

BRASSPOUNDER

October 2021, Issue 161



Dear FISTS

Welcome to the October edition of BP! I hope it finds you well.

Another very late edition this time round - the effects of my house fire still being felt but now in a good way - we have the builders in! When I say "in" I mean in every single room in the house...my shack / workshop has been sealed with plastic prior to full cleaning and brick work so I am having an enforced rest from Bantenna. I can't get to radios or tools and the effect is quite liberating! I have loads of time on my hands and not a single guilty feeling in my body!!!

I did work like stink the first few days of the week to get customers orders out and managed to ship three of my new Loftennas. I am waiting for operating reports on these aerials but basically I have managed to make a folded monopole of 6m overall length actually work. It has a low SWR on all HF bands and it works well. AS with all these things, it is obviously a compromise but there's a clue in the name...designed to be installed in a Loft or attic. If that's not already a compromise I don't know what is.

On the air.

I was hoping to tell you all the stations I worked recently - I worked quite a few FISTS, but because my logs are all behind dust screens...I cant! I have been active and that has been good fun...if I worked you, many thanks! I do recall working Wang, DK4AN, a few times again. I enjoy working Wang, I have "known" him for several years now and he always signs off by saying "73 to you and to Yagi". Yagi is my black Labrador! Top bloke in my book!

I was challenged by Alan, MW0BGL, who has asked for a telephone code activity...always happy to oblige Alan. Another email from someone who's name I cannot now recall (my apologies Sir) who said that he wasn't a fan of the cardinal hours thing for activities because if he missed the hour he had missed the chance. He asked whether we could revert to simply a full week or day of activity - and I said yes, we could, but...

The reason for the cardinal hours was to concentrate us into an hour and so MAXIMIZE the chances of a QSO. If it is actually having the opposite effect that's a bad thing and we need to rethink that. Do let me know.

RAF Cosford

I know a lot of you are ex-mil and even more have an interest in such things. I recently visited RAF Cosford aircraft museum and my oh my have they done a good job! The museum *per se* is as ever a superb place, with TSR2 and Bristol 188 stainless steel aeroplane, the “flaming pencil”. However, my eyes were wide when I visited the Cold War hangar...wow! How about a brace of Meteors hanging from the ceiling, or a EE Lightning climbing vertically or RAF F86 in a slow (very slow...) roll? Absolutely stunning work.

RAF Cosford...well worth a visit.

Members activity

I know that Dave GOAYD has been busy with a new toy this month: he recently acquired a USDX transceiver which looks like this below. It's a 5w 8 band HF radio and it seems to work very well indeed in Dave's hands.



Well, I shall sign now and say best 73 to you and yours.

Best 73

Comments for Mechanical Key Days October 2021

Entrant	Comments
Greg DL3GJ	Here is my report for October's MKD - mostly SOTA and WWFF chasing. 73 de Greg DL3GJ
Chris G3XVL	using either a 1942 Lionel J-36 bug or Amplidan straight key. Conditions were excellent on 40m band for inter G QSO's during the afternoon.
Paul M0GSX	Hi To All At Fists, Hope all is well at fists HQ and everyone is keeping well, Please find attached my MKD log for October, only managed the one contact this time but forgot to send in my September log, Sorry. Conditions on 80M for the contact were very poor with very deep QSB on Alan's (MW0BGL) Signal but lovely to get him in the log again, he was operating St Key Week, but managed to add for my MKD Contact. Thanks again to all at FISTS for the great job you all do for us. Paul M0GSX #17642
Steve M0SHM	First MKD contact for me. Had to rummage in the drawer to find my straight key!
Erkki OH7QR	Hello David, here comes my log for MKD in October. Only 4 QSOs this time. Thanks and 73 de Erkki OH7QR nr 8318

Results for Mechanical Key Days October 2021

Callsign	Position	Points
G3XVL	1	32
DL3GJ	2	15
G0LLX	=3	8
OH7QR	=3	8
G3XIZ	5	7
M0GSX	=6	3
M0SHM	=6	3

New to the Ladder in September was Kevin M0MCL who's QRZ photo is very cool!



Photo M0MCL



This is the man himself



And he also seems to have found a WW2 tank! Is this the origin of 'tank circuit'? maybe not....

Comments for Ladder September 2021

Entrant	Comments
Greg DL3GJ	Just a few QSOs this month. As always - family duties won... 73 de Greg DL3GJ
Richard G0ILN	Good fun as usual. Thanks to all who gave me a call. Richard G0ILN.
Peter G0TLU	Only a single QSO this month, but hey ho, every little helps!
Peter G3JRH	Not a lot of operating time.. Peter G3JRH

