

DORSET AMATEUR RADIO

SOCIAL NETWORK

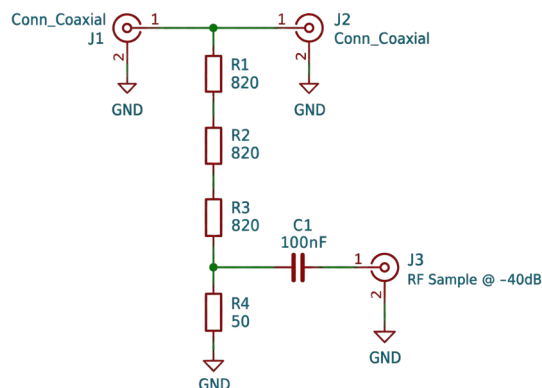
Technical Supplement

November 2026

<https://darsn.co.uk>

In this issue:

- 100 Watt Dummy Load
- RF Sampler
- DX News
- Countryman Inn
- New DARSN Nets
- QSO Pulse



Lindsay - M9LIN
Secretary / Treasurer



Bill - M9WEG
Chairman



Tim - M9WWA
Editor

Events in November

145 Alive
Winter VHF Simplex Challenge
2026/2027
1 Oct 2026 to 1 Feb 2027

DARSN Meet up
Canford Magna Complex
14th November 2026
12:00 until 15:00

See page 4 for more.

Nets

Mondays	GB3OF
Tuesdays	145.400 FM
Wednesdays	70.400 FM
Thursdays	Zoom Chat
Fridays	GB3OF
Saturdays	GB3OF
Sundays	144.375 USB

All details can be found on our Facebook page



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Darsn Dinner



Christmas Dinner at the Canford Magna Complex.

Friday 11th December 2026

More details on page 4

DARSN NETS!

Mondays	GB3OF
Tuesdays	145.400 FM
Wednesdays	70.375 FM
Thursdays	Zoom Chat
Fridays	GB3OF
Saturdays	GB3OF
Sundays	144.375 USB

New DARSN Nets on a Monday and Friday. Part of DARSN's "Keep In Touch" program for the Winter.

Runs from November 1st 2026 until 31st March 2027.

Check out the [NETS](#) Page for more details on Nets in the area.

DARSN would like to thank all of our volunteers who give up their time and resources to run the Nets. You are very much appreciated.

DARSN News

Check out the [facebook](#) page, [official website](#) and [wavewizards.org](#).

There are plenty of events coming up and they will be published, as usual in the Newsletter nearer the time.

A new members only section will be opening up for DARSN members (those who have joined and received a membership card and number). Details will be released soon so keep an eye out for that.

