



# RSSL NEWS

January 2007

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE RADIO SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA

**The General Meeting for the Month of January will be held at the Seminar Room (Ground Floor) of Vidya Mandiraya, SLAAS – Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science, 120/10, Vidya Mawatha, Colombo 7 on Wednesday the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 2007 at 5.30 pm.**

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Please note that unless otherwise notified, monthly General Meetings will be held at the SLAAS at 0530 P.M. on the **last Wednesday of the month**. Please also monitor the RSSL net regularly on 145.650 MHz at 0900 P.M. for RSSL announcements. You are welcome to contact any Council member if you need to verify. Membership and ID Card applications can be obtained at the meetings. Membership renewals are also accepted by the Treasurer at the monthly meetings.

## OBITUARY

It is with great sadness that we announce to the members the loss of one of our active hams 4S5MS-Mahnida Silva from Pitipana Homagama. Mahinda however was better known for his activity from Negambo before he moved to Homagama. He passed away on the 18<sup>th</sup> morning after a heart attack. He was 61. Mahinda checked into the net quite often and hardly missed an AGM.



He was a designer and a very knowledgeable radio amateur. He was a quiet very unassuming person who was always with a smile. It was a delight to meet him on and off the band. Mahinda was laid to rest on Saturday and many members paid their respects. We will miss Mahinda dearly.

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

1. 4S7IK - Mr. Ishan Kumaraswami ( Life member)
2. Dr. R.S.Deraniyagala (Associate member)
3. Mr T.W.G.S.L.Jayasinghe, No.48, Gawarammana, Keppetipola (Ass. member)
4. Mr. H.W.H.K.D.Perera, No.22, Nagahawatta Rd, Maharagama. (Ass. member)

## CONGRATULATIONS:

Although we have not yet received the list of members who were successful at the last RAE examination held in 2006, we have come to know that a fairly large number have been successful. Our Associate Council member Ravi Sumithrarachchi, is among those

who passed the General Class. We also have A/L schoolboy Janith from Kinswood Kandy, quite a few from DS and President's College Rajagiriya Furgusson's school in Ratnapura and some of our old-timers too who took the plunge last time passing the General and Novice classes.

The number who have got through is an all time record and credit has to go the 4S7VK/4S7VJ/4S7KG who organised training programmes both at Girl Guide's HQ and at the RSSL shack. The above goes to prove that Amateur Radio in Sri Lanka is not dying out by any means. What has to be done is to promote it and make it available to those interested. The interest amongst the youth far surpasses that of the older generation which blasts the myth that mobile phones and the internet have signalled the end of Amateur Radio. Radio is in the genes of a person and if we help them to discover it, we would have achieved our aims.

The RSSL needs the help of our members in the training programmes. Even if one is unable to come forward regularly, at least a one off session in your area of interest will go a long way in helping out. Even a well prepared note can be of help. Wijay 4S7VJ developed a "Ham Radio" CD which included lessons, syllabus and material of interest as well. It is available free of charge to download from the RSSL website or from VJ. This CD has been doing the rounds and it is amazing to find people from all parts of the country contacting the RSSL having got the CD from a friend.. We live in the information age and what we should do is to inform people through Radio & TV programmes Newspaper and magazine articles presentations in schools and other areas. The council members are doing whatever they can in their limited time. Your help is needed very badly. Money is not a problem as the RSSL has the funds which she received from the International Community. We need personnel.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CW-Morse classes are conducted every Sunday between 8.30 and 1030 A.M. at the club shack. Kule 4S7KG conducts classes ably assisted by Wijay 4S7VJ. The club has a fully equipped Ham station and members can make use of it to transmit and receive. It is open every Sunday from about 8.30 past 1.30 P.M. and by appointment on other days. There are many useful books in the library and the latest copies of magazines like QST, RADCOM, CONTACT etc.Contact 4S7VJ.

We appeal to members to send in information and articles for publication in the RSSL Newsletters. All articles are published in the following month's NL. They can be on any aspects of the hobby. Your views and opinions are also welcome and they will be published unedited as long as they are within the spirit of Amateur Radio..

**HAM RADIOO SRI LANKA-YAHOO GROUPS.** There has been a query regarding the above e-mail discussion group and the RSSL's official position regarding it. It is

not sponsored by the RSSL and the views expressed in there are those of the Yahoo Group members and the moderator and not of the RSSL in any official capacity.

### **MEMBERS ADVERTS**

**4S7GK George Jayaratne.** 4/4 Dabare Mawatha, Narahenpita, Col. 5. is looking for a HF Transceiver, solid state, with digital readout & SWR/Power meter preferably. Please state your price and contact George and help him get on the air.

### **CONTESTS/ACTIVITY**

YL-OM Contest -- CW from 1400Z Feb 3-0200Z Feb 5.  
Frequencies: 160-10 meters. Exchange: Call sign, RST, serial number and S/P/C. Logs due 30 days after the contest to kc4iyd@yahoo.com.

RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest -- CW from 2100Z Feb 10-0100Z Feb 11. Frequencies (MHz): 1.820-1.870. Exchange: RST + serial number. Logs due 16 days after the contest to 1st160.logs@rsgbhfcc.org.

Dutch PACC Contest -- CW/SSB from 1200Z Feb 10-1200Z Feb 11. Frequencies: 160-10 meters according to IARU band plan, no SSB on 160. Exchange: RS(T) + serial number. Logs due Mar 31 to pa0adt@dutchpacc.com.

YL-OM Contest -- SSB, 1400Z Feb 10 to 0200Z Feb 12.

ARRL International DX Contest, CW, 0000Z Feb 17-2400Z Feb 18.

CQ WW 160-meter SSB Contest, 0000Z Feb 24-2400Z Feb 25.

UBA Contest -- CW, from 1300Z Feb 24-1300Z Feb 25.

High Speed CW Contest from 0900Z-1100Z and 1500Z-1700Z Feb 25. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. Exchange: RST and HSC member number or NM. Logs due 6 weeks after the contest to [hsccontest@gmail.com](mailto:hsccontest@gmail.com).

### ***From Calvin the following interesting info***

The Rules of the MARITIME COMMUNICATION DAY.  
2 0 0 7 ( Draft )

- 1). Date and duration  
1200 14th April 2007 to 1200 UTC 15th April.
- 2). Entry categories
  - a). Country Coast Station.  
Each participating maritime nation will be able to run ONE station representing their former main coast station E.g. GKA, PCH, DAN etc.
  - b). Single operator former Radio Officer
  - c). Multiple operator former Radio Officers only.
- b). Single radio amateur.
- c). Multiple operators. ( former Radio Officers not to operate for more than 3 hours).
- 3). Bands  
160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m & 10m

4). Mode

CW

5). Power 100w except for Country Coast Stations.

6). Exchange.

a). Radio Officers exchange RST plus callsign of last ship/aircraft

(if only operated at a coast station then the callsign of the coast station followed by the last letter of own callsign). Categories B and

C must only use one ship call sign.

b). Radio amateurs RST and serial number ( multiple operator stations using only one call sign).

7). 500kc/s SILENCE PERIODS WILL BE OBSERVED AND LOGGED.

8). Points.

Full exchange with Country Coast Station 5 points

Ship to ship callsigns 3

points

Ship to amateur or amateur to ship 2 points

Amateur to amateur 1 point

Multiplier

Each maritime nation contacted (includes flags of convenience

Panama

etc.) a list of multipliers will be printed and on the web site.

Multipliers apply once only regardless of band worked.

Accuracy is important and 2 points will be deducted for inaccurate

ships call signs being logged, Failure to observe and log silence

periods will result in a deduction of 50 points and if persistently

noted may lead to disqualification. ( Check logs and referees will be

monitoring the bands).

9).Awards.

A certificate will be awarded to the operator(s) of the the stations

coming first second and third in each category.

10). Entries and logs.

All entries must be accompanied by the entry form which can be found

on the web site at [www.xxx.xxx](http://www.xxx.xxx) or obtained by post from

xxxxxxx by

sending a stamped self addressed envelope.

Computer logs must be submitted to the organiser using ASCII text file

in the Cabrillo format. And submitted to xxxxx@.....

Paper logs can be posted to ...

Logs must arrive by 1200UTC on date;...

