

Zululand Amateur Radio Club News

The newsletter for the discerning Ham

June 2015

ZARC Committee

Chairman: Andrew Jansen ZS5AND

Vice Chairman: Warren Snyders ZS5WOZ

Treasurer: Willie Axford ZS5WI

Secretary: Dawn Snyders ZS5ME

Ham Net: Jo Snyders ZS5PO

Editor: Jo Snyders ZS5PO

Member: Anne Griffiths ZS5FAB

Member: Gerald Scrooby ZS5GS

Webmaster: Chantel

Club Repeaters

Ntumeni 145.675 MHz

Empangeni 145.700

Club Packet Digipeater/Mail-drop & APRS Digipeater

Ntumeni 144.625 (ZS5ZLB Mail, ZS5ZLB-2 Digipeat, ZS5ZLB-7 KA-Node) PBBS: ZS5AND

Club Nets

ZS5PO & ZS6AE Have A Sched On Thursdays Between 17:30 and 18:45
On 7.175 Or 3.645 Depending on propagation
ALL are more than welcome to join us for a "rag chew"

SARL News

08h30 - Sundays - 145.650, 7.066 MHz

NEXT ZARC MEETING

DATE: AGM 19th July 2015 (Sunday)

TIME: Meeting will take place ± 13:30, after the customary Braai at 12:00

QTH: Tattenham Resort Dam Lapa GPS: 29°02'36.35"S 31°35'12.79"E

E-Mail: dawnjo@telkomsa.net (Secretary)

Club Web site: <http://zs5zlb.zs5and.co.za/>

Editor, Q.R.L.



Greetings & Salutations fellow members, I trust that this news letter finds you all in good health. The next club meeting will be our **AGM on Sunday 19th July 2015**. The venue will be at Tattenham Resort near Gingindhlovu. The meeting will take place at ± **13:30**. Please make a note in your day books and diaries. The time for the customary braai will be at **12:00**, giving everybody a chance to get there after Sunday morning commitments. **THIS WILL BE THE CLUB AGM!!**

**Have you bought insurance to continue enjoying your hobby yet? SARL membership IS that insurance!!!
Is your hobby worth R1.09 per day to you? YES?! Then join the SARL, it's the RIGHT thing to do!!!**

The radical opinions, and rantings of the Editor, are not necessarily the opinions of, or supported by, the ZARC Committee, or it's members.

Wots Potting In The ZARC

Birthday Greetings Go To:

July: Dawn ZS5ME, on the 12th. John ZS5J, on the 20th. Rod ZL1RK, on the 31st.



Many happy returns to all of you, and may you be spared for many more years.
(If your birthday wishes do not appear here, it is because you have not informed me of your birth date).

Get Well Soon



Our Treasurer, Willie ZS5WI, will be going into hospital for a procedure soon.
Our Chairman, Andrew, ZS5AND, is once more in hospital with his ongoing leg problem.
Willie and Andrew, you are both in our thoughts and prayers, and we wish both of you a speedy recovery.

Club Happenings

After sending out queries regarding the preferable July dates for the club AGM, those who bothered to answer seemed to all prefer **Sunday July 19th**. So it is going to be **Sunday July 19th**
All those of you who cannot attend the AGM, would you please be so kind as to E-Mail your apologies and proxies to the secretary at dawnjo@telkomsa.net as soon as possible. Those of you who have permanent proxies do not need to respond.

18th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE / LIGHTSHIP WEEKEND

00:01 UTC 15th AUGUST 2015 TO 24:00 UTC 16th AUGUST 2015



It is nearly that time of year again. The month after our AGM is Lighthouses month. Will ZARC be taking part, or not??? If so, who will be attending, and where are we going to set up station? At Cape St. Lucia Light, or Tugela Bluff Light. Come on members, please do not leave it to the last moment. Bookings have to be made if it is to be Tugela, permission must be obtained if it is to be St Lucia. I don't know if it is just my imagination, or is it really becoming more difficult every year to get members to take part in field events, so that I can get material for the news letters. It is starting to feel as if I am just baying at the moon!!

