



SHACKNEWS

HIGHVELD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

JULY 2008

COMMUNICATION IS THE NAME OF THE GAME

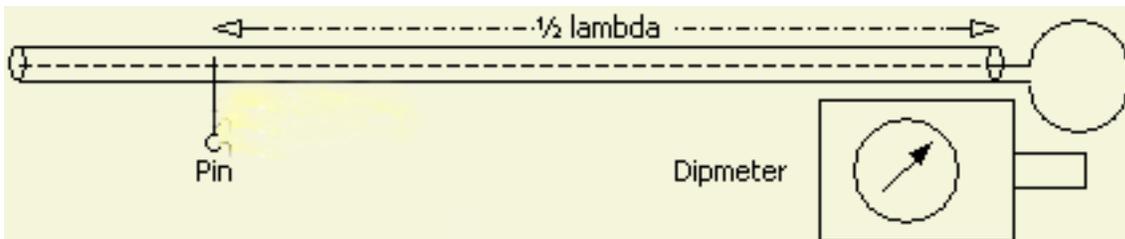
Meeting Chris ZS6COG gave a talk on disaster management in the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality. Frank ZS6TMV also give a talk and demo on baluns which was very interesting. The meeting for July will "be bring and demonstrate". In other words something electronic/radio that you have built from a kit or book. Bulletin readers please the club web site for the latest list. Early reminder. **AGM is on 6 September 2008**

SSC Meeting The August meeting will be held at the home of Doug & Merle on Saturday 9 August.

--oooOOOooo---

½ or ¼ wave coax cable Submitted by Frank ZS6TMV

To make a ½ or ¼ wave coax cable for a specific frequency, use a (grid)dip meter. Taking the nominal velocity factor into account, (it is 0.66 for cables with a solid polythene dielectric such as RG58, RG217 or RG174) unroll a little over a half wave. Connect a little loop to the free end (see fig). At the expected ½ wave point, pierce the cable with a pin, shorting the braid to the inner conductor. If the dip meter, coupled to the loop, dips at the desired frequency, the actual ½ wave point has been found. If the dip frequency is lower, try again a little closer to the loop, and vice versa, till the correct point is found. If your dip meter calibration is not accurate enough, listen for it on your station receiver. The ¼ wave length is exactly one-half of the ½ wave length found. If the cable is to be used outdoors, do not forget to seal the pinholes.



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Here are some signs that you won't find anywhere else in the world except in Africa.

In a restaurant in Zambia: "Open seven days a week and weekends."

On the grounds of a private school in South Africa: "No trespassing without permission."

On a window of a Nigerian shop: "Why go elsewhere to be cheated when you can come here?."

On a poster in Ghana: "Are you an adult who cannot read? If so, we can help."

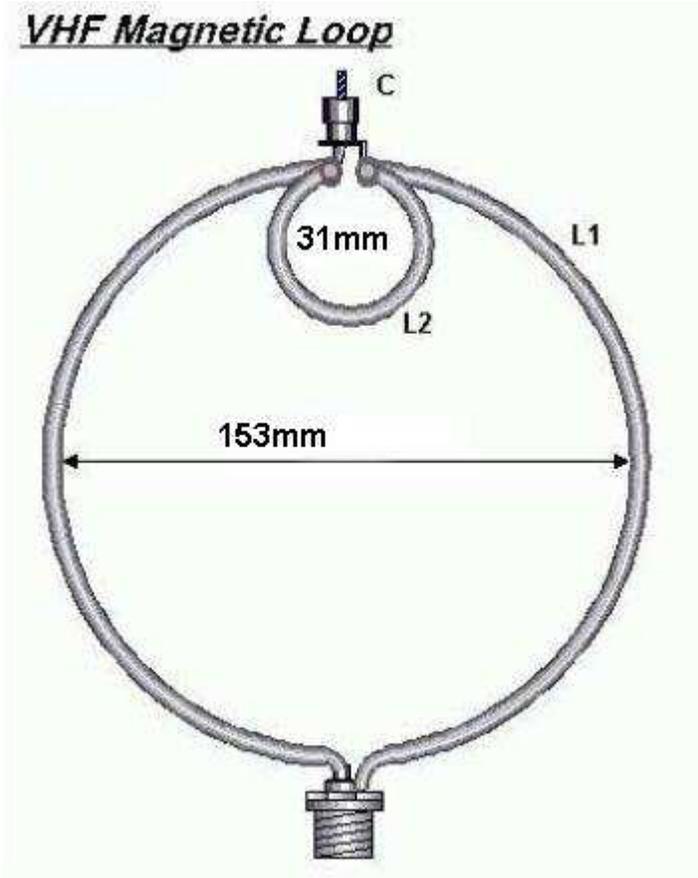
In a hotel in Mozambique: "Visitors are expected to complain at the office between the hours of 9.00 am and 11.00 am daily."

A sign seen on a hand dryer in a Lesotho public toilet: "Risk of electric shock-Do not activate with wet hands."

Although the LED's current is 8mA with a 3V battery, it is lighted for only a maximum of only about 1/64th of the time, so its maximum average current is only 550uA. The remainder of the circuit draws 200uA. The total is 750A for new batteries, and about 250uA for run-down batteries. Therefore the exponential current of 300uA will continue with 1000mA/hr batteries for 2000 hours, or about 4.6 months.

The LED's current is logarithmic with the soils resistance, so that when the resistance is one-half, then the LED's current is one-tenth. If you water the plants when they need watering, then the average LED current will be very low, and the batteries should last for about one year.

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C = 0 - 20 pf
 L1 - ¼ wave for 145Mhz use copper or brass 49cm long and 3mm thick
 L2 - 1/5 of the length of L1 = 9.5 cm long

A magnetic loop has a very small bandwidth but insensitive to man made noise. It is smaller than a conventional antenna for the same frequency and has a gain that can be compared to a quarter wave antenna even if the loop is mounted a meter from the ground. All in the theory of course. It has a bi-directional radiation pattern like a dipole and is very sensitive. This means you you will need to tune the antenna using "C" about every 0.5 Mhz on VHF for maximum reception and SWR. Ideal for portable use or as a repeater antenna.... Seen to be used on top of a HT.

---oooOOOooo---

An old country doctor was celebrated for his wisdom. "Dr. Sage," a young man asked, "how did you get so wise?"

"Weren't hard," said the doc. "I've got good judgment. Now, good judgment come from experience," he continued. "And experience - well, that comes from having bad judgment." ...

I've learned....

That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person.

That when you're in love, it shows.

That just one person saying to me, "You've made my day!" makes my day.

That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world.

That being kind is more important than being right.

That you should never say "no" to a gift from a child.

That I can always pray for someone when I don't have the strength to help him in some other way.

That no matter how serious your life requires you to be, everyone needs a friend to act goofy with.

That sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand.

That simple walks with my father around the block on summer nights when I was a child did wonders for me as an adult.

That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

That it's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.

CLUB INFORMATION

Postal address PO Box 19937 Sunward Park 1470

Monthly meeting venue

Website <http://www.qsl.net/zs6hvb/>
<http://www.qsl.net/zs6ssc/>

Witwatersrand Rifles HQ
Cnr Barlow and Cavaleros Str
Industries West
Germiston

e-mail zs6hvb@gmail.com

Bulletins Sunday morning - 145.7875 MHz & 7062 KHz @ 08h45.
Relay - 80M - 3662KHz

First Saturday of the month at 14:30

Committee

Chairman	Doug Wetton	ZS6BXU	011-680-4906
Vice Chairman	Frank van Wensveen	ZS6TMV	082-294-2648
Secretary/Treasurer	Berridge Emmett	ZS6BFL	011-893-1291
Repeater/Packet/Technical	Ton van Dijk	ZS6ANA	011-432-5494
Shacknews Editor	Berridge Emmett	ZS6BFL	011-893-1291
Shacknews Printing	Harry Lautenbach	ZS6LT	011-888-5362
Webmaster	Yvonne van Dijk	ZR6TBL	011-432-5494

Repeater

145.1875 MHz input

145.7875 MHz output

Linked on a Sunday morning during bulletin time to 70 cm - 438.850 MHz

NOTICE OF MEETING

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Highveld Amateur Radio Club will be held at the Wits Rifles HQ on **Saturday, 6 September 2008 at 14:30**

Nominations for the committee must be in writing and must be received by the secretary not less than **one week** before the AGM

HIGHVELD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM

I.....hereby
nominate

Name:.....Callsign:.....

to serve on the committee of the Highveld Amateur Radio Club

I confirm that I have received the agreement from the above person to serve on the Committee

Signed:.....

Callsign:.....

NOTICE OF PROXY

I.....hereby give my proxy

to.....

in order that he/she may vote on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the Highveld Amateur Radio Club

Signed:.....

Callsign:.....