November DX News

Start	End	DXCC	Call	QSL Via	Info
26 th Oct	25 th Nov	Lesotho	7P9EA	HB9CCS	HB9CCS fm Thaba-Tseka (KG0hl); HF; CW SSB
28 th Oct	6 th Nov	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	LoTW	W5JON fm Calypso Bay; 160-6m; SSB FT8
28 th Oct	9 th Nov	Senegal	6W	LoTW	160-6m; CW SSB RTTY FT8; QSL via I2YSB
20 th Oct	5 th Nov	Vanuatu	YJ0SP	VK2SP	By VK2SP fm Port Vila; HF
30 th Oct	6 th Nov	Antigua	V26JJ	LoTW	HF; CW SSB FT8; QSL via Club Log OQRS
30 th Oct	12 th Nov	American Samoa	KH8A	Club Log OQRS	IOTA OC-045 (AH45op)
31 st Oct	14 th Nov	Wallis & Futuna	FW3GT	M0OXO	Futuna I (IOTA OC-118) 40-10m CW FT8; 600w
1 st Nov	30 th Nov	Juan Fernandez Is	XR0Z	LoTW	By CE3VTZ XQ7I fm Alexander Selkirk I (IOTA SA-101) 160-6m; CW SSB FT8; QSL via M0UXR
4 th Nov	11 th Nov	Cape Verde Is	D44PX	LoTW	Boa Vista (HK86mc); 60-6m; SSB FT8 FT4; 100w; vertical, dipoles; QSL via Club Log OQRS
9 th Nov	20 th Nov	Mozambique	C8K	LoTW	160-6m, incl 60m, focus on low bands; SSB CW RTTY FT8 FT4 PSK; QSL via Club Log OQRS or OK6DJ
10 th Nov	24 th Nov	Guinea	3X4U	M0OXO	Lac de Koba; 160-6m; CW SSB FT8 RTTY; 5 stns; 1kw; 2 hexbeams, phased verticals, foursquare, verticals
13 th Nov	15 th Nov	Ceuta & Melilla	EG9MM	LoTW	Melilla; 80-10m; SSB + digital
13 th Nov	20 th Nov	Cape Verde Is	D44JB	LoTW	Santo Antao I (HK77le); 80-10m; focus on SSB FT8; vertical, fan dipole; QSL via Club Log OQRS
14 th Nov	22 nd Nov	South Cook Is	E51A	YT5A (B/d)	By YT5A fm Rarotonga I; HF; CW SSB FT8
15 th Nov	22 nd Nov	Ecuador	HD4W	Club Log OQRS	PY8WW Cojimies I (IOTA SA-056) SSB CW FT8
16 th Nov	4 th Dec	Christmas I	VK9XY	M0OXO	160-6m; QRV for CQWW DX CW
20 th Nov	27 th Nov	Cocos (Keeling) I	VK9DS	?	80-6m; SSB CW FT8; Club Log and QRZ
23 rd Nov	30 th Nov	Honduras	HR5	LoTW	HR5/F2JD; HF; all modes; QSL via F6AJA; QRV through Mar 15, 2027
23 rd Nov	30 th Nov	Sint Maartin	PJ7WW	LoTW	160-10m; CW; QSL via Club Log OQRS or DL1MGB (B/d)
25 th Nov	5 th Dec	Honduras	HR9	LoTW	K6VHF/HR9 fm Roatan I (IOTA NA-057); 160-6m hexbeam, longwire, delta, beam; QSL Club Log OQRS
28 th Nov	4 th Dec	Christmas I	VK9DS	?	By VK6DS; 80-6m; SSB CW FT8 Club Log and QRZ
28 th Nov	4 th Dec	Tonga	A35TV	Club Log OQRS	By VK2IR VK3YP; 160-6m; FT8 CW SSB
29 th Nov	7 th Dec	Br Virgin Is	VP2V	LoTW	VP2V/WE9G fm Tortola; 160-6m; QSL via WE9G
30 th Nov	9 th Dec	St Martin	FS	LoTW	DL1MGB; 160-10m; CW; QSL via Club Log OQRS or DL1MGB (B/d)

Events Guide

I will try to dedicate a full page every issue so you can see whats coming up!



Join the DARSN Crew for food and drinks, or just for the company.
14th November 2026 from midday 12:00 until 15:00

Free parking and plenty of chat.
Canford Magna Complex, Magna Road, Canford Magna, Wimborne, Dorset
BH21 3AP – SatNav use BH21 3AL
Tel: 01202 881922

Winter VHF Simplex Challenge 2026/2027

A personal 2 meter challenge that runs right through the winter. Work as many unique stations and grid squares as you can on 144 MHz FM and SSB simplex, then upload your ADIF log and receive your own certificate. Simplex only, 25 watts maximum at the transmitter. No repeaters, internet links, satellites, cross-band or digital modes.

Exchange is signal report and your 6-character grid square.

<https://145alive.com/events/11-winter-vhf-simplex-challenge-20262027>



Darsn Dinner - December

Join us for Christmas Dinner at the Canford Magna Complex on Friday 11th December 2026. Please arrive around 5:30 if you would like drinks!

