



Welcome back guys and gals and how is 2022 going?

I am finding condx very odd but mostly BAD. Some very deep QSB giving rise to very frustrating QSO although I have had some nice ones. I did manage St Helena this month so cant complain...it might not be the first time for me – I can't recall accurately but I think not - but it is the first time in a LONG time!

I also managed a QSO with a very old friend, Fred G4HOM, who is not a FIST but whom I have known for nigh on 40 years. Amateur CW...a delightful way to keep in touch.

New Activities

Now, this is an important bit so, pay attention.

We have TWO new activities now and they are BIG ones. The first is launching imminently, the second a little later. Let's go...

It is thirty five years since the late George "Geo" Longden G3ZQS of Darwen, Lancs, founded FISTS. 'Geo' did this as a way of formalising, as a club, the notion that more experienced operators should help and encourage newcomers to Morse – or the plain unconfident and thus spread the joy that comes from using the code we all love and this rationale is still the driving force of FISTS today

Using Morse is a magical way of communicating: not via laptop or pc, not via machine Morse or other fangled ways that actually exclude the magic, but the 'proper' way, hand sent and head decoded. Geo knew that it wasn't hard, anyone could do it, it just needed practice. Oh, and that love of it of course.

Well, to celebrate our 35th birthday we have formulated a little activity, but one with prizes. The details are laid out below and the activity is open to all, *members and non-members alike*. Just do it for the love of SFBM's finest contribution!

35th Anniversary challenge 2022

DESCRIPTION

A cunning way to celebrate 35 glorious years of FISTS with a fantastic prize at the end worth at least a few bob!

Stations **do not** have to be members to join in or count for points.

Whilst manual Morse is to be preferred, any form of coding / decoding is permitted.

The challenge is to accrue points throughout the year. Points are accrued by a simple summation of the callsign numbers. All the digits in the callsign are added (so S53 for example is NOT worth fifty three but eight). Callsigns that are exclusively zeros, e.g 2E0ABC, will score the number of points equivalent to the date: 2E0ABC is worth 1pt on the 1st, 7pts on the 7th and 31pts on the 31st. So if you work G4, DL7 and IK6 you accrue 17 points. If you work G3, F6 and W0AB you get 3+6+the date's number!

Extra secondary locators or other digits separated by slashes will not count. G4YVM is four points. F4/G4YVM is still four points.

However, you can count a maximum of 35 points each day (*if you get more than 35 points in any one day, the excess do not count*). If you get 65 points today and no points for the rest of the month, you score 35. These points will add up to quite a lot over a month and a year!

MONTH /days	Max pts (days x 35)
M 31	1085
J 30	1050
J 31	1085
U 31	1085
S 30	1050
O 31	1085
N 30	1050
D 31	1085

Max annual aggregate = 8575

The winner in December is simply the entrant with most points. He (or she) who works most days in most months is likely the winner...simple but fun!

DATES and TIMES

7 days a week, continuous running. Starting 0000Z April 1st 2022 and running till 2359Z December 31st 2022.

FREQUENCIES

160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 10m 2m

SCORING

No station may be worked more than once per day. "Station" means main callsign...G4YVM and G4YVM/P may NOT be worked on the same day.

Stations can be members or non-members.

QSO must be held both ways in Morse code.

LOGS and COMMENTS

Logs and comments visa logger to....

As well as a very nice anniversary mug for the winner. There is one mug for the FISTS member winner and one for the winning NON-MEMBER. Chris G5VZ has also donated a plaque for the winner and the runner up and these will be awarded to *members only*. Entrants do not need to state which section they enter, there is ONE section. The winning member will be the member with most points and the winning non-member will be the non-member with most points at the close of the activity 2359Z December 31st 2022. In the event that no non-members enter their prizes will not be issued, in the event of a tie between members or non-members (but obviously not between both - i.e. a member and a non-member cannot tie) normal joint-prizes will be.

The Chadburn Cup.

Some time ago we (FISTS) were contacted by the daughter of late FISTS member Cyril Robert Chadburn (ex G7MGV) MØBCH (Always known as Bob) born in September 1930. Bob's daughter gifted all of Bob's radios to FISTS which we have sold to members at a knockdown price to assist those less well heeled.

Bob had many jobs during his life. Training as an electrician; and repairing and reconditioning old valve television sets before going on to being a "driver's mate" before starting his service in the military. Where he went on to join the royal Armoured Corps and being posted to the 12th Lancers (due to a clerical

mistake) then transferred to the Household Cavalry (Which he had asked for) and posted to the lifeguards and went on to be posted to the Royal Horse-guards.

