

WCRWG Status Report: 2026-01-06

Notes and Updates since last report

1. These reports can be found at <http://wcrwg.co.za/category/status-report/>

Donations received since last report

1. 06 December 2025 - Donation of cash received from Dirk Hagendoorn ZS1DAH;
2. 19 December 2025 - Donation of cash received from Jean-Pierre Nyman ZR1XJP;
3. 29 December 2025 - Donation of cash received from Derek Smit ZS1RED;
4. 29 December 2025 - Donation of cash received from Lem Melidonis ZS1LEM;
5. 30 December 2025 - Donation of cash received from Jacques Slabbert ZS1TP;

Notice of Appreciation: All donations of cash, services and equipment are greatly appreciated and acknowledged by the WCRWG Committee in writing. Any donations not acknowledged in this report will appear in the following report.

General

1. This original format of this document was created by Sean ZS1BSD;
2. It has previously been maintained by Paul van Spronsen ZS1V;
3. The WCRWG thank Paul ZS1V for his services of preparation, maintenance, and distribution of the report over many years;
4. The responsibility for maintain this report has been assigned to Johan le Roux ZR1JL from January 2025;
5. The WCRWG Committee provides input and oversight in preparing this report;
6. Users of the Western Cape Repeater Network are requested and encouraged to use the repeater network and to report any operational faults;
7. Michael Taylor ZS1MJT moderates the report before it is released via email;
8. Any faults on wc-repeater-fault@googlegroups.com as well as reports@wcrwg.co.za;
9. The WCRWG encourage you to use the repeater network and we appreciate your feedback;

Notice of Scheduled Repeater Usage

Please be aware of the following scheduled use of the specified repeaters and, **except for emergency traffic**, kindly keep them clear for these activities. Times are given in SAST.

USE	USER	AFFECTED REPEATERS		FROM	TO	ON	NOTES
Net	CTARC	145.750	Kanonkop	20.00	21.00	Mondays	Cape Town Amateur Radio Centre - Net
Bulletin	HWC	145.700	Constantiaberg	19.30	20.30	Wednesdays	Hamnet Western Cape - Except the first Wednesday of each month
Bulletin	CTARC	145.750	Kanonkop	08.30	09.30	Sundays	SARL bulletin followed by Cape Town Amateur Radio Centre bulletin
Bulletin	BARK	145.700	Constantiaberg	09.30	10.30	Sundays	Boland Amateur Radio Klub bulletin
Bulletin	SARL	145.700	Constantiaberg	10.30	11.30	Sundays	SARL bulletin followed by Amateur Radio Today bulletin

Repeater Information and Status

Repeater status is usually one of **DOWN**, **OPERATIONAL**, **DECOMMISSIONED** or **TESTING**.

145.575	Bottelary
Status	DECOMMISSIONED
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 145.575 / Input: 144.975 (ZU9DBI_C)
Mode	D*STAR (6K0F7W – GMSK)
Faults Reported	None
Site specific requirements	Set RPT1 as ZU9DBI_C, RPT2 as ZU9DBI_G – replace _ with a space.
Links	Internet – ZU9DBI_G gateway – default linked to TG655
Power	Eskom mains (zone 10/14 ?); battery backup with mains recharge
Notes	The repeater has a 3 minute transmit timer with an approximate 30 second lockout penalty. This is a factory setting in the controller. Users are advised to set a transmit timeout in their radios of less than 3 minutes. The future location and use of this equipment will be considered and communicated by the WCRWG.

145.600	Sir Lowry's Pass (Hanskop)
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 145.600 (88.5) / Input: 145.000 (88.5)
Mode	Analogue FM-N (11K0F3E)
Faults Reported	None
Site specific requirements	None
Links	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Link to Jonaskop/145.675 OPERATIONAL 2. Link to Onrusberg/145.725 DOWN
Power	Eskom mains (zone 5); battery backup with mains recharge
Notes	DTMF codes are published on the WCRWG website There is an intermittent hissing sound, possibly due to a power supply problem. The access road is impassable. Plans are however being made to visit the site to investigate and repair the installation.

145.625	Piketberg (Voorstevlei)
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 145.625 (88.5) / Input: 145.025 (88.5)
Mode	Analogue FM-N (11K0F3E)
Faults Reported	None
Site specific requirements	None
Links	Link to Hawequas/145.650 OPERATIONAL
Power	Eskom mains (zone 15?); Sentech generator backup
Notes	DTMF codes are published on the WCRWG website. Ongoing maintenance is planned for this installation, but it should not result in any disruption to its availability. The controller has been fixed on site. The controller at Hawequas must still be replaced. An installation date will be confirmed.

