



# WATTS 2025-11

Year 95 + 11

Monthly Newsletter of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club

Maandelikse Nuusbrief van die Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub

✉ PARC, PO Box 73696, Lynnwood Ridge 0040, RSA

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🌐 <http://www.parc.org.za>

📘 [PARC ZS6PTA Group](#)



## **Bulletins : 145.725 MHz : Sundays from 08h45 / Sondag vanaf 08h45**

Relays: 439.025, 438.225, 145.725 and on 7.066MHz and Echolink.

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 19h45



### **📢 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!

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### PARC ANNUAL CLUB FEES: PARK JAARLIKSE LEDEGELDE

Bank	First National Bank	<b>Ordinary Members / Gewone Lede : R200</b>  <b>Spouses and Pensioners : R100</b>	<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**

**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.

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

*Wishing you loud signals, clear frequencies, and zero interference on your special day. May your logbook overflow with joy and friendship. From shack to celebration—happy birthday and 73!*

### Members' Birthdays November 2025 / Lede Verjaarsdae November 2025

Birthday	Name	Callsign
10 November	Leon Grobler	ZR6AVI
16 November	Vlasta Jancuskova	ZS6-2501
19 November	Joe Katzman	ZS6TB

### Spouses' Birthdays November 2025 / Eggenote Verjaarsdae November 2025

*Wishing you a fantastic day filled with laughter, love, and everything that makes you smile. May the year ahead bring new adventures, great memories, and all the happiness you deserve. Enjoy your celebration!*

Spouse Birthday	Member Name	Callsign	Spouse
11 November	Ed Willers	ZS6UT	Peggy
18 November	John Olivier	ZR6GV	Esta
27 November	Hugo Pretorius	ZS6HP	Aida

### Members' Birthdays December 2025 / Lede Verjaarsdae Desember 2025

Birthday	Name	Callsign
01 December	Pieter Fourie	ZS6CN
07 December	Tim Meyer	ZS6TIM
08 December	Kobus du Toit	ZS6KD
10 December	Mauritz van den Heever	ZS6CMH
15 December	Alméro Du Pisani	ZS6LDP
16 December	Andre Potgieter	ZS6EW
20 December	Jurie Ferreira	ZS6JFE
23 December	Johnny Scott	ZS6JSS
27 December	Pierre Britz	ZR6ADZ
28 December	Allan De Souza	ZS6AVC
30 December	Hans van de Groenendaal	ZS6AKV

### Spouses' Birthdays December 2025 / Eggenote Verjaarsdae Desember 2025

Spouse Birthday	Member Name	Callsign	Spouse
21 December	Roy Newton	ZS6XN	Retha
23 December	Pierre Britz	ZR6ADZ	Dienkie

## Wedding Anniversaries November 2025 / Huweliks Herdenkings November 2025

Anniversary	Name	Callsign	Spouse
13 November	Dylan John Foord	ZS6TDK	Tali Foord
26 November	Marike Roux	ZS6MRX	André
26 November	Andre Roux	ZS6ARX	Marike
29 November	Hendrik Stefanus Ferreira	ZS6BUH	Moirá

## Wedding Anniversaries December 2025 / Huweliks Herdenkings Desember 2025

Anniversary	Name	Callsign	Spouse
05 December	Nico Michael	ZS6BVR	Mary
08 December	Theodore Vere Bresler	ZS6TVB	Avida
14 December	Barry Bester	ZS2BB	Anna
14 December	Johannes Andries Badenhorst	ZR6BBX	ELSA
24 December	Johannes Scott	ZS6JSS	Belinda
29 December	Richard Peer	ZS6UK	Molly SK

## 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.

## NEW HAM DEAL

Get your Anytone  
D168UV DMR &  
analogue radio for only

# R2850

including Pudo delivery

Till end of Nov or while stocks last



## 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: November 2025 – December 2025

Date	Presenter	Date	Presenter
9 November 2025	Louis de Wet ZS6SK	7 December 2025	Louis de Wet ZS6SK
16 November 2025	Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP	14 December 2025	Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP
23 November 2025	Louis de Wet ZS6SK	21 December 2025	Louis de Wet ZS6SK
30 November 2025	Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP	28 December 2025	Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP

💡 *“A heartfelt thank-you to our dedicated bulletin presenters — your energy, commitment, and clear voices keep the amateur radio community informed and inspired. Whether rain, shine, or QRM, you show up and deliver with professionalism and passion.”*





## Diary of Contests & Events / Dagboek van Kompetisies en Gebeure

Contests and Events – November 2025 / Kompetisies en Gebeure – November 2025 (UTC Times)	
01	Silent Key Memorial Contest: 0600Z – 0859Z
01	IPARC Contest, CW: 0600Z – 1800Z
01 – 02	UK/EI DX Contest, SSB: 1200Z – 1200Z
01 – 03	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW: 2100Z – 0300Z
02	IPARC Contest, SSB: 0600Z – 1800Z
02 – 05	Classic Exchange, Phone: Nov 2 – 3: 1400Z – 0800Z; Nov 4 – 5: 1400Z – 0800Z
03	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data: 2000Z – 2130Z
04	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z – 0159Z. Also 11/02; 11/18 and 11/25
05	UKEICC 80m Contest: 2000Z – 2100Z
06	NRAU 10m Activity Contest: 1800Z-1900Z (CW); 1900Z- 2000Z (SSB); 2000Z-2100Z (FM); 2100Z-2200Z (Digital)
<b>08</b>	<b>West Rand Boot Sale: Contact Phillip van Tonder ZS6PVT</b>
08 – 09	WAE DX Contest, RTTY: 0000Z – 2359Z
08 – 09	ARRL EME Contest: 0000Z – 2359Z
08 – 09	10-10 International Fall Contest, Digital: 0001Z – 2359Z
08 – 10	CQ-WE Contest: Nov 8: 1900Z – 2300Z (CW/Digital); Nov 9: 0100Z – 0500Z (Phone); Nov 9: 1900Z – 2300Z (Phone); Nov 10: 0100Z – 0500Z (CW/Digital)
12	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, SSB: 2000Z – 2130Z
<b>15</b>	<b>Newbie QSO Party. <a href="https://mysarl.org.za/">https://mysarl.org.za/</a></b>
15	RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest: 2000Z – 2300Z
15	REF 160-Meter Contest: 1700Z – 2400Z
15 – 17	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB: 2100Z – 0300Z
17	RSGB FT4 Contest: 2000Z – 2200Z
<b>22</b>	<b>SARL Saturday 40m Club Contest: <a href="https://mysarl.org.za/">https://mysarl.org.za/</a></b>
23	North American SSB Sprint Contest: 0000Z – 0400Z
26	UKEICC 80m Contest: 2000Z – 2100Z
27	RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW: 2000Z – 2130Z
29 – 30	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW: 0000Z – 2400Z
Contests and Events – December 2025 / Kompetisies en Gebeure – December 2025 (UTC Times)	
<b>01</b>	<b>Start of the YOTA Month: <a href="https://mysarl.org.za/">https://mysarl.org.za/</a></b>
02	Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest: 0100Z – 0159Z. Also 12/09; 12/16; 12/23 and 12/30
04	NRAU 10m Activity Contest: 1800Z-1900Z (CW); 1900Z- 2000Z (SSB); 2000Z-2100Z (FM); 2100Z-2200Z (Digital)
05 - 07	ARRL 160-Meter Contest: 2200Z – 1600Z
<b>06</b>	<b>Pretoria Amateur Radio Club Boot Sale: 09h00 – 11h30</b>
<b>06</b>	<b>Pretoria Amateur Radio Club Annual General Meeting: 12h00 – 13h00</b>
06 - 07	PRO CW Contest: 1200Z – 1159Z
13 - 14	ARRL 10-Meter Contest: 0000Z – 2400Z
13 - 14	International Naval Contest: 1600Z – 1559Z
31	End of SARL Centenary Marathon QSO Party: 2359Z
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, <a href="http://www.sarl.org.za">www.sarl.org.za</a> , as well as the WA7BNM international contest calendar at the following website: <a href="http://hornucopia.com">http://hornucopia.com</a>	



