BRASSPOUNDER

November 2026, Issue 221

Greetings once again friends and FISTS everywhere. I hope the winter period is treating you well so far and that outside shacks are not too cold. If they are, you know the answer don't you? VALVES!!! Can't beat a valve rig, especially a linear.

When I was operating my beloved T1154 set I had a QSO with a chap who told me that his dad was a wireless op in bombers and said he had the best job on the aeroplane because the HT transformers kept his feet warm. He then told me that his dad was shot down, bailed out over Belgium and survived the war. I caught my breath when he added, "he was 19 years old!"

In a way I wish I still had that old 1155/1154 pair, they really were a joy to operate and I loved giving folks the chance to work them. A friend of mine in Manchester still has a working set but he isn't licenced, so they're slightly wasted. I keep hoping…

Lizard

I had a word from Lindy recently:

Hi David

Hope you are well and adjusting to the sudden temperature drop!

I wonder if, through Brasspounder, you could mention the following.....

From 8th - 14th February 2027 Mike and I will be staying in Wireless Cottage on the Lizard peninsula in Cornwall. We shall be operating with our own radio and using the antenna system from the museum next door to Wireless Cottage. I have secured the callsign M0RSE for the length of our stay. To say I'm super excited is an understatement!!! It would be great to make contact with Fists members from this very iconic and atmospheric location.

Thanking you in anticipation

Lindy

The photo is Lindy's from three years ago.



It all sounds exciting I must say. I visited Poldhu years back, a long haul but well worth the trip for anyone with an interest.

Have you been naughty?

I wonder what you've asked Santa for this year? A new linear perhaps, or a new key? I fear that the best presents might be battery powered or even wind up transceivers if we are to descend into war in the coming years, and certainly storm clouds are gathering. Wind-up / clock work receivers might be the best bet for any of us.

I watched film recently called '*Lucky Strike'*, which is very good but the star of the show is a BCR300 manpack (nicknamed Lassie). I thought only one thing let it down (And only really visible to us anoraks), the fact that the actor, Clint Eastwood's son, Scot, handled the 33lb radio like a 2lb Tandy toy.

Anyway, I wonder what you'd like to receive? Other than "QRZ QRZ, de P5AA, K".

40th anniversary

Next year is FISTS 40th birthday. Any thoughts on activities you'd like to see/ do?

That's all for now.

Best 73 from me, G4YVM F15868

New Members

Name	Call	No.	Name	Call	No.	Name	Call	No.
Don	W4ORF	#23374	Steve	WA9CWE	#23383	Lawrence	K7LRB	#23392
Don	AA6GT	#23375	Paul	KC4YRV	#23384	John	M0LFY	#23446
Jordan	K7ORB	#23376	Matthew	KD0NZL	#23385	John	G0JJL	#23447
Thad	KA1TMY	#23377	James	WB7CW	#23386	John	ME1JDU	#23448
Doug	N7QS	#23378	Edward	N4AWM	#23387	Vince	M0KBG	#23449
Michael	KF5RSE	#23379	Brett	N7SKI	#23388	Alex	M0IFI	#23450
Armistead	W3AP	#23380	Don	W4DJF	#23389	Martin	G4EDY	#23451
Giannandrea	LU5MMM	#23381	Christopher	K3MTO	#23390	Gary	DU7/WG1F	#23460
William	WD2E	#23382	Adam	KK7AWE	#23391			

Awards

Name	Callsign	Member	Awards
Ian	GW0KRL	#711	Spectrum 20m
Mauro	HB9FBG	#16260	Millionaire 5–11 Million Endorsements
Edward	G3WGE	#19661	Millionaire 4-6 Million Endorsements

Bug Key 24 Hour Sprint October 2026: Comments

Entrant	Comments
Alan MW0BGL	Unfortunately, due to other commitments on the day, I was only able to have this one QSO on October 15th. So a somewhat thin entry for this particular event hihi. 73, Alan Mw0bgl 16507

Bug Key 24 Hour Sprint October 2026: Results

Callsign	Position	Points
MW0BGL	1	1

Mechanical Medley October 2026: Results

Callsign	Position	Points	BK Jan	MK Feb	SK Mar	BK Apr	MK May	SK Jun	BK Jul	MK Aug	SK Sep	BK Oct
MW0BGL	1	90	15	15	19	14	1	2	5	7	11	1
ON4ANE	2	65		9	20		10	4		13	9	
G4BFG	3	32	16	16								
M0XCV	4	19		19								
G0FOZ	5	17	11		3		1	1	1			
G3XVL	6	14	4	10								
OH7QR	=7	10					6	4				
G0UBE	=7	10			4			6				
M5ABN	9	8					4	4				

