

International Morse Preservation Society



KEY NOTE



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

E-Mail HQ: fist1@btinternet.com webmaster: webmaster@asel.demon.co.uk

OFFICES

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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@comcast.net>
written logs to HQ.

SUBS: e-mail Keypote £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. Cheques should be made payable to just FISTS.

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>

M0AYI Glenn@m0ayi.freemove.co.uk

M5AGL bobm5agl@btopenworld.com

M0ZAK jim.steel@ntlworld.com

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, WESTBROMWICH, 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.

GREETINGS

My sincere thanks to all of you who expressed their condolences on my recent loss. Cards in particular were arriving by the score and finding somewhere to display them became a problem. We chose to keep it as a strictly family funeral though Nancy sent flowers on behalf of the NA gang. For all of you who continue to enquire, thank you for your kind thoughts. I miss Ivy of course but things have become much easier in recent weeks allowing me to get on with the serious business of living and the simple chore of keeping up with subs and other FISTS related matters has helped a great deal.

I trust you all had an enjoyable festive season and, having more time than normal due to Christmas break, much time was spent on air in my favourite rag-chew mode. Hi.

The wintry storms most of us in the UK experienced on New Years eve brought their own problems. Here in West Lancs, we

had a mere two or three centimetres but that was sufficient to completely glue up several miles of the A666 between Blackburn and the moorlands to our South. Whilst we were talking of centimetres, our friends in much of Scandinavia, Russia and other countries in Europe were speaking in terms of feet but did they have problems.... **no**. We have much to learn. Hi.

For a few days, 40m was near normal and much traffic was evident not only in the Ladder but also Bob's Christmas Challenge. Meanwhile there was much transatlantic chatter as 10 and 15m enjoyed sporadic openings. Hope it continues.

ON THE AIR: IOTA 40TH ANNIVERSARY WARD

Don Field, G3XTT, wants to remind Islands on the Air Award enthusiasts and would-be enthusiasts that 2004 marks the 49th anniversary of this unique program. Don says that a set of files for downloading with lots more information are now available on the Chiltern DX Club website at www.cdxc.org.uk Just follow the IOTA 2004 links and remember this years award began on January 1st. (source RSGB)

CHANGE OF CALL

Pse note that M3NHY will be recognised as G6NHY. Also, PA2DGR is now PL8E

MARKING HISTORY

Carlos Beviglia, LU1BCE, says that between January 4 and 15th, the Radio Club Argentino will participate in the 6th Andes Mountains Land Crossing. LU1BCE is the Secretary of the Radio Club Argentino. He tells the Ohio Penn D-X newsletter that this trek is made every year to honor General San Martin and his army's crossing to Chile. This, during the American Independence War in 1817.

The Radio Club Argentino will provide the communication for the event. The club will set up two High Frequency stations at every camp point throughout the journey. Operation will be mainly on SSB and C-W using the special event call LS4M. QSL via LU4AA, either direct or via the bureau. (OPDX)

INTRUDERS

The bad news! VK6XW reports hearing 53 non ham stations on the 14 MHz band operating SSB. He says that most appear to be from Indonesia.

The good news? Word that another group of Indonesians who had been using 14.335 MHz have vanished and have not been found again. The same is true for the bunch on 14.252 which have also disappeared from the Amateur spectrum leaving only the 14.144 gang which have gone LSB and moved up to 14.145 Mhz. (Q-News) Both the above items courtesy of WB2FXK.

GACW KEY DAY

This is to remember the next 2004 gacw key day, this is not a competition but a friends hf bands meeting during which we encourage all ww hams to enjoy the rithm of the code using all kind of keys except those electronics. The main objective is to enjoy the Morse and to meet old and friends. The 69 2003 participants remarks are in our web site. Sorry most of them are in spanish. <http://gacw.no-ip.org>

