



Welcome to this edition of *BrassPounder*, which covers FISTS CW Club Europe's [on-air activities](#).

Greetings dear friends,

Well the most exciting event in this issue is the result of the Listen for Learners activity which I introduced. To be honest, I thought it had flopped and sunk without trace, to mix my metaphores, but no! It seems a few had some mild success and a lot of fun, so I think we shall repeat this (worthy) event later in the year with a few changes.

I tried to work the LFL stations but managed only one and I am not convinced that was truly LFL, so I havent included my own logs in the tables. What occurred to me was...how do I know when a QSO is LFL and when it's 'just' a QSO? I think we need to include a specific exchange next time round. I wonder to whether there should be just two times for calling – the top and bottom of the hour – to concentrate the calls a bit. Any thoughts to me please.

Alfred Vail Activity etc

This is just being finalised as I type but Graham's computer problems have caused delays...watch this space.

QCX party?

This didn't work at aall as far as I can tell. The QRP Labs website shows many, many QCXs sold but extrapolating the handful I know of personally, about 10 percent or less are actually working and used, and them rarely. Perhaps people just like building these things then don't use them...I am guilty of that it has to be said, though I do air the QCX and will do so portable in the summer. Anyway, I heard not a single other QCX on the air (nor have I ever in fact).

Members worked

I have been on air a few times a day this month and conditions have been up and down here at G4YVM. Some mornings it's as if the feed lines have been cut it is so quiet, then other times the signals are so strong the RF gain is wound right back just to save the earphones! I probably shouldn't say this but have you tried the GQRP freqs as well when all else is quiet? I'm sure most of you have, and it is worthwhile because just as many sit on that freq listening as on 'ours'. I had a QSO with one chap who like me is both a FIST and a QRP member, and his first exchange was 'what are you doing up here? Hi Hi' Great fun.

I chatted to Martin G4ZXN, F103 recently on and about his Codar AT5. Always a pleasure to work these old uns...and the rig was good too!! This month (March) I also managed to work DL4FDM, Fritz, F2225; SM3CNH,Karl, F18564; G4LNA, Paul, F14815; ON7ZH,Bernard,18446; G0JHK, Mike, F17448; G3YRQ, Ian, F18120; G4GMZ, John, F7719M0UKR, Alex, F16946; G3YLA, Jim, F106. The QSO with G3YRQ was of particular interest because he was on a TenTec but I was on my T1154/R1155 pair. I think Ian's first exchange included a comment of chirp...all was resolved when I explained what I was using. I love using the 1154 but I do appreciate that the chirp and drift aren't always suitable to todays bands. Still, it is a joy!

I think that's it for now, do let me know what interesting stuff you've worked and I can put it out for all to share. Looking forward to working you...

73

David G4YVM 15868 activities@fists.co.uk

Coming soon...

April 2018

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 22 Apr		<u>FISTS Eu Ladder</u>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Mon 23 Apr	Fri 27 Apr	<u>EuCW QRS Week</u>	0000-2359 UTC

May 2018

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 13 May		<u>RSGB 4m CW Contest</u>	0900-1200 UTC
Sun 13 May		<u>FISTS Eu Ladder</u>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 27 May		<u>FISTS Eu Ladder</u>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

June 2018

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 10 Jun		<u>FISTS Eu Ladder</u>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 24 Jun		<u>RSGB 6m CW Contest</u>	0900-1200 UTC
Sun 24 Jun		<u>FISTS Eu Ladder</u>	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

Comments for March 2018 Ladder

Entrant	Comments
Phil 2E0DPH	73 2E0DPH Fists 14543
Nils DL3HR	11 March: Conds were not so good today but I have had fun again! 25 March: Conds were not so good today again, vy qrn es qrm - but I have had fun again! Hope to meet you again!
Fritz DL4FDM	Sunday was busy with the family, but at least 3 QSOs ;-) Vy73 de Fritz DL4FDM (HB9CSA) www.highspeedtelegraphy.com
Richard G0ILN	Good fun as usual. Richard G0ILN
David G0XAH	good to have a go after a long break
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI. Log for March 2018. Enjoyed as always. mni tnx also to Graham, David & Ian 73/88
John G4LRG	Great activity this month with changing conditions making it very interesting.
Emil I5EFO	Many thanks for QSOs Great fun. 73 de Emil I5EFO
Pete M5ABN	Good to meet old friends again, look forward to April Vy 73 Pete
Jarmo OH2BN	73 - Jarmo OH2BN FISTS #16593
Erkki OH7QR	Hello David, Please find attached my log for March. Conditions are still poor, could work only three members on 25th. Hope better luck in April. Many thanks and 73 Erkki OH7QR nr 8318

Comments for Listen for Learners 2018

Entrant	Comments
Phil 2E0DPH	Just the one QSO LFL, You are doing very well Simon keep it up. 73 2E0DPH Fists 14543
David G0XAH	just a few
Robin I/G4DNP	All recorded QSOs took place during a recent visit to Italy. For me, this was a good initiative and should be repeated. My appreciation to all contacts for their patience and encouragement. Robin, G4DNP I/G4DNP
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI. Log for March 2018. bit of fun 73/88
Simon M0ILR	I'm getting better at this and loving it! :-)

Results for March 2018 Ladder

Callsign	Posn	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar
G4LRG	1	1	-	197	58	68	71
G0ILN	=2	3	↑	140	45	46	49
I5ECW	=2	5	↑	140	47	41	52
M5ABN	4	2	↓	137	48	55	34
G4LHI	5	6	↑	128	44	42	42
2E0DPH	6	4	↓	114	45	45	24
OH7QR	7	7	-	110	40	44	26
I5EFO	8	8	-	93	27	33	33
DL3HR	9	11	↑	76		43	33
M0DRK	10	10	-	59	26	18	15
G3ZRJ	11	12	↑	57	15	27	15
DK3DUA	12	9	↓	46	21	25	
MW0BGL	13	13	-	36	18	18	
EA7KB	=14	14	-	29	29		
SV2BBK	=14	18	↑	29		14	15
GM0EPO	16	15	↓	21	9	12	
IZ2FME	17	16	↓	17		17	
G0XAH	=18	-	↑	15			15
SP7OGP	=18	17	↓	15		15	
M0UZE	20	19	↓	12	12		
OH2BN	=21	=22	↑	9	3		6
OZ8AGB	=21	20	↓	9	3	6	
DL4FDM	23	-	↑	7			7
OK1PSI	24	21	↓	4	4		
G4DNP	=25	=22	↓	3		3	
G4TGJ	=25	=22	↓	3		3	
SA5ACN	=25	=22	↓	3	3		
SP2SWI	=25	=22	↓	3		3	

Results for Listen for Learners 2018

Callsign	Posn	Points
M0ILR	1	10
G4DNP	2	7
G4LHI	3	5
G0XAH	4	3
2E0DPH	5	1