

International Morse Preservation Society



KEY NOTE



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

<http://www.fists.co.uk>

E-Mail HQ: fist1@btinternet.com webmaster: 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@comcast.net>

written logs to HQ. No charges and no return envelope required.

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. Cheques should be made payable to just FISTS and sent to G3ZQS.

Up-dated listings may also 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 £6.00 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 <m0avw1@ntlworld.com>

M0AYI Glenn@m0ayi.freeseerve.co.uk

M5AGL bobm5agl@btopenworld.com

M0ZAK jim.steel@ntlworld.com

QSL BUREAU

All outgoing QSLs to M0AVW (address on banner).

UK 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, BARNESLEY, S73 9AE.

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

G1, G2, G5, G6, G7, G8 (Except for Wales) and **ALL** special (GB etc) calls to M0BPT. 38 Wheatley St, WEST BROMWICH, B70 9TJ.

All members in Wales. M0AVW. Address on Banner

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.

QSL MGR FOR GW

I have received no offers to replace GW0CGG which if you remember was sought from somewhere in Wales. Consequently, Chuck M0AVW has volunteered to take care this traffic.

I am sure you will join me in thanking Bill for his excellent work in the past - not only for his handling of GW QSL traffic but also for his appearances at the Swansea rally. Get your feet up Bill.

GREETINGS

By gum I thought... that rotator seems to be getting slow! And indeed it was. I took a pair of binoculars outside and had a shufti. T^h was close on a disaster. For a few years now an Ivy has been

making itself at home on my gable end in an envious state of health. In the past few months it not only reached the roof but established itself on the chimney and has successfully used the 'slack' coax from my rotator as a bridgehead to a possible space trip. It's gonna cost me a bomb to disengage it and for the time being at least, my beam is stuck at West of North and I'm sure not going to tempt fate by attempting to shift the heading again since through the bins I was able to see there was clear tension on the coax. Explained the situation to a 'tree doctor' type from local yellow pages and he was kind enough to explain to me how to rid myself of all that greenery - start from a point just above ground level and cut through each leader and then do the same a few inches further up. Within a few weeks, the ivy would lose its leaves and suckers and fall from the wall. That's great but I still need to get it off my coax feeder pdq.

15m did me proud the t^h other week when I was called by a S. Korean station **very** QRS. Got the basic info both ways but he was being stalked by a hoard of EU stations. Despite the QRS of some 8 wpm max, he disappeared under a deluge of calls varying between 20 and 35 wpm and was probably put off CW big time. Pointless ain't it?

Being uncertain of Andy's availability, I shot off Keynote last month via email (think I'll take a tip and refer to it as Enote) and was rewarded by a batch of failure messages. I have no intention of running the list again (there were many fewer than on the previous occasion) but if anyone catches wind of someone complaining of non-delivery would they pse ask 'em to email my-self and Andy to confirm their email addresses. It's very frustrating and both of us could do without the hassle.

A 'normal' day in the early part of the month can find me processing up to 50 letters containing subs. It is perfectly straight forward and would normally be completed within 20 minutes. All I need however is two or three with **NO CALLSIGN** appended and that period can be extended by a factor of 2 at least. **Please...** include your callsign on **all** correspondence.

SUBVERTIVE ACTIVITY

You may remember that Iraq and the Baghdad RC was mentioned previously and I have recently learned that Sayah Y11DZ one of the prime operators of the Baghdad radio club had dismantled the station and spirited the equipment away in a 'safe' place though with what has been happening in that part of the world, we must interpret the word "safe" with some latitude. Well, if nothing else, they are ready to get QRV again when the situation permits.

ATHERTON QRP RALLY

This event (organised by the W. Manchester club) turned out to be something of a waste of time as far as Frank G4XHZ and myself were concerned. The prime reason I feel is that it is simply one large hall and there are no side rooms. I took the necessary kit together with pre-printed certificates and even specially printed papers for writing the examination passages on but in spite of a prior note on their web page that test facilities

would be available, absolutely no-one made enquiries. On reflection, I am not too surprised. I don't think I would like to have sat there in a crowded hall taking a test paper. Still we met a few members along with a very charming XYL and her hubby from Georgia who was herself very much involved in promoting Morse amongst her local hams.

EUCW QRS PARTY 2004

CLASS A.

	Call.	Club.	Points
1.	DL2FCA.	AGWC.	12,920.
2.	G0XAH.	FISTS.	6,517.
3.	IK2RMZ.	AGWC.	6,351.
4.	G4LHI.	FISTS.	5,772.
5.	PA3AFF.	HSC.	2,376.
6.	M5BRY.	FISTS.	1,664.
7.	G0GSY.	FISTS.	1,577.
8.	M0CMQ.	FISTS.	290.
9.	M5ABN.	FISTS.	288.
10.	M0DEV.	FISTS.	240.
11.	G4XPE.	FISTS.	8.

Well done to Rosel DL2FCA. 1st. David G0XAH. 2nd and Martin IK2RMZ 3rd.

CLASS B QRP.

	Call.	Club.	Points
1.	HB9HC.	HTC.	90.

Well done to Robert HB9HC for your 1st place, No other returns were received.

CLASS C Non-Members of EUCW Clubs.

No returns received.

CLASS D Shortwave Listeners.

No returns were received.

Most Readable Morse Heard.

Nominations Received.

G0XAH.	2.
G3HAL.	1.
RW3AI.	1.
M3BRY.	1.
G4KXG.	1.

G0XAH. David receives the certificate for the Most Readable Morse Heard.

Many thanks to all of the above for their returns. Conditions were not at their best and looking through the logs it appears only members from 7 of the clubs eligible were active with only members from 4 of the clubs eligible returning logs. Certificates will be sent out to the winners in due course.

de Bob M5AGL Fists Contest Manager.

TERRITORIAL DISPUTE

Two Asian Pacific nations are embroiled in a territorial dispute and Amateur Radio appears to be caught right in the middle. Q-News Graham Kemp, VK4BB, is in Brisbane with the details:

A centuries-old territorial dispute between Japan and South Korea is again escalating with the South Koreans placing a group of amateur radio operators on the rocky islets known in Korea as the Lonely Islands. To the Japanese they are the Bamboo Islands.

The radio station, licensed by South Korea, was seen as a provocation by the Japanese. Some amateur radio operators in JA are said to have interfered with the South Korean stations transmissions.

Mr. Kemp says that hams around the world were surprised to hear about the dispute. This is because our hobby stresses development of technologic skill along with friendly international communications. (Q-News)

VO ANT TEST

The Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland station VO1MRC will be conducting an antenna comparison experiment on the 19th and 20th of June and you are invited to take part. Amateur Radio Newline's Bruce Tennant, K6PW has more:

Each day during the experiment from 0000 to 2400 UTC station VO1MRC will operate a CW beacon on 5269.5 kilohertz. Its purpose will be to determine the relative performance of high

and low radiation angles. The antenna in use will be identified by a code in each transmission.

VO1MRC will also be open briefly for 2 way contacts with stations authorized to transmit on 60 meters starting 0000 UTC each of these days and will operate simplex on 5260.5 kilohertz CW. Following this it will transmit on 5327.5 kilohertz upper sideband and receive 5346.5 kilohertz upper sideband and 3807.5 kilohertz on lower sideband.

The experiment was proposed by Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland and is endorsed by Radio Amateurs of Canada. Its operated under an authorization issued by Industry Canada which is that nations telecommunicastions regulatory body.

