

## International Morse Preservation Society



# KEY NOTE



Sec: E. (Geo) Longden, G3ZQS. 119 Cemetery Rd., DARWEN, BB3 2LZ, England. 01254-703948

<http://www.asel.demon.co.uk/fists-hq/> <http://www.zl6qh.com>

E-Mail HQ: [fist1@btinternet.com](mailto:fist1@btinternet.com) webmaster: [webmaster@asel.demon.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@asel.demon.co.uk)

### OFFICES

**QSL Manager: M0AVW**

32 Woodford Walk, Harewood Park, TS17 0LT

**PRO: G4YLB. J.A. Welsh**

3 Minster Cresc, DARWEN, BB3 3PY

**CONTEST MANAGER: M5AGL**

15a Buckden Rd., BRAMPTON, PE18 4PR

### COMMITTEE

**Chairman**  
**Vice Chairman**  
**P.R.O.**  
**Secretary**

G4XHZ  
G4YLB  
G4YLB  
G3ZQS

Pse keep watch on all Novice allocations  
Recommended calling QRGs:  
3.558, 7028, 14.058, 21,058, 28,058

### AWARDS

e-mail apps/logs to Dennis, K6DF:  
<[fistsawards@attbi.com](mailto:fistsawards@attbi.com)>  
written logs to HQ.

**SUBS:** e-mail Keynote £4.00, UK mail £5.00, EEC mail £7.00. Others £10.00. Your renewal date appears on the mailing label and your anticipation would be much appreciated.

**Up-dated listings** may be obtained from HQ. Please include 3 2nd class stamps to cover return and running costs

**Lapel Badges**, £1.50 incl. **Fabric patches**, £1.50 incl.

**QSL Cards** £7.00 per 100 or £10.00 per 200 (UK and EU pse add £1.00 for p/p. DX members - on advice.

**Personalised stickers** £1.00 per sheet of 65. Max order 5 sheets.

**Please include your CALLSIGN** on all correspondence.

### Useful contacts:

M0AVW 01642-869619 <[spence5@ntlworld.com](mailto:spence5@ntlworld.com)>

M0AYI Glenn@[m0ayi.freeseve.co.uk](mailto:m0ayi.freeseve.co.uk)

M5AGL bobm5agl@[btopenworld.co](mailto:btopenworld.co)

M0ZAK jim.steel@[ntlworld.com](mailto:ntlworld.com)

postage since on many occasions, the telephone number listed here at HQ is no longer valid and obliges me to send out written requests for updates via snail mail.

### MYSTERY RIG!

*Re the inquiry by ON7OP in INFO REQUIRED The equipment shown is the AN/URR-13 or the AN/URR-35. If I could read the frequency adjust dial in the photo, I could tell you which. These were crystal controlled UHF > (-13) or VHF (-35) AM receivers dating from the 1950s. I have worked on them myself. They were used a lot for ship-to-ship or ship-to-plane communications then. Good equipment. Fair Radio Sales of Lima, OH sells original or repro manuals for them. Fair also has a website (just do a browser search on FAIR RADIO). Let me know if I can help more.*

Al KG6TH (FISTS 9336)

*Re my last on the AN/URR-13/35, now that I'm thinking about it, both the 13 and 35 were UHF AM. The VHF version was the AN/URR-27.*

There you are then Phil.. Took some time but we got the info in the end and what a helpful fellow is Al.

### QSL BUREAU INFO

**All outgoing QSLs to M0AVW** (address on banner).

All UK/EU members send stamps and labels (no envelopes necessary) to the appropriate sub-manager as below:

**M or 2 Prefixes** (Except for Wales) M0AYI. 7 Tynedale Terrace, Annfield Plain, STANLEY, DH9 7TZ.

**G0, GM0 etc** (Except GW0). G3JRY. 3 Rochford Cresc, BOSTON, PE21 9AE

**G3, GM3 etc** (except GW3). G0UQF. 2 East St, Darfield, BARNSELY, S73 9AE.

**G4, GM4 etc** (Except GW4). M0ZAK. 6 Central Ave, SHEPSHED, LE12 9HP.

**G2, G5, G6, G8** (Except for Wales) and **ALL special** (GB etc) calls to M0BPT. 38 Wheatley St, WEST BRÖMWICH, B70 9TJ.

