

International Morse Preservation Society



KEY NOTE



Sec: E. (Geo) Longden, G3ZQS. 119 Cemetery Rd., DARWEN, BB3 2LZ, England. 01254-703948

<http://www.asel.demon.co.uk/fists-hq/> <http://www.zl6qh.com>

E-Mail HQ: fist1@btinternet.com webmaster: webmaster@asel.demon.co.uk

OFFICES

QSL Manager: M0AVW

32 Woodford Walk, Harewood Park, TS17 0LT

PRO: G4YLB. J.A. Welsh

3 Minster Cresc, DARWEN, BB3 3PY

CONTEST MANAGER: M5AGL

15a Buckden Rd., BRAMPTON, PE18 4PR

COMMITTEE

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P.R.O.

Secretary

G4XHZ

G4YLB

G4YLB

G3ZQS

Pse keep watch on all Novice allocations

Recommended calling QRGs:

3.558, 7028, 14.058, 21,058, 28,058

AWARDS

e-mail apps/logs to Dennis, K6DF:

<fistsawards@attbi.com>

written logs to HQ.

SUBS: e-mail Keynote £4.00, UK mail £5.00, EEC mail £7.00. Others £10.00. Your renewal date appears on the mailing label and your anticipation would be much appreciated.

Up-dated listings may be obtained from HQ. Please include 3 2nd class stamps to cover return and running costs

Lapel Badges, £1.50 incl. **Fabric patches** £1.50 incl.

QSL Cards £7.00 per 100 or £10.00 per 200 (UK and EU pse add £1.00 for p/p. DX members - on advice.

Personalised stickers £1.00 per sheet of 65. Max order 5 sheets.

Please include your CALLSIGN on all correspondence.

Useful contacts:

M0AVW 01642-869619 <spence5@ntlworld.com>

M0AYI Glenn@m0ayi.freemove.co.uk

M5AGL bobm5agl@btopenworld.co

M0ZAK jim.steel@ntlworld.com

QSL BUREAU INFO

All outgoing QSLs to M0AVW (address on banner).

All UK/EU members send stamps and labels (no envelopes necessary) to the appropriate sub-manager as below:

M or 2 Prefixes (Except for Wales) M0AYI. 7 Tynedale Terrace, Annfield Plain, STANLEY, DH9 7TZ.

G0, GM0 etc (Except GW0). G3JRY. 3 Rochford Cresc, BOSTON, PE21 9AE

G3, GM3 etc (except GW3). G0UQF. 2 East St, Darfield, BARNSELY, S73 9AE.

G4, GM4 etc (Except GW4). M0ZAK. 6 Central Ave, SHEPshed, LE12 9HP.

G2, G5, G6, G8 (Except for Wales) and **ALL special** (GB etc) calls to M0BPT. 38 Wheatley St, WESTBRÖMWICH, B70 9TJ.

All members in Wales. GW0SGG. 14 Heather Cresc, Sketty, SWANSEA, SA2 8HE

Pre-paid postal subscriptions

EU/DX Members: IRCs, UK Banknotes or US dollars to M0AVW. The Club will provide envelopes. Any excess over subs from non-UK members will be regarded as QSL postage unless otherwise advised.

GREETINGS

The old adage "Cast ne'er a clout till May be out" is one that I shall pay some regard to after the fluctuations experienced in April. Here in the UK for a brief few days the temperatures actually exceeded those in much of Spain but we steadily sank to conditions typical of the month. As to band conditions, 20 and 15m at least were for the most part el-stinko. All the HF bands in fact were full of nothingfulness except for a brief but delightful period when VK, ZL and SouthEast Asia were audible. Well, at least it can't get any worse!

