

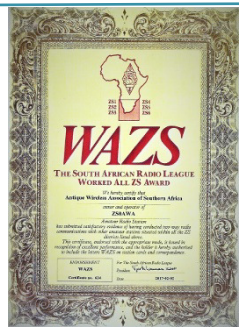


Newsletter

The Antique Wireless Association of Southern Africa

147

October 2018



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AWA Committee:

- * President and Western Cape—John ZS1WJ
- * VicePresident—Renato ZS6REN
- * Technical Advisor—Rad ZS6RAD
- * Secretary/PRO—Andy ZS6ADY
- * KZN—Don ZS5DR
- * Historian—Oliver ZS6OG
- * Member—Jacques ZS6JPS

Reflections:

What a year this has been. It seems that just yesterday we were starting off the New Year and now when we wipe the dust out of our eyes, its getting pretty close to that time of year again.

I do believe this has been a very successful year for the AWA. We have managed to get quite a few things done and our membership has grown tremendously since the same time last year.

Looking back we have managed to get our Saturday morning net out on various frequencies, 2m, 80m and Echolink. All very successfully I might add, making it possible for so many more to join in on the net.

We've had a few very good invitations to attend various fleamarkets and put up stands. Attended two very successful opportunities to advertise the AWA and show off our old radios.

The downturn in 40m cer-

tainly made us look in to better ways of getting ourselves out there, and that is exactly what we did.

It may sound like I'm blowing a trumpet here, and that's exactly what I am doing.

It has been said to me by someone outside of the AWA that we must have a winning recipe, because we have to be seen as the biggest club on the SA list, and that we are.

There are so many reasons for this and I don't think any one person or thing can take all the credit because they all mix together to form a pretty good concoction.

One thing that has to be said for us is the dedication that is shown by all who are involved in the AWA. When the buttons are pushed, everyone climbs in and adds their bits and pieces.

With our AGM coming up soon, please try and make an effort to join us on the day. Its not just an AGM, its an eyeball QSO and time to meet up with friends you haven't seen in a while. Look around for some of those illusive bits and pieces that you haven't been able to find. Go home with an antique to display in your shack.

Of course the Museum at the SAIEE is always worth visiting and hopefully we can get in to see the old observatory, which is well worth the effort.

Many good reasons to attend, so please join us and make a day to enjoy yourself.

Lots to talk about, and lots to do. And then there's the braai afterwards....

Best 73

DE Andy ZS6ADY

TRIBUTE TO ARNO DU PLESSIS KNOWN AS "DUPPIE" ZS6BDD.—by Sakkie ZS6BPQ

Duppie became SK on 5th August 2018 after a long battle with diabetes since 1983. He was licenced in 1960 and was well known amongst the Radio Amateur community in South Africa as well as abroad. I met him at the East Rand Radio club in the year of 1970 and soon realised he is a gentle man of high standard and integrity.

As the years went on we became very good friends and as I walked a long journey with Duppie it became well clear that he practice good "HAM" spirit where the statement HAM means "HELP ALL MANKIND" which he surely did. It gave him pleasure to help his fellow radio amateurs with radio equipment and various accessories that they needed to enjoy our wonderful hobby as much as he did.

He had a very good sense of humour and could not wait if the occasion arose to pull tricks on his fellow radio friends. He also had a serious side of life and could soon see if things are not going well with you. A big lesson learned from him was that when a friend comes up in your mind please make contact with him and you will find that person is in need of help!! Make a phone call and see where you can render help or assistance for a friend, and he would state "Do So" it all comes back to you with interest.



HF Happenings:

South African Radio League 80 m QSO Party

The aim of these contests is to create an interest in and activity on the 80-m band. It is a phone only contest and runs from 17:00 to 20:00 UTC on Thursday 4 October 2018.

You earn 10 points for every QSO with a South African station and 15 points for every QSO with a station outside South Africa. Log sheets in MS Excel format ONLY shall be submitted by 11 October 2018 by e-mail to 27796600008@vodamail.co.za. PLEASE take note that the e-mail address has changed!

The Antique Wireless Association Valve QSO Party

The AM QSO Party runs from 13:00 to 17:00 UTC on Saturday 6 October 2018 and the SSB QSO Party runs from 13:00 to 17:00 UTC on Sunday 7 October 2017 with activity on 40 metres: 7 063 to 7 100 kHz and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz and 80 metres: 3 603 to 3 650 kHz.

The log sheets must be submitted by Monday 22 October 2018 to andyzs6ady@vodamail.co.za. Certificates will be awarded to the first three places in each category – AM and SSB.

"Get Your Park On" Operating Event Set for October

(ARRL Newsletter, edited)

What is hoped will be the first annual "Get Your Park ON" operating event will take place from 14 to 20 October in celebration of Earth Science Week. The event is open to Amateur Radio operators around the world and is sponsored by the national affiliates of World Wide Flora and Fauna (WWFF), which encourages radio amateurs to operate outdoors in protected nature parks.

During this on-the-air celebration, amateurs can participate in one of two ways. You can opt to be an Activator, setting up and operating in national and provincial as listed in the Southern African Fauna and Flora list found at <https://zsaunaandflora.wordpress.com/>. Or you may decide to be a Hunter, operating from home and searching out and contacting the Activators. The week-long special event is reminiscent of the ARRL's popular National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) event in 2016. "Get Your Park ON" begins at 00:00 UTC on Sunday 14 October and continues to 23:59 UTC on Saturday 20 October. Visit the "Get Your Park ON" Facebook page for more information.

The ZSFF listing has been updated with 14 new parks. If you are aware of a nature Reserve or game reserve not on the list, please provide me with the name and the lat/long coordinates and I will add it to the list. Send the information to zs4bs@netactive.co.za

African DX

Contacts with stations on the African continent count towards the SARL's All Africa Award (www.sarl.org.za/public/awards/awards.asp)

Chad, TT. Ken, LA7GIA will be active as TT8KO from N'Djamena, Chad between 9 and 21 October. He will operate CW and some SSB on 160 to 10 metres. QSL via M0OXO's OQRS and LoTW; log search on Club Log. See <http://la7gia.com/> for more information.

Ceuta and Melilla, EA9. Haru, JA1XGI will be operating as EA9/W1XGI from to 22 October on HF using CW and FT8. QSL via Club Log OQRS, LoTW or via JA1XGI.

Côte d'Ivoire, TU. Bertrand, DF3FS, will once again be active as TU5MH from the Ivory Coast or Côte d'Ivoire between 20 and 29 October. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via DF3FS or LoTW. Also, QSL requests via ClubLog's OQRS (your card not needed). Please do not send your QSL via Bureau,

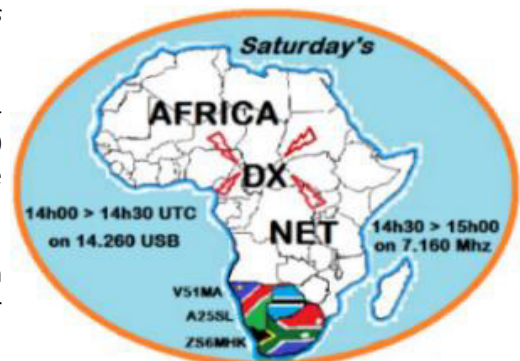
Calendar:

October

1 – closing date for Africa All Mode logs
 4 – SARL 80 m QSO Party
 6 – East Rand Branch Flea Market
 6 and 7 – the AWA Valve QSO Party
 9 – Provincial schools open
 11 – closing date for 80 m QSO logs
 11 to 13 – The Groot Plaasproe, Stellenbosch
 13 – October RAE; the Spring QRP Contest; Voet van Afrika Marathon, Bredasdorp
 14 to 20 – "Get Your Park ON" event
 19 to 21 – Jamboree on the Air; Talana Live, Dundee; Herman Charles Bosman Weekend, Groot Marico
 20 – CQ Hou Koers
 21 – National Garden Day
 27 and 28 – CQ WW DX SSB Contest; Cape Town ARC Meeting; Pretoria ARC Flea Market; International Kite Festival, Muizenberg

