

FISTS CONTESTING NEWSLETTER MARCH 2006

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Hello all, doesn't time fly when you're having fun.

It seems only yesterday that I was compiling the last Newsletter for you all.

Quite a bit to get through so without further ado lets get on with it.

(“AT LAST, GET ON WITH IT THEN” I hear you all shout)

Firstly I'll start with the “MIXED KEY WEEK”

The challenge had a poor turn out I'm afraid with only four logs being received.

However the four entrants made a good effort, thanks to you all for supporting the event.

Results as follows

“MIXED KEY WEEK”

March 2006.

MIXED KEY	WEEK	MARCH 2006
CALL	SCORE	TOTAL
G4LHI	132 6	1584
2E0TEK	83 3	498
M0DRK	58 4	464
G8XGQ	18 1	36

Congratulations to G4LHI who came out on top.

Well done to 2E0TEK for 2 nd place

Also M0DRK for 3 rd place

And G8XGQ for 4 th place.

Certificates to all entrants

On to the Activity Ladder.

March saw two new entrants to the ladder.

A warm welcome to Piet, PA3AFF “Always friends forever” #445

Who emailed to tell me that he happened on the Ladder activity by accident, worked five stations

And is happy to send in his March log for 10 points.

Also a warm welcome to David, G0XAH, #2222 who is joining in this month.

David is the Father of Graham, 2E0TEK, who is already active in the FISTS contest calendar.

I wonder if we can expect a little friendly rivalry between the two?

Again, thanks to PA3AFF and G0XAH for joining the fray.

Results as follows.

CALL	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
G4LHI	42	39	42										123
G6GUN	35	41	37										113
M5ABN	43	31	35										109
M0BHA	12	19	12										43
OH7QR	5	13	25										43
2E0TEK	20	0	21										41
M0DRK	15	0	14										29
G8XGQ	8	6	12										26
MX5HDF	6	9	9										24
G0XAH	0	0	11										11
PA3AFF	0	0	10										10

As you can all see, things are warming up nicely, I feel that things are starting to hot up already and this year will produce a fight right to the last minute yet again.

Before I get on to the WARC Challenge, I received a mail from G0XAH regarding

The content of the February newsletter. He has given his permission to reproduce his comments in the newsletter.

“QUOTE”

“Hello Robert,

Thanks for the effort you have put in to the Web page it looks very good, good to see someone turn out an interesting article with some effort behind it.

Thanks for the spotlight on article.

Peter is a very good friend of mine and he persevered and finally got me through my full Morse test, many late nights and early mornings i.e. 0100/0300 ect.

Also have a sore wrist where he used to reach across with his ruler, telling me it is not on the ceiling HI.

It is great to see that he has finally got the recognition he deserves, you can see that from the awards he has that he has put a lot of effort into the club, I think that out of a couple of members who have the awards, he is the only UK holder.

Not only does he enjoy working the clubs and bands but he also relentlessly teaches as people require”

“UNQUOTE”

Thank you David for your kind feedback regarding the newsletter, glad you enjoyed the “SPOTLIGHT ON” Article, It was a pleasure to compile it.

Your other comments have “Said it all” I wont add any more.

Now, onto the WARC Challenge

One or two comments from myself and others this month before I announce the latest results.

Firstly from Stan, K4UK who sent this with his March log;

“Enjoyed my chat with Peter, G4LHI on 17 Meters. Had to cut it short as I was in the parking lot at the golf course and I was being told to hurry up and get my golf shoes on and my golf bag out of the van so I could be ready to tee off in 5 minutes - Hi !

Two big "thrills" this month, working two stations in Australia. First VK6AU in Bremer Bay - grid OF95 and then AX4XA in Brisbane - grid QG62 both on 30 meters running my K2 at all of 14 Watts.”

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“In reply to Tim , G00D concerning his question via Email”

"Please Stan when you have time could you explain how you work CW mobile?

I guess you are not driving the car Hi."

“Almost always I am alone in the car when I operate mobile. When my wife

drives I have to wear earphones

because she doesn't want to hear the CW. She prefers music played by

Andre' Rieu !

I have the Ten-Tec Scout mounted between the seats of my Dodge Grand Caravan.

I have a single lever paddle mounted on a plywood board which sits in the passenger's seat. I steer the car with my left hand and operate the paddle with my right hand.

The Scout is quite a simple rig to operate which I can do without having to look at it.

There is a tuning knob, a gain control, and an RIT knob. There are only three switches. One is the on-off switch. The second one you flip up to select keyer speed or flip down to select RIT. The third switch you flip up to tune and flip down to select the noise limiter.

I've added a SGC DSP speaker on the output. It has two positions and does a great job eliminating QRN.

I have a metal board which I strap around my right leg on which I have a pad of paper for logging the details of the QSO.

Of course I have to copy the code in my head and I guess I've done it for so many years that it is just like listening to someone speaking.

