

The International Morse Preservation Society.



SKW (Straight Key Week) 2011 Results.

Welcome all, its a pleasure to once again to publish the results of SKW 2011.

This years SKW has been well supported by the membership, and it is a real pleasure to receive entries from other chapters of the society.

I do apologise to all for my omission from the bands during SKW. Other commitments made it virtually impossible for me to find time to get on air.

Lets look at reports/comments received from you all who supported the event with an entry.

From Graham, 2E0JYK

Hi Rob,
nice to take part in the straight key week, did not do too many as i was working but enjoyed every moment of it. Did have a nice surprise though, Peter G4LHI and myself were listening for KN0WCW one evening but nothing heard. So we worked a Russian station and I enjoyed my first Russian contact so I shall send a QSL card to him.
73. Graham. 2E0JYK.

Hi Graham

Good to hear from you, very pleased that you worked into a

new country in SKW.

From Erkki. OH7QR

Hello Robert,

Attached is my log. The week was enjoyable and I had a lot of fun. The garden job caused some lack of time but nevertheless I met 24 members and had 47 QSO's with them. With my dear friend Peter G4LHI I managed to work on every day during the week (many thanks for the points mate). G3ZOD and OH5FNI I met six times, M5FRA four, G3JFS three and G3KEF and KN0WCW two times. There are 15 non-members on the list.

Many thanks you for your good work Robert. We all appreciate it highly.

73

Erkki OH7QR fists 8318

Hello Erkki.

Good to hear from you once again, pleased that you've enjoyed the weeks activity.

And from Alan. G3XZX, who was operating /A

Hello Rob,

Please find my log for SKW 2011 attached.

I was operating as G3XZX/A from Caddington, Bedfordshire, using an Air Ministry Type D key, and a power of 20W to a 40 M end fed wire.

Only a few stations were heard on Sunday, the first day. It could have been the mediocre propagation, or perhaps that people hadn't had a recent reminder about the event.

Otherwise there was a fair amount of activity, especially during the evenings, but conditions tended to be unstable.

Some of the regular operators of previous years appeared to be absent. Nonetheless, I thoroughly enjoyed taking part.
73, Alan, G3XZX, FISTS #13293

Hello Alan.

Good to hear from you, glad you managed to get on and enjoy the event.

And from Peter. G3JFS

For the Straight Key Week this year I operated with 5 watts and my bent end fed wire tuned with a Smartuner. I thought I was off to a good start with CX7CO on 10m for my first contact. Sadly this did not last as I never heard another workable station on 10m. Conditions were generally atrocious on all bands and each time I looked at the DX cluster all I saw were forecasts of strong radio blackouts, storms and flares. The bands were noisy, regular DX stations were much weaker than usual and all suffered a lot with QSB. Should I question my sanity for choosing to use QRP in such poor conditions?

(Of course not, you enjoy a challenge Peter! Ed)

In spite of the poor conditions I had 105 contacts with 27 countries and 52 member contacts with 30 different members. I could have had many more single point ones but for the rising number of stations whose vocabulary is seemingly limited to '5NN'. No point in asking for a name and qth as they are usually calling CQ again even before you have finished your first over.

My only DX was CX7CO but the accolade for the most satisfying contacts must go to Stan KN0WCW who somehow managed to dig my very weak QRP signal out of the noise on 6 of the 7 days. How he did it I don't know as I

struggled at times with the QSB and noise to copy him.

Thanks for your patience Stan.

It would have been nice to have had a 'full house' but I

have an idea that Stan was not active on Day1.

I don't think I heard/worked so many members this year but, as ever, it was the usual enjoyable event with a lot of unhurried contacts, some lasting 15 minutes or more. Met some old friends and made some new ones

73 Peter G3JFS

Fists 8985

Hello Peter.

Many thanks for your concise round up and report of the weeks activity from your perspective. I do tend to agree that many CW men seem to struggle outside of the "5NN" scenario these days.

From Derek. M0DRK

Hi Robert,

Please find attached my log for SKW 2011.

Not so good as I had hoped but condx here not very good.

As you can see, were it not for 2 metres; things would have been much worse. Many thanks to all stations that gave me points. Often I would hear many stations calling CQ, when I called them, I just could not be heard.

Take care,

Derek, M0DRK

Hi Derek.

