



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

Greetings Dear FISTS,

Welcome to this edition of BP hot on the heels of the last late one!!

## VHF

The 2m activity results are in now and are shown later. I have also had some comments via email...also repeated here. Thanks to all who joined in and also the many who said we should continue. So.... I suggest that we run the VHF activity for the foreseeable future as follows.

"Evening Chaps,

Just wanted to share a bit of feedback on the 2m CW events over the last month or so.

I really enjoyed the 2m CW sessions and it took me back to the days when there was a 2mCW Yahoo group and you could often get a response to a call on this band.

I operated in as many as I could and was really disappointed to miss the Saturday session which could have brought out some DX.

Living in an awful VHF location I opted to get out and operate portable choosing Walbury Hill about 35 mins from my QTH. As a result of this I found the activity time to be a little on the late side for a 'school night' and couldn't operate for the whole session. If more of these are planned I would welcome consideration of running it from 7pm - 9pm local for us portable Ops.

I really liked the format which felt a bit like the Ladder...relaxed enough so that you can have a bit of chat and go as slow as needed to encourage new fists but with enough time to rise to the challenge and get a few QSOs squeezed in.

With many (most?) stations working from home on vertical aerials it also gave me some opportunities to try both horizontal and vertical polarisation of my beam and to experiment with power levels.

On each session I seemed to work some local(ish) stations using high power along with little clusters in very specific geographical locations in the UK which changed each week.

JFI...my hill top station:

- FT857

- Bathtub straight key

- SOTABeams 3ele beam on a 3m pole

- Power typically 5W but on one session I had to up that to 20W. If we do more of these I may try larger beams and more power to see what difference it makes but 5W did well and I worked almost everything I heard on each session.

I will keep my eye out for and support any future VHF/UHF CW events that FISTS organise simply because they are interesting and offer something quite different to HF.

Great work organising this guys.

Michael (GOPOT)”

Thanks Michael and many thanks for the several QSO were shared.

How I think it should progress...

Days: Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

Times: 1900-2100 LOCAL (1800-2000Z)

Frequencies: 144.050

I think these two hours will concentrate the calls. For Saturday or other time working use the FISTS email reflector or better yet, the ‘sked’ reflector. Let’s try it and see please.

We have had much discussion about which frequency to use and the general consensus seems to be that using 144.058 is not clever as it misses non-fists members and also gives the impression that we don’t want to talk to non-FISTS...nothing could be further from the truth of course.

2M results.

Callsign	Position	Total Points
G0POT/P	1	211
G4LHI	2	135
2E0DPH	3	75
M0GSX	4	71
G4YTJ	5	54
GX2HDF	6	42
G0XAH	7	33
M0DRK/QRP	8	18
M0UZE	9	6
MW0BGL	9	6
G7WHI	11	3
M10WWB	12	1

## 2m Comments

### Comments for 2m Bank Holiday Refresher 2019

Entrant	Comments
Phil 2E0DPH	Here is my log for the 2m refresher. I was only available for a couple of sessions but good to hear people having a go, the reflector also shows that there is signs of life on this band Hi! 73 Phil 2E0DPH
Michael G0POT	I operated from Walbury Hill (IO91gi) so was limited to just the first hour but thoroughly enjoyed it. Love these relaxed events where you can share a bit more info and have a few exchanges before progressing with the hunt. I only heard a couple more stations that I didn't have the opportunity to work...I don't think conditions were that hot.  de Michael (G0POT)
David G0XAH	Only have a dual band co linear nowadays
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI Claim for 2mtr event. Very poorly supported. Disappointing, G4LHI # 2219
John G4YTJ	I was only able to operate on four of the sessions. Three QSOs on the first, two on the second, one on the third and nothing on the fourth - a clear trend!
Dave G7WHI	Thanks Martin for the nice chat on 2m CW.
Mark GX2HDF	Club station entry 7782
Paul M0GSX	Hi to All, The 2M Activity was a little thin on the ground as expected here for 2 Metres but will submit my 3 best sessions anyway. The 2M sessions were very nice to operate, I usually call on 050 with skeds with my brother M0CTK (another FISTS Member) but not a great deal of activity when the band is flat - just put up my 5 Element Yagi @10 Feet with an 'Armstrong' rotator underneath it and works well, I can just hear the Kent Beacon from this QTH. Thanks again for all the Sterling work you all do behind the scenes to make this such a nice club with great events to participate in. Best 73 De M0GSX #17642 . .
Mark M0UZE	Thanks  Mark
William MI0WWB	Not too much traffic into GI-land.

## Iconic Rigs

The iconic rigs activity was fun if somewhat poorly attended – or was it? I have heard several people say they enjoyed it and then tell me they were on a band quite different from mine! I think the fact is that conditions were such that all bands worked as well or as badly as any other so we were all spread out a bit thinly. For my own part I worked a few but the highlight was a Drake T4XC being used by GW3OQK, Andrew in Swansea. I don't recall working one before (but that means nothing – nearly forty years of paper logbook!)

I think that's about it for this month. See some of you on VHF I hope and many more on HF.

73

David G4YVM

## Results for Ladder May 2019

Callsign	Posn	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
G4LRG	1	1	-	403	76	79	100	67	81
G4LHI	2	2	-	347	78	78	64	72	55
G0ILN	3	3	-	344	65	59	86	60	74
I5EFO	4	4	-	287	44	72	54	48	69
M5ABN	5	5	-	239	36	61	47	54	41
M0PBZ	6	10	↑	200	36	22	42	43	57
2E0DPH	7	6	↓	190	42	51	24	43	30
DL3HR	8	9	↑	184	27	37	52	37	31
G3XVL	9	=7	↓	173	30	57	41	27	18
OH7QR	10	=7	↓	170	26	52	40	37	15
M0GSX	11	12	↑	151	22	18	39	24	48
G0BON	12	14	↑	147	42	42	6		57
G7WHI	13	13	-	144		26	48	21	49
MW0BGL	14	15	↑	132	42			42	48
G0JHK	15	11	↓	117	33		42	42	
9H1PI	16	16	-	79	29	19	17	14	
MI0WWB	17	17	-	74	15	14	20	25	
M0DRK	18	19	↑	70	7	9	18	18	18
M0UZE	19	18	↓	64	6	19	9	24	6
G3ZRJ	20	20	-	63	18	25		8	12
G0OEY	21	=21	-	56		26	10	13	7
SP9NLI	22	=21	↓	52	12	19	12	6	3
G0XAH	23	26	↑	39				21	18
IW2JJS	24	25	↑	38		23			15
G0UYG	25	23	↓	35	6		29		
OH2BN	26	24	↓	32		9		20	3
G4DNP	27	27	-	20	6	9	5		
OZ8AGB	28	=28	-	9			3	3	3
SP2SWI	29	=28	↓	6	6				
SV2BBK	30	30	-	4				4	

## Comments for Ladder May 2019

Entrant	Comments
Nils DL3HR	I had fun in May, despite poor conditions and a contest on 26.May. Mni tnx to Chris, GU3TUX, for his extraordinary patience with me. 73, hpe cu all in June!
Ivan G0BON	Had to cut short my 1st session, but my 2nd session I had a blast with lots of Fists members active on 80m
Richard G0ILN	For me condx seem to be improving. Many thanks to all who called me . Much appreciated and hope to hear you agn sn.  Richard G0ILN Fist 398.
Andrew G0OEY	Only a few points but fun as usual. Thanks all
David G0XAH	tnx for the contacts
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI Claim for May Ladder, good fun mni tnx to all members worked & for the guys who organize this wonderful event de Peter G4LHI # 2219
John G4LRG	Once again hard work but the regulars keep it going - thanks to all for the points.
Dave G7WHI	Another enjoyable afternoon and evening on the key
Giorgio IW2JJS	Thanks and greetings to all Fists friends
Paul M0GSX	Hi To All, Hope everything at FISTS is going well, Please find attached my Ladder and 2M Activity Night logs - the Ladder sessions for this month were very good with good Propagation and managed to work a couple of new members. Best 73 De M0GSX #17642 . .
Mark M0UZE	Thanks  Mark
Pete M5ABN	Good fun as always, see you all in June 73 Pete M5ABN #6423
Erkki OH7QR	Hello David, Please find attached my log. On 26th couldn't work on band because of much QRM. Mni tks and hpe cu on bands. 73 de Erkki 8318

## Upcoming Events

### June 2019

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 23 Jun		<a href="#">RSGB 6m CW Contest</a>	0900-1200 UTC
Sun 23 Jun		<a href="#">FISTS Eu Ladder</a>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

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### July 2019

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Mon 01 Jul	Wed 31 Jul	<a href="#">FISTS Eu Word Search</a> Month 1 of 3	0000-2359 UTC
Mon 01 Jul		<a href="#">EuCW Snakes &amp; Ladders</a> summer/autumn season starts	0000 UTC
Sun 14 Jul		<a href="#">FISTS Eu Ladder</a>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 28 Jul		<a href="#">FISTS Eu Ladder</a>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

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### August 2019

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Thu 01 Aug	Sat 31 Aug	<a href="#">FISTS Eu Word Search</a> Month 2 of 3	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 11 Aug		<a href="#">FISTS Eu Ladder</a>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 25 Aug		<a href="#">FISTS Eu Ladder</a>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC