



WATTS 2024-03

Year 94 + 03

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.parc.org.za> zs6pta@zs6pta.org.za



Bulletins : 145.725 MHz : Sundays from 08h45 / Sondae vanaf 08h45

Relays: 1.840, 3.700, 7.066, 10.135, 14.235, 51.400, 438.825, 1297 MHz and Echolink. Activated frequencies are announced prior to bulletins

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

Bulletin repeats on Mondays / herhalings op Maandae : 2m 19h45



Ham Spirit: Alméro du Pisani ZS6LDP and Zack Pienaar ZR6ZAK

Recently Alméro and Zack assisted Louis ZS6SK in lowering and transporting a radio mast purchased by him. More on pages 5-8.

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PARC Committee Meeting /
PARK Komitee Vergadering

The next Meeting for the
2024 PARC Committee will
take place on Thursday, the
14th of March 2024 at the
Waterlab Offices.

Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries / Verjaarsdae en Huweliks Herdenkings

Member's Birthdays March 2024 / Lede Verjaarsdae Maart 2024

01 Ben Greyling ZS6YVC
08 Trev Thomsen Z21GX
14 Uys Classen ZS6UYS (50)
22 Julian Bouttell ZS6AOU (89)

22 Ivan Jancuska ZS6CCW (Hon. Mem.)
24 Marike Roux ZS6MRX
27 Sarel Stapelberg ZS6EK

Spouse's March 2024 / Gades Maart 2024

08 Vasthi, gade van Daniel du Toit ZR6DP
12 Rita, gade van Vitor Gouveia ZS6VG
16 Alta, gade van Brian Allchin ZS1ABW
18 Joydene, gade van Albert Schreuder ZS6SE
20 Mary, spouse of Nico Michael ZS6BVR
24 Marike ZS6MRX, gade van Andre Roux ZS6ARX
30 Madelaine, gade van George Ellies ZS6TA
31 Annatjie, gade van Pieter Fourie ZS6CN

Wedding Anniversaries March 2024 Huweliks Herdenkings Maart 2024

02 Corlie ZS6CHS en Pierre ZS6PS Smit
25 Irene ZS6IEA en Pieter ZS6PAM Myburgh
26 Sharmaine en Louis de Wet ZS6SK
27 Fiona en Etienne Naude ZS6EFN
30 Vasthi en Daniel du Toit ZR6DP
31 Liezel en Sybrand Van Der Spuy ZS6SY

Member's Birthdays April 2024 / Lede Verjaarsdae April 2024

07 Henk Badenhorst ZS6BA
10 Nic Louw ZS6NWL
16 Andre Roux ZS6ARX

19 Etienne Naude ZS6EFN
24 Jaco Steyn ZSL6119
28 Elias Tibane ZR6TT

Spouse's April 2024 / April 2024

10 Joey, spouse of Graham Reid ZS6GJR
15 Tali, gade van Dylan Foord ZS6TDK
15 Joanne, spouse of Evan Seligmann ZS6ELI
16 Marike ZS6MRX, gade van Andre Roux ZS6ARX
16 Tania, gade van Andries Lombard ZS6ABL
18 Sarah, spouse of Elias Tibane ZR6TT
28 Connie, gade van Jacques Snyman ZS6QS
22 Marita, gade van Roy Alexander ZS6MI
27 Ronel, gade van Emil Bohme ZS6EGB
29 Heather, spouse of Vincent Harrison ZS6BTY

Wedding Anniversaries April 2024 / Huweliks Herdenkings April 2024

05 Esta en John Olivier ZR6GV
07 Jacqueline en Jacques Coetzee ZS6RFJ
10 Joanne and Evan Seligmann ZS6ELI
12 Lukas en Maria Schroder ZS6SLR
12 Marita en Louis Coetzee ZS6GLC
30 Joey and Graham Reid ZS6GJR

PARC Committee Members : 2024 / PARK Komiteelede : 2024

<u>Name & Callsign</u>	<u>Portfolio/s</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>Tel No</u>	<u>Mobile No</u>
Louis de Wet ZS6SK	Chairman, Watts, SARL & ICASA	louis.zs6sk@gmail.com	012-349-1044	072-140-9893
Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA	Vice Chair, Secretary & SARL Bulletins	irene.myburgh@outlook.com	012-304-5109	082-462-6001
Graham Reid ZS6GJR	Rallies, Treasurer, Website	greid@wol.co.za	012-667-2720	083-701-0511

