

BRASSPOUNDER

March 2026, Issue 213



Welcome all, to Mad March's edition of Brass Pounder. I hope the year has started well for you and that conditions have been good.

I finally sold my Hex beam which I've had for, I think two years, and it has served me well, delivering pretty much what I wanted. I still haven't worked Hawaii or the west coast of USA, but the pacific fell into my logs and many other paces too.

I am now almost without aerials but I have never liked that so I popped up a short horizontal random wire...sadly it needs more work to get it radiating, but we shall get there. The only radios I have now are my K2, which I don't suppose I will ever get rid of, and a few qrp pocket sets. When the new aerial is up I'll no doubt try them as they're always worth it for the smiles.

Not much feedback this time so I'll get right on to the tables.

Congrats to all with awards and thanks to everyone for joining in.

See you next time 'pounders',

73

David

New Members

Name	Call	No.	Name	Call	No.	Name	Call	No.
Aki	JA5KJD	#23144	Mike	WB2BLJ	#23255	William	W4JOD	#23266
Peter	VK3WOW	#23182	James	W2JJW	#23256	Jorge	KP4JCM	#23267
Rene	PA3GPX	#23183	Scott	K8OIP	#23257	Raymond	K8RAZ	#23268
Don	ZL1DRS	#23184	David	K0RX	#23258	Craig	KS5X	#23269
Scotty	VK4BRO	#23185	John	NT9L	#23259	Tyler	W7BRG	#23270
Richard	VK2NRA	#23186	Juan	LW9EKA	#23260	Erik	WI3M	#23271
Matt	G4IYT	#23187	Gordon	VE6SV	#23261	Eric	N4JP	#23272
Jim	VK7JZ	#23188	David	KQ4CZW	#23262	Chris	KE0CAL	#23273
Erik	OE5ESR	#23189	Eric	KF8FCC	#23263			
Ian	ZL1IM	#23190	Patti	KE7IR	#23264			
Eric	WG3K	#23254	James	K0XV	#23265			

Awards

Name	Callsign	Member	Awards
Ian	G4MLW	#130	Spectrum 30m Endorsement
Andy	G4KKU	#12514	Millionaire
Simon	G0FOZ	#21903	Prefix 100 Endorsement

Mechanical Key 24 Hour Sprint February 2026: Comments

Entrant	Comments
Chris G3XVL	Mech key log. Using my favourite bug, the 1958 Vibroplex Lightning chrome deluxe and also the good old Junker SK. 73 Chris
Ciemon G4BFG	Another great day of bug fun, thank you everyone!
Charlotte M0XCV	first go with a bug on air!
Alan MW0BGL	Attached is my entry for the Mechanical Medley activity on Sunday February 15th. Conditions were a bit "up and down" so I didn't work quite as many stations as I'd hoped. Otherwise, still an enjoyable day's operating in the shack. 73, Alan Mw0bgl 16507
Norbert ON4ANE	Hello David, my log for this activity! 73 de Norbert ON4ANE

Mechanical Key 24 Hour Sprint February 2026: Results

Callsign	Position	Points
M0XCV	1	19
G4BFG	2	16
MW0BGL	3	15
G3XVL	4	10
ON4ANE	5	9

Mechanical Medley February 2026: Results

Callsign	Position	Points	BK Jan	MK Feb
G4BFG	1	32	16	16
MW0BGL	2	30	15	15
M0XCV	3	19		19
G3XVL	4	14	4	10
G0FOZ	5	11	11	
ON4ANE	6	9		9

Key: BK = Bug Key Sprint, MK=Mechanical Key Sprint, SK=Straight Key Sprint

Ladder February 2026: Comments

Entrant	Comments
Jean F6JOE	A small contribution this month ! 73 Jean F6JOE - FISTS 16177
Simon G0FOZ	Great fun - see you next time. 73 Simon G0FOZ
Peter G3JRH	Not a lot of activity on second evening band a bit noisy but good signals all round, Peter G3JRH
Chris G3XVL	February log. Good fun as usual. 73 Chris
Jean-Jacques F5IJO	Hello all, I have not been very active for health reasons, so just a few contacts since Xmas...
John G4YTJ	February has been the first month in a long time where I've been able to operate in all four ladder sessions. In addition, I managed to repair my QMX transceiver and was able to use it for the sessions on 22nd. I suspect the damage was caused by an electrical storm while I was away on holiday and I'd neglected to unplug the antenna. Lesson learned!
Pete M5ABN	Log for February, Vy 73 Pete
Alan MW0BGL	Attached is my submission for the February ladder sessions. Conditions seemed favourable for the afternoon session on the 22nd and although slightly more challenging for the evening ladder I had a very enjoyable Sunday afternoon on The Key. Thanks to all stations I worked. 73, Alan Mw0bgl 16507
Erkki OH7QR	Hello David, please find attached my ladder log. 73 Erkki OH7QR
Norbert ON4ANE	Hello David, my log for this month! 73 de Norbert ON4ANE

Ladder February 2026: Results

Callsign	Posn	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb
G3XVL	1	1	-	129	61	68
G0FOZ	=2	2	-	104	49	55
MW0BGL	=2	5	↑	104	40	64
M5ABN	4	6	↑	99	39	60
ON4ANE	5	4	↓	86	43	43
M0SHM	6	8	↑	67	36	31
2E0YEM	7	7	-	54	38	16
G3EEC	8	3	↓	47	47	
MM0UMH	9	=16	↑	41	9	32
G3JRH	10	15	↑	39	12	27
G4YTJ	11	-	↑	36		36
OH7QR	12	14	↑	35	14	21
G0DJA	13	11	↓	32	19	13
G4TJE	14	9	↓	31	31	
G4KKU	=15	12	↓	24	18	6
G4TPJ	=15	10	↓	24	24	
F6JOE	17	13	↓	21	15	6
M9PHL	18	-	↑	18		18
G3PCL	19	=16	↓	12	9	3
G0UBE	20	=16	↓	9	9	

Upcoming Events

March 2026

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 08 Mar		FISTS Ladder	1400-1559 UTC, 1800-1959 UTC
Sun 15 Mar		FISTS Straight Key 24 Hour Sprint	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 22 Mar		FISTS Ladder	1400-1559 UTC, 1800-1959 UTC

April 2026

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Wed 01 Apr		ICWC Top 9 Quarter 2 season starts	24 hours each day UTC
Sun 12 Apr		FISTS Ladder	1400-1559 UTC, 1800-1959 UTC
Wed 15 Apr		FISTS Bug Key 24 Hour Sprint	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 26 Apr		FISTS Ladder	1400-1559 UTC, 1800-1959 UTC

May 2026

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 10 May		FISTS Ladder	1400-1559 UTC, 1800-1959 UTC
Fri 15 May		FISTS Mechanical Key 24 Hour Sprint	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 24 May		FISTS Ladder	1400-1559 UTC, 1800-1959 UTC