**All members in Wales.** GW0SGG. 14 Heather Cresc, Sketty, SWANSEA, SA2 8HE

### Pre-paid postal subscriptions

**EU/DX Members:** IRCs, UK Banknotes or US dollars to M0AVW. The Club will provide envelopes. Any excess over subs from non-UK members will be regarded as QSL postage unless otherwise advised.

### SILENT KEY

In Mid March, I received a telephone call from the daughter of GOKHI saying that he had suffered a fatal heart attack. Those who knew him will be aware that Bill resided in Spain and I assume that Valencia will be his final resting place.

### WALLPAPER NEEDED!

Chuck, M0AVW seems to have had something of a disaster since he indicates that some 900 QSL cards which hitherto graced his shack wall were irretrievably lost.

He asks that you search back in your logs and if possible repeat any new-band QSLs you may have sent him.

Irrespective of what happened to his cards, he seems to be improving somewhat since on our last QSO (40m) he identified the HQ station without prompting!

### GREETINGS

My goodness! Mid March and not only have we had temps in excess of 10c but some of the local bird population have been avidly foraging for nesting materials. It is a good sign indeed for an early spring.

This prospect however appears to be at odds with recent band conditions when my favourite 15m produced some very unwelcome quitefulness. 20 also although open to Asia for brief periods was the exact opposite of 15 with the sound of frying bacon uppermost. Early morning on 40m they tell me has been producing some good DX though unhappily for yours truly, I am rarely at one with the world at such an hour. Still, when the opportunity presents itself, I find my-self in good company on that band with much ribbing and lamp swinging and that - for me at least - is what it is all about. Hi.

Again I must ask those of you taking advantage of our email service to be sure that your addresses in Andy's book are correct. We again had a raft of bouncers and this is costing much time and

### MORE FROM F5NQL

*JQ1EYN/6, Nobu, will be on Komaka Island (AS-017) from April 27 to 28*

*He plans to be on 80-6M SSB and CW.*

*Web site: <http://www.chinenmarine.co.jp/local/komaka.htm> QSL via JARL or direct to his home call.*

**MARTINIQUE** - Main Island - NA107 - DIFO MN001. *Look for Bernard, F5L BG to be active for one month starting March 13th from Martinique isl (IOTA NA-107 - DIFO MN-001), as FM/HC*

*Activity from 80 to 6 m. CW, QSL HC bureau or direct (+postage) to DAUVIER Bernard, 20 chemin des Mottes, F26760 BEAUMONT LES VALENCE, FRANCE*

Maurice scans all manner of news sources and also comes up with the following:

*Reaching Alaska from the United Kingdom using just 1 WERP is quite a feat for any band, but the Radio Society of Great*

Britain reports that Laurie Mayhead, G3AQC, was heard in Alaska on 136 kHz. In the early hours of February 15, he transmitted to Laurence Howell, GM4DMA/KL1X in Anchorage, and just before UK dawn at 0615 his call sign was clearly identified using software to read the signal.

G3AQC was using QRSS--very slow CW--with a 60-second-long dit. The 7278-km distance is a transmission record for 1 W ERP on 136 kHz.

Two years ago, Mayead and Larry Kayser, VA3LK, made ham radio history when they completed the first two-way transatlantic exchange on 136 kHz, also using very slow speed CW. Last year G3AQC became the first person to span the Atlantic on 73 kHz.

Also a timely reminder:

In all the next EUCW contests as Frat party (November), EUCW 160m (January) and the QRS CW Week (April), don't forget to count as multiplier; the Croatian Telegraphy Club (CTC). CTC has been a new EUCW member since the 1st of January 2003.

The founder and current leader is :

9A3FO Den 9a3fo@hi.hinet.hr

You can become a Croatian Telegraphy Club member and contribute to CW development using ; it's free if you request is going to Den by Internet.

See you down my EUCW club members log and 73.

