

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/> or <http://www.smartgroups.com/vault/fists/>

E-Mail: 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: M0CLO

86 Coldnailhurst Ave, East Perry, CM7 5PY

COMMITTEE

Chairman

Vice Chairman

QSL Manager

P.R.O.

Rally Coordinator

Secretary

Committee

G4XHZ

G4YLB

M0AVW

G4YLB

G4PPG

G3ZQS

G4MZS

NETS

Sunday US: 0100Z on 14058

Friday: GX0IPX/P 1930 ON 3.558 (+/-)
also at 2200, on highest usable band

DX 14/21/28.058 on the hour for 15mins

Pse keep watch on all Novice allocations

UK Net Controls use GX0IPX/P

SUBS: UK £5.00, EEC £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 £2.50 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 01207-283192 <m0ayi@netscapeonline.co.uk>

managed to finish this earlier, there would have been no problem.

Those of you on e-mail (a rapidly growing band) are reminded to ammend the address for Andy, G0JLX, on their address books. It should be <webmaster@asel.demon.co.uk>. This is to permit him to discriminate between FISTS business and other matters.

CALL CHANGES

Please note the following ammendments to the listing:

M5AIA, 7136 (Brian) is now **G0SWL** whilst M5ABM, 6425

(Hughie) becomes **M0HMS**. John, M5AAH is now **M0YLE**.

You can bet that many of the RNARS exhibition stations are a bit sore at themselves for not spotting M0HMS and booking it in advance for one of the museum ships.

THE SECOND QRP-pedition

The UR-QRP Club is planning to hold its second QRP-pedition to plateau Ai-Petri, in Crimea between 9 and 17 of December, 2001 initiated by Igor Grigorov, RK3ZK.

The expedition is dedicated to all Pioneers of the Radio. One of its aims is to commemorate the centenary of the 1st radio contact of G.Marconi across the Atlantic Ocean. In fact this first transatlantic radio contact made way for the radioamateur movement in the whole world. Call, EN100GM.

Those who wish to join our QRP-pedition are welcome. We shall also accept with gratitude any technical or financial support. Information and photos about the first UR-QRP Club expedition can be found on Internet:

<http://www.qsl.net/us1rch/urqrp/rk3zk/aie.htm>

72/73! Peter Grytsay, US1REO FISTS # 5593

E-mail: us1reo@ne.cg.ukrtel.net

All outgoing QSLs to M0AVW (address on banner).

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

M or 2 calls (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). M5AAQ. 6 Central Ave, SHEPSHED, LE12 9HP.

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

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

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

GREETINGS

Welcome to the tail end of October people. Old tempus keeps on fugiting and now with the onset of Autumn and ankle deep in a yellow to red carpet of discarded leaves, conditions on the bands have taken a turn for the better and it is always a good policy to check HF from high to low. Doing this the other day, activity was noted on 18MHz and a number of stations were worked including HL4. No amount of twiddling with the ATU produces anything like a decent match with the W3DZZ so the mag loop is a blessing.

Sorry I am a little adrift with this Keynote - do my best but most of you will be aware of the domestic conditions here so I do hope you will make allowances.

Our Chuck, M0AVW, has finally replaced the PC which went ape following a severe infestation. He asks me to remind you of the caps which are available.

Andy, G0JLX, is off to Saudi Arabia on business for a couple of weeks and it is likely that the Keynote via snail mail will arrive ahead of the digital version. I understand he has circulated all on the list with this advice though to be truthful, had I



QSLs AND SWLs

I don't think we catered for SWLs when allocating QSL managers so when Chuck came head on to one he thought it best to handle it and the other SWL traffic:

Hi Geo, Could you let it be known in the key note, that I am the manager for all FISTS SWL, and for them to send all out going QSL's to me along with their address labels and stamps.

Best 73's Chuck

FROM F5NQL

Maurice picked up the ARRL news letter and kindly forwarded it me from whence I extract the following item:

The 40-meter band is currently the focus of an effort supported by the International Amateur Radio Union and ARRL to obtain a 300-kHz worldwide exclusive allocation. Most of the world does not have access to the 300 kHz-wide swath from 7.0 to 7.3 MHz that US hams enjoy. In the rest of the world, the upper two-thirds of 40 is dominated by broadcasters. This issue is on the agenda for the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference <<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/WRC-03/>>. One suggested remedy would shift the allocation downward to create a 300-kHz worldwide band at 6.9 to 7.2 MHz.

