

# BRASSPOUNDER



June 2010 (Issue 51)

Welcome to the June edition.

As I prepare this edition for publication, we are back to our bout of windy wet weather, the warm conditions we've been enjoying seem a distant memory. No doubt many of you used the time to tend to the garden, home, and no doubt aerial maintenance during this time.

I've noticed of late, the ever increasing popularity of CW! I form this opinion through reading different articles on the web, and from the increasing stream of new member applications to our society. All good news! Long may it continue.

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Lets look at reports received during the month of June.

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I'll start this month with words from a new member. Graham. 2E0JYK.

hi Rob, I am a new member to the cw club  
and I must admit i am enjoying listening to and sending  
cw . I do wish that i had taken up the cw side of amateur  
radio before as it is a very good part of the hobby .I have just taken part in my first  
activity ladder, and I am so pleased to be able to contact other radio hams all over  
the  
place via cw. I have attached my first contacts on the ladder activity for you. It is a  
great pleasure being a member of a great club, I am being taught by peter G4LHI at  
huntingdon who is helping me with the learning of cw.

2E0JYK # 14822

Welcome to the society Graham, pleased to have you on board and many thanks for your first entry in the ladder. Many members will be looking forward to meeting you on air in the coming months/years. Enjoy the CW facet of our hobby...

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And from Peter. M5ABN.

Hi Rob,  
Attached is my log for the June Ladder. Again, not very impressive but pleased to catch David G3SCD on his annual visit to the UK from Australia.

Pete M5 ABN #6423

Good to hear from you again Pete. David always gets on air during his visit from Australia. Many look forward to hearing him with his VK prefix.

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And from Bill G0BAK

Hi Rob,

Please find attached my Ladder Log for June.

I could only manage to get on the radio for the evening session on the 27<sup>th</sup> this month due to other commitments. I decided to go for the evening session as the afternoon session clashed with the England Germany game, less said about that the better.

I found conditions very disappointing on this session, however G0OTT, Darren in Coventry was putting out a terrific signal on 80 metres. He told me he had no shack and was operating from the Patio. Well Darren with a signal like that I think you should make that your permanent location for the radio.

In all I was very disappointed with my effort put in this month. I also found it quite hard to get back into the swing of CW as I have neglected it for a few weeks due to an ongoing homebrew project that I am spending time on. Lets hope I fare better next month.

Best wishes to you Rob and all other members.

Bill G0BAK Fists 13262

Good to hear from you once again Bill, hope the homebrew project comes to a completion soon.

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And from Peter G4LHI

Hello Robert,

I attach my claim & report for the June Ladder.

In spite of clashing with the Footie & the F1 on the 27<sup>th</sup> & pretty ruff conditions on the band again it was a bit of a struggle to get a decent score this month, perhaps conditions will soon improve?

I did have 8 QSO's for 16 points on the 13<sup>th</sup> & in the afternoon session on the 27<sup>th</sup> 6 QSO's for 11 points giving me a very low total for June of 27 points, but as always a very enjoyable event & nice to meet new & old friends again.

Again very many thanks to all for the QSO's the signals were up & down on all stations, but we made it.

I was very pleased to work David again this month, G3SCD (VK3DBD) who is on holiday in Lincolnshire, conditions again were not really good enough for a good old rag chew I'm afraid, very sorry kept losing you David, but hope that wall you are building is going well mate?. Hope you manage a few decent QSO's while you are with us in the UK , condx permitting of course.

Was very nice to meet & welcome a very new member to our Fists Club & Ladder Activity this month, Graham, 2E0JYK, # 14822, many thanks for the points Graham, first of many to come. Pleased you had a go in the Ladder, well done mate, I told you "**It will come**" hi, always very enjoyable to meet up with many old & new friends on these events.

That's all for now folks, see you on the Ladder in July.

73/88 de Peter G4LHI # 2219 & Jean xx

Good to hear from you Peter. Pleased to hear from 2E0JYK and that he's receiving tuition from your goodself. As ever, our best wishes to yourself and Jean.

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Phil, M6PHL comments;

Hello Robert,

Please find attached my log for the June Fists Ladder.

Conditions still not great out there and many thanks to all those I worked again this month.

I look forward to working you all and perhaps more of the recently joined Fists members in July.

73

Phil

M6PHL

Fists: 14543

Good to hear from you Phil. Condx got to get better soon...As everyone says (Hi)

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From Derek. M0DRK.

Hi Robert,

Looks like things have only got worse for me,hihi, but many thanks to Peter G4LHI and Phil M6PHL for making sure that I didn't get a duck for June.

Missed the 2nd Sunday session due to my enjoying 2 weeks in Malta. Glad to see that you also managed to get away for a while. Mollie and I have been to Cyprus a total of seven holidays so know just how nice it is.

Hopefully get two sessions on the ladder during July.

Take care, see you soon, 73 for now, Derek M0DRK

Hi Derek. good to hear from you, glad you weren't out for a duck during June. Cyprus; yes, the beauty of the island impressed me somewhat, the climate, the people, all made a very enjoyable break. (And I guess visiting G4LHI's stamping ground too! Hi) Hope your trip to Malta went well.

