



## Bulletin

**3<sup>rd</sup> March 2013**

Good Morning: - Herewith the Bulletin for Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2013. This is **Victor Five One November Alpha Mike**, the official Amateur Radio Station of the Namibian Amateur Radio League, operated this morning from Windhoek by Werner, V51JP, to transmit Amateur Radio News to Radio Amateurs and all listeners on this frequency.

This is a service by the Namibian Amateur Radio League, in the interest of all Radio Amateurs in Namibia. This Bulletin is broadcast on 7069 Kilo Hertz, Lower Side Band, at 08:00 local time, on the first Sunday of every Month. It will also be transmitted on 2Meters as well as 3720 Kilo Hertz, Lower Side Band and on Echo Link via V51RS-R.

This bulletin is also published on the NARL website for download. Enquiries and comments relating to the Bulletin, or the NARL, may be made on the air after the Bulletin, or by writing to:

**Namibian Amateur Radio League,  
P O Box 1100, Windhoek, Namibia.**

The items in today's bulletin are:

- 1. Council News**
- 2. Repeater News**
- 3. Monthly meetings**
- 4. Members Input**
- 5. Local news**
- 6. International News**

## **1. Council News**

Herewith the council of the NARL wishes Robert the best of luck with the new Job. Please note the dates for the Radio Amateur Examination for 2013 are the 16<sup>th</sup> May and the 17<sup>th</sup> October. Entries are accepted from now up to 6 weeks before the examination and study material can be obtained from me.

## **2. Repeater News**

All repeaters are functional. The 70cm repeater has some quirks and the D-Star repeater is not on the high site yet.

## **3. Monthly meetings**

A meeting was held at Juergen's place and a couple of decisions had to be made. The members have been informed by the outcome by mail.

## **4. Members Input**

I have a lot of equipment that Pierre, V51PP has given to me to sell. Any interested party can contact me for a list complete with prices.

## **5. Local news**

### **SARL reaches out to SADC radio amateurs**

The **South African Radio League** (SARL) is reaching out to radio amateurs who are members of their national society in SADC countries, to join the SARL on a complimentary basis.

This is part of the SARL's commitment to support the IARU Region 1 *"Support for the Amateur Radio Service"* or, for short, STARS programme.

The objective of the STARS programme is to defend, protect, extend, develop and promote the amateur radio service in countries where amateur radio activity is low or nonexistent.

To apply, radio amateurs in Namibia should complete the SARL membership application form and submit the form to me so I can

forward it with the proof of membership to the SARL.

[The South African Radio League](#)

## **6. International News**

### **American satellite starts transmitting after being abandoned in 1967**

An American satellite, abandoned in 1967 as a piece of Space Junk has begun transmitting again after 46 years.

An Amateur Radio Astronomer in North Cornwall accidentally picked up the signal and after cross checking with various lists, has identified it as **LES1** built by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and launched in 1965. The satellite failed to reach its intended orbit owing to a wiring error and has been drifting out of control ever since.

**Phil Williams G3YPQ** from near Bude noticed its peculiar signal drift caused by its tumbling end over end every 4 seconds as the solar panels become shadowed by the engine. 'This gives the signal a particularly ghostly sound as the voltage from the solar panels fluctuates' Phil says.

It is likely that the on board batteries have now disintegrated and some other component failure have caused the transmitter on 237 MHz, to start up when it is in sunlight.

LES1 is about the size of a small car, it is not likely to re-enter the atmosphere for a long time as the orbit is still relatively high. It poses no threat other than that caused by the thousands of other pieces of space junk in orbit.

Phil says it's remarkable to think that electronics built nearly 50 years ago, 12 years before Voyager 1, and long before microprocessors and integrated circuits, is still capable of working in the hostile environs of space.

Listening to the signal you can easily imagine the craft tumbling over and over every 4 seconds and the transmitter starting up as the sun rises. He refers to the hobby as 'Radio-Archaeology'!

***Phil Williams G3YPQ***

N.Cornwall

## **Conclusion**

This concludes the Bulletin for Sunday the 3rd March 2013. Should you wish to comment on any of the items in the Bulletin, please feel free to do so after this service. This bulletin was compiled and read by Werner V51JP, as a service to all Radio Amateurs, Short Wave Listeners and Electronic Enthusiasts. Thank you for listening.

This is Victor 51 November Alpha Mike, operated by V51JP, Continuing with the call in list.

### **40M**

8H00: V51BP V51JF V51GB V51P V51RS

### **80M**

8H00:

### **2M**

8H00: V51WF V51RS V51SA

### **ECHO-LINK**

8H00:

This is V51NAM handing the frequency back for normal use