November

3 – RaDAR Challenge
 10 - Closing date for RaDAR logs
 10 and 11 – SARL VHF/UHF Analogue Contest
 11 – Remembrance Sunday. *At approximately 05:00 on Monday, 11 November 1918, 100 years ago, the Armistice was signed in a railway carriage of Marshall Foch's special train located in the forest at Rethondes in France on the western front. At 11:00 on this Monday, the 11th November 1918, the roar of guns ceased, peace and silence finally descended on the western front, ending the First World War. It is estimated that close to 9,5 million soldiers, sailors and airmen of all sides died in the Great War.*
 14 - World Diabetes Day
 16 to 18 – Cherry Festival, Ficksburg
 16 and 17 – Steam Weekend at Sandstone Estate, Ficksburg



use the OQRS system from ClubLog for confirmation via the Bureau.

Malawi, 7Q. Dan, K6ZO will once again be active as 7Q6M from Embangweni between 23 and 29 October with activity on 160 to 10 metres with an entry in the CQ WW DX SSB contest. QSL via home call.

Tanzania, 5H. Maurizio, IK2GZU will once again be operating as 5H3MB between 24 October and 28 November (mission for work in the Ilembula orphanage and hospital). Operation will be during his spare time on HF using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via bureau, direct or Club Log

Liberia, EL. Col MM0NDX and Jonathan MM0OKG plans to be active again as EL2EL during early November. Operation on various bands using SSB and FT8. More to follow.

Lesotho, 7P. Rune, LA7THA and team will be operating the first part of March 2019. They are looking at approximately 10 days of operation with the focus on the low bands. More to follow.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Reunion Island, FR and Mayotte, FH. Willi, DJ7RJ informs that he will be active from Reunion for 3 weeks (9 to 27 October) and 1 week from Mayotte (29 October to 6 November). Operation on the low bands preferred. QSL via home call, direct or bureau.



Liberia, EL. Eric, EL2EF, Col, MM0NDX and Jonathan, MM0OKG will be operating as EL2EL/4 during early November 2018. Telengbe Isl (IOTA AF-111) is a new IOTA, the activity is depending the weather and sea conditions.

Madagascar, 5R. Alex K2BB and Pavel UU0JR are looking for other ops to join them to form a team for a DXpedition to Nosy Be Island, AF-057 during the period 19 to 29 November. Operation from 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and digital. The call 5R8T requested but not yet confirmed. Contact Alex if you are interested... alex.k2bb@gmail.com

Senegal, 6W. Alfredo, IK7JWX and team are planning a humanitarian DXpedition for 10 days in November 2018 to Carabane Island (IOTA AF-078). The callsign is pending. More to follow.

Senegal, 6W. Operators John, 6W7JX, Ouzin, 6W1PZ, Tafa, 6W1KI, Jul, 6W1QL and possibly others will once again be active as 6V1A from Goree Island (IOTA AF-045) between 7 and 9 December. Activity will be on CW and SSB on all bands using a FT-1000 and Icom 7300 with 150 watts into dipoles and a G5RV/Kelemen. QSL info see QRZ.com.

Sierra Leone, 9L. Members of the Radio Club de Provins (F6KOP) have announced their next DXpedition will be to Banana Island (IOTA AF-037), in Sierra Leone, sometime during January or February of 2019. Look for more details to be forthcoming. Also watch www.f6kop.com/2018/09/23/la-prochaine-expedition-de-f6kop-sera-en



Electrolytic Rebuild

I recently tested a 1960's vintage Yeasu FT 200 power supply using a variac.

After some time at lower supply voltages I took the supply up to 240 volts.

Testing the various rails all appeared to be in order.

I left the power supply running on load for over an hour.

Suddenly there was a crack, the mains fuse blew.

Testing I found one of the electrolytic capacitors had gone short circuit.

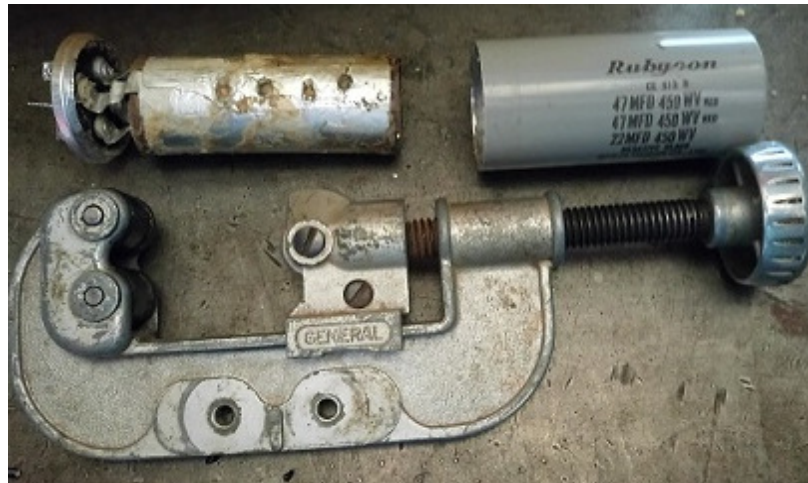
The capacitor was one of three in a can, 47 uF 450 volt.

The rail voltage was just 300 volts and I had several 47 uF 400 volt radial electrolytic's.

One of the three capacitors in the can was just 22 uF but as I only had the 47 uF's that had to provide a solution. I decided to rebuild the electrolytic with the more modern and smaller 47 uF's

Here are the rebuild steps:-

1. Cut open the can using a tube cutter, clean the debris and burs from inside the can..



2. Recover the solder tags from the capacitor and make up an insulating disk for the bottom of the can.



Using screws and additional solder tags assemble the replacement electrolytic's on the disk.



Here is the finished rebuild ready to go back into the power supply.



Bill ZS6WP

Antique Wireless Association Valve QSO Party

1. Aim

The aim of the AWA Valve QSO party is to create activity on the 40 and 80 metre bands. It is a phone only contest using AM and SSB. Preferably, valve radios or radios with valves in them may be used.

2. Date and Time

2.1 AM QSO Party

13:00 to 17:00 UTC Saturday 6 October 2018

2.2 SSB QSO Party

13:00 to 17:00 UTC Sunday 7 October 2017

3. Frequencies

3.1 40 metres: 7 063 to 7 100 kHz and 7 130 to 7 200 kHz

3.2 80 metres: 3 603 to 3 650 kHz

4. Power

The output power may not exceed 100 w, unless the rig itself has a higher output power (FTDX400, etc.)

5. Exchange

Call sign, RS report, a consecutive serial numbers starting at 001 and the type of radio used, e.g. HT37 TX.

6. Scoring (Your radio)

All valve radio: 3 points per contact Hybrid radio: 2 points per contact Solid State Radio: 1 point per contact

7. Log Sheets

The log sheets must be submitted by Monday 22 October 2018 to

andyzs6ady@vodamail.co.za.

Certificates will be awarded to the first three places in each category – AM and SSB



AWA Activities

On Saturday 29th September we had two activities taking place at opposite ends of the country.

In Johannesburg, we were invited to give an intro of the AWA and restoration to the Sandton Club. This was attended by Renato ZS6REN (Vice President), Rad ZS6RAD, Oliver ZS6OG and Andy ZS6ADY.

There were a few of the AWA members who attended this presentation and all in all it was quite a successful day with about 30 people attending and a display of antiques put up by Oliver, Henry ZS6MC, and Kevin ZS6KAT.

Mike ZS6MSW, from the Sandton club made a video of the presentation and posted it on the AWA Facebook page (which I have completely ignored to advertise because I have to keep it updated). But now I suppose I have to.

Henry ZS6MC welcomed us as a member of the Sandton Club and a brief history of the Awa was presented by Andy ZS6ADY. Rad ZS6RAD then gave a presentation on restoration of rigs and some of the pitfalls encountered. Oliver gave a short informative presentation about making replacement knobs and feet for radios that one can no longer find.

Our thanks of course to Sandton Club for the invitation and the opportunity to tell them all about the AWA.



