



FISTS CW CLUB "DOWN UNDER"

Key Note Special Newsletter – May 2005

Editor & QSL Manager for ZL: Nigel Hardy, ZL2TX, 20 Greenwood Boulevard, R D 1, Otaki 5560, New Zealand
Tel: 0-6-364-5202

Newsletter Distributor/QSL Manager for VK: Chris Thompson, VK2CTN, 3/153, Gisborne Street, Wellington, New South Wales 2820, Australia.
Mobile Tel: 0425-301-539

Membership/Awards Liaison: Ralph Sutton, ZL2AOH, 12c Herbert Gardens, 186 The Terrace, Wellington 6001, New Zealand
Tel: 0-4-473-0847. Fax: 0-4-473-0848

QSL Manager for ZL6FF: Nigel Hardy, ZL2TX – Address above or via the FISTS QSL Bureau.

Address e-mails for above persons to: fistsdownunder@ihug.co.nz

Visit our Web Site: - <http://fistsdownunder.morsekeys.com>

Hello to all United Kingdom and European FISTS, from all in FISTS "Down Under" (Australia and New Zealand). This Special U.K. Key Note comes to you from our FISTS "Down Under" Editor. Let me explain: -

As most of you will be aware, your Secretary and Editor of Keynote, Geo Longden, G3ZQS – FISTS # 0001 has been very unwell (since last Christmas), requiring several visits to hospital for check ups and treatment. He apologises to you all, but just hasn't felt up to writing the monthly newsletter "KEY NOTE" or handling the work associated with your FISTS Subscriptions and new members etc.

Normally we receive the U.K. KEY NOTE by e-mail and it is printed and added to our newsletter for the benefit of our members in Australia and New Zealand. The last "KEY NOTE" we received was the November 2004 edition. As time slipped by, we became increasingly concerned that your postal recipients would wonder why they had not received their newsletter recently. It soon became obvious that assistance was needed and questions were asked as to who would temporarily fill in for George by writing a newsletter, getting it printed and posted, handling Subscriptions and new members etc.

Your QSL Manager, Chuck Spence, M0AVW contacted George and obtained a copy of his records which revealed the names and addresses of those members who receive Key Note by post and those receiving it by e-mail from Andy G0JLX, the FISTS Webmaster. As Chuck has no facilities for printing address labels and couldn't find anyone at short notice to write a newsletter, it was decided that FISTS "Down Under" should lend a hand, by issuing this Special Edition of Keynote – mainly to keep your postal members informed of the situation.

Ralph, ZL2AOH having label printing facilities offered to print the 726 U.K. and 96 Overseas members labels and have them couriered to Chuck in England, who will arrange the printing and posting of this Special Edition.

Whilst Geo is recuperating, Chuck will also handle all subscription renewals and new member applications. He has set up a separate account for this purpose and asks **any members renewing their subs to make cheques payable to him personally** i.e. Chuck Spence and NOT FISTS. Members are advised that Geo has agreed to grant a Three Month extension to renewals, for the inconvenience of lack of Keynotes. Any queries can be directed to Chuck as follows:

Chuck Spence, M0AVW
32, Woodford Walk, Harwood Park, Thornaby - On – Tees TS17 0LT.
Telephone: - 01642 – 869619
E-Mail: - m0avw1@ntlworld.com

Remembering that Chuck is primarily the U.K. FISTS QSL Manager, if any members in the United Kingdom could assist Chuck, by filling in any of the duties outlined above, it would be greatly appreciated.

For information on Subscriptions and other information refer to Key Note, November 2004. Chuck has application forms on hand, if you know of anyone wishing to join FISTS in your part of the world.

Finally, we all send Geo our best wishes for a speedy recovery and trust that he will rejoin the fold, taking over some of his duties in the near future, as and when he is able.

I apologise if this newsletter is not in the format you that are used to and the information contained may have been seen before. My intention is to make you all aware of forthcoming FISTS activities and renew your interest in the FISTS Awards programme.

Regards,
Nigel Hardy, ZL2TX # 9040
Editor - FISTS Down Under Newsletter.

FISTS CONTESTS 2005

ACTIVITY LADDER: - January 05 to December 05.

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 Fist Club Station, 2 points for a Fist 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.

PLEASE vacate or pass on the FIST calling frequency after 5 continuous QSO's or QSY off the calling frequency.

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

DATES; 29/30 January. 26/27 February. 26/27 March. 23/24 April. 28/29 May. 25/26 June. 30/31 July.