The 80/75-meter band—3.5 to 4.0 MHz—is exclusive to the Amateur Service in the US. Elsewhere in Region 2 hams have exclusive status from 3.500 to 3.750 MHz and share the rest of the band with foreign Fixed and Mobile services on a co-primary basis. Amateurs in Regions 1 and 3 share parts of the band with Fixed and Mobile. There is no amateur operation allowed above 3.8 MHz in Region 1, which includes Europe.

The 1.8 to 1.9 MHz segment of 160 meters is exclusive to US amateurs. Hams in the US are secondary on 1.9 to 2.0 MHz to the primary Radiolocation Service (government and non-government).

A table of US Amateur Radio allocations is available on the ARRL Web site

<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/USbands.pdf>>. The "Considerate Operator's Frequency Guide" details band plans for Amateur Radio

<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/conop.html>>.

The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League

GO, G10 AND GM0 QSLs

"To all G0 G10 GM0 Fists members:

Do you have stamps/labels deposited with your G0 sub-bureau for forwarding your incoming QSL Cards ?

There are around 900 cards waiting here (some of them very attractive/expensive) for some 120 members who do not have postage lodged.

The following members have large numbers to collect :

ADE BCT JWB NAN/6Y5WJ SVX VQW WAQ GM0MFE

The others have amounts varying between 1 card and 1 packet of cards.

As from the publication of this information, all currently uncollected cards will be binned after 6 months. From then, cards not collected will be binned 6 months after receipt. Please advise the stations that you are working if you do not wish to receive cards.

Thank you (in anticipation) for your co-operation. Selwyn Auty G3JRY G0 QSL Bureau". Vy 73 de Selwyn

CQ MAG AND ALLOCATIONS

Maurice, M5MQL is just one of many who complained to CQ about SSB and data-mode incursions into the CW segment of 40m. I extract the following from a reply:

You make two basic points to which I would like to respond, and then I will need to get back to working on the next issue of CQ:

- 1) The need to promote voluntary compliance with the IARU bandplans.
- 2) CQ's position regarding CW.

1) I agree that more could be done to promote compliance with the bandplans, and I think your suggestion is excellent that we publish an article explaining what they are, how they differ from region to region, and why they are important for peaceful coexistence on the ham bands. Of course, this will not ensure significantly greater compliance, but if even some people change their operating habits as a result, it will be successful. I will put this article on my list for a future issue.

2) Your perception that CQ is anti-CW is wrong. We are very much pro-CW, and we certainly do not think CW ops are a negligible quantity nowadays. We see the logs for the CQWW CW and WPX CW contests. The number of entries grows each year.

You cite CQ's comments to the FCC regarding amateur license restructuring in the United States as proof that we are anti-CW.

I have just reviewed those comments (they were written three years ago). Our only comments regarding CW were that we felt the old license structure relied too heavily on CW proficiency as an overall part of the licensing requirements, and we proposed reducing the required code speed on licensing exams, either to 5 and 10 words per minute, or to a single speed of 5 wpm, which is what the FCC adopted. We have never called for the elimination of the code requirement.

That said, it is clear to us that the tide of world amateur opinion has shifted, and that the majority of amateurs no longer believe that demonstrating code proficiency is a valid prerequisite for holding an amateur license with HF privileges. Even the International Amateur Radio Union has adopted his position as its policy.

Does this mean that CW as a popular operating mode is about to go away? There are many ardent CW enthusiasts who seem to believe that, if code proficiency is no longer required for licensing, then no one will learn it anymore. We disagree, and so do our readers. We feel that people will continue to learn CW as long as it can add to their enjoyment of amateur radio. Many people simply enjoy using CW and will continue to do so; some DX is accessible only via CW; people with limited stations will work more stations, farther away, using CW than SSB. Even VHFers who want to work moonbounce or meteor scatter will benefit from learning CW.

