

BRASSPOUNDER



JUNE 2006

For those within FISTS who enjoy a challenge.

Hi All,

We've been enjoying fine weather here in the UK these past few weeks

I wonder if any of you have been taking the chance to drop the towers for the

Annual aerial inspection and maintenance ritual?

I'm still getting the new home into shape and ALMOST kept my promise

To Bonnie regarding getting the house in order before attempting any radioactivities.

Well, what harm does a 70cms "Slim Jim" (Hung from the curtain pole in the bedroom) Do?

I'm hoping that you've all received my mails and hopefully read my posts on the reflector

Regarding Martin, IK2RMZ/DL1GBZ, Fists#835 and his activities with DQ35AGCW

Which will of course be over with by the time you read this.

I hope many of you had the chance to get this special call in your logs.

Send me a mail and let me know if you did.

I'm going to start this months newsletter with a piece received from Tony, G4FAI

Regarding his QRS Party week activity held earlier.

The QRS Party

From 24 th to 28 th April I worked 25 stations in the EUCW/FISTS QRS Party. With such a low number over five days, I hesitated before deciding that I ought to send in a log to support the event. Much to my amazement, I came third in Class B (QRP). I also received a shared Certificate of Merit for the "Most Readable Morse".

My “success” was really due to all the FISTS members who didn’t take part in this annual event, which was run by FISTS on behalf of the European CW Association (EUCW). Due to the various problems arising from Geo’s illness there was little publicity in Key Note for this year’s Party so I would like to remind members what it’s all about, and suggest they might have a go next year. Hopefully, it will be possible to publish the rules and remind you all in good time before the 2007 event!

The EUCW is an association of CW clubs, which holds a number of CW events every year, with each event organised and run by a different club. FISTS contribution is the annual QRS Party and this runs over five weekdays, Monday to Friday, to avoid contest activity at the weekend. As a FISTS sponsored event, it would be very nice if there could be a really big turnout by members supporting it.

It is **NOT** a contest! The rules have been simplified so that all you need to do is call CQ QRS, or answer a similar call, and have a normal QSO. If a non-QRS station, or a non-EUCW station calls you, you still have a QSO and ask him or her to QRS. The purpose is to encourage as many EUCW stations on the air as possible for one week, at speeds that everyone can enjoy, but non-EUCW stations are welcome too.

Logs are requested to give an idea of how many stations and clubs have taken part. Although it is not a contest, certificates are awarded to those working the most number of stations. There is no complicated scoring system, just a simple count of stations worked. Additionally, those sending in logs can vote for the stations with the most readable Morse to be awarded a Certificate of Merit.

Overall, it is a fun event, just plenty of enjoyable Morse (especially if we get lots of FISTS members taking part!). The motto of EUCW is “Support Morse – Support EUCW!” For one week in April each year, I suggest that FISTS motto be “Support QRS – Support the EUCW QRS Party!”

73, TONY G4FAI.

(FISTS/EUCW liaison officer).

One or two comments from the WARC Challenge entrants this month

From Stan K4UK

“I was able to work John, ZL1BYZ twice on 17 Meters and tried twice to work Ralph, ZL2AOH on schedule around 2300 UTC. But nothing heard either time.

Did work Peter, G4LHI twice this month, but no other members in the UK.

I continue to make quite a few contacts on the WARC bands during my trips

To the golf course on Tuesdays and Thursdays”

73, Stan, K4UK

From Peter G4LHI

Very interesting month, worked Stan a couple of times, could have been three but he was having a nice long chat the last time I heard him so did not like to break in hi. Worked Martin for one point as DQ2006A then for a multi with his DL1GBZ call. Worked John, GM4WZL for one point in May & introduced him to the Fists Club & very pleased to find him calling CQ Fists on 12th June, nice new multi from Scotland for me. Caught up with an old Fists friend Josh 6Y5WJ in Jamaica, so look forward to see what an interesting month July brings.

From Martin when he was wearing his DL1GBZ hat during June

June report: just 3 little days in the Black Forest.

The most splendid QSO in June was with VK3DBD....

Not bad for a 25 year old Windom almost between 4 and 8 m high

(I like this comment)

I did also have the handicap that my Pa's TV produces bad noise
Especially on 10m and 30m... But as it's just a holiday QTH I won't
Modify his TV like I did my own TV where proper grounding and

Shielding with conductive paint reduced the noise a lot...

Anyway, this ANTI-TVI is still better than TVI :-)

And from Kevin, KI4DEF

Following up on his earlier comments regarding KN0WCW.

Gentlemen (and ladies?),

I promised Rob M0BPT that I would let the list members know when I plan

To take a turn operating KN0WCW, especially so you WARC challenge

Participants could try to get the FISTS US National Club Call in your

Logs. (I missed everyone last time, May 20.)

My next day operating the club call will be July 22 (0000Z-2359Z). I

Will be happy to entertain schedule requests. Because I operate all

QRP, you will have to fine-tune your ears (although I know my little

sig's will cross the pond: I have had a number of EU QSOs, a few even

With UK OMs, and even one on 30m with fellow WARC challenge participant

Martin IK2RMZ). Name a band and a time that you think might work and

We'll give it a go!

By the way, if you're intent on getting KN0WCW in your log, this needn't be the only opportunity.

See the KN0WCW operations calendar

<http://www.fists.org/KN0WCW2006.html>).