Early Warning

The second leg of the 2015 South African Radio League National Field Day, takes place over the weekend of **12 and 13 September 2015**.

No, NOT November – National Field Days are now February and September!

Can we please be notified as soon as possible, regarding who will be attending the field day, so that we can book accommodation early. We don't want a repeat of all the last minute "Hanna-Hanna" we had in February.

Club Web Site

Next year on **Friday 15th February 2016**, our club turns 21 years old. We are thinking of adding a link to a Photo Album page on our web site, depicting a selection of photographs taken during various club functions eg. meetings, field stations, and other interesting occasions that have taken place in those 21 years.

If any one has any photos that were taken by them at any of the club functions, and you think they would look good on the site, please send them along with names and call signs of the people in the photographs, and also the occasion and the date taken.

Packet

On the packet Mail-Drop scene. The TNC is beaconing out. The coax on this set-up still has to be renewed, and the antenna moved to the east side of the tower

APRS

Your path to any stations in RSA, (or anywhere in the world via the I-Gate on 144.625) will be **ZS5ZLB-2, RELAY4-4**. The I-Gate should be available between the hours of about **09:00** and **22:00**, WHEN I AM AT HOME. People in the Richards Bay/Empangeni area can get into the PMB I-Gate on 144.800.

For those of you Zululanders who have Internet, go and look on the www.aprs.fi web site, and type your call sign into the slot at the top of the column on the right, and press search, and see if your station appears on the map.

Repeaters

145.675: This repeater was replaced after the Xmas meeting & lunch, and the old Storno is working well.

145.700: This repeater is now a DEAD puppy, and needs LOTS of TLC. **STILL waiting for ESKOM to open up for us to get into this site.**

“SWAP SHOP”



If you have any items you want to get rid of, or if you are looking for something, Please let the Editor know and he will advertise it in the swap column for you.

1 X **Neutec SM-1645** 16 channel 2Mtr VHF radio for sale.
Service, user and reprogramming instruction manuals available.
Reason for selling: Surplus to requirements
Please contact Gerald, ZS5GS on: **071-143 5433**



NB This picture of the radio was found on the internet, and is NOT a picture taken of the actual radio that is for sale

Please contact me if you are looking for a **Hy-Gain TH-MK4** beam antenna, The price being asked is **R4500**, and this one is in very good condition. Brand new they go for around **R9500**.

