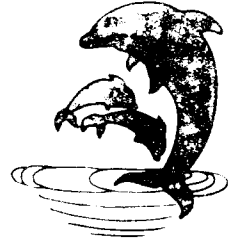




Q S X
P E



**THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED BY THE
PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH OF THE
SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE**

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6015**

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NOTICE OF MEETING

The next monthly general meeting of the Port Elizabeth Branch will be held on **Friday, 19 June 1992**, commencing at 20:15, in the Civil Defence Centre, Westview Drive, Mill Park, Port Elizabeth.

At the time of going to press (early, as I had to go away) we did not know for sure how you will be entertained after the business part of the meeting. Keep an ear on the bulletin. Whatever is arranged, I can guarantee the evening

will be pleasant. Isn't the Premier Branch *known* for that?

There will no doubt be updates at this meeting on arrangements for the VW Algoa Rally and the Hobbies Fair, this being the last meeting before those events.

Incidentally, I suppose we'll change the date for our July meeting since the normal 3rd Friday coincides with the Rally as well as the Fair. Pending confirmation, keep the 2nd Friday (10th) open.

-URGENT- VW ALGOA RALLY -URGENT-

Can you help with communications for the VW Algoa Rally on 17 and/or 18 July? So far, Al has only about half the number of operators needed to provide good comms for this prestigious national event and more help is required urgently.

Even if you have already mentioned at a meeting or during a QSO that you are available, Al must get particulars about your equipment and preferences, and you also need to complete an insurance application form (which won't cost you anything). If you would like to help, please contact Al right away.

Forms have been included with QSX for certain members who Al thinks will probably wish to assist. If he has guessed right, please complete them (in the insurance form, do Section 1 only) and get them to Al Akers, 53 Clarence Street, Westering 6025 as soon as possible. Ta ever so.

HELPERS PLEASE NOTE: If you wish to attend the prize-giving at the Holiday Inn on the Saturday evening, please let Al know soon. The form that it will take is not yet known but jacket and tie will doubtless be required. Wives or girlfriends will be welcome provided that the 240 seats will be allocated preferentially to competitors, officials, marshalls and other helpers.

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH
BRANCH OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE HELD AT THE
CIVIL DEFENCE CENTRE, MILL PARK ON FRIDAY,
15 MAY 1992

PRESENT: 33 members and visitors, apologies as per register. Al ZS2U offered to act as Secretary in the absence of Fred ZS2EQ.

WELCOME: The Chairman welcomed all, especially Barry ZS2SG and several visitors.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the General meeting of 10th April, 1992, as printed in QSX, were approved: proposed by Fred ZS2JS and seconded by Colin ZS2CTR.

MATTERS ARISING:

The Chairman commented on the good turnout at the SABC station and thanked Owen ZS2AZ for his efforts to organise the visit.

FINANCE:

The Treasurer, Colin ZS2CTR gave a report on the Branch financial standing at present. He mentioned that AGM funds were not accumulating at the expected rate and methods to increase the fund were discussed. Bill ZR2AAN was thanked for the generous donation he had made toward this fund.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 1 Newsletters from some other branches were tabled.
- 2 The Chairman had received a letter from the organisers of the Hobbies Fair. She called for volunteers to form a working group to run the stall at the fair.
- 3 The Chairman read a letter from headquarters in connection with the licensing regulations wherein suggestions were made to waive age restrictions and include 80M phone, 40M CW and the 2M band (phone, CW and Data) to the present novice licence. There was also a request to reply earlier than the 60 day period proposed and accepted at the last AGM.

This was discussed and Garth ZS2HB was asked to draught a suitable reply.

(to page 4 →

BULLETIN ROSTER		
	40 METRE BULLETIN	2 MTR NET
Jun 14	ZS2EQ	ZS2U
21	ZS2HB	ZS2CA
28	ZS2AZ	ZS2SZ
Jul 5	ZS2U	ZS2VM
12	ZS2CA	ZS2CTR
19	ZS2SZ	ZS2EQ

[from page 3]

GENERAL:

- 1 Colin ZS2CTR said that some of the novice examination questions in the examination of the previous evening had been discussed with him. He estimated that a large proportion of the questions were outside the syllabus. He suggested that he write to headquarters about the matter and this was agreed to.
- 2 Colin also mentioned a "Poor Man's Packet" project for anyone interested.
- 3 Al ZS2U mentioned that it was permissible for a Branch to obtain a DXCC certificate.