This is a partial list of the keys used during the event:
Schur - Lw8dlb Deluxe Special - Vibroplex - J37 - Hi Mound Hk
704 - Manipulador Telegrafico Argentino - Wt8amp #2 - Vk2dlf
- Ww II Italiano - Gmp Mini Llaves Artesanales Telegraficas -
Daxon Radio 1982 - J38 - Bencher RJ2 - Manipulador Ff Cc
Argentino - Ason - Cte and some home made also.
Date: Starting last February saturday each year. 28/2/2004.
Time: 1800 Saturday till 0600 utc Sunday.
Frequencies: Up to 3530 - 7030 - 14030 - 21030 and 28030 kHz.
Warc: The qso in the Warc bands are allowed but no recom-
mended freq.
Mode: A1A - cw, straight key, bugs, maniflex, sideswipers only
no-electronic key.
Call: cq kd - cq gacw kd, etc.
Exchange: Greetings and rst plus your gacw #. Non gace mem-
bers send kd.
If you made more than 10 qso you are invited to vote for 3
different stations with a special very good sending. Swl are in-
vited to send his log and vote too.
The gacw key day will be awarded to the 5 most voted stations.
Logs. Simple list using log book format, etc.
Deadline: Not later than the 31st of March.
Logs can be sent via e-mail as text-file to: lu6ef@yahoo.com.ar
or gacw@gacw.no-ip.org
By mail to:
Gacw
P.O. Box 9, b1875zaa - Wilde, Buenos Aires, Argentine

SPECIAL STN

Look for Fabrice, F5FUA to be active as FM/F5FUA/p from the
Martinique island (NA-107, DIFO FM-001) from February 2004
3rd to 24th.
Activity is scheduled daily, from 1100 to 1300 UTC and 2200
to 2400 UTC on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters., with IC 706
MKIIG and Double Dipole Multipbande Diamond W-8010 .
No more information yet provided on modes.
QSL via the French REF Bureau preferred

ZL2AOH

A little stirring at the year end as we go into the great unknown.
The Australian authorities have announced that the Morse re-
quirement ceases 1 January 2004. The ACA has announced a
"celebration" and is encouraging its members, especially the
new "liberated" ones to go on the air on 1 January. I am not sure
whether they aren't too sure of the response but they are bribing
people to participate by offering prizes. Let's hope that they stick
to the band plans.
Among my ham radio activities, I am QSL manager for The
Quartz Hill amateur radio station. Using the station call ZL6QH
the user group has achieved 100,000 QSOs. Of these 71,452 are
CW contacts. It will be interesting to measure the proportion of
CW contacts when we reach the 200,000 milestone. I think that
it will not be very different then.
We'll be back with newsletters at the end of January. Don't forget
that we welcome items of interest, comments (kind or critical)
and pictures. Please encourage your friends to join. We will
send information to those you suggest are interested.
Vy 73 de Ralph. ZL2AOH

KIT BUILDERS

Those of you who enjoy the smell of tortured flux and hot solder
may be interested in the info from F5NQL:
*This is not an add for a gear builder, but one for disabled of us.
We all know the quality of the Elecraft company products espe-
cially their K1 and K2 transceivers.
This is a new for those of us who would have one but can't build
the kits or do the assembly or solder the parts of them.
On the Elecraft web page at <http://www.elecraft.com/>, you can
find a listing of hams, located throughout the whole world who
can build the kits for disabled. Some of them can even do the job
freely.
My friend Hughes, F6GPA (ex G3BQ) owns one built by PA3HBB/
G0BZF, which is a marvellous thing.
In UK and USA, there's also a lot of hams who do the job also.
Don't know if similar arrangements are available for other kit
suppliers but it's sure worth a shufti.*

FISTS CW CLUB NEWS LETTER

FOR CW STUDENTS/TUTORS

*My interest in assisting the deaf to communicate led me to:
<http://www.utoronto.ca/atrc/reference/links/ldeaf.html>
At the bottom of the page is a near sine wave audio programe
with variable speed which could help in learning morse or re-
inforce speed practice. Be ideal for anyone who prefers to be
waffled at in morse. G4XEC.*

POWER LINE DATA AGAIN

From Jack, WB2FXK:
The Federal Emergency Management Agency has joined the
freight against the idea of broadband data via power lines pointing
out that BPL could seriously impair FEMAs mission essential
HF radio emissions in areas serviced by BPL technology. BPL
could also have a detrimental effect on FNARS whose operators
normally conduct communications with signals barely above the
ambient noise level. Similar problems could be encountered by
the Amateur Civil Emergency Services the Military Affiliate
Radio System (MARS.) and the Civil Air Patrol..