**Pretoria Amateur  
RADIO CLUB**  
SINCE 1930

**ZS6PTA Exhibitions, Flea Market and Boot Sale**

**Saturday 6 December at 09:00**  
**Pretoria Old Motor Club in Silverton**  
**Almero du Pisani 083 938 8955**  
**[almerodps@gmail.com](mailto:almerodps@gmail.com)**

**Next Flea Market Date: 6 December / Volgende Snuffelmark Datum: 6 Desember**

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

### **The Origin of the “Hamfest Juice”**

- At many U.S. hamfests, there’s a mysterious orange drink sold in gallon jugs—dubbed “Hamfest Juice.”
- No one knows what’s in it. Some say it’s tang, others suspect battery acid with a citrus twist.

### **Rare Earth Magnets Are the New Gold**

- At recent fleamarkets, neodymium magnets from old hard drives are hot items.
- Hams use them for:
  - Holding antennas to cars
  - DIY magnetic loops
  - Picking up dropped screws from under the shack desk

### **The “Shack Jacket” Phenomenon**

- Some fleamarkets feature racks of old military surplus jackets.
- Hams swear by them for:
  - Hidden pockets for coax
  - Built-in grounding (allegedly)
  - Looking like you just stepped out of a Cold War QSO

### **Soap Made from **RF Grease**?**

- A vendor in Germany once sold “Ham Soap”—allegedly made from recycled RF grease and lanolin.
- It smelled like ozone and optimism.

## East Rand Radio Club Flea Market / Oos Rand Radio Klub Snuffelmark

4 October 2025

The weather threatened to wash away the bargains and snuff out the braai, but nothing could dampen our spirits. We were determined to make our way to the ERC flea market – and what a day it turned out to be!

The wind made the leaves dance like CW on a cheerful frequency, and the smell of sizzling boerie rolls swirled around us, teasing our senses and welcoming us with warmth. What a delightful way to arrive – greeted by smiles, smoky aromas, and a sense of belonging.

Inside the clubhouse, the buzz was electric. Tables stretched from wall to wall, overflowing with bits, bobs, and radio treasures – from cables to connectors, stories to station plans. Every corner held a surprise.

We had barely stepped through the door when we were warmly greeted by Nico (President of SARL) and Guy (Vice President of SARL). Not only were they there to share stories and advice, but both spoke a few heartfelt words that added to the camaraderie of the day. It's always a pleasure to have SARL present at a gathering.

Stephen ZS6SKY and Wayne ZS6ORB truly made their mark, hosting a busy, vibrant, and highly successful flea market. Their energy and organisation turned the event into a highlight.

And as the saying goes: a true Ham never says goodbye just once. It took us nearly an hour to walk from car to car, exchanging handshakes, stories, and final farewells. Because this wasn't just a market – it was a family reunion.

What a wonderful day. A celebration of community, radio spirit, and the people who make it all come alive.

4 Oktober 2025

Die weer het gedreig om ons winskopies weg te spoel en die braai te blus, maar niks kon die gees van die ERC snuffelmark stuit nie. Met vasberadenheid en 'n bietjie wind in ons hare het ons koers gehou – en wat 'n dag het dit geword!

Die wind het die blare laat dans soos CW op 'n vrolike frekwensie, en die geur van worsbroodjies het ons behoorlik laat warrel van honger en opgewondenheid. Wat 'n heerlike manier om verwelkom te word – met 'n glimlag, 'n geurige braai, en 'n atmosfeer wat net sê: "Jy's tuis."

Binne die klubhuis het dit gegons soos 'n goed afgestemde repeater. Tafels van kant tot kant was gelaai met ditjies, datjies, en radio-skatte – van kables tot knoppies, van stories tot stasieplanne. Elke hoek het 'n verrassing gehad.

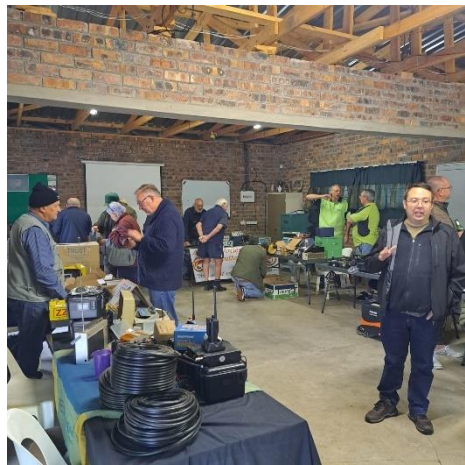
Skaars het ons die deur binnegestap, toe word ons hartlik gegroet deur Nico (President van SARL) en Guy (Visepresident van SARL). Nie net het hulle hul teenwoordigheid laat tel nie, maar hulle het ook woorde van wysheid en kameraadskap gedeel – 'n ware baken van ondersteuning vir die gemeenskap. Dis altyd 'n voorreg om SARL by 'n samekoms te hê.

Stephen ZS6SKY en Wayne ZS6ORB het hul roepsein behoorlik laat weerklink – met 'n snuffelmark wat groot, besig en uiters suksesvol was. Hul organisasie en energie het die dag 'n ware hoogtepunt gemaak.

En soos die gesegde lui: 'n ware Ham groet nie net een keer nie. Ons het bykans 'n uur spandeer om van kar tot kar te loop, hande te skud, stories te deel, en laaste groete uit te ruil. Want dis nie net 'n mark nie – dis 'n familie.

Wat 'n wonderlike dag. Wat 'n viering van gemeenskap, radio-gees, en die mense wat dit alles moontlik maak.