Let me share with you the results of our September reader survey, about our readers' CW operating habits, that will appear in our January 2002 issue: More than half of our readers consider their CW proficiency level to be "advanced" or "expert" and nearly two-thirds operate CW at least half the time they're on the air. The most popular CW activities are DXing and rag-chewing; and more than half say their primary reason for operating CW is because they enjoy it. Finally, more than half also answered yes to the question of whether they thought they'd have learned CW even if it wasn't a licensing requirement. This shows a very high level of support for CW among our readers, and we believe it will continue to be a strong and popular operating mode, whether or not it continues to be a licensing requirement. And remember, we sponsor two of the most popular CW operating events of the year, the CQWW CW and the CQ WPX CW (not to mention the CQWW 160 CW Contest). I hope this has helped to clear up any misconceptions you may have about CQ's support for CW. Please do spread this among your fellow CW ops in France, so that it is widely understood that CQ strongly supports CW operating and CW operators, and does what it can through its contests to promote CW activity. 73, Rich W2VU Editor, CQ

WARNING

Our Maurice, F5NQL is a positive mine of information and in this case, he advises that a worm virus is in circulation masquerading under the guise of the French REF-UNION. It arrives as a normal e-mail with an attachment REFmUNION.EXE and carries the virus W32.Magistr.39921@mm. Those of you using Norton or most other anti-virus scanners should be safe enough but if you have not yet got round to protecting your computer - lookout!

WTC SPECIAL

During the events of Sept 11, amateur radio ops supplied communications to assist the various emergency services proving again the value of our hobby in times of need. In recognition of this, the QRZ group (Sussex) will be activating a special event station from 1800 Friday Nov 23 to 1800 Sunday Nov 25 with the call GB4ISE. A copy of the log book will be presented to the ARRL as a token of our support. This information from Stuart, M0CHW.

PREFERRED QRGs ON WARC BANDS

There has been much confusion over these and a quick e-mail to Nancy detailed the following which are in general use by the US gang: (30m) **10.118**. (12m) **24.918**. (17m) **18.085**. For those of you with 6m, they are using **50.058** as expected.

2M CW ACTIVITY

Angie is still active on 2m CW and in-fact there is a group concerned specifically with just this. There is quite a lot of information and Angie invites all interested to contact her at:

morseladyuk@yahoo.co.uk or morselady@ntlworld.com. She will point you in the direction of the Yahoo group.

9ACWG

I am wishing to inform you with our Club station 9A0CW FISTS-7795. The 9A-CW-G is short of Croatian Telegraphy Group. Our Group was formed in April 1995. We are member of EU-CW-Association.

Rules for 9ACWG members award (W-9ACWG-M) award
2-way CW contacts with 9A-CWG members after 1st of May 1995 as follows:

9A amateurs..... 10 contacts

EU amateurs 6 contacts

DX (amateurs outside EU) 3 contacts

Award fee is \$ 5 or 10 IRC or 7 DEM

You have to send application with GCR list verified from one other licensed radio amateur operator

ADDRESS FOR BOTH AWARDS:

Mato Samardzic, 9A3SM

Jure Kastelana 20

HR-10.000 ZAGREB

Republic of Croatia

List of members of 9A-CWG:

9A2WJ, 9A2AJ, 9A3SM, 9A2EU, 9A8A, **9A5I**, 9A3UF, **K1RH**, DL4FDM, 9A3PA, DL4CF, Z32KV, OK1RR, HA3NU, 9A7V, 9A2VB, OH4YR, 9A7AA, **K9QVB**, RA6AR, PY1BVY, I7ALE, 9A7W, 9A1AA, ON5ME, S58MU, 9A3A/5B4ADA, S51M, BV2TA, DL8KAZ, T94GB, ON6CW, 9A4W, T94YT, 9A2OO, DK1WU, HA0EQ, UA1CGS, F5PIQ, **G0EBW**, DL8HRW, DL3MCO, 9A5O, 9A2TN. The CALLs in bold are also FISTS members.

Requirements for membership

Membership is offered in all operators all over the world, who have the license and are active on at least two amateur bands on CW. They have to be capable of sending and receiving 30 WPM (150 letters per minute) with high standard as operators in technique and clarity and HAM SPIRIT, without use of computers, decoders, keyboards or other helping devices. Test CW QSO should last at least 30 minutes. They have to get 4 proposal for membership in 9A-CWG from 9A-CWG Members, of which one should be from Croatia.

Membership fee is paid with the application for membership in 9A-CWG and is for life (\$ 5, or 10 IRCs or 7 DEM).

Each member of 9A-CWG gets membership award (diploma) with his membership number.

The Secretary of 9A-CWG is Mato Samardzic, 9A3SM, and the President of 9A-CWG is Milan "Daki" Drlic, 9A2WJ.

Daki, 9A2WJ

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 keys.

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

NEW MEMBERS

8338	MM0CAE	Jim	8339	G0TNU	Gra
8340	M5HDF	CLUB	8341	G3HJF	Jim
8342	GM3VTH	Dave	8343	M0BDB	Roland
8344	M0DRK	Derek			

M5HDF incidentally is an additional call of the Midland Contest Group and accompanies G2HDF. Another source of three-pointers for you.