MORSE TEST TEAMS

I am no longer a member of the RSGB since they assumed I was
an idiot who could not write and in any case, have rather got my
hands pretty full already. As a consequence, I am quite happy to
leave the liaison with the Society to G4BUO (possibly in con-
junction with others) for the question of proficiency examina-
tions and certificates.

G4BUO is president of FOC for 2004 and this month was due to
attend a meeting with the RSGB General Manager to formulate
a strategy.

The first logging of a team comes from John, GM4GZQ who in
company with Jim GM3UWX have offered their services for
which I am most grateful and the team is now included in any
future plans.

Interestingly, since the dissolution of the MTS, they have re-
ceived a number of requests for proficiency tests including one
from the RA.

John was senior examiner for Strathclyde whilst Jim was one of
the examiners on his team.

This is what we need people. TEAMS not individuals since the
tests need to be witnessed. Whilst two members represent a
minimum, three or even more would be helpful not only by
permitting others a respite but also as cover in the event that
some should find it difficult to attend venues.

Another member of interest is MOTIF who is currently working
with the Milton Keynes for practice and tuition and expressed an
interest in certification. From a club of that size, I am sure that
support would be possible so please keep me updated.

Whilst I must express my gratitude to the many individual mem-
bers who have declared their interest, I must also ask them to
seek support either from their local clubs or from others within
their area though these may not necessarily be FISTS mem-
bers. As long as they can attend local rallies on a regular basis,
this satisfies our needs.

I will keep you updated as more information comes to hand.

NIMH BATTERIES BREAKTHROUGH

*Turning to the latest in electronic products of interest to hams,
we have this from battery maker Rayovac. That company has
announced a new charger that it says is capable of fully restor-
ing a specially designed Nickel Metal Hydride cell in only 15
minutes. Dubbed the I-C3, the new rechargeable cells and
charging system uses Rayovac's In-Cell Charge Control tech-
nology that puts the control of recharging into the battery in-
stead of the charger. The company says that doing this offers
significant performance and convenience advantages over
existing rechargeable and disposable battery systems. More
information is on-line at www.rayovac.com
Thanks to WB2FXK for the info.*

LATE FROM F5NQL

Look for Guy, F5MNV to be active as FM/F5MNV between the
21st of February and the 6th of March from Martinique main
island, NA107, DIFO FM001.
It will be a CW only activity on HF bands. Guy will be QRV at
his spare time.

QSL direct HC (SAE + 1 IRC or 2US\$ - One green stamp is no longer sufficient to cover today the postal fees for a card sent to Americas, Asia or Oceania) or via the French REF bureau.

THOSE TUNERS

In reference to a previous item concerning QRM from stations tuning up on frequency, G3HAL asks me to remind you that aside from dummy loads, noise bridges are extremely useful. Radcom for April 2001 covers an easily constructed version with a useful add-on in the September 2001 edition.

MOTORISTS BEWARE

Technology keeps on marching and this seems to apply to modern digital techniques more than any other. David, G3ZPF, warns that the new electronic signs on the M4 amongst others are fitted with the SPECS speed camera which which electronically logs your vehicle registration plate. The very next sign you encounter will do exactly the same thing and automatically convert the time taken to arrive from the previous camera into road speed. They operate 365 days a year and will issue unlimited tickets to vehicles exceeding 78mph. Got a radar detector? Forget it. These gadgets are passive and emit no radar signal at all. Be warned. Big Brother is watching!