After leaving the military, he enlisted in the Nottinghamshire yeomanry as a part-time territorial officer. Bob also joined the Nottinghamshire constabulary where he saw service as a special constable until 1969; whilst working within the Nottinghamshire bus company. Managing the garage and repairs to the companies vehicles.

Bob was a fully qualified driving instructor both with cars, passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles where he trained aspiring bus drivers.

Amateur radio was a big part of his life, both hobby and the technical aspects. He was of course a member of the society, #2867. A member of the Royal Signals radio society #3569; And the national ex-service association #1369; He enjoyed his Morse code and amateur radio immensely on retirement; Also finding time to study mathematics and English literature.

In later years bob had started to learn to play the organ; He also had decided to learn the German language.

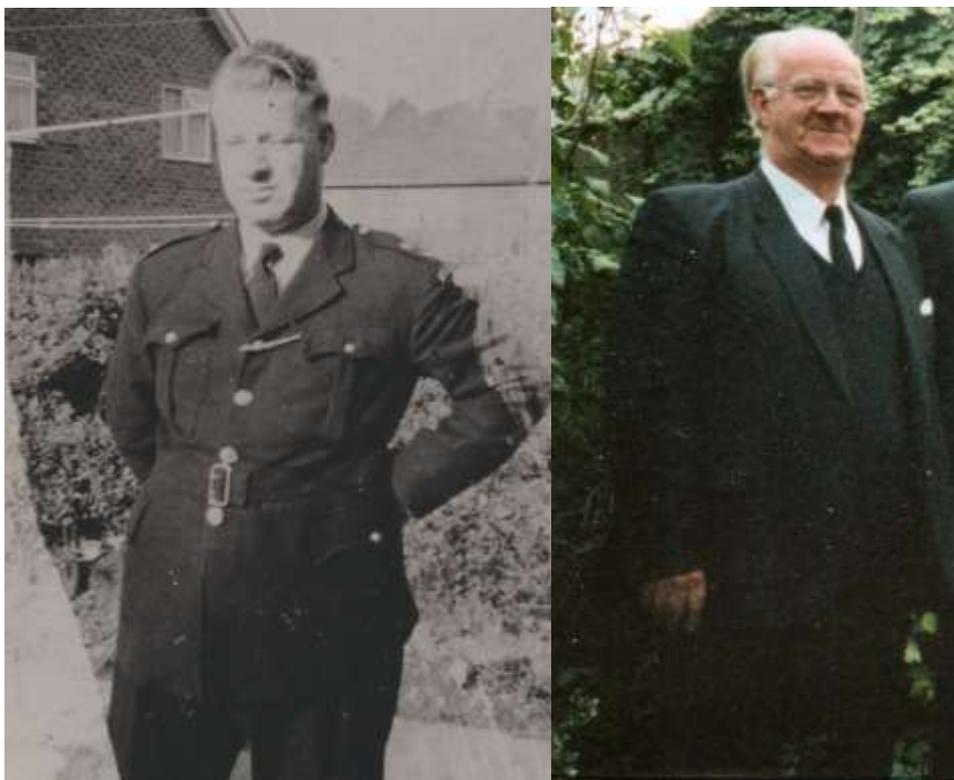
In his own words, Bob was born of modest means and a poor education, but reached all his goals in educating himself throughout his life.

The photos below show Bob as a 'young copper' and again as an older man. The obvious photo shows the cup!

So, we thought we would have an annual event called the Chadburn Cup the winner of which event will receive the Cup at the Lincoln Hamfest. In the event you cannot be there you'll get a nice postcard I guess!! Either way, you get KUDOS!!!



The Cup.



The Chadburn Cup.

Open to FISTS members only. Details to follow!!! Watch this space.

QRP / QRS

I was recently contacted by Robin, G4DNP, who posed a couple of questions. The first was could we (that is YOU) get more points in the ladder for a QRP contact? I can't really see a problem with this except that it isn't really a QRP event as such and it means extra work for Graham in the logging. What do you think though? In these dark days of bad or unreliable propagation, would you like to earn more points for QRP QSO (either one or both parties?). Do please drop me an email and let me know what you think.

