

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.fistsdownunder.morsekeys.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

Chairman G4XHZ
Vice Chairman G4YLB
P.R.O. G4YLB
Secretary 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** £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 Glenn@m0ayi.freemove.co.uk

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, BARNSELEY, 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 BRÖMWICH, B70 9TJ.

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

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

There was a fair degree of confusion last month when Chuck (M0AVW) received samples of the new fabric patch from Stan, K4UK, and we assumed that Stan was responsible for their sale



and distribution. I was most impressed with them and sent Chuck some green stamps and instructions to ask Stan to send a few so they would be to hand for any EU members. This consequently led to email messages which were mis-interpreted by Nancy

FISTS CW CLUB NEWS LETTER

intimating that either Chuck, Stan or both thought that I was partisan and would not be prepared to accept and distribute items emanating from the US. It matters not to me from whence FISTS oriented items originate - just as long as they do the job of enhancing the club and it transpired that Nancy had already asked her Mom, WO8E, to send 100 patches to me pdq. These are in the form of a gift from the US gang and they are now available at HQ for £1.50 each including postage to help the funds and possible purchase of a replacement laser printer in the near future. As you can see from the accompanying scan, they go some way towards correcting the impression that FISTS is some sort of pugilistic club. Hi.

They are incidentally, machine stitched and thus will **not** collapse if exposed to rain.

QSL Cards

Many of you have not been reading the leader on this page. You are asked to include postage which incidentally, is significantly less than that which the Post Office actually demands. I know that the excess of 30p doesn't sound much for UK despatch but it does get a wee bit hefty when the destination is Europe or other DX. The actual costs for 200 cards within the UK is around £1.30 but the cost quoted is held at £1.00 for the convenience of those who send cash rather than cheques.

Printer

The current laser (HP4V) is becoming somewhat quirky in its old age and I can no longer sit back and watch it pick out a sheet at a time from the stack and get on with the job. I have to stand there like some guardsman at attention wearing a rubber finger and coaxing each sheet individually. It is of course an A3 rather than the standard A4 printer because it is also used to prepare the paper litho plates prior to printing Keynote. The replacement will not have to accommodate that size stock of course (the HP4V will still do it) and ideally, it should be capable of duplex printing so that listings etc which are printed back-to-back can be done in one rather than two operations. There is still life in the old gal so I am not pushing too hard at the present time but it is a case of when and not if its successor will be required.

Are you wearing out?

All this however is symptomatic of the same trend which out-dates your fire-breathing all-singing state of the art rig just a couple of months after you bought it. Redundancy it seems is built into everything these days and not least ourselves. It is this which probably accounts for the enthusiasm exhibited by a few for coaxing the last gasp of CW from bottle bound ex-military kit and the fascination found by those who work such equipment on-air. If GM3PIP manages to cure his 1154/5 combo of hiccups it will be a delight not only to himself but to those who participate in on-air QSOs with it. Keep up the good work. You and others of the same ilk have my deepest admiration mate.

Optical Paddles again!

"There is nothing new under the sun" quotes John, G3BEX with a photocopy of a certificate from GW8IH in which Noel acknowledges the worlds first 2-way QSO using optical keying. This was dated May, 1988 so the concept has been brewing for some time now. Hi.

QRM

There I was harking to 3558 and someone sending (with a rather

NOVEMBER 2002

PAGE 1

poor fist) either weather obs or, more likely, cypher. The problem here though was that the guy was not only 20db over S9 but the TX was in RTTY mode so he was actually occupying a full KHz of band space. LF of the data proper was a reverse echo which meant a constant carrier on key up. When he had thankfully finished I was left wondering if he knew that he had been in FSK mode and whether he got a 'rollocking' for it? Hi.