Where the HF and the upper two WARC bands failed to oblige, 30m was producing goodies and is well worth regular checks. You will note that this months Keynote is again on A3 stock. Not that I am being lazy, it is simply that the offset press is still 'kaput' whilst I have an engineer scouring the country for replacement relays. I was though quite pleased at the quality of the job last month (produced by a local jobbing printer at a very reasonable

cost) and it has saved me so much time and work that I am somewhat inclined to clear some space in my cellar by disposing of the printer and do it this way regularly. With our current financial status (over £7k), it will be unlikely to affect subs. Similarly, the increase in postal charges is unlikely to make sufficient 'dents' in funds for quite some time largely due to the number of members opting for email.

The National Science Week last month saw GB4FUN located in a demo vehicle touring several localities within the UK and it was nice to see that some attention was given (photograph in RadCom) to CW during the tours.

Just a reminder that National FISTS club stations (GX0IPX, KN0WCW etc) are worth 5 points in CC terms. This was mentioned last month but I did get a few queries about them.

MORSE TEST ANNIVERSARY

The county test gangs will be active this month for the 17th anniversary of the service. As usual, the exercise will occupy both Saturday and Sunday (10/11 May) and they will be identified by the usual GB0 calls with a suffix suggesting the County of origin. Collect 10 of these stations and shoot of a cheque for £2.50, \$5.00(US) or 6 IRCs to G4HNF, 116 Reading Rd, RG5 3AD. Cheques should be made payable to RSGB.

CAN'T LEARN CW - TOO MUCH HASSLE!

This is a little topic published by Bernie, W3UR in his Daily DX. Is learning CW the hardest thing in the world?

If so then this little charmer was completely unphased by it. *E27ZI, Oil (YL), is Thailand's youngest Amateur Radio operator. She has been showing up on 20 meters CW the last few days around 0100Z.*

Earlier this week she passed her HF exam. K3ZO, Fred Laun, reports she featured on national TV during "Children's Day". Thai Amateur Radio ops are very proud of her. HS2CRU, Long, and HS2KPB, Pitsamai, are her parents. She has a Web page at <http://www.geocities.com/e27zi/>.



My thanks to Maurice, F5NQL, FISTS 1816 for his excellent eye for the unusual.

THE LADDER

The following results were returned by Bob showing annual positions:

G4AQZ	214
G4LHI	187
M5ABN	152
G3VQO	131
M5AGL	76
HB9CHE	61
OH7QR	59
M0AYI	57
M0DRK	51

G0MRH	50
M0RHB	47
M0CMQ	29
GW0SGG	17
G0XAH	10
M3GBT	7
M0BRY	6
M3XGQ	4

With poor conditions for the Sunday, finding contacts seemed hard, but Geoff G4AQZ in Clacton had a busy day for his 85 points and now tops the annual totals, well done Geoff. Peter G4LHI is second with 50 points and Peter M5ABN is third with his 36 points. Its nice to see the returns from OH7QR and HB9CHE, The Ladder is open to all and it would be nice to have more returns from our European friends.

Spring Straight Key Week.
16th March to 22nd March 03.

Call	Points
G4LHI	278
MODRK	85
M5ABN	70
M3GBT	29
M3XGQ	14
M5AGL	12

Well what can I say about the SKW, Conditions were ruff and it is shown by the very poor returns. I had hoped for better, perhaps I have got the format wrong, if so please let me have your ideas for the next one. Peter G4LHI has well and truly taken first place with his 278 points from 156 QSO's. Its very nice to see M0DRK Derek in the placings for the first time. Certificates are awarded to the top three placings and will be sent out in due course. 73 for now de Bob M5AGL.

Yes, it must have been most disappointing for Bob with such a limited entry. Hope we can show a bigger return for the main (September) SKW.

NEW MEMBERS

Heck, I got into such a tizzy last month due to wasting a lot of time trying to get the offset press running that I neglected to include the list. What you have here then is in fact two months listing of new members:

09804	GW3VEN	Alan	09805	MW0CBD	Will
09806	GSWL6	Alan	09807	M0DUB	Chris
09808	G0WKW	Vic	09809	G3YER	David
09810	G4OER	Dave	09811	GW3GSJ	Eddie
09812	M0WDX	Huw	09813	M3LCM	Lynnda
09814	M3RDV	Ricky	09815	G3VDV	Nezil
09816	EA6UN	Jurek	09817	G4BYM	Brian
09818	M3BPM	Ies	09819	DA7RA	Rien
09820	GU4HUY	Roger	09821	9A1CTL	CLUB
09822	M0CRW	John			

It is a comforting thought that we are attracting so many of the M3 series and by the way, 9A1CTL is the Radio Club Lipik with the custodian being Miro, 9A4MF, 08313.