27/28 August. 24/25 September. 29/30 October. 26/27 November. 17/18 December (1 week early to avoid Christmas weekend).

EUCW/FISTS QRS PARTY: - 0001 UTC on 24th April to 2359 UTC on 30 April 2005.

A full list of rules and participating clubs will be published in our Key Notes in March and the other clubs Newsletters as well as the national radio magazines well before the above dates, or is available from the Contest Manager at your request.

STRAIGHT KEY WEEK: - 0001 UTC on 04 September to 2359 on 10 September 2005.

Frequencies: - All licensed amateur bands except the WARC bands.

Scoring: - 3 points for a Club Station, 2 points for a Fist Member, 1 point for a Non Member.

Exchanges to be RST/NAME/QTH/FIST No or NM/DAY No. Sunday is Day 1 Monday is Day 2 and so on

- Saturday as Day 7. All entrants must have used a straight Key for all their QSO's, but the worked station does not have to use a straight key.

PLEASE vacate or pass, on the FIST calling frequency after 5 continuous QSO's or QSY off the calling frequency.

LOGS to include DATE/CALL/NAME/QTH/QRG/RST/TIME/FIST No or NM/DAY No/POINTS.

All entries to be received by: - 24 September 2005.

PLEASE NOTE, These contests are meant to be fun and friendly as well as competitive .

Any contact not showing the required return information will be excluded from the total scores.

All entries can be received by post or E-mail to;

R.P.Kimpton, 15a Buckden Road, Brampton, Huntingdon, CAMBS. PE28 4PR.

Or bobm5agl@btopenworld.com

Many thanks to all whom have taken part in our contests over the past year. It has been great to hear from you all with your comments on the contest formats.

It is always difficult to get the format right to please everyone. From the comments received the majority of you are happy with things as they are and have suggested small changes. I have decided to keep to the basic format as it appears to suit the majority of you.

The use of the WARC bands was suggested - this is not possible. These bands as I understand, are left free from Contests.

With most of the various clubs and organisations operating a gentleman's agreement as to their chosen calling Frequencies and the growing number of amateurs using the bands, a clear frequency is sometimes hard to find.

As the main aim of all our contests is for them to be friendly and fun as well as competitive, and to hopefully -attract more participants, I am asking you all to pass, on the Calling frequency after 5 QSO's, or to QSY off the Calling frequency. This I hope will encourage others to take part and call CQ when the frequency is clear or passed onto them after the 5 QSO's. - 73's de Bob M5AGL.

MIXED KEY WEEK 06/03/05 to 12/03/05 RESULTS – Bob, M5AGL

G4LHI 3104 Points, M5AGL 1358 Points, M5ABN 512 Points, M0DRK 512 Points, 2E0TEK 104 Points, M5BRY 96 Points, M0BHA 59 Points, and OH7QR 36 Points.

OVERSEAS FISTS AWARDS (Issued Nov 18, 2004 to Feb 28, 2005)

By Dennis, K6DF (FISTS AWARDS Manager)

Basic Century (CC)

F5NQL, G0GMA, JK7UST, OE5GM, VA3EWK, VA7CAB, VE1CB, VE5DC, VK2CTN, ZL2CB.

Silver Century: - DF2YJ, F5NQL, ZL2SWR. **Gold Century:** - VE2FSK, ZL2SWR.

Diamond Century: - VA2MMJ. **Platinum Award:** - DF2YJ, VA2SVP, VE2FSK, ZL2SWR.

Platinum 500 Award: - 6Y5WJ. **Worked All States (FISTS):** - VA2SVP.

BASIC RULES FOR FISTS AWARDS

Basic Century Award

The Century Award is earned by working 100 points of FISTS members. FISTS operating from the same DXCC country that you are in (i.e. England) are worth one point. FISTS operating from a different country, as defined by DXCC rules, are worth two points. FISTS affiliated club stations are worth three points. The following FISTS National Club Stations are worth 5 points towards FISTS Awards: -

GX0IPX # 0001, ZL6FF # 9600, VK2FDU # 9610 and KN0WCW # 10000

Logs must contain the following information.

(1) CALL (2) DATE (3) FREQUENCY (4) FISTS NUMBER (5) POINTS CLAIMED.

A FISTS member can only be counted once.

You don't have to be a FISTS member at the time of the contact, but the person you are claiming for Century Award points must be a FISTS member AT THE TIME OF THE CONTACT. For example, if you QSO with someone who is not a FISTS member, and they join FISTS after the QSO; you must work them again for credit. You cannot count the QSO before they joined FISTS, toward the Century Award.