For the Amateur Radio Newline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

RECOMMENDED QRGs

There has been quite a bit of traffic from all regions including E. Asia of late. Below are the recommendations for spot calling frequencies for the various bands in use:

2m	144.058 MHz
6m	50.058 MHz
10m*	28.058 MHz
12m	24.918 MHz
15m*	21.058 MHz
17m	18.085 MHz
20m*	14.058 MHz
30m	10.118 MHz
40m*	7.028 MHz -- All IARU Regions
40m	7.058 MHz -- IARU Region 2
80m*	3.558 MHz
160m*	1.808 MHz

Please note that in most cases, these are just a couple of KHz LF of the accepted QRP frequencies so an movement should be LF. Those lucky people in the US currently still have the Novice sub-bands recognised and they make use of 'em:

10m	28.158 MHz
15m	21.158 MHz
40m	7.118 MHz
80m	3.708 MHz

There have been recommendations that after establishing contact on one of the above frequencies that the participants QSY to leave the frequency clear. It must be remembered however that we do NOT own these. We cannot enforce non-occupancy of *.058 and if a QSY is applied, there is absolutely nothing stopping **anyone** from making use of the legitimate free spot thus created so it is better to occupy the frequency with a QSO in which case, CQ FISTS on the nearest clear spot LF. With the bands in good condition, many RNARS members (myself included) have actually been the subject of QRM from folks who seem to consider that **all** RNARS QSOs should be restricted to *.052 which is clearly ridiculous. Surely it would be better to recognise the recommended frequencies as '**starting points**' rather than calling frequencies. We are too numerous these days to restrict ourselves to one spot on the dial!

Pse LMK your thoughts.

ACTIVITY LADDER FOR MAY

May Returns.		Annual Total.	
Call.	Points.	Call.	Points.
G4LHI	33.	G4LHI	200.
M5ABN	27.	M5ABN	144.
M0RHB	23.	M0RHB	83.
M5AGL	18.	M3GBT	81.
2E0EUK	17.	G0VSS	63.
GI4CBG	16.	M5BRY	61.
M3GBT	13.	GI4CBG	57.
M0DRK	10.	M5AGL	44.
OH7QR	7.	M0DRK	43.
GU4HUY	4.	2E0EUK	40.
M0CMQ	2.	OH7QR	36.
		M0CMQ	36.
		GU4HUY	32.
		GX2HDF	32.
		G8XGQ	12.

Finding points was battle as the bands were busy, with what seemed like computers talking to computers for CW contacts

without any etiquette for other users.
Peter G4LHI and Peter M5ABN(who was working/P from his caravan on the Norfolk coast) and Rod M0RHB managed to gain a few points for the top places.
De Bob M5AGL.

THOSE MYSTERY NUMBERS

Periodically I get an enquiry asking "What is a CC number?". Quite simply, it is the number which appears on your (C)entury Award (C)ertificate. If you haven't yet got one then the answer is 'nil' though as an entry-level certificate, it is not difficult to obtain - just collect FISTS numbers to the total value of 100 points and either send directly to Dennis K6DF (address on the banner) via email or here to HQ from whence it will be re-directed.

Remember that you may claim any number ONCE only with the values:

Your own continent 1 point, DX 2 points, a listed FISTS club station 3 points and a National FISTS club station 5 points.

TRANSFER

Cho (HL5AP) has been transferred to the E. Asia chapter and this change will be reflected in the current listings.

THE MORSEMAN

Think it was Ralph (ZL2AOH) who posted a copy of Break-in, the journal of the New Zealand Amateur Radio Transmitters (NZART) in which he gave a full page run-down and introduction to FISTS for the upside down brigade. It was a very full and informative piece of writing covering the history of the club and of course our aspirations.

In the same journal was a regular column by ZL1AN Garry Bold populating two full pages (in this case dealing mainly with keys and keyers) in which he offers us another plug by declaring his own membership of FISTS:

You will see from the above that I belong to this friendly, world wide club. Members delight in talking to each other, swapping numbers for awards, rag-chewing and visiting each other when they can. Many work QRP and gladly help newcomers to the mode. We are not a gang of high speed merchants but a society of people who just enjoy the mode. We send with straight keys, bugs and keyers. We welcome new members. All you have to do is write to or email Ralph the membership officer of the down under chapter and he'll tell you all about it. Despite the widely held view that Morse is declining, this is the fastest growing Ham organisation in the world.

