

# Zululand Amateur Radio Club News

*The newsletter for the discerning Ham*

July 2017

## ZARC Committee

Chairman: Warren Snyders ZS5WOZ

Vice Chairman: Gerald Scrooby ZS5GS

Treasurer: Willie Axford ZS5WI

Secretary: Dawn Snyders ZS5ME

Ham Net: Mike Kramer ZS5MB

Editor: Jo Snyders ZS5PO

Member: Jan Erasmus ZS5G

Webmaster: Chantel Pelsler

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## Club Repeaters

Ntumeni 145.675 MHz

Empangeni 145.700

## Club Nets

There is also a club discussion net on Tuesday evenings at 18:30 on the 145.675 repeater  
Club Members Have A Schedule 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:** 29<sup>th</sup> October 2017 (**Sunday**)

**TIME:** Braai at ± 12:00, followed by the Meeting at ± 12:30

**QTH:** Tattenham Resort Gingindhlovu (29°02'39.23"S 031°35'12.60"E)

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

Club Web site: <http://zs5zlb.org.za/>

# Editor, Q.R.L.



Greetings & Salutations fellow members, I trust that this news letter finds you all in good health. The date of the next club meeting will be on the **29<sup>th</sup> of October 2017**. The venue will be **Tottenham Resort Gingindhlovu**. The Braai will take place at ± **12:00**, and the meeting at around **12:30**. Please make a note in your day books and diaries. The time for the meeting will be at **12:30**, giving everybody a chance to get there after Sunday morning commitments.

**Have you bought insurance to continue enjoying your hobby yet? SARL membership IS that insurance!!!  
Is your hobby worth R1.26 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 12<sup>th</sup>. John, ZS5J on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Rod, ZL1RK on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

**August:** Anne, ZS5FAB on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Melissa, daughter of Warren ZS5WOZ on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Bridget, daughter of Jo ZS5PO, on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

**September:** Chris, ZS6RI on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Ian, Partner of Chris ZS6RI on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

**October:** Willie, ZS5WI on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mike, ZS5MB on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Kiana, Daughter of John ZS5J on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

Many happy returns to all of you, and may you be spared for many more happy, healthy, years.

(If your birthday wishes do not appear here, it is because you have not informed me of your birth date).

### Get Well Soon



Dawn, ZS5ME still suffering from the flu. We wish her a speedy recovery.

## Club Happenings

### The Club AGM Meeting

Took place on **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> of July** at **The Eagle's Nest B/B & Restaurant** in Eshowe. Everybody seems to be happy regarding the choice of venue. Thirteen people, overall, attended the AGM. The Committee thanks all who attended.



### Competitions



**ZS5ZLB will be taking part in the Div 2 Sprint on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July.** Gerald, ZS5GS, will again be running the club station, ZS5ZLB on behalf of the club, Thank you very much Gerald!! If propagation allows, we will come up and add to the points.

## Packet

It was decided at the AGM to discontinue this service, due to the fact that nobody is making use of it anymore. It will be removed from the Ntumeni repeater site on our next trip to the repeater site.

## APRS

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](http://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.

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## Repeaters

**145.675:** This repeater is working, and the old Storno is doing its job, but the antennas need to be checked, as the thing is very “deaf”.

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

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## “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

Contact Gerald ZS5GS 073-543 6298



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## Home Brewers Hoekie



*The third and last charger schematic in a set of three*

### **3. Battery charger Using SCR**

An automatic battery charger circuit using SCR is implemented in this project. It can be used to charge 12V batteries. Batteries with different potentials like 6V and 9V can also be charged by choosing appropriate components. The working of the circuit is as follows.

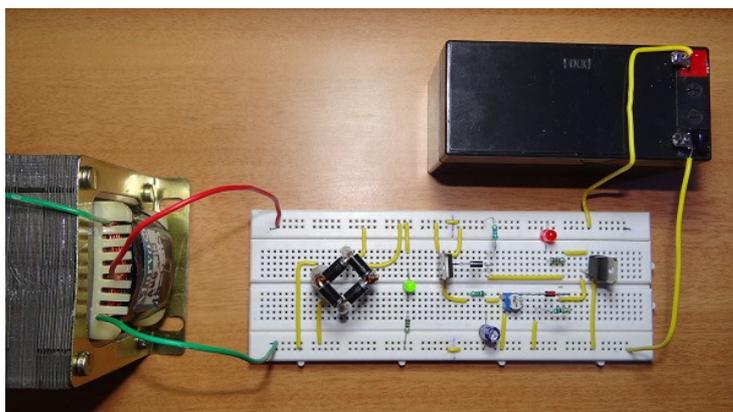
The AC supply is converted to 15V DC with the help of transformer and bridge rectifier and the Green LED is turned on. The DC output is a pulsating DC as there is no filter after the rectifier.

