYS          |
| 15 March    | Dave Bingham     | ZS6AAI          |
| 22 March    | Julian Bouttell  | ZS6AOU          |
| 22 March    | Ivan Jancuska    | ZS6CCW          |
| 24 March    | Marike Roux      | ZS6MRX          |
| 27 March    | Sarel Stapelberg | ZS6EK           |

## Spouses' Birthdays — March | Gade Verjaarsdae — Maart

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Member</b>        | <b>Callsign</b> | <b>Spouse</b> |
|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 08 March    | DP Du Toit           | ZR6DP           | Vasthi        |
| 12 March    | Vitor Gouveia        | ZS6VG           | Rita          |
| 15 March    | Charlie Pretorius    | LISTENER        | Alice         |
| 16 March    | Brian Allchin        | ZS1ABW          | Alta          |
| 18 March    | Albert Schreuder     | ZS6SE           | Joydene       |
| 20 March    | Nico Michael         | ZS6BVR          | Mary          |
| 22 March    | Charles Mills        | ZS6CJM          | Bertha        |
| 23 March    | Attie Reynecke       | ZS6REY          | Anne.marie    |
| 24 March    | Andre Roux           | ZS6ARX          | Marike        |
| 30 March    | George William Ellis | ZS6TA           | Madelaine     |
| 31 March    | Pieter Fourie        | ZS6CN           | Annatjie      |

## Wedding Anniversaries February 2026 | Huweliks Herdenkings Februarie 2026

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Member</b>    | <b>Callsign</b> | <b>Spouse</b> |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 03 February | Vincent Harrison | ZS6BTY          | Heather       |
| 07 February | Ryan Gibson      | ZS6GGR          | Juanita       |
| 13 February | Cobus Kruger     | ZS6TLX          | Adri          |
| 17 February | Trevor Thomsen   | Z21GX           | Fiona         |
| 27 February | Kenneth Martin   | ZS6KMM          | Paddy         |
| 27 February | Wynand Wessels   | ZR6WW           | Zelda         |

## Wedding Anniversaries March 2026 / Huweliks Herdenkings Maart 2026

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Member</b>             | <b>Callsign</b> | <b>Spouse</b>    |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 02 March    | Corlia en Pierre Smit     | ZS6CHS, ZS6PS   | Pierre en Corlia |
| 06 March    | Willie Johan Classen      | ZS6IAM          | Pikkie           |
| 15 March    | Adriaan johannes Reynecke | ZS6REY          | Anne.marie       |

|          |                           |                |                 |
|----------|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 17 March | Christiaan van den Heever | ZS6CMH         |                 |
| 25 March | Irene en Pieter Myburgh   | ZS6IEA, ZS6PAM | Pieter en Irene |
| 26 March | Louis de Wet              | ZS6SK          | Sharmaine       |
| 27 March | Etienne Naude             | ZS6EFN         | Fiona           |
| 30 March | Daniel Petrus Du Toit     | ZR6DP          | Vasthi          |
| 31 March | Sybrand Van der Spuy      | ZS6SY          | Liezel          |

## Joys and Sorrows / Lief en Leed

No joys or sorrows to report this month.  
Perhaps the silence is a sign of steady skies and peaceful frequencies.



### Electronic Component Supply:

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Pretoria**

**0043**



# PARC Sunday Bulletins | PARK Sondag Bulletins

PARC Bulletins are presented on Sunday mornings at approximately 08h45, after the SARL Bulletins in English and Afrikaans, from 08h15. The Bulletin Presenters for the following two months are presented below.

Please do contact the applicable presenter beforehand if you wish to contribute to the Bulletin. PARC Bulletins are broadcast on the 2-meter repeater on 145.725 MHz, and 70 cm on 438.825 and 439.025 MHz. Relays are done on 7.060 MHz by Pierre ZS6PS and Corlia ZS6CHS Smit and on Echolink by Johan Lehman ZS6JPL.

A re-broadcast of the Bulletin is done the following Monday evening at 19h45 by Louis de Wet ZS6SK.

PARK Bulletins word op Sondag oggende aangebied om 08h45, na die SARL Bulletins in Engels en Afrikaans, vanaf 08h15. Die Bulletin aanbieders vir die volgende twee maande word onder aangedui.

Kontak gerus die toepaslike Bulletin leser indien u 'n bydrae tot die Bulletin wil maak. PARK Bulletins word uitgesaai op die 2-meter herhaler op 145.725 MHz, en 70cm op 438.825 en 439.025 MHz. Herleidings word gedoen op 7.060 MHz deur Pierre ZS6PS en Corlia ZS6CHS Smit, en op Echolink deur Johan Lehman ZS6JPL.

'n Heruitsending van die Bulletin geskied die opvolgende Maandag aand om 19h45, en word behartig deur Louis de Wet ZS6SK.

## PARC Bulletin Presenters: January 2026 – February 2026

| Date             | Presenter                | Date          | Presenter          |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1 February 2026  | Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDPK | 1 March 2026  | Louis de Wet ZS6SK |
| 8 February 2026  | Louis de Wet ZS6SK       | 8 March 2026  | Louis de Wet ZS6SK |
| 15 February 2026 | Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP  | 15 March 2026 | Louis de Wet ZS6SK |
| 22 February 2026 | Louis de Wet ZS6SK       | 22 March 2026 | Louis de Wet ZS6SK |



# Contests and Events | Kompetisies en Gebeure

## February 2026

- 1 February — Antique Wireless Association CW Activity Day (1300Z-1500Z)
- 8 February — HamSat-SA ZS QO-100 QSO Party (1300Z-1500Z)
- 10 February — Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (0100Z-0159Z)
- 18 February — SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Contest (1700Z - 1800Z)
- 21 February — to 22 February ARRL International DX Contest, CW (0000Z, Feb 21 to 2400Z, Feb 22)
- 22 February — World Wide Argentina DX Contest (0000Z-2359Z)
- 24 February — Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (0100Z-0159Z)
- 27 February to 1 March — CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB (2200Z, Feb 27 to 2200Z, Mar 1)

## March 2026

- 1 March — SARL HAMNET 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest (1200Z -1400Z)
- 3 March — Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (0100Z - 0159Z)
- 7 March — SARL YL QSO Party (1400Z - 1500Z)
- 7 March — ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB (0000Z, Mar 7 to 2400Z, Mar 8)
- 10 March — Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (0100Z-0159Z)
- 14 March — SARL National Field Day - start 0800Z
- 15 March — SARL National Field Day - end 1000Z
- 16 March — SARL March Equinox 6m DX Challenge - start 0001Z
- 17 March — Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (0100Z-0159Z)
- 21 March — SARL Saturday 20 m Club Contest (1100Z - 1200Z)
- 24 March — Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (0100Z-0159Z)
- 28 March — Africa All Mode International DX Contest - start 1200Z
- 29 March — Africa All Mode International DX Contest - end 1200Z

The Pretoria Ammateur Radio Club does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of contest details listed above. For verification and more information, please visit the SARL website, [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za) , as well as the WA7BNM international contest calendar at the following website: <http://hornucopia.co>

**Tip: Always verify contest details on SARL and WA7BNM calendars.**



## PARC Flea Market | PARK Snuffelmark



**Snuffelmark**

**FORGE**

**Next FLEA MARKET**

April 4

16 Catherine Rd, Shere

**BOOK YOUR TABLE:**  
Alméro du Pisani | 083 938 8955 | almerodps@gmail.com

**JOIN US**

**16 Catherine Road, Shere, Pretoria East**

**Next Flea Market Date: 4 April / Volgende Snuffelmark Datum: 4 April**

**CONTACT PERSON: Alméro Du Pisani (T) 083-938-8955 (E) [almerodps@gmail.com](mailto:almerodps@gmail.com)**

**\*\* Please take note: the price of a table at the fleamarket is now **R30** per table.**

**\*\* Neem asseblief kennis: die prys van 'n tafel by die vlooiemark is nou **R30** per tafel.**

### Upcoming Dates — 2026

- 4 Apr — PARC
- 6 Jun — PARC
- 1 Aug — PARC
- 5 Dec — PARC

### Other Clubs — 2026

- 7 Feb — East Rand Radio Club
- 7 Mar — West Rand Radio Club



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23 cm



## PARC QRP Contest by Martie - ZS6MV

The **PARC Contest Team** – Pierre Holtzhausen (ZS6PJH), Hendri Ehlers (ZS6HFE), and myself (ZS6MV) – together with guests and aspiring hams, gathered at a picture-perfect venue for the **QRP contest**.