F5NQL

F5MJV & FM5JV

I have the great pleasure to inform you about Vincent, F5MJV and FM5JV .

He has got both his new callsign and his programme for the next six months.

New Callsign : FO5RN

All the operation which could be approved by DXCC, IOTA, DIFO and WLH programmes will be made in/p (not on the vessel ashore but really in/p) .

Traffic in HF and mainly in CW.

July till mid-September :

Staying in Tahiti on the Navy vessel ashore or at sea for training. (FO5RN/p or FO5RN/mm)

End of September :

Beginning of the trip which the followings rests are scheduled :

East Kiribati - T32

Christmas Island (Kiritimati) - OC-024

Hawaii - KH6

Hawaii - OC- 019

Marshall - V73

Majuro Island - OC-029

Micronésie V63

Pohnpei - OC-010

Philippines - DU

Main Island (Manilla) - OC-042

Palau - T8

Koror Island - OC-009

FISTS CW CLUB NEWS LETTER

Kiribati - T30

Tarawa Island - OC-017

American Samoa - KH8

Tutuila Island (Pago-Pago) - OC 045

Then return to Tahiti around of Christmas.

Information will be given in due time. QSL via F5NQL

Worldwide Lighthouse Contest

Each year on the first full week end of July, will be held the Worldwide World Lighthouses Contest .

This year, the first one will happen from July 5th 00600 UTC to July 6th 1200 UTC.

The complete rules are on line on the WLH website at : <http://www.wlh-award.com>

On the same website, could be downloaded summary and log sheets for this contest.

Expeditioning on a Lighthouse or not, all the hams and SWL are very welcome and their participation will be very appreciated.

Message to French speaking members:

The EUCW member Society the Union Française des Télégraphistes (UFT) has a new web page. The address is : <http://www.uft.net>. Please have a look Many information about CW activities and other can be found on it . A lot of other services are also offered. Thanks for releasing

IOTA 2004

Next IOTA Contest activity.

François, F8DVD will be active from Noirmoutier Island (IOTA EU-064, DIFM AT-20) for the next IOTA Contest on 24&25 of July.

Special callsign : TM8N

All bands 10 to 80 metres. François will set and try his gear some days before.

QSL via F8DVD, either direct or via the French REF Bureau. Those who will choose the direct way will send 1 IRC. If no IRC, join 1\$ (Europe) or 2\$ (outside of Europe).

François BERGEZ 6, rue de la Liberté F- 71000 MACON France, . (f8dvd@qsl.net)

QTH - GUN EMPLACEMENT?

Caught GB2FNM on 40m with reasonable sigs before the band went long again. This call belonged to a museum station situated in the amunition magazine below a gun emplacement. Coincidentally, G0IOF was also in the shack at the time so there was quicky on the pump handle. Nice to find you again Graham.

THE IN-BOX

John 9V1VV emailed to thank me for transferring him to the E. Asia chapter and he is looking forward to getting involved in some of the JA and other countries contests. Tried EU tests but has a very restricted window on the LF bands whilst HF has been just as much a wash-out for John as it has been for the rest of us. He says it has opened up a completely new world for him.

S58MU. Sorry I appear finicky about this but he is a lapsed member and has been for some time now. He has been eard calling FISTS and quoting his number which of course is valueless. Info from M0AVW.

GM4HYF. George emailed to say that due to ill health he is now in a retirement flat with no antennas allowed. His Grandsons came to the rescue with CWCOM v1.44 which allows George to log into a QRX list on the internet and chat using CW. I understand that this is either direct from the Keyboard or via paddles interfaced to a com port. He would be happy to meet any members involved with this system using channel 1000. I am still QRX for more info about this from George.