ROCK MITE

This is not some hitherto undiscovered insect which burrows into solid stone but a small rock-bound QRP transmitter. It would appear that there is a dearth of 'baccy tins' out there in the colonies so Chuck sent one over to Stan (K4FU) in a batch of QSL cards which Stan used to construct this flea power unit. Following this, Chuck built one himself (he seems to be well blessed with such tins) and is most enthusiastic about the results. Originally, he found himself in the company of SSTV signals but raided his piggy bank for 7.030 Mhz rocks. It's output is a magnificent 400mW and a QSO with a German station at 550 miles qualified him for the QRP-ARCI 1000 miles per watt certificate. Not having a dedicated QRP TX, I need to turn down the wick on my FT1000 MP to get what appears to be a minimum of 4 watts (though this could be reduced via a resistive network) and must confess that my QRP activity has been neglected of late. Well done Chuck. That's not bad bang per buck!

RE-ISSUE OF CALLSIGNS

A further item from G3ZPF contains the rather disturbing observation that there is an ongoing trend for new licencees to apply for the callsign of deceased amateurs. I understand that it has always been the policy of the agency to re-issue the callsigns of deceased licence holders when such a request is accompanied by approval of the immediate family but this latter requirement no longer seems to be necessary. His letter to the RA asks if it is possible to restrict re-issue to family members after he has been planted. Not sure if he got a reply yet?

DL1CC AND ESPERANTO

At last the report on my activities in the FIST frequencies with various countries.

For more than 40 years, I was living in the former GDR (German Democratic Republic). As no doubt you already know, our frontiers were closed to us, apart from being able to go to other nearby counties in the Soviet block.

Now that I am a pensioner and everything has changed, I am making the most of being able to travel to as many countries as possible.

This year, I went to Málaga EA7, and was active as EA7/DL1CC in 40 to 10 m, making contact with many FIST members. Together with G-SWL Ian and DK8RE, we went from Málaga by ship to Melilla (EA9) for 6 days. We were also active there in the 40 to 10m bands, again making contact with many FIST members in CW, also in SSB and had more than 5000 QSO's, with 420 British stations altogether. On two days we also used the call sign EA9URM.

In May we went to Yalta. During several weekends there we used the station UU5JK as UU/DL1CC. In June, I was active for IOTA on Wolin Island (EU 132). There I had an interesting call sign SO1CC. The unusual prefix and the IOTA number attracted many DX-stations. While there, I also worked in 50 MHz. I

cannot use 6m in Germany, but in Poland those frequencies are allowed.

After a short break at home, I went to Gotenburg at the end of July for the Annual International Esperanto Conference. In spite of the week's busy programme of specialist meetings, visits and cultural events, I managed to find time to use the ILERA club station 8S6UEA (Universal Esperanto Asocio). Amongst the approximately 2000 delegates at the conference from 75 countries, there were 25 radio amateurs coming from many parts of the world. Amongst my 540 QSO's there were also some FISTS-QSO's.

In August we went by ship from Gotenburg via Kristiansand to Newcastle-on-Tyne, and from there to Liverpool, then to the Wirral Peninsular, where I was Ian's guest (aktiva SWL) in Wallasey. Using the IC706 and a Keleman-dipolo, almost every day I listened and transmitted in the FISTS frequencies. Then again in Barlaston, where I took part in the Esperanto Summer School holiday arranged by the British Esperanto Association who have their headquarters there.

After that I visited Wales, Scotland, The Isle of Man and Ireland, where I was able to use the North Dublin Club's station (E15NDR). After that, I went to Felixstowe and then a few days in London with Lenio, (G0OOS) - Secretary of ILERA - International League of Esperantist Radio Amateurs. Then, it was back home again to Germany on 15th of September:

At the end of October, I came here to Santa Ponsa on the island of Mallorca (EU004), where I will be staying until 17th January 2004. I am transmitting regularly in 14.058 and 21.058 MHz, and have had many very interesting QSO's. It is also very interesting to contact QRP stations with only one or two watts. My maximum power is 100 watts using IC706 mk IIG and the Keleman Dipole in the 20, 15 and 10 m. I can also contact with 17 and 12 m using low wattage.

The plan is to go again to Melilla (EA9) for a week or two after 16th December, and I hope to be able to work in all frequencies. Please check all FIST frequencies. I am already making plans for 2004, and will willingly send you reports on my activities. For Christmas and the New Year 2004 I wish all FIST club members and their families the very best, good DX, and of course good health.

73 and until next time Wolf Krüger (EA6/DL1CC)

ETM KEYER SOUGHT

G3XVF is looking for a ETM9C - X3 Keyer and in view of the tendency to include keyers in modern rigs is hoping that a member may have one gathering dust. <g3xvf@btinternet.com> or PO Box 3082, Norwich, NR4 7YQ.

LADDER

Nov 03	Total	Dec 03	Total
CALL		CALL	
G3VQO	688	G3VQO	688
G4LHI	541	G4LHI	592
G0MRH	415	G4MRH	417
M5ABN	306	M5ABN	332
M0AYI	300	M0AYI	300
G4AQZ	214	OH7QR	235
M0RHB	207	M5AGL	221
M5AGL	202	G4AQZ	214
HB9CHE	159	M0RHB	207
OH7QR	153	HB9CHE	159
M0DRK	139	M0DRK	149
M0CMQ	100	M0CMQ	107
M5BRY	58	M5BRY	68
G8XGQ	36	G8XGQ	40
G0SOP	24	G0SOP	34
GW0SGG	17	GW0SGG	17
M3GBT	13	M3GBT	13
G0XAH	10	G0XAH	10

Well done to Erkki OH7QR who tops the monthly totals With 82 points.

Congratulations to Les G3VQO for first place this year and To Peter G4LHI second place, Ron G0MRH third place. Certificates will be sent to you in due course.

Again many thanks to all who have supported the ladder in 2003

and do remember that there is a new format for the 2004 ladder. A full list of this years contests is printed in the Key Notes, is also on the Fists web page or available from me.
73's for now de Bob M5AGL.

LADDER FORMAT 2004.

Activity ladder. January 04 to December 04.
To be run on the last weekend of every month. Times 0700 utc Sat to 1900 utc Sun.

Frequencies, All licensed amateur bands except the WARC bands.
Returns & Scoring. Returns are to be either a maximum total 8 hour continuous or 2 x 4 hour continuous periods only, taken from within the 36 hour operating time. Scoring: 3 points for a Fists Club Station, 2 points for a Fists member, 1 point for a non member. A station can only count once on each monthly weekend.

Logs; to include; Call/Name/QTH/QRG/RST/Time/FIST No or NM/Points scored.

All returns are to be received by the 10th of the following month.

Dates; 24/25 Jan. 28/29 Feb. 27/28 March. 24/25 April. 29/30 May. 26/27 June. 24/25 July. 28/29 Aug. 25/26 Sept. 30/31 Oct. 27/28 Nov. 18/19 Dec(1 week early to avoid Xmas and Boxing day).

NEW MEMBERS

09867	G000S	Ian	09868	G3KEK	George
09869	G4FZS	Maurice	09870	2E0EUK	Fred
09871	MW0DDE	Andy	09872	M5MKW	Mark
09873	M3JCA	Colin	09874	G4SCB	Mike
09875	G0POT	Michael			

THE STRAWBERRY BASKET

M0PCB. Iain is currently ploughing his way through an RF engineering course at York university. Seems he is endeavouring to run /P via a mobile whip in his room. **G3EFY.** Whoops. The item Resurrection or Re-engineer from last month ascribed to G3RFE should have been Tom. Gotta get these spectacles seen to! **G0GFG.** Mark was QRL on the door at the local rally but FISTS shared the RAFARS stand and Glenn, M0AYI told him there was lots of interest. **G4SSH.** Our Roy sends greetings from the Scarborough crew and it seems he has adopted the additional hobby of digital photography armed with experience from a course at a local college. You're never too old to learn I guess but you are never too old to make mistakes either. Hi. **G4BEQ.** Thank you for the kind thoughts Doug. He has undertaken the duties of carer to his invalid wife for 12 years now. **G3JKY.** As mentioned previously, Jakey is in ZL land and spent some time at a place called Takaka. Invites me to try sending that on the key. Hi. **M0ECS.** Been QRL studying for his Police Inspectors exams and having passed the first part is looking forward to joining in the fun with the rest of the gang. **PA9RZ.** Robert is Chairman of the Benelux QRP club. Not over enthusiastic about contests but the recent CQ WW found good conditions and he managed VE on 40 and 80m with 5w to a W3DZZ. October saw a magic lantern show in the sky and also produced 56A reports with ZL and the other 5 continents. **G0OWS.** Now there's a thing. Jim noted the item concerning our Cuban member and his french horn and wondered what sort of orchestra we could muster. He himself was at one time co-leader of the BBC Midland radio orchestra and recalls G4OHB and G4HNN who was a fine clarinetist and the best sax player in the country. Degraded eyesight (those pesky floaters) has caused him to give up his fiddle playing but you know Jim, you don't need specs for memories. Hi. **G4ZPY.** Due to indifferent health, Gordon's output of keys and paddles has been seriously restricted with something in the order of 6 months completion time. **M0BZN.** Fun and games. Thermostat on boiler went belly up H2O plus steam through office ceiling and this topped by two bouts of flu. Funny how things happen in threes ain't it Lou?

