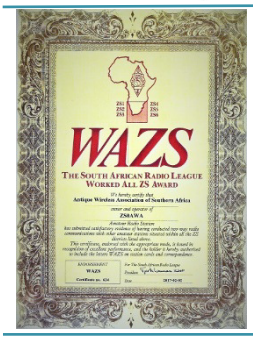
# Newsletter

The Antique Wireless Association of Southern Africa

# 148

November 2018


A Member of the SARL




Inside this issue:



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 an exciting time this last month has been on the CW Scene.

With the few new guys having got to a stage where they believed they were ready to start having QSO's, real live QSO's, it has started a whole bunch of call signs getting active again on the bands.

Mike ZS6MSW, Sean ZS6SR, Graeme ZR6GAK, Max ZS6MAX and Eric ZS5EL, started doing basic calls of CW and giving reports. Then somebody heard them and wanted to know more about them and the CW group on WhatsApp. The long and the short of it is that there are now a whole group of CW'ers playing on 40 and 80 meters in the late afternoons. (See the article in this Newsletter).

What these guys have achieved is certainly nothing new in the annals of amateur radio, there are many hams still actively using CW as an only means of communication. But what and why they have done it is a remarkable story.

To think that in this day and age, there would still be some guys who were willing to lay it all down and learn CW, when they didn't have to, makes it even more noteworthy.

I think there are still many who can well remember the days when we had to do CW for your first year, or make 100 contacts. Well can I remember my time spent on a straight key, working my HT37 with SX100 receiver. In those days there were many CW enthusiasts still around and calling CQ on the band would nearly always get a reply.

After years of continuing to play CW and only ever hearing a handful of call signs, now there are some new kids on the block and it would seem they have spurred some of the those who have not touched keys in a while, to start using them again.

In these poor conditions when it is sometimes so difficult to hear an SSB station, CW cuts through the noise and gives a pretty good signal. As we all know.

I salute these guys for their tenacity and for hanging in there. For some it has been an easy ride, for others it has been difficult, but none of them have given up. Spurred on by the fact that they now have a new mode of operating they can only go from strength to strength.

We look forward to hearing more of them on frequency.

Best 73

DE Andy ZS6ADY

# WIKIPEDIA

**Modes of communication**:
Amateurs use a variety of voice, text, image, and data communications modes over radio. Generally new modes can be tested in the amateur radio service, although national regulations may require disclosure of a new mode to permit radio licensing authorities to monitor the transmissions. Encryption, for example, is not generally permitted in the Amateur Radio service except for the special purpose of satellite vehicle control uplinks. The following is a partial list of the modes of communication used, where the mode includes both modulation types and operating protocols.
**Amplitude modulation** (**AM**) is a modulation technique used in electronic communication, most commonly for transmitting information via a radio carrier wave. In amplitude modulation, the amplitude (signal strength) of the carrier wave is varied in proportion to that of the message signal being transmitted. The message signal is, for example, a function of the sound to be reproduced by a loudspeaker, or the light intensity of pixels of a television screen. This technique contrasts with frequency modulation, in which the frequency of the carrier signal is varied, and phase modulation, in which its phase is varied. AM was the earliest modulation method used to transmit voice by radio. It was developed during the first quarter of the 20th century beginning with Landell de Moura and Reginald Fessenden's radiotelephone experiments in 1900.[1] It remains in use today in many forms of communication; for example it is used in portable two-way radios, VHF aircraft radio, citizens band radio, and in computer modems in the form of QAM. *AM* is often used to refer to mediumwave AM radio broadcasting

## HF Happenings:

### QSL WRTC 2018

The QSL cards have been ordered, but "please don't send paper QSL cards to us", Chris, DL1MGB says. "Neither to me nor to anyone else in the Organizing Committee. We don't collect them, we don't need them". All of the QSOs made by the 63 stations that competed in the World Radiosport Team Championship on 14 and 15 July 2018 (Y81A, Y81D, Y81K, Y81M, Y81N, Y81R, Y81U, Y82A, Y82B, Y82D, Y82F, Y82G, Y82K, Y82L, Y82M, Y82N, Y82V, Y82W, Y83B, Y83C, Y83K, Y83L, Y83O, Y83P, Y83U, Y83V, Y83X, Y83Z, Y84B, Y84C, Y84G, Y84J, Y84O, Y84P, Y84Q, Y84W, Y84X, Y84Y, Y84Z, Y86C, Y86J, Y86O, Y86P, Y86Q, Y86V, Y86W, Y86Y, Y87B, Y87C, Y87G, Y87K, Y87L, Y87M, Y87O, Y87U, Y87V, Y87W, Y89A, Y89D, Y89M, Y89N, Y89R and Y89U) have been uploaded to Club Log, and the OQRS has been activated for both bureau and direct cards. In early October the logs were also uploaded to LoTW. Missing QSOs should be reported to contact@wrtc2018.de.

### IOTA: New Groups

IOTA Management announced on 31 August on the IOTA website the five yearly review of the Directory list of IOTA groups and is grateful to proposers of some 28 candidate groups received by the 1 October deadline. On 14 October IOTA General Manager Roger Balister, G3KMA announced the first tranche of 6 new groups at the RSGB Convention:

1. EU-192 SM/OH Kataja Island, Finland/Sweden (= Kataja) 65.41-65.43 N 24.07-24.11 E. New 'split sovereignty island', located in the very north of the Gulf of Bothnia. Since the signing of a bilateral agreement in 1809 ground rise has caused the Swedish island Kataja and the smaller Finnish island Inakari to merge forming a larger island 2 km long. The border between Sweden and Finland now crosses the island, similar to Market Reef. No known previous amateur radio activity.
2. OC-297 FO Morane Atoll, Tuamotu Islands, French Polynesia (= Morane) 23.05S-23.15 S 137.05-137.11 W. New 'remote island' group. This island, previously an outlier of the OC-113 Actaeon group, lies a distance of at least 153 km from Maria Est Island, the nearest island in the rest of the Tuamotus. No known previous amateur radio activity.
3. NA-249 KP3, 4 Puerto Rico's Coastal Islands, Puerto Rico (= Caja de Muertos, Culebra, Culebrita, Mona, Monito, Vieques) 17.48-18.40 N 065.09-068.00 W. New 'coastal islands' group. Justified on the grounds that Puerto Rico is of a similar size to Corsica which has a coastal islands sub-group. Some 5 previous operations, 3 from Vieques, and 1 each from Culebra and Mona.
4. NA-250 KL Yakutat County Group, Coastal Groups, United States (Alaska) (= Fitzgerald, Gregson, Khantaak, Knight, Kriwoi, Krutoi, Otmeloi) 58.48-60.00 N 137.56-141.00 W. New 'coastal islands' group, created by splitting the current NA-161 Skagway-Yakutat County group. It can be justified on the grounds that the qualifying islands in both groups are separated by at least 250 km and the two administrative counties can be easily split. No known previous amateur radio activity.
5. AS-205 R0X Bering Sea Coast East group, Koryanskiy Avtonomnyy Okrug, Russian Federation - Asia (= Yoanna Bogoslova, Vasiliya Islands) 57.20-61.49 N 168.00-174.30 E. New 'coastal islands' group, created by splitting the current AS-064 Bering Sea Coast group. Bogoslova Island lies 460 km away in a straight line from Verkhoturova Island, and 485 km away from Karaginskiy Island, the only two island counters of this group. The Vasiliya Islands are further away. This distance spread in a group is quite exceptional. We allowed AS-091 in a neighbouring area to be split in July 2014, the separation being 500 km or more. No known previous amateur radio activity.
6. AS-204 R0F Kuril'skiye Islands North, Sakhalinskaya Oblast', Russian Federation-Asia (= Atlasov, Shumshu, Paramushir, Antsiferova, Makanrushi, Onekotan, Kharimkotan, Chirinkotan, Ekarma, Shiashkotan, Raikoke, Matua, Rasshua, Ushishir, Ketoy, Simushir) 46.40-51.00 N 151.30-156.38 E. A new group, created by splitting AS-025 Kuril'skiye Islands into 2. The islands extend over a distance of more than 1 200 km. Adverse comparisons are made with the Aleutian Island Chain and the Hawai-

## Calendar:

### October

27 and 28 – CQ WW DX SSB Contest; Cape Town ARC Meeting; Pretoria ARC Flea Market; International Kite Festival, Muizenberg

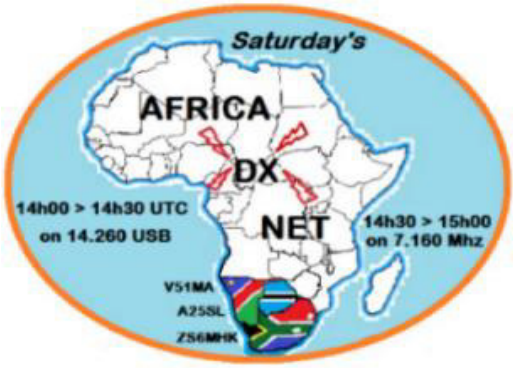
### November

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
19 - Closing date for PEARS HF logs and VHF/UHF Analogue logs
22 – articles for the December Radio ZS
23 - Cape Town ARC End of Year Function at the club house
24 - SARL Newbie Sprint and the West Rand ARC Flea Market
24 and 25 – the CQ WW DX CW Contest; Origin of Trails MTD, Stellenbosch
28 – Stellenbosch Street Soirees

ian Island Chain where there are many separate IOTA Groups. Some information sources specify North and South Kurils as sub-groups. Most activity has been from the South Group.
All new groups have provisional numbers. This means that they will need to be confirmed by an operation taking place after 14 October 2018 that meets the 1 000 QSO and other normal validation requirements. Only after confirmation of the number will credit for past operations be considered. A second tranche will be announced at Ham Radio Friedrichshafen 2019.

## 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, TT8KO. Operated by LA7GIA, TT8KO stopped transmissions at 17:45 UTC on 10 October, when the national security police shut down his station pending an equipment inspection. "My gear has been disconnected. The antennas on the roof are locked down. I am not allowed to touch anything", Ken reported on 13 October. As there was no sign of an improvement in the situation, Ken decided to return home earlier than planned. On 18 October, however, he reported that "a police order has been issued preventing me from leaving Chad, even without equipment. Status of my return flight has changed to 'open'. The Norwegian embassy and Foreign ministry are now working on the issue". Original plans were for Ken to be active until 21 October.
Then on Friday, Ken posted the following on FaceBook: "Finally I got this working. No social media for 1 week. Last night I was informed that a police order has been issued preventing me from leaving TT, even w/o equipment. Status of my return flight has changed to "open". The Norwegian embassy and foreign ministry are now working on the issue. I get many emails every day from DXers around the world with kind words, it keeps the spirit up - thanks! Hotel staff also very supportive. Still waiting." 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 during his spare time on HF using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via bureau, direct or Club Log OQRS.

Zimbabwe, Z2. A team from 20 operators with Antonio, IZ8CCW as leader and Gabriele, I2VGW as co-leader will be active as Z23MD from 26 October until 6 November. Focus will be on the low bands, WARC bands and digital modes. They will be active with 5 stations nonstop. http://www.mdxc.org/z23md/. Z2FF-0026 Mbizi Game Park and Lodge
Burkina Faso, XT2. Peter, S54W, Janko, S57L, Robert, S58Y, Rado, S59ZZ and Tine, S50A will be active as XT2SZZ from Bobo Dioulasso between 22 and 30 October. Activity will be on various HF bands and 6 metres as well. The Slovenian team will also participate in the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (27 and 28 October) as a Multi-Single/Low- Power entry. QSL via S59ZZ.
Kenya, 5Z. Scott, WA5A, is once again active as 5Z4/WA5A from Ruaka until 7 November. Activity will be holiday style on 40, 20 and 15 metres using mainly SSB. QSL via his home callsign.