CONCLUSION

The meeting closed at 21:00 and all adjourned for tea.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY

1994 AGM FUND

Our AGM fund stands at R1784 after another sizeable donation by OM Bill ZR2AAN. Marge also donated two bottles of liquid refreshment which helped to give the fund a further boost at the May meeting. Many thanks, you two.

The monthly draw has been resuscitated but we need more schemes to reach our goal of R7000+ in time. A bingo session is being considered for starters. That's B-I-N-G-O, not B-I-N-G-E. Any other ideas?




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SIMPLE SIMON 7 Linear Amplifier Modules

Phil Hopper ZS2PP

Continuing the interesting Simple Simon Seven double sideband transmitter project in last month's QSX, we feature here the one-watt linear amplifier and associated low-pass filter to complete the unit.

Please note: In last month's article the DSB Generator Board (Fig.2) was shown rotated 180° with respect to its Overlay diagram (Fig.3). We can't be perfect all the time.

Description

The linear amplifier and low pass filter modules are constructed on separate printed circuit boards. Again, PCB layouts and overlays are provided.

The amplifier is broadband, and therefore there are no finicky tuned circuits to worry the beginner or old-timer. The circuit is straight-forward and needs no long-winded explanation.

However, there are a few points that bear mention, and one is the 10k biasing resistor between the collector and the base of the BC109C transistor. Why is this resistor not connected directly to the 12 volt supply rail?

Well, as it is presented, a small amount of negative feedback will be introduced to the base of the transistor and therefore tend to reduce the gain of this stage. The greater the signal the more feedback applied.

The small decrease in gain

is well worth the extra stability! The same holds true for the two 1k resistors on the collectors of the finals.

The second point of interest is the arrangement on the emitter of the driver stage. As shown, only part of the emitter resistance is bypassed to ground via the 0.1 μ F capacitor. Again, this is done for stability reasons, and for the uninitiated, stability is a point that cannot be over-emphasized. Attention to detail on the drawing board can save hours trying to "tame" a runaway final.

To increase the handling capacity of the final, two 2N3053 transistors are used in parallel, an old trick that works very well. Note that both the final transistors and the driver require a small heatsink to keep the operating temperature within safe limits.

The last point of interest is the low-pass filter. Just because we are running QRP does not mean that our transmitter does not have to be as spect-

rally pure as our commercial rigs! This module, being a broadband device, will amplify any RF signal from 1,8 to 30MHz, so we must take steps to eliminate any signals that fall outside the band of interest, in this case 7MHz. The filter described has been tried and tested many times, and offers a good match into a 50Ω antenna. Do not be tempted to use substitute values or low-grade capacitors. Silver mica or polystyrene are the preferred types.

Construction

Again, there should be no problems, provided that the PC boards are faithfully copied. Using the parts placement guide to insert the components will help to eliminate mistakes. The inductors are straight-forward, but do be careful when

winding the ferrite beads that you do not nick the enamel of the wire on the sharp edges.

Do not forget the HEATSINKS on the three 2N3053 transistors!

Putting it on the Air

As there are no knobs to twiddle, getting the transmitter on the air should present no problems. The output impedance of the unit is 50Ω, so any 50Ω antenna can be connected to the output terminals. But remember that, with only 1 watt, you can't afford to lose any in bad connections or high SWR.

In a later article we will present a linear amplifier that will deliver a mind-blowing 5 watts. So in the mean time get cracking, and let's have some fun with **FLEA POWER**.

The components list and coil data appear on page 8.