THE OK EXPERIENCE

G4PRL holds the alternative call OK8AGK and his experiences open a window on repairs or replacements which most of you will be happy not to share.

He required a simple component to repair a H/B txcvr for a friend. There were no convenient High street shops, no mail

order facilities, no email routes etc. The answer lay in a 20 mle road trip over poor unsurfaced roads to the back of a farm in Poland where, in an ancient and battered shed, there was a heap of old defunct electronic equipment. All old gear was funnelled to this location and it was up to him to rifle through the junk to find what he needed. "Try to imagine building a complete txcvr" he challenges but this is just what has been achieved in many cases.

They have dreams of course of obtaining professionally constructed rice boxes but even a second hand example would cost the equivalent of perhaps months of income.

Roy agrees with my grading of the 'K' series of QRP etc kit., but it comes at such a cost as would enable you to buy very good used commercial equipment. He cites the FT817 as 'cheque book' operating - too much money for too little output.

Roy will happily work those chirpy QRP signals on the basis that the constructor has made a little more effort to get some RF out and has no doubt learned something in the process. He is not he says "sitting smugly in front of some very expensive equipment criticising others for their less than ideal signal quality".

G3TUX

The QRP Component Company For Kits, Keys and QRP

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

Used keys of all types bought and sold. SAE or IRC for current list of stock or email <sales@g3tux.co.uk>

PO Box 88, HASLEMERE, GU27 2RF
Phone 01428-661501 FAX 07974 214320

THE DX STUFF

Feb 02/07, Belize, V31YN from lighthouse reef, 160-10m
Feb 12/24, St. Lucia, J6
Feb 21/28, Bahamas, C6ASB, 80-6m, (CQWW CW)
Feb 21- March 06, Martinique, FM, (CQWW CW)
Mar 01/12, Cambodia, XU, 160-10m
Mar 03/17, Revilla Gigedo, XF4IH, 160-10m
Pse note I only report events for which CW is specified.

M0AVW CERT

Chuck dedicates a certificate each year to those who are most helpful in sorting their submitted QSL cards. For 2003, this goes to M0MJG.

FINALE

Well, it has been a rare couple of months which I am not keen to repeat and which I would wish on no one. Suffice it to say that with your encouragement all has been bridged. It would also be thoughtless of me not to acknowledge a larger than normal stream of Christmas cards falling through the letter box. It is doubtful if my postman feels quite the same way but at least the weather was such that no excess steam was noted emanating from his shoes. Hi.

We fear that Dayton may experience a reduced presence of overseas visitors this year. Not only was BA223 cancelled so abruptly recently but UK members at least may find themselves visiting the US Embassy in London for a visa. Will someone please tell me who is winning in the 'war against terrorism'?

Whilst 15m has been open to the US on a few occasions of late, there will surely be more. For those of you who live a 'normal' life i.e. go to bed at a reasonable hour, be consoled with the fact that transatlantic traffic has been variously reported on 80, 40 and 30m. Meanwhile, 20, 17 and 15m has found Australasia, Japan and some quite juicy DX periodically. If the stuff can be worked on 10w from the home counties and Europe there must be a chance for us mere mortals even up here in the hick country. Hi.

73/88 my friends and stay sober.

Geo.