Note ; silence periods have been included in this in order to provide

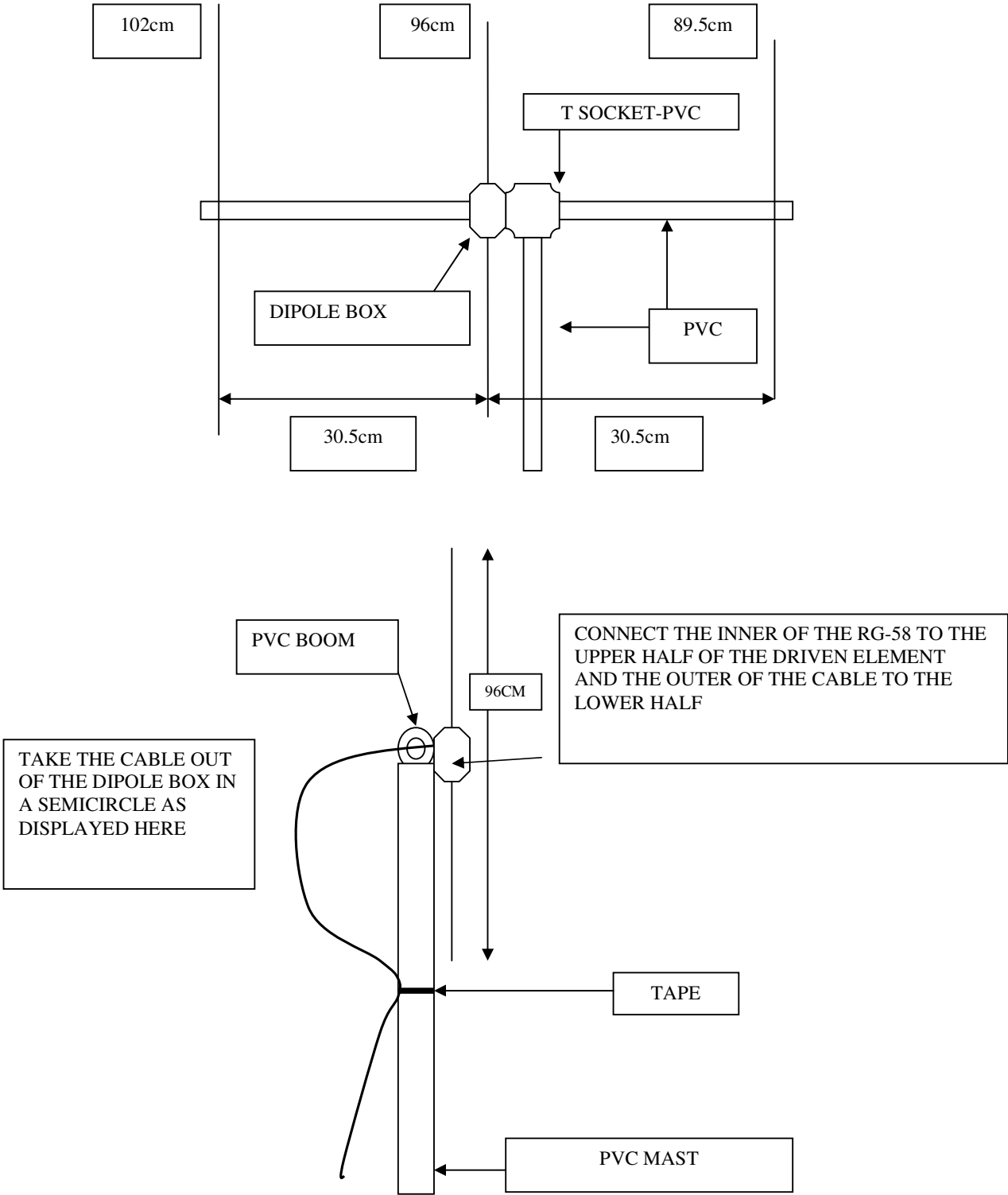
some recollection of the silence periods we used.

<<http://www.radiomaritimeday.org/>><http://www.radiomaritime.org/>

updated January 8th 2007

# Easy 3 Element Yagi

Design 4S5MH / Prepared by 4S7HG



2 Metre Yagi..continued...

This antenna will give you very good performance with low SWR. The antenna can handle less than 25 W. If you want to load more than 25 watts there is a special balun which can be made by rolling the cable 3-4 turns and anchor on the mast. Please feel free to contact us for any clarifications, polar patterns, details on gain/performance and comments.