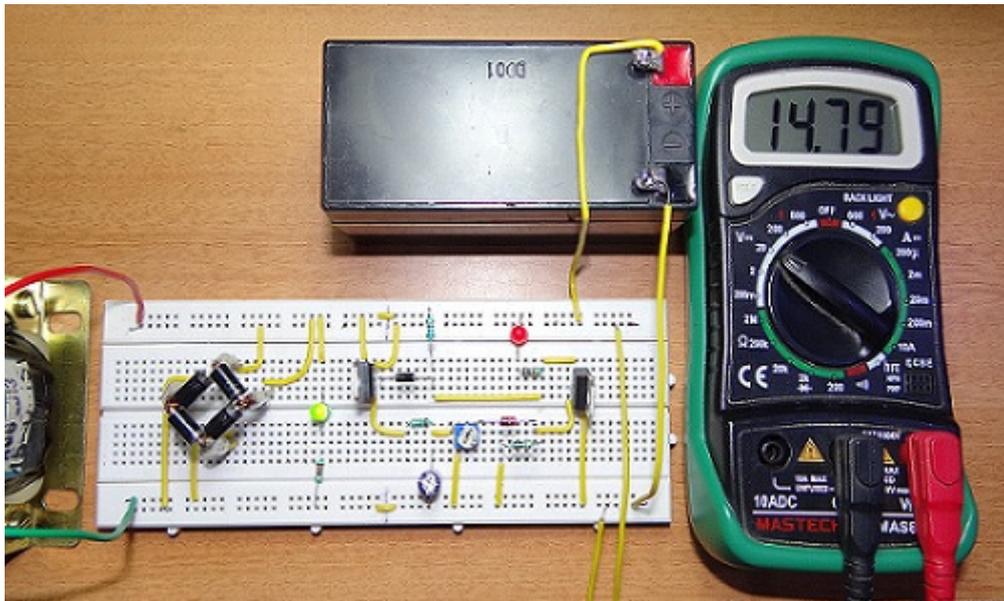
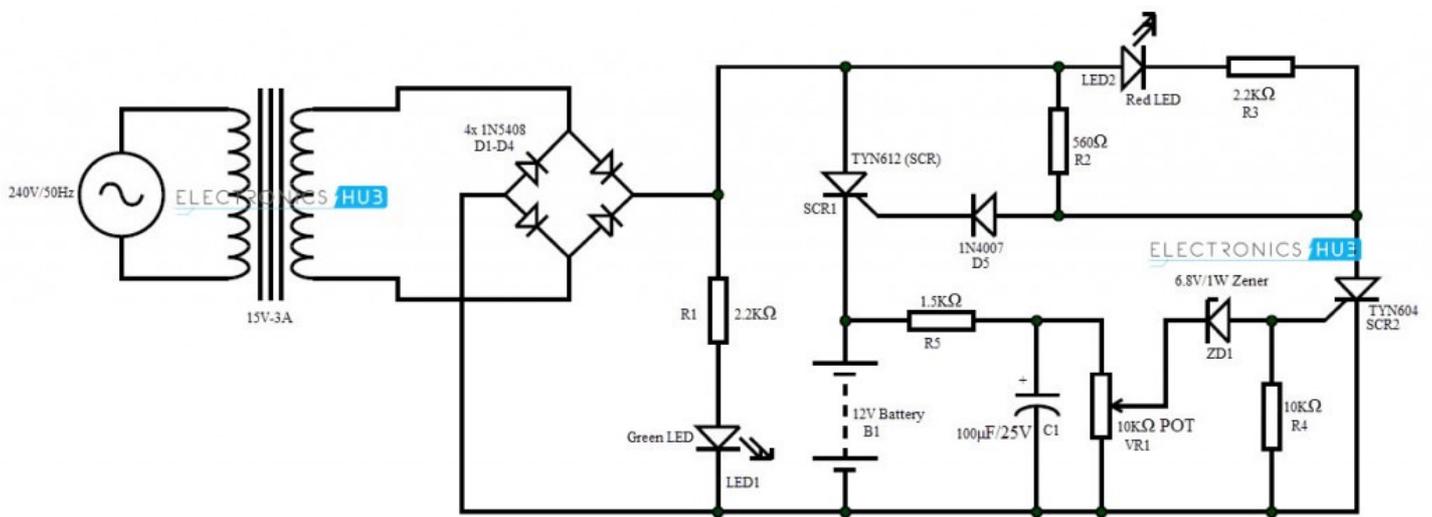
This is important as SCR stops conducting only when the supply voltage is 0 or disconnected from supply and it is possible only with pulsating DC.

Initially, SCR1 starts conducting as it receives a Gate voltage via R2 and D5. When SCR1 is conducting, 15V DC will flow through the battery and the battery starts to charge. When the charge on the battery is almost full, it opposes the flow of current and the current starts to flow via R5.

This is filtered with C1 and when the potential reaches 6.8V, Zener ZD1 starts conducting and supplies enough Gate voltage to SCR2 to turn it on.

As a result, the current flows through SCR2 via R2 and SCR1 is turned off as both gate voltage and supply voltage are cut off. The Red LED is turned on indicating a full charge on the battery.





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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