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

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Ladder October 2026: Comments

Entrant	Comments
Alan 2E0YEM	A fun session. I noticed on finishing that an antenna support had snapped and the wire was only 15ft from the ground at one point! I didn't risk the evening session, but have fixed it now. Thanks for the QSOs.
Jean F6JOE	A beautiful moon tonight. 73 Jean F6JOE
Simon G0FOZ	Second Sunday this month seemed slow going. I wondered if some regulars had lost their antennas in the storms. Hope all Ok and CUSN 73 Simon G0FOZ
Andy G4KKU	One of my better months. Having way too much fun with CW!
Richard G4TPJ	IC761 / Doublet
John G4YTJ	Only one session this month. The evening of the 11th was a washout and visiting family on the 25th.
Steve M0SHM	First session suffered from remains of a solar storm and second session was in a named storm causing the antenna and the SWR to swing violently about....great fun as always!
Pete M5ABN	Log for October Vy 73 Pete
Alan MW0BGL	Had a very enjoyable couple of ladder sessions this month. The QSOs for the submission on October 25th included a very nice 28 minute rag chew with Terry (Gm3wux). 73, Alan Mw0bgl 16507
Norbert ON4ANE	Hello David, hereby the log for this month; Condx stays very unpredictable, on some days stations from England aren't readable at all but visually in reversebeacon.net. 73 de Norbert ON4ANE

Ladder October 2026: Results

Callsign	Pos'n	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
MW0BGL	1	1	-	502	40	64	55	50	38	53	52	37	56	57
ON4ANE	2	2	-	475	43	43	47	49	45	54	48	45	58	43
M5ABN	3	3	-	464	39	60		64	61	59	51	27	57	46
G0FOZ	4	4	-	445	49	55	16	50	60	50	66	29	26	44
M0SHM	5	5	-	277	36	31	18	27	33	33	30	21	27	21
M0MCL	6	6	-	241			43	42	60	51	36	9		
G3XVL	7	8	⇧	221	61	68	41		18	15				18
G4YTJ	8	9	⇧	220		36	27	18		39	7	42	27	24
OH7QR	9	7	⇩	215	14	21	18	24	34	23	17	34	30	
2E0YEM	10	10	-	183	38	16	17	18	13	19	6	9	21	26
F6JOE	11	11	-	151	15	6	18	12	25	12	18		15	30
MM0UMH	12	13	⇧	118	9	32	5	8	14	12	6	11	12	9
G3EEC	13	12	⇩	115	47		14	54						
G4KKU	14	14	-	109	18	6	9	21	9	6	7	9	15	9
G4TJE	15	15	-	94	31		26	13		9	5	4		6
G0UBE	16	16	-	69	9			26	10	24				
G3ZRJ	17	17	-	49				24	25					
G3JRH	=18	18	-	39	12	27								
G4TPJ	=18	22	⇧	39	24		3							12
G0DJA	20	19	⇩	38	19	13							6	
G3PCL	21	21	-	36	9	3		3	3	6	3		3	6
G0OER	22	20	⇩	32			15				6		11	
G4DNP	23	23	-	23		10	1		3			3	6	
M9PHL	24	24	-	18		18								
DL3GJ	25	=25	-	15					3	2		5	2	3
G0LLX	26	=25	⇩	12				12						
M0MZB	27	27	-	11								11		
M5ACT	28	28	-	6					6					
DF7CW	=29	=29	-	3						3				
M0YRU	=29	=29	-	3				3						
SQ9S	=29	=29	-	3									3	
M9YRU	32	32	-	1				1						

Upcoming Events

Note: To use FISTS Log Converter for the most recent additions to the on-air activities, please install version 4.9.4 or later.

July 2026

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Wed 01 Jul	Thu 31 Dec	EuCW Snakes & Ladders summer/autumn season starts	24 hours each day UTC

October 2026

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Thu 01 Oct	Thu 31 Dec	ICWC Top 9 Quarter 4 season starts	24 hours each day UTC

December 2026

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 13 Dec		FISTS Ladder	1400-1559 UTC, 1800-1959 UTC
Tue 15 Dec		FISTS Straight Key 24 Hour Sprint	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 27 Dec		FISTS Ladder	1400-1559 UTC, 1800-1959 UTC