Mail gone adrift! Bryan G8AHU QSL's keynote plus a reminder which found its way into the letterbox of a neighbour. It was opened accidentally since she had not checked the envelope but fortunately has a family member who is also FISTS so she delivered it by hand. As Bryan says, the odds in favour of this are very slim and, pushing his luck, has decided to have a go at the lottery. If it works out mate, mine's a can of lager. Hi.

IOTA LATEST FROM F5NQL

Den9A3FO Chairman of the Croation Telegraphy Group emailed Maurice directly to point out that JM74MK activating the

JULY 2004

PAGE 3

Croatian island Pag (EU-170 CI-082) op would be 9A3FO/P. 01/07/04 to 10/07/04 on 40 through 12M exclusively CW. Ant GPM-1500 and QSL via bureau or direct. **NO** e-QSLs pse.

THE STRAWBERRY BASKET

G3UAA. Doesn't happen too often thankfully but Alf got stung for a delivery of QSL cards which turned out to be a nats weight above the poundage. Managers try to keep within the limits but without expensive scales, accuracy can not be assured. Not always the fault of the manager either. I received a complaint of overweight surcharge after having the package weighed at the main post office before despatch.

GM4GZQ. It would seem that our John is ambidextrous. Uses the paddles left handed and the bug or straight key with his right hand. Rather reminds me of an very dear friend of mine who sent some beautiful stuff with a straight key in each hand.

G0ELZ. Heard Bill give his QRA as HMS Belfast when in truth, he was aboard HMS Plymouth in scouse land so chided him for his wandering grey cells. Having just returned from a weekend aboard the Belfast of course, it was an easy error to make. He is running an 'improvers' class on 2m with everyone working hard to reach his target of 22 wpm. Such is the mentality of some folks though his transmissions are punctuated by music and one particular moron saying "hope you are enjoying yourselves" in VERY slow CW. Takes all manner of stuff to make a cake Bill but we certainly could do without the rat droppings. As he says: *Thank heavens they are not all like that and those of us who are trying to put something back into the hobby still outnumber the lunatic fringe.* He signs himself 'Soon to Granddad Bill the Sailor - two grandkids on way this year - must be getting old'

G3GUR. "Where does the time go?" asks John with his renewal. I have been asking just that question for years mate. You no sooner get out of bed, make breakfast and take the dog for a walk than it is time to think about crawling back in again. Hi. Twinges and pains sneaking into his wrists and he still sticks to the pump handle "too late to teach old dogs new trix" he says but I can assure you this is not so. Frustrated by the contest when hunting for special stations over the D-day weekend - you were not on your own John. I was blowing bubbles here listening to stations on the South coast working Roy in Scarborough when I couldn't even hear him. Grrrrr!

G4MOI. At 75 years, Doug is still trying to catch up with me but he is still a CW addict with Schurr paddles and a K1. Thank you for the kind words Doug. This job is not easy and sometimes it is downright frustrating but I am assured that if I ever stop doing it, they are keeping a chair warm for me in the local funny farm. Hi.

G2HKU. Yes indeed... I did mean LG300 and not LG100. See what I mean about the funny farm? If someone invented an alternative and clean fuel source to rival oil, they would be leaping out of windows in Throgmorton street Ted and it looks like cheap and dirty BPL will go the same way. Ted swears by the labgear TV Amplifier. He used one to boost weak signals and, like a friend who took his cue, suffers no interference when QRV. XYL has titanium parts in hips whilst Bill at 81 years is running on 3 cylinders which has somewhat curtailed his 'roving eye'.

EI7GW. Your question re 'CC' answered earlier but worry not mate.... you are not on your own. Hi.

