



QSL PE



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PORT ELIZABETH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

WEBSITE – www.qsl.net/zs2pe

**PO BOX 10402
LINTON GRANGE
6015**

DECEMBER 2004



At this time of the year a number of members will be away, or perhaps you will just take things easy for a while and celebrate Christmas quietly.

With that in mind, we will **NOT** be holding a **GENERAL MEETING** this month, and we hope you will be able to do just that with your family and friends.

Our next monthly meeting will be on
Thursday, 20 JANUARY 2005



However, the WRINKLY Rave carries on!!

The Wrinkly Ravers will hold their first monthly get-together for the new year on **6 January 2005**. See you there!!



a Merry
Christmas
and a Really
Good 2005

is the PEARS' wish for
you, your family and
friends.



from *The* *Chairman*

Congratulations to those 18 members who wrote, and passed the RAE.

Welcome to our fabulous hobby – I hope that we'll be hearing a multitude of new call-signs active on the bands. That all eighteen who sat the RAE, passed, gives cause for a special vote of thanks to ZS2U and his team of lecturers.

By the time you read this, ZR's will be permitted to operate on the HF bands.

There is already a noticeable scramble amongst ZR's to get antennas designed, constructed and hoisted skyward. Have fun!

To those of you needing assistance, talk to a ZS – they're sure to have learned a few tricks of the trade over the years, and will be happy to share their expertise with you.

A big concern, worth consideration while you spend your bonus, is SARL membership. League membership is noticeably down on last year, with about 300 members who have not renewed for the

2004/5 period. Consensus amongst all current members that I have spoken to, is that the SARL is now performing well and there is no legitimate reason for withholding membership – and I'm inclined to agree. Come on folks, don't let a minority pay for the preservation of your hobby! The greater the membership, the less it's going to cost us in the long run.

With December comes annual holiday time, and hopefully a bumper season for tourism in our area – keep an open ear for out-of-town amateurs travelling around our area. Let's settle the score, once-and-for-all over the debate as to whether we are the friendly or windy city. To those of you going away over this period, travel safely.

Remember that there is no meeting this month – so don't pitch because you'll be mighty lonely.

Merry Christmas!

73

Rory, ZS2BL

Once more the holiday season is upon us and the request goes out again to members to keep their eyes and ears open for any emergencies and to monitor the emergency frequencies. The main ones are the linked repeaters, town repeater, 7070 kHz and 3695 kHz.

Other frequencies that could also be monitored are Uitenhage repeater and 52,950 MHz.

This is also my opportunity to thank all those who have helped me one way or another through the year. In particular Stoffel ZS2C, who looks after the PRC77s and A44s, Ken ZS2OC for help in a number of different ways and Des ZS2ABU, Graham ZR2GJB, who so regularly come up on the Wednesday evening net.

A very merry Christmas and successful new year to all
73,

Al Akers, ZS2U
Provincial Director:
Hamnet/ECARE.



ANTENNAS Part 3

The new regulations, which should by now be promulgated in the Government Gazette, allows restricted licensees (ZRs) access to the HF bands. They will therefore need antennas for these bands.

This is Part 3 of Al's contribution on antennas that are simple to make, yet perform effectively.

An antenna that was popular in the early days of ham radio, but has fallen into disfavour, is the so-called *centre fed zepp*.

The reason for its losing popularity is that it is fed with an open-wire line. As compared to coax feed, the open-wire line cannot take as sharp bends and must be kept clear of surrounding conductors. It also is not as screened from other signals or radiating some of its own signal.

On the positive side, even though it may have an SWR as high as 7:1 on the line, it is still lower loss than matched coaxial feeds.

The antenna itself can easily be constructed and erected. A transmatch will be required and it can be a bit time-

consuming to get it matched for each band, but once done, it is quick and easy to change bands.

It can be matched to just about any band. I have one which is a half-wave on forty metres and have a transmatch with plus-in coils for 7 MHz, 10 MHz, 14 MHz, 18 MHz, 21 MHz and 28 MHz.

The open-wire line spacing is not critical. I find a spacing of around 50 mm to be good. Spacers could be made out of a variety of materials, probably best is 10 mm polyethylene rod, which can be purchased from Crystalite Plastics.

If you wish to construct such an antenna and need advice on a suitable transmatch, contact me for details – telephone number 360 2983. ☺

ZR ACCESS to the HF BANDS

This should answer many of the questions that are being asked, says *Colin de Villiers, ZS6COL*. Thanks to *Andrew ZS1AN* for this item.

As we reported in a recent SARL bulletin, the Department of Communications has given us a written undertaking that the new Radio Regulations will be gazetted in the next couple of weeks. When the new regulations take effect, the holders of ZR licences will for the first time have operating privileges on the amateur HF bands.

The band segments on which **ZR licensees** may operate under the new regulations are:

- 1.810 - 1.850 MHz in the 160m band
- 3.500 - 3.800 MHz in the 80m band
- 7.000 - 7.100 MHz in the 40m band
- 14.070 - 14.099 MHz and 14.225 - 14.350 MHz in the 20m band
- 21.080 - 28.120 MHz and 21.300 - 21.450 MHz in the 15m band
- 28.050 - 28.150 MHz and 28.300 - 28.500 MHz in the 10m band

In all cases the maximum permitted power is 100 Watts PEP.

When the new regulations take effect, the HF frequency allocations for **ZU licences** will also change so they are identical with the ZR allocations on the 160, 80, 40 and 10m bands. ZU licensees will be permitted to use SSB on all these bands.

The frequencies applicable to ZU licensees are:

- 1.810 - 1.850 MHz in the 160m band
- 3.500 - 3.800 MHz in the 80m band
- 7.000 - 7.100 MHz in the 40m band
- 28.050 - 28.150 MHz and 28.300 - 28.500 MHz in the 10m band

The maximum permitted power for ZU licensees remains 20 watts PEP.