PARC Co-opted Members : 2024 / PARK Ge-koopteerde Lede : 2024

<u>Name & Callsign</u>	<u>Portfolio/s</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>Tel No</u>	<u>Mobile No</u>
Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP (Hon.)	Flea-markets, SARL Bulletins	almero.dupisani@up.ac.za	012-420-3779	083-938-8955
Johan de Bruyn ZS6JHB	Repeaters & Membership	zs6jhb@gmail.com	012-803-9418	079-333-4107
John Minter ZS6LED	RAE Training, Technical	john.minter.za@gmail.com	012-349-0019	083-291-5422
Pieter Myburgh ZS6PAM	Repeaters	wooden@mweb.co.za		076-140-7562
Jaco Nieuwenhuis ZS6JLN	Repeater Maintenance	jaconieuwenhuis@gmail.com		073-185-4787

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PARC Membership Fees / PARK Ledegelde

PARC SUBS : PARK LEDEGELD : FROM / VANAF : 2024-01-01

Bank	First National Bank	Ordinary Members / Gewone Lede : R160 Spouses and Pensioners : R60	Your call sign must appear as statement text!
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

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

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. The 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 Schedule / PARK Bulletin Aanbieders Skedule

PARC Bulletin Presenters: February 2024 – May 2024			
Date	Presenter	Date	Presenter
03 March 2024	Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP	14 April 2024	Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP
10 March 2024	Louis de Wet ZS6SK	21 April 2024	Louis de Wet ZS6SK
17 March 2024	Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP	28 April 2024	Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP
24 March 2024	Louis de Wet ZS6SK	05 May 2024	Louis de Wet ZS6SK
31 March 2024	Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP	12 May 2024	Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP
07 April 2024	Louis de Wet ZS6SK	19 May 2024	Louis de Wet ZS6SK

PRETORIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB PRETORIA AMATEUR RADIO KLUB

BOOT SALES FOR 2024 SNUFFELMARKTE VIR 2024

DATES: 06 April; 06 July; 05 October; 07 December

DATUMS: 06 April; 06 Julie; 05 Oktober; 07 Desember

CONTACT PERSON: Alméro Du Pisani (T) 083-938-8955 (E) almero.dupisani@up.ac.za

Diary of Contests & Events / Dagboek van Kompetisies en Gebeure

Contests and Events - March 2024 / Kompetisies en Gebeure - Maart 2024 (UTC Times)	
02 - 03	ARRL International DX Contest, SSB: 0000Z - 2400Z
02 - 03	Open Ukraine RTTY Championship: 1800Z - 1359Z
03	SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emergency Contest: 1200Z - 1400Z
04	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data: 2000Z - 2130Z
05	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z - 0159Z
09 - 10	SARL Field Day Contest: 0800Z - 1000Z
09 - 10	SARL VHF/UHF FM Contest: 0800Z - 1000Z
09 - 10	RSGB Commonwealth Contest: 1000Z - 1000Z
12	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z - 0159Z
13	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW: 2000Z - 2130Z
16 - 18	BARTG HF RTTY Contest: 0200Z - 0159Z
16 - 17	Africa All-Mode International DX Contest: 1200Z - 1200Z www.sarl.org.za
19	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z - 0159Z
22	World Water Day: https://www.unwater.org/our-work/world-water-day
24	North American SSB Sprint Contest: 0000Z - 0400Z
26	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z - 0159Z
27	UKEICC 80m Contest: 2000Z - 2100Z
28	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB: 2000Z - 2130Z
30 - 31	CQ Worldwide WPX Contest, SSB: 0000Z - 2359Z
Contests and Events - April 2024 / Kompetisies en Gebeure - April 2024 (UTC Times)	
02	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z - 0159Z
04	SARL 80m QSO Party: 1700Z - 2000Z
06 - 07	SP DX Contest: 1500Z - 1500Z
08	RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW: 1900Z - 2030Z
09	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z - 0159Z
13 - 14	JIDX CW Contest: 0700Z - 1300Z
13 - 14	IG-RY World Wide RTTY Contest: 1200Z - 1800Z
13 - 14	Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest: 2100Z - 2059Z
14	Hungarian Straight Key Contest: 1500Z - 1600Z
16	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z - 0159Z
17	RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB: 1900Z - 2030Z
18	World Amateur Radio Day: http://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day
20	International Marconi Day: https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/international-marconi-day/
19 - 20	Holyland DX Contest: 2100Z - 2059Z
20 - 21	Worked all Provinces of China DX Contest: 0600Z - 0559Z
21	International Vintage Contest, HF: 0700Z - 1100Z and 1500Z - 1900Z
21	ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB: 1800Z - 2359Z
23	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z - 0159Z
24	World Corrosion Awareness Day: https://corrosion.org/Events/Corrosion+Awareness+Day.html
25	RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data: 1900Z - 2030Z
27	Morse Code Day: https://www.internationaldays.co/event-kids/morse-code-day
27 - 28	10-10 International Spring Contest, Digital: 0001Z - 2359Z
27 - 28	UK/EI DX Contest, CW: 1200Z - 1200Z
27 - 28	Helvetia Contest: 1300Z - 1259Z
30	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z - 0159Z
The Pretoria Amateur 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 , as well as the WA7BNM international contest calendar at the following website: http://hornucopia.com	

CLUB MEMBER NEWS SPECIAL EVENT

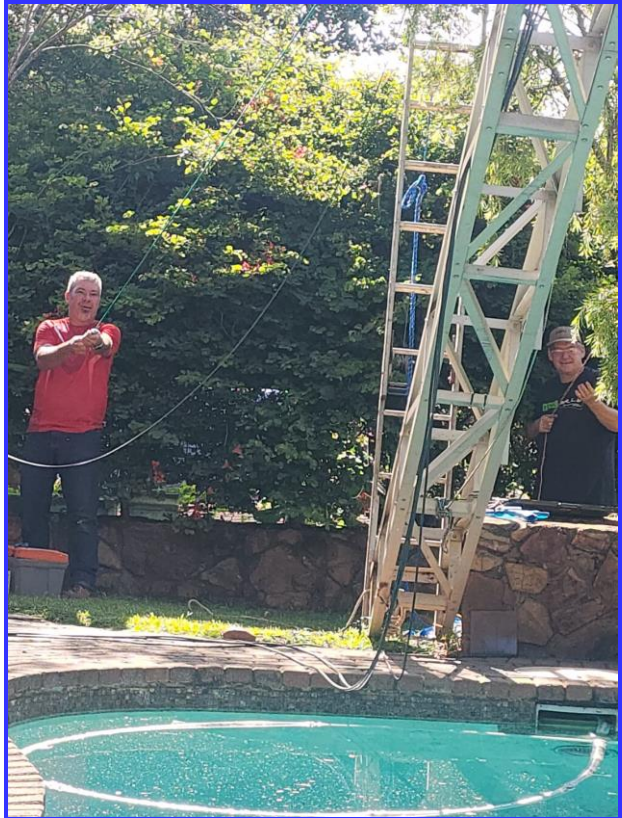
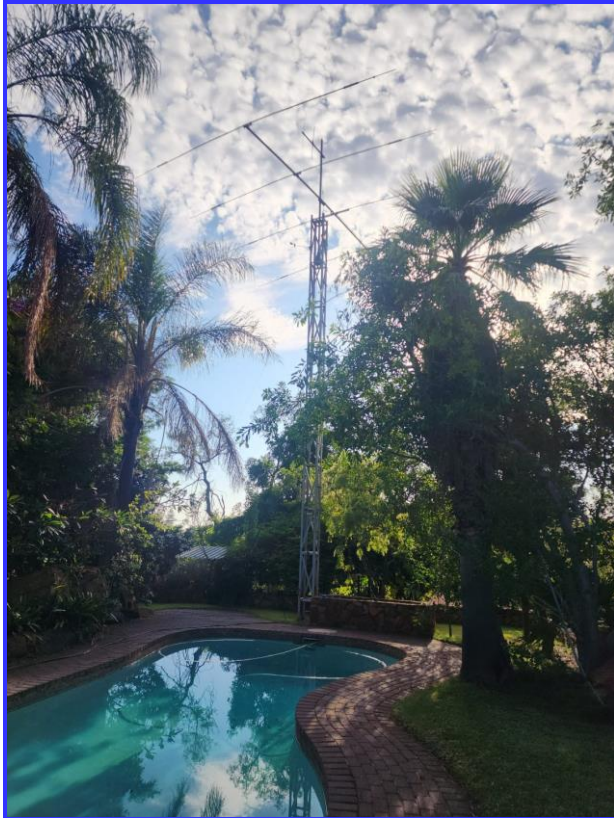
During February, Paddy and Kenny Martin ZS6KMM celebrated the wedding of their son Gary with Carmen on a luxury cruise liner. From left to right are Paul and Lindy Viljoen, Carmen, Gary, Paddy and Kenny. PARC sincerely congratulates Gary and Carmen with their wedding.



Lowering and dismantling a radio mast



After purchasing a radio mast by Louis ZS6SK from Alméro ZS6LDP, it became apparent that it would require quite an operation to lower, dismantle and transport it. Alméro, Zack Pienaar ZR6ZAK and Louis came together and devised a gin-pole and lowered the mast carefully over a swimming pool, avoiding any damage to it. The operation went very smoothly, and no damage was encountered. My sincere appreciation to Alméro and Zack for their assistance. On the following pages are photographs showing the process.



Top Left: The radio mast before lowering. The only direction down was over the swimming pool. Top Right: Zack and Louis hanging on for dear life.

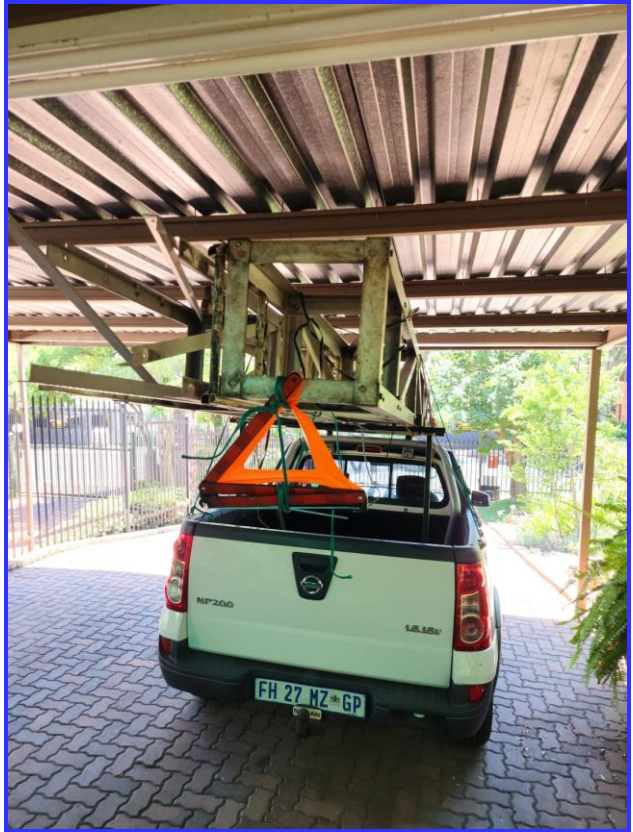


Top Left and Right: The point of no return



The radio mast safely suspended over the swimming pool





Top Left: Louis taking a dip while removing the yagi antenna. Top Right and below: The disassembled mast on the back of Alméro's bakkie ready for transporting



PA75NATO by Onno de Meijer PA3AKP (PI4CC)

During the PARC Bulletin on the 3rd of March 2024, Alméro Du Pisani discussed an email he received from Onno de Meijer PA3AKP, one of our regular listeners from the Netherlands. As indicated in the email, a special callsign PA75NATO will be activated to celebrate the 75th anniversary of NATO. Onno included a couple of photographs of soldiers using the radio station of PI4CC, a WWII bunker.

From: **PA3AKP Onno de Meijer** <pa3akp@outlook.com>

Date: Sun, 3 Mar 2024 at 07:28

Subject: DX berig vir julle bulletins op ZS6JPL

To: Almero du Pisani <almero.dupisani@up.ac.za>

Goeie more Almero,

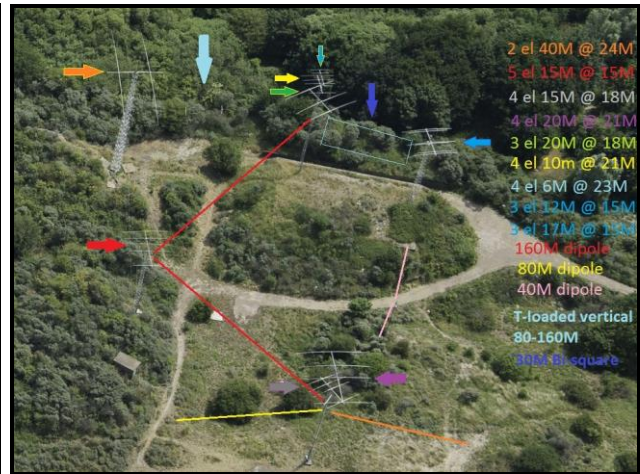
In die naweek 20-21 April 2024 gaan ons vanuit ons stasie PI4CC (www.pi4cc.nl) in Hoek van Holland 'n spesiale roepsein aktiveer, PA75NATO. Die NATO vier dan sy 75e lewensjaar.

PI4CC se lokasie is 'n WWII Atlantikwal bunker van die Duitsers, wat ook later gebruik is deur die Koninklijke Marine. Dit is sinds 'n lang tyd die lokasie van PI4CC.

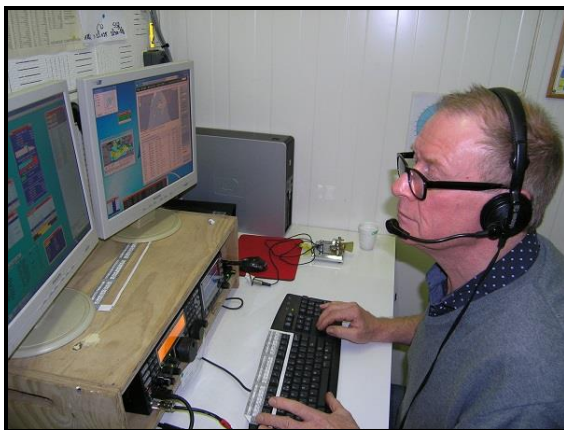


The PI4CC Amateur Radio Station

The PI4CC Amateur Radio Station is located at Hoek of Holland, using an old World-War II bunker, which is located close to the North Sea shoreline (<https://www.pi4cc.nl/>). The station has a large variety of homebrew antennas which include the following: 2m / 70cm vertical, 2m Yagi, 6m, 10m, 12m, 15m 17 and 20m Yagis, 30m bi-square, 40m bi-square, 80m inverted-v "thick" dipole and 160m dipole. More detailed information can be obtained from the PI4CC website. The station uses Elecraft K3 transceivers, followed by 400W legal power limit amplifiers. The station home is a bunker built by the Germans in 1943 during the second world war. It was a hospital in a large complex of bunkers, which was built at the coast to prevent a possible landing by the allied. During the 50's and 60's (the "cold war"), the Dutch marine housed a radar station at this location. In 1973 the Dutch added 2 km of artificial beach; therefore, the radio station is now 2 km from the sea. The bunker is covered with sand (<https://www.pi4cc.nl/>).



Below are a couple of photographs showing the radio shacks of the PI4CC radio amateurs participating in contests or relaxing in their canteen (All photo credits: (<https://www.pi4cc.nl/>)).



Onno de Meijer PA3AKP operating 10m



Relaxing in the canteen



One of the Radio shacks in the Station



Prijzenkast

Motor Rallies: Preliminary Dates of Events for 2024

Motor Tydrenne: Voorlopige Datums vir 2024



✉ P O BOX 5374
MEYERSDAL
GAUTENG
1447
☎ + 27 82 991 0011
✉ charmaine@saccs.co.za

12 October 2023.

e-mail

Good Day

Please find the 2024 SA Rally-Raid Championship calendar.

We are in the process of finalising venues and hope to have this in place by early December.

We fully understand the pressure on logistics and the need to secure accommodation, however, it is impossible to confirm venues right now.

DATE	ROUND	VENUE
19 – 20 APRIL	ONE	
24 – 25 MAY	TWO	
21 – 23 JUNE	THREE	
16 – 17 AUGUST	FOUR / FIVE	
13 – 14 SEPTEMBER	SIX	
8 – 9 NOVEMBER	SEVEN	

Kind regards

CHARMAINE FORTUNE.
Secretariate.



Directors A RUTHERFORD, Dr. S LABUSCAGNE
Enterprise Number 2009/011303/08
ASSOCIATION INC UNDER SECTION 21
VAT Registration Number 4900 254 29 5

For More Rally information please contact the following Radio Marshalls:

Graham Reid ZS6GJR at: 083-701-0511 or greid@wol.co.za

Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA at: 082-462-6001 or irene.myburgh@outlook.com

Johan de Bruyn ZS6 JHB at: 079-333-4107 or zs6jhb@gmail.com

Long Term HF Propagation for March 2024 : Courtesy Vincent Harrison ZS6BTY

The graph below shows the predicted F-layer Maximum Usable Frequency (MUF) for propagation from Pretoria^[1] using monthly sunspot numbers from SILSO^[2].

Local Propagation (up to 500 km): The F or F2 critical frequency (f_oF_2) is the MUF for short range, near vertical incidence sky-wave (NVIS) propagation.

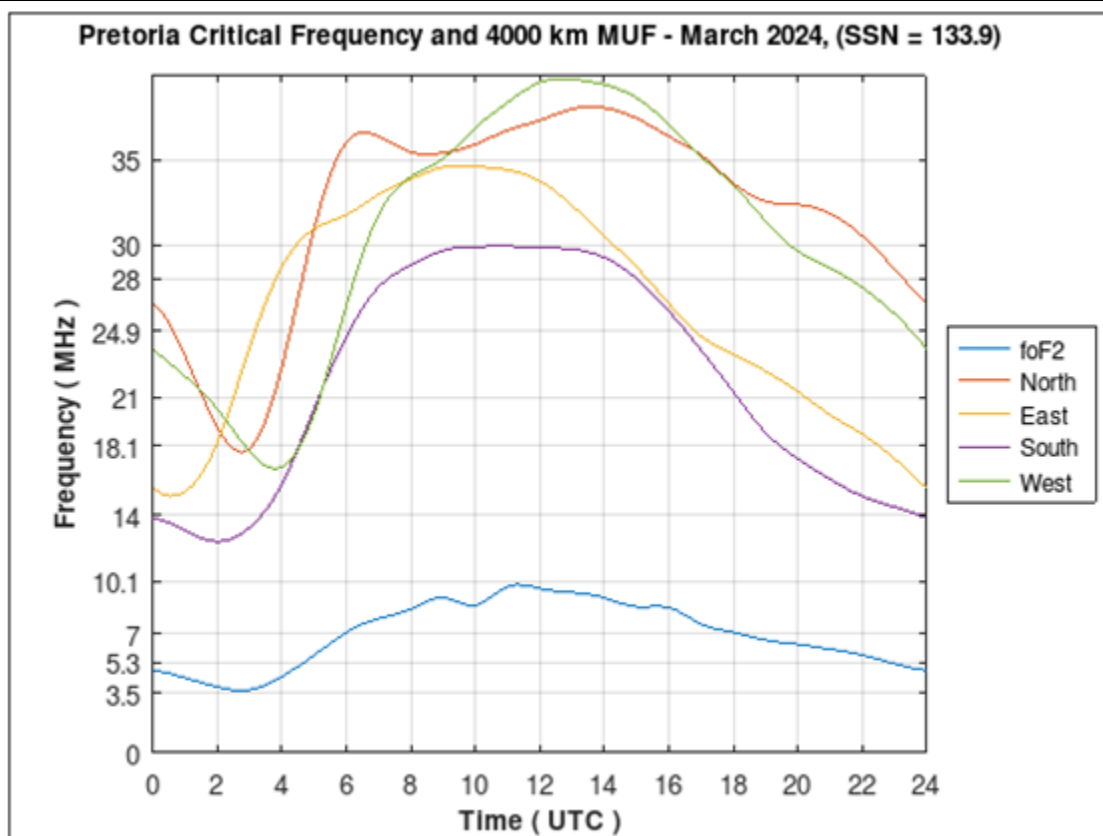
Long Distance Propagation: The MUF for a first hop of 4000 km in the cardinal directions is labeled North, East, South and West. They indicate the direction that propagation may be expected.

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_oF_2 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>)



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

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