Good to hear from you. Condx were, at times, mediocre to say the least. But glad you managed to get some airtime in during the event.

And from Peter G4LHI.

Hello Rob,

A great success for those that had good antenna installations hi, but I am afraid my 80 mtrs trapped dipole did not perform as I would have liked, in the evenings 599 plus sigs both ways, but during the daylight hours txing 599 reports but very little heard on the rxing this end, from the same stations, very strange?

Anyway, I enjoyed the SW Week once again & so nice to work stations that only seem to come out of the woodwork annually for this event hi.

Where do I start? such an interesting event, perhaps with the four new members I had the pleasure to work this time, Miles, PA3CVV. Norbert, ON4ANE. Tom, ON4TOM. & Joe, OE6JTD, QSL cards via Fists Buro in due course, very many thanks & do hope to meet you again & that you enjoyed the Fists Activity.

Then of course we come to the regular guys that are always there supporting the Fists Activities, both old & new friends, members & non members. Very nice to meet David G3SCD whilst he was here enjoying our "English Summer" before going back to VK land, safe journey David & thanks for points, see you on 20 mtrs later?

Thank you for a full house to Erkki, Phil & Derek & a couple of near misses from Sandy & Alan, my antenna problem there, very sorry.

Finally, but by no means no less important, very many thanks to Stan for bringing the USA National Fists Club call into operation for the SK Week again, I believe some members were lucky enough to make the full house, well done, but I did manage four QSO's with Stan late in our evening on 20 mtrs, very many thanks Stan for a great effort & very sorry you had to miss out on a bit of golf mate

due to the wx.

Using:-

Kenwood TS590DG, 80/100 Watts

Antenna:-

G4CFY Trapped Dipole in sort of Vee, about 35 ft centre.

Keys:-

Swedish Key & Navy/Nato Key

Also on VHF 2mtrs:-

Kenwood TS2000, 5 Watts, with 2M Ground Plane about 45ft, same keys.

Sorry if I have missed mentioning any one, but many thanks to all that took part in this year's SK Week & hope the conditions may have improved by next year looking forward to that & hope meeting a few new members.

That's all for now folks, have a good year until we meet again, keep bashing the brass & find a few guys to help with this great mode.

73 to all and please take care

Peter G4LHI # 2219

Hello again Peter.

Many thanks for you concise report and overview of the weeks activity. An excellent score in spite of the condx. As you'll have seen, other have commented on the less than kind bands this year.

And from Phil. M6PHL.

Hello Rob,

Please find attached my log for SKW 2011.

With work and other commitments, I was unable to give SKW my full attention this year but it was good to hear many members taking part when I was able to get on the

radio. Also I was very pleased to work Stan KN0WCW again this year on my 10w as well as a few members not previously worked. It was great to see Sandy G0VQW's You Tube video on line so quickly after the event and to feature in it, thanks Sandy for that.

Once again thanks to all those who I had a QSO with, I still do not hear many other M3 or M6 call signs, there must be a few surely.

See you all again next year.

73 Phil M6PHL

Hello Phil.

Good to hear from and pleased that you managed to find some time to get on air. We all seem to lead such busy lives these days.

And from Gra. G3ZOD.

Hi Rob. I had a very enjoyable week using my Czech key, with an increased number of points over last year. Of the six days I was able to get on the air, I was very pleased to have a contact with Erkki OH7QR on each one of them. I was also surprised to manage three contacts with Stan K4UK operating as KN0WCW on 20m, who was doing a terrific job contacting participants. Having taken a few days at the start to settle back into using a straight key, this time I plan to use it more during the year!

73 de Graham G3ZOD FISTS #8385

Hi Gra.

Many contacted Stan during the week. He did a sterling job picking out the weak signals from across the pond. Getting used to, and using a straight key more during the year? I

never have this problem; 99.9% of all operation by me is on a pump key.

Greg. GODUB comments;

Hi Rob,

here is my SKW log, as usual it seems unlikely my score will threaten anyone and is more a benchmark for my return next year :-). This was a great event as it gave me the excuse to get on the air outside my normal schedule. Using the straight key was a bonus and a chance to give my Hi-Mound HK-704 an airing. It may not be the most historic of keys to most people but mine was an apprentice prize (from many years ago) and got me through my 12wpm test so it means something to me :-)

I tended to operate in the late evening and had contacts on most nights though on one evening S9 broad QRN made things too difficult. It was probably revenge from the gods as I had managed to find a power level for 80m which no longer causes me in-house TVI on our digital TV. The TVI issue got me some good suggestions for improvement from G3HAL in our SKW QSO so the event is fun and educational !