I use Hustler antennas. On the rear left fender I have one antenna. It has a "tri-mount" which enables me to have three resonators, generally 40, 20 & 17 Meters. On the roof I have a mag-mount on which I generally have the 30 Meter Hustler.

So I can operate four bands without having to get out and change antennas.

The Scout uses individual band modules which you plug into it. I have all modules 80, 75, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10

Meters. The ones not in use I store in a little box alongside the rig. I do have the 160 Meter module for the Scout, but

I've not figured out how to build up a mobile antenna for 160 Meters, so

that module stays here in the shack.

So that in a nut-shell is my setup for running mobile. I find it great fun. And helps pass the time while I'm on my 45 minute drive to the golf course. I'm generally on each Tuesday and Thursday, since that's the days our league of "Senior" men play.

The drive to the course in the morning is generally 1215 - 1300 UTC and the return trip is generally 1730 - 1815 UTC.”

Thanks to Stan for details of his “Mobile in motion”.

Is anyone going to try and work Stan whilst he's /m?

You have all the information you require, just need the band to be in good shape!

It seems that 30m has been favourable to one or two of you this month, G4LHI worked VK3DBD, fists#3756 in QF33, and of course K4UK/m #2939 in FM07 both new multipliers.

Incidentally, another comment from Stan K4UK regarding VK3DBD,

“I've been looking for David, VK3DBD because he was the chap who gave me the QSO for my "1000 Miles per Watt" certificate back on October 17, 2001 - just nine days after I had completed construction of my K2. I was running 5 Watts and calling CQ on 20 Meters when David answered me. A very BIG thrill - Hi !”

Also from Martin, IK2RMZ #853 who is joining the challenge this month.

Martin has been busy building and testing aerials for the bands.

Martin tells me that his testing phase is over and is making a “Determined assault”

On the bands during April.

So listen out for IK2RMZ in JN45.

Martin tells me that 17m opened in a “Spectacular manner” during his testing phase

With usually weak USA stations being worked on strong signal.

Ray G3ASG #2272 was omitted from last months results table, that’s down to me I’m afraid, apologies to all concerned.

Ray joined the challenge in the latter part of February and put in a good score for the month but during March made a marvelous effort and has made an excellent return for the month.

David, G0XAH #2222 has also joined the challenge this month.

Thanks to David for what must have been a busy month for him, joining us for the Ladder and WARC challenge.

Welcome to you all, and I know the guys will listen out for your calls and grids.

Grant G0UQF #1383 tells me that he may not be too active because he has a lot of “planting” to do. And G4LHI #2272 was hoping to get out into the garden with a bit of tidying up to do. Yes its that time of year again lads, lets hope the weather looks favourably on us and things can get done a little quicker.

Don’t forget the EUCW/FISTS QRS party that will be running on the 24 th to the 28 th April.

Had an email from Dave, ZS6AAW.

“Hi Robert,

It was great to read about the QRS Party the Club will be running on 24 - 28 April this year. I think its a great idea and hope you don't mind me "spreading the word"!! There should be enough time to get the info. to a fair number of CW enthusiasts in SA. I'm not sure what the prop. condx will be like due low sunspot activity but we'll only find out if we try!!!

By the way I read the notice in the April issue of PW.

MNI TNX

73 Dave Gemmell ZS6AAW”

“I’ve emailed Dave to let him know that his comments will be published in here, so hopefully you’ll be listening for ZS6AAW and colleagues from SA”

That’s about all from me this month, been a real pleasure hearing from you with your log returns, band reports, general chat, etc.

Lets hear what you’ve been up to when you send in your returns, don’t forget that you make the “NEWS” for the newsletter, without you guys (And understanding partners) there wouldn’t be one!

I was active /p from IO82ug nr Worcester on Saturday the 8 th April from 1500 to 1630 approx

(Shack time) on 10.118Mc/s

No FISTS heard but twas a busy band nevertheless.

Hope to hear you sometime soon



Here's the WARC results table

CALL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS	MULTIES	MASTER	CALL	
K4UK	57	93	110											55	14300	K4UK	QRO
G4LHI	77	78	88											19	4617	G4LHI	QRO
G3ASG	0	26	133											10	1590	G3ASG	QRO
G0UQF	20	5	50											10	750	G0UQF	QRO
M5ABN	23	20	18											5	305	M5ABN	QRO
OH7QR	18	25	31											3	222	OH7QR	MIXED
G6GUN	22	8	0											4	120	G6GUN	QRO
G0XAH	0	0	26											2	52	G0XAH	QRO
IK2RMZ	0	0	9											3	27	IK2RMZ	QRO
2E0TEK	23	0	0											1	23	2E0TEK	QRO
GX2HDF	0	6	4											1	10	GX2HDF	QRP
G8XGQ	6	0	0											1	6	G8XGQ	QRO

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“KEEP BASHING THE BRASS”



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