THE STRAWBERRY BASKET

OZ1EUO. Leif sends me a QSL card whose face depicts an ancient inn Hjerl Moor -hope I have got the spelling right Leif - a beautiful thatch roofed building painstakingly drawn by a friend. Well if I ever do get that way, I'll know where to go for

FISTS CW CLUB NEWS LETTER

a pint! **G3TVI.** Why is it that so many keys have a miniscule little knob reminiscent of a drawer pull which demands finger tip operation instead of one which permits the more traditional



'fist' grip wonders Rod. He took the handle of a date stamp and modified it to fit. Did the same thing my-self with a rubber stamp block Rod and although they do tend to be just a wee bit over-size, it is preferable to the opposite. **G0PEH.** Tony has got into the habit of signing with TTFN after a good rag-chew. There can't be many of you out there who do not remember this (Ta Ta For Now) from the unforgettable ITMA shows on the old steam radio. Mayhap it could be contagious 'cos it has a nice 'swing'. **G3HBN.** Our Jim has been spending a few weeks in the antipodes - VK6 in fact but is now back in the real world. Hope the trip was enjoyable Jim. **G0UJO.** Merv has the use of the ISWL call GX4BJC/P for December and amongst other pursuits will be the targetting of US stations on 28058. **GM3LGM.** Bill visited the cardiac clinic in Dundee and was a long way from displeased to hear the consultant say "See you next year". He is now entering his 82nd year and as an ex-sub mariner you could say that fate has looked kindly upon him. Hi.

ODDS 'N ENDS

QRP v QRM

Chris (G0IYZ) attended the rally at Donnington where the RA rep struggled bravely against the QRM of some extremely noisy ventilation systems. Despite turning up the wick on the less than efficient PA unit to maximum he was largely lost under the racket. He would have been better using a key/oscillator opines Chris.

G0HGA Website

Angie, G0HGA has up-dated her website on www.qsl.net/g0hga and it is also mirrored on morselady.topcities.com/ and would appreciate you calling in.

G3ZDD and the Whitehouse

Sure he will not have been the only one but top marks to Derek for digging up the address from the internet search engine. His message of sympathy following Sept 11 was forwarded to President Bush.

G4FAI and sticky fingers

With reference to the structure of the code, Tony mentioned that 20% of the characters originally defined by Sam Morse were included in the final lineup. This should have been 20 characters but as usual, yours truly just wasn't reading carefully!

G4KKI with ancient kit

Thinking of the 9R59D, Bill dug up his ancient BC221 (wonder how many of today's youngsters know what this is?) and despite being last calibrated by the MOD in Oct 1944, he was delighted to find it was still spot on. I am tempted to say "they don't make em like that anymore" Bill but for sure, they were constructed to last. Hi.

Here are infos received from GIL, F5NOD about the F6KDF ARC activity during the next WWDXCW Contest :
Callsign: TM0DX Crew : F5ROP Fred, DL7FER Felix (Guest operator), F8BWB YI Viviane, F5SIH Eric, F5NOD Gil. The operations will take place from the usual F6KDF's contest site in the Ain department . forwarded by : Maurice, F5NQL, Dx page editor at : <http://www.uft.net>

Hi Guys

Informations received from Patrick FR5FD.

I'll be active for the next CQWDX CW at the end of November in monoop low power class all bands. I am also

very active every day.

For the ham community, would you note that I have not and QSL Manager, instead of false informations published in some call books and databases .. The correct information will appear in the next 2002 issue of the Call Book inc, at the end of 2002. Fr5fd.

Forwarded by Maurice, F5NQL, Dx page editor at : <http://www.uft.net>
73 and be lucky.

The weather hazard

NW3N took a direct hit by lightning recently - did some pretty nasty things to his TS450 and it is feared he may have to send it in for some serious surgery. This was an earlier report and I hope that by now the lad has got things sorted out.

and solar storms

Not unlike lightning in its effects, I learned recently that there are a number of orbital sensors monitoring excessive solar radiation which it appears occur periodically and which send huge waves of ionized particles in random directions from old Sol. There must be very little warning when these occur but I understand that this is sufficient to re-orientate some of the more sensitive hardware orbiting us to shield their vital bits from the effects. You don't believe it? A large lump of Canada was deprived of power on one occasion when the electricity grid system was overwhelmed. It is difficult to imagine that the amateur satellites are thus protected so they seem to be living on a knife edge.

