

Brasspounder October 2010

# BRASSPOUNDER



October 2010 (Issue 55)

Welcome to the October edition.

Firstly, let me thank all who emailed to comment on the September edition of BP. Your kind words and feedback are greatly appreciated. As I prepare this offering, the weather is being somewhat inclement; many of us will be looking towards winter evenings spent in front of the fire. No doubt radio will fill in the gaps where time spent attending to our gardens, homes etc. occupied our time; and of course maintenance to the amateur radio station. Our busy lives seem to put radio further down the list of "Things to do" these days. I hope you'll find time and make a mental note to spend more time on air over the coming months.

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Lets look at some of the reports/comments received this month.

From Colin M5FRA.

Hi Rob. Well I made it this month even if I only managed 9 points. As winter approaches I hope I can get on more regularly.

73. Colin – M5FRA/G8FRA

Welcome Colin, pleased you found some "On air" time and show your support.

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From Jeremy. G0AZR

Hi Rob,

Another month passes.

Not so brilliant this month, the first ladder session saw me in the throes of a pretty nasty stomach upset, so as the shack is a long way from facilities.....I wasn't on the air long.

The second round was ok.....managed Erkki on 20 and also heard G4LHI working him but was unable to raise Peter.

The evening session saw 80 metres variable at my end.....and finally it started to break down (for me anyway) just after 2000.

Good to talk to all of the boys again....Superman's mate, "General" ZOD appeared out of the gloom, threatening me harm by way of his XYL.....

About all for now.....let's see if we can get more on to your new website.....give it an advert.....

73

Jeremy

G0AZR

Good to hear from you Jeremy. and pleased to hear your'e on the mend once again. Conditions have been marginal on 80 once again this month, as I always say; lets keep hoping for improvement. Pleased to hear that "General" (G3)ZOD made it into your log this month once again.

To continue with Jeremy's words regarding the website, it has the ability (much like the FISTS NG) for you to become a member and post comments for others to see and act upon, not just about radio. So if you want to join up, feel free to do so.

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From Greg, G0DUB

Hi Robert,

I must be doing something right - more points claimed than last month. I was only able to operate on one day but it was good to find some 40m propagation available on the 24th to provide some variety.

Apologies to G4LHI who was my first contact of the day but immediately after I had been beating some flatpack furniture into submission so my keying was a little ragged.

73,

Greg, G0DUB #6095 2

Hi Greg. Good to hear from you....Flatpack furniture! Haven't we all been there at some stage? "Beating it into submission" is the best description I've ever heard, and sums it up completely!

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From Phil M6PHL.

Hello Rob,

Hope you are well.

Here is my latest log for the October Ladder.

It was good to see that evening conditions were much better than some of the previous months, lets hope that they continue to improve.

It was very good to work some new members on the ladder on the first Sunday, especially G0OAN, Sean, and G3LHJ, Derrick, I hope we hear much more of you over the coming months.

Are you able to publicise these few words for me?

I have just received a large box of QSL cards from the previous manager As the new QSL Sub Manager for M and 2E series call signs, I am currently sorting and creating a new spreadsheet for all cards etc received. I have inherited cards going back to the year 2000, so if any members feel they have been waiting for cards for a while could they contact me by email via phil09@tiscali.co.uk. Can I also remind members that it would be appreciated if they send stamped addressed envelopes not just labels and stamps.

73 Phil M6PHL,

Fists 14543.

Hi Phil. Consider it done! Good to hear from you and many thanks to you for taking on the role of sub manager. And thaks to Glenn for his efforts previously. I notice a good score from you this month!

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From Bill. G0BAK

Hi Rob

please find attached my Ladder Log for October. We went to Blackpool on the 24th so only managed 1 session this month on the afternoon of the 10th. I enjoyed this session and managed to work 4 members and 3 non members for a score of 11 points.

Two of the 4 members worked were new contacts for me, IZ1CLB Teo and G4OYC

John. Not only did I claim 4 points from these 2 stations, the new calls gave me enough points to apply for my Century Award, added bonus. I mentioned that I had sent my Yaesu FT950 back to Yaesu as it had developed a fault. Well I got the radio back very quickly and it is working fine. The problem I have with this is that Yaesu did not find a fault! So needless to say I am still a tad concerned. Fingers crossed that the fault does not return, or if it does lets hope its in the warranty period. On a positive note, I still find the radio brilliant and enjoy using it. I suspect that I will have dropped down the Ladder this month but I hope to manage a couple of good sessions before the year end.  
Good luck to all and see you next month.  
73 Bill G0BAK Fists 13262

Hi Bill. Good to hear from you once again. Pleased that you managed to get two new numbers in the log, and to gain enough for the century certificate! I recollect a comment made some time ago that it seems that CC numbers are rarely exchanged by members these days. I must confess that I've not noticed, but lets hope that members will remember to exchange CC numbers when in QSO. Fine on the saga with the 950, lets hope it was a minor glitch and should it show up again, be within the warranty period. I had noticed earlier the closeness of scores with yourself and M6PHL. I shall be observing the coming months with interest!

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And from Peter. G4LHI

Hello Robert,

I attach my claim & report for the October Ladder. I found condx were again fairly reasonable this month I had two decent scores of 18 & 17, so not a difficult decision to make to claim this month, the evening session on the 10th & the afternoon session on the 24th. I did join in both the other periods & was able to help to swell a few guys' scores.

I was lucky to work one new Member, many thanks Sean, Nr 14854 from London . Welcome to the Fists Club & the Ladder Sean, I do hope you will be a regular on Rob's Activities; there is a very interesting calendar circulating for 2011 to look forward to. I did have 9 QSO's for 18 points on the 10th evening session & in the afternoon session on the 24th 9 QSO's for 17 points, giving me a little lower total for October of 35 points, but as always a very enjoyable event & nice to meet old friends again. Very nice to see the list of entries is getting bigger each month & especially nice to see new callsigns appearing on the list, must be encouraging for our Activities Manager, do hope you all enjoy the Activities, & continue to join us, we are all Nuts of course, but it does help. Very many thanks to all for the QSO's, I worked all the stations I could hear,

the signals were up & down on all stations, very sorry if you called me & I did not hear you in the noisy old 80M band.

Wont it be nice to get back on those WARC bands again next year, I did enjoy that WARC Band Challenge (not a Contest hi!!). That's all for now folks, see you on the Ladder in November, only two more to go, so who knows who will be in the Pole position or on the Rostrum, keep bashing the brass! The Certificates produced by Rob are certainly well worth working for & make good talking points when the uninitiated visit the shack hi!.

73 de Peter G4LHI # 2219.

As ever Peter, good to hear from you and thanks for your round up of the month on the ladder. Indeed very gratifying to see new entrants in our activities, it shows support for the society and CW. No matter how large or small, every entry does just that. The four seasons activity (FSA) scheduled for 2011 I hope will appeal to all over the next year, on whatever band you choose, again showing the potential of the much underused and underrated WARC bands.

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From Piet PA3AFF

Hi Robert,

Here is my log for this month's ladder. Pleased work some new members. Very happy to give Graham 2E0JYK his first CW contact outside England and to receive his direct QSL card. I was able to be QRV in all 4 timeslots. The two afternoon sessions were the most successfull with mainly QSOs on 40m. Score 29 points, guess my maximum score this season. Till next time!

73 de PA3AFF, Piet, Schaft, Fists #445

Hi Piet. Good to hear from you once again, I notice from your log that you were in demand during the timeslots! And good to hear that you were the first to QSO with Graham 2E0JYK outside of England. A milestone in his amateur activity!

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From Graham. 2E0JYK

Hi Rob

This is my activity ladder entry for october I must admit I had a great time on CW on the 10/10/2010 as you can see by the entry I managed to contact my first european amateur; PA3AFF.

That was my first contact across the water and I confess I was like a child with a new toy! Again a big thank-you to Peter G4LHI for all the tuiton he gives not only to me but to all the others that he teaches!

Regards Graham 2E0JYK

Hi Graham. I'm sure all will agree that we're very happy for you to reach this milestone. Piet too was pleased to be the recipient of your 1st QSO off the island. It's very rewarding for all of us to hear that you're enjoying learning the mode, and wish you many more rewarding contacts in the future. Very pleased for you!

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From Derek. M0DRK

Hi Robert,

So little to show for October Ladder I almost didn't send in a log. I just don't seem to get out here and things may not get better until I can improve my antenna. I could hear Peter on 80m having great success and Piet PA3AFF on 40m in quite a pile up. Sorry to Colin M5FRA who tried so hard to give me a qso but it was just impossible for him to even copy my full callsign. Take care, see you in November.

73. Derek M0DRK.

Hi Derek. As I commented earlier, every entry, no matter how small shows support for the society and the mode. Condx were less than favourable for some.

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And from Gra, G3ZOD

Hi Rob.

I was only able to join in the Ladder on 24th October. After a contact with Erkki OH7QR on 20m, I was called by Mace SM3TSZ (a non-member) and had a chat for half an hour with him. He was running 3 watts from an Heathkit HW9 - very nice it sounded too. The evening session was also very enjoyable with (for me) an unusually high number of contacts: five on 80m and one on 6m. My October CW-only efforts in the 6m UKAC resulted in a personal position of 55/60 and "FISTS CW Club" with a position of 31/45. I'm wondering next year whether to be brave and move out of the 6m CW sub-band into the SSB sub-band (still running CW, of course!) and see whether that attracts more CW contacts or just results in cross-mode contacts with the SSB folk (that's what I've found happens on 4m where there is no CW-only sub-band). I had an enjoyable, if short, visit to the GQRP convention in Rishworth. I met up with members

Colin M5FRA, Paul M0BMN and John M0CDL. Despite having my XYL in tow (!), I parted with a bit more cash than intended, tempted by a kit - more later.

73 de Graham G3ZOD FISTS #8385

Hi Gra. A nice chat with Mace! For me it's always good to hear that our society members will, during any activity, to take time out for a good ragchew. All part of our relaxed style of operation that so many enjoy. I was pleasantly surprised to hear that you'd got your hand in your pocket (A rare occasion) and parted with some money for a kit Gra! (Hi, only kidding) Look forward to receiving an update on the build.

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I've received some data from Dave G0DJA, which shows that CW is alive and well on the very short wavelengths, I admire anyone who uses such frequencies for CW operation, either by using commercially available transverters or home-made equipment to get "Up in the clouds" and pursue the mode!

DATE	TIME	CALLSIGN	LOCATOR	TX	RX	band
10/01/2010	16:25	G4YTL	IO92MB	539	529	23 cm.
02/05/2010	11:34	GM4CXM	IO75TW	579	549	23 cm.
02/05/2010	11:48	GM4ZUK/P	IO86RW	549	529	23 cm.
02/05/2010	12:55	PA0EZ	JO22OF	559	539	23 cm.
03/05/2010	09:40	G4YTL	IO92MB	559	419	23 cm.
30/05/2010	13:39	G3PHO/P	IO93PW	529	519	10 GHz
31/05/2010	19:25	GM0USI	IO76UV	519	529	23 cm.
06/06/2010	09:54	GM4CXM	IO75TW	539	529	23 cm.
06/06/2010	11:20	G3WBQ/P	IO91GI	529	329	23 cm.
06/06/2010	19:32	G4EAT	JO01HR	559	529	23 cm.
06/06/2010	19:51	GM4GUF/P	IO85EO	529	419	23 cm.
04/07/2010	11:30	PA6NL	JO21BX	559	559	23 cm.
04/07/2010	11:59	G2DQY/P	IO80TK	559	549	23 cm.
21/09/2010	19:50	GM4CXM	IO75TW	559	529	23 cm.
21/09/2010	20:00	GM4GUF/P	IO85EO	52	41	23 cm.
21/09/2010	20:06	GM4JR	IO85FB	52	51	23 cm.
21/09/2010	20:30	GM0USI	IO75UV	529	529	23 cm.
21/09/2010	21:17	G3XDY	JO02OB	589	569	23 cm.
21/09/2010	22:08	GM0USI	IO75UV	559	539	70 cm.
26/09/2010	16:55	GM4LBV	IO86RQ	559	539	23 cm.
03/10/2010	13:30	M1CRO/P	JO01PU	51	41	10 GHz
03/10/2010	13:45	G3XDY	JO02OB	559	529	23 cm.
03/10/2010	13:55	G3XDY	JO02OB	559	539	70 cm.
03/10/2010	14:27	G4BAO	JO02CG	539	539	70 cm.
09/10/2010	13:46	GM4PPT	IO75SK	559	559	70 cm.
09/10/2010	14:23	DL3YEE	JO42GE	519	519	70 cm.
09/10/2010	14:25	DK5QN	JO42FA	529	519	70 cm.
09/10/2010	14:52	GW8IZR	IO73TI	599	559	70 cm.

10/10/2010	08:10	ON4PS/P	JO2ØKQ	599	599	70	cm.
10/10/2010	08:29	DF7VX	JO41KP	559	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	10:20	DFØWD	JO42FD	559	529	23	cm.
10/10/2010	10:30	DK2MN	JO32MC	539	529	23	cm.
10/10/2010	10:38	DL3YEE	JO42GE	559	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	10:40	DL3YEE	JO42GE	519	519	23	cm.
10/10/2010	12:53	G4PBP	IO82WO	58	57	23	cm.
10/10/2010	14:46	OZ6OL	JO65DJ	599	599	70	cm.
10/10/2010	15:55	SP2DDV	JO83VE	559	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	16:17	DL7ANR	JO62PM	599	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	16:20	DL1TRK	JO63GB	519	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	16:24	DJ9CN	JO43HM	559	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	16:32	SP2DMB	JO92CF	539	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	16:45	SP1FJZ	JO84EE	559	559	23	cm.
10/10/2010	17:04	DF9CY	JO54AL	599	599	70	cm.
10/10/2010	17:09	OZ2M	JO65FR	559	539	70	cm.
10/10/2010	17:12	OZ9GE	JO66CB	599	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	17:16	LY2WR	KO24FO	539	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	17:27	DK3WG	JO72GI	599	579	70	cm.
10/10/2010	19:41	DK1KO	JO53CT	599	599	70	cm.
10/10/2010	19:46	SP2JYR	JO92GP	559	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	20:32	DLØBFA	JO62PL	539	559	70	cm.
10/10/2010	23:27	OZ3ZW	JO54RS	599	559	23	cm.
11/10/2010	07:38	DJ9KH	JO42OX	559	559	70	cm.
11/10/2010	18:16	DJ6JJ	JO32PC	599	579	23	cm.
12/10/2010	11:16	G4ALY	IO7ØVL	599	599	70	cm.
12/10/2010	19:08	GM4ZUK/P	IO86RW	599	599	70	cm.
12/10/2010	19:35	G4ALY	IO7ØVL	559	529	70	cm.
12/10/2010	22:55	DJ5BV	JO3ØKI	559	539	23	cm.
13/10/2010	20:30	G4CBW	IO83UB	599	599	23	cm.

### October FISTS Awards

Congratulations to:

Ian G4MLW, #130, on achieving the Basic Century Award.

Bill GØBAK, #13262, on achieving the Basic Century Award.

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Thats all from me for another month, all that's left to do is publish the results table.



CALL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS	PWR
G4LHI	31	38	45	33	31	27	32	35	40	35			347	QRO
M6PHL	13	15	28	19	18	18	21	23	20	28			203	QRO
G0BAK	21	29	28	29	19	9	11	14	18	11			189	QRO
OH7QR	16	0	15	24	13	23	23	9	23	0			146	QRO
M0DRK	11	22	20	15	7	6	16	15	17	5			134	QRO
G3ZOD	8	16	11	16	8	13	6	10	22	17			127	QRO
G0AZR	0	29	0	0	23	6	13	10	17	17			115	QRP
PA3AFF	0	0	22	0	8	5	11	13	19	29			107	QRO
G3LHJ	0	0	28	20	0	0	0	4	17	0			69	QRO
GI4CBG	6	4	10	14	8	10	6	10	11	11			90	QRO
G0OTT	0	19	21	21	0	0	0	0	0	0			61	QRO
M5ABN	0	0	0	16	20	23	0	0	0	0			59	QRO
2E0JCY	0	14	14	19	0	0	0	0	0	0			47	QRO
2E0JYK	0	0	0	0	0	7	13	12	10	10			52	QRO
G4CMZ	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	4	16	0			38	QRP
M5FRA	0	0	0	14	10	0	0	0	0	9			33	QRO
G4MSN	0	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			22	MIX
G0DUB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	10			16	QRO
M0GGK	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			7	QRO
M0XED	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			6	QRP
PA1SOP	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0			4	QRO

As ever, thanks to all who contribute to BP. There wouldn't be one without you.

Till next time;

Keep well;

Keep "Pounding Brass"

73.

MOBPT