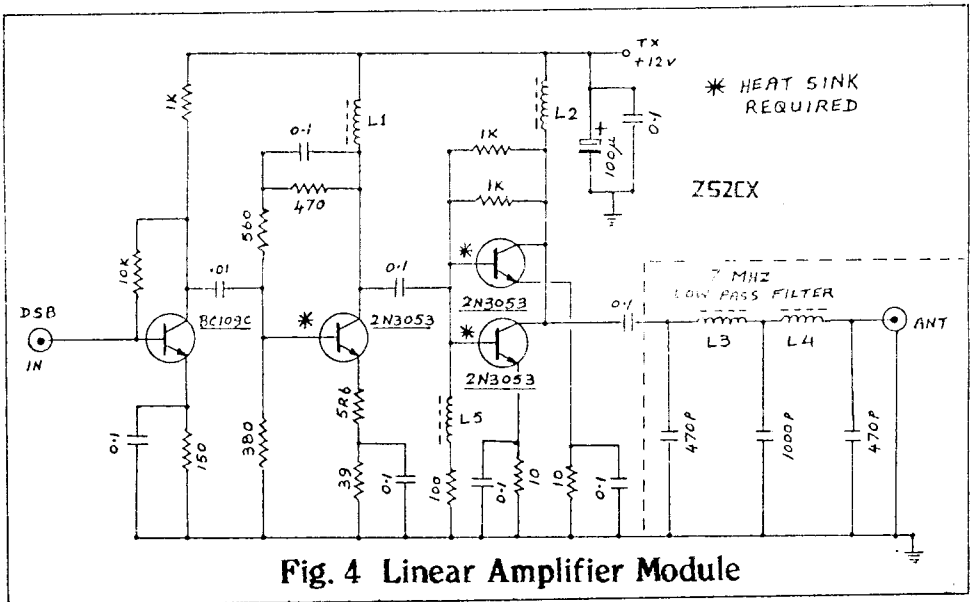


Fig. 4 Linear Amplifier Module

COMPONENT CALL-OUT

LINEAR AMPLIFIER MODULE

RESISTORS

5,6 Ω	1
10 Ω	1
39 Ω	1
100 Ω	1
150 Ω	1
380 Ω	1
470 Ω	1
560 Ω	1
1 k	3
10 k	1

(All above are
1/4 watt 5%)

CAPACITORS

0,01 μf Disc Ceramic	2
0,1 μF Disc Ceramic	8
470 pF Silver Mica	2
1000 pF Silver Mica	1
100 μF Electrolytic	1

SEMICONDUCTORS

BC109C Transistor	1
2N3053 Transistor	3
Heatsinks for above	3

CORE MATERIALS

Ferrite Bead	2
Ferrite Binocular 7x14mm	1
T50-2 Toroid	2

WINDING DETAILS

L1	12 turns	#38	enamelled wire	on Ferrite bead
L2	10 turns	#22	"	on Binocular core
L3	14 turns	#22	"	on T50-2 Toroid
L4	14 turns	#22	"	on T50-2 Toroid
L5	12 turns	#38	"	on Ferrite bead

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN

The renewal of your membership of the SA Radio League falls due on 1 July. In the statement that you receive from Headquarters, you will observe that provision is made for a "levy", but please note that this does not apply to you. Some branches impose a levy on their members to finance some of their activities. The Premier Branch (of course that means *Port Elizabeth!*) does NOT.

However if, with your subscription, you wish to include a donation e.g. to the Branch for our AGM Fund or perhaps to AMSAT, please delete "levy", insert "PE 1994 AGM Fund" or "AMSAT", as the case may be, and indicate the amount.

ZS2PE AT BATHURST SHOW: Worthwhile & Rewarding

PHIL HOPPER ZS2PP

This year the whole circus got away to a much smoother start. Tuesday morning dawned damp and miserable, with a stiff Easterly breeze. Once we arrived on site we were accosted by literally dozens of would-be helpers, but Al ZS2U and I decided we could make enough mistakes on our own, as we were undeniable experts in that field.

And just to prove our point we demonstrated to the eager bystanders just how to erect a caravan tent inside out. The wind was also keen to lend a hand and, when it discovered our mistake, it gleefully waved the canvas in the air for all to see.

When the Judges came by to inspect the stand we could just not raise a station on the band. In desperation we enlisted the help of ZR2ABF in Grahamstown on two metres. He pretended to be from Calcutta, and it was difficult to keep a straight face as one of the suitably impressed Judges was heard to say: "Gosh, what a clear signal all the way from India". I wonder why we never won first prize?