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And from Piet PA3AFF

Hi Robert,

Like last month I was only QRV during the 4th timeslot. Didn't check 3rd timeslot because I watched the world cup match Germany - England.

Started on 20m with short skip condx, but no Fists stations worked. Also on 40m no Fists heard.

At last on 80m I made my only 2-way Fists QSO.

Till the next time. 73 de Piet, PA3AFF, Fists #445

Good to hear from you once again Piet. The football did take a precedence over radio. but thankfully its all over with now.

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G0AZR comments.

Well Rob...that didn't take long.

Holidays and what for me were dreadful conditions made June a real no go.

Sunday 27th was poor on 20mtrs, but managed Erkki and two new countries on QRP Gozo and St Marino.

80mtrs was almost no existent.

Apologies to Bill, G0BAK, I called him but he disappeared. Heard Darren, G0OTT but called and called without reponse. No other stations heard.Oh well....July to come.

Hope your summer is going ok Rob.

73

Jeremy.

Greetings Jeremy. Others have commented on band condx being dire. Taking the words from a song? "Things can only get better!" (Don't ask me to sing it!) Hi.

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And from Erkki OH7QR

Hello Robert,

Please find attached my Ladder log for June. I had a good chat with Nigel G0IHK, whom I hadn't met since 2003. I got a new fists nr from Mal G3ZUI. Many thanks for qsos and also many thanks to all my good friends I met during the ladder. CU in July. 73 and all the best

Erkki 8318

Good to hear from you once again Erkki. seven years since your last QSO with Nigel. Time does fly by without us noticing!

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And from G3ZOD.

Hi Rob.

## **LADDER**

I was only able to get on the air for a short time on the 13th June, but did manage a contact with Erkki OH7QR on 20m in the afternoon.

On the 27th June afternoon session, the only station I managed to contact on 80m was Peter G4LHI and his signal was very weak. In view of that I wasn't holding out much hope for the evening session as of course it's still daylight at this time of year. However, I was presently surprised to hear a number of stations at reasonable strengths (stopping for a moment just to check that I really was on 80m HI!). It was nice to meet up with Phil M6PHL for the first time, David G3SCD (VK3DBD) over here for the Summer and Darren G0OTT. Also, after a number of failed attempts during previous sessions, it was very pleasing to manage a contact at last on 80m with John 2E0JCY.

## **6m CW**

I had 214 CW contacts on 6m during June. This is quite exceptional for me on any band given the indoor antennas. No great DX (best distance 2,607km) but a lot of

fun, including one day with particularly strong and widespread sporadic E propagation where I was able to sit on a frequency calling CQ and let everyone else come to me for a change!!

In the UKAC with my CW-only submissions, I was 77 out of 89 in May and a surprising 58 out of 87 in June. There was a good opening during the June session, but then again everyone else had access to it! CW is great! On the downside, some folk were trying to send way faster than they were capable of, especially when sending numbers (I wasn't aware that some numbers had 6, 7 and even more dots/dashes in them!). It's pointless cranking up speed to 25+ wpm if you then have to send everything several times due to spurious dots/dashes. Ah well.

### July RadCom: "The GB2CW Protocol"

The July edition of RadCom (the RSGB's monthly magazine) page 41 contains an interesting article "The GB2CW Protocol" by Roger G3LDI #14580.

73 de Graham G3ZOD FISTS #8385

Thanks for the report Gra. I've had to remove the 4m article owing to display problems with the images.

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Lets look at the results table for this month.

CALL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS	PWR
G4LHI	31	38	45	33	31	27							205	QRO
G0BAK	21	29	28	29	19	9							135	QRO
M6PHL	13	15	28	19	18	18							111	QRO
G0AZR	8	29	21	22	23	6							109	MIX
OH7QR	16	0	15	24	13	23							91	QRO
G3ZOD	8	16	11	16	8	13							72	QRO
G0OTT	0	19	21	21	0	0							61	QRO
M5ABN	0	0	0	16	20	23							59	QRO
G3LHJ	0	0	28	20	0	0							48	QRO
2E0JCY	0	14	14	19	0	0							47	QRO
GI4CGB	6	4	10	14	8	0							42	QRO
PA3AFF	0	0	22	0	8	5							35	QRO
M5FRA	0	0	0	14	10	0							24	QRO
G4MSN	0	11	11	0	0	0							22	MIX
G4CMZ	0	0	0	18	0	0							18	QRP
M0GGK	7	0	0	0	0	0							7	QRO
2E0JYK	0	0	0	0	0	7							7	QRO
M0XED	0	0	6	0	0	0							6	QRP
PA1SOP	0	0	0	4	0	0							4	QRO

As I'm always saying, lets hope condx improve, and all the warm weather jobs. i.e. aerial maintenance, gardens etc. are done. So till next time, enjoy your radio.

Keep well, "Keep pounding Brass"

73.

MOBPT

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