ZS licensees will retain all current frequency allocations, with a maximum power of 400 watts.

The new regulations also introduce a new process for ZR and ZU licence holders wishing to upgrade to a ZS licence. In terms of the regulations, the SARL may prescribe assessments for the ZS licence.

A candidate wishing to obtain a ZS licence must pass any one of the

assessments. The assessments prescribed to date are:

1. Confirmed contacts with 100 different stations using any combination of bands or modes. Only simplex contacts, and contacts through earth-orbiting satellites will count. Contacts through repeaters will not count.
2. The construction of a working direct-conversion or superheterodyne radio receiver, or a crystal-controlled radio transmitter with an output power of at least 1 watt.
3. The completion of at least 50 hours of public service or emergency communications in sports communications, disaster preparedness exercises, actual disasters and educational events.
4. Obtaining a professional tertiary qualification in electronics or radio.
5. Passing a Morse code test at 5 w.p.m.


Please see the SARL web sites for further details of the assessments and the conditions that apply to each.

The assessments will be administered by assessors nominated by clubs and appointed by the SARL. The SARL is in the process of appointing assessors, and clubs are invited to submit their nominations.

All nominations must be made on the official form, which can be found on the SARL web site at

<http://www.sarl.org.za/public/licences/Assessments/Assessments.asp>

Once assessors have been appointed, ZR and ZU licensees who wish to obtain a ZS licence will be able to do so by completing the assessment form, which will be available from assessors, and submitting evidence of having successfully completed any of the assessments. Each application will have to be signed off by two assessors.

There will be an assessment fee of R50, which will be waived for SARL members. This will be in addition to the licence upgrade fees payable to ICASA. 

The Radio Amateur's Examination

Al Akers ZS2U writes: There were no less than 22 applicants to write this examination and 18 who actually wrote, and the great news is that *all 18 passed!*

We now have the following new amateurs in this area:

MEMBERS OF THE MOUNTAIN CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA:

Rudi Goossens ZR2RCG, Eric Hosten ZR2ECH, Trevor Lloyd ZR2MCL, Rob MacGeoghegan ZR2ROB, Rose MacGeoghegan ZR2MCR, Carel Olivier ZR2CCO, Lars Strydom ZR2*, Natalie van Loggerenberg ZR2NVL, Kendall Watson ZR2WAT, Bruce Watt ZR2*.

SEARCH AND RESCUE:

Grant MacGeoghegan ZR2*, Nick van Deventer ZR2NIC.

STORMS RIVER ADVENTURES:

André Kruger ZR2KRU.

NATURE CONSERVATION:

Zanné Olivier ZR2EZO.

OTHER:

Basie du Plessis ZR2BA, Hennie Kleinhans ZR2*, Connie Muller ZR2CM and Doug Reed ZR2DWR.

* indicates callsign still to be allocated.

Congratulations and welcome to all the new amateurs.

Thank you to Viv ZS2VM, Paul ZR6ACV, Neil ZR2NT, Jim ZS2JF and Cyril ZS2EJ for their assistance with classes and/or invigilating.

Field Day Contest

This contest was more successful than anticipated, with six field stations round Port Elizabeth, one near East London and one at Mossel Bay.

Despite the bad weather, everyone seems to have enjoyed it thoroughly.

A Few Calculations to Prove that you Never Work!

Take a leap year as a basis and we find that it has 366 days. You don't work Good Friday, Easter Monday, Christmas Day and a couple of others, so $366 - 6 = 360$ days.

You work 8 hours per day, i.e. one third of a day, so...

Divide 360 by 3: = 120 days.

You don't work Sundays, i.e. 52 days: $120 - 52 = 68$ days.

You don't work Saturdays, i.e. 52 days

$68 - 52 = 16$ days.

You take off an hour per day for lunches and teas, i.e. 16 days

$16 - 16 = 0$ days.

Then you are **still given 15 days leave per year and expect an increase!**

Makes you think, doesn't it? ☹

FOR \$ALE ★ WANTED ★ SWOP

FOR SALE

- * RAC 50 ohm balun for HF dipoles, R50; Kenwood 50 ohm dummy load DC - 450MHz, R50; Daiwa CN620A X-needle power and SWR meter, 20W/200W/1kW ranges, 1.8 - 180MHz, R500 — Contact Beavan ZS2RL on 041 368 8810 or 083 445 7647.
- * Higan TH3 Junior antenna 20-15-10 metres. All fittings and seals replaced - R600; Morgain 5-band half-wave dipole 80-10 metres - R200 — Geoff Tucker ZS2TS, tel. 046 604 0233.

The PEARS NATIONAL VHF / UHF CONTEST

21 – 23 January 2005

The PEARS National VHF/UHF Contest will take place on 21-23 January 2005. which is open to all amateurs in the RSA and the neighbouring countries.

This 48-hour contest has been divided into two equal sessions of 24 hours each. This means that the same station can be worked in both sessions and thus increase the activity.

Please note that all scores, on each respective band, will be multiplied by the number of grid squares worked on that band.

All stations may challenge each other for the longest distance award on the bands authorized for their categories. Enjoy and good luck!

Dates and Times

The first session of the VHF/UHF contest starts at 18:00 SAST on Friday 21 January and closes at 18:00 SAST on Saturday 22 January. The second session commences at 18:01 SAST on Saturday and ends at 18:00 SAST on Sunday 23 January 2005.