G4BEQ. Doug recalls commuting daily twixt Horndean and Warshash as lecturer at College of Nautical Studies and the trip coincided with that of Wally G4DIU who, with a key strapped to his leg, worked ZL4AGA each morning on the M27. The automatic drive helped of course but failures were few. I stand corrected. HMS Warrior was not broken up. Wally assures me she is afloat in Pompey harbour doing a roaring trade in weddings, birthdays and wakes. My goodness - are we truly reduced to that?

NEW MEMBERS

10823	G7LVD	Frank	10824	GM7RYK	Gordon
10825	DL7TA	Anne	10826	G0MJG	Stuart
10827	G3KKQ	Dennis	10828	M3WSZ	Alan

Not quite the normal figures this month but then it is the 'Silly Season' only this year it is even worse what with the Euro2004 in addition to, Wimbledon and the usual white clad brigade with

leather and willow. Whaddya mean I'm a miserable old git?

G4ZPY

KEYS AND PADDLES

All items hand-crafted with the skill of a trained engineer. Also miniature versions which are much acclaimed throughout the world.

SAE/IRC TO:

41 Mill Dam Lane, Burscough, ORMSKIRK, L40 7TG

Tel: 01704-884299

e-mail: g4zpy@g4zpy.co.uk

<http://www.g4zpy.go-plus.net>

ODDS 'N ENDS

The question is, if a vegetarian eats nothing but vegetables then what does a humanitarian eat?

A recent email enlightened me regarding all those cars running around with an English flag stuck on their car door. It is new system for warning other road users that the drivers of such vehicles have only just scraped through their test. Even worse, those bearing two of the aforesaid emblems are to be regarded with the utmost caution. It's true I tell you!

I hesitate to publish in case I am transgressing the copyright act but but the item in Break-in by ZLIAN shows the circuit diagram of what must be the simplest yet in keyers using the recently released 'Picaxe' chip. These contain within ROM, an interpreter for a simple dialect of BASIC. All the software and manuals are available for free download from a website. The basic code is written on a standard PC and loaded into the chip's flash RAM via a serial port using a simple two-resistor interface. The circuit shows only 4 resistors (one a variable) with a pnp transistor to do the leg work. For the Picaxe chips try: www.rev-ed.co.uk/ and for the code it is www.phy.auckland.ac.nz/staff/geb/loads.htm.

Fraud. Well, it is the first time I have experience this but it is sure worrying. Thus far, I have received 3 emails from a company in Tampa FL confirming an order via the internet. I phoned my credit card company and was assured that no untoward payments had been accepted so, just in case, a new number has been arranged and the old card destroyed.

Paypal. When I phoned for help I was told that they had recently updated and improved their software but in the process the normal e-mail advices were not being sent out. They were **hoping** to correct this asap. Very helpful! If anyone has paid via this medium recently and has not received confirmation then pse lmk. I was chasing one up from 03/06 but there was no Callsign mentioned in the text which put me in a bit of a tizzy. Result was an email asking for a callsign and a further such message to call off the dogs after I had later found it. Ooooooh!

AGC problems. Most modern rigs permit you to disable AGC but there are many newcomers out there who routinely run with AGC enabled forgetting that by disabling it and reducing RF gain, you get a much better sig/noise ratio. Remember that noise will frequently hit the AGC in a more positive manner than a weaker signal. Take it out of the equation and the only perceived penalty is the absence of the AGC derived 'S' meter readings and who believes 'em any way?

FINALE

Just about anyone in the UK can tell you that 'summer' has definitely arrived. Wimbledon is off more than on due to rain. There are gales howling their way through the Channel and those happy chimes from the ice cream man have not been heard since March. If the government had any concern for our well-being, they would disband the Met Office. Uuuugh! The bands are full of the sound of frying bacon and light machine guns and we are beginning to wonder what those strange markings on the dial (14.00, 18.00, 21.00 MHz etc) really mean. Never mind. Stick with it and one day you may even find signals there. Hi. 73/88 people - stay sober and have fun.

Geo