



Welcome to this edition of BrassPounder, which covers FISTS CW Club Europe's [on-air activities](#) during March 2016.

The results for the Ladder to-date and Exchange Your Age Week (EYAW) are included. EYAW had a rest last year due to declining participation in previous years, but was reinstated this year after requests from members. We received 16 logs compared to 8 logs in 2014. While I can't say definitely that the Activity Manager next year will include EYAW, it is looking promising!

The Ladder logs for March only contained one anomaly; in a QSO between Spain and England, one member claimed it on 2m and the other claimed it on 20m—I think that 20m is more likely!

## Ladder Results

Firstly, here are the comments received:

Entrant	Comments
<b>Phil 2E0DPH</b>	Please find my log for the March Ladder. Once again good to hear new members taking part.  Phil 2E0DPH Fists 14543
<b>Robert DM4RW</b>	Not much luck at all, but better than nothing.
<b>Geoff G0DDX</b>	Thanks to OH2BN for being my 100th Club member and giving me my Basic Century Certificate at last!  Geoff G0DDX
<b>Jim G0HGH</b>	Nice to step on the Ladder again. Condx have not been that good on 40 and 80 lately when I have been on.
<b>Richard G0ILN</b>	Good fun as always.  Richard.G0ILN Fist 398.
<b>Darren G0OTT</b>	I was pleased to make it for the evening session on the 27th, operating from my Caravan at Bosworth water park. I was planning on doing the afternoon session but had to walk into town to find a nice pub to feed the family.  My KX3 with 5 watts into an inverted Vee dipole was doing a very good job, only 6m up but any higher in the storm would be foolish!  I hope to make it on more ladder sessions during the year, from home and portable.  73 Darren g0ott

<b>Michael G0POT</b>	Not a huge number of FISTS Ops heard during my one Ladder session this month but did work two newcomers to CW and one QRPp station which was great. QRP here as normal...thanks to all who found me.  de Michael (G0POT)
<b>Tony G3ZRJ</b>	Sorry very QRL so not a big entry but glad to take part and give out some points.  73 Tony G3ZRJ
<b>Peter G4LHI</b>	I attach my log for the Fists Ladder. Pity the QSB was bad on 40m, but no contests. I enjoyed the Ladder as always & meeting the same guys hi. Great fun as always. Mni tnx fer the QSOs guys, cul in April?  de Peter G4LHI # 2219
<b>Peter GW0VLN</b>	As an old teacher said, must try harder or is this paddle back to front?
<b>Vanni I5ECW</b>	Here is my March entry. Very poor conditions on third session. Hope will be better in April.  73's
<b>Emil I5EFO</b>	I really enjoyed myself.  73 Emil I5EFO
<b>Gianfranco IU1DZZ</b>	A good beer, my straight key and my fists friends, despite a lot of local qrm.
<b>Derek M0DRK</b>	Hi Graham. Here is my Ladder Log for March. Due to family visiting, almost didn't get my Easter Sunday afternoon session in, but excused myself just in time to get five qos' in time. See you next month.  73 for now, Derek, M0DRK, 8344
<b>Dave M0GGK</b>	Hi All March was a strange month. I managed to get five stations in, including some good DX. I have a new Begali key, so getting used to that. Great to work Darren G0OTT/P; been three years since my last qso with him.  Catch you all soon 73 Dave M0GGK
<b>Erkki OH7QR</b>	Hello Graham. Here comes my log for March Ladder. After QRT period in Febr, it was good to be on bands again.  Thanks and 73 de Erkki OH7QR fists 8318

There is a change to the February results; Emil I5EFO's entry went into an email black hole but is now included in the February column.

Welcome to this month's new entrants to the 2016 Ladder: Darren G0OTT, Jim G0HGH, Ralf DM5RS, and Tony G3ZRJ.

On average the scores for March look lower than those in February but similar to those in January.

There was plenty of movement in the table. At the top, Peter G4LHI moved up to position 1 and Vanni I5ECW moved down to position 2. Richard G0ILN made a comeback, moving up from position 6 to

position 3, displacing Phil 2E0DPH who moved down to position 5. In amongst all the ups and downs, Pete M5ABN was immune to the changes and stayed at position 4.

Here is the results table:

Callsign	Position	Previous	Movement	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar
G4LHI	1	2	↑	114	36	44	34
I5ECW	2	1	↓	112	36	46	30
G0ILN	3	=6	↑	96	22	32	42
M5ABN	4	4	-	94	17	39	38
2E0DPH	5	3	↓	92	27	41	24
G3XVL	6	5	↓	89	24	31	34
M0DRK	=7	9	↑	67	21	23	23
SP9NLI	=7	8	↑	67	20	28	19
F5OGJ	9	=6	↓	54	26	28	
OH7QR	10	12	↑	52	34		18
I5EFO	=11	=16	↑	40		18	22
IK0NOJ	=11	10	↓	40	40		
M0GGK	13	=13	-	36	4	24	8
G0POT	=14	15	↑	35		24	11
G4IZZ	=14	11	↓	35	15	20	
G4KLE	16	=13	↓	28		28	
OH2BN	17	18	↑	24	16		8
DM4RW	=18	=16	↓	20	10	8	2
G0DDX	=18	=21	↑	20	8		12
EA4BL	=20	24	↑	16	6		10
IU1DZZ	=20	=21	↑	16		8	8
G0OTT	22	-	↑	15			15
G4FWA	23	19	↓	12	6	6	
G0HGH	24	-	↑	11			11
HA7HF	=25	20	↓	10		10	
M6MEN	=25	=21	↓	10	8		2
DM5RS	27	-	↑	9			9
GW0VLN	28	=25	↓	8		4	4
OZ8AGB	29	=25	↓	6	4		2
G3ZRJ	30	-	↑	5			5
PA1FOX	31	27	↓	2		2	