And also a snippet from ARRL:

from QRZ.COM

Bill Pierpont, age 88, became a Silent Key Feb 20, 2003. As many of you know, Bill Pierpont was the author of *The Art & Skill of Radio-Telegraphy*. His generous gesture of distributing this book freely on the Internet and printed at no profit to himself, allowed this inspirational and educational publication to be enjoyed by hams all over the world. It has been translated and published in several languages He made a major contribution to Amateur Radio and will be sorely missed.

### MUCH ADO ABOUT NIL

A suggestion that the RA revise the callsign allocation (everyone would have a brand new call sign if this procedure was followed) caused much muttering and cursing. David (G3ZPF) particularly, was blowing bubbles in his beer and after emailing the RA for their reaction to the suggestion received the following email: *The Agency has no plans to change existing call-signs.*

Denise

Short and to the point of course and as he himself remarked, "At least they answer their emails promptly".. Fear not... your unique personal identity group is not in jeopardy.

### THE IN-BOX

I rang Martin Lynch to check that they had my chosen morse key in stock before I set-off for the smoke. Lynchie said that morse keys are like rocking-horse poo at the moment!

According to him:

1. The manufacturer, falling for the 'morse is dead' myth, has reduced production runs and stock levels.
2. Many of the more pompous 'old guard' have started to return to CW, rather than share SSB bandspace with the dreaded M3s, so sales have risen.
3. Then the British Army suddenly cleaned-out Lynchie's stock of lightweight Hi-Mounds (to the tune of 100 keys) and sent them all out to the Gulf!

So, looks like I will be hammering away on 'The Mighty Kent' during SKW :-). Strange days indeed. Chris G4PDJ

From M5AAQ/M0ZAK

In reference to GW4KUS and his episode with RF getting in to the shack, I had a similar experience recently when any signal I put out on 20m caused the mouse pointer to 'dance' around the screen until it got bored or tired at which point it stopped. . . . unfortunately so did the program running at the time. I found the cause to be a mouse lead extension that, when added to the original mouse lead, came to a total length of 5m [1/4 wave on 20] . . . to remedy this I had to move my computer to a position that allowed me to do away with the extension lead. Everything here is earthed up so am not getting much in the way of interference now. . .

G0FOD

Hi George Nev here G0FOD fists 308 I have been out of the country lazing in the sun for the past 2 months, laying by the pool

listening to our members on my sony receiver, some very nice qso's BUT we have a rival club or society who also have a cc number. This group is calling itself FISB I don't know what the letters stand for but I think it has something to do with the equestrian society as they all have a NAG interesting they are both sides of the pond!!!! Nev.

G3ZDD

I would like you to put something in Keynote about people not listening on a frequency before calling. It may be acceptable from a newcomer who is not familiar with polite operating practice, but when the offender is a member and advertises the fact by calling "Fists", is a bit bad. I was working someone today when M0CHL David came on the QRG calling Fists. He was dead zero beat with the station I was working, in consequence I lost the other station. I said please QSY as the frequency is in use, David sent ? and QRZ I then said pse qsy. qrg in use. He then proceeded to call Fists again using G3CRC the Clacton - on - Sea club call. I had a QSO with him and told him about not listening on the freq. He just came back and said "Tnx fer the QSO, cuagn 73" so I feel that a gentle word in Keynote about not listening first may help.

I've got problems. I've had angina for a few years now, but it's under control. I've also got cataracts in both eyes, but hopefully I'll get those sorted in November. It's a quick job, apparently one is in and out in about 1/2 hour.

G4LHI

Looking on the USA Fists Home Page I came across another very interesting Award, and great fun trying to fill in all the 260 squares. Its called the NANFY AWARD "nightmare-alpha-numerical-fists-yearly-award"

Runs from Jan 1st to Dec 31st each year. 2003 is the first year. I do not think I stand an earthly chance of filling all the 260 squares in the year but quite a nice challenge! and great fun.

GM0ERV

Another Easter greeting for you. The Greek greeting is Kalo Pasca (Easter Sunday being 27th April) and the accent is on the "o" of Kalo and the first "a" of Pasca.

Hope you and Ivy are well. We have had a good winter with a wonderful February and hardly any snow. Looking forward to spring and a holiday in Rhodes at end of May and maybe Barcelona to visit a daughter before that.

