

# BRASSPOUNDER



*For those within FISTS who enjoy a challenge*

*October 2006*

Hi all

I'm looking out of the window as I'm compiling this edition and its a glorious day! Strong sunshine but no one could have missed the sudden drop in the temperature over the past few days. Think the sharp overnight frosts caught one or two of us out, me included. Hope you're all dusting off the heaters in the shack ready for some low band activity.

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I have some news regarding EUCW (European CW Association) Matters, which, as you know FISTS sponsors the EUCW QRS Week during April of each year.

Tony G4FAI has informed me that, Oscar Verbanck, ON5ME, has, after fifteen years as Chairman of EUCW is standing down from the post. Tony has sent a message thanking Oscar on behalf of FISTS for his sterling work and time given to EUCW. As from the 1st of January 2007. The new Chairman will be Ivan (Johny) Ivanov. LZ1PJ We all wish "Johny" well in his new role of EUCW Chairman.

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The ladder had had some new entrants this month, A "warm welcome" to Colin, M5FRA, Buck, G00YH, John, GM4WZL. Also, Dr. Martin Zurn was visiting Germany and using his DL1GBZ hat managed to make the ladder whilst over there. Buck tells me that it was his "First outing with the ladder activity and enjoyed it immensely" Glad to have you all on board and hope you'll be a regular entrants.

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This months "POSTBAG"

From Peter, G4LHI.

Here we are again & what an enjoyable Activity Ladder week-end it was, in spite of the www CQ SSB contest swamping the CW sections of the bands again & the very noisy 40 meters, we managed to find a nice lot of Fists Members taking part this month, well done lads

(wonder if we can attribute this to the publicity on the Reflector ?)

I was pleased to work, apart from the very stalwart members that are always there, thanks chaps for your continued support, three new members. Heinz, TA4ZT, 8390. Reg, GI4BBE, 1188. & Colin, M5FRA, 7738, many thanks & hope they enjoyed the Ladder & will join us again in the future events.

Thanks also to our Club Station in Dudley, great to work them again for a few points hi. Also just a quickie with Paul who was busy with family commitments but found a few minutes to work a couple of us. great week-end as always.

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Derek, M0DRK tells me that he thought there were quite long periods when there seemed to be no-one around this month

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From Peter, M5ABN.

Hi Rob,

Very thin this month, got back from Plymouth on Saturday, 300 miles towing the caravan took its toll Hi, and got tied up in the garden for most of Sunday with the XYL so only managed a couple of hours on the key.

Mark did a great job with the club stns, bless him !! saved my bacon Hi.

Vy 73 Peter

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From Erkki, OH7QR

Hello Rob,

In the Ladder I worked only on Saturday. I tried also on Sunday but the condx were not so good on 20M. And on 40M there was so much QRM caused by SSB-contest, that I could not work there (I wonder why they come on CW-zone!!!)

Nevertheless I got one QSO with DK3UZ. He was participating in XCW-contest.

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From Peter, G4LHI (Who's certainly been getting around on 30m this month with the WARC Challenge)

Hello Robert,

Conditions a little better this month, or I was in the right place at the right time for a change, & very pleased with managing 129 QSO's for 150 points but only three new multipliers. The new multies are, FM17, Ed KG4W. IO71, John GWOMYY. IO83, John GOORA. I also worked Ed with the Club Call, KNOVCW Nr 1000 for 3 points but no multi of course.

Managed to find David, VK3DBD for 4 QSO's but Stan, K4UK, Erkki, OH7QR, & Martin, IK2RMZ, only once each this month, but very many thanks chaps for your points & chats.

Nice DX QSO's with non-Fists members from 8P6CF Barbados, NP3CW San Juan, PR, 5R8GZ Madagascar, CO2JD Cuba, & PR7PO Brazil, hope we may get some new members from some of these as I always bring the Fists Club into the chats.

All my QSO's again on 30 meters apart from two on 17 meters, 9H1AL Malta & W8ERN Brighton, MI, unfortunately not Fists members. I would like to thank all Members & non-Members for their time & patience with the very poor conditions in some cases & hope conditions may improve in November.

I did hear stations working Ray G3ASG, but unfortunately on each occasion I could not hear anything of Ray. nice to see Ray is taking such an active part in the WARC Challenge & hope conditions improve so I can have another QSO with him.

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From Stan K4UK, who observes that More FISTS members seem to be active on the WARC bands

I didn't think I would find many new grids this month, but picked up 10 new ones in the last 11 days of the month.

The 139 QSO's and the 194 points this month were the most in any month.

Enjoyed working Richard, F5VJD on both 17 Meters and 30 Meters on the same day. Got a kick out him saying: "Nothing has changed in the 6 hours since our first contact today" - Hi !