The woodpecker returns

Does anyone have any information about this? Shortly after the attack on the World Trade Centre, it was heard for a short period only on 40m and I am told, on other bands also. We could well do without this relic from the cold war.

Anniversary transmission

On the 12th December, 1901, Marconi and his team established communication across the Atlantic. This occasion will be marked with much activity including the Marconi Centenary Contest on the 29th and hopefully - as reported earlier in Keynote - the boys at Poldhu may even be activating a spark transmitter. Should be a very interesting week or two around that date.

No Contest logs except via e-mail

In view of the number of envelopes which must be delivered to CQ, I was not too surprised that they have opted for e-mail only logs for the CQ World Wide contest. Must take a fair number of aspiring applicants out of the frame but in the light of what has been going on over there since Sept 11 it makes sense.

The Ladder

Just in time to remind you that the ladder starts January 2002. Every Wednesday, 0800 - 2200 and although all non-WARC bands are quoted, it is anticipated that the bulk of activity will take place on 80 and 40 metres. I know there a few who feel that the format is not ideal but please do give it a chance and if anything needs to be changed for the following year then M0CLO will have the opportunity to see what can be done.

You have lots of opportunity to work at your leisure so if your contacts seem that way inclined then there is no need to restrict yourselves to quick in/out exchanges - a few additional words would no doubt be appreciated.

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/~gzpy/index.htm>

NUMBER CHASING

It was a little surprising to me because I have never bothered with the statistics and other math involved but from Nancy comes a quote of something in the order of 1% of FISTS members are actively indulging in this. Makes you wonder where the rest of 'em have got to! In fact, especially over here in Europe

HobbyTrade's Services

HobbyTech

Interactive advice or information on radio related subjects.

HobbyAds

Free private and commercial ads until further notice.

HobbyViews

See our dealer price comparison chart for new rigs.

HobbyWatch

Actively promotes your advert to other interested users.

HobbyLink

Links to software downloads and other useful radio related sites.

Please visit www.hobbytrade.co.uk
to see these and many other services.

or the UK, such activities tend to be restricted to the HF bands and those who use 40 or 80m are generally expecting to bump into members they have worked previously and where the prospect of good natter is the aim. Having said that however, I do find myself involved in much lamp swinging and general chit-chat irrespective of the band but perhaps it comes with the club call or perhaps because when conditions are suitable, I tend to instigate rag chews.

Please do not think that I am knocking those who are seeking awards (there would be little point in having them if this were the case) but there may well be an assumption that the first-time contact is only interested in what you have to offer. Try an opening first - you may well discover a kindred spirit.

For news of what's happening in the world of Morse, read "MM"!

This unique bi-monthly magazine carries a wide range of articles on all aspects of Morse; past, present and future. If you like Morse, you'll like MM

By postal subscription only. Send for a sample copy £2.50 (US \$5.00 bill) or ask for further details from



Samuel F.B. Morse
1791-1872

Morsum Magnificat

The Poplars

Winstanswick

MARKET DRAYTON

TF9 2BA, England

01630-638306 or fax 01630-638051

e-mail: zyg@morsum.demon.co.uk

Home page: <http://www.morsum.demon.co.uk>

SILENT KEY

Although a lapsed member due to illness, I record the death of Ken, G3GPE (7118), 13 Nov/01. ex-Y11X and other o/s calls, Ken was a member of FOC and TOPS. and a firm CW op. My thanks to Pete, G3ICH for info.

FINALE

Sorry I am adrift again with this letter people. Things sometimes get so glued up at this end that such delays are almost inevitable but we soldier on and I can only thank you for your understanding and support not just of FISTS but CW.

Next month, Nancy will be spending a few days in dry dock for some necessary surgery but she assures me there will effectively be little time lost due to this - we wish her well.

I would normally produce a Keynote in December and skip January due to the postal chaos but the way things are at present, skipping December instead will give me a break which I feel very much in need of. During the next few weeks, I shall be replacing my existing Intel III computer with something much more up to date so everything should be sorted out before the January Keynote is due to be posted.

There are a number of IRCs here at HQ for disposal. 50p each. Cheers for now people. Hope you all have a fine Christmas and I look forward to seeing you in the new year.

73/88, stay sober (well reasonably) and we hope for a more stable and civilized world in 2002.

Geo