If you would like to join us for food, please let Lindsay (M9LIN) have your Starters, Mains and Pudding choice.

Canford Magna Complex
Magna Road
Canford Magna
Wimborne
Dorset

BH21 3AP – SatNav use BH21 3AL
Tel: 01202 881922



The Countryman Inn - Meet-up

DARSN had a meet up at The Countryman Inn and officially presented the Honorary Membership awards to Peter (G0PDF) and Ron (2E0JPD) & Mo. DARSN would like to thank them for their contributions to the Amateur Radio scene.



Having known Peter G0PDF & Ron 2E0JPD for a few years the Chairman Bill Gray (M9WEG) & I (M9LIN) felt that the Club G3DAR should honour Peter & Ron with Honorary Membership to our club for their long service to Amateur Radio.

They were presented with a framed certificate, a small tot of their favourite drink and a DARSN badge.

Peter has, for many years in various clubs, run weekly nets and encouraged people to engage in the hobby. He is also very good at CW, and a good teacher too.

Ron also takes part in many activities across several clubs, he has embraced new technologies along with his enthusiasm for contacting America and other long distance qso's both have a great sense of humour too and keep us all laughing.

Thank you to you both from all of us in the amateur radio community, but especially from the Darsn Crew – Lindsay M9LIN

Join Darsn

Why not Join Darsn, it's free, no cost and you get some perks to being a member!

As a member you will get:

- 1) Your very own Membership Card with Members Pack
- 2) Membership benefits in our Online Store (Discounts on Shipping and exclusive Member Only items)
- 3) Your own Wavelog Account (Online QSO Log system)
- 4) Sneak Previews on the upcoming Newsletter Contents
- 5) Access to our Members Only Website section.
- 6) Circuits and Products designed for our Members! (Coming Soon)

It has never been easier to Join us.

Download the Application Form here or visit <https://www.wavewizards.org/join/>

Downloaded forms should be filled in and sent to m9lin@wavewizards.org

If filling in the online form, your details will be sent when you submit.

All the necessary information will be emailed out to you when your application has been approved.



SatFix GNSS Display
£25.00 – £40.00



Torch
£12.00



Fox Controller
£70.00



Private: Newsletter
Collection 2026
(Printed)

BBDL are enrolling for the Intermediate Course

Ready for Intermediate Progression?

If the time is right for you to progress from Foundation, the highly successful Bath Based Distance Learning team are enrolling for their next Intermediate course. The course runs January to May with weekly on-line tutorials, quizzes, suggested practical exercises, a few crosswords and support via small tutor groups.

To qualify for a place you must complete a pre-course classroom to make sure you can use the BBDL system and to be sure that you are up to speed with the current Foundation material.

Does it work? Since the course started in 2021 the pass rate for those that complete the course is 96%, compared with a national average of 86%, and the majority of those who pass with the help of BBDL go on to succeed at Full level too.

If this sounds like something you want to try, e-mail Steve, g0fuw@bbdl.org.uk But don't delay, the closing date for applications is Wednesday 16 December, and the pre-course must be completed by 23 December.

QSO Pulse By Craig Turner M6SZI

An independent toolkit for Windows PC + Android Devices, bringing everyday logging and practical operating tools together.

From Military communications to amateur radio

I am Craig Turner, M6SZI. I joined the hobby in 2026 after a 22-year British Army career, finishing as a Warrant Officer. At times I served as a CIS Schools Instructor, teaching military communications. Amateur radio offered a way to bring that interest back into my life.

Why I started QSO Pulse

As I explored 2m and 70cm operating, I found plenty of useful individual apps and tools, often paid for separately or supported by adverts. I wanted to bring the tools I needed into one clear, modern interface, at home on a Windows PC and out operating on an Android device.

What it does

QSO Pulse combines contact logging, creation of event logbooks, a consolidated Master Logbook, QSO mapping, repeater information and practical radio tools. ADIF import and export let you bring existing contacts across and move your records between compatible software, and much more.