Malawi, 7Q. Susan, W7KFI, will be joining Don, K6ZO, to be active as 7Q7M and 7Q6M, respectively, from Embangweni Mission Hospital, in Northern Malawi, late November for the CQ WW DX CW Contest. Susan said that she will be there for 8 days (specific days were not mentioned). She also mentioned that Don will put up a 6 element 20 metre beam on top of 65 ft. tower while there and hopes to build a world class contest station for future use. Activity will be on 160 - 10 metres, but they will be concentrating on 20 m (14 036 kHz) and 40 m (7 036 kHz) outside the CQ WW DX CW Contest (24 and 25 November). Remember to look for them in the contest. QSL 7Q6M via K6ZO. QSL 7Q7M via Susan's instructions.
Added Note: You may remember Susan, W7KFI, who is about 83 and was the Skipper of her own sailboat called "USSV DHARMA" stationed in Hawaii. She planned to activate Johnston Island (KH3) in 2011 but had engine problems and then some health issues. She is now living in Gulfport, Ms.

## 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
Tristan da Cunha, ZD9CW. Update by PJ4DX "I have just had a chat with Steve ZD9CW (G4EDG) on 15 m SSB. He asked me to let DX outlets know that due to difficulties with the internet he is only able to upload his log to Club Log every other day. He said he has been spending quite a lot of time on RTTY as there is where ZD9 is most needed. When I spoke to Steve he was running his IC-7000 barefoot as RF was getting into his logging computer when using the Tokyo Hy-Power amplifier. Steve recently changed QTH on the island and

at the moment has antennas for all bands from 15 m to 40 m. He said he would try to make an 80 m inverted-L but the constant very strong wind makes this difficult".
Madeira, CT9. Helmut, DF7ZS (http://df7zs.de/) will be active as CT9/DF7ZS (QSL via home call, log search on Club Log) from Madeira (AF-014) between 23 and 29 October. He will participate in the CQ WW DX SSB Contest as CQ3W (QSL via LoTW and Club Log's OQRS only).

Maderia, CR3. Members of the Slovak Contest Group (OM8A Contest Team) will be active as CR3DX from Madeira Island during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (27 and 28 October) as a Multi-Single/High-Power entry. QSL via OM2VL, direct or by the Bureau. Operators mentioned are Rastislav, OM3BH, Jozef, OM3GI, Branislav, OM2KW and Tibor, OM3RM.
Canary Islands, ED8. Salvador, EA7FQB, Al, EA7JR, Cristobal, EA7RU, Manolo, EA7LL, Maria, EA8LF, Santiago, EA8DFB, Manuel, EA8DO and Miroslav, OM5RW will be active as ED8W from La Palma Island (AF-004) during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (27 and 28 October) Multi-? entry. QSL via EA8DO or LoTW.

Sao Tome, S9. Jorge, CT1BOL, will once again be active as S9CT, but from Principe Island (AF-044) between 24 and 29 October. Activity will be holiday style on various HF bands with 100 watts. He also plans to be in the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (27 and 28 October) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via his home callsign, LoTW or ClubLog's OQRS.

Maderia, CR3. David, CT1DRB, Laszlo, HA3NU, Rastislav, OM3BH, Jozef, OM3GI, Tibor, OM3RM and Peter, OM7LW will be active as CR3DX from Porto Moniz, Madeira Island, during the CQ WW DX CW Contest (24 and 25 November) as a Multi-? entry. QSL via OM2VL.

### 3Y0I Bouvet Island

The 3Y0I DXpedition to Bouvet Island is "planned for the southern hemisphere's summer time", but "exact dates will be announced when closer to our departure". For the time being, they have posted their band plan (160 - 6 metres, CW, SSB and FT8 Fox & Hound mode) to the DXpedition's website (see below). The team includes 3Z9DX, SP3DOI, SP7VC, SP8S (ex SQ8X) and YU4DX. Plans are to "install a camp and ham radio equipment at the ice cap covering 93% of Bouvet". If "we are lucky with weather", they say, "our stay at the island will last for 2 weeks". Bookmark https://bouvetoya.org/ for more information and updates.
This past week the Rebel DX Group announced their 3Y0I band plan – frequencies and modes they will use while operating from Bouvet Island. The information can be found at https://www.rebeldxgroup.com and https://bouvetoya.org/3yoi-bandplan. As this was being written, there are no specific days announced other than "the southern hemisphere's summer is coming soon." For more details and updates, watch https://bouvetoya.org, https://www.facebook.com/bouvetoya.org and https://twitter.com/Bouvetoyaorg

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## Results of the AWA Valve QSO Party October 2018

Following are the results from the second leg of the Valve QSO Party.

It was disappointing to say the least, with the number of log entries that were received, considering the amount of stations that were actually on the air and took part.
In the AM section there were a total of 17 Stations that took part and only 1 log entry received.
In the SSB section there were a total of 51 stations taking part and only 3 log entries received.

Again, those using Hybrid or all valve rigs are the ones who take the top positions, maybe this is why people do not submit logs, because they are using SS radios and don't think they stand a chance on points.

AM
Top score: Thanie ZS4AZ

SSB:
Top score: Ludwig ZS6WLC
Second : Thanie ZS4AZ
Third: Theunis ZS2PE

Congratulations, your certificates will be emailed to you shortly.

# Cold neutralisation of 6JS6C in Yaesu FT-101

## Jeff K4LMP

http://www.k4lmp.org/downloads/Cold_Neut.txt

The standard neutralization method used by FT-101 owners suffers from a couple of major drawbacks - the finals are producing RF (i.e. are `hot') and the method requires a lot of tweak and try. This results in a lengthy process during which the finals may get very hot, or may even be destroyed if they should go into oscillation and the operator is not quick on the OFF switch. The method described here is not new, but may be new to some FT-101 owners. It allows neutralization of the finals whilst they are `cold' (not actively producing RF). The operator may therefore take their time and there is no chance of the finals being damaged.

As pointed out, this method is not new. Please refer to an excellent website by Tom, W8JI www.w8ji.com/neutralizing__amplifier.htm in which he discusses the need for neutralization and ways it may be achieved. The cold neutralization method works as it takes advantage of the fact that inter-electrode capacitances are present whether the device is `hot' or `cold'.

In a `cold' device, the grid-plate capacitance acts as a path through the circuit, and so a proportion of the drive signal will appear at the output. The purpose of neutralization is to couple an amount of signal back to the driver equal in amplitude and in antiphase to the finals' grid-plate coupled signal. So, the net effect should be to cancel out any signal feed through. In practice, cancellation will not be complete, but it is possible to adjust for minimum feed through.

In the FT-101, `cold neutralization' is achieved as follows:

1. Make sure that the transceiver has the PA compartment covers fitted (top and bottom).

2. Switch on the radio. Tune the radio as normal for maximum transmitter output (into a 50- ohm dummy load) at 29.0 MHz. Switch off the radio.

3. Remove the "Accessory" plug from the rear panel. This opens the heaters in the finals, but keeps the heater active in the driver.

4. Connect the transceiver RF output (ANT connector) to a detector of some sort. (I use an oscilloscope with a BNC "T" piece adaptor, the third arm of which has a 50-ohm termination directly mounted to it. A standard communications receiver will probably be too sensitive, may suffer damage, and may not give accurate results).

5. Switch on the transceiver, and switch on the Heaters. Make sure that the finals are not lit, but that the driver is!

6. Set frequency to 29.0 MHz and set the mode switch to TUNE.

7. Set the carrier level control to about 3 and set the MOX/PTT/VOX switch to MOX.

8. Adjust the Preselector, Plate and Load controls for MAXIMUM signal on the detector (scope). Adjust the carrier level as needed to get a suitable level.

9. Adjust the neutralization capacitor TC27 (using a non-metallic trimming tool) for MINI MUM signal on the detector.

10. Re-peak the Plate and Load controls for MAXIMUM and re-adjust TC27 for MINIMUM. Repeat until no further reduction in signal at the detector can be achieved.

11. Set the MOX/PTT/VOX switch to PTT, the heater switch to off and the radio power switch to off. Remove the detector from the ANT connector and re-fit the Accessory plug.

You should now find that maximum RF output coincides with the dip in Ic, or is very close to it.

**Detector notes.**

The choice of `detector' is entirely up to you. There may be up to 1-Watt RF present during this process, so you will need to act accordingly. As stated above, a communications received is probably not a good idea. I found that a lot of attenuation was required between the FT-101 ANT connector and the radios' antenna terminal and that RF was leaking around the attenuators making accurate adjustment impossible. As an alternative to an oscilloscope, a simple detector (perhaps following a 50-ohm attenuator) using a diode and multimeter should be adequate. For making adjustments, an analogue meter is preferable to a digital one.