## Exchange Your Age Week 2016

Here are the comments received:

Entrant	Comments
<b>Phil 2E0DPH</b>	<p>Please find my log for EYAW. Good to see this event back on the activity calendar and to take part again when time allowed. Many thanks to all those I worked during the week.</p> <p>Phil 2E0DPH Fists 14543</p>
<b>David 2E0EML</b>	<p>My First EYAW. Great fun.</p>
<b>Geoff G0DDX</b>	<p>Lovely to see EYAW back on the list.</p> <p>Geoff G0DDX</p>
<b>Richard G0ILN</b>	<p>Good fun and as always nice to meet old and new friends. I must admit the average age of entrants (me included) does somewhat worry me about the future of CW(!) but of course some ops have to work for a living.</p> <p>Richard.G0ILN Fist 398.</p>
<b>Peter G4LHI</b>	<p>I attach my log for the Fists EYAW. Pity the QRP contest on Saturday spoilt the otherwise good week. .Apart from that I enjoyed the reintroduced fun event, but was disappointed with the lack of members' support—mostly the same guys each day (mni trn to them). I never heard anyone calling CQ Fists EYAW? Great fun &amp; hope the lack of support will not mean this will be taken out again next year?</p> <p>73 de Peter G4LHI</p>
<b>Emil I5EFO</b>	<p>I really enjoyed myself.</p> <p>73 Emil I5EFO</p>
<b>Derek M0DRK</b>	<p>Hi Graham. Here is my log for EYA Week. Many calls recorded for you to check, hope all ok. Lucky to get a full house with Peter, G4LHI and Phil, 2E0DPH. Very nice to work Graham, 2E0DPH on 2 Metres CW several times. Graham is doing well with his CW on local practice sessions run on 2M by Peter, G4LHI. Thanks to all who gave me points. 73 to all, see you next year's EYA Week.</p> <p>Derek, M0DRK, 8344</p>
<b>Pete M5ABN</b>	<p>A great week of activity &amp; thanks to all stations who came on to support it.</p> <p>73 Pete M5ABN #6423</p>
<b>Mark M6MEN</b>	<p>EYA Week..... BRILLIANT FUN THANKS.</p>
<b>Erkki OH7QR</b>	<p>Hello Graham, Please find attached my log for EYAW. This is my first log since January. Good to be on the bands again. Many thanks for this interesting event. Worked ages between 53 to 94.</p> <p>73 Erkki OH7QR fists 8318</p>

Next, the results table:

Callsign	Position	Points
<b>G4LHI</b>	1	8846
<b>2E0DPH</b>	2	3238
<b>G0ILN</b>	3	2984
<b>M0DRK</b>	4	2835
<b>I5ECW</b>	5	2066
<b>OH7QR</b>	6	1972
<b>M5ABN</b>	7	1921
<b>2E0JYK</b>	8	1876
<b>M6MEN</b>	9	1164
<b>SP9NLI</b>	10	1011
<b>G3XVL</b>	11	843
<b>2E0EML</b>	12	627
<b>G0DDX</b>	13	417
<b>I5EFO</b>	14	165
<b>DG5BKA</b>	15	51
<b>DM5RS</b>	16	6

Thanks to everyone who took part and congratulations to the certificate winners:

**Peter G4LHI in 1<sup>st</sup> place, Phil 2E0DPH, in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and Richard G0ILN in 3<sup>rd</sup> place.**

Peter logged 130 QSOs with an average age of 66 with the youngest being 35 and the oldest 94.

## QRU?

The [next activities](#) are:

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 10 Apr		<a href="#">FISTS Eu Ladder</a>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 24 Apr		<a href="#">FISTS Eu Ladder</a>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Mon 25 Apr	Fri 29 Apr	<a href="#">EuCW/AGCW QRS Activity Week</a>	0000-2359 UTC
Sat 07 May		<a href="#">FISTS Am Spring Slow Speed Sprint</a>	1700-2100 UTC
Sun 08 May		<a href="#">FISTS Eu Ladder</a>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sat 14 May		<a href="#">FISTS Am Spring Unlimited Sprint</a>	1700-2100 UTC
Sun 15 May		<a href="#">RSGB 4m CW Contest</a>	0900-1200 UTC
Sun 22 May		<a href="#">FISTS Eu Ladder</a>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 29 May		<a href="#">FISTS Eu QRS Fifth Sunday</a>	0001-2359 UTC

**Note** that EuCW/AGCW [QRS Week](#) starts on 25<sup>th</sup> April and runs for 5 days. Since AGCW took over running QRS Week, FISTS has been the most highly-placed club every single year. Let's keep it that way—please have lots of QRS QSOs and send in a log (FISTS Log Converter supports QRS Week).

I've been asked about the certificates for the 2015 Activities. I've not forgotten; these are a joint effort by Mrs ZOD and me. However, my priority recently has been getting a *Key Note* ready (the good news being that it is now being printed and should arrive in a couple of weeks' time).

If you'd like to read previous BrassPounders, they are [available on the website](#).

That's it for this month. Have fun with CW!

73 de Graham G3ZOD  
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