Categories

1. Digital Station
2. Analogue Single Operator Station
3. Analogue Club or Multi-operator Station
- 4 Analogue QRP Station

Frequency Channels

50,200 - 50,240 MHz SSB/CW
50,240 - 50,300 MHz Digital
50,400 - 50,450 MHz FM

70,025 – 70,125 MHz SSB/CW
70,150 – 70,250 MHz FM

144,200 - 144,240 MHz SSB/CW
144,240 - 144,300 MHz Digital

144,400 - 144,450 MHz FM
145,475 - 145,575 MHz FM

432,200 - 432,240 MHz SSB/CW
432,240 - 432,300 MHz Digital
433,450 - 433,500 MHz FM

1296,200 - 1296,240 MHz
SSB/CW
1296,240 - 1296,300 MHz Digital
1296,450 - 1296,500 MHz FM

HOW TO AVOID QRM!

Call CQ CONTEST on
50,200 or 144,200 MHz,
**BUT WORK THE
STATION 10 TO 20 KHz
HIGHER IN
FREQUENCY**

Contestants

All South African amateurs may participate as well as those in the six neighbouring countries, i.e. Namibia (V5), Botswana (A2), Zimbabwe (Z2), Mozambique (9), Lesotho (7P) and Swaziland (3DA), and only contacts with these countries will count. A station owner may allow other operators to use his/her station on condition that each operator uses his/her own call sign and participates as a separate entity.

Digital Station

This category uses digital data modes such as JT6M, JT44, JT65 or FSK441 on

50, 144, 432 and 1296 MHz bands. Digital stations compete with each other countrywide on all four bands.

The highest combined score obtained on these bands, multiplied by the number of grid squares worked on each respective band, determines the overall winner and runner-up. Contacts with the listed neighbouring countries are encouraged.

Analogue Single Operator Station

In this category a single operator may operate from a fixed or field station, but may share his/her station with other amateurs using their own call signs.

Analogue stations compete in their respective categories and divisions only, but may score points from contacts with analogue stations in other categories and divisions.

Analogue Club or Multi-operator Station

A Club or multi-operator station may be operated as a fixed or field station, using a Club or multiple call signs as preferred.

Analogue stations compete in their respective categories and divisions only, but may score points from contacts with analogue stations in other categories and divisions.

Analogue QRP Station

The QRP category is intended for those who are only equipped with FM transceivers with an output power not exceeding 25 Watts. This category is limited to 2 Metre FM only, but a QRP station may work any other station on FM in the designated channels in the 2 Metre band.

Even mobile operation is permissible and could be regarded as a rover station.

Reports and Scoring

A bona fide contact consists of an exchange of call signs, signal reports sent and received and location such as the Maidenhead Locator or co-ordinates.

(Note: Serial numbers are not required for this contest.)

Categories 1, 2 and 3 stations claim one point per kilometre per band, while those in category 4 (QRP) score ten points for each contact.

Points may be claimed for only one contact with the same station on the same band during a session.

The number of grid squares worked on each respective band will multiply scores for all the categories.

Log Sheets

Separate log sheets are required for each band worked. The top of each log sheet must indicate Band, Category, Name, Call Sign and Postal Address of the contestant as well as the location of the station.

Log sheets must reflect Date, Time, Frequency, Call Sign of station worked, Signal Reports given and received as well as Location of the station contacted. All entries must be submitted to PEARS by the end of February 2005 and their decision will be final. The postal and e-mail addresses are printed below.

Awards

PEARS will present certificates to the two stations that achieve the longest distance on each band, the overall digital winner and runner-up as well as the analogue divisional winner in each category and band.

Further Information

For further information please contact the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 10402, Linton Grange 6015, RSA, or e-mail zr2dx@mweb.co.za or telephone ZS2FM at 041 581 2425 or Cell. 084 612 9600.

== end ==



40 Meter QRP Receiver

from Mike Hanslow, ZS1RMS

A simple 7,00 to 7,100 MHz DC (direct conversion) receiver capable of receiving both AM, CW and SSB signals on the 40 Meter band. The receiver utilizes audio signal AGC and sufficient audio band pass to overcome the limitations of a DC type receiver.

Circuit Description

RF Stage

The heart of the RF stage is built around the NE602 IC that functions as an oscillator and a double balanced mixer. The received signal from the antenna is applied J1. The RF signal is passed through a band pass filter and impedance matcher (L1 and associated circuitry) and applied to the input of NE602 U1.

L2 and associated circuitry provide the LO (local oscillator). Tuning is accomplished by adjusting RV1. Ideally RV1 should be a multi turn pot to create tuning band spread to resolve received signals. If this is not possible, two pots in series should be used to create a coarse and fine tuning.

Resistors R3, 4 and 5 provide sufficient tuning to cover the whole of the 40 meter band. These values may vary from set to set.

Voltage regulator U2 provides a regulated 8 volt supply. This is essential in ensuring minimal frequency drift and stability of the QRP Receiver.

The detector signal is applied to the AF stage via decoupling capacitor C15.

AF Stage

The three functions of the AF stage are to provide audio bandpass filtering, Audio AGC and audio power amplification.

The detector audio from the RF stage is amplified by 260 times using U3B. This

provides sufficient audio level for the audio AGC circuit to function satisfactory.

The output of U3B is applied to U1. MC3340P (U1) is a voltage controlled audio gain IC. This circuit will provide an AGC range of over 50dB.

The audio voltage output from MC3340p is amplified by U4A and rectified by D1 and D2.

Resistors R15, 16 and capacitor C11 provide the AGC sample and hold. The combination of 470K Ω and 4,7 μ F allows for a fast attack time and slow decay time, suitable for CW and voice.

This rectified voltage is applied to the DC amp U4A. The output from U4A is used to control the audio attenuation in the MC3340P and for the meter.

Meter M1 provides a visual indication of the AGC and may be used as an indication of relative signal strength. Diodes D3 and 4 are used to eliminate the no signal offset.

The output signal from U1 is applied to an audio band pass filter consisting of a HPF (high pass filter) U2A and a LPF (low pass filter) U2B. Both filters are second order Butterworth filters with a -3dB cutoff between 289 Hz and 3,014 KHz.

