

BRASSPOUNDER

February 2019, Issue 129



Welcome to this edition of *BrassPounder*, which covers FISTS CW Club Europe's [on-air activities](#).

Greetings Dear FISTS

Welcome to the February of BP and as I type this the Winter Sports are well underway. I have spent a couple of days trying my hand at the Cross Country skiing activity and must say I am enjoying it immensely, even though it is frustrating at times...all those days I have heard OE and HA stations wall to wall but today...not a one!! If I could find a CT, the aforementioned HA or the OE I would have ski'd coast to European coast! Sadly, the day is more than half gone and I'm still on the green slopes!! Still, it is rather good fun.

The little kit I mentioned last month is still not finished because of a few issues which need working through, so to relax myself I built a home brew version of the Wonder Wand / Miracle Whip antenna. The very cold and wet weather has precluded its use to test it but let me warn you now...do NOT google 'wonder wand' in front of the kids. I seriously had no idea!! And Miracle whip is an American sweet foodstuff!!

As we approach March and the Brexit deadline please let me tell you that there are a few special events stations being organised. I shall be running GB5EEE from the 25th March to the 1st April (no, really I will). I will be mostly CW but out of courtesy I shall dust off my mic and also do some quacky duck. There are other stations too but how much CW I can't say (I could guess!!) but all their call signs are... GB3XEU, GB4QEU, GB2BRX, GB1UK, GB5EEE and GB0OUT All will be on HF and some on VHF. Operating dates vary but all will be active around the 29th.

As for the ladder logs this time round, many thanks for some super entries. I read almost all of them as they come in, and I try to thank all of you individually. I was amazed by the sheer number of QSO from some entrants this month – I was expecting bleak reports again because of the condx, but wowie...some of you amaze me. I would very much like to see and publish photographs and details of your stations and especially your aerial installations.

My own station is an average station with rigs between the K2 of 15 watts and the T1154 / R1155 running 80 watts up to an Icom set running 100 watts. I have a few homebrew sets of a watt or so but my aerial is what does it for me – a doublet of about 55m, or about 150 ft across the top and about 20 feet high running over water meadow.

73 everyone. Keep poundin' the brass.

David G4YVM FISTS 15868

activities@fists.co.uk

Results for Ladder January 2019

Callsign	Position	January
G4LHI	1	78
G4LRG	2	76
G0ILN	3	65
I5EFO	4	44
2E0DPH	=5	42
G0BON	=5	42
MW0BGL	=5	42
M0PBZ	=8	36
M5ABN	=8	36
G0JHK	10	33
G3XVL	11	30
9H1PI	12	29
DL3HR	13	27
OH7QR	14	26
M0GSX	15	22
G3ZRJ	16	18
MI0WWB	17	15
SP9NLI	18	12
M0DRK	19	7
G0UYG	=20	6
G4DNP	=20	6
M0UZE	=20	6
SP2SWI	=20	6

Comments for Ladder January 2019

Entrant	Comments
Ivan 9H1PI	My first time submitting ladder log. Hope all is ok with my log. 73's Ivan 9h1pi.
Nils DL3HR	HNY to all FISTS, I always tried my vy best to copy, but some signals were too tiny, sri. Hope to meet u agn in February - vy 73!
Ivan G0BON	2nd weekend was quite hard going with really bad QRN. It was nice to work a few new FISTS numbers.
Richard G0ILN	Hard going at times especially the fourth Sunday evening. let's hope condx improve. Richard G0ILN
Mike G0JHK	Lots of QRN my QTH
Tony G3ZRJ	sorry for delayed entry
Robin G4DNP	A slow start to 2019 - Best 73s
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI Claim for first Ladder for 2019.been good fun & looking fwd to Feb 2019 Ladder. vy mni tnx to all members & the officers of the club that make this possible. 73 Peter G4LHI # 2219
John G4LRG	1st Leg was very good with decent conditions and the 2nd Leg much harder but still great to see all of the activity. Thanks to all for the points. Unable to do the evening sessions due to other commitments.
Paul M0GSX	Hi to Graham and David and all at fists, Please find attached my January log for the ladder Session, only managed 1 Session this time, but the bands were ok and tried to work more 40M but very noisy and with full bands it becomes hard to pull out the wanted sigs, but it's the same for everybody. Thanks again for all the work you do front of house and I know that many more are working very hard for us behind the scenes - a BIG THANKYOU to all. Paul M0GSX #17642.
Phil M0PBZ	Hi, Please find my submission for January 2019 VY 73 Phil M0PBZ
Mark M0UZE	Many thanks.
Pete M5ABN	Very disappointing second session, S9 QRN and deep QSB 73 Pete M5ABN #6423
William MI0WWB	Could do better!
Erkki OH7QR	Hi, here comes my 1st Ladder-log this year. Conditions are still poor. Erkki nr 8318
Andy SP9NLI	Only 4 contacts, but I'm glad to be back after a year's absence. Vy 73 de sp9nli

Upcoming Events

February 2019

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Fri 01 Feb	Sun 31 Mar	FISTS Eu Winter Sports continues	0001-2359 UTC
Sun 10 Feb		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 24 Feb		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

March 2019

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Fri 01 Mar	Sun 31 Mar	FISTS Eu Winter Sports continues	0001-2359 UTC
Sun 10 Mar		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 24 Mar		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

April 2019

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 14 Apr		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 28 Apr		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Mon 29 Apr	Fri 03 May	EuCW QRS Week	0000-2359 UTC