**Invitation: PARC AGM 6 December 2025 / Uitnodiging: PARK AJV 6 Desember 2025**

**NOTIFICATION: PARC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 06 December 2025**  
**KENNISGEWING: PARK ALGEMENE JAARVERGADERING: 06 Desember 2025**

**Agenda for the 95<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of PARC**  
**At 12h00 on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2025 at the Pretoria Old Motor Club,**  
**Silverton**

**Agenda vir die 95<sup>ste</sup> Algemene Jaarvergadering van PARK**  
**Om 12h00 op Saterdag die 6<sup>de</sup> Desember 2025 by die Pretoria Ou**  
**Motor Klub, Silverton**

- 1 Welcome and Attendance / Verwelkoming en Teenwoordigheid
- 2 Apologies and Proxies / Verskonings en Volmagte
- 3 Declaration of Quorum / Verklaring van Kworum
- 4 Opening: PARC Chairman: Graham Reid ZS6GJR
- 5 Minutes of Previous AGM / Notules van Vorige AJV: Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA
- 6 Treasurer's Report / Penningmeester Verslag: Graham Reid ZS6GJR
- 7 Appointment of Auditor / Aanstelling van Ouditeur
- 9 Chairman's Report / Voorsitter Verslag: Graham Reid ZS6GJR
- 10 Discussion of Motions / Bespreking van Mosies
- 11 Election of Committee 2025-26 / Verkiesing van Komitee 2025-26
- 12 General Matters / Algemene Sake
- 13 Guest Speaker / Gasspreker : Louis de Wet ZS6SK: Chemistry of the Sun and Solar Indices
- 14 Closing / Afsluiting
- 15 Lunch / Middagete

**PRETORIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB WILL SUPPLY LUNCH, AND EATING UTENSILS FOR LUNCH. SOFT DRINKS AND ALCOHOLIC DRINKS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE BAR.**

**\*\* Please **RSVP** by 2 December to Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA at: 082-462-6001/ 084-544-0618 or [irene.myburgh@outlook.com](mailto:irene.myburgh@outlook.com)**

**PRETORIA AMATEUR RADIO KLUB VOORSIEN DIE MIDDAGETE EN EETGEREI VIR DIE MIDDAGETE. KOELDRANKE EN ALKOHOOLIESE VERVERSINGS KAN BY DIE KROEG AANGEKOOP WORD.**

**\*\* **RSVP** asseblief teen 2 Desember aan Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA at: 082-462-6001/ 084-544-0618 or [irene.myburgh@outlook.com](mailto:irene.myburgh@outlook.com)**



**95<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**95<sup>ste</sup> ALGEMENE JAARVERGADERING**  
**Pretoria Amateur Radio Club**



**Pretoria Old Motor Club**  
**Keuning Str. Silverton**

**Venue:**

**Saturday 06 Desember 2025**

**Time: 12h00**

**Agenda: To be published**

**Plek:**

**Saterdag 06 Desember 2025**

**Tyd: 12h00**

**Agenda: Sal gepubliseer word**

**NB**

Nominations awaited. Latest acceptance by 11h30 on 06 Desember 2025  
Nominasies word afgewag. Laatste indiening teen 11h30 op 06 Desember 2025

**PROXY Form (cut out) || VOLMAG Vorm (knip uit)**

Only paid-up members may submit proxies || Slegs opbetaalde lede mag volmagte indien

I/Ek .....being ZS/R/U..... give/gee .....ZS/R/U.....

Proxy to vote on my behalf at the 2025 PARC AGM

Volmag om namens my te stem tydens die 2025 PARK AJV Geteken/Signed.....

**NOMINATION Form (cut out) || NOMINASIE Vorm (knip uit)**

**Committee Nominations** must be in writing and signed by both the Proposer and Nominee and be handed in on **06 December 2025 at 11h30 at the latest**. Use the Nomination Form below. The Proposer and Nominee must both be paid-up members.

**Komitee Nominasies** moet skriftelik wees en deur beide die Voorsteller en Voorgestelde geteken word en moet **op laaste teen 11h30 op 06 Desember 2025** ingehandig word. Gebruik die Nominasievorm hieronder. Beide Voorsteller en Voorgestelde moet opbetaalde lede wees.

Proposer:

ZS

Signature:

Voorsteller:.....ZR..... Handtekening:.....

ZU

NOMINEE GENOMINEERDE	CALLSIGN ROEPSEIN	NOMINATION ACCEPTED NOMINASIE AANVAAR
1		
2		
3		
4		

## Notules van die PARC Algemene Jaarvergadering: 07 Desember 2024



**Pretoria Amateur Radio Club / Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub**  
**Annual General Meeting: 07 December 2024 / Algemene Jaarvergadering: 07 Desember 2024**

- **Verwelkoming en teenwoordigheid**

Louis de Wet ZS6SK verwelkom almal en bedank hulle vir hulle teenwoordigheid.

- **Verskonings en volmagte**

Verskonings is gemaak deur Pine Pienaar ZS6OB, Emil ZS6EGB en Roy ZS6XN

- **Verklaring van kworum**

'n Kworum is verklaar.

- **Opening PARK Voorsitter Louis de Wet ZS6SK**

- **Notules van vorige AJV**

Die notules van die vorige AJV word goedgekeur. Johan de Bruyn ZS6JHB en Jaco Nieuwenhuisen ZS6JLN

- **Penningmeester verslag**

Graham Reid ZS6GJR lê die verslag voor aan die lede. Dit word so aanvaar. Almero du Pisani ZS6LDP en Paul Sterling ZS6BMF.

- **Aanstelling van ouditeur**

Daar word voorgestel om die huidige ouditeur (Divan Olivier) weer aan te stel vir 2025. Dit word eenparig aanvaar.

- **Voorsitterverslag**

Dear Members of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club and Guests:  
Geagte Lede van die Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub en Gaste:

Baie welkom aan almal teenwoordig en baie dankie dat julle tyd ingeruim het om die 94ste Algemene Jaarvergadering van die Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub by te woon.

A hearty welcome to all present and thank you very much for all who have given up their time to attend the 94th Annual general Meeting of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club.

Thank you very much to Pretoria Amateur Radio Club- and Committee Members for your support the past two years in my role as Chairman. This has been an enriching and fulfilling time to serve four years in total over the past six years. The two years serving during the pandemic was particularly difficult when PARC lost a number of members. However, the human spirit has prevailed and the will to survive has been demonstrated by those who are still with us. We look with great anticipation forward to the future with the 95th anniversary of PARC approaching and the celebration planned in 2025. PARC has volunteered to host the 100th anniversary of the South African Radio League and



both events will take place on the 16th to the 18th of May 2025. Going towards this exciting time ahead it is therefore a tremendous honour and pleasure to present my Chairman's report to you today.

Silent Keys: Last year we remembered with sadness and paid tribute to PARC members Henk Stuivenberg ZS6CS / PA0STU, Menno Havelaar ZS6AGC, Johnny Scott ZS6JSS, Johannes (Attie) Reyneke ZS6REY and Hans Kappetijn ZS6KR who passed away. Fortunately this year, we had no members who passed away.

Club Membership: PARC membership is currently at 132 active, and 8 non-active members, which is an increase of <1% compared to the membership number during 2023. It is a concern that amateur radio is not growing under our youth as we have wanted it to. However, we still sincerely thank our Members for their support and loyalty.

I hereby wish to thank the following Committee- and Club Members according to the different categories they have contributed to for the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club:

Finances: PARC sincerely thanks Graham Reid ZS6GJR for his hard work and dedication with his accurate and meticulous handling of the financial matters of the Club. His monthly updates of transactions and bank balances to the Committee is sincerely appreciated.

Secretarial: For the past four years, Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA has served with distinction on the PARC Committee as Secretary. Her accurate record taking and swift production of minutes of committee meetings has set a high standard. We sincerely thank Irene for her excellent service towards the Club.