Shout-out to Louis ZS6SK and his guests for their support.

From the moment we arrived, the tone was set: a welcoming smile, a designated antenna waiting for me, and the promise of a day filled with signals, sandwiches, and shared stories.

My antenna was quickly raised, tuned to perfection, and tested to ensure we were within contest specifications. Photos taken, proof secured – the station was ready to sing.

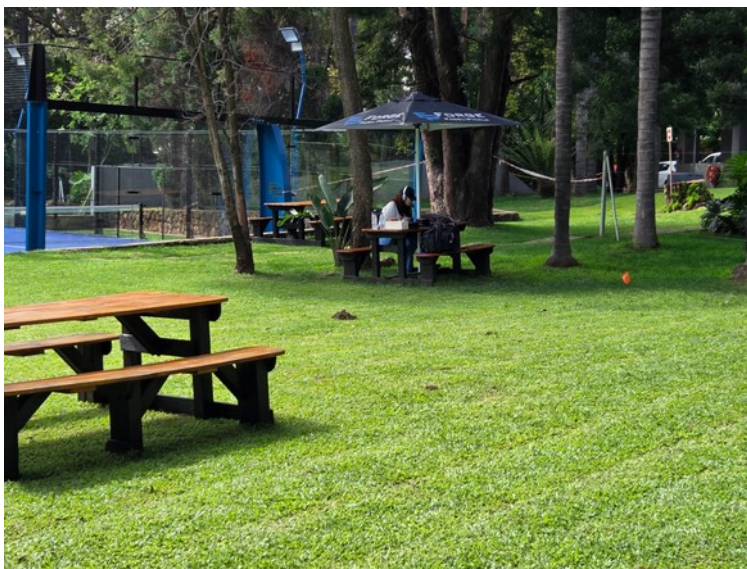




Just as my rig came alive, Pierre arrived. In true ham style, everyone pitched in to help him set up. With plenty of time before the contest, we paused for the most important pre-contest ritual: toasted sandwiches. Fuelled and focused, we returned to cables, poles, and radios, each station coming together like a well-orchestrated symphony.



Sliding into **contest mode**, I had the joy of showing aspiring hams what the thrill of contesting is all about: chasing signals, logging contacts, and laughing through the inevitable challenges. A few gremlins popped up – but that's part of the fun.





Meanwhile, at the other station, antenna issues sparked an “all hands on deck” moment. I only learned about the commotion later, but it was a perfect example of how teamwork and improvisation define amateur radio.





When the last CQ faded, we gathered around a large table for lunch. The on-site restaurant buzzed like a busy frequency: questions, ideas, advice, and observations bounced around like signals off the ionosphere. It was a magical condiment, enriching every conversation and leaving everyone inspired.

Then came the goodbyes – or at least the first round. True ham style, we gathered next to Pierre’s trusty Suzuki, and the conversation flowed again. Three or four “final finals” later, we finally headed home, smiling ear to ear, radios still humming in our minds.

Hendri (ZS6HFE) captured the spirit perfectly:

“It was great fun. From fishing for signal with a fishing pole, swapping antennas, connecting antennas... absolutely amazing day. We had a couple of gremlins in the wiring which proved to be exceptional training for the aspiring hams who joined us.”





## PARC Launch RAE Preparation Training

The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club (PARC) is thrilled to announce that we are officially hosting **RAE (Radio Amateur Examination) preparation training** at our very own **registered exam centre**. This marks an exciting milestone for our community: we are fully equipped with **HF trainers, a qualified invigilator, and all the resources needed** to help aspiring radio amateurs succeed.

At PARC, we believe there is always room for learning, growth, and new voices on the airwaves. Whether you're just starting your journey into amateur radio or looking to sharpen your skills, our training sessions are designed to be **inclusive, professional, and supportive**.

We're ready to get started—and we'd love for you to be part of it. If you're interested in joining our RAE preparation training, simply send us an email at [RAE@PARC.ORG.ZA](mailto:RAE@PARC.ORG.ZA)

Or you can visit our PARC web page <https://www.parc.org.za/index.php?page=rae>

Let's make 2026 the year you earn your amateur radio license and join the vibrant world of radio communication. The airwaves are waiting—are you ready to answer the call?



**RAE Preparation training now available**  
**Email [rae@parc.org.za](mailto:rae@parc.org.za) for details**

# RAE

## RADIO AMATEUR EXAM

**Pretoria Amateur Radio Club**





# The Amateur's Code | Die Amateur se Kode

As the airwaves grow lively with contest signals and the thrill of competition, it's worth pausing to reflect on the values that bind us together as radio amateurs. The Amateur's Code, first penned by Paul M. Segal in 1928, remains a timeless compass for our conduct—on and off the bands.

It reminds us that beyond the chase for multipliers and the excitement of pileups, amateur radio is a service, a fellowship, and a craft. We are called to be **considerate**, ensuring our signals do not cause needless interference; **loyal**, supporting our clubs, fellow operators, and the spirit of cooperation; **progressive**, embracing new techniques and learning with curiosity; **friendly**, welcoming newcomers and fostering goodwill; **balanced**, keeping radio in harmony with life's other duties; and **patriotic**, using our skills in service of community and country when needed.

In contests, where adrenaline and ambition run high, the Code is our anchor. It reminds us that every QSO is more than a point—it is a handshake across distance, a moment of shared passion, and a reflection of the dignity of our hobby. Let us carry these principles into the contest season, so that our logs are not only full of contacts, but also full of respect, camaraderie, and pride in being radio amateurs.

Remember: the **SARL Contest Manual** is your best reference for contest rules and good operating practice. Keep it close—it keeps us all on the same frequency.

The 2026 South African Radio League Contest Manual:

<https://mysarl.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2026-SARL-Contest-Manual-Version-1.1-2025-12-15.pdf>

| The Amateur's Code   | Die Amateur se Kode  |
|--|--|
| CONSIDERATE...   | BEDAGSAAM...   |
| Never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.  | Die amateur is 'n ware heer. Hy sal nooit bewustelik of moedswillig die radiogolwe op so 'n wyse vir sy eie genot aanwend om daardeur die genot vir ander te bederf nie.                     |
| LOYAL...   | LOJAAL...  |
| offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the South African Radio League, through which Amateur Radio in South Africa is represented nationally and internationally.              | Die Amateur is lojaal teenoor die Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga en bied sy ondersteuning aan. Hy lê hom neer by die onderneming wat die SARL aan die owerheid belooft het.                       |
| PROGRESSIVE...   | PROGRESSIEF...   |
| with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.  | Die Amateur is progressief en sy stasie is in tred met die wetenskap. Sy bedienings praktyk is netjies en ordelik.   |
| FRIENDLY...  | VRIENDELIK...  |
| slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit. | Die Amateur is vriendelik en verdraagsaam wanneer aan hom 'n versoek gerig word. Hy verstrekt geredelik raad aan alle amateurs en verleen hulp en samewerking in die gees van amateur radio. |
| BALANCED...  | EWEWIGTIG...   |
| radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.   | Die Amateur is ewewigtig en laat nie toe dat sy stokperdjie met sy gesinslewe, werk of gemeenskap inmeng nie.  |
| PATRIOTIC...   | PATRIOTIES...  |
| station and skill always ready for service to country and community.   | Die Amateur is patrioties, sy kennis en stasie is altyd vir sy land en gemeenskap beskikbaar.  |

# A Refresher on the Band Plans

It is important to remind ourselves of the framework that keeps our signals orderly and our community strong—the **band plans**. These allocations are not just technical charts; they are agreements that help us share the spectrum responsibly, avoid interference, and make space for every mode and operator.

With contests and everyday activity filling the bands, a quick refresher ensures we operate with clarity, courtesy, and confidence. The band plan is our roadmap: it keeps the excitement of radio alive while safeguarding the harmony of the airwaves.

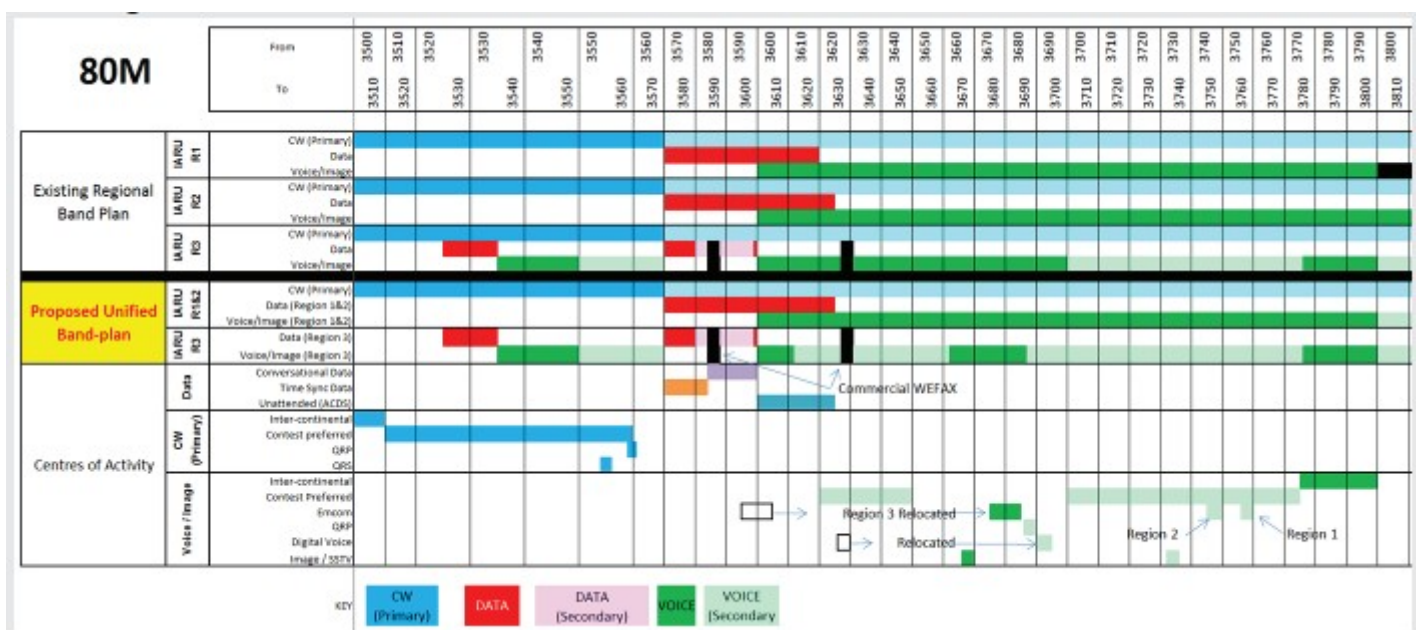
The Band Plans can be found at <https://mysarl.org.za/bandplans/>

In this article we're highlighting the most popular band plans—those segments of the spectrum where most of our daily activity and contesting takes place. Of course, these are not the *only* allocations; the full set of band plans covers every mode and frequency segment, and is published by the SARL and IARU for reference.

Band plans are more than charts:

- **They are voluntary agreements** that help amateurs share the spectrum harmoniously.
- **They protect diversity of modes**—from CW and SSB to digital and experimental signals.
- **They evolve with technology**—new modes and practices are accommodated as our hobby grows.
- **They foster international cooperation**—since many allocations are harmonized across regions, making DX smoother.
- **They safeguard emergency use**—ensuring clear channels when amateur radio is called to serve.

By refreshing ourselves on the most popular segments, we strengthen our awareness of where activity is concentrated, while remembering that the full band plan is always available for deeper study. Think of this as a quick map for everyday operating, with the SARL Contest Manual and IARU documents as the complete atlas.



## 80 m Band – Structure and Options

|                 | Frequency Segment (kHz) | Primary Mode   | Secondary Mode | Max Bandwidth (Hz) | Centres of Activity                        | Sub-Band (kHz) |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|--|----------------|
| 80m Band        | 3500-3570               | CW             |                | 200                | Intercontinental                           | 3500-3510      |
|                 |                         |                |                |                    | Contest Preferred                          | 3510-3560      |
|                 |                         | CW             | Data (R3)      | 2700               | Region 3 Only - Secondary Data             | 3525-3535      |
|                 |                         |                | Speech (R3)    | 2700               | Region 3 Only - Secondary Speech           | 3535-3570      |
|                 |                         | CW             |                | 200                | CW - QRS                                   | 3555           |
|                 |                         |                |                |                    | CQ - QRP                                   | 3560           |
|                 | 3570-3600               | Data           |                | 200                | WSPR Weak Signal Beacons (Dial 3568.6 kHz) | 3570.0-3570.2  |
|                 |                         |                |                | 2700               | Time Synced Modes (eg WSJT Family Modes)   | 3570-3584      |
|                 | 3600-3625               | Data           | Speech (R3)    | 2700               | Conversational Data (eg PSK/RTTY/Olivia)   | 3584-3600      |
|                 |                         |                |                |                    | Automatic Controlled Data Stations (ACDS)  | 3600-3625      |
|                 | 3625-3700               | Speech / Image |                | 2700               | SSTV Region 3                              | 3670           |
|                 |                         |                |                |                    | Emergency Comms Region 3                   | 3680           |
|                 |                         |                |                |                    | Digital Voice                              | 3690           |
|                 | 3700-3775               | Speech / Image |                | 2700               | SSTV                                       | 3735           |
|                 |                         |                |                |                    | Emergency Comms Region 2                   | 3750           |
|                 |                         |                |                |                    | Emergency Comms Region 1                   | 3760           |
|                 | 3775-3800               | Speech / Image |                | 2700               | Inter-Continental DX Window                |                |
| REGION 2/3 Only | 3800-3875               | Speech / Image |                | 2700               | REGION 2/3 ONLY                            |                |
|                 |                         |                |                |                    | SSTV                                       | 3845           |
|                 | 3875-3900               | Speech / Image |                | 6000               | AM (6kHz BW allowed)                       | 3885           |
|                 | 3900-4000               | Speech / Image |                | 2700               | Emergency Comms Region 2                   | 3985           |

|               | Frequency Segment (kHz) | Primary Mode   | Secondary Mode | Max Bandwidth (Hz) | Centres of Activity                                      | Sub-Band (kHz) |
|---------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|--|----------------|
| 40m Band      | 7000-7030               | CW             |                | 200                | CQ - QRP   | 7030           |
|               | 7030-7040               | CW             | Data (R3)      | 2700               | Region 3 Only - Data (due to restrictions above 7045kHz) | 7030-7040      |
|               | 7030-7040               | CW             | Data (R3)      | 2700               | Japan Only - Time Synced Modes (eg WSJT Family Modes)    | 7037-7040      |
|               | 7040-7060               | Data           |                | 2700               | WSPR Weak Signal Beacons (Dial 7038.6 kHz)               | 7040.0-7040.2  |
|               |                         |                |                |                    | Conversational Data (eg PSK/RTTY/Olivia)                 | 7040-7060      |
|               |                         |                |                |                    | Automatic Controlled Data Stations (ACDS)                | 7050-7060      |
|               |                         |                |                |                    | Automatic Controlled Data Stations (ACDS)                | 7060-7065      |
|               | 7060-7065               | Data           | Speech         | 2700               | Digital Voice  | 7065           |
|               | 7065-7070               |                |                | 200                | Time Synced Modes (eg WSJT Family Modes)                 | 7065-7070      |
|               | 7070-7080               | Data           |                | 200                | Time Synced Modes (eg WSJT Family Modes)                 | 7065-7080      |
|               | 7080-7175               | Speech / Image |                | 2700               | SSB Contest Preferred                                    | 7080-7100      |
|               |                         |                |                |                    | SSB - QRP  | 7090           |
|               |                         |                |                |                    | Emergency Comms  | 7110           |
|               |                         |                |                |                    | SSB Contest Preferred                                    | 7130-7175      |
|               |                         |                |                |                    | SSTV   | 7165           |
|               | 7175-7200               | Speech / Image |                | 2700               | SSB Contest Preferred - Priority for Intercontinental    | 7175-7200      |
| REGION 2 Only | 7200-7300               | Speech / Image |                | 2700               | Emergency Comms Region 2                                 | 7240           |
|               |                         |                |                |                    | Emergency Comms Region 2                                 | 7275           |
|               |                         |                |                |                    | SSB - QRP  | 7285           |
|               |                         |                |                |                    | AM - 6kHz allowed  | 7290           |