The filtered signal is applied to a buffer amplifier U3A. This will minimize the loading affect of the audio amplifier U4 on the audio band pass filter.


Volume control pot RV1 provides a means of adjusting the level of volume to the speaker. The audio amplifier U4 will provide sufficient power to drive a small 8 Ω speaker or head phones.

U1, 2 and 3 are suitable for audio application with a low noise figure. The only limitation being that they require a split rail power supply. Resistor R11 and 12 provide a floating "ground" at ½ the supply voltage.

The output of the buffer amplifier U3A must be decoupled by C14 before being applied to the AF amplifier.

Construction

The whole QRP receiver was built in a

small plastic project box. All components were mounted on a number of small Vero boards sandwiched in the plastic slots of the project box. 

* PO Box 866, George 6530

Note: See next pages for the circuit diagrams. Mike also included with his article a number of others showing frequency response, audio band pass filter characters, AGC performance, radio RF performance and cold and warm start drift. Anyone requiring these can let me know. – Ed.

Component List

RF Stage

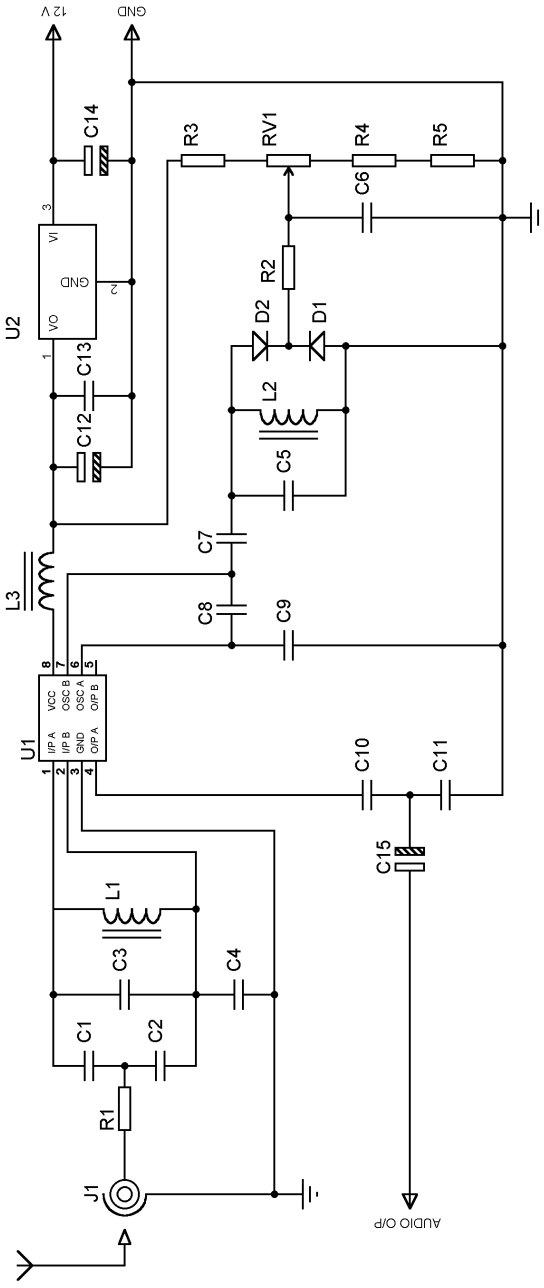
J150 Ω coax connector
 R1 47 Ω ¼ watt
 R2 100K Ω ¼ watt
 R3 10K Ω ¼ watt
 R4 4K6 Ω ¼ watt
 (optional – used to provide required band spread)
 R5 10K Ω ¼ watt
 RV1 20K Ω multi tern pot, linear
 C1 100 pF ceramic
 C2 470 pF ceramic
 C3 100 pF ceramic
 C4 10 nF ceramic
 C5 3,3 pF ceramic
 C6 10 nF ceramic
 C7 200 pF ceramic
 C8 470 pF ceramic
 C9 470 pF ceramic
 C10 470 pF ceramic
 C11 10 nF ceramic
 C12 10 μ F 25 V
 C13 100 nF ceramic
 C14 100 μ F 25 V
 C15 10 μ F 16 V
 L1 2 μ H coil (TOKO can blue)
 L2 5 μ H coil (TOKO can yellow)
 L3 Ferrite bead
 U1 NE602
 U2 78L08
 D1 BB809 varicap diode
 D2 BB809 varicap diode