PARC Website: Graham Reid ZS6GJR is sincerely thanked for the maintenance and administration of the PARC website, as well as liaising with the host of the domain when problems and issues arise.

Swop Shop: Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP has taken over Swop Shop since the passing of Hans ZS6KR handling call-ins every Sunday morning after bulletins. Tjerk Lammers ZS6P / ZS1J handles this function on the PARC website. Our sincere appreciation to Alméro and Tjerk for your efforts and dedication.

Bulletins: Sunday morning bulletins are such an essential medium of Club to Member communications, relaying valuable information and news regarding Club and SARL matters. The number of Members involved is quite extensive, and we would sincerely like to thank the following people for their appreciated efforts:

Alméro DuPisani ZS6LDP: Playback of Afrikaans and English SARL bulletins and report back on Echolink listeners. Regular hosting of PARC bulletins.

Johan Lehman ZS6JPL: Providing and maintaining the Echolink service and repeater to PARC. Periodic HF relay of bulletins.

Johan de Bruyn ZS6JHB: Editing of SARL bulletins and regular hosting of PARC bulletins.

Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA: Reading and recording of Afrikaans SARL bulletins.

Pierre ZS6PS and Corlie ZS6CHS Smit, for the handling of HF call-ins on Sunday mornings and maintaining a database on the demographic distribution of listeners.

Louis de Wet ZS6SK: Regular hosting of PARC bulletins and repeats on Monday evenings.

Lastly, the past three years with access to PARC bulletins by means of Echolink, the number of bulletin listeners has increased significantly. This includes listeners from Kwazulu-Natal, Free State,

Eastern, Southern and Western Cape, Mozambique, The DRC, Mali, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Australia, Switzerland and others.

Repeaters: Johan de Bruyn ZS6JHB and Pieter Myburgh ZS6PAM for keeping the repeater network operational and dealing with numerous issues such as burglaries and power outages at the sites. Johan is in regular communication with Jasco High Sites communication who maintains the repeater sites. Last year PARC members were encouraged to join a repeater maintenance team which is going to be established in 2025 to ensure better maintenance on transceivers, feedlines and antennas. However, nothing has come of this proposal, and I again emphasize that this proposal be taken in all seriousness this coming year.

Rallies: The rally team provides an essential radio communication service at regular events, and their excellent representation of PARC is sincerely appreciated. We thank Graham Reid ZS6GJR who is the communications coordinator with these events, as well as his support team, Joey Reid, Irene and Pieter Myburgh ZS6IEA and ZS6PAM, Willie Greyling ZR6WGR, Willie ZS6WVN and Annelie ZS6AVN van Niekerk, Roy Newton ZS6XN and his daughter Helen ZR6HN, and all other members. We also sincerely thank Johan de Bruyn for his organisational efforts behind the scenes.

Flea Markets: Our most sincere appreciation to Alméro DuPisani ZS6LDP for organising and hosting all-successful flea markets. The flea markets are always well attended by members from other clubs. In addition we sincerely thank Irene and Pieter Myburgh ZS6IEA and Louis ZS6SK for their assistance with the preparation and selling of boerewors rolls and coffee at these events.

Contests: This past year has seen good individual participation by PARC Members in local and international contests. However the team effort and spirit has died down a bit, and PARC members are encouraged to come up with a rejoined effort to get the PARC name back up with other clubs as far as contests are concerned.

Watts: Having been the editor of Watts the past 10 years has been a tremendous pleasure, and I sincerely thank our Club Members for their treasured contributions. In particular Vincent Harrison ZS6BTY is thanked for his monthly contributions on HF propagation. Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA is thanked in particular for the electronic distribution of the Newsletter. I have realised that Watts need not only contain radio related topics, and that articles on general science are also well received. My sincere thanks to all who have contributed over the past ten years.

RAE Training: John Minter ZS6LED is sincerely thanked for his hard work and contributions with RAE training and getting prospective radio amateurs registered for the examination. John has achieved getting a group of prospective hams prepared for the examination, and all of them have passed. PARC sincerely appreciates his contributions. However, it seems that the interest in amateur radio is dying down, looking at the numbers of candidates writing and passing the RAE.

Ham Spirit: We sincerely thank Alméro ZS6LDP, Pierre ZS6PS, Corlie ZS6CHS, Tjerk ZS6P / ZS1J and all for their willingness to accept tasks and carry on with them with dedication after the passing of Hans ZS6KR. Our sincere appreciation.

In conclusion, I wish to thank everyone for attending this AGM. We sincerely hope and believe that 2025 will in all ways be blessed and satisfying as this year was. However, I wish to stress this today: this Club needs young blood in leadership positions. The future Committee of PARC needs a young, strong and dedicated leader who is willing to boldly lead this Club past its 95<sup>th</sup> towards its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Thank you very much for your attendance.

Sincerely.

Louis de Wet ZS6SK

Pretoria Amateur Radio Club

- **Bespreking van Mosie**

Daar is besluit om die ledegelde op te sit soos volg:

Lede was R160 nou in 2025 R200

Pensionarisse was R60 nou in 2025 R100

Dit is aanvaar. Jaco Nieuwenhuisen ZS6JLN en Almero du Pisani ZS6LDP

Die repeaters se posisies en die kostes daaraan verbonde sal deur die nuwe komitee hanteer word.

- **Verkiesing van Komitee 2024-25**

Nuwe komitee nominasies

Louis de Wet ZS6SK

Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA

Graham Reid ZS6GJR

Johan de Bruyn ZS6JHB

Hendri Ehlers ZS6HFE

Al die nominasies is so aanvaar deur die lede. Jaco Nieuwenhuisen ZS6JLN en Kenny Martin ZS6KMM.

- **Algemene Sake**

Swopshop se items sal slegs vir drie maande op die site gehou word en sal dan verwyder word. Daar is 'n voorstel dat persone wat adverteer 'n klein donasie doen aan PARK.

Almero du Pisani ZS6LDP bedank vir Louis de Wet ZS6SK vir sy bydrae vir WATTS.

- **Gasspreker**

Nico Michael ZS6BVR het 'n interessante toespraak gelewer oor 'n self gemaakte "tap" vanaf 'n transmissie lyn.

- **Afsluiting**





## PARK Veterane / Pensionaris Ontbyt



**Voor op die knieë:** Jaco Nieuwenhuis ZS6JLN, Paul Els ZS6AM, Louis de Wet ZS6SK

**Voor staande:** Johan Els, Nico Noordzij, Elma Basson, Gawie Basson ZS6GJJ, Joe Katzman ZS6TB, Joey Reid, Mervyn (Johnny) Schmidt ZS6MES, Graham Reid ZS6GJR (Voorsitter)

**Tweede Ry:** Roy Newton ZS6XN, Richard Peer ZS6UK (in die skadus), Charles Mills ZS6CJM, Beth Mills, Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA (Vise-Voorsitter & Sekretaresse), Pieter Myburgh ZS6PAM

**Agter:** Pierre Holtzhausen ZS6PJH, Patricia Schneider ZS6XYL, Frank Schneider ZS6GE, Eddie Ras ZS6EDR en Gade, Louise Du Pisani, Alméro Du Pisani ZS6LDP, Pieter Fourie ZS6CN, Annatjie Fourie, Karin Stapelberg, Sarel Stapelberg ZS6EK, Vitor Gouveia ZS6VG en Rita Gouveia.