EMAIL Keynote

Andy and I are still finding a lot of work due to changed email addresses which are not notified. Email subscribers please advise Andy, G0JLX, of any address changes **and CC** to me here at HQ so I can keep my records up to date.

only 16 out of 29. There may be others in the pipeline though David so I guess it's not too bad. **G0TBB**. Bert recently picked up his belongings and fled to pastures new (I know the area well mate) and vows it will be the last time. Wonders how we manage to accumulate all the junk. If you take a look at my spare bedroom, my shack and my cellar mate the question would be justified - and I have recently cleared out at least 50%. Trouble is of course that whenever you want that odd capacitor, transistor or whatever, the collection is in such a mess that it is easier to go out and buy. Hi. **G4SSH**. The QSL card for GB2SCA was accompanied by a letter apologising for the delay due to circumstances beyond the groups' sphere of control. The lighthouse

RUMBLED AT ROCHDALE



Much QRM was evident at the G-QRP gathering with (left to right) G3JMZ, G3ZFZ, G0TUE, G3ZQS, G0JWB. As usual I departed with virtually the same brass with which I arrived but this tradition was almost changed by a very impressive Russian made camel back key for sale. Sanity prevailed when I noted a small label with the inscription '£98.00'.

weekend went well and they acknowledge the kind assistance of the Harbour Master in permitting them access. Saturday in particular (being the hottest day of the year) saw temperatures soaring to 80F in the glass bound greenhouse which was the business department of the lighthouse. This same weather was responsible for a local East coast 'sea fret' demanding the application of the fog horn (situated about 10 feet from the operating position) and for three hours they were subject to these periodic blasts which are audible for five miles. There were over 700 contacts in total so, by the time they hauled the cotton wool from their ears, it must be regarded as a success. **G3GUR**. John entered the usual event for the British Wireless for the Blind (transmission 2002) under the call of G2NM. This was the call of Gerald Marcuse prior to his death and has been 'adopted' by the Chichester & Dist ARC which was renewed for the occasion. The call is remembered by many including one in ON land. Tnks for the card John and was a pleasure to work you. **G0VTN**. Not much use for brass these days says Ron - "can't get out to spend it" so passes time issuing orders to 'her indoors' and receiving the old two-fingered salute in exchange together with dire threats of what she is gonna do to some of his anatomical bits 'n pieces if he doesn't shut his 'tater trap'. **G4UIA**. An ancient old string bag flies proud atop his stationery though sadly it is displayed as a mangled heap on the footer. Derek refers to his dictionary which describes a 'Tyke' as a Yorkshireman or a low fellow which, whilst it may come as something of a surprise to the residents of the badlands may well resolve a mystery for our transatlantic cousins! Oops! **G3FIJ** Our Frank (thankee koind zur) is still engaged in the Colchester ARC's schooling of M3 ticket holders both Foundation course and Morse appreciation sessions. Resolves to pursue neighbour, G0SCP, in the ladder but Frank... he has quite a good start for this year!

SILENT KEY

It saddens me to record the death of Alec Ward, G3HSP (12 Oct). I first learned of this via G0JWB and later, via an email from M0NCP, who says:
*"He will be sadly missed by myself, all his friends and family. He was a superb CW operator and never to my knowledge used any other mode. He and I used regularly to communicate on CW with amateurs in Cromers twin towns of Crest (F5RPB) and Nidda (DF1FB).
 Funeral St. Faiths Crematorium 25 Oct"*

THE STRAWBERRY BASKET

G4GKF. George solved a problem from last months info on the Curtis chip and keying modes. Replacing his FT101ZD with a new FT920, his dismay with the keying eclipsed the delight he experienced with all the bells and whistles since the keying is seemingly in "B" mode. Since the mode is dependent upon which one of two pins are grounded it should be simple enough to correct and I have set up a communication between himself and the originator of the item. Meanwhile, if anyone else has done this job with a rice box, I am sure the info would be appreciated. **M0DAW**. Our David lends his voice to a prominent minority who are not afraid of speaking out. He has for some time now taken care to avoid a small number of members whose fists leave something to be desired. He is not in the business of blowing whistles (and neither am I come to that) but voices a plea for all to plug in a tape recorder and play back the results after a QSO. He also mentions QSL return rates for non-FISTS QSOs which weighs in at a dismal 5% though FISTS returns so far amount to

CONTEST MANAGER

Bob, M5AGL after some dialogue with Dale has assumed the duties of Contest Manager. You will find his address on the banner. I am still waiting for him to make arrangements to get on line but in the meantime results are via snail mail.