NUMBER KRUNCHIN'

Not for one moment did I suspect that I would have to modify the databases to accept 5-figure numbers but that is what has recently happened. Nancy took the NA gang beyond 9999 so now, as you can see by the newmembers list, there is loose 'zero' in front of everyone's number. Hi. Never mind, on air, I guess you can dispense with any leading duck eggs without causing too much confusion.

BEWARE THE OOJAH

A recent email contact with one of our members indicated that he was unaware of one of the most pervasive pests to plague the radio amateur. I refer of course to the Ooojah bird and its preference for antenna feed points and rotator bases for a nesting site. It is unrelated to the infamous Ooozlum (famed for its spectacular disappearing act) though when it does describe circles in flight, they tend to be static or increasing and are anti-clockwise in direction. The problem lies in its diet. Whilst not exactly omnivorous, it shows a distinct preference for amps and volts

which it finds in abundance at locations housing radio hams - hence its preferred nesting sites.

If you should discover that your antenna seems to radiate less power than expected or your rotator has suddenly become very sluggish, it is likely that much of the applied power is disappearing down the gullet of the Ooojah. Be warned!

FROM F5NQL

From May 2nd to 12th, look for the F6KOP's members to be active from Groix island.

References : EU048, DIFM AT012, DFCF 56011, DDCF 56010

Callsign : TM7R

Bands : HF, VHF, UHF

Modes : CW, SSB, PSK31, RTTY, SSTV.

QSL via F6KOP

Team members : F4AJQF4BTPF4BUXF4EAVF4EAXF5AGB F5PVF F5TST F5VHQ F8BUI F8BJI F8BQQ F9IE.

From May 22nd to 26th, look for the Castres DX Gang members, to be active once more from the Fort Brescou Island (French departments award : Hérault/34, French Provinces award : Languedoc-Roussillon, IOTA EU-148, DIFM ME-001 , WLH0500 , French forts and Castles award DFCF34001).

Operators : F5AUB - F5XX - F5BJW - F4CLO - F5JBR - F5UOE - F5BLP - F6DBX

The activity is planned on HF + 6 meters bands , SSB, CW, RTTY and PSK31.

At least 4 stations with beams, wires and amps, will be on the air as 2 using SSB, one using CW and one using PSK31/RTTY/CW.

The call signs is F5XX/p .

Two members of the crew (namely Bernard F5XX and André, F5JBR) will sign TM5B during the WPX Contest.

QSL via F5XX, either direct (envelope + postage) or via the French bureau.

Look for Jean-Baptiste , F8DQL, to be active as FO/F8DQL from Tahiti (IOTA : OC-046, DIFO : FO002) between May 3rd to 25th. It will be an Only CW activity.

Jean-Baptiste has also planned several days trip to Moorea (IOTA : OC-046, DIFO : FO010) which dates will be given in time.

Frequencies : 21.030, 28.030 and 14.030, + or - QRM.

On next Pentecost week end on 7, 8 and 9 of June, look on the HF bands mainly on SSB and CW, for The ARAS 6W Radio Club whose members will be active as each year from Gorée island (AF 045)

Call sign : 6V1A

QSL via ARAS QSL bureau to Jean Louis, 6W6JX

The French Government Service ART has issued the special callsign TM0GAY, to Jean Marc, F8IXZ , to be used from June 20th to July 4th.

This special callsign is issued as part of the French Gaypride activities.

Traffic will be on HF bands from 40 to 10 meters mainly in CW, SSB possible as well.

QSL via F8IXZ either direct (+ postage IRC or \$) or via the French REF Bureau.

Direct cards with insufficient postage dues will be answered by the bureau.

Many of you maybe remember our earlier dxpeditions to Arctic.

In 2001 The IOTA did say. "Most outstanding IOTA expedition in 2001 in Africa, Asia and Europe, awarded by the IOTA Community to the multi-national team who operated from Prins Karls Forland Island EU-063 as JW0PK in June 2001.

We are today preparing the next big dxpeditio to the same area, to Prins Karls Forland Islands EU-063 in July 2003.

For more information and pictures goto.

Http://www.dxpeditio.org/dxjwpk

Best 73 from LA3OHA Terje

G3TUX

The QRP Component Company

Stockists of Keys (Bencher, DK1WE, Jones, Kent Schurr and the Swedish pump) also agent for the Samson series of electronic keyers.

Used keys of all types bought and sold

SAE/IRC for prices/data
PO Box 88, HASLEMERE, GU27 2RF
Phone 01428-661501 FAX 01428-66795

SILENT KEY

A note from Alan, G0WCB, recording the passing of Brian, M0BAX 4 April/03 at home.

To avoid confusion, Brian was a lapsed member prior to this but at Alan's request, this notification has been included.

MORE ON PLT

Werner, HB9US, emailed to express his concerns on last months report from Holland.

Power Lines were never meant to carry HF signals, since they are unbalanced and never properly terminated. HF applied to such lines is therefore always radiated into the environment. This is a matter of physics, there is no way around it.

The radio spectrum is part of our environment and as we all know, that spectrum is limited and the demand for frequency allocations is constantly increasing despite other comments (satellites can be "blinded", turned off or killed). HF communication remains the only means for world wide point to point communication without the need of intermediate services.

The radio spectrum deserves the same care and protection as the air that we breath and the water which we drink! Any unintentional HF radiation is a pollution of the radio spectrum similar to other environmental pollution's and must be prohibited and prosecuted.

I am sure that Werner is not alone in his concern. Pollution is pollution visible or not and this is a can of worms which should not be opened. A loose canon which like politicians and double glazing salesmen should never have escaped from Pandora's box. The issue is not yet settled and we can only hope that common sense and logic will prevail!

INFO REQUIRED

Grant, G0UQF, has just got his hands on an original Bug Key dated about 1950. This Item has never been used but there is no documentation with it.

If anyone has the makers spec/instructions could they please let him have a copy. Grant will reimburse any expenses

I-QRP CLUB

4th Marathona HF I-QRP CLUB - 2003

The I QRP CLUB, with the ARI support, to increase QRP activity, organizes the 4th HF Marathon I QRP CLUB 2003.

PARTICIPANTS: All OM/SWL Italians and foreigners, the score of non-ARI members will appear on the Marathon Classification, but will not be inserted in prize classification.

DATE: From 00:00z of April 1st 2003 till 24:00z of August 31st 2003.

BANDS AND MODES: All HF bands, included WARC, on the following ways 2x FM, 2x CW, 2x SSB, 2x RTTY.

SCORE: A qso between QRO-QRO or QRO-QRP stations counts 1 point,

a qso between QRP-QRP stations counts 2 points, while a qso (QRO or QRP) with I QRP CLUB members counts 3 points.

For I QRP CLUB stations the total score is the sum of the qso with QRO - QRP - I QRP CLUB stations.

LOGS: Logs to be valid must should include: date, time, frequency, way, callsign, rst given and received, Number of inscription of I-QRP CLUB stations worked, and the FINAL SCORE, indicating furthermore if the station has worked on QRO or QRP and if it's an ARI member.

Logs must be sent before December 31st 2003 by postal mail or via E-mail to:

IW0BET Giovanni Zangara - Casella Postale 36 - 00100 Roma Centro

iw0bet@amsat.org (attached file with your callsign as name)

PRIZES: It will be 4 categories QRO - QRP - SWL - I QRP CLUB and will be awarded to the first three station of each category.

73 I-QRP 281

Giovanni Zangara IW0BET

I QRP Club Award

The IQCA is an award devoted to all OM and SWL that will contact or listen minimum 25 I QRP Club stations, obtaining minimum score of 50 points.

• 1 point for qso or hrd qrp/qro, 2 points for qso or hrd qrp/qrp. . • All bands.

• Every station can be contacted only once.

• No QSL.

• Requested log with two signatures of two OM and with the numbers of I QRP stations contacted.

• Send 7 IRC or \$7 or 7E to I QRP CLUB Award Manager: IK7HIN #3 I QRP CLUB Marcello Surace, via Dante 239 70122 BARI (ITALY) .

• e-mail. marcello.surace2@tin.it

• Phone 080/5238649.

The VK Southernmost I QRP Award

The I QRP CLUB is proud to have as a member VK7LF the southernmost VK station.

• The station VK7LF #161 I QRP CLUB operated by Tom must be connected in CW or SSB or in RTTY from 21 Jan 1997.

• Max pwr 5 watts.

• To obtain this award you will get minimum 2 QSOs in a year, starting from the day that you have the first QSO. Between the first and the second QSO will be minimum 30 days.

• You will receive the Award, after confirmation of QSO from VK7LF that will write to I QRP "OK in log" .

The Award costs 5 Euros .

• The first I QRP CLUB member that will get 2 QSOs in a year, will get, as a prize, a plate.

• Write to Award Manager IK7HIN #003 I QRP CLUB Marcello Surace, via Dante 239 70112 BARI (ITALY).

• e-mail: marcello.surace2@tin.it

• Phone 080-5238649

You are invited to visit the new web site of I QRP CLUB www.arimontebelluna.it

72 73 de Franz I3FFE I QRP #4 I QRP Manager Sezione ARI Montebelluna <i3ffe@quipo.it>

FISTS SPRINTS

Objectives

To exchange specified information with as many FISTS members as possible using Morse Code only, and within the time frame stipulated

Participants:

Any properly licensed amateur radio operator, FISTS member or non-member is invited to take part in the contest. At least one of the two stations in each QSO must be a FISTS member.

Bands:

Activity is restricted to 80-10m WARC bands excluded

Entry Classes:

There are three entry classes:

QRO: Over 5 watts output power.

QRP: 5 watts output power or less.

Club: (regardless of power).

Entry class MUST be shown on logs to be considered for entry in a particular class, or will be assumed QRO.

An entry must be ONE class only, no combination of classes is allowed.

Exchange:

The following information must be exchanged by both stations to count as a valid contest QSO:

For FISTS members:

RST, U.S. state/Canadian province/DXCC country, first name, FISTS number.

For non-FISTS members:
RST, U.S. state/Canadian province/DXCC country, first name,
Power output.
Each QSO with a FISTS member: 5 points.
Each QSO with a non-FISTS member: 2 points.
Final score is total QSO points times multipliers.

Certificates:

U.S./VE:
Certificates will be awarded to the first, second, and third place finishers in each Entry Class.

Logs:

Sending the logs is what counts, and they will be spot checked for accuracy and correct scoring procedures. All log entries must be received 30 days after the Sprint to be considered valid. Logs not sent to the proper address will not be considered for entry. All logs MUST contain the following information to be considered for entry:

Your name and call sign. Club name if entry is for a club. Your FISTS number if a member. Entry class. Your claimed score. List of claimed multipliers.

The entry form is the best way to record this information and you may download the entry form as a text file

Electronic Logs:

We will accept E-logs in standard Cabrillo format, or ascii text files. If your not sure about your format, please contact me before the contest entry deadline.

E-logs are sent to W8PIG@yahoo.com ONLY.

Paper Logs:

Send log and forms to: Dan Shepherd, N8IE
1900 Pittsfield St. Kettering, Oh 45420

I note that Certificates are quoted as U.S/VE but I have been in touch with Dan who will be delighted to include EU/DX as a distinct category.