Die jaarlikse veterane ontbyt is aangebied deur PARK op 11 Oktober by die OppiPlaas restaurant in Villeria. Die geleentheid is bygewoon deur twintig klublede en twaalf gaste. Die verrigtinge is geopen en gaste verwelkom deur die PARK voorsitter Graham Reid ZS6GJR, wat ook Irene Myburgh ZS6IEA bedank het vir die voortreflike reëlins van die geleentheid. Die geleentheid se eregaste was Paul J. Els, Nico Noordzij en Johan Els van die Pro Patria Museum by die Voortrekker Monument. Paul Els, wat die outeur is van die boek “We Fear Naught but God” en vele ander oor Suid-Afrikaanse militêre geskiedenis, het ‘n oorsig gegee oor sy loopbaan vanaf 1964 toe hy by die Seinerskorps was, sy deelname aan Operasie Savannah in 1975, en sy diens as seiner in 5 Verkenning Bataljon. Paul het onlangs sy amateur radiolisensie gekry met die roepsein ZS6AM.

Na die verrigtinge het almal weggeleë aan ‘n tipies Oppieplaas voorgereg van pap en kailings, gevolg deur ‘n tradisionele Suid-Afrikaanse boere-ontbyt. PARK bedank hiermee almal wat die geleentheid bygewoon het, en aan almal wat betrokke was by die reëlins. 88 en 73 tot volgende jaar! Louis ZS6SK.







## BACAR-13 2025

It was the kind of morning that makes a ham reach for their handheld before their coffee. Saturday 11 October, just past 06:00, and the TRMC Model Flying Airfield in Trichardt/Secunda was already buzzing. The sun was barely up, the breeze gentle, and the parking lot filling with cars, cables, and caffeine-fuelled curiosity.



Gazebos popped up like contest stations at Field Day. Tables came alive with payloads in every shade of neon, and hams from across the region gathered with soldering irons, laptops, and that unmistakable glint of launch-day excitement. BACAR-13 was about to take flight—and so were our spirits.



Final tweaks were made. Payloads were tested. Someone asked if the balloon needed a callsign. Someone else tried to tune their HT to the frequency of breakfast. And then, with a collective breath held tighter than a coax crimp, the hydrogen balloon lifted off—carrying CubeSats, APRS beacons, and the hopes of every ham who ever dreamed of touching the edge of space.





Among the early-morning heroes was Nico, President of the SARL, who bravely stepped up to help fill the hydrogen balloon. For a moment, as he wrangled the expanding beast with calm determination, someone whispered, “Is his APRS beacon on?”—just in case he got carried away. Soon it became a three-man tango, with hams flanking the balloon like ground crew at a rocket launch. The balloon’s weight tugged and twisted, but never once cracked the smiles on their faces. It was a scene worthy of a QSL card: three hams, one balloon, and a whole lot of lift.



With Nico and crew holding the balloon like it was a prize-winning marrow at a village fair, it soon became clear that this was no solo mission. It took a few more hands—some gloved, some caffeinated—and a symphony of careful strapping to tame the hydrogen beast. The balloon swayed, hissed, and puffed like a diva preparing for stage, but the team held firm. With payloads prepped and APRS beacons blinking like disco lights, the final knots were tied and the launch countdown began. It was time to let it fly.



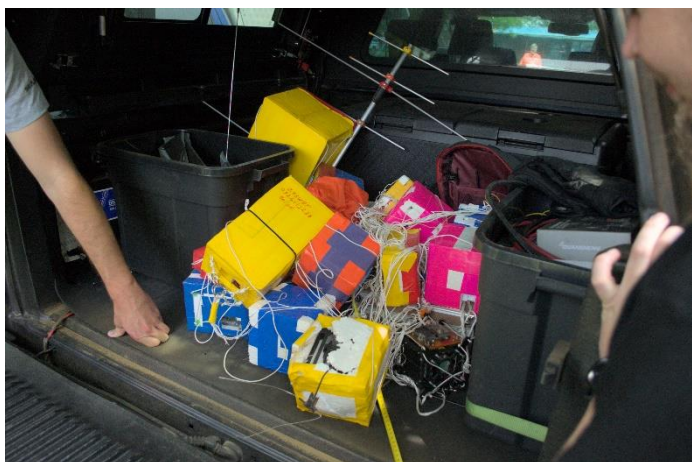


The balloon reached for the stratosphere, transmitting telemetry and APRS data like a seasoned contester flinging out CQ calls. Payloads pinged, chirped, and beeped their way into the record books. One even sent back a message that read, “I can see your shack from here.”



Unfortunately, about an hour into the flight, the parachute was overcome with fear of heights and held on to its package like a squirrel clutching its last peanut. No graceful descent—just a stubborn payload refusing to let go.

Enter Hamnet: our off-road angels in reflective vests and boots that have seen things. With precision, grit, and a touch of 4x4 flair, they tracked the balloon’s final coordinates like seasoned DX chasers on a muddy mission. One operator swore he saw the payload blink Morse code for “Help.” Another claimed it tried to negotiate landing rights.

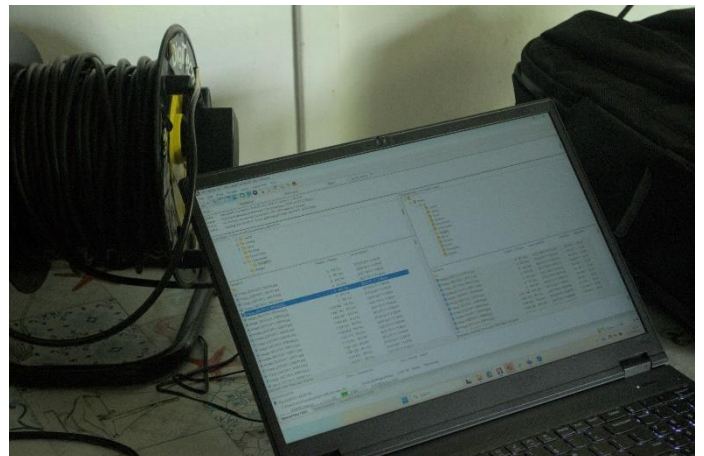




Back at the clubhouse, hopeful operators gathered like penguins around a heater—eager to inspect their gear, assess the damage, and download the data. The atmosphere? Pure ham joy. Laughter echoed between download attempts. Payloads were poked, prodded, and praised. Someone asked, “Did yours survive?”

BACAR-13 wasn’t just a technical triumph—it was a celebration of amateur radio’s spirit: experimentation, education, and a healthy dose of eccentricity. From newcomers decoding telemetry with the precision of a Swiss watchmaker to seasoned ops swapping stories like Q-codes at a braai, the day reminded us that ham radio isn’t just about frequencies—it’s about fellowship, flair, and the occasional airborne panic.

And somewhere in the stratosphere, a CubeSat still dreams of its next launch, whispering, “Next time, I’m bringing my own parachute. And snacks.”



“BACAR 13 may be logged and decoded, but the next chapter is already crackling on the horizon. With fresh payloads, new operators twitching in excitement, BACAR 14 promises to launch us into even wilder skies. Stay tuned—our next signal might just rewrite the stratosphere.”

## Standing Wave Ratio, or SWR

Often misunderstood, occasionally ignored, and frequently blamed, SWR remains one of the most critical indicators of station health—and one of the easiest to overlook.

What Is SWR and Why Should You Care?

SWR measures how efficiently your transmitter's power is being delivered to your antenna. A low ratio (close to 1:1) means your signal is sailing smoothly into the ether. A high ratio (above 3:1) means energy is bouncing back toward your rig—a **technical echo that can cause reduced performance or even equipment damage**.



Think of it as a conversation, if your rig and antenna aren't speaking the same language, you're just shouting into the void.

Modern transceivers often include built-in protection, automatically reducing power output when SWR spikes. But that safety net can mask deeper problems—like **a misbehaving feedline, a corroded connector, or a squirrel-nibbled balun**.

### Diagnosing the Shack

SWR isn't just a number—it's a diagnostic tool. It can reveal:

Water intrusion in coaxial cables

Loose connectors or corroded joints

Antenna placement issues (yes, even that tree branch you ignored)

Grounding problems or nearby interference



## A Historical Echo: The SWR Awakening

The importance of SWR wasn't always obvious. In the early days of amateur radio, operators relied on trial, error, and intuition. It wasn't until the 1940s—when commercial SWR meters became more accessible - those hams began to truly understand the relationship between impedance, reflection, and signal loss.

One pivotal moment came in 1941, when the U.S. military began using SWR measurements to optimize radar systems. Amateur operators quickly adopted the technique, and by the 1950s, SWR meters were standard shack equipment. The phrase “match your load” became gospel—and the SWR meter, a trusted oracle.

### Top 5 SWR Troubleshooting Tips

1. **Inspect Your Coax**  
Water intrusion, cracks, or age-related wear can wreak havoc.  
  
Replace old feedlines and check for moisture near connectors.
2. **Tighten Every Connector**  
A loose PL-259 or oxidized joint can spike your SWR. Clean, tighten, and reseal every connection from rig to antenna.
3. **Check Antenna Placement**  
Nearby metal objects, gutters, fences, or even trees can reflect RF. Try repositioning or elevating your antenna.
4. **Test with a Dummy Load**  
If your SWR is high, swap in a dummy load. If the reading drops, the issue is likely in your antenna system—not your rig.
5. **Use an External SWR Meter**  
Built-in meters are helpful, but external ones offer better accuracy and visibility. Compare readings to confirm.



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### 2026 ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program is Now Accepting Applications

The scholarships were established by generous donors and are managed by the ARRL Foundation as a means to inspire youth to explore amateur radio and to pursue higher education and related career paths -- and especially wireless communications.

In 2025, the ARRL Foundation awarded 170 awards totaling \$800,000. More information and the online application are available [www.arrl.org/scholarship-program](http://www.arrl.org/scholarship-program).

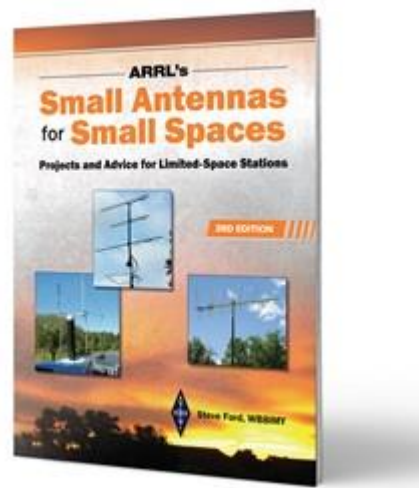
The ARRL Foundation Scholarship Program has opened the application window for 2026 scholarships. Applications will be accepted through December 30, 2025, at 12 PM EST. Students are encouraged to apply for more than 1 scholarship ranging from \$500 to \$25,000. All applicants must be active, FCC-licensed amateur radio operators.

### New Book Release: Small Antennas for Small Spaces 3rd Edition

#### Antenna Designs to Fit your Space!

Amateur radio operators love antennas — the bigger the better — but if you don't have acres of property to erect the antenna of your dreams, it doesn't mean you're effectively off the air. Ham radio is still yours to enjoy. It's just a matter of making the right antenna choices to improve your chances of success.

The third edition of ARRL's *Small Antennas for Small Spaces* by Steve Ford, WB8IMY, is a valuable resource for amateurs who live in apartments, condominiums, or houses on small lots. Filled with practical advice, this book guides you to finding the right antenna design to fit the space you have available. You'll find ideas and projects that will get you on the air regardless of where you live!



***Small Antennas for Small Spaces 3rd Edition*** is now shipping. Order from the ARRL [online store](http://www.arrl.org/online-store) or find an [AF publication dealer](#); ARRL Item No. 2325, ISBN: 978-1-62595-232-5, \$22.95 retail, member price \$19.95. For additional questions or ordering, call 1-888-277-5289 toll-free in the US, Monday through Thursday from 8 AM to 5 PM, and Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM Eastern Time. If you are outside the US, call (860) 594-0200.



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## Get to Know Your Fellow Hams: Pierre Holtzhausen - ZS6PJH

### Radio Roots & Identity

1. What first sparked your interest in amateur radio?

A Holiday job with ZS6BDU (Ben van den Bergh) during 1986/7.

2. What's your callsign, and is there a story behind it?

ZS6PJH, My Initials, very boring I know.

3. When did you get licensed, and what was your proudest moment on the air?

I got Licenced in the year 2000 only. Talking to an Astronaut on the ISS. And chatting to a New York TAXICAB driver from Gilbanken (Just East of Pretoria) on 10m with an Antenna we built on the rear flap of a bakkie the previous day.

4. Who was your biggest mentor or influence in your ham journey?

There were a few, ZS6KR Hans Kappetijn, ZS6KO Bill Engleson, ZS6SF Fritz Sutherland. Oom Mannie de Beer, KW1O ZS6USA Mark Lukinovich. ZS6PA Pieter Human (Used to be ZR6AHT), ZR6HVG Hans Gurtel to name a few.



### Operating Style & Passions

5. What modes do you enjoy most—voice, CW, digital, or something quirky?

A bit of everything.

6. Do you prefer rag chewing, contesting, experimenting, or another form of comms?

Mostly Contesting. When work pressure allows.

7. What's your favourite band or frequency to hang out on?

40m, 80m, 20m and 10m. I have tried 15m, but no success yet.

8. Any memorable DX contact or QSO that stands out?

Spoken to Hawaii during a camping trip, a few years back.



### Gear & Shack Tales

9. What's your current setup like—rigs, antennas, shack quirks?

Kenwood TS-590, SGC SG-500 Power cube, TH3 Mrk3 (from 1978, thus many Years old and way more than second hand 😊), Wire Dipole for 40m and traps for getting to some 80m too. G5RV modified to ZS6BKW, Couple of 2m and 70cm Antennas, Big 2.4m Dish still to be deployed and plenty of plans and projects in various stages of development.

10. Any homebrew projects or Franken-rigs you're proud of?

A B25 in Backpack, built up from bits and piece collected over many years! Integrated with a small Solar Panel and LiFePO4 battery. Probably about 50 years between the technologies. I had to reprogram the Solar Controller to be able to correctly charge the LiFePO4 Battery. That was before the Li Chargers become readily available.

11. What piece of equipment would you never part with?

HA HA HA. All of them, but I guess time to downscale will come.....

### Personality & Humour

12. What's your ham radio superpower—or your funniest operating blunder?

Inability to solder... I do know Wi-Fi pretty well.

13. If your shack had a mascot, what would it be?

A Penguin. My Shack PC is running UBUNTU.

14. What nickname would your fellow hams give you?

Pappa Jaag Huis toe.... There was a time when it was more than just a play on my Initials....



### Beyond the Shack

15. What other hobbies or interests do you enjoy?

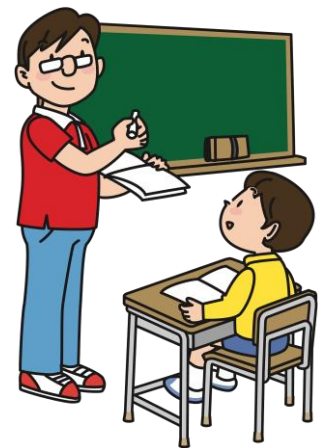
Photography, Reading, Computer Games, getting to know new Modes and learning about Electronics, Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, a forever student.

16. How has amateur radio shaped your friendships or travels?

I do have a few NON-Ham friends and a LOT of HAM Friends.

17. What's one thing people might be surprised to learn about you?

You tell me....But I do also hold an American Callsign, KK4VDB and I used to be a schoolteacher.



### Wisdom & Legacy

18. What advice would you give to a newcomer?

Persevere, never give up, there is always a NICHE that will fit your interest and budget. Do not be afraid to ask questions. Join a Club or a few. Go to HAM Flea markets, Talk to the older and newer HAMS. Stay inquisitive!

19. What do you hope to see in the future of amateur radio?

More affordable equipment. Better conditions. Knowledgeable friends!

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

Radio Amateurs are not afraid to share their knowledge, sadly some advice needs to be taken with a BAG of salt!



## The Shack Survival Kit

### What every ham should keep within arm's reach (and why it's not just about solder)

Murphy doesn't knock—he barges in. One moment you're calling CQ, the next your mic cable's frayed, your rig's rebooting, and your coffee's gone cold. That's why every amateur radio operator needs a Shack Survival Kit: a stash of essentials that can rescue your signal, your sanity, and your snack break.

#### *Shack Survival Kit, Part 2: Beyond the Bench—The Extras That Keep You On the Air (and Off the Edge)*

If Part 1 of your Shack Survival Kit was about surviving Murphy's ambush, Part 2 is about thriving in spite of it. Because once you've got your soldering iron, sticky notes, and emergency biltong in place, it's time to think bigger. Think club-tested, contest-approved, and chaos-resistant.

Here's what every ham should consider adding to their extended Shack Survival Kit—especially when the bands are buzzing and the gremlins are grinning.



#### The Hydration Station: Fuel for the Frequencies

- Club mug 2.0: One for tea, one for coffee. Or one for each band.
- Water bottle with a lid: Because nothing says “rig reboot” like a splash of rooibos on your VFO.
- Snack stash: Granola bars, dried fruit, or emergency jellybeans. Bonus points if they're color-coded by band.



#### The Shack Maintenance Module

- Mini vacuum or dust brush: For clearing out cobwebs, crumbs, and the occasional desiccated gecko.
- Label maker or masking tape: Because “mystery coax” is only fun once.
- WD-40 and contact cleaner: For squeaky knobs and stubborn switches. Also doubles as morale booster when sprayed dramatically.



#### The “I Swear I Had One” Box

- Spare patch cables: Because the one you need will vanish mid-contest.
- Extra mic and headphones: For when your primary set decides to retire mid-QSO.
- USB adapters, splitters, and gender changers: Because digital modes are picky and Murphy loves USB-C.



#### Emergency Essentials

- Tiny screwdriver set: For rescuing rigs from squirrel sabotage.
- Acorn-shaped stress ball: For squeezing during pileups or firmware updates.
- Miniature HT keychain: Not functional, but adorable. And morale matters.\



## The Mental Backup Kit

- Printed band plan: Because scrolling during panic is a sport no one wins.
- Club contact list: For when you need help, advice, or someone to say “Try turning it off and on again.”
- Inspirational QSL card: That one DX you chased for months. Frame it. Worship it. Let it remind you why you do this.

## Final Thought

Your shack isn't just a workspace—it's a launchpad, a refuge, and occasionally, a comedy show. The extended Shack Survival Kit isn't about over-preparing—it's about staying sane, staying on the air, and staying one step ahead of Murphy (and Nutmeg).

So stock up, label everything, and remember: the best operators aren't just skilled—they're prepared, caffeinated, and slightly squirrel-brained



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## Motor Rallies: Dates of Events for 2025 / Motor Tydrenne: Datums vir 2025

*Please see Circulars 3 and 4 below from Motorsport South Africa regarding changes made to the MSA National Rally-Raid Championship Calendar.*

Before the first engine growls and the gravel flies, there's a quiet frequency humming in the background—populated not by race cars, but by radio amateurs. While spectators cheer and drivers chase seconds, a different kind of operator is chasing clarity, coordination, and the elusive art of making chaos sound like calm.

Enter the hams. Armed with handhelds, mobile rigs, and enough coax to lasso a rally car (not recommended), these volunteers form the invisible net that holds the whole event together. When cell towers tap out and terrain gets tricky, amateur radio steps in with simplex grit and repeater magic. It's not just communication—it's orchestration.

From checkpoint chatter to emergency alerts, hams are the unsung pit crew of the airwaves. They log, relay, troubleshoot, and occasionally explain why their radios can't order pizza. And while the rally may be about horsepower and hairpin turns, for us it's also about signal strength, teamwork, and the thrill of being part of something fast, loud, and wonderfully unpredictable.

Because at the end of the day, when the dust settles and the last car crosses the line, it's clear: ham radio isn't just a backup—it's the backbone. And sometimes, it's the only thing standing between a missed call and a mission accomplished.



As the sun sets on another thrilling chapter, we bid farewell to the final rally of the year. It's true what they say; every good thing must eventually find its close, and this event was no exception. But what a spectacular send-off it was! From roaring engines to roaring laughter, camaraderie crackled through the air like static on a well-tuned rig. Memories were made, stories were born, and the spirit of adventure was alive in every turn and transmission. Until next time, may the road rise to meet us and the frequencies stay clear.



# MOTORSPORT SOUTH AFRICA NPC

Reg. No 1995/005605/08

[www.motorsport.co.za](http://www.motorsport.co.za)

Ground Floor, Quadrum Building 1, Quadrum Office Park, 50 Constantia Boulevard, Constantia Kloof, Roodepoort  
e-mail: [msa@motorsport.co.za](mailto:msa@motorsport.co.za) Telephone (011) 675 2220

## MSA RALLY CIRCULAR 4 OF 2025

Affected parties are hereby advised that Round 7 of the 2025 MSA National Rally Championship, originally scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2025, has been cancelled.