Our visitors book this year was signed by no fewer than 37 Hams. Some of the remarks make interesting reading.

The star of the show this year was OM Lincoln ZS2BZ from King William's Town.

My SW Pam (the Kitchen Computer) lost count of the number of cups of tea she served, not to mention the dozens of home made biscuits that were dished out. She still found time to look after our "opposition" radio stand, namely Radio Algoa, where poor Jill Stewart was operating from nothing more than a chair and table under a little umbrella.

On Saturday, Hams from East London, Port Elizabeth and King William's Town etc. showed up for the occasion. There was a lot of horsing around when we tried to get a group photograph taken. Heaven knows what the results will be like, but if any one was successful, please let me have a copy.

With the dust settled, one begins to wonder just how to set about measuring the success of the venture. One thing is certain, and that is enthusiasm and team spirit play a major role in getting any project up and running, and the PE Branch lack none of these. My thanks go to all those who attended or just called in to wish us luck. Certainly I could not have done it alone. Without Al's fantastic antennas and Pam's artistic (and homely) touch the results would have been mediocre indeed.

On Saturday evening a most enjoyable bring and braai was held at the QTH of OM John ZS2J. It was a most unforgettable occasion, seeing so many fellow Hams and their families enjoying themselves. A head count showed more than forty happy contenders for the title of "Smokey Robinson". I would like to record a vote of thanks to OM John for his wonderful hospitality. (Hear, Hear! - Ed. et al)

In closing I would like to say that, from a personal point of view, the whole event seems to have been a worthwhile and very rewarding exercise. Amateur Radio seems to receive very little credit for the work it does behind the scenes, and so let us take every opportunity to do a little advertising. I also see this as a wonderful way of getting other branches involved in the lighter side of our unparalleled hobby. SK

DITS 'n DAHS

The questionnaires in the April issue of QSX have come in very slowly. Perhaps members don't like cutting pages out of QSX so we'll try to remember to have a supply of the forms at Branch meetings. Last month this netted us about a dozen. If you're unable to attend meetings you're welcome to furnish the information by post in handwritten tabular form. However you do it, we would dearly like to have your information for our records.

Talking of the questionnaires, you should see some of the replies I received. One wit gave his XYL's call sign as "MOM" (I always thought the young lady was his *daughter*), while one of our more laid-back members said his better half's call sign is "HEY YOU"! (I'm nominating him for Council). To the question "what do you like least about QSX", in writing half this size that needed a microscope to read, one kind soul said simply that he disliked "The END". He misspelled it "The Ed", which is par for the course for a chap who once wrote: "Six munce ago i coeren even *spel* deppity elektrickle injuneer, now i are one". While he echoed the sentiments of *most* readers of this august Newsletter, another, who shall remain anonymous, blatantly replied "The Editor". But I've got even with him - I've put a lot of errors into the diagrams he provided for his Simple Simon Seven DSB Transmitter articles in QSX.

Following the success of our motion to the recent AGM, Headquarters have arranged for the erection of a permanent transmitter that will be used to relay HQ bulletins on 30 metres as well as other broadcasts intended for country-wide reception, e.g. indabas on the air etc. It is hoped that this will be operational soon and will improve coverage to us down here in the south. Listen around 10,130 MHz.

Remember the Hobbies Fair, at which we will have a ham shack, from Thursday 16 to Sunday 19 July. Operators, erection/dismantlement assistance and moral support will be welcomed. (Mustn't one *mantle* before one can *dismantle*?)

In a service area 300x180km, about equivalent to a rectangle extending between Port Elizabeth and Peddie or Plettenberg Bay, hams in Washington DC have 53 VHF repeaters (carrier-operated alone) at their disposal. There are also other types.

★ ★ PERSONAL NEWS ★ ★

Congratulations ... to the following members, members' spouses and other friends who are known to be celebrating in the coming weeks:

Birthdays - June: Lionel Wrangmore ZR2AAJ and Robert Bosch ZS2-277 (both on 25th); Ben Taljaard ZR2CS (26th); Robert Pokorny ZS2ABJ (27th). **July:** Julie Scarr (ZS2AE) (3rd); Paddy Furlong ZS1GPF (4th); Jim van Loggerenberg ZS2LR and Werner Ahlers ZS2WA (both on 7th); Hettie Taylor (ZS2AAX) (11th) and Sel Staples ZS6SS (16th).