AWA Activities

Then down in the Western Cape, John ZS1WJ (our esteemed President) and Fred ZS1ZV, and I believe a few others, whose names I do not have, attended a Veterans Expo in Stellenbosch and put up a stand with a working display for all to see.

Of course the gremlins always strike with things like this. John tells us that shortly after making a few contacts on frequency, the organizers came and complained that they were upsetting the PA system with their transmission. It has to be the Ham's fault because it always is.

Anyway we are told there was a lot of interest in the station and display as it was.

Congrats to all who helped out there.



AWA AGM

Notice is given for the 2018 AGM of the Antique Wireless Association of Southern Africa to be held on Saturday 10th November 2018 at the premises of the SAIEE in Observatory Johannesburg.

There will be a fleamarket and open display as well as free access to the SAIEE museum.

The SAIEE shack will be available for use.

Times will be from 09:00 until 15:00 with the AGM held at approximately 10:00, thereafter fleamarket and braai facilities and eyeball QSO. Bring along all your valuable junk that you wish to dispose of at the fleamarket.

The Shack will be on air from 08:30 running the AWA SSB net.

Should you wish to bring your own meat and refreshments, please feel free to do so, otherwise meat packs and cold drinks will be on sale. Please let Andy ZS6ADY know if you would be interested in a meat pack, for planning purposes.

Tickets for the Valve Amplifier book will be available before the AGM, the draw will take place at the end of the AGM.

We look forward to seeing many of you there.



Valve Amplifiers Explained

We have a copy of Valve Amplifiers Explained, by John Fielding ZS5JF up for grabs.

This book will be raffled at R20 per entry and is to be drawn at the 2018 AGM.

To enter, you can deposit R20 into the following account and send us proof of payment and your name will be put into the draw. Please use your call sign as reference when making the deposit.

Account Name: A G Cairns
Standard Bank
Benoni
Acc No: 225334119

The following is the preface from the book:

This new book by John Fielding ZS5JF, is for everyone who uses - or is considering using - an HF or VHF linear amplifier. While some amateurs may be of the opinion that valves are an obsolete technology and semiconductors are a better way, John Fielding very definitely thinks otherwise! After reading this book you will be under no illusions that, in his opinion, valves are far superior to semiconductor devices for most linear amplifier applications. As he says, "When you need real power and very good linearity, a valve is very hard to beat."

Essential reading for anyone building a valve linear amplifier, the author guides the reader through the choice of valves for various purposes. Valve Amplifiers Explained starts with a chapter on basic valve theory and explains how to inter-