AF Stage

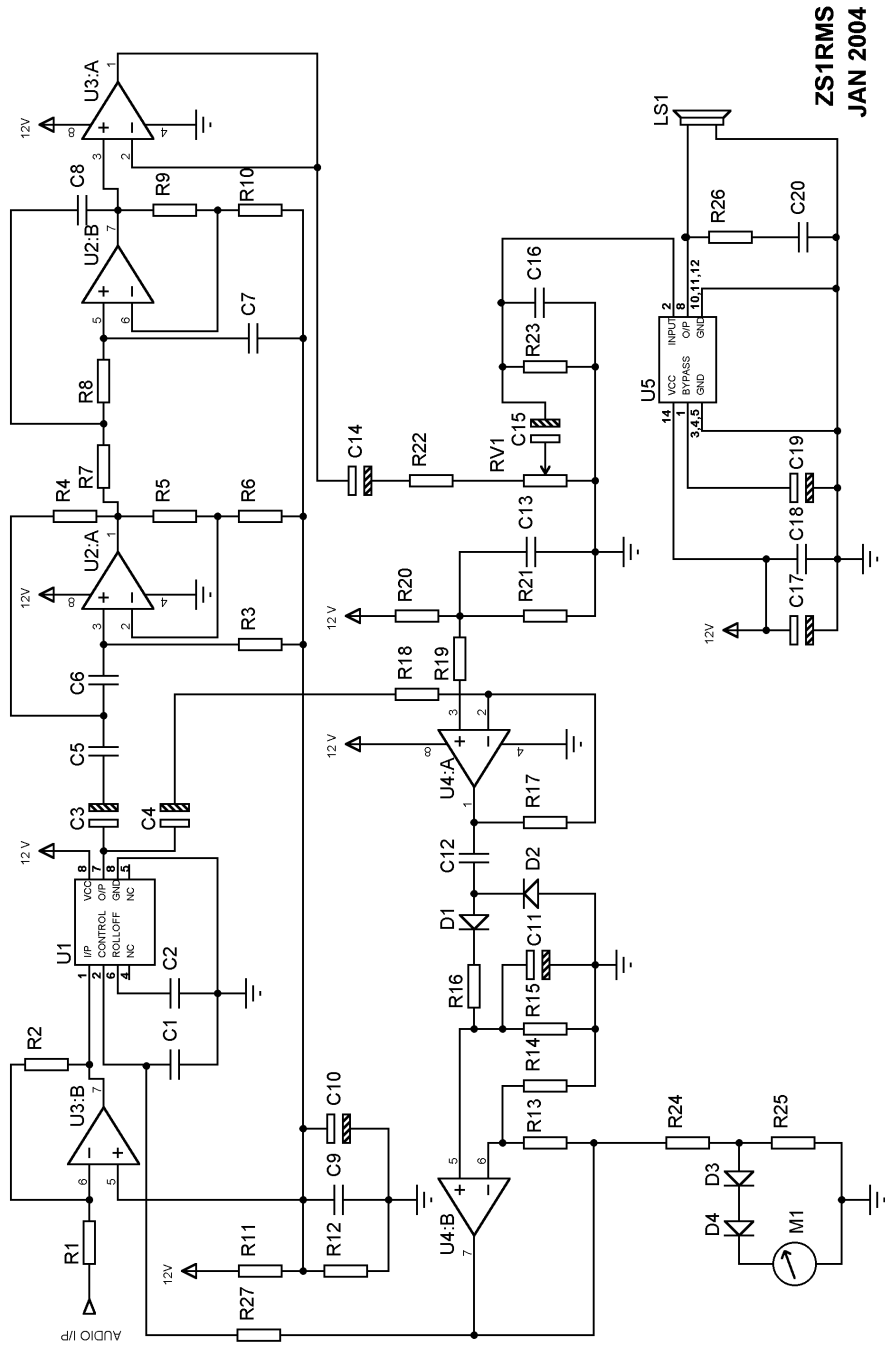
R1 1k5 Ω ¼ watt
 R2 390K Ω ¼ watt
 R3 5K5 Ω ¼ watt
 R4 5K5 Ω ¼ watt
 R5 33K Ω ¼ watt
 R6 56K Ω ¼ watt
 R7 2K4 Ω ¼ watt
 R8 2K4 Ω ¼ watt
 R9 33K Ω ¼ watt
 R10 56K Ω ¼ watt
 R11 33K Ω ¼ watt
 R12 33K Ω ¼ watt
 R13 22K Ω ¼ watt
 R14 10K Ω ¼ watt
 R15 470K Ω ¼ watt
 R16 1K Ω ¼ watt
 R17 33K Ω ¼ watt
 R18 1K Ω ¼ watt
 R19 1K Ω ¼ watt
 R20 15K Ω ¼ watt
 R21 15K Ω ¼ watt
 R22 20K Ω ¼ watt
 R23 20K Ω ¼ watt
 R24 4K7 Ω ¼ watt
 R25 100K Ω ¼ watt
 (value selected to provide viable range with 500 μ A meter)
 R26 2,7 Ω ¼ watt
 R27 2K7 Ω ¼ watt
 VR1 5K Ω Log Pot
 C1 10 nF ceramic
 C2 10 nF ceramic

C3 4,7 μ F 25 V
 C4 4,7 μ F 25 V
 C5 100 nF poly
 C6 100 nF poly
 C7 22 nF poly
 C8 22 nF poly
 C9 100 nF poly
 C10 10 μ F 25 V
 C11 4,7 μ F 25 V
 C12 100 nF poly
 C13 100 nF poly
 C14 1 μ F 25 V
 C15 10 μ F 25 V
 C16 1 nF poly
 C17 470 μ F 25 V
 C18 20 nF poly
 C19 100 μ F 25 V
 C20 100 nF poly
 U1 MC3340P
 U2 NE5532
 U3 NE5532
 U4 NE5532
 U5 LM380N
 D1 1N4148
 D2 1N4148
 D3 1N4148 (Used to provide zero reading for no signal input)
 D4 1N4148 (Used to provide zero reading for no signal input)
 M1 500 μ A meter
 LS1 8 Ω speaker

40 METER QRP RECEIVER RF STAGE



40 METER QRP RECEIVER AF STAGE



Easy Tee Transmatch

A simple T Network Transmatch designed for portable operation in the 80 to 15 Meter band limited to a maximum power of 100 watts.

from Mike Hanslow ZS1RMS

With the intention of building a Transmatch suitably small for a small ABS plastic box, suitably sized components had to be first sourced either by scrounging, begging or by trading. This in its self was a project in its own.

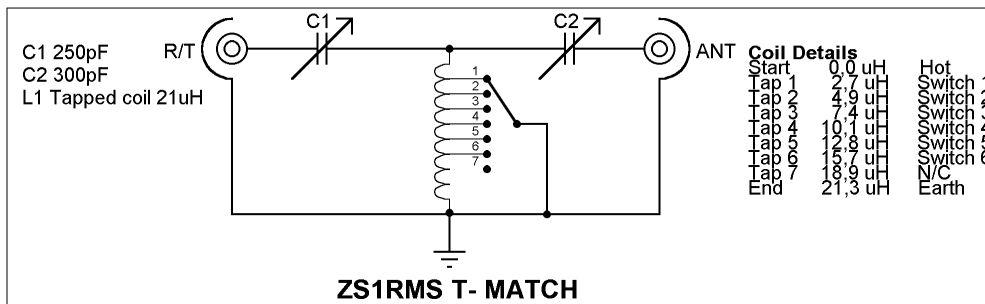
Plastic boxes offer a number of advantages for small Ham projects. They are readily available at an affordable price. For interest the plastic box measurements are 190mm wide by 60mm high and 110mm deep. They are easy to machine and the satin black finish gives it a sophisticated feel.