QRS was the next thing on Robin's mind...could we have a slot for QRS stations? QRS isn't for everyone of course, I find slowing down quite difficult as the Morse loses musicality and I struggle below, say, 15 wpm. But, I do know others who can really slow down and enjoy helping newcomers (I enjoy that too, don't get me wrong...but below 12 – 15 my CW deteriorates!). So, how about we try to establish say half an hour each night as a FISTS QRS period? How about 2000 to 2030 hours LOCAL time as a voluntary QRS period?

IF you want to work QRS either as a student OR a seasoned operator willing to help, make your CQ calls CQ QRS on FISTS freqs between 2000- 2030hrs L. All FISTS freqs / bands, all

optional. If you call CQ at normal speeds, that's fine but if you want QRS, concentrate between 8pm and 8.30pm local time.

Let's see how that pans out...

Ladder for January

Some good comments this time especially as conditions were very poor. Despite my amazing Dx of past months, recent weeks have been absolutely dire. I hope you get some good QSO in due course!

Thats me

Pippip

David
G4YVM

Comments for Ladder January 2022

Entrant	Comments
Greg DL3GJ	Not too active this month... Even if conditions are becoming better, sometimes time is missing to make use of these. Hope for more next month. 73 de Greg DL3GJ
Ivan G0BON	Quite tough going as I suffer with a lot of urban background noise. Winding the audio filters right in helps a lot. Nice to work a few new stations on the ladder.
Les G0DFC	Hope to get more scores on the boards this year, 73' Tu
Richard G0ILN	Off we go again! Richard G0ILN
Tony G3ZRJ	HNY to all, looking forward to making more contacts in Ladder in 2022.
John G4LRG	Hard work all round but the other activity on 23rd ruined the evening activity. Thanks to all for the points.
Ray G4XUZ	Good fun as always. Thanks to all. 73, Ray G4XUZ
John G4YTJ	Something of an unexpected success this month. I thought I'd only manage the first Sunday because we were to be visiting relatives on 23rd January. Covid struck their house so we couldn't go as intended, I was able to get on the air, and 40m came up trumps in the afternoon session. The evening wasn't quite so good and 80m was harder work.

Kevin M0MCL	<p>Good morning David,</p> <p>Please see attached my log for January's Ladder.</p> <p>Sorry for the "no-show" last month but too much going on over Xmas. Bagged a few points this month though to get the year off to a reasonable start.</p> <p>73,</p> <p>Kevin M0MCL</p>
Steve M0SHM	Afternoon sessions were better with stronger signals.
Pete M5ABN	<p>Thanks for all the contacts & see you in Feb.</p> <p>Vy 73 Pete M5ABN</p>
Erkki OH7QR	<p>Hello David, please find attached my first Ladder log in 2022. All the best and stay safe.</p> <p>73 Erkki OH7QR 8318</p>
Norbert ON4ANE	<p>23/1/22 Condx on 80m dropped at once from 599 to 229 but some qso's anyhow 73 de Norbert ON4ANE</p>
Jan PA0SIM	<p>Condx getting a bit better.</p> <p>73 Jan PA0SIM</p>
Adam SQ9S	Tnx for all QSOs in FISTS Ladder January 2022 es great fun. HNY 2022! Best 73 Adam SQ9S #20019

Results for Ladder January 2022

Callsign	Posn	Total	Jan
G0ILN	1	91	91
G4LRG	2	70	70
G0BON	3	69	69
M5ABN	4	61	61
ON4ANE	5	41	41
G0JHK	=6	40	40
G3ZRJ	=6	40	40
2E0DPH	8	39	39
G4YTJ	=9	30	30
PA0SIM	=9	30	30
G3XVL	=11	27	27
M0MCL	=11	27	27
M0SHM	=11	27	27
G0DFC	=14	24	24
G4TPJ	=14	24	24
G4XUZ	=14	24	24
OH7QR	=17	21	21
SQ9S	=17	21	21
MM0UMH	19	8	8
M0DRK	20	6	6
DL3GJ	21	5	5

* *Check log*

Upcoming Events

March 2022

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Tue 01 Mar		FISTS Europe 2m Chronophage	0000-2359 UTC
Thu 03 Mar		FISTS Europe 2m Chronophage	0000-2359 UTC
Sat 05 Mar		FISTS Europe 2m Chronophage	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 06 Mar		FISTS Europe 2m Chronophage	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 13 Mar		FISTS Europe Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 27 Mar		FISTS Europe Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

April 2022

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 10 Apr		FISTS Europe Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 24 Apr		FISTS Europe Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Mon 25 Apr	Fri 29 Apr	EuCW QRS Week	0000-2359 UTC