Chris G3XVL	Condx getting better at last !
Tony G3ZRJ	Sorry for poor entries, hope to contribute more in October 73 Tony
Robin G4DNP	Mni tks es 73s Robin
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI Claim for Sept Ladder but I'm afraid the band condx were not at their best, lots QSB & QRM but I made it in spite of that. Hi. Mni tnx to the organizers of this great event. Keep Safe 73 Peter
Richard G4TPJ	Always good fun - good cw practice.
John G4YTJ	<p>Hi David,</p> <p>I knew September was going to be a difficult month. A day out with friends on 12th meant that I would miss the afternoon session, and a holiday which covered 26th meant that I'd have get make the most of the evening session on 12th.</p> <p>By 1830z I'd replied to about half a dozen CQ calls to no avail. I did get a reply to a CQ I sent myself but I lost him before we could even exchange reports. Then my son arrived for a visit unexpectedly so I had to go QRT and be sociable instead!</p> <p>The net result is a big fat zero for the G4YTJ entry for September.</p> <p>73 John G4YTJ Fists 19024</p>
Chris G5VZ	<p>Having put GX0IPX on the air for both sessions on the first Ladder Sunday, 12. September, I could only get on for a short while in the evening of the second Sunday. But the band was kind and a few FISTS were on 80m!</p> <p>Thanks to those I worked and, for those I didn't, October awaits!</p> <p>73 de G5VZ</p>
Paul M0GSX	<p>Hi To All At Fists,</p> <p>Hope everyone's well, only managed one session this month, but a very nice band to use on 80m this time so pleased with my contacts, the band was a little flat at the start of the session but improved towards the end of the Evening session on the 12th.</p> <p>Thanks again to all that do great work behind the scenes at FISTS.</p> <p>Paul M0GSX #17642</p>
Gabor M0LPZ	73 TU.
Steve M0SHM	Thanks for everyone taking part and making the Ladders so enjoyable.
Pete M5ABN	A bit quiet this month, hope October proves more productive. Stay safe, Vy 73 Pete M5ABN
Erkki OH7QR	Hello David, please find attached my log for September. All the best and stay safe. Thanks and 73 de Erkki OH7QR nr 8318
Norbert ON4ANE	No activity on 40m detected 73 de Norbert ON4ANE
Jan PA0SIM	Condx still poor with QSB and QRN. In the afternoon 40m always best for UK. 73 Jan PA0SIM
Adam SQ9S	Tnx for all QSOs in FISTS Ladder September 2021. Best 73 Adam SQ9S #20019

Results for Ladder September 2021

Callsign	Posn	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
G0ILN	1	1	-	841	67	88	106	113	104	91	84	99	89
G4LRG	2	3	↑	685	85	73	96	90	51	65	67	75	83
G0BON	3	2	↓	678	70	96	106	92	78	87	66	83	
G4LHI	4	4	-	642	79	69	59	73	67	63	76	74	82
M5ABN	5	5	-	586	51	68	76	77	70	65	67	61	51
M0GSX	6	6	-	442	30	57	55	62	55	53	33	69	28
G4TPJ	7	7	-	326	48	60	54	59	39			57	9
G3XVL	8	9	↑	320	51	47	40	36	21	9	18	48	50
2E0DPH	9	10	↑	300	57	51	30	64	36	12		12	38
G3ZRJ	10	8	↓	292	45			36	32	32	52	77	18
DL3HR	11	11	-	256	42	42	49	37	28	42	16		
ON4ANE	12	15	↑	234	12	19	25	30	16	24	36	39	33
MW0BGL	=13	17	↑	231	19	24	42	38		3	30	36	39
OH7QR	=13	18	↑	231	24	23	21	17	25	19	29	25	48
G0JHK	15	14	↓	229	48	19	17	45	49		15	15	21
G5VZ	16	13	↓	223	40	38	15	3	32	36	18	28	13
G4XUZ	17	12	↓	214	18	21	38	29	39	12	24	33	
G3JRH	18	16	↓	212			39	51	43	24	24	16	15
PA0SIM	19	20	↑	186	21		30	12	21	24	27	33	18
G4YTJ	20	19	↓	172	15	25	24	24	27	15	12	30	
M0SHM	21	22	↑	138	30	12	9	18	12	12	9	21	15
MI0WWB	22	21	↓	136	33	24	58	21					
G0DFC	23	=23	-	133		12	38	35		24			24
G7WHI	24	=23	↓	109		48		52		9			
M0DRK	25	25	-	108	21	12	15	27	21	12			
SQ9S	26	26	-	107	1	15	20	15	9	4	10	21	12
M0RSU	27	27	-	83	26	33	24						
HA2ZB	28	28	-	74		14	27		3	11	9	10	
G4KLE	29	29	-	59			35	24					
PG4I	30	30	-	52	33	19							
G3ZOD	31	33	↑	51	6		9	9	3		6	12	6
G0LLX	=32	=31	↓	48			6		9	23		10	
G4RHR	=32	=31	↓	48				27	21				
DL3GJ	34	34	-	43				32		3		5	3
M0UZE	35	35	-	39	9	6	6	6	6	6			
G4DNP	36	36	-	37	7	6	12	3		3	3		3
G0TLU	37	37	-	34			4	3	6		12	6	3
M0LPZ	38	39	↑	31		3	6	9	3	3	3		4
IZ0ONL	39	38	↓	29			29						
M0MCL	40	-	↑	21									21
SA1CCQ	41	40	↓	17	17								
PA0VLD	42	41	↓	14	14								

IW2JJS	43	42	↓	8	5		3						
G4TGJ	44	43	↓	6	6								
LB5DI	45	44	↓	5			5						
2E0HTZ	=46	=45	↓	4						4			
IK1VQO	=46	=45	↓	4			4						
OZ8AGB	48	47	↓	3	3								
GX0IPX*				45					18	27			
MX5IPX*				15		15							

* Check log

Upcoming Events

October 2021

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 24 Oct		FISTS Europe Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

November 2021

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Mon 01 Nov		FISTS Europe Mechanical Key Days	0001-2359 UTC
Sat 06 Nov	Sun 07 Nov	RSGB 2m CW Marconi Contest	1400-1400 UTC
Sun 14 Nov		FISTS Europe Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 28 Nov		FISTS Europe Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

December 2021

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Wed 01 Dec		FISTS Europe Mechanical Key Days	0001-2359 UTC
Sun 12 Dec		FISTS Europe Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 26 Dec		FISTS Europe Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC