



I was sent this recently by Chris, GU3TUX...thanks Chris!! I'm not sure what it is with radios and cartoonists but it seems to be / have been a rich seam!

I am left wondering how they got the poor cat's paw to stay stuck to the dial! Perhaps jokes about cat's whisker wireless would be suitable?

Radio Times...

Sadly my faithful and superb TenTec Orion 2 has passed into history for me. I was using it and it crackled and popped and died, so I dismantled it and managed to find the issue - the dc pathway had become corroded and broken. A quick rewire and all was good - until it wasn't. This time it was beyond my time and energies

so I gave the radio to Martin, M0MWS, a man who has time and skill and did manage to fix it again. Some capacitors had gone which were speedily replaced after which the rig was as good as new and in use at Chex MWS.

Before I bought a new radio however I spent several weeks using my old TT Corsair 2, another mighty fine rig which I know several FISTS use. As a cw radio, the C2 is hard to beat, which really does show up cw for what it is - a superbly efficient, easy to use, radio friendly mode of operation. Really, what do we need? A crystal, a few components and a key. Everything else is bells and whistles! The GQRP Club of course understand this perfectly well and for many decades have promoted such radios - many of us have built and used them too. I've been in GQRPC for many years, as have others, I know, and have spent many hours sniffing solder. I often find - I've said before - that if the FISTS freqs are dead a quick call on the QRP freqs will elicit a reply. Why is this?? I have my theories.

Ultimately, I did buy a new rig and am very happy with my new Yaesu...I might *know* we only need a crystal and two bare wires, but I am seduced by gadgets as much as the next chap...

Chadburn Cup

I have a weak entry this time round and nothing for March. Sadly I was the only one in my group to keep going which makes it pointless: a good group effort is fun and is what its all meant to be about - a solo effort is rather dull in my opinion so I threw the towel in, so to speak. I'm disappointed that more clubs didn't get into the act but that's life...can't win them all.



Another clutch of photos, this time from Adam, SQ9S. I will let the photos do the talking. Well done Adam, a very well deserved award!!

Portable Antenna report

I have been messing with an Elecraft AX1 for a wee while...here's a taster but see KN for full report. I can add for this esteemed organ though that today, 20th March, I have just been out portable for POTA activation and using 10 watts and the 20m AX1 I worked Italy, Poland and America. I am very impressed. At the time of writing I am sat in the Gower again and hoping to find time to use the kx2 and the aerial. I've also got the G90 and a Watson Ranger in case I get the time but the wx is foul!

I managed a short trip to some high ground here in the Gower where I managed a few QSO on the Xiegu and Watson whip on CW. Because there was a contest on 20, and condx not great anyway, I physically 'QSYd' back home and set up my KX2 with AX1 and AXE40m extender coil in the garden where I worked several more on the key finishing with a very nice chat with Iain, GM4HBG, a GQRP and FISTS member (20011). I narrowly missed Kevin, M0MCL and FIST 20982, as when I called him he asked me to QSY down, which I

did but feel the qsb frustrated our efforts and we never established comms again. In the end I had to dash away as I started to get rained on and the rig was fully exposed.

The KX2 and AX1 / AXE40 is a superb set up and the more I use it the more I enjoy it. Someone asked me why I don't use my own Bantenna Sleeve but the truth is I do of course, and have made many QSO using one. At the time of writing I don't actually have one - any I use to test get ruined and any good ones I make for myself get sold! Cant win. Of course the Sleeve also needs a 7m mast and the point of the Elecraft offering is that it needs nothing but what can be carried in a small pocket. Quite a different experience! Ive no doubt the Bantenna Sleeve would beat the AX1 in a simple shoot out, but if it came to pure portability convenience the Elecraft has it! Truth be told, I also like trying other folks inventions and with Elecraft one just can't lose.



That'll do for now...have fun and keep the reports and any photos coming in.
73, David G4YVM

Awards

Name	Callsign	Member	Awards
Ian	GW0KRL	#711	1 X QRP
Charlie	NP3K	#5110	Millionaire 18 Million Endorsement
Roy	G4PRL	#8997	Millionaire 4 Million Endorsement
Fabio	IKOIXI	#14539	Millionaire 16 Million Endorsement
Mik	IZ2FME	#18103	Millionaire 9 Million Endorsement
Tom	KB9ENS	#18325	Basic Century, Millionaire, Millionaire 2 Million Endorsement
Andrew	G0OEY	#18402	Basic Century, Millionaire
Vladislav	IU0HMB	#18894	Millionaire 10 Million Endorsement
Sal	IK7UKF	#19522	Millionaire 3 Million Endorsement
Edward	G3WGE	#19661	Millionaire, Millionaire 2 Million Endorsement, Millionaire 3 Million Endorsement, Spectrum 80m

New Members

Name	Call	No.	Name	Call	No.	Name	Call	No.
Fred	GI4MWA	#21939	Greg	W3AZZ	#22017	Michael	K5BVM	#22031
Gao	BH1UZJ	#21940	Gene	KI7KOH	#22018	Mark	KD5EDV	#22032
Rao	BI8CCJ	#21941	Dan	KB2ZHB	#22019	Kevin	KB7DYP	#22033
Joseph	KJ4UYH	#22006	Jimmy	KA3WGF	#22020	Randy	KL1FF	#22034
Frank	AI7PT	#22007	Bryan	NB7N	#22021	Brad	K5BDH	#22035
Erik	AG6VT	#22008	Jasper	K4VAX	#22022	Andrew	2E0HYX	#22100
Ron	K4WNY	#22009	Becky	KA1VHF	#22023	John	G4GMA	#22101
Randy	K6WRW	#22010	Charles	W4CLW	#22024	Tim	G4XWJ	#22102
Charles	K2CMC	#22011	Mike	KE7RRO	#22025	Paul	M10AYR	#22103
Gary	W9ST	#22012	David	AK1VT	#22026	Mark	M0UFC	#22104
Jerry	KM3K	#22013	Thomas	N3XC	#22027	Joe	G4GUV	#22105
Roger	VE2OGU	#22014	Steve	KC3VPJ	#22028	Mike	M3MSM	#22107
Richard	KK4LW	#22015	Mark	KO4DUQ	#22029			
Jeff	K9FRO	#22016	Sharron	KC5SKY	#22030			

Comments for Chadburn Cup for Clubs February 2023

Club	Comments
G6HH Hastings Electronics and Radio Club	Condx seem to be improving thank goodness! Good fun, Some mentioned the Chadburn Cup That's great. 73 Richard G6HH, G0ILN
MX0PCN The Pelican Radio Group	A bit better this month and some lovely qso. David G4YVM

Results for Chadburn Cup for Clubs February 2023

Club	Ops	Posn	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb
G6HH Hastings Electronics and Radio Club	G0ILN	1	=1	-	24	1	23
MX0PCN The Pelican Radio Group	G4YVM	2	=1	↓	11	1	10

Comments for Ladder February 2023

Entrant	Comments
Greg DL3GJ	In February just a few SOTA chase QSOs in the defined time :-) 73 de Greg DL3GJ
Les G0DFC	Had a few software hitches but think its sorted now. 73
Andrew G0OEY	Nice to be back in the ladder after a long break.
Robin G4DNP	Thanks and best 73s Robin
Ray G4XUZ	Very noisy condx but good ladder contacts. Thanks to all. 73, Ray G4XUZ
John G4YTJ	Good fun on the ladder this month with four good sessions. Such a pity I can't carry some over for those months when I can't operate for one reason or another!
Richard G6HH	Condx seem to be improving thank goodness! Good fun, 73 Richard G6HH, G0ILN
Chris G7BED	Hello, please find attached my first FISTS contest log :-). Thanks Chris G7BED
Kevin M0MCL	Good Afternoon David, Please see attached my log for last month's ladder. Regards, Kevin, M0MCL, 20982
Pete M5ABN	Very little activity this month except for ladder. 73 Pete M5ABN
Alan MW0BGL	A productive afternoon despite a contest on 40 metres which caused some QRM. Vy 73, de Alan Mw0bgl 16507
Norbert ON4ANE	Heard mni stn, worked only a few, condx on 40m still unpredictable 73 de Norbert ON4ANE
Jan PA0SIM	40m still the best band for me. Worked a few new calls. 73 Jan PA0SIM

Results for Ladder February 2023

Callsign	Posn	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb
MM0UMH	1	1	-	160	84	76
M5ABN	2	2	-	140	67	73
G4YTJ	3	4	↑	101	50	51
G3XVL	4	3	↓	99	56	43
MW0BGL	5	8	↑	98	42	56
M0MCL	6	=14	↑	92	34	58
ON4ANE	7	=11	↑	85	36	49
G6HH	=8	=22	↑	81	7	74
PA0SIM	=8	=5	↓	81	48	33
G4TPJ	10	=9	↓	75	39	36
G4YTK	11	=11	-	72	36	36
M7TSM	12	=16	↑	66	30	36
G0DFC	=13	=14	↑	62	34	28
G4XUZ	=13	=16	↑	62	30	32
G0JHK	=15	=11	↓	48	36	12
G3ZRJ	=15	=5	↓	48	48	
M0PBZ	17	7	↓	46	46	
M0SHM	18	20	↑	45	18	27
G0OTT	19	=9	↓	39	39	
G0LLX	20	18	↓	23	23	
G0OEY	21	-	↑	21		21
SP7OGP	22	19	↓	20	20	
G7BED	=23	-	↑	18		18
M7NNQ	=23	-	↑	18		18
G4DNP	=25	=22	↓	15	7	8
G7WHI	=25	21	↓	15	15	
DL3GJ	27	=24	↓	10	5	5
M0KTZ	28	=24	↓	5	5	
IU8OJT	29	26	↓	4	4	

* Check log

FISTS Winter Saturday Sprint 2023 Results

Feb 11, 2023

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
WB9HFK	Mark	IL	7606	14	6	82	16	1312
K5YQF	Cecil	TX	8077	8	3	46	9	414
K0JV	Jerry	SD	17508	7	3	41	7	287
KE4QZB	Brian	NC	1934	3	6	27	9	243

Club Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
No Logs Received								

QRP Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
No Logs Received								

SOAPBOX . . . Call Comments

K5YQF

A little slow here but fun as always. See y'all in the Spring.

KE4QZB

Great fun as always!! Was running an IC-706MKII, 50 watts, and an Inverted Vee @ 30'. 10 Meters was in awesome shape, managed to snag France and Newfoundland during the contest! Look forward to next Sunday's Sprint and the upcoming Spring Sprints, all the best !! 73/DX, de KE4QZB, Brian

K0JV

Fun go but a bit like pulling hen's teeth to find QSO. Maybe more activity next time.
73

FISTS Winter Sunday Sprint 2023 Results

Feb 19, 2023

QRO Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
K5YQF	Cecil	TX	8077	4	3	26	7	182
KE4QZB	Brian	NC	1934	3	0	15	3	45

Club Category

Call	Name	State	Fists #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
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No Logs Received

QRP Category

Call	Name	State	FISTS #	Mem	Non-Mem	Points	Mults	Score
KB3CVO	Tom	PA	8110	9	4	53	8	424

SOAPBOX . . . Call Comments

K5YQF

Tuff day. Full of serious contesters; but managed a few. thanks all.

KE4QZB

Very tough across the bands with the ARRL international DX contest going on. Got a few QSOs in, but gave up pretty quick. That's ok!! Looking forward to the Spring Sprints!! 73, de KE4QZB, Brian

Upcoming Events

March 2023

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Wed 01 Mar	Fri 31 Mar	FISTS Chadburn Cup	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 26 Mar		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

April 2023

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sat 01 Apr	Sun 30 Apr	FISTS Chadburn Cup	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 09 Apr		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 23 Apr		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Mon 24 Apr	Fri 28 Apr	EuCW QRS Week	0000-2359 UTC

May 2023

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Mon 01 May	Wed 31 May	FISTS Chadburn Cup	0000-2359 UTC
Mon 01 May	Mon 08 May	FISTS Straight Eight	0001-2359 UTC
Sat 13 May		FISTS Spring Saturday Sprint	1600-1800 UTC
Sun 14 May		RSGB 4m CW Contest	0900-1200 UTC
Sun 14 May		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 21 May		FISTS Spring Sunday Sprint	2100-2300 UTC
Sun 28 May		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