MAY SPRINT

This is the first occasion which the SPRINT rules have been published in Keynote and it coincides with an oncoming event on 2nd Saturday in May. 1700Z-2100Z -- <<http://www.fists.org>>. If entrants are not QRV on the web the LMK and I will download copies of the entry forms.

G4ZPY

KEYS AND PADDLES

All items hand-crafted with the skill of a trained engineer. Also miniature versions which are much acclaimed throughout the world.

SAE/IRC TO:

41 Mill Dam Lane, Burscough, ORMSKIRK, L40 7TG

Tel: 01704-884299

e-mail: g4zpy@lineone.net

<http://website.lineone.net/~g4zpy/index.htm>

QSL.NET & HOTMAIL

We have to remind email Keynote subscribers again that there are problems with both QSL.NET and HOTMAIL. As far as QSL is concerned, there is a problem between asel and their anti-spam policies whilst (as has been mentioned before) hotmail does not allocate sufficient disc space to accommodate the package comprising Keynote and News from Downunder which is uploaded monthly. In any case, we **must** have your **real** address. Andy has managed to obtain the correct addresses of all but four of the members using qsl.net so far but as you can imagine, it is placing a lot of extra work on his shoulders.

MORSUM MAGNIFICAT



Samuel F.B. Morse
1791-1872

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ACCENTED CHARS

Steve, M0ECS, queries some of the foreign chars which we are likely to come up against.

I recently enjoyed a very pleasant QSO with a gentleman by the name of Jörg (DL2DHS) from a village called Rüsenisl near the Baltic Sea. When he sent his details he actually sent "JOERG" and "RUESENISL", so I am wondering if sending an "E" after the vowel indicates it should have an umlaut (name for those two dots, hi hi). Is this the correct way of sending or an accepted practice? I wonder if the French and Spanish have a similar system. If anyone can throw light on this I would be very interested and can be reached by email on languages@m0ecs.waitrose.com.

Not quite sure what Steve is thinking of here. Suspect that the DL station was sparing him the pain of an accented 'U' (barred IM) or that although it may be locally correct to use the umlaut, as with my mailing labels, it is not strictly necessary. Can't be the addition of a 'dit' to a char because I wouldn't think that the addition of an 'e' after a character would infer that in all cases it became accented because in Deutsch for instance, "beautiful" is Schoenen as in 'Haben sie eine schoenen abend' whilst an accented char would be sent as barred OE or, in the case of Rüsenisl a barred IM. Perhaps our Euro friends could help out here?

ODDS 'N ENDS

G3KMG Dave, tells me he has recently returned from a 6 weeks visit to ZL where he was treated right royally by the Wellington gang including trips to a superb radio museum and Signal Hill.

G0AYO Mike recently received QSL from HF7ON (Polish special event station) - 70th anniv of the breaking of the enigma code - which identifies a website with a computer simulated Enigma machine. Well worth a visit says Mike.

<http://www.ugrad.cs.jhu.edu/~russell/classes/enigma/enigma.html>

DJ7PW. Wolf started in CW abt 55 years ago using an old 0-V-2-receiver (Volksempfaenger) as an "Oscillating Audion"- transmitter, keying the antenna-feedline with a modified clothes peg.....It was a real thrill, when I first got an answer on abt 1400 kHz from my friend, Using the same receiver and living about 100 metres away, Hi..Passed the DE-Exam issued by DARC, and I got the DE-Nr. 13489 and Dec 13, 1961 I got my callsign DJ7PW. He is now a member of HSC.

FINALE

Sorry to be late this month people. Last minute decision whether to print this myself on my own press with sick relays in control or let my local jobbing printer handle it. Cowardly of me but chose the latter. Hi.

Do please try and make the sprint if conditions permit. I am sure that Dan would be delighted to see some DX appearing in the logs.

Already got new members waiting to be processed so it is nose to the grindstone again and hopefully find some on-air time for the occasional natter.

73/88 es stay sober.

Geo