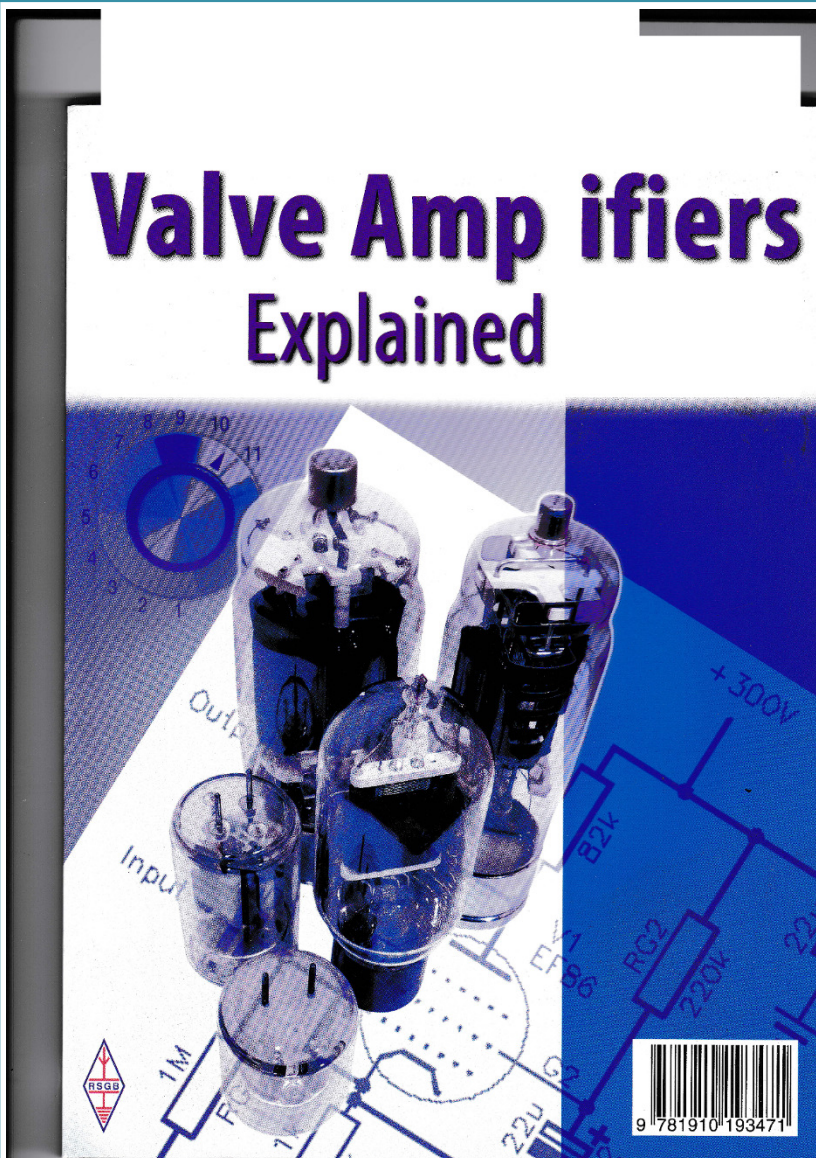
pret valve characteristic curves. The various classes of operation of amplifiers - Class A, Class B, Class AB1, Class AB2 and Class C - are all covered in detail. The relative merits of grounded cathode and grounded grid amplifiers are discussed and a chapter is devoted to the causes of distortion in valve amplifiers - and how to avoid such distortion. The author explains that linearity is primarily a function of the power dissipation of the device and the supply voltage and he devotes a whole chapter to good power supply design. The various protection circuits that an amplifier should have are also covered. While the

book is equally relevant to HF and VHF enthusiasts, a chapter is devoted specifically to the design of VHF RF power amplifiers. Another chapter even discusses liquid cooling of valve amplifiers.

There is advice too for those who, instead of building an amplifier, are considering purchasing a commercially-made linear. Those who use commercial linear amplifiers and want to understand more about how they work will not be disappointed.

As John says, "There is a certain aura about valve equipment. The glowing filaments and the gentle buzz of a high voltage power supply are a sort of magic few have had the pleasure of knowing." After reading Valve Amplifiers Explained you will want to join that elite few!

(You can also give your donation to any of the Committee at any gatherings where you may meet up with them and they can pass on the money to the account. Be sure to give your name and call sign.)



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www.awasa.org.za

**Antique Wireless Association
of Southern Africa**

Mission Statement

Our aim is to facilitate, generate and maintain an interest in the location, acquisition, repair and use of yesterday's radio's and associated equipment. To encourage all like minded amateurs to do the same thus ensuring the maintenance and preservation of our amateur heritage.

Membership of this group is free and by association. Join by logging in to our website.

Notices:**Net Times and Frequencies (SAST):**

Saturday 06:00 (04:00 UTC) —AM Net—3615
Saturday 07:00 (05:00 UTC) —Western Cape SSB Net— 3630
Saturday 08:30 (06:30 UTC)— National SSB Net— 7140; Sandton repeater 145.700
Echolink—ZS0AWA-L; ZS6STN-R
Relay on 3615 for those having difficulty with local skip conditions.
Saturday 14:00 (12:00 UTC)— CW Net—7020; (3550 after 15 min if band conditions not good on 40)
Wednesday 19:00 (17:00 UTC) — AM Net—3615, band conditions permitting.

WANTED:

I am looking for the plug in keyer unit for a Yaesu FT736 VHF/UHF transceiver.
If you have one and don't use it, I would love to take it off your hands.

Andy ZS6ADY 0824484368 or email.