Anniversaries - June: Mandy and John Masters ZS2AAN (26th) (~~Hope we've got it right this time, you guys~~). **July:** Marge ZS2OB and Brian ZS2AB Weller (4th); and Ruth and Walter Bodmer ZR1WB (10th)

... to Werner Ahlers ZS2WA on the acquisition of another two grandchildren. (No, not twins - separate parents, and born a few days apart).

New Members: Welcome to new members Seween Bosman ZR2BB and Peter Lunow ZR2PEL of Uitenhage, and Andre Retief ZS2-280 and Barry Jackson ZS2SG of Port Elizabeth. Barry came to the May meeting on crutches, which he said were his "dipole", the handgrips serving as "matching stubs"!

New Call Signs: Paul Huckle (ex ZR5ABM), who transferred to the Premier Branch recently, has been allocated the new call ZR2ART. Barry ZS2SG has changed *his* call to ZS2H following the departure of previous owner Bernard from our shores.

White House News: Our Free State member, Bernard ZS4CW, had heart surgery last month and Werner ZS2WA has returned from a visit to Grootte Schuur. We hope you are both doing well now.

Skinnennuus: OM Dudley ZS2AW was seen walking in the company of a number of toddlers from a nearby crèche in G'town recently. Roy ZR2ABF asks whether this is the much feared *second childhood* syndrome or a fiendish plan to attract the attention of some XYLs...

PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN & PUBLICITY	Marge Weller	ZS2OB	31-1639
VICE CHAIRMAN, TREASURER	Colin Robertson	ZS2CTR	30-0570
SECRETARY	Fred Bonthuys	ZS2EQ	63-3804
SPECIAL EVENTS, CONTESTS, HAMNET	Al Akers	ZS2U	30-2983
AWARDS, RALLIES	Bud Voortman	ZS2CA	34-2770
PROJECTS, TRAINING & QSX COMMITTEE	Viv Moore	ZS2VM	30-4433
EDITOR: QSX-PE	Garth Laaks	ZS2HB	38-1101
LIBRARIAN, DF HUNTS, IPHA	Vic Olivier	ZS2SZ	30-2440
SOCIAL, GUEST SPEAKERS	Owen Thomas	ZS2AZ	54-2177

DIGITAL TECHNICAL LIAISON	Lionel Coombe- Davis	ZS2DD	32-1770
REPEATER WORKING GROUP CO-ORDINATOR	Trevor Scarr	ZS2AE	32-1746

BULLETIN ROSTER

Compiler/readers and 2m net controllers are listed in QSX.

SUNDAY BULLETINS

Bulletins are transmitted on Sundays at about 08:40
(after the Headquarters bulletin) on -

- 7,098 MHz (40 metre band SSB)
- 145,700 MHz (2 metre band FM - Lady's Slipper)
- 51,400 MHz (automatic link with 2 m Lady's Slipper)
- 14,130 MHz (20 metres SSB) when conditions require.

BRANCH VHF & HF SERVICES

Town Repeater (PE Central)	145,030	✓	145,650 MHz
Grahamstown Repeater	145,150	✓	145,750 MHz
Lady's Slipper Repeater	145,100	✓	145,700 MHz
6 metre link with Lady's Slipper	51,400		MHz (simplex)
Cockscomb Repeater	145,000	✓	145,600 MHz
Kareedouw Repeater	145,125	✓	145,725 MHz
University Repeater	145,175	✓	145,775 MHz
6 metre beacon (ZS2SIX CW ID)	50,005		MHz
2 metre beacon (ZS2PE CW ID)	144,910		MHz
Packet Bulletin Board	ZU8KCD -		144,675 & 14,109 MHz, KAM Version 3.0 software

BRANCH MEETINGS

20:15 (8.15pm) on the third Friday of the month in the
Civil Defence Centre, Westview Drive, Mill Park

**** We like being your branch ****