|         |              |        |                   |       |                   |                  |         |             |
|---------|--------------|--------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|------------------|---------|-------------|
| Primary | Image        | EmComs | Contest Preferred | QRP   | Image / SSTV      | Region 2 Deleted | Deleted | All Regions |
| KEY     | CW (Primary) | DATA   | DATA (Secondary)  | VOICE | VOICE (Secondary) |                  |         |             |

Above: 40 m Band – Structure and Options. Below: 40 m Band - Proposal

(Continued on page 14)



# 30M

|      |       |       |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| From | 10100 | 10110 | 10120 | 10130 | 10140 |
| To   | 10110 | 10120 | 10130 | 10140 | 10150 |

|                             |         |                     |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Existing Regional Band Plan | IARU R1 | CW (Primary)        |  |  |  |  |
|                             |         | Data                |  |  |  |  |
|                             | IARU R2 | CW (Primary)        |  |  |  |  |
|                             |         | Data                |  |  |  |  |
|                             | IARU R3 | CW (Primary)        |  |  |  |  |
|                             |         | Data                |  |  |  |  |
| Proposed Unified Band-plan  |         | CW (Primary)        |  |  |  |  |
|                             |         | Data                |  |  |  |  |
| Centres of Activity         | Data    | Conversational Data |  |  |  |  |
|                             |         | Time Sync Data      |  |  |  |  |
|                             |         | Unattended (ACDS)   |  |  |  |  |
|                             | CW      | QRP                 |  |  |  |  |

## 30 m Band – Structure and Options

|     |              |      |                  |       |                   |
|-----|--------------|------|------------------|-------|-------------------|
| KEY | CW (Primary) | DATA | DATA (Secondary) | VOICE | VOICE (Secondary) |
|-----|--------------|------|------------------|-------|-------------------|

| 30m Band | Frequency Segment (kHz) | Primary Mode | Secondary Mode | Max Bandwidth (Hz) | Centres of Activity                           | Sub-Band (kHz)  |
|----------|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------------|---|-----------------|
|          | 10100-10130             | CW           |                | 200                | CW - QRP                                      | 10116           |
|          | 10125-10130             | CW           | Speech         | 2700               | SSB Use restricted to VK & AF where permitted | 10125-10130     |
|          | 10130-10150             | Data         |                | 2700               | Time Synced Modes (eg WSJT Family Modes)      | 10130-10140     |
|          |                         |              |                |                    | WSPR Weak Signal Beacons (Dial 10138.6 kHz)   | 10140.0-10140.2 |
|          |                         |              |                |                    | Conversational Data (eg PSK/RTTY/Olivia)      | 10140-10144     |
|          |                         |              |                |                    | Automatic Controlled Data Stations (ACDS)     | 10144-10150     |

# 20M

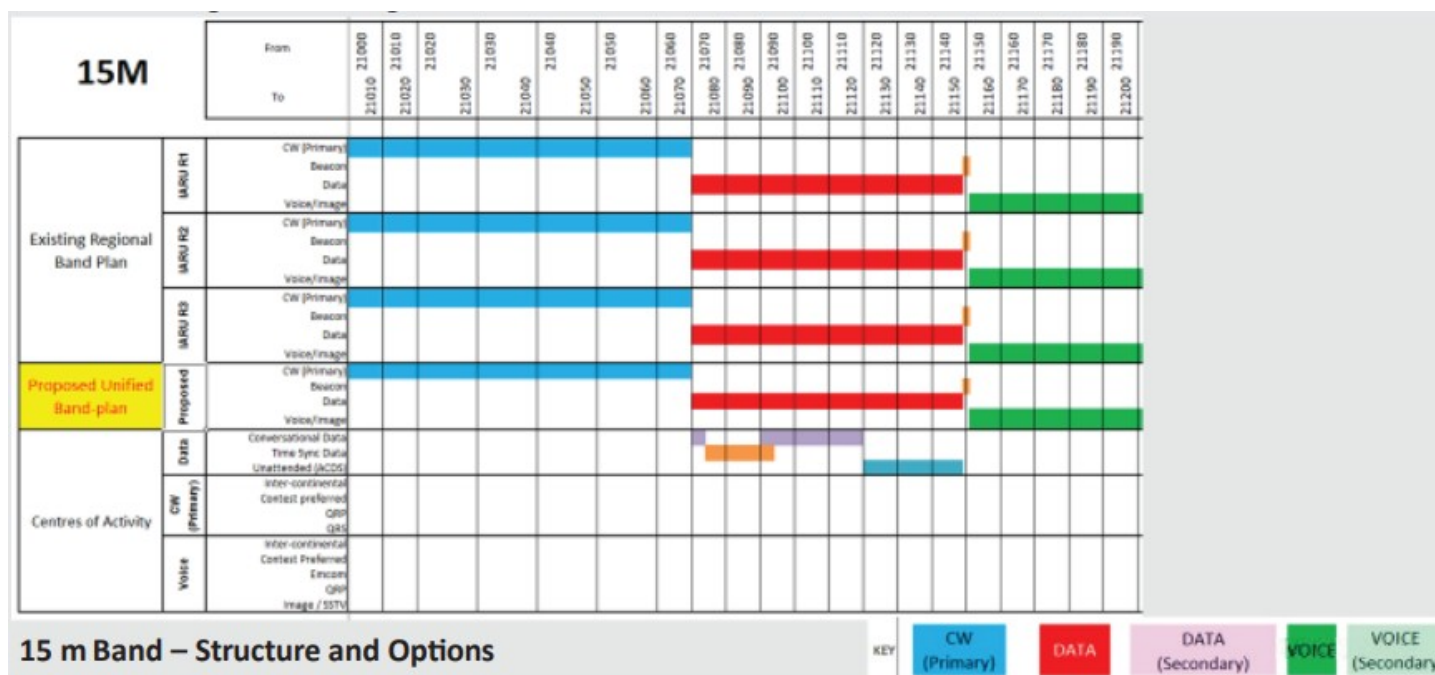
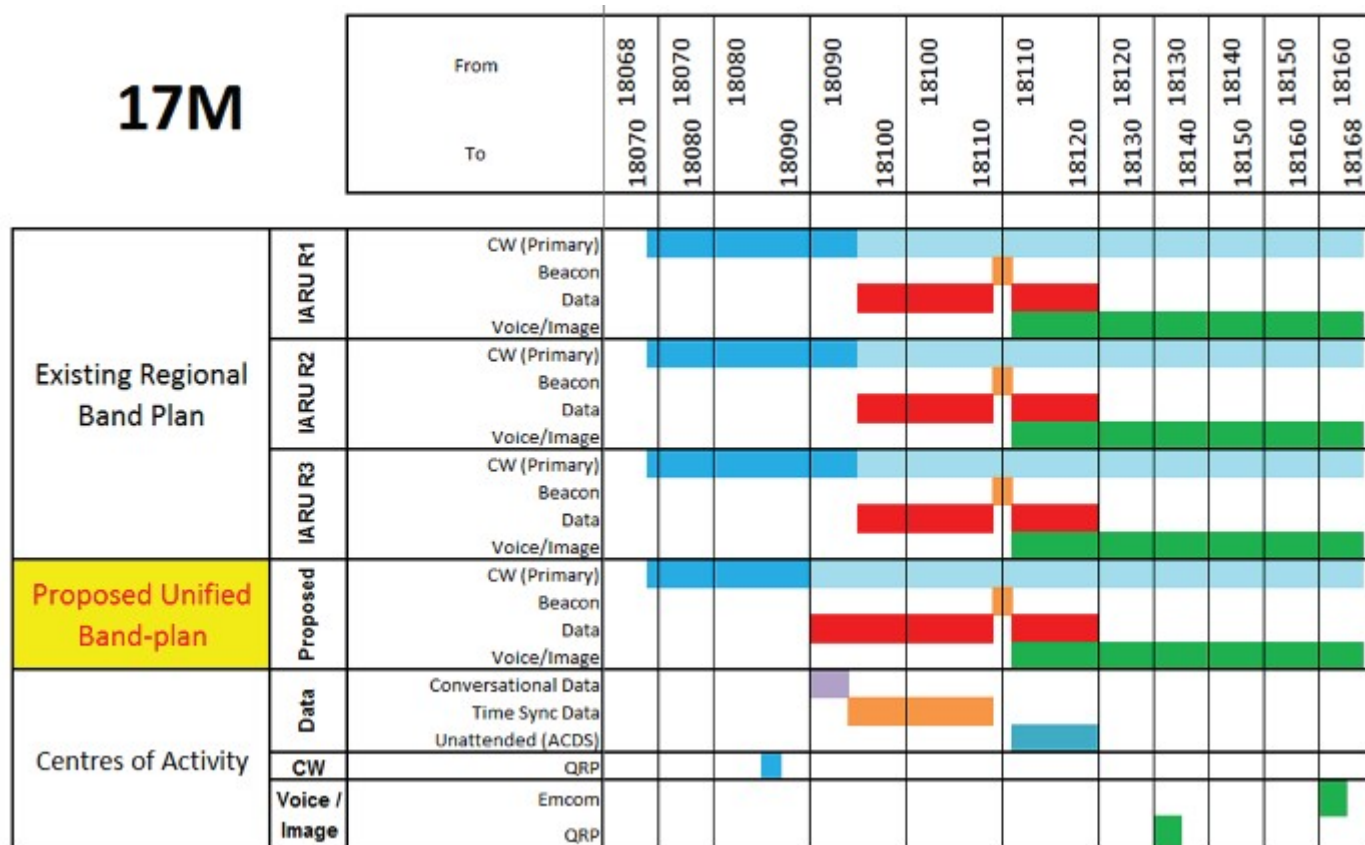
|      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| From | 14000 | 14010 | 14020 | 14030 | 14040 | 14050 | 14060 | 14070 | 14080 | 14090 | 14100 | 14110 | 14120 | 14130 | 14140 |
| To   | 14010 | 14020 | 14030 | 14040 | 14050 | 14060 | 14070 | 14080 | 14090 | 14100 | 14110 | 14120 | 14130 | 14140 | 14150 |

