

Since the last newsletter the Society has had its Annual General Meeting. We were grateful to **Lorraine, MMOBCR** who kindly came to the rescue by increasing the number of paid-up members to that which made a quorum, otherwise the meeting would have had to be postponed to a later date.

The committee for the coming year welcomes one completely new member, **Colin, GM4TVB** and one well known face, **Ian, GM8MHU** as President. The retiring President and committee member were **Adam, MM0KZV** and **Norman, GM8CBQ** respectively.

Following the A.G.M., **Ian, GM8MHU** gave his Presidential Address in which he outlined some of the ways in which the Society could promote itself and he emphasised the benefits that the Society would enjoy from a wider participation in the varied events which are organized by the Society.

The new committee have already been considering some of the items which were brought up in discussion during the evening of the A.G.M.

### Hints and tips

by **Norman MacKenzie, GM3WIJ**

If you wish to set up a sked with another amateur, always agree a primary freq. and a secondary freq.

e.g.. to a G/GW/EI station during daytime hours a primary frequency on 7 Mhz and a secondary frequency on 3.5 Mhz.

If you have agreed a freq on 7 MHz e.g. 7.070 SSB and conditions are marginal use CW to make the initial contact (which you are entitled to use anywhere on the band) and if conditions permit move to SSB

If conditions are poor use CW to QSY to the secondary frequency on 3.5 MHz

If 3.5 Mhz looks good use SSB

If marginal **use** CW to make initial contact

When making initial contact on CW, call using the outstation call and your call often on the agreed freq. or near as you can to the freq allowing for QRM.

e.g.. 2E0777 2E0ZZZ 2E0ZZZ de GM3BSQ GM3BSQ GM3BSQ KN

I use the memory in my keyer to load the calls into.... Arrive early on freq if gives you a better chance to claim it!!

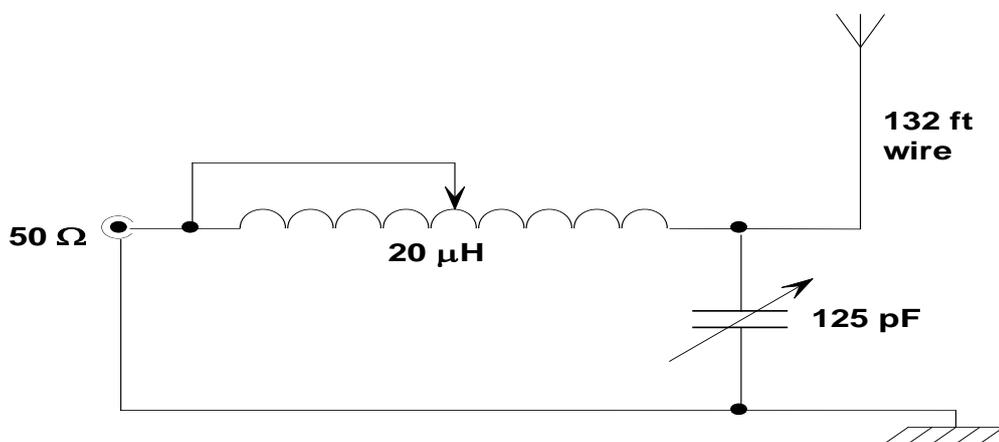
I often use two frequencies per band for a skeds, a CW calling [freq. to](#) establish contact e.g.. 7.028 and then a QSY to 7.082 plus or minus QRM.

# Technical Corner

## Simple antenna system for 80 -10 m.

Ideal for the 3.5 MHz QRP TX currently in production.

By Graham Sangster, GM4OBD



### Parts

- 1 X S0239 socket
- 132 feet of plastic coated wire
- 1 X small plastic "egg" insulator
- 1 X 125 pF variable capacitor (broadcast type for QRP or 1.5 mm spacing for 100 W)
- 1 X crocodile clip on short piece of wire
- 1 X 20 μH inductor/coil (30 turns of 14 or 16 SWG tinned, bare or silver plated copper wire 60 mm inside diameter 150 mm long)

# Technical Corner

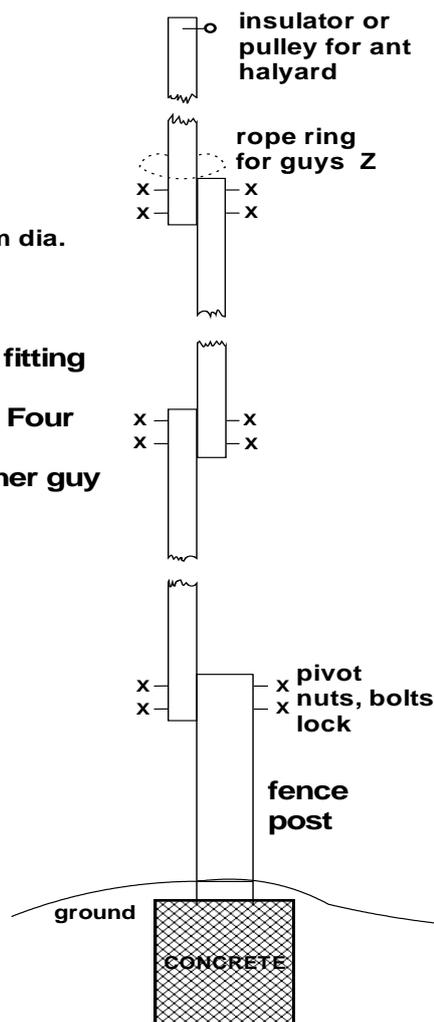
Would you like a mast approximately 8M high for about £15.00, maybe less?

By Stan Sutherland GM4BKV

**Requirements:-**

- 3 X 2.8 m (2" X 2") wood
- 4 X bolts and nuts approx. 5" by 8-10 mm dia.
- 2 X larger nuts and bolts approx. 6-7" by 15mm dia.

The wood battens should be painted before fitting and suitable washers at points marked "X". Four guys are fitted at "Z" and possibly one weather guy on the op mast.



Remember that each band has optimum distances to various locations at different times of day.

It is anti social to chat to another GM three miles away on 7Mhz when 3.5Mhz would be a more suitable frequency or even a move to VHF or UHF where you are not battling against EU/G QRM. In the city UHF should be readable everywhere and it certainly isn't crowded!

By staying on 7Mhz you are adding to an already overcrowded band ....QSY to a band suitable to the distance.

GM3WIJ

## **Snippets**

1. On the programme you will see 2 short contests for clubs. These are both held in early January, on 80 m, one for CW and one for SSB. These are ideal for getting practice in some contesting. Why not try out your newly installed version of Winlog32 and get some practice in computer logging before the 2006 diet of contests etc. Would anyone object to giving it a try at the other outings we attend?
2. 4-way guy rings for plastic telescopic masts can be made from two plastic capacitor clips glued back to back and at 90° to each other so that the 4 screw holes lie in the correct directions. Various sizes available from Rapid Electronics at approx.. 25 pence each. (11-3000 to 11 -3014, even No's.)