SWL MARCO

This evening I was listening to the contacts made by RA2FB around 14.020 and at the same time I was downloading the Feb 03 sample copy of Keynote. I kept reading the magazine and found a note about G14CFQ and his activity on 20m with an old FT200 and a sloper: I found it very interesting as I was listening with an ancient FT250, Sommerkamp's twin of the Yaesu FT 200. Suddenly, I realized next station calling back was G14CFQ, Gary from Belfast, who declared the FT 200 and 50w... nice coincidence, isn't it? BTW, the rig was doing a great job and I had a 599 copy here in N.Italy, on Como Lake.

JJ1BDX

My name is Kenji 'Joe' Rikitake, JJ1BDX/3, also K1BDX since March 18th. I would appreciate if you add my newly-effective callsign K1BDX to the FISTS member list as #8962. My home callsign is still JJ1BDX though.

### CALL CHANGE

Jim, M5AAQ is now M0ZAK. This change was effective from October 2001 seemingly but I guess he just forgot to let me know or I missed it. Heck.. we will soon be running out of M0 space if this continues. Hi.

### FOR THE YOUNGER ONES!

Those of us born pre 1930 are described in a slip from G0GSQ as "the survivors" and includes:

Consider the changes we have witnessed. We were born before television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen food, Xerox, plastic contact lenses, frisbees and the pill. We preceeded radar, credit cards, laser beams, ballpoint pens, pantyhose, dish washers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip-dry clothing and Moon walking. We got married and lived together before we had children - how quaint. In our time, closets were for coming out of, designer jeans were scheming girls and having a meaningful relationship meant getting on well with our cousins. We hit the scene when there was a Woolworths where you bought things for

3 to 6 pence including reading glasses (6 pence per lens) with free frames so for one shilling you got a do-it-yourself readability test.

In our days, cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was mowed, coke was a cold drink, pot was something you cooked in, rock music was grannies lullaby and aids were helpers. We were not before the difference between sexes was discovered but before sex changes - we made do with what we had. No wonder we are so confused and that there is such a 'generation gap' today but..... we survived!

I like it and simply had to share it with you. George is having a little trouble with a guy named Arthur Ritus but aren't most of us in his generation? Moral, physical and presumably emotional support from daughter Elaine (G0KZH) who seemingly introduced him to the PC and will now be regretting it.

### LADDER

Sunday Ladder Feb 2003.

Call	Fist No	Points
G4LHI	2219	137
G3VQO	874	131
G4AQZ	7768	129
M5ABN	6423	116
M5AGL	6493	64
G0MRH	1327	50
M0DRK	8344	39
HB9CHE	7757	37
M0RHB	8907	37
OH7QR	8318	34
M0AYI	4844	31
M0CMQ	7701	19
GW0SGG	1602	17
M3GBT	8947	7
M0BRY	8345	6
M3XGQ	8949	4

A nice set of returns for February with several entrants working the Cromer Club station G3CRC operated by David M0CAL. (perhaps we could have a log from you next time David). It's a tie for the top spot this month with G4AQZ Geoff and G4LHI Peter both having 72 points closely followed by G3VQO Les 61 points and M5ABN Peter 59 points, many thanks for all your support. 73 de Bob M5AGL.

### US SPRINTS

Must hold up my hands. Never was quite sure what these were and pictured a grassed track with hams clutching their rigs and heading for a finishing tape. However, there are quite a few of them which I had thought were strictly domestic. To dispel any suspicions that I am partisan, I will keep you up to speed when information comes to hand since Nancy and the US gang appear anxious that join in the fun.



How would you like to meet this lot in a dark alley?

### NEW PRINTER

There is now a new laser at HQ which is helping lighten my load enormously. It is a Brother HL1850 with duplex unit and sufficient memory for a complete listing. No more standing to attention on a sheet by sheet basis. I simply say 'go to it son', press a key and pull out a complete duplexed listing in short order. The old HP4V having capacity for A3 as opposed to the Brothers' A4

FISTS CW CLUB NEWS LETTER

still serves to print the paper plates for the offset press and as such is used only once a month. It is an ungainly brute however and for a couple of weeks, it was balanced on an old dining chair until I managed to find a stand cum stationery storage.

### MORSUM MAGNIFICAT



Samuel F.B. Morse  
1791-1872

For news of what's happening in the world of Morse, read "MM"! This unique bi-monthly magazine carries a wide range of articles on all aspects of Morse; past, present and future. If you like Morse, you'll like MM

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### POWER LINE TECHNOLOGY

Had a letter from PA0HPV who works for the PA government and is heavily involved in defending shortwave communications against the big threat posed by Power Line Technology. He is in regular contact with G4JKS within the international fora endeavouring to establish 'sensible' limits for the PLT network radiation. They are fighting against a powerful lobby with the PLT industry who are trying to get their system up and running with as few constraints as possible.

In Holland, a power company (NUON) offers fast internet access with its PLT network operating in one of Arnhem's suburbs. The noise it radiates blocks all amateur shortwave reception in the frequency range 3 - 17 MHz along the streets where the mains is carrying PLT signals even if no PLT modem is installed in the house of the amateur suffering the interference.

Radio Amateur Societies, HF broadcasters, the Military and low power HF users (including a manufacturer of Electronic Anti-snooping systems) have teamed up in the European HF Users Group to act against PLT.

Unfortunately, the European Commission thinks PLT will offer great business opportunities and they are promoting experiments with PLT to let it prove that it could become a viable and cheap alternative to existing ways of getting broadband internet services to the home (e.g. ADSL).

They still seem to think that HF radio belongs to the past or is economically unimportant and do not seem too concerned about the interference issue.

The Military needs HF comms desperately as an independent means of communication as long as a Military owned/controlled world wide satellite network is not available.

The group has many more difficult meetings to come yet and Henk himself is very worried about the outcome.

Henk points out that in an environment polluted by PLT noise, narrow band techniques like CW and PSK31 have a distinct advantage over SSB though he visualises the need for much more power being required in the future than at present. In this respect also he says, CW is far from dead.

### THE STRAWBERRY BASKET

**GOLWI.** As a confirmed professional layabout, Frank has found more time for radio during the last 15 months though some of it is taken up by a 97 year old Ma-in-law currently in care. **G4VLW.** Roger is intent upon rectifying his recent spell of low activity with regular rag-chews if only to exercise the bug key. **G3LWT.** And John was tickled pink when he was called by our maritime friend Theo, M0HEN/MM. Thinking along the lines of most merchant vessels don't carry a sparks these days, he was appraised of the fact that Theo's position on board far exceeded that of a lowly R/O. Now I would never have guessed that John since Theo never mentioned it, so he has been hiding his light beneath a bushel all this time. Hi. **G0WAS.** Anticipating activity during the Morse Examiners weekend with GB0BFD, Alan re

grets his poor level of activity during the past couple of years. Justified I suspect since he has so far had 2 operations and six weeks of daily radiotherapy with confirmed cancer in right leg. Thus far there have been no adverse reports from his quarterly x-ray sessions on the lungs though walking is painful and even sitting is far from comfortable. No matter what Alan, my serious advice to you is to get a replacement for the little Yorky you sadly lost - as you know I speak from experience. **G0BQV**. Mary is looking to erect a new R6000 vertical in place of the R5 which divided itself into two last year. Dunno how long it has been in bed but she tells me it remains unpacked at the time of writing. **SM5JAB**. Miche doesn't get on air as much as he would wish but when he does it is FISTS members who provide him with rag-chews - 'they always seem so very friendly'. **M0GMF**. In view of the recent spate of good weather, I hope that Mel has fulfilled his resolve to 'get up on the roof' and stretch out his G5RV. He has recently done a QSY and is told that his QTH is the highest point in West Yorkshire which of course carries the penalty of being one of the most wind-ridden. Hope you can rent a harness and line just in case Mel.

## G3TUX

### The QRP Component Company

Stockists of Keys (Bencher, DK1WE, Jones, Kent Schurr and the Swedish pump) also agent for the Samson series of electronic keys.