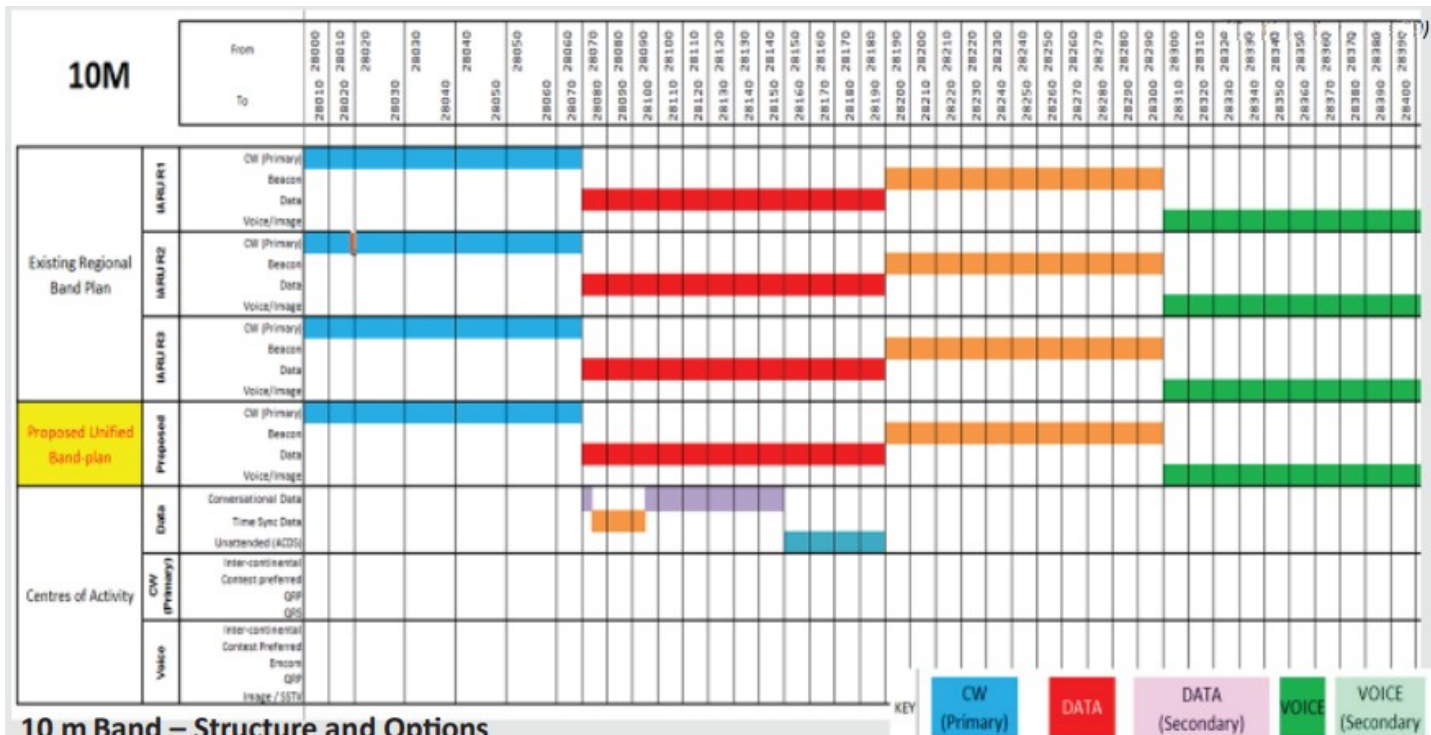
|                             |                   |                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Existing Regional Band Plan | IARU R1           | CW (Primary)               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Beacon                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Data                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             | IARU R2           | CW (Primary)               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Beacon                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Data                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Proposed Unified Band-plan  | Proposed          | CW (Primary)               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Beacon                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Data                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             | Proposed          | CW (Primary)               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Beacon                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Data                       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Centres of Activity         | Data              | Conversational Data        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Time Sync Data             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Unattended (ACDS)          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             | Context preferred | QRP                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | QRP                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |                   | Digital Voice Image / SSTV |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## 20 m Band – Structure and Options

|     |              |      |                  |       |                   |
|-----|--------------|------|------------------|-------|-------------------|
| KEY | CW (Primary) | DATA | DATA (Secondary) | VOICE | VOICE (Secondary) |
|-----|--------------|------|------------------|-------|-------------------|

17M





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

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## Shack Talk by Vernon - ZS6AIG (Part 3)



Many years ago, I contacted OM Ed on CW, but over time we lost touch. Recently, one morning while tuning in to the early birds on 40m, I heard the call sign ZS6UT. I soon realized it belonged to a dedicated CW operator based in Garsfontein and a member of PARC. The very next day, I reached out to OM Ed, and he graciously agreed to sit down for an interview with **Shack Talk**.