For a society net.

Windows Net Control helps organise check-ins, show who is waiting or on air, and record contacts as the round progresses.

On Android, logging, nearby repeater lookup and field tools support portable operating. Local Wi-Fi logbook sync connects the two editions.

I have put a great deal of time into making QSO Pulse useful to fellow enthusiasts. My aim is to help you spend more time enjoying radio and less time organising the tools around it.

I would love you to Like, Share and Follow me on this journey.

Coming in January 2027

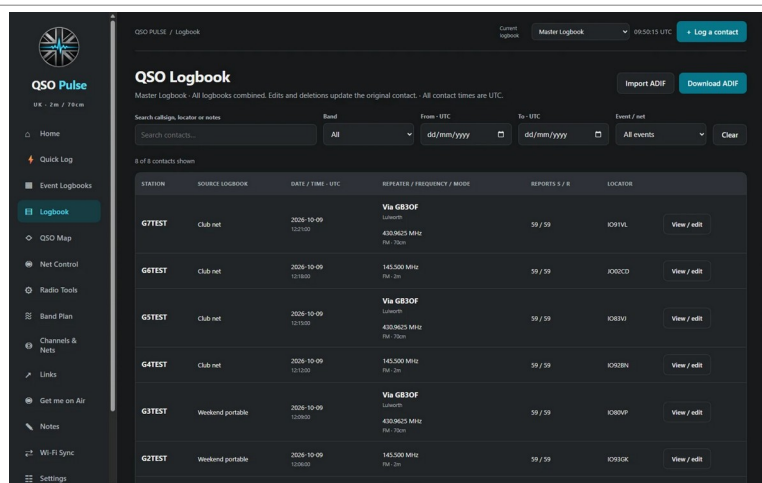
QSO Pulse will launch in January 2027.

In November 2026, I am looking for testers to try the software during their everyday operating and give honest feedback. If you would like to help, please apply through the website.

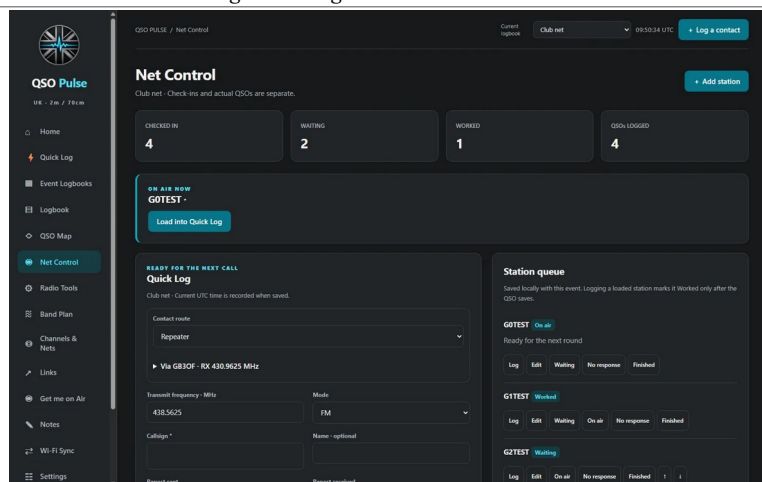
Find out more at qsopulse.co.uk

Apply to test at qsopulse.co.uk/testers

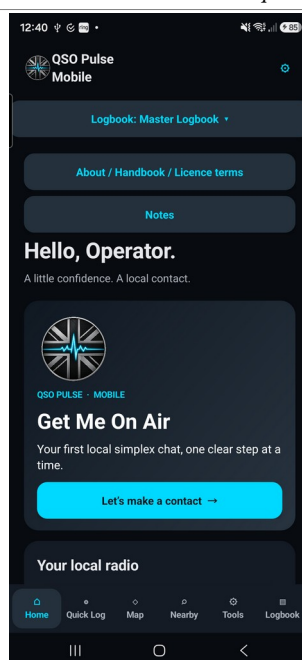
Contact qsopulse@gmail.com



Windows Master Logbook brings event contacts into one searchable view.



Windows Net Control helps the controller manage the round and log contacts.



Editors Note:

It is not very often that I look at a log system and stop to take a really good look. I have been using HAM2K Polo for many years and I have been very impressed at it's simplicity. QSO Pulse however, had me looking quite hard.

The GUI looks very well laid out and "ease of use" has been taken seriously.

The feature set just keeps on growing and I would like to ask everyone to go and take a look at the website (left) and give Craig some feedback.

Well done Craig, I hope that your project takes off and that the Amateur Radio Community enjoy the fruits of your toil. [ED]

100 Watt Dummy Load – M9WWA

Back in [September](#) 2026, I published a Schematic for the QRP Dummy Load

This Month, I thought I would cater for the higher power users.

I was doing my usual trawling around a well known Chinese Electronics site and came across a pair of 100 Watt 50Ω resistors with a slightly unusual footprint. I figured I would put them to the test and see what happens.

You will need:

1 x Metal Box

1 x Heatsink

1 x SO-239 (or BNC)

1 x 100 or 250 Watt Resistor (50Ω)



Start by marking out and installing your Connector. You can use SO-239 for HF and VHF. I would recommend the use of BNC or N-Type for Frequencies higher than 150MHz.

Line up the Resistor inside the case and mark and drill the mounting holes. Remember that the Heatsink should be facing up so if you use a case where the lid screws down from the top, the top should become the bottom.

Mount the Resistor and the Heatsink.

Get yourself a minimal length of good quality 50Ω coax. You want it long enough to connect from the inside conductor to the center tab of the Resistor. Please try to use some strain relief when laying the Coax in position. The tab on the Resistor IS very fragile. A little movement or flex WILL break off the tab.

You may be tempted to use a single piece of wire to make that connection. If you do, the resulting Inductance change will result in a very Non-Linear Response and this will show up in your SWR test results as high as 3.2:1 at UHF

The use of Coax allows a reduction in Inductance hence maintains SWR and 50Ω across your Frequency Span.

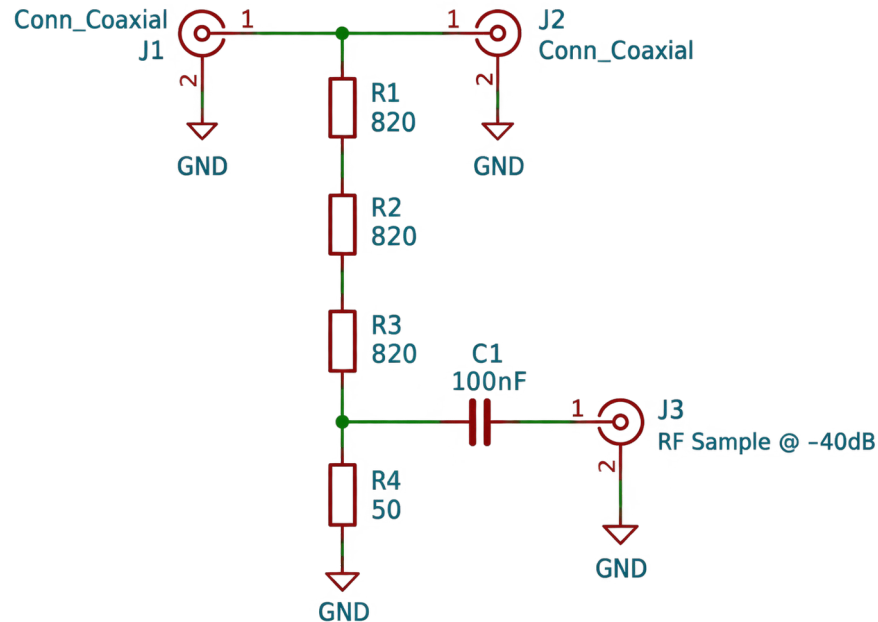
Link to Amazon: <https://amzn.eu/d/0aVNQF8d>

RF Sampler – M9WWA

There are many occasions when you would want to connect an active RF device to something like an Oscilloscope or VNA, maybe you are wanting to align some filter stage or tune a low pass filter. If you connect something over +10dB into a very sensitive device, it is quite easy to blow the front end of the test equipment.