145.650	Du Toits Kloof Pass (Hawequas)
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 145.650 (88.5) / Input: 145.050 (88.5)

Mode	Analogue FM-N (11K0F3E)
Faults Reported	Audio problem from controller to VHF repeater. No CTCSS output as a result of commercial breakthrough. External temperature sensor faulty.
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	1. Link to Hanskop/434.650 DOWN 2. Link to Piketberg/145.625 DOWN
Power	Solar PV and batteries
Notes	DTMF codes are published on the WCRWG website. Ongoing maintenance is planned for this installation, but it should not result in any disruption to its availability.

145.650	Riversdale (Klipkop)
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 145.650 / Input: 145.050
Mode	Analogue FM (16K0F3E)
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	1. Link to Jonaskop/145.675 OPERATIONAL 2. Link to George/145.700 OPERATIONAL
Power	Eskom mains (zone 2/4?)
Notes	The linked system from Riversdale to George is working 100%. Riversdale 145.650, Danabaai UHF and George 145.700 are loud and clear. The WCRWG has purchased a 24VDC inverter/charger system with deep cycle batteries for installation on site. An installation date will be confirmed.

145.675	Villiersdorp (Jonaskop)
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 145.675 (88.5) / Input: 145.075 (88.5)
Mode	Analogue FM-N (11K0F3E)
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	1. Link to Hanskop/145.600 OPERATIONAL 2. Link to Riversdale/145.650 OPERATIONAL
Power	Eskom mains (zone 4); battery backup with solar recharge
Notes	DTMF codes are published on the WCRWG website The WCRWG is working on a solution get the link between Cape Town and George operational again. Plans include the site being rebuilt with a 4-stack antenna and updated equipment. The site remains inaccessible due to poor weather and road conditions.

145.700	Tokai (Constantiaberg)
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 145.700 (88.5) / Input: 145.100 (88.5)
Mode	Analogue FM-N (11K0F3E)
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	None
Power	Eskom mains (zone ?); Sentech generator backup
Notes	Antenna upgrade being planned. This work was completed in 2024, and the installation is stable

145.700	George
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 145.700 / Input: 145.100
Mode	Analogue FM (16K0F3E)
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	Link to Dana Bay/438.725MHz
Power	Eskom mains (zone?); battery backup with mains recharge
Notes	DTMF codes are published on the WCRWG website. In April there was vandalism to the site and neighbouring installations. The installation remains operational. Replacement batteries are due to be installed at this site – subject to the availability of batteries that have been offered for donation. An installation date will be confirmed.

145.725	Hermanus (Onrusberg)
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 145.725 / Input: 145.125 (88.5)
Mode	Analogue FM-N (11K0F3E)
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	Link to Hanskop/434.650 operational
Power	Eskom mains (zone 3/6?)
Notes	Reinstallation complete.

145.750	Durbanville (Kanonkop / Tygerberg)
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 145.750 / Input: 145.150
Mode	Analogue FM (16K0F3E)
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	None
Power	CoCT mains (zone 6); battery backup with mains recharge
Notes	Some problems with Echolink and general usage were reported at the end of March 2024, and these have been attended to and resolved. Some problems were experienced in April, and these were attended to by a team from CTARC.

	Other
145.750 / 145.150 (-)	Albertinia OPERATIONAL
145.750 / 145.150 (-)	Still Bay OPERATIONAL (145.425)
145.600 / 145.000 (-)	Mossel Bay OPERATIONAL
145.600 / 145.000 (-)	Sutherland OPERATIONAL
438.725	Mossel Bay / Dana Bay (for handhelds) OPERATIONAL (7.6MHz)
Notes	

434.650	<i>Sir Lowry's Pass (Hanskop)</i>
Status	DOWN
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 434.650 / Input: 433.050
Mode	Analogue FM-N (11K0F3E)
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	1. Link to Hawequas/145.650 (via CPUT) DOWN 2. Link to Onrusberg/145.725 DOWN
Power	Eskom mains (zone 5); battery backup with mains recharge
Notes	The equipment at this site has been damaged by rodents chewing through ribbons and cables. Replacement components have been sourced and are due to be replaced when capacity becomes available.

434.625	<i>Durbanville (Kanonkop / Tygerberg)</i>
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 434.625 / Input: 433.025
Mode	Analogue FM (16K0F3E)
Faults Reported	IRLP/Echolink currently disabled pending computer repairs.
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	1. IRLP node 8535 2. Echolink node 796398 (ZU9DCM-R), using EchoIRLP modification
Power	CoCT mains (zone 6); battery backup with mains recharge
Notes	Dial-out to other Echolink nodes requires the use of a dial prefix, currently *0 (star-zero), as it is an addon to IRLP. The disconnect code for a call is '73' – use this for both Echolink and IRLP calls.

438.300	<i>Bottelary</i>
Status	DECOMMISSIONED
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 438.300 / Input: 430.700
Mode	1 – DMR (7K60FXD/E – 4FSK) 2 – D*STAR (6K0F7W – GMSK) 3 – Yaesu System Fusion (11K2F7W – C4FM)
Faults Reported	None
Site specific requirements	For D*STAR, set RPT1 as ZU9DMR_B, RPT2 as ZU9DMR_G – replace “ ” character with a space.
Links	Internet – ZU9DMR_G gateway
Power	Eskom mains (zone 10/14?);
Notes	DMR ID 655101 The repeater will autodetect modes as long as no other mode is operational. The future location and use of this equipment will be considered and communicated by the WCRWG.

438.350	<i>Somerset West (Helderberg DMR)</i>
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 438.350 / Input: 430.750
Mode	DMR (7K60FXD/E – 4FSK)
Faults Reported	Internet – to be resolved
Site specific requirements	None

Links	None
Power	City of Cape Town mains (zone 3)
Notes	DMR ID 655102 The repeater is without an internet connection but still works excellently as a local digital repeater. This situation is being investigated and will be attended to as soon as the nature of the problem has been identified.

438.400	<i>Cape Town (Noon Gun DMR)</i>
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 438.400 / Input: 430.800
Mode	DMR (7K60FXD/E – 4FSK)
Faults Reported	Internet - resolved
Site specific requirements	None
Links	None
Power	City of Cape Town mains (zone 7); battery backup with mains recharge
Notes	DMR ID 655001 The internet connection has been restored, and the repeater is fully operational. (Previously: The repeater is without an internet connection but still works excellently as a local digital repeater. This situation is being investigated and will be attended to as soon as the nature of the problem has been identified.)

ZS0DCC	<i>Helderberg Digipeater</i>
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 144.800 / Input: 144.800
Mode	Digital FM-N (11K0F2D) AFSK
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	None
Power	City of Cape Town mains (zone 3); battery backup with mains recharge
Notes	None

ZS0DZ	<i>Du Toits Kloof Digipeater</i>
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	Output: 144.800 / Input: 144.800
Mode	Digital FM-N (11K0F2D) AFSK
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	None
Power	Solar PV
Notes	None

ZS1TWO	<i>2-Meter Beacon (Lower Burg St)</i>
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	144.435
Mode	CW
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None

Links	None
Power	City of Cape Town mains (zone 7)
Notes	20W into a 5-element beam antenna pointing around 50 degrees (NE)

ZS1SIX	6-Meter Beacon (CPUT)
Status	OPERATIONAL
Frequencies and Tones	50.080
Mode	FSK
Faults Reported	None
Site-specific requirements	None
Links	None
Power	City of Cape Town mains (zone 1)
Notes	None

Notes:

Send fault reports via e-mail to: wc-repeater-fault@googlegroups.com

To receive the weekly report direct via e-mail, subscribe to: wc-repeater-announcements@googlegroups.com. You can subscribe by sending an e-mail message to wc-repeater-announcements+subscribe@googlegroups.com.

The WCRWG has a new website packed full of information on all the repeaters and detailed reports of activities. You can access this website via the link <http://www.wcrwg.co.za/>

Any notes, updates, incidents or donations are to be sent by e-mail to 'reports@wcrwg.co.za' to reach that mailbox no later than 16:00 SAST on the Tuesday of publication of the report. Any information received after that will be held over to the following report.

Account Information

Account Name: Western Cape Repeater Working Group (WCRWG)

Bank: FNB

Account type: Cheque

Account number: 62338034937

Branch code: 250655 (Electronic payments)

Branch code: 200612 (Counter deposits)