*Ed ZS6UT*

**Our conversion started with how did you first get involved with amateur radio, and what sparked your interest?**

*During the 1960s, while I was in high school, I became fascinated with building a crystal set. Using a cat's whisker on a quartz crystal, I managed to create a working receiver. I even set up a long bamboo pole as a mast, and I was amazed at how many broadcast stations came through on a pair of high-impedance headphones.*

*After joining the Post Office as a clerk, I was assigned to the Postal Telegraph Office in Durban, where we trained in CW (Morse code) and Telex machine operation. In 1964, I was called up for compulsory military service and joined the Artillery Regiment in Potchefstroom for nine months. I was stationed at the Command*

*Post behind the 25-pounder guns, receiving coordinates from the Observation Post via VHF radio. This marked the beginning of my experience with operating real radios.*

### **What was the ham radio community like when you started compared to today?**

*After a break of 25 years from radios, I decided to join the Durban Amateur Radio Club to do the RAE. In 1990, I received the call sign ZS5NT I remember how Don Seargeant, ZS5WT (Now SK) helped me with CW practice over 2m which I picked up quickly. At that time, operators were required to complete 200 QSOs on CW before moving on to SSB. I began with a hand pump key, operated with my left hand, and later switched to a single-lever paddle, which I still use today with my right hand.*

*My first transceiver was a Yaesu FT-707, paired with a 4BTV vertical antenna that I installed on the roof of the block of flats where I lived. Soon, the DX bug bit, and I found immense joy in making friends around the globe. Along the way, I also became something of a stamp collector through the many QSL cards exchanged. There was a lot of support from Elmers in the ZS5D Club to help you like Louis ZS5LP. Today with the Internet and various Groups on U Tube there is also lots of information available. I have been with PARC member since 1992 and have had great support when needed.*

### **Back in the day, how much of your equipment did you repair or build yourself?**

*On the technical side, I greatly enjoyed building antennas. With the help of Hein ZS6Q, I constructed a 6-element log Yagi covering 30 to 10 meters, which performed exceptionally well. Over time, I added inverted Vees for 160, 80, 40, and 30 meters, as well as a 4-element quad for 6 meters during the excellent six-meter conditions of 2001.*

*Other projects included a home-brew ZS6BKW, end-fed long wire antennas for 40 and 80 meters using a 49:1 balun, a horizontal sky loop for 40 to 10 meters, a Controlled Current Distribution (CCD) antenna, a magnetic loop with a Jennings vacuum capacitor, an extended Zepp dipole, and a 160-meter horizontal loop.*

*During the six and a half years we lived on a farm at Worlds View near Cullinan, I had ample space to experiment. One highlight was erecting a 300-meter long wire antenna aimed toward the Caribbean and USA, which worked remarkably well. I also built a J-pole for 2 meters and 70 cm, rounding out a diverse collection of antennas.*

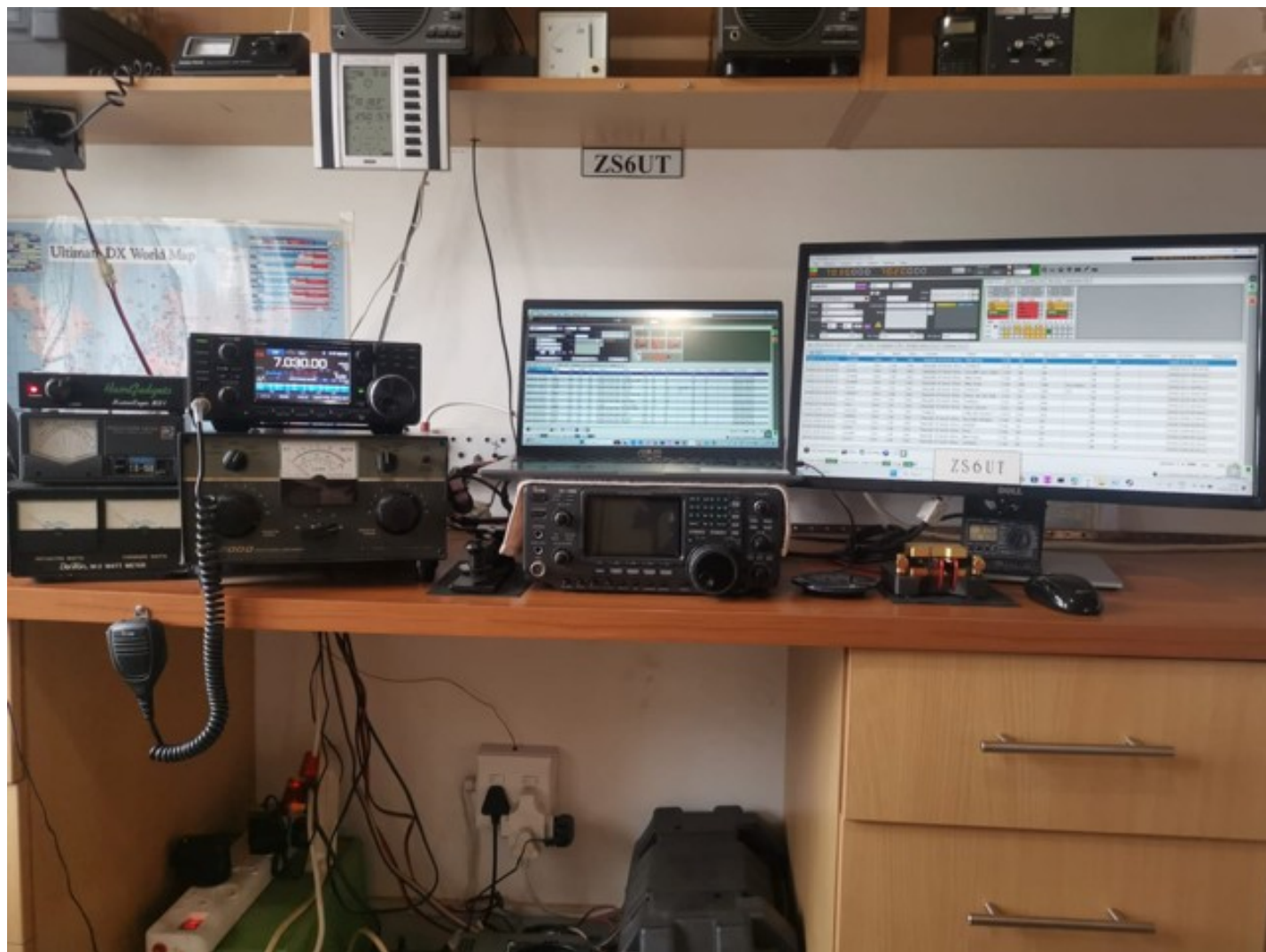
*My first construction project was a QRP CW transmitter, suggested by Roger, ZS5L from Lima Electronics. I later built a CW key-er using the Curtiss chip. One of my more ambitious undertakings was acquiring a Thomson CSF HF linear amplifier with a 4CX1500B ceramic tube—it took considerable effort to get it running properly. Unfortunately, it was eventually damaged in a lightning strike.*

*These days, I find soldering more difficult, as I no longer have a steady hand, but the memories of those projects remain a highlight of my radio journey.*

### **Do you still have any of your equipment from yester year?**

*The only equipment from those days which I still use in the Shack is the FP707 PSU to keep the Deep Cell Battery charged.*

*The other transceiver I had was a Kenwood TS450S with its DSP Unit. Genuinely nice set up which I regretted selling. Then an Icom 746 which is still here, followed by Icom 7000, Icom 703, and now a Icom 7300 being the current Rig.*



*The present-day Shack*

### **What are some of the memorable things that come to mind?**

*It is so nice to contact a DX station again and discover you have had a QSO 20 years ago on 160m CW. I also have a DXCC from 160 to 10meters mostly CW. 323 Entities)*

*If there is one journey I would like to relive is a 160m CW contact I had with two Hawaii stations, working the grey termination Line. It was already light here but not dark yet in Hawaii and I worked them; I still have the QSL card somewhere must find it.*

### **What advice would you give to new hams starting out today?**

*Join an Elmer support group in a Radio Club, ask questions and have a go on CW which is still popular and gets through when SSB struggles. I think some digital modes like FT8 do not really work for me. You see mostly FT8 on the Cluster which is a pity but can be useful for propagation studies.*

Well that wraps up our conversation with OM Ed, His stories remind us how amateur radio is more than just technology — it's about community, learning, and the joy of making connections across the airwaves. A big thank you to Ed for sharing his memories and insights.