I am certain that other OM's would also be willing to entertain request for schedules

(And many of them are QRO, so your chances might be better!).

But as you can see from looking back at previous months, there are usually a half-dozen or so

Days a month that someone puts the call on the bands.

Vy 73, Kevin KI4DEF (#10620)

Whilst exchanging emails with Tony, G4FAI,

He came up with a snippet of information that (Although not contest/challenge orientated)

Is nevertheless very interesting.

Quote

“I spend a day and a half a week at our local military museum, the Muckleburgh Collection, where the North Norfolk Amateur Radio Group has a unique collection of vintage military communications equipment which we display and explain to the museum's visitors. We also have a permanent special event station, GB2MC (QRP and QRO), plus a workshop and stores so it's quite a nice set up”.

Unquote

I would suggest to anyone who is visiting North Norfolk

“Pop in if you have time.”

And perhaps you'll meet Tony if he's on duty that day!

I've viewed the websites

Visit

<http://www.muckleburgh.co.uk/radio.htm>

Or

<http://www.northnorfolk.org/nnarg/>

It's located at Weybourne Military Camp.

Weybourne,

Norfolk.

NR25 7EG

England.

From Erkki, OH7QR.

Who thanks me for the information on Martin activating DQ35AGCW

And goes on to say that things are hectic at his QTH

Owing to the short summers over there.

And that he's undertaken a new building project at home

That leaves him with little time for radio during the day

And no doubt he's feeling too tired in the evenings.

But has still found time to submit a WARC Challenge and ladder log.

Thanks for your support Erkki,

And good luck with the building project.

I saw this post on the reflector

I know that some of you have worked David on the WARC bands while he's been wearing

His VK3DBD hat.

I wonder how many of you have worked him with his G3SCD hat on?

You'll have to let me know.

Quote

"I'll be firing up G3SCD from time to time in next few weeks mostly 40m I guess, so you folk who want a rare Fists nr 3756 (rare in G anyway) keep ears on the lower parts of the bands. Very lush and green looking here, even parts of N.Victoria were dry this year!
73 to all David G3SCD / VK3DBD"

Unquote

On to the results for the month

Firstly the ladder.

CALL	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
G4LHI	42	39	42	47	46	36							252
G6GUN	35	41	37	45	35	42							235
M5ABN	43	31	35	32	0	26							167
IK2RMZ	0	0	0	39	9	28							76
M0DRK	15	0	14	22	17	8							76
2E0TEK	20	0	21	0	32	0							73
M0BHA	12	19	12	22	0	0							65
OH7QR	5	13	25	8	0	7							58
MX5HDF	6	9	9	7	13	0							44
G8XGQ	8	6	12	4	0	6							36
G0XAH	0	0	11	17	0	0							28
PA3AFF	0	0	10	0	0	0							10

As you can see, G4LHI is still holding his lead but is being hotly pursued by G6GUN and M5ABN.

I think that this years ladder is going to end up with an exciting finish.

Lets wait and see!

And the WARC Challenge results;

CALL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS	MULTI	TIES	MASTER	CALL	PWR
K4UK	57	93	111	173	130	134								108	75384	K4UK	QRO	
G4LHI	77	78	88	125	130	94								44	26048	G4LHI	QRO	
IK2RMZ	0	0	9	237	215	173								34	21556	IK2RMZ	QRO	
G3ASG	0	26	133	196	0	0								17	6035	G3ASG	QRO	
OH7QR	18	25	31	30	14	11								9	1161	OH7QR	MIXED	
DL1GBZ	0	0	0	96	15	70								5	905	DL1GBZ	QRO	
G0UQF	20	5	50	0	0	0								10	750	G0UQF	QRO	
KI4DEF	0	0	0	27	29	0								14	433	KI4DEF	QRP	
M5ABN	23	20	18	20	0	0								7	420	M5ABN	QRO	
G0XAH	0	0	26	23	0	0								4	196	G0XAH	QRO	
G6GUN	22	8	0	0	0	8								4	152	G6GUN	QRO	
2E0TEK	23	0	10	10	23	0								1	66	2E0TEK	QRO	
GX2HDF	0	6	4	5	0	0								2	30	GX2HDF	QRP	
DQ2006A	0	0	0	0	0	19								1	19	DQ2006A	QRO	OPERATOR
G8XGQ	6	0	0	0	0	0								1	6	G8XGQ	QRO	DL1GBZ

K4UK is still holding the lead with G4LHI in second place.

Ik2RMZ has been putting in excellent returns these past few months

To put himself into third place.

Incidentally, Martin, a custodian of DQ2006A, one of the World Cup

Special event stations on-air during the competition.

Sent in a WARC entry whilst in the "Hot Seat" Signing "DQ2006A/DL1GBZ.

Wonder how many of you worked him with this call?

Finally, I've heard nothing from anyone regarding the "Confusion" about the necessity to send monthly log returns with the WARC challenge.

As you may remember I did say I was amenable to idea of granting an amnesty to would be participants if they contacted me straight away.

So, as from the 14 th of July 2006. I've closed the book on the subject. No late returns will be entertained.

That's about it from me this month.

Don't forget, keep your comments coming in about band conditions, who you've worked etc.

Any general chat.

That's what makes the news for the newsletter!

73 fer NW.

"KEEP BASHING THE BRASS"



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