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## Neutralising 6146's in Kenwood hybrid transceivers

Taken from http://www.k4eaa.com/faq.htm

Neutralization is the process of compensating for the inter-electrode capacitance of the final tubes. It helps prevent the tubes from oscillating, and allows them to perform as a stable amplifier. Here is a simple sequence for neutralizing your finals:

(1) Tune up normally into a dummy load on 10M, perhaps 28.1 MHz

(2) Turn your SG (Screen Grid voltage) switch OFF. This effectively turns off your finals, and will prevent them from putting any power into your measurement setup.

(3) If your dummy load has external connections to monitor the RF it is seeing, use those - Otherwise, remove the dummy load and replace it with a 50 ohm resistor (47 or 51 Ohms, 1/2W will work fine) that is mounted onto a PL-259 Plug. During neutralization there is no significant power in the load, so use what's handy.

(4) Using an RF millivoltmeter or oscilloscope with at least 20MHz bandwidth, connect it across the small 50 Ohm test load. A 20MHz scope will display 28 MHz adequately, although it won't accurately measure the RF voltage present. That's OK, because when we neutralize, we're simply tuning for *minimum* output.

(5) Key the rig and observe the output voltage on your RF VTVM or Scope. This is the drive power "leaking through" to the load with the finals inoperative. Our goal here is to minimize this leakage, and in doing so, we will be "neutralizing" the inter-electrode capacitance.

(6) Using an INSULATED tool, either a plastic or carved wooden dowel, turn the neutralization capacitor for minimum output. You should be able to get down to 10 millivolts or so. There is LOTS of voltage present, so don't even THINK about using a metallic tool!! You will spark and arc and create all manner of scary fireworks if you do - Not to mention perhaps joining the ranks of the SK's . .

Don't forget to return your SG switch to ON for normal operation.

# Revival of CW on SA Frequencies

It was in June this year, that a few guys were chatting about learning CW, none of them having come out of the times when CW was compulsory for a full ZS licence. Daryl, ZS6DLL heard them chatting about this and immediately put the challenge to them to learn CW. He was so enthused by this, that even though he had only been doing CW for a short while himself, that he was willing to tutor and mentor them through this process.

So it was that a group of 5, started the process. Sean ZS6SR, Mike ZS6MSW, Graeme ZR6GAK, Mathew ZS6MDV and Max ZS6MAX started coming together on Hangouts, a google chat programme on the internet, with Daryl ZS6DLL at the helm taking them through the process of learning CW.

At the same time a Whatsapp group was started to coordinate the group sessions. This has now become the main area of coordination and encouragement for all the parties on the air.

Within a short time period, they were well on their way to learning the alphabet and were all going along at different tempo's trying to keep up with each other.

They were well into learning the alphabet with the code being transmitted at first by Daryl, then by using a programme to simulate the 5 letter word groups as the speed slowly increased.

Then there was interest from some other hams who heard about the group and Eric ZS5EL joined up. Adele ZS5APT and Sid ZS5AYC Tyler heard of the group and joined up as well on the Whatsapp group, and slowly the group has now grown to 23 interested in CW, keeping it alive and going on the SA local
frequencies.


The bands have not seen this much CW activity in years. On a regular basis one can tune in to 7020 or 3550 late afternoons and hear anything from 5wpm to 15wpm as CW QSO's are on the go. For the newer guys, the process of going from the classroom environment to actual on air, has not been too difficult and even though they are still at the RST exchange and some very small word exchanges, and sometimes have major panic attacks, the fact is, they are there and have taken to it like ducks to water.

I (Andy ZS6ADY) became involved with the group on a listener and chirper basis from around August, when they were well into learning the code and have just been there to motivate and encourage them along this path. How well they have done too.

I applaud the fact that in this day and age, there are still some of our amateurs who find CW exciting and worthy of learning this language that has been around for so long. At a braai where the group came together at Daryl's house, the graduates were presented with T shirts from Daryl with call signs and a logo on the back that says "CW ops do it with frequency". Missing from the braai was Sean ZS6SR and Max ZS6MAX.

The group have put a challenge to our hams here in SA, to take up CW and get back into some "real" communication. For those who have been procrastinating about getting back into CW, the time has come to take up your key and do it.

# 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.

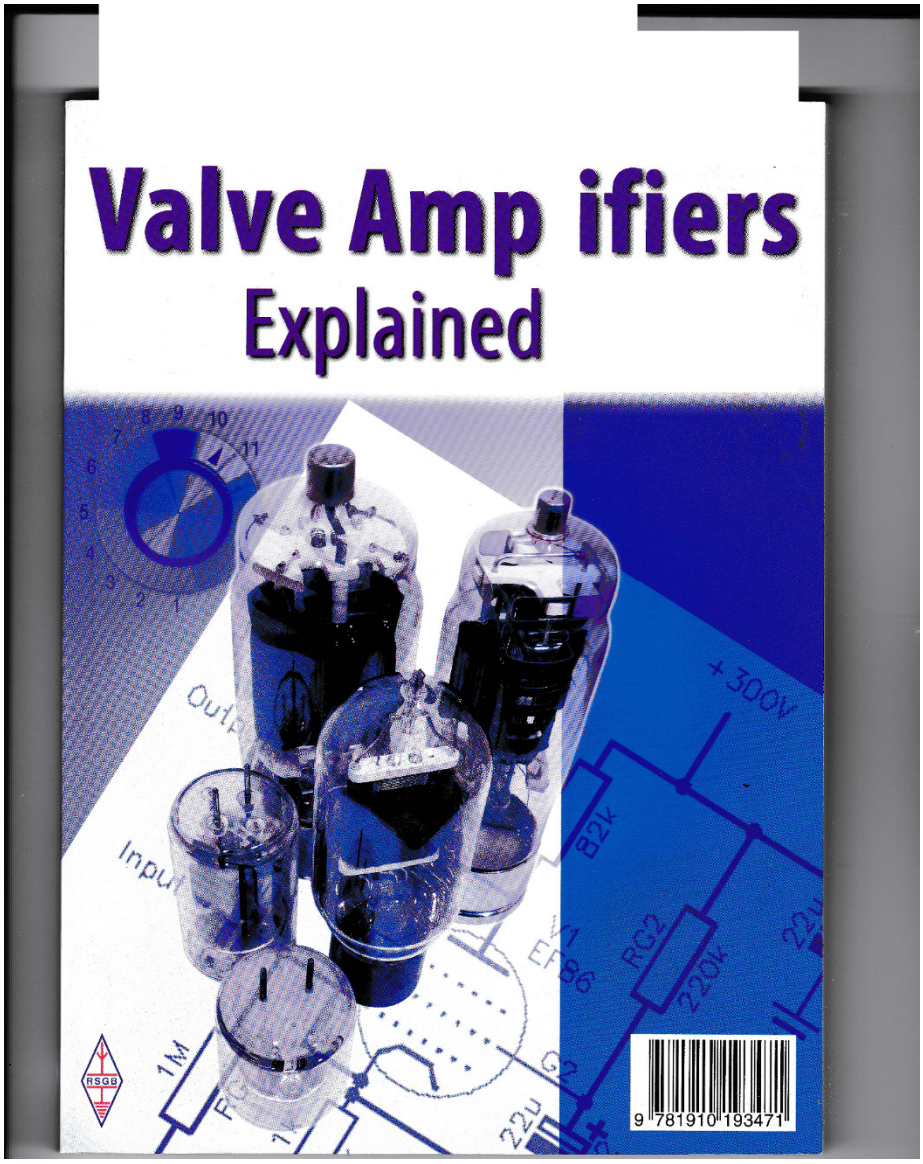
Times will be from 09:00 until 15:00 with the AGM held at approximately 10:00, thereafter fleamarket and braai facilities and eyeball QSO. Bring along all your valuable junk that you wish to dispose of at the fleamarket.

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.




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 interpret valve characteristic curves. The various classes of operation of amplifiers - Class A, Class B, Class ABl, 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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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 yesterdays 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.

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**For Sale**:
Yaesu FT101B with original Yaesu desk microphone and handbook for sale at asking price of R2200

Wanted: AM transmitter ( Viking Ranger or such like) in working order.

Please contact James Fairlie ZS5ABW 033-386 7862 072-179 9906

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