73 DE 4S5MH / 4S7HG .

The above article might be useful to our VHF fans and also the newcomers to the hobby who might like to construct a directional antenna. (Editor)

### **MEMBER ACTIVITIES**

**Kamal: 4S7AB** has been Globe trotting!! In December Kamal was in the Maldives with the call 8Q7ED, but unfortunately couldn't get on the band due to pressure of work. We received a note of condolence from Kamal all the way from Nigeria on the passing away of Mahinda. Kamal keeps popping up from the most exotic of places!

**RON 4S7RO/6Y5** Ron XYL Madhvi VU2MAB are well settled in, in their new house in Kingston Jamaica and is unlikely to make a visit back to 4S7 for some months yet. He has made Ham Radio take a back seat in the past year or so while going into fine mixes of his singing. He is about to burn a CD of his music albeit for private circulation. Ron & Madhavi <mchilkuri@cwjamaica.com> is their e-mail address

**NOEL LOKUGE 4S7AVR/8Q7AVR** Noel is back in 4S7 after spending Christmas and New Year with Romesh 4S7RF/8Q7NMR/VK2IWZ?? By the way Romesh wishes everyone the very best of 73. Romesh Lokuge <romeshl@bigpond.net.au>

**Diya alasadi vi1dz@hotmail.com** Some of you might remember Diay the President of the Iraqi Amateur Radio Club who was here for some months last year. He also attended one of the RSSL Meetings. He sends greetings to the RSSL. You can e-mail him and say Hi!

**T. PELPOLA -Pel 4S7TP** We are delighted to have Pel back in 4s7, wintering here in 4s7 getting away from cold Toronto. One of the first things Pel does on arrival is to fire his HF Rig on 40 metres and get on the 4S7 rag chew net at 7.30 a.m. Pel puts in a nice signal from Kandy and you might just catch him before he gets back in a couple of weeks time.

**4S7AK ASANTHA:** We offer our heartiest congratulations to Asantha and XYL Wathsala on their Crystal Controlling last year. After a whirlwind honeymoon in the Far East and Europe Asantha and Wathsala are back in 4S7 and it is confirmed that they are getting ready for the arrival of their harmonic later in 2007.

### **IF NOT DELIVERED**

Radio Society of Sri Lanka  
P.O. Box 907  
Colombo

**4S7GV GLEN** There is no doubt that Glen Pappa takes the prize for the longest running Early Bird net on 145.500 at 6.30 in the morning. His cheery voice making the roll-call is a delightful wake up call for those who congregate on the frequency. All credit to him for keeping the 2M activity going and also getting the guys to come up at 4 PM on the Yati repeater.

**80/40M OPERATIONS-** With the sunspots hitting the low morning HF rag chew some-days pops up on 3.600MHz at 7.30 AM. 4S7MM Sarath from Ibbagamuwa, CF-Calwin Panadura, VJ- Wijay from Himbutanne, EA- Ernest Pepiliyana, WN-Nihal Ward Place, KG- Kule from Nawala, NE-Nelson Negambo and VK-Victor from Piluyandala chew the rag most mornings. Home brew maestro Al Ananda from Polgahawela keeps watch on 7060 to start the ball rolling while Glen Pappa GV does his SWLing with his National DR-31. That's it then for this special issue. CU next month.

**FOR SALE:** Icom PCR-1000 Computer based communications receiver. Along with Radio Shack wideband outdoor antenna 20-043 with lead in MFJ-1024 SWL Outdoor active Antenna (has switch to select between the two antennas) with lead in Power supply to power all equipment

Price: Rs 60,000 or highest offer

Contact:

Sarath Mendis, c/o Nirodah Meditation Center,  
Gangamulle Estate, Thawalantenna 20838

email [merlysys@gmail.com](mailto:merlysys@gmail.com)

SMS text messages 077 951 8920

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### **PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**

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*Edited and designed by Victor 4S7VK – Editor RSSL and published by The Radio Society of Sri Lanka.*

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**To:**