Thanks for organising the event.

73, Greg, GODUB Fists Nr. 6095

Hi Greg.

Your comments interest me regarding digital TVI. I did tests at my weekender in the early days (On Digital STB's if they could be called that, as they were as big as a VHS player) with long wires and verticals alarmingly close, within one foot of the aerial; with maximum output from the TX I couldn't introduce breakthrough to the incoming signal, but switching to analogue caused complete swamping of the TV

set.

I'm pleased you enjoyed the event, and look forward to receiving your entry next year.

From Colin. M5FRA/G8FRA

Hi Rob.

Attached is an XLS file of contacts in SKW. I enjoyed the experience and it certainly got me on the air, more contacts in a week than the previous 3 months! Managed to work KN0WCW three times which was great. Band conditions were not that good especially on Saturday.

73

Colin – G8FRA/M5FRA

Hi Colin.

Glad you could make it for the event. And an excellent entry from yourself!

From Norbert. ON4ANE

Dr Rob,

hereby my log for the 2011 SKW.

It was a pity, i couldn't work more stations during this week.

Due to almost of the day 59+++++++ QRM and my 2.5

Watts with a G5RV junior, it was very hard to listen.

Enjoyed the one and only QSO with a fists member.

73 de Norbert ON4ANE FISTS 435

Hello dear Norbert.

Very pleased to receive your entry for the event. You will see that many commented about the condx on air. I hope to hear from you again.

Dear Eric. G0OTE comments;

Dear Robert.

Find attached my entry for SKW. Although not a great achievement, it provided me with a enjoyable few hours on the bands.

My thanks I send to you for organising the event, the members who provided me with a QSO whenever I had the time to operate. And my congratulations to the members with high scores who persevere so diligently.

Best wishes.

Eric. G0OTE. 9850.

A pleasure to hear from you Eric. I'm pleased to hear that the time spent on air during the activity was an enjoyable time for you.

CALL	POINTS	POWER
G4LHI *	216	QRO
G3JFS *	176	QRP
KN0WCW *	156	QRO
OH5FNI	151	QRO
G3XZX/A	136	QRO
OH7QR	118	QRO
M6PHL	107	QRO
G0VQW	101	QRO
G3ZOD	90	QRO
M5FRA	88	QRO
G0GSY	69	QRO
G3HAL	69	QRO
PA3AFF	59	QRO
K4UK	49	QRO
M0DRK	47	QRO
W5VYN	44	QRO
G0OTE	28	QRO
G0DUB	27	QRO
IK2RMZ	26	QRO
2E0JYK	25	QRO
DL1GBZ	23	QRO
JL3YMV	14	QRO
KC9RXI	9	QRO
N3RSD	9	QRO
NG7Z	5	QRO
ON4ANE	2	QRP
* Denotes	Award	Recipient

Time to look at the all important results table.

It is very heartening to see so many entrants in this years SKW.

Congratulations to;
G4LHI, G3JFS, and KN0WCW.
Kindly activated by Stan. K4UK
Certificates to all three in due course.

Summing up SKW 2011.

Once again the event has provided members/non-members alike with an enjoyable week of operation.

Sandy. G0VQW commented that he really enjoyed the event.

Piet PA3AFF Commented.

Robert,

I started the first days of SKW with my homebrew sideswiper key, but it was no success at all. Then I continued with my cheap Japanese handkey I used for training for my HF license 33 years ago.

BTW I'm now the proud owner of the TWanger sideswiper key #32!

73. Piet, PA3AFF

It was/is gratifying to receive entries from our friends from FISTS NA. And FISTS EA making the week a truly international event.

A mention to Stan. K4UK who was active with KNOWCW 10000 during the week.

A mention too must go to Nao. JO3HPM who had activated FISTS EA national call JL3YMV 15000.

Its time to close SKW for another year.
I look forward to hearing from you in 2012.

Till next time.

Keep well;
Keep pounding brass.

73.

MOBPT.