

SHACKNEWS

HIGHVELD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

PO Box 1111, Bedfordview, 2008

February 2005

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COMMITTEE

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Sunday morning BULLETINS - 145.7875 MHz & 7062 KHz @ ±08h45.

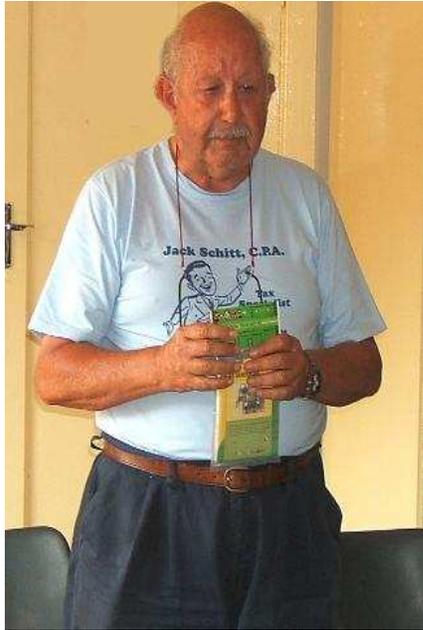
COMMUNICATION IS THE NAME OF THE GAME

Meeting.

The first meeting for this year saw only nine members as per the register. We had a short discussion about the new radio regulation gazetted on 4th February 2005. The floor was then given to OM Doug, ZS6BXU, who brought back a lot of pamphlets, brochures and maps from his holiday in New Zealand. There was also publications from the ZL radio society which included an excellent call book A4 size. Membership last year was \$90.00 in their currency. The exchange rate approx. R4.5. Thanks Doug. Next meeting on the 5th March Ton, ZS6ANA will bring along and discuss the modems used for the digital modes e.g. PSK31.

SSC Meeting

Held at the TAC on 12th February. A discussion on the way forward of the club took place and it was decided that SSC will be the social part of the HARC club. The next meeting will be held at the QTH of Berridge, ZS6BFL. Address is 3 Nektaar Rd. Freeway Park. Boksburg. Usual time. Map somewhere else in this news letter.



Here Doug tells us about the electronic kits available from many shops in ZL land. This one is for a Solar Panel charger.

SWAPSHOP

1-Surplus to the shack of Colin, ZS6CHC.

Packet radio system consisting of: 2M handheld and charger together with antenna, coax, modem, computer, keyboard, mouse & printer.

Contact 011-826-1078

2- C42, PSU, cables etc. Original WS manual. Cluttering up my garage. Also a B47.

Berridge ZS6BFL 011-893-1291



DC4 taxiing after landing at the Rand Airport during the SSC meeting

Operating tips for new operators both ZS and ZR

Band Plan. Do yourself a favour and go on to the SARL web site and check on the band plan. These are not cast in stone, but rather are a guide. If you stick to the guide you will find that you should not upset anyone. I keep a small spreadsheet of the CW and Phone part of the band near each rig. The reason being is that you may be tuning around the band and hear CQ CQ CQ and are tempted to answer right away. Unless you are sure of our band limits that could be dangerous. For instance we don't share the same band as others on 40 meters phone.

LISTEN before you transmit. Another conversation maybe taking place on the frequency and you may not be able to hear the other end of it.

ASK whether the frequency is in use. After you have listened for a minute and ascertained that the frequency is clear should you then commence your transmission.

ADAPT your operating procedure to the conditions at the time. If for example a rare DX station is working four contacts a minute and lets you in, don't monopolize him and the frequency by waffling!

ADJUST your equipment for best performance (no splatter, chirps, spurs, drift etc.) I have heard some CW stations from Russia (obviously home built) that have no idea what a Pure DC note sounds like! Also some stations that put out too much power just splatter all over the band.

USE the minimum power necessary to establish and maintain the contact. The other station will hardly care if you are S9 instead of 10dB over S9

BE CREATIVE. If conditions permit, go beyond the usual “rubber stamp” contact with a DX station and swap some information – but only if conditions permit – see “Adapt....” Above.

CALL the least number of times possible. Don’t try to be the last one heard. Instead, listen to how the top DXers does it. Sometimes they drop their calls in only once – but at the appropriate moment.

DON’T WAFFLE, communicate instead. There are plenty of interesting people out there, who might have something worthwhile to say, if only you give them the chance.

ENHANCE your knowledge of the bands by listening, reading articles on propagation and obtaining some knowledge of how to make the most of available conditions.

OBSERVE the conventions. Use low band DX windows to establish a contact and then move away. There is no law against split frequency operation.

LEARN a few words in another language. Others make the effort. The joy of communicating is yours for the asking

The above was not original but the idea was taken from a Amateur Radio Action of April 1985. Probably written by K2RR. – *Ian* (From HOTLINE. March 2005 with tnx)

---oooOOOooo---

Jack wakes up at home with a huge hangover after the night of his office Christmas party. He forces himself to open his eyes, and the first thing he sees is a couple of aspirins next to a glass of water on the side table. And, next to them, a single red rose! Jack sits down and sees his clothing in front of him, all clean and pressed. Jack looks around the room and sees that it is in perfect order, spotlessly clean. So is the rest of the house. He takes the aspirins, cringes when he sees a huge black eye staring back at him in the bathroom mirror, and notices a note on the table, breakfast is on the stove, *I left early to go shopping-- Love you*

He stumbles to the kitchen and sure enough, there is hot breakfast and the morning newspaper. His son is also at the table, eating.

Jack asks, "Son...what happened last night."

Jack son answers, "Well, you came home after 3 A.M., drunk and out of your mind. You broke some furniture, puked in the hallway, and got that black eye when you ran into the door!"

Jack says, "So, why is everything in such perfect order, so clean, I have a red rose, and breakfast is on the table waiting for me?"

His son replies, "Mom dragged you to the bedroom, and when she tried to take your pants off, you screamed," "Leave me alone, lady, I'm married!" "

Broken furniture -R85.26

Hot Breakfast R4.20

Red Rose bud -R3.00

Two Aspirins R0.38

Saying the right thing, at the right time.....Priceless

---oooOOOooo---

Message from Doug ZS6BXU



HI Berridge attached a pic of OM ANDREW BRYSON ZS2OM the visually impaired operator living in Kwelega 20 km north of East London, he used to live in Komga near Kei river mouth. I don't now if u would like to print his pic in shacknews as he has spoken to many SA hams and I am sure they would like to now what he looks like ,his rig is one of those that SPEAK TO U re frequencies etc .