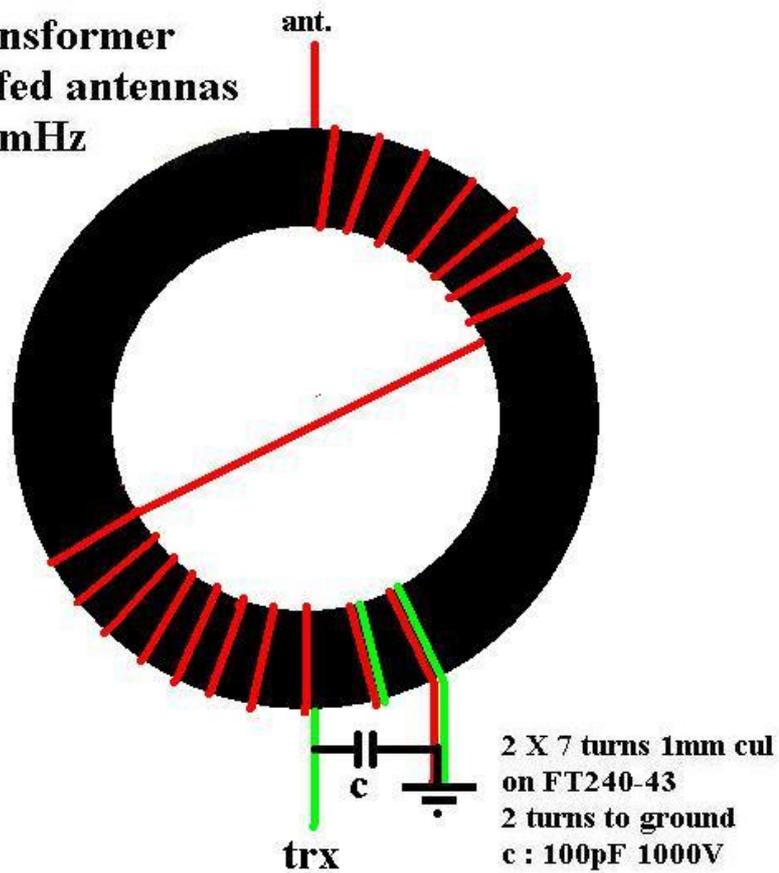
Home Brewers Hoekie



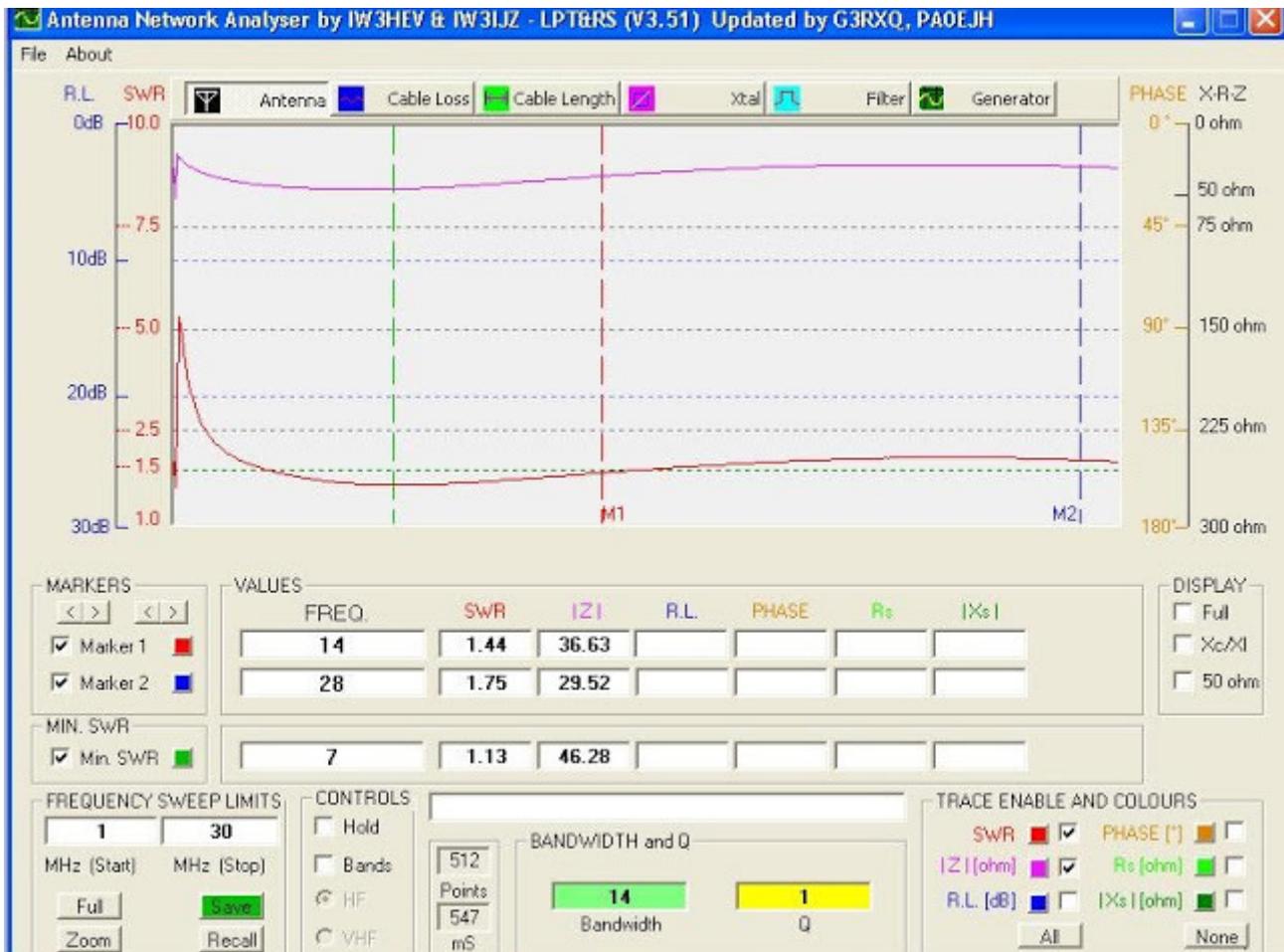
Multiband end fed antennas

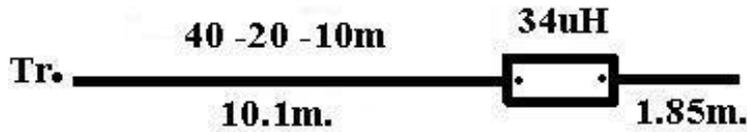
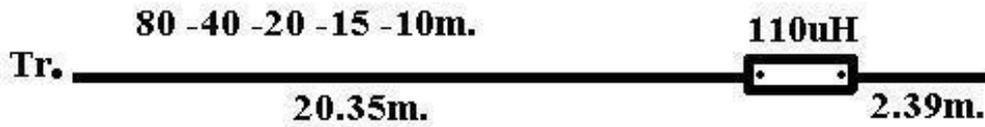
This is a 200 Watt PEP step up transformer for end fed full and half wave antennas without radials, designed as a 200 Watt PEP upgrade by PA0EJH for the originally Par Electronics designed 25 Watt HF end fed multiband end fed antenna. The original design has a 27/3 turn ratio (1 : 81) on a small 43 material toroid, but the larger toroid has more wire so the number of turns had to be reduced for max efficiency on 10m. The coil now has a 16/2 ratio (1: 64). For maximum performance the 2 turns to ground must be twisted. The 100-150pF capacitor gives a better match on 10m.and both windings start at the ground side of the coil .Don't try to stack toroids for more power for this will increase overall inductance. This makes it impossible to tune the high bands. The best results are obtained with a small toroid.....The 3 band antenna has a length of 10.1m. followed by a coil of about 34 µH (90 turns 1mm enamel wire on a 19mm PVC tube) and a end piece of 1.85m, offering you a perfect vertical or horizontal antenna for fieldwork at 40 -20 and 10m. There is also a 5 band version with 20.35m wire followed by a 110 - 120µH coil (about 260 turns 1mm enamelled wire on a 19mm PVC tube) and a 2.39m. end