You really should limit any RF into test equipment to around 0dB (1mW)

This homebrew piece of kit will help you to achieve that goal without blowing the crap out of your equipment.



You will need a suitable case (Try to use a Metal / Die-Cast Aluminium box)

1 x BNC

2 x SO-239 (or N-Type / BNC)

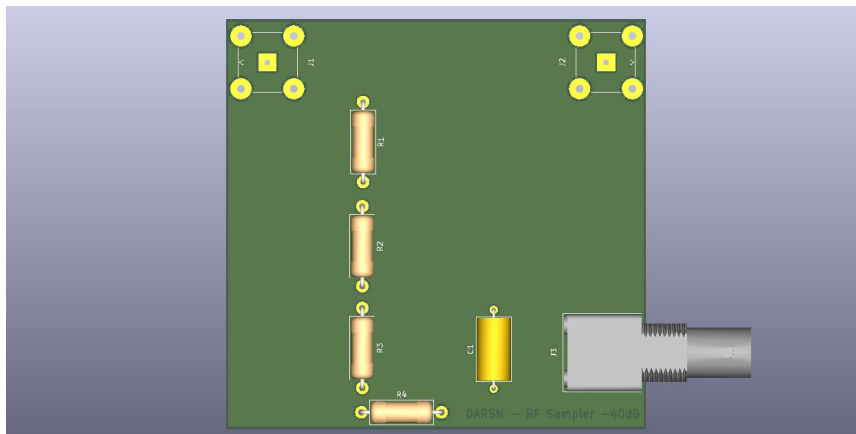
R1, R2 and R3 are 820Ω ¼ or ½ Watt

R4 is 1 x 50Ω ¼ Watt OR 2 x 100Ω 1% in Parallel

C1 is 100nF Ceramic Capacitor (This blocks DC from entering your Sampling equipment :)

I do have a version that gives you a selectable Dummy Load or “Though” option but there are caveats to consider like “Sheet Resistance” and the extra Inductance that you have to account for.

Interactive Bill of Materials - <https://www.wavewizards.org/bom/rfsampler/rfsampler.html>



There is no point in making a board for this project. Point to Point wiring is preferred and causes less headaches!

I went ahead and made one anyway.

Notice the absence of the “Though” port Connectors.

The Connectors are your choice and I leave it up to you. DARSN members get access to all of the design considerations and where applicable, the KiCad files / source code for projects.

Well, that's this end of the November Newsletter. I hope you have enjoyed this issue.

We also commemorate this, the 12th issue of the Newsletter – Happy Birthday!

Join the Facebook Group to get the newsletter or view it online <https://www.darsn.co.uk>.

You can also download the latest issue at www.wavewizards.org/newsletter

As usual, a huge thanks to everyone who go out and participate in events and meet ups.

Wavewizards will be rolling out the members only section very soon.

If you are a DARSN member please keep an eye out for an email!

Until next time, keep those finals warm. 73's Tim [M9WWA – Ed]

Make a Donation <https://pay.collectiv.com/dorset-amateur-radio-social-network-running-costs-33420>

Lots of merchandise available check out the Online Store for details, let me know if you would like anything.

Caps, t-shirts, key rings, sweatshirts, hoodies, chopping boards, pens, lanyards, note books, mugs etc

We are a not for profit club and all proceeds go towards keeping the club going.



Thank you for your support M9LIN

DARSN