Stay tuned for the next edition of Shack Talk, where we'll continue exploring the rigs, people, and stories that make ham radio such a special part of our lives. Until then, keep those signals strong and those friendships stronger — 73!"

### New 60-Meter Frequencies Available as of February 13

01/15/2026

The new 60-meter frequencies approved by the FCC in December will become available to amateurs as of February 13, 2026, along with new power restrictions on those frequencies. It's a bit confusing, as different rules apply to different segments of the band. The changes result from the FCC's action to approve a worldwide 60-meter amateur allocation made by the World Radiocommunications Conference in 2015 (WRC-15). See <https://tinyurl.com/mt8p8jpa>.



As of February 13, FCC-licensed amateur operators holding General Class or higher licenses may operate on a secondary basis anywhere between 5351.5 and 5366.5 kHz, subject to a maximum bandwidth of 2.8 kHz and maximum transmit power of 9.15 watts ERP (effective radiated power). For the purpose of computing ERP, the transmitter PEP (peak envelope power) is multiplied by the antenna gain relative to a half-wave dipole antenna. A half-wave dipole is presumed to have a gain of 1 (0 dBd). Amateurs using other antennas must maintain in their station records either the antenna manufacturer's data on the antenna gain or calculations of the antenna gain.

Here's the confusing part: The existing 60-meter channels centered on 5332, 5348, 5373, and 5405 kHz remain as secondary amateur allocations with maximum power of 100 watts ERP. However, the old channel at 5358.5 kHz is eliminated as it is now part of the new 5351.5-5366.5 kHz subband and subject to the lower power limit.

For all 60-meter transmissions, emission bandwidth is limited to 2.8 kHz or less and amateurs must not cause harmful interference to, and must accept interference from, stations authorized by the United States (NTIA and FCC) and other nations in the fixed service; and all other nations in the mobile service (except aeronautical mobile). Data or RTTY emissions in particular must be limited in transmission length so as not to cause harmful interference. Digital mode operators must be familiar with offsets in order to stay within the authorized frequencies.

**NEW 60-METER  
FREQUENCIES  
AVAILABLE AS OF  
FEBRUARY 13**



# Get to know your fellow Hams – Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA

## Radio Roots & Identity

### 1 What first sparked your interest in amateur radio?

My interest in amateur radio was sparked by my excitement to help with communication at the rallies.

### 2 What's your call sign, and is there a story behind it?

ZS6IEA not really any story behind it, it is my initials.

### 3 Who was your biggest mentor or influence in your ham journey?

My husband. We have a little game where we try to guess the name of the voice on the radio before they say their names.



## Operating Style & Passions

### 4 Do you prefer rag chewing, contesting, experimenting, or another form of comms?

I like being involved with the communications at rallies.

## Personality & Humour

### 5 If your shack had a mascot, what would it be?

My shack mascot will definitely be a cat because our cats are always in the shack when we are on the radios or PC's.

### 6 What nickname would your fellow hams give you?

I would not know, you should ask them. Hi hi.



## Beyond the Shack

### 7 What other hobbies or interests do you enjoy?

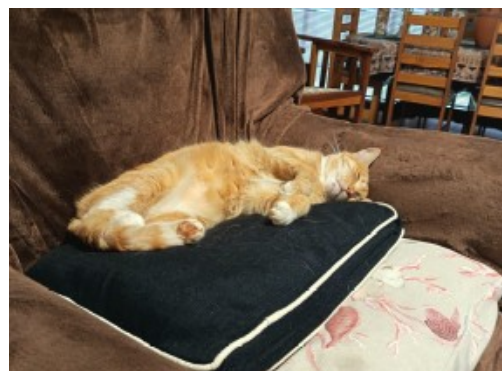
I really enjoy Rallies/Marshals and practical pistol shooting.

### 8 How has amateur radio shaped your friendships or travels?

I have made wonderful friends with a shared interest in radio and radio related events.

### 9 What's one thing people might be surprised to learn about you?

I do not know I think and hope I am an open book.



## Wisdom & Legacy

### 10 What advice would you give to a newcomer?

Start by joining a club near you and become involved.

### 11 What do you hope to see in the future of amateur radio?

I hope to see younger people in the hobby.

### 12 If you could send one message to the world via ham radio, what would it be?

People always ask me what HAM radio gives to me; why must I join, my answer is for the fun and also for emergencies when there is no phone or other communication.



**AnyTone  
D168UV**

**RADIOMASTER**

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delivery**

The advertisement features a black AnyTone D168UV radio on the left. The screen displays '435.22500', 'Zone 1', and 'D+R CH-2 M C01'. The keypad has a numeric layout with letters for each number. To the right is a stylized logo of a person wearing a cap and sunglasses, holding a radio. The background is dark with a blue gradient at the bottom.



# Long Term HF Propagation February 2026 By Vincent, ZS6BTY

Local Propagation (up to 500 km): The F or F2 critical frequency ( $f_oF2$ ) is the MUF for short range, near vertical incidence sky-wave (NVIS) propagation.

Long Distance Propagation: The MUF for a first hop of 4000 km in the cardinal directions are labeled North, East, South and West. They indicate the direction that propagation may be expected.

Worldwide Propagation Maps: <http://www.parc.org.za/index.php?page=propagation>

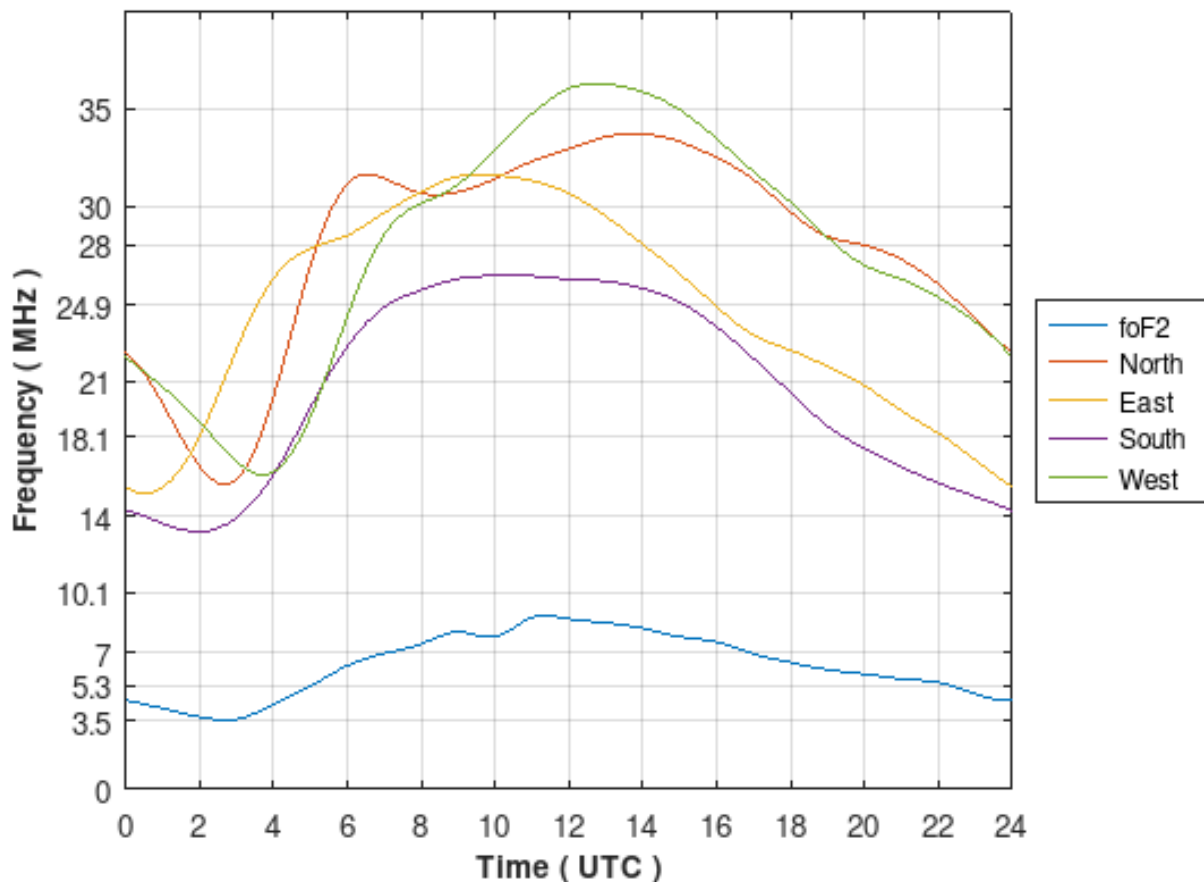
“Prediction is difficult, especially when dealing with the future”. . . Danish Proverb

73 Vincent, ZS6BTY

[1] FTZMUF2: A simple method of estimating the ionospheric parameters of  $f_oF2$  and  $M(3000)$  with the aid of a home computer - Thomas Damboldt and Peter Süßmann, Deutsche Bundespost, December 1988.