piece. This antenna works on 80 - 40 - 20 -15 and 10m.without radials and has a very low SWR combined with a low noise level. Keep in mind that every end fed / vertical needs some kind of counterpoise to push against and in this case that's the coax, so don't forget a line choke near to your transceiver.

**1:64 transformer
for end fed antennas
3.5 - 30 mHz**



The picture shows 1 turn to many in the secondary winding (**red**)





110uH coil : 260 turns 1mm. cul. 34uH coil : 90 turns 1mm. cul close wound on a 19mm pvc tube start tuning the long wire on the high bands.



Transformer made by Tony PA3GWO on a smaller FT140-43 toroid for max. 100 Watt pep

Update 2014-03-21

I live in an apartment on the first floor so you can imagine my antenna problems....

My balcony however is 10m long, so I mounted a horizontal end fed antenna without the coil, for 20-10m on the wooden window frame . Because of the capacity of the wood and the paint, overall length was reduced to aprox. 9m but provided a near 1:1 SWR on 20 and 10m.

First contact on 10m was with 5B4AHL (5-9) on Cyprus, followed by 9K2QA (5-9) in Kuwait and 4S7VG (5-8) in Sri-Lanka, despite a huge pile-up. This antenna is going to stay Hi! Hi!

**If you would like to contribute to your Club newsletter, or to contact me for any reason,
please use the address / Phone numbers below.**

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