Biggest surprise was two-fold working KG4W in nearby Grid FM17 on 30 Meters - signals were 539 both ways  
And then surprise working W4PM also in Grid FM17 on 17 Meters - signals were 329 both ways.

I had figured the Richmond, VA area where those guys are located area would be too close for a contact on either band.

I worked 25 QSO's this month from my mobile. Generally on the way to and from the golf course.

The only "DX" members of FISTS I worked this month were:

G3CWW, G3LPU, EA6UN, F5VJD, IK2RMZ, VQ9LA

As you can see, I really do enjoy this challenge. There are more FISTS members getting on the WARC bands.

Hopefully these next couple months things will open up to UK and to ZL / VK.

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Now, the end of the year is almost upon us and I've been looking at ways to improve things for 2007. In particular, I've taken on board comments from people regarding being swamped by the big contest weekends leading to disappointment for the individuals hoping to get on and work members while amassing points for the activity ladder. I will announce to you all now that I've revamped the ladder for 2007. Which I hope will address the problem. I'm also adding a new challenge to the calendar for 2007 which is aimed at getting the experienced, and not so experienced to come together on air, one group sharing their experience and the other learning from their experience! It's nothing too involved but it gives the newcomer to our mode a chance to experience something different from the "Machine Gun" code we hear saying "Ur 599=Agn ur nr".....hmmm.....

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I have also decided to run the WARC Challenge again in 2007 after receiving requests to do so. I'm glad you've all enjoyed participating in it, thanks for the kind remarks and comments received.

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**I SHALL BE POSTING THE 2007 CALENDAR ON HERE DURING NOVEMBER FOR YOU  
ALL TO PERUSE**

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I shall also post on Mark, M0BLT's NG letting all know when its been uploaded and also upload a .pdf file to the NG site if you want to download it for reference.

That's all from me for this month, been a pleasure looking through the postbag with your comments and observations etc. Keep them coming.

**Results Tables as follows, first the ladder**

CALL	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
G4LHI	42	39	42	47	46	36	43	38	42	52			427
G6GUN	35	41	37	45	35	42	39	23	24	47			368
M5ABN	43	31	35	32	0	26	31	32	44	20			294
IK2RMZ	0	0	0	39	9	28	30	31	25	0			162
M0DRK	15	0	14	22	17	8	12	12	12	16			128
OH7QR	5	13	25	8	0	7	2	12	2	10			84
M0BHA	12	19	12	22	0	0	14	0	0	0			79
2E0TEK	20	0	21	0	32	0	0	0	0	0			73
MX5HDF	6	9	9	7	13	0	11	7	0	10			72
G8XGQ	8	6	12	4	0	6	10	0	6	6			58
G0XAH	0	0	11	17	0	0	0	0	0	0			28
M0CMQ	0	0	0	0	4	6	5	6	6	0			27
DL1GBZ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24			24
M5FRA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16			16
G0OYH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15			15
GM4WZL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14			14
PA3AFF	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			10

**Now on to the WARC Challenge**

CALL	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	MULTIES	MASTERCALL	PWR
K4UK	57	93	112	173	130	134	132	135	93	194			164	205492	K4UK QRO
IK2RMZ	0	0	9	237	215	173	113	107	215	215			77	98868	IK2RMZ QRO
G4LHI	77	78	88	125	130	94	112	93	73	150			60	61200	G4LHI QRO
G3ASG	0	26	133	196	0	0	155	313	166	108			39	42783	G3ASG QRO
DQ35AGCW	0	0	0	0	0	0	275	83	0	0			11	3905	DQ35AGCW QRO OPERATOR
DL1GBZ	0	0	0	96	15	70	35	26	0	22			13	3432	DL1GBZ QRO
OH7QR	18	25	31	30	14	11	5	11	5	50			11	2200	OH7QR MIXED
G0UQF	20	5	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			10	750	G0UQF QRO
M5ABN	23	20	18	20	0	0	8	0	0	0			7	623	M5ABN QRO
KI4DEF	0	0	0	27	29	0	0	0	0	0			14	433	KI4DEF QRP
2E0TEK	23	0	10	10	23	0	0	0	12	0			3	234	2E0TEK QRO
G6GUN	22	8	0	0	0	8	18	0	0	0			4	224	G6GUN QRO
G0XAH	0	0	26	23	0	0	0	0	0	0			4	196	G0XAH QRO
GX2HDF	0	6	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0			2	30	GX2HDF QRP
DQ2006A	0	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0			1	19	DQ2006A QRO OPERATOR
G8XGQ	6	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0			1	12	G8XGQ QRO

73, Keep bashing the Brass!



[back to homepage](#)