GB5FF

A little too late I regret but the Scarborough group were active again 12/13 October in an event they describe as Farewell to Fearless. The Assault ship HMS Fearless had a long and distinguished career including The Falklands conflict and earlier this year, returned to Portsmouth after anti-terrorist duties related to Afghanistan. Her bell and battle honours were presented to Scarborough (her adoptive port) and her white ensign will be lowered for the last time at the end of October. QSL cards will feature a picture of 'Fearless' anchored in Scarborough's South bay, the event being a final salute to the Royal Navy's last steam powered warship.

G3TUX

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SKW RESULTS

From M5AGL a compilation of the 2002 SKW results. Bob comments "It seems that man G4LHI has again romped away with first place though at least G0SCP is giving him a challenge in the ladder".

G4LHI (231), G14SQR (68), G0SCP (66), M5AGL (61), G3IUC (55), G4NCU (49), M0AYI (45), G3ZHE/P (37), M0DRK (25), VK3VB (24), M5ABN (21), G0XAH (18), OH7QR (16), M5DAP (9), HB9DEO (7), G4HSO (6), PA3AFF(6).

Some of you are going to have to try harder - there is no mistake about that - but thanks to all who submitted logs. Bob remarks "It was nice to see we had 10 returns for the September Ladder despite it now being a two horse race. Even more encouraging was the returns from two M3s (M3XGQ Tony) who had 6 points and M3GBT Graham with 58 points.

That worthy gent M5ABN received most mentions for Best Fist closely followed by VK3VB and G4LHI (both with equal nominations).

AND THE LADDER

Is that air-hog really being displaced? Annual scores: G0SCP (1731), G4LHI(1710), M5ABN(681), GW0SGG(180), M5AGL(157), G3VQO(145), M0DRK(124), OH7QR(80), M3GBT(75), M0CMQ(71), G0MRH(66), HB9CHE(61), M3XGQ(6).

G0SCP made quite a 'push' for September to get his nose in front of the favourite

G4GFQ

Our Ron took advantage of a £150 reduction offer and splashed out on a IC718. "All I have to do now is learn to drive it". Ron, who confesses to being 'octal based' eclipsed his tally for the period Jan/99 to last month with 20 QSOs. By his own confession, he is not a speed merchant and offers his thanks to the patient ones (including three FISTS) for their indulgence of his (approximately) 10 wpm. Look forward to more regular appearances on the bands Ron though the purpose of printing this was to again highlight the very helpful attitude of the bulk of our members. We can hardly profess to be encouraging the mode if the slower guys are not accommodated so it is a big thank-you to all of you who are prepared to go out of your way.

SUBS, QSL CARDS ETC

I am sure it is not done with intent but I am still getting incorrect monies. EU members in particular should remember that EU snail mail subs are £7.00 and not \$7.00 US. At current exchange rates this equates to about \$10.00. Also, a few members seem to be referring to prices quoted for QSLs a few years back. 100 cards = £7.00 and 200 = £10.00 plus postage It costs over £1.00 to send 200 cards in the UK and you can safely reckon at over

£2.00 to other destinations. I am not penny pinching folks - the bulk of you are spot on to generous - but those who send less money than is required are not playing the game with the majority. Must get my-self a new pair of mitts and a quill pen. Hi.

EUCW Fraternising CW QSO Party 2002

This year's EUCW Fraternising CW Party will be held on 16-17th November 2002. Although there is a contest element in the sense that certificates are awarded to top performers, its real purpose is to give members of EUCW clubs the opportunity to meet each other, and other CW enthusiasts, and to demonstrate that amateur Morse is still alive and well. Of course, in fun events like this it's more important to take part (and send in an entry) than to win!