This decision was taken due to the ongoing wet conditions in the Fouriesburg area, following the heavy rains experienced during the past summer and which have persisted throughout the 2025 winter season.

Affected parties are hereby advised that the following changes to the MSA National Rally Championship Calendar are made with immediate effect:

Round	Date	Venue
1 & 2	27 & 28 June 2025	Tzaneen, Limpopo
3 & 4	25 & 26 July 2025	Uitenhage, Eastern Cape
5 & 6	29 & 30 August 2025	Ermelo, Mpumalanga
<del>7</del>	<del>26 &amp; 27 September 2025</del>	<del>Fouriesburg, Free State</del>
7 & 8	31 October & 1 November 2025	Dullstroom, Mpumalanga

MSA sincerely apologises for any inconvenience these changes may have caused. Please be assured that they are a result of circumstances beyond MSA's control.

**SAMANTHA VAN REENEN**  
SPORTING SERVICES MANAGER: CARS, KARTING AND LEGAL

4 September 2025

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



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## MSA RALLY-RAID CIRCULAR 4 OF 2025

Affected parties are hereby advised that the following changes to the MSA National Rally-Raid Championship Calendar are made with immediate effect:

Date	Round	Venue	Comment(s)
14 & 15 March 2025		Vryheid, KwaZulu-Natal	Moved to 31 October & 1 November 2025
27 & 28 June 2025	1	Legends Adventure Farm, Gauteng	
15 & 16 August 2025	2 & 3	Stonehenge Lodge, Parys, Free State	
19 & 20 September 2025	4	Louvain Guest Farm, Western Cape	
31 October & 1 November 2025	5	Vryheid, KwaZulu-Natal	Moved from 14 & 15 March 2025
21 & 22 November 2025	6	Thabazimbi, Limpopo	Moved from 27 & 28 June 2025

MSA sincerely apologises for any inconvenience these changes may have caused. Please be assured that they are a result of circumstances beyond MSA's control.

SAMANTHA VAN REENEN  
SPORTING SERVICES MANAGER: CARS, KARTING AND LEGAL

24 June 2025

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



Directors: A. Roux (Chairman), V. Maharaj (Chief Executive Officer), P. Zeelie (Financial),  
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## Dullstroom Rally

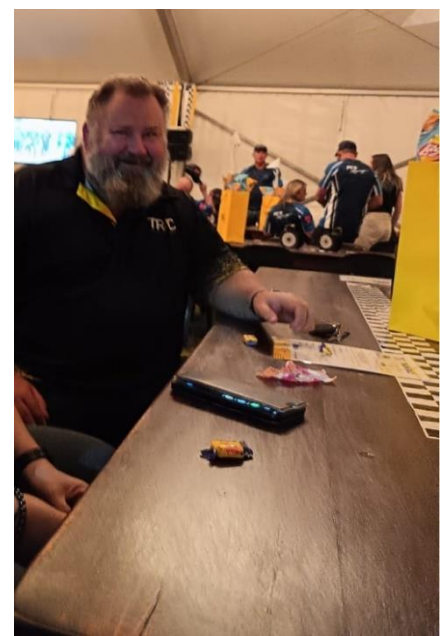
Setting up the antenna first thing day one. And then off to set up the repeater.



Though communication was a bit of a challenge, a work around was quickly established and all went well.



Celebrating the end last rally with great friends, food and atmosphere.





## Long Term HF Propagation for October 2025 By Vincent, ZS6BTY

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 are labelled North, East, South and West. They indicate the direction that propagation may be expected.

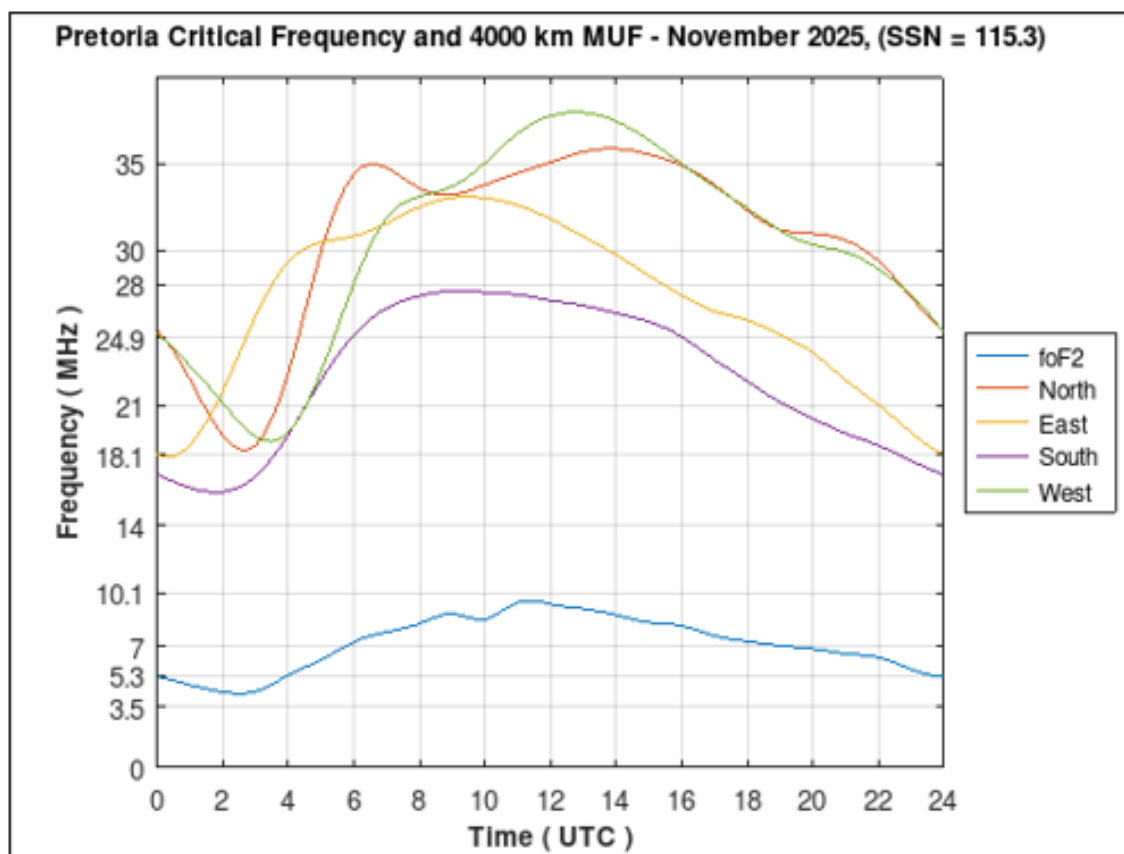
Worldwide Propagation Maps: <http://www.parc.org.za/index.php?page=propagation>

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

[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>)

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



 **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 Committee Members 2025 / PARK Komiteelede 2025

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A heartfelt thank you to everyone who's contributed to Watts—whether through stories, photos, puzzles, or those delightful snippets that make us smile between QSOs.

Send your transmissions (aka emails) to [watts@parc.org.za](mailto:watts@parc.org.za) and help us keep the newsletter dialled in and full of good vibes.

*"Don't let your ideas fade into static — key up and share!"*