

Restoration News:

Should you know of anyone who may be busy restoring one of the old valve rigs, let us know. It may be of interest to the group to know what's out there and still working. Rod ZS5RK has just revived an old NCX-3. (see picture below, courtesy of RigPix.com), which worked well under testing. Made by National Company from the early 1960's it is a 20, 40 and 80m transceiver with 100 watts of output. Hope to hear you on the net with it soon Rod.



If you would like to forward this newsletter to any other interested parties, please feel free to do so. Print it out and put in on your club notice board, or give it to someone interested in valve radios. If you know of any who report in on the net but don't have email, print it out and give them a copy.

Remember net days and times:

Saturday 08:30 AM net - frequency – 7070Mhz

Saturday 09:00 SSB net – frequency 7070Mhz

Saturday 14:00 CW net – frequency 7020Mhz

Thanks for the bandwidth.

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net is run at 12 wpm and so should meet the needs of all interested in CW. 7020 is the frequency on Saturday afternoons at 14:00 SAST.

AM Net:

The AM net is doing quite well and there are more and more calling in on a regular basis, with everything from genuine valve driven double side band to plastic AM. It's great to see the enthusiasm that is being generated in this Ancient Mode, with conditions playing quite a large role in the ability to communicate. Please remember, those who don't call in on AM, that you may be able to hear the AM stations quite well on your SSB rig, but they cannot copy your SSB transmission. Moves are afoot to increase the transmission times of the AM net as half an hour is a bit short when the group gets quite big.

SSB Net:

It's really good to see how the net has grown over the past year and how the interest in valve rigs has grown. With regular callers from all over the country, using all sorts of valve equipment, this net can only increase in popularity. It's time to get those old rigs off the shelves and fire them up again. They weren't meant to be sitting on shelves looking pretty.

When calling in to the net, let us know what rig you are using.

Promotions:

The Radio Technology in Action which was held at Radiokop during the year, was quite well attended and John ZS6ABJ and myself took the opportunity of dragging along a bunch of antique rigs and test equipment to put on display. Alan also secured a 10 minute time slot at the end of the day to promote the AWA to all attending.

The RTA is now going to Durban and Cape Town with plans for other centers, according to the SARL news, which is a great opportunity to punt the AWA again. I don't think Durban will be a problem as there is such a large contingent of collectors from KZN, but we don't have too many followers from the Western Cape. Hopefully we can remedy that during the course of the year. I am sure there are a few collectors as we have seen some Collins equipment come out of the Cape.

I have agreed with Dennis Green, to send in a regular article from the AWA to be included in Radio ZS. Perhaps some of the more technically inclined pundits in the group, could send articles on valve equipment that we could put in Radio ZS. Restoration tips etc which could be useful to those with an interest in the old time equipment.

Should you feel so inclined, send us pictures of your shack that we could have them included in the articles, or in this newsletter.



Southern African Antique Wireless Association



ZS0AWA

JANUARY 2006



Good day gents and I hope that this little letter finds you in good health.

I am sending this out to all who have called in on the AWA net with the hopes that it will encourage you to call in again and help to keep the AWA net alive and well.

Unfortunately, at present I can only do this for those who have email, but perhaps in the future we could look at putting together a hard copy for those without email.

Hopefully, this little newsletter can become a regular item and we would certainly like to see communication amongst the listed callers, be they regular or not.

The Past Year:

Firstly I want to thank Rod Radford ZS5RK for his past presidency of the AWA. It was a good year and I believe that we achieved a few mile stones along the way. We have certainly made ourselves known amongst the Amateur radio fraternity and hope that we continue to do so.

To Willem ZS6ALL whom I am sure everybody knows by now, thanks Willem for doing an outstanding job of running the Saturday morning AM net and the SSB net.

To Alan, ZS6BIK, who has done so well at promoting the AWA, thanks too. Alan may not be heard on freq too much, but is always busy trying his hand at promoting the interests of the AWA somewhere.

John ZS6ABJ is new to the council, but not to the group and comes in as Technical Advisor. Welcome John. John has been involved in the restoration of a fair amount of valve rigs and has quite an interesting collection.

ZS0AWA/CW.



The CW net on Saturday afternoons has been quite well attended with calls from as little as 2, to as many as 8, and there seems to be a bunch of regulars who call in. For those of you interested in keeping your hand in at CW and keeping CW going, do come and join us. The