Look out for members of the following EUCW clubs: AGCW-DL (Germany); Benelux-QRPC; BTC (Belgium); CT-CWC (Portugal); EA-QRPC (Spain); EHSC (Extremely High Speed Club); FISTS; FOC (First Class Operators); G-QRP; HACWG (Hungary); HCC (Spain); HSC (High Speed Club); HTC (Switzerland); INORC (Italy); I-QRPC (Italy); ITC (Italy); MCWG (Macedonia); OE-CWG (Austria); OHTC (Finland); OK-QRPC (Czech Republic); RTC (former GDR); SCAG (Scandinavia); SHSC (Super High Speed Club); SP-CWC (Poland); UCWC (Russia); UFT (France); U-QRQC (Ukraine); VHSC (Very High Speed Club); YL-CW-GP (Germany); 3A-CW-G (Monaco); 9ACWG (Croatia),

and work them as follows:

Dates, Times, and Frequencies
16 Nov 1500-1700 UTC 7010-7030 & 14020-14050 kHz 1800-2000 UTC 7010-7030 & 3520-3550 kHz

17 Nov 0700-0900 UTC 7010-7030 & 3520-3550 kHz 1000-1200 UTC 7010-7030 & 14020-14050 kHz

Classes

A - Members of EUCW clubs using more than 10w input or 5w output.

B - Members of EUCW clubs using QRP (up to 10w input or 5w output).

C - Non-members of EUCW clubs using any power.

D - Shortwave listeners.

Exchanges:

Class A & B, RST/QTH/Name/Club/Membership number.

Class C, RST/QTH/Name/NM (ie, not a member).

Class D, Log information from both stations.

Call: CQ EUCW TEST.

Stations may be worked or logged only once a day, per band, during the contest.

Scoring: Class A/B/C - 1 point per QSO with own country, 3 points per QSO with other European country. Class D - 3 points for every complete logged QSO.

Multiplier, all classes: 1 multiplier point for each EUCW-club worked/logged per day and band.

Logs: to include date, UTC, band, call, info sent, info received, and points claimed per QSO.

Summary: to include full name, call, address, total points claimed, station details, power used, and signature. Entries to be received by the EUCW Contest Manager, Guenther Nierbauer DJ2XP, Illinger Strasse 74, D-66564 Ottweiler, Germany, not later than 31st December, 2002. Certificates will be awarded to the three highest scorers in each class.

Worked EUCW Award

Additionally, this event offers a good opportunity to make contacts qualifying for the prestigious "Worked EUCW" Award, printed on heavy parchment type paper depicting the map of Europe "at the time of Samuel F.B. Morse". There are three classes of award, "Standard", for contacts

made using any authorised transmission power; "QRP", for contacts made using not more than 5 watts r.f. output transmission power; and "SWL", for shortwave listeners".

The requirements of the award are confirmed CW only contacts (SWLs - CW stations heard) with 100 different stations who are members of EUCW clubs, over 3 different amateur bands with a minimum of 20 stations worked or heard in each band. The total of 100 stations worked or heard over 3 bands must include at least 3 members of six different EUCW clubs. Only contacts made on or after Morse bicentennial day, 27th April 1991, count for the award, with up to 40 stations worked or heard on that day counting for double points. Full details of the award can be obtained by sending 2 IRCs to the EUCW Award Manager, Gunther Nierbauer DJ2XP, address as above. (Also available from G4FAI, QTHR, send s.a.e.)

