

MCBARG Climb Report

Date : 18th October 2026

Climbers : Kevin M0BFB, Ian G1JXP

Ground Crew : Alan G3XPY

Report by : Ian G1JXP

OBJECTIVE

To remove the temporary structural member and replace with the newly manufactured replacement made to original specifications immediately below the first platform at approximately 18m. Whilst up the Tower, review the best way to replaced the small corroded member situated under the platform supporting the internal Ladder frame.

WORKS

Crew assembled at 9:00 on site and the Safety Equipment was positioned in place at the base of the Tower. Climbing commenced just after 9:40am.

Similar to when the original strut was removed, the Platform weight was supported by lashing to the Tower structure higher up and thus taking the weight off the fixings, and allowing the easy removal and refitting of the Bolts.

The replacement member was manufactured to a very high standard and fitted with out problem. All news bolts to original specification were installed together with the new member.

Whilst at the first Platform level, the corroded member bracing the internal Ladder Frame to the Tower immediately under the Platform was surveyed, with a view to planning the best way to extract and replace it. It wa decided, the best course of action, will be to remove a triangular part of the platform.

OBSERVATIONS

The newly manufactured Galvanized Structural member was of an extremly high standard. Our thanks go to Maurice (G3WKF) and his incredible engineering skills. It fitted perfectly.

The new Access Gate installed by Imery's at the entrance to Site was a bit tedious when several people require access without Keys of their own. Although inconvenient, the intallation of the Gate is understandable and may help improve the security of our Site a well.

The Ladder Frame bracing member immediately below the first platform by the hatch, has corroded through completely at one end.

A number of small areas of Rust were noted on the Tower structure in the vacinity of the work area and logged for future treatment. This includes structual members as well as Nuts and Bolts.

The following observations remain in place from previous Climbs:

The Central Top Pole holding the GB3NC Antenna requires the Retaining Bolts replaced. Several of the Tower Members towards the top are showing signs of advanced Surface Rust.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) The ladder Frame bracing member below the first platform requires replacing. It poses no immediate threat to the safety of the Tower or its climbers, but will need replacing as it is rotted through on one end.
- 2) The Central Top Pole hosting the GB3NC Antenna should have the Retaining Bolts replaced.
- 3) Certain parts of the Tower, mostly towards the top but also lower down, should be Rust treated and sprayed with galvanizing paint or similar.
- 4) It would be prudent at this time to start to plan in future replacement strategies for Feeders, cables ect, together with associated routing and labelling of said Feeders.
- 5) The GB3NC Antenna Feeder should be periodically monitored for advanced warning of any further deterioration.
- 6) Many of the Feeder Cables on the Tower are now reaching an advanced age, so may require replacement in the not so distant future.

~~The temporary structural member needs to be removed and replaced by its permanent replacement.~~

~~The structural member damaged by corrosion need to be removed and replaced by a temporary Strut whilst a replacement is fabricated.~~