Used keys of all types bought and sold

SAE/IRC for prices/data  
PO Box 88, HASLEMERE, GU27 2RF  
Phone 01428-661501 FAX 01428-66795  
g3tux@g3tux.com

### FOR SALE

Bill, G0MKMG, must have been collecting 'em for ages and has recently ben doing a bit of 'tidying up' and finds he has copies of Morsum Magnificat issues 1 to 83 all in good condition - £90 incl postage. Also, SPRAT numbers 45 to 112 at £45. You may contact Bill on 0141-5624571.

### THAT 'K' SERIES

Among other members to air the K1 and K2 I recently found G0VQW on 40m with a K1 and whilst the sigs were not exactly needle bending, he explained that he had just soldered the last point and the rig was not even in its case. It lived up to its reputation with a beautiful T9 note which never strayed from the (approximately) 100Hz band pass that the conditions demanded. His closing words 'Can't wait to get started on the K2'. The way things are going, we are gonna find a 'K club' any time soon. Hi.

### SUBS

Whilst I applaud their thoughtfulness in anticipating the renewal date, we still have a few members who cause much head scratching and file searching by forgetting to include their calls signs with their renewals. Also, although easily remedied, cheques should not be made out to me personally but simply to FISTS. On my last visit to the bank, the teller was so used to the routine that she pulled out one such cheque and appended FISTS to the reverse. Again for email subscribers, I will normally run a check on due dates and advise you by email.

### THE ATTIC COAXIAL ANTENNA

There were a number of requests for this information but thus far no reports. These would really be appreciated if those who requested the information would like to drop me a line. It would also be appreciated if those who constructed the Mag Loop by G4KKI (Feb Keynote, pp3) could let me know how they fared.

### THE DX STUFF

Ceuta & Mellila, EA9, Mar 20/April 26  
Trinidad & Tobago, 9Y4, Mar 23/April 10  
St. Peter & Paul, ZW0S, April 1/14  
Micronesia, V63JE, April 2/7  
Myanmar, XY4, April 2/14

South Africa, ZS1RBN, Apr 4/7  
Micronesia, V63JE, April 9/14  
Syria, YK1BA, April 15/27  
Aland Isls, OH0, April 19/25  
Sardinia, IS0, April 19/May 02  
Malta, 9H, April 20/27  
Mozambique, C9, April 20/May 04  
Marquesas, F0, April 25/May 9  
Christmas Isl, VK9X, April 26/May 02

There were others listed but CW was not specified in operating modes. Moral.... keep yer ears open!

### LATE NEWS FROM F5NQL

The international group of Radio Amateurs will go to The GAMBIA for 2 weeks: from 25th of MARCH until 7th of APRIL and will use following callsigns:

YL2KL - C53KL

YL3CW - C53CW

YL1ZF - C53ZF

LY2TA - C56TA

RZ4HF - C56HF

RA4HTX - C56HTX

Will be active CW/SSB/RTTY all HF bands, during WPX SSB and EA RTTY will use C5P callsign (QSL via YL2KL).

### COMMORATIVE EVENT

As with every year, the SFDXAG will activate from 5 through 8 June 2003 from the "PEGASUS BRIDGE" memorial museum with the call F/ON6JUN/P in memory of D-DAY in all bands and all modes.

QSL via bureau or directly via ON4AFU

Visit our site: <http://www.qsl.net/on6jun>

The SFDXAG is thanking you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Yours sincerely, For the SFDXAG Willy LAMBERT ON4LBV

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### FINALE

From Nancy I learn that there will be a sprint (non-specific) 2nd Saturday in May so I will endeavour to print a copy of the rules next month. It was initially assumed that these events were domestic to the US but I am assured that this is not so.

A broken spring caused me to investigate the lower blanket cavity of the offset press (on which Keynote is printed) where I discovered an inscribed pen (legend G3ZQS) which to my recollection disappeared over 5 years ago. Needless to say, the insert is most definitely nbg but the mystery is how it came to be in my cellar let alone finding its way to the innards of the press. Do I really have poltergeist? We are having problems however. The off-set press is giving grave problems and for this month at least, I have had to farm the job out to a local printer. To be honest with you, it has been getting a big chore. Printing, collating and folding Keynote and then stuffing it into envelopes, printing and affixing labels etc., costs me at least 5 days so I may well let the professionals handle it permanently. 73/88 for now people. CU on the bands and stay sober.

Geo