QSL Cards are **NOT** required for any Award Claim. All Awards are issued **FREE** of Charge.

The Silver Century Award has the same rules as the Basic Century and is for a total of 250 points. Points used to claim the Basic Century may be used toward the Silver Century Award.

The Golden Century Award has the same rules as the Basic Century, but it is for a total of 500 points. Points used to claim the earlier Century Awards may be used toward the Golden Century Award.

The Diamond Century Award has the same rules as the Basic Century, but it is for a total of 1000 points. Points used to claim the earlier Century Awards may be used toward the Diamond Century.

QRP Awards. The Century Awards are available in QRP and 2-way QRP, QRP meaning 5 watts or less output. Please give your power used when applying for the QRP version of the Award.

The Platinum Award is earned by working 100 different Century Certificate holders. The Century Certificate (CC) number must be obtained during an on-air QSO. Each CC number is only counted once, for a total of 100 numbers, regardless of location or band.

The 250 Platinum Award is for 250 Century Award holder Contacts.

The 500 Century Award is for 500 Century Award holder Contacts.

The Mobile Century Award is earned by accumulating 100 points of two-way CW QSO's made while **mobile** (from 1 September 1998)

The rules are the same as the Basic Century Award.

If you have not earned a Basic Century but apply for the Mobile Century, you will automatically be issued a Basic Century Award in addition to the Mobile Century Award.

You may count the points claimed for the Mobile Award toward the QRP Century Award if the power is 5 watts or less. They may also be counted toward the Gold, Platinum, or other awards if you have not previously claimed contacts.

For purposes of this award "MOBILE" shall mean": Any motor vehicle used to transport people (car, truck, etc.) The mobile must be moving, or stopped temporarily, as at a stoplight.

Note: A vehicle, parked at a campground would be considered portable and not counted toward this award.

QSOs made while you are driving or while you are a passenger in the vehicle are eligible. Transmitting and receiving antennas must be physically attached to the vehicle. The transceiver must be located inside the vehicle.

The Worked All States Award is earned by working FISTS members in all 50 states. The FISTS worked must be a member at the time of the contact.

The FISTS Rag Chewers Award is earned by making 100 two-way CW QSOs, each lasting at least 30 minutes, with another FISTS member on or after the date of September 1, 1998. Duplicate member contacts are valid, but they must be made on different dates. You may apply for this award only once.

Completed Logs and Claims for the above Awards should then be sent to: -

**The FISTS Awards Manager
Dennis Franklin, K6DF,
4658, Capitan Drive,
Fremont, CA 94536-5448
U.S.A**

Or email to: - fistsawards@comcast.net

Dennis prefers e-mail claims and states that Excel or Microsoft Word Files are preferred, however he will accept other file types and try to convert them. If in doubt contact him for advice or visit the Web Site: - www.fists.org/awards.html

The FISTS Down Under Award is earned by accumulating **50 points** whilst working VK / ZL members. Start date **1 June 1988**.

Each FIST Down Under member counts **one** point. Each Club Station (currently VK2FDU, VK4RC/VK4IZ, ZL2SWR and ZL6FF) counts **five** points. The Award is available to FISTS Club members worldwide. A station can only be claimed once. – Note, the one point is the same for all members, (i.e. there is no premium for working stations outside one's country.)

Applications for this Free Award issued by the Down Under Chapter of FISTS - should be made by post or e-mail to:

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Ralph Sutton, ZL2AOH, 12c, Herbert Gardens, 186, The Terrace, WELLINGTON 6001, New Zealand.

zl2aoh@ihug.co.nz

What is a CC Number?

This is one of the most asked FISTS Questions! CC stands for Century Certificate. A CC number is the number on the certificate you get when you earn the Basic Century Award. Each certificate has a sequentially issued number on it. That number is your CC number. People exchange CC numbers on the air because the Platinum awards are earned by "collecting" them. You need not have a CC number to collect CC numbers, but it makes it more fun if you can give one out, too. Remember other members need your CC number for their Platinum Awards!

A Short History of Standard time in Britain

By Ralph Sutton, ZL2AOH

The concept of Standard Time throughout the world seems so obviously essential, that it is hard to realise that it is actually a relatively modern concept. Prior to its introduction, every locality set its own time based on the sun. It was noon when the sun was highest in the sky! Standard time became essential when modern means of transportation could not operate properly without it. Standard time became possible by the development of the telegraph and later radio. As in so many modern developments it was we British who led the way.

Britain was the first country to set the