I opted to use Allen cap screws to enclose the lid but one would have to tap a thread in the box first. This is well worth the extra effort. All screws used were size

To keep the wiring neat and square, I used thin brazing rod and lugs for all the earth connections.

Why I opted for a C-L-C T network? The T Network transmatch is capable of matching a wider range of antenna loads than the more traditional Π (Pi) Network. The T network has been gaining popularity over the more traditional Π network filter with the widespread use of solid state transceivers.

The Π type Transmatch is used for impedance matching and low pass filtering, reducing spurious harmonics. Since solid state transceivers have adequate internal filtering, the T Transmatch is merely employed as a matching device only.



ZS1RMS T- MATCH

appropriate. I mostly used M3 size countersunk brass screws and nuts held in place with Locktite.

Small rubber O rings were placed over the screw fasteners to provide shock absorption to the ceramic coil former. Countersunk screws offer a flush finish, providing the professional touch. I also painted my screw heads black.

I improvised on the rubber feet by purchasing half moon end caps that were trimmed with my trusty Stanley knife and merely glued to the plastic box base.

The main limitation using a T Network, being mechanical. Both the variable capacitors must be isolated from the chassis. This does not present a problem when using a plastic box.

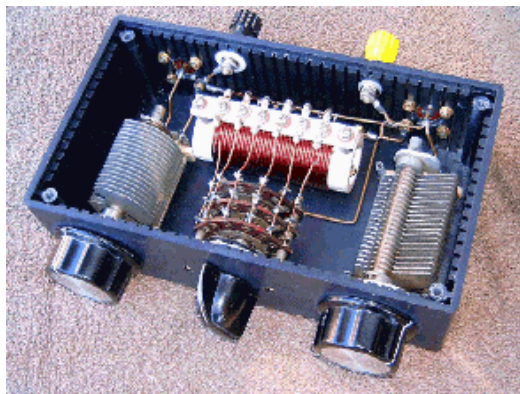
Capacitors C1 and C2 should be mounted using standoff insulators, when using a metal chassis. It is recommend to use very short leads in the matcher to minimize unwanted stray inductance. This is especially true if you plan to use your transmatch in the ten meter band (28 – 29 MHz).

The capacitor plate spacing of C2 must be greater than that of C1 as flash over will most likely occur with C2 when used to match low impedance. Using copper straps for wiring will also improve the performance of the matcher as this keeps stray inductance to a minimum.

A variety of control settings can yield a low VSWR, but try to select the setting with maximum capacitance in C2. This will result in the least amount of transmatch insertion loss.

References for the project were sourced from the internet and W1FB's Antenna Notebook.

*Mike Hanslow ZS1RMS, P O Box 866,



George 6530, South Africa

ZRs on Shortwave

Presumably the Government Printer has promulgated the amendments to the Radio Regulations and, according to a recent SARL HQ bulletin, PEARS was to have arranged its national welcoming party for them over the weekend 11 to 12 December. Please see the article on page 5 of the October issue of QSX.

With the hopefully large increase in HF stations, especially on 40 metres, we will find that many are not familiar with ham terms. Many, for example, will be relatively new to the idea of continuous tuning of their transceivers or the thought of 'tuning' the finals and/or antennas. We will need to help them right about not tuning up on an existing conversation.

We will also often hear CB terminology and one can easily put them wise. They may, of course, say that we also use terminology that is not correct in a voice contact, such as QSO, QTH, QRX etc. – but these are a carry-over from our CW days, aren't they?

We will need to use our *full* call sign, not just the figure and suffix, because there will often be a ZS and a ZR with the same digit and suffix. We don't want to cause confusion by using a part of a

call sign. You can do what you like with the *other* chap's call sign, but you need to give your own call sign correctly – and use the phonetic alphabet if a letter can be mistaken for something else.

Can you remember the halcyon days when everybody was on HF, when we were frowned upon if we chatted – on an unused frequency – during the times that the bulletins were being transmitted? I wonder if we'll have a similar problem in the future. In any case, please leave at least four KHz clear so as not to inconvenience others listening to the bulletins.

Another aspect of the amended regulations is the fact that there should be no *politics, racism, or sexual remarks* in our discussions, quite apart from the *derogatory, irreligious, blasphemous, insulting, obscene or threatening* remarks.

Watch it, guys!! 🗨️

Pearstalk



(Some of these items are from SARL bulletins and ZS4BS Dennis Green's HF Newsletter)

FINAL G5RV LOG RETRIEVED FROM eBAY.

Word from the United Kingdom is that the final logbook of one of the world's best-known radio amateurs has been saved for posterity. This, after it was put up for auction on eBay.

The late Louis Varney, G5RV, of G5RV antenna fame was one of the founding members of the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society in 1936. So, when Chelmsford club member Duncan Munro, MOKGK spotted that G5RV's last ever logbook was being auctioned, the club decided to buy it.

Munro did the bidding. Despite fierce competition, he managed to secure the logbook in the last eight seconds of auction.

The logbook shows that G5RV's final QSOs took place on 11 January 2000 and were, appropriately enough, recorded on page 73 of the logbook. The stations contacted were Ron Glover, G0WGP, in West Sussex and club President Harry Heap, G5HF, in Chelmsford. Louis was, of course, using his famed G5RV antenna for all of the contacts.