G4ZPY

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e-mail: g4zpy@lineone.net

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

NEW MEMBERS

8949	M3XGQ	Tony	8950	M5JSW	Steve
8951	JA8XIC	Kato	8952	G4XEC	Laurie
8953	M0AUW	Dick	8954	JR0ECQ	Tomo
8955	G3HFX	Pete	8956	G4JOK	Bob
8957	G0UPL	Hans	8958	DL5DXS	Steve
8959	JA2BCQ	Kaz	8960	M0EOS	Allen
8961	G4IBH	David	8962	JJ1BDX	Joe
8963	G4VVI	John	8964	M3CRD	Clive
8965	M0MJB	Mark			

You will likely hear Joe signing as JJ1BDX/3 whilst Clive (M3CRD) lives with his OM (M3MCA) and sadly is confined to a wheelchair. Got home tuition for the foundation licence and although he has one of those squawky things attached to his rig, he prefers CW since he also has a speech problem.

THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

As usual, I shall be taking a bit of a rest over the Christmas period (some folks have even been known to suggest I have earned it) The December issue will be prepared and circulated hopefully towards the end of November followed by the February issue. It is probably a good time to remind you that the Ladder for 2003 will start on the first Wednesday of January although it is patently untrue that some members have put out a contract on G4LHI and G0SCW so you will likely have to run the gauntlet of those two again. Hi.

G0HFX

It took quite a bit of work messing around with some awful background shadows etc. but here is a likeness of G0HFX. Isn't it just plain unfair that someone should have all that thatch when others amongst us appear to be contestants in the Kojak look-alike competition? Not that I am jealous mark you.. it's just that I miss the raucous cry of a CPO with "Get yer 'air cut you scruffy individual".



MORSUM MAGNIFICAT



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1791-1872

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QSL BUREAU

Our various QSL managers are continuing to build up small mountains of QSL cards for which there are no corresponding stamps or labels. I know they are hesitant to bounce them over to the National bureau but how long can they continue? If you send QSLs via FISTS then you really should have stamps and labels lodged with the appropriate sub manager.

COAXIAL TRAPS

John DeGood, NU3E is the author of a very enlightening letter entitled "Attic Antenna" which came into my hands via G3ZPF. He uses coaxial cable and standard plastic pipe fittings to produce traps for a multi-band antenna housed in his loft. Details are given for 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10M traps with associated element lengths. Somewhat too detailed to reproduce here but I have it here (it is in .DOC format) for anyone who would like a copy. Just send me an email and I'll shoot it back to you.

OOPS! I'VE BEEN HAD

Re. JAWS (photograph Sept Keynote). "This photo is a well known fake. Just search on Yahoo with helicopter and shark". From Harris, VK6AV.

MX5IPX/P

Stuart, G0LOE, completed a couple of weeks activity and seems to have had quite an interesting period. A reminder that the call sign is available to any member though I caution you that you will be flying the flag and that your CW should therefore be beyond reproach.

DX STUFF

Nov 1/8, Canary Islands, EA8
Nov 1/13, South Cook Islands, ZK1
Nov 8/11, Ogasawara, 8N1OGA, QSL JARL
Nov 27/30, Ogasawara, 8N1OGA, QSL JARL
Nov 30/Dec 8, Luxembourg, LX0LT, QSL BUREAU
Nov 2/24, Equatorial Guinea, 3C2MV
Nov 2/7, Tonga, A3, QSL HB9DKX
Nov 5/19, Madagascar, 5R8HA, QSL G3SWH
Nov 7/Dec 5, Sierra Leone, 9L1AB, QSL G3AB
Nov 9/10, French Polynesia, F0, QSL via QRZ.com adr
Nov 10/Dec 02, Netherland Antilles, PJ2, QSL PA0VDV
Nov 15/25, Sable Isl, CY0MM
Nov 19/27, Belau, T88
Nov 20/Dec 1, Gambia, C56R, QSL OH3RM
There will also be much DX in the CQ contest later in Nov with many groups and individuals planning DX trips for the event.

FINALE

We were more or less spared the worst of those horrific winds of the last weekend October, my own concern was the well being of my antennas rather than the roof. At the time of writing, I detect no damage to either though there is fear for those members in the Southern counties.

That's it for this month people. Keep that flag flying please and may your award lists grow.

73/88 and stay sober.

Geo