[2] Silso 12-month forecasts of the monthly sunspot number ( <http://sidc.oma.be/silso/FORECASTS/prediML.txt> )

**Pretoria Critical Frequency and 4000 km MUF - February 2026, (SSN = 102.6)**



# Motor Rallies 2026 | Motor Tydrenne 2026



## CALENDAR

2026


|                          |                           |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| ROUND 1<br>7<br>FEBRUARY | ROUND 2<br>18<br>APRIL    | ROUND 3<br>23<br>MAY      |
| ROUND 4<br>27<br>JUNE    | ROUND 5<br>1<br>AUGUST    | ROUND 6<br>5<br>SEPTEMBER |
| ROUND 7<br>10<br>OCTOBER | ROUND 8<br>14<br>NOVEMBER | AWARDS<br>28<br>NOVEMBER  |

VENUES TO BE ANNOUNCED


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[www.gxccracing.co.za](#) [081 777 0411](#) [GXCC Racing 2023](#) [admin@gxccracing.co.za](#)

## PROVISIONAL 2026 RALLY CHAMPIONSHIP CALENDAR

|                   |             |                           |
|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| TBA               | GAUTENG     | MARCH 2026<br>20 / 21     |
| SWARTLAND RALLY   | MALMESBURY  | APRIL 2026<br>24 / 25     |
| TZANEEN RALLY     | TZANEEN     | MAY 2026<br>29 / 30       |
| ALGOA RALLY       | GQEBERHA    | July 2026<br>10 / 11      |
| TGRSA RALLY       | ERMELO      | AUGUST 2026<br>21 / 22    |
| FOURIESBURG RALLY | FOURIESBURG | SEPTEMBER 2026<br>25 / 26 |
| TRACN4 RALLY      | DULLSTROOM  | OCTOBER 2026<br>25 / 26   |



## BEST OF 2025

From the blistering heat and dust to freezing temperatures and mud, rally photographers place themselves exactly where the action unfolds. Often long before the first car arrives and long after the last one has passed, not to mention hours of editing after the event.





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### MSA NATIONAL RALLY-RAID CHAMPIONSHIP CIRCULAR 1 OF 2026

Affected parties are hereby advised of the following amendment to the 2026 MSA National Rally-Raid Championship Calendar, effective immediately, as approved by the MSA SA Rally-Raid Championship Promoter:

| DATE                      | NAME OF VENUE     | PROVINCE              | ROUND          | STATUS           |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| <del>6 – 7 Feb 2026</del> | <del>Stella</del> | <del>North-West</del> | <del>1</del>   | <b>POSTPONED</b> |
| 8 – 10 May 2026           | Oudeniqua         | Western Cape          | <del>2-1</del> |                  |
| 19 – 20 June 2026         | Panys             | Free State            | <del>3-2</del> |                  |
| 24 – 25 July 2026         | Bronkhorstspuit   | Gauteng               | <del>4-3</del> |                  |
| 28 – 29 August 2026       | Reserve           | Reserve               | <del>5-4</del> |                  |
| 9 – 10 October 2026       | Vryheid           | KwaZulu-Natal         | <del>6-5</del> |                  |
| 13 – 14 November 2026     | Thabazimbi        | Limpopo               | <del>7-6</del> |                  |

A revised 2026 SA Rally-Raid Championship calendar will be communicated to all stakeholders once finalised.

MSA apologises for any inconvenience caused by this change, but it is due to circumstances beyond MSA's control.

For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Charmaine Fortune -  
[charmaine@sarallyraid.co.za](mailto:charmaine@sarallyraid.co.za)

**CARMEN HILL**  
**SPORTING SERVICES MANAGER**

26 January 2025

MOTORSPORT SOUTH AFRICA IS THE ONLY RECOGNISED MOTORSPORT FEDERATION IN SOUTH AFRICA



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Ms. T. Haman, Mrs. S. Lebassagne-Jones, Ms. E. Mshun, D. Ramchandani, Ms. M. Spurr  
Interim Appointed Directors: X. Letlaka, N. Townsend

\*\* The Stella race has been postponed due to foot-and-mouth disease.

**For More Rally information please contact the following Radio Marshalls:**

**Graham Reid ZS6GJR at: 083-701-0511 or [greid@wol.co.za](mailto:greid@wol.co.za)**

**Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA at: 082-462-6001/ 084-544-0618 or [irene.myburgh@outlook.com](mailto:irene.myburgh@outlook.com)**

## PARC Committee Members | PARK Komiteelede

| Name & Callsign      | Portfolio/s  | Email Address  | Mobile No                    |
|----------------------|--|--|------------------------------|
| Graham Reid ZS6GJR   | Chairman   Treasurer   Rallies                     | <a href="mailto:greid@wol.co.za">greid@wol.co.za</a>                     | 083-701-0511                 |
| Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA | Vice Chairlady   Secretary   Social                | <a href="mailto:irene.myburgh@outlook.com">irene.myburgh@outlook.com</a> | 082-462-6001<br>084-544-0618 |
| Hendri Ehlers ZS6HFE | Website & Social Media   ICASA Liaison   Repeaters | <a href="mailto:zs6hfe@gmail.com">zs6hfe@gmail.com</a>                   | 083-460-5586                 |
| Louis de Wet ZS6SK   | Club Historian   Awards   SARL Liaison             | <a href="mailto:louis.zs6sk@gmail.com">louis.zs6sk@gmail.com</a>         | 072-140-9893                 |
| Martie Venter ZS6MV  | Watts Newsletter   RAE Training   Club Membership  | <a href="mailto:zs6mv73@gmail.com">zs6mv73@gmail.com</a>                 | 072-273-1370                 |

## Co-opted Committee Members | Gekoöpteer Komiteelede

| Name & Callsign                | Portfolio/s              | Email Address  | Mobile No    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------|
| Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP (Hon.) | Flea-markets   Swop Shop | <a href="mailto:almerodps@gmail.com">almerodps@gmail.com</a>           | 083-938-8955 |
| John Minter ZS6LED             | RAE Training   Technical | <a href="mailto:john.minter.za@gmail.com">john.minter.za@gmail.com</a> | 083-291-5422 |
| Pieter Myburgh ZS6PAM          | Repeaters                | <a href="mailto:wooden@mweb.co.za">wooden@mweb.co.za</a>               | 076-140-7562 |
| Pierre Holtzhausen ZS6PJH      | Contests                 | <a href="mailto:zs6pjh@gmail.com">zs6pjh@gmail.com</a>                 | 082-575-5799 |

To every reader, supporter, and contributor who's tuned in to Watts—thank you. Whether you've shared a story, sparked a laugh, or simply kept the signal strong by reading along, you're part of what makes this frequency worth broadcasting.

We'd love to hear more from you. Got a quirky club tale, a burning question, a bright idea, or a moment worth amplifying? Send it our way at [Watts@PARC.co.za](mailto:Watts@PARC.co.za). The mic is always open, and your voice keeps the airwaves alive.

Stay curious, stay connected—and keep the dial on Watts. 73