HAM RADIO CIRCUMNAVIGATING THE ANTARCTIC

This news item about an upcoming, exciting event has been obtained from WIANews.

Call this one Ham Radio Across the Antarctic. It started back on September 14, when the famed yacht "Apostol

Andrey" started out to circumnavigate the area while carrying an operational ham radio station.

During the trip the yacht will travel around the shores of the Antarctica without going further to the North beyond the 60th parallel, which is the border of the Antarctic region in accordance with the International Agreement.

The crew will try to establish a record for penetrating sailing yachts crossing the 70th parallel south latitude. And for ham radio here's the best part. The skipper of the "Apostol Andrey" is Nikolay Andrey, R3AL.

He plans to be on the air from the Antarctic area starting this December and continuing through March of 2005.

Andrey has the QSL cards already printed for this expedition and the ship also has an official Russian postmark onboard and a special postal stationary envelope for this expedition.

For details on the World-Wide Antarctic Program and the expedition, go to the World-Wide-Web. The spot is in cyberspace at www.ddxc.net/wap.

40 METRE EXTENSION

According to a report, a newsbrief "UK amateurs to get additional 100 kHz on 40 metres from October 31" contained incomplete information regarding Region 1 countries that have authorized their amateur's access to the 7100 - 7200 kHz band segment.

The list includes the UK and Ofcom-

administered regions, the Republic of Ireland, Croatia, Norway, Iceland, Serbia-Montenegro and San Marino.

Switzerland will make 7100 - 7200 kHz available starting 1 January 2005.

The WRC-03 action to move broadcasters out of that band segment does not formally go into effect until 2009.

UK radio amateurs gained access to new frequencies between 7.1 and 7.2 MHz from 31 October. After dark, the band between 7.1 and 7.2 MHz is still full of powerful broadcast stations, although some clear frequencies can be found.

The band became available on the second day of the CQ World Wide DX Phone Contest. Many UK stations took advantage of the new band by making contest QSOs with stations in the USA on their own frequency, instead of having to work 'split' as had been the case when contacting North America on 40 metres SSB.

During the daytime, numerous UK stations are now able to have virtually interference-free inter-G contacts above 7.1 MHz.

The new band is available to amateurs on a secondary, non-interference, basis until 2009. After the end of March 2009, the broadcast stations should move to other frequencies and 7.1 to 7.2 MHz will then become an amateur Primary band.

ARMISTICE DAY

At 05:00 GMT on Monday 11 November 1918, the Armistice was signed on the Western Front. At 11:00 on this Monday, 11 November 1918, the roar of guns ceased and 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.

Johan ZS1I provided more information

about Armistice Day or Remembrance Day and he asks the question: "Where can one get more information about the radio amateurs who died in the various wars since 1914?"

I wonder if anybody can help with that type of information or point them in a suitable direction.

BIRTHDAY GET TOGETHER

The Garden Route Radio Club and Suid Kaap Amateurradioklub both celebrated their respective birthdays on 6 November at the Garden Route Casino in "The Admirals Restaurant" in Mosselbay.

G.R.C. turned 10 years old on 1 November and S.K.A.R. turned 5 years old. The two clubs decided to enjoy an end-of-the-year get together and celebrate their respective birthdays together.

The original founder members attended as special guests. We enjoyed an excellent lunch, with specially labelled/-bottled wine available for the occasion.

We congratulate the two clubs. It is a good example of how clubs can accomplish good comradeship amongst radio amateurs, says Chris Meyer, ZS1M, on behalf of the GRC/SKAR 2004 Birthday Committee.

RADIO AMATEUR OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The Trustees of the South African Amateur Radio Development Trust met recently to review the nominations for the Siemens Radio Amateur of the Year Awards.

After careful consideration and a lengthy discussion the Young Radio Amateur of the Year Award will be bestowed on Edrich De Lange, ZR5TUX, of Westville in KwaZulu-Natal.

The Radio Amateur of the Year Award goes to Andrew Roos, ZS1AN, of Cape Town.

The awards were presented at a Gala function in Johannesburg on 8 December 2004.

FCC TELLS HAM THAT AMATEUR FREQUENCIES ARE SHARED

FCC Special Counsel for Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth has reminded a New Jersey radio amateur that all frequencies in the Amateur Service are shared. Hollingsworth included the advice in a Warning Notice to Irwin L. Richardt, W2VJZ, in response to complaints from other 75-meter AM operators.

Hollingsworth in July asked Richardt to respond to a complaint alleging, among other things, that Richardt would not relinquish the "AM window" (3885 kHz) or let others use the frequency unless he was included in the conversation. Hollingsworth called Richardt's response to the complaint "unacceptable."

He told Richardt that it was "absolutely irrelevant" under the Amateur Service rules how long he had been licensed or how many hours a day he spent monitoring or using the frequency.

"None of that makes a frequency 'your frequency,'" Hollingsworth said, adding that all amateur licensees have the same rights to any given frequency as Richardt does.

Hollingsworth said if incidents "such as those outlined in the complaint" recur, the FCC would initiate enforcement actions that could include fines, licence revocation or both.

THANKS

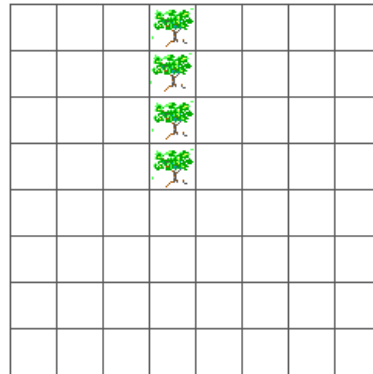
At the close of the year, I should like to thank all those chaps who contributed to the various issues. In particular I must mention Johann ZS1S, who seems to have so many good construction ideas. Also to Ashley

Goosen ZR2AG for printing QSX, as well as to Julie ZR2EY and Trevor Scarr ZS2AE, who collated, labelled and posted them. Thanks and congratulations, all of you.

A very happy Christmas to you all, and the same to all those who take the trouble to read the stuff I put together!!

Here's a Christmas Puzzle for you...


A man owns a piece of land as pictured below and it has four trees on it as shown. In his will he states that the land must be divided into equal shares, which he



bequeaths to his four sons.

Furthermore, it must be divided up so that each share has a tree on it.

How will this land be divided?

See next month's QSX! 



Condolences: We extend our sympathy to Bill Browne ZS2BY on the loss of his lovely wife Joan on 1 December. She had been ill for just a few months.

We also learned of the passing of the father of Roger ZS1J during November, aged 93 years, as well as Noelene Young, the daughter of Kay and Fred Strutt. Our condolences go to Roger, Fred, their wives and families.

To those celebrating special days (19.12 to 22.1) we say

Have a Happy Day... 

... on your birthdays

December

20 Nina Smetryns XYL of ZR2SJE
20 Marlene Gray, XYL of ZS2G
20 Marlene Ashwell ZR2ED
20 Donald Jacobs ZS2BW
21 Paul de Vos ZS2ABY
21 Ron Clarke ZS2MF
23 Noel Hislop, XYL of ZS2EJ
24 Bryan Marshall ZS1NQ
25 Betty Greeff, XYL of ZS2ZG
25 Mike Bosch ZS2FM
25 Brian Weller ZS2AB
28 Elize Laaks, XYL of ZS2HB
28 Allen Lubbe ZS2AEG
30 Lida Ligthelm, XYL of ZS2D

January

7 Laurene Stevens, XYL of ZS1AWG
9 William Hickson ZR2WJA
9 Trevor Lloyd ZR2MCL
9 André Greyling ZS2ACG
10 Tony Allen
12 Bernice Marshall, for some reason still the XYL of ZS1NQ
14 Jacques Human ZR2XTC
15 Neil Fulton ZS2MG
15 Ashley Goosen ZR2AG
17 Maxie Crouse, XYL of ZR2A
18 Dudley Forsyth ZS2AW
20 Barry Murrell ZR2DX
21 Margaret France ZS2HM
22 Judy Tremeer, XYL of ZS2BWB
22 William Atteridge ZS2V

... on your anniversaries

December

19 Lida & Dirk Ligthelm ZS2D
23 Noel & Cyril Hislop ZS2EJ
24 Graze & Hermanus Nell ZR2NH
28 Edna & Clive Swanepoel

January

1 Nellie & Johan van Zyl ZS2Z
2 Julie ZR2EY & Trevor Scarr ZS2AE
2 Chantelle & Linton Rohl ZR2LIN
3 Brenda & Allan Whitehead ZS2R
9 Pam ZU1PAM & Phil Hopper ZS2PP
14 Vicky & Allan Ansell
20 Nita & Roger Davis ZS1J
22 Renette & André van Deventer ZS2BK



In and out of Hospital – Cyril Hislop ZS2EJ had ops on both eyes recently and now sees what he shouldn't at his age!

Peggy Moore had an op on 16 November and must rest for several weeks.

ZS2JP was reported ill and in hospital in PE.

Going on holiday Susan & Mike Bosch ZS2FM to UK to visit the daughter and fiancée over Christmas; ZS2MW Matt of East London on his way to Scotland for a visit and possibly return there later. 📍

Your Society's Committee

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
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PEARS' VHF/UHF & Other Services

REPEATERS

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Town VHF | # 145,050/650 | |
| Town UHF | # 431,050/438,650 | Knysna |
| Cockscomb | 145,000/600 | Lady's Slipper..... |
| Colesberg | * 431,075/438,675 | Noupoort..... |
| Cradock | * 145,050/650 | Uitenhage..... |
| Grahamstown | * 145,150/750 | |

* These form the PEARS long-range 2-metre repeater system, also linked to which are East London 145,775 MHz, George 145,700, Danabaai 145,600, Stilbaai 145,750, Butterworth 145,725, King Williams Town 145,625 and Umtata (438,725 duplex). It is further extendable to Cape Town via the WCRWG system. # These can also be linked as required.

OTHER SERVICES

| | |
|---|---------|
| Packet Bulletin Board (ZSØNTP) | 144,625 |
| Packet Rose Switch ZSØGHT-3,046101 (144,675 in/out) or 046102 (UHF out to BBS)..... | 144,675 |
| 2m Beacon (ZS2VHF CW ID, FSK) (horizontally polarized, 160W ERP) | 144,415 |
| 6m Beacon (ZS2SIX CW ID) (horizontally polarized, 25W ERP) | 50,005 |
| 6m Simplex Link with Lady's Slipper 2m Repeater (vertically polarized) | 51,400 |

Sunday Bulletins

PEARS bulletins are transmitted on Sundays immediately after the SARL English transmission, i.e. at about 08:45, on 7098 kHz as well as the 2 metre linked network that provides coverage from East London to George as well as Cradock and environs. PEARS' 7098 or 3640 kHz transceive facilities are also remotely linked as needed. In addition, the SARL's 40m operations on 7082 or 7066 kHz or Hamnet's 7070 kHz can be remotely patched to the 2m network, in receive-only mode or with full transceive capability for interactive events.

| Date | Prepare and Read on 2m Repeater Link |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| 12 Dec | ZS2ABZ |
| 19 | ZR2DX |
| 26 | ZS2BL |
| 2 Jan | ZR2AG |
| 9 | ZS2EHB |
| 16 | ZS2AAW |

| <u>DIARY DATES</u> | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| <u>DECEMBER</u> | |
| 16 | NO MEETING !! |
| 24 | SARL Christmas Net |
| <u>JANUARY</u> | |
| 6 | Wrinkly Rave |
| 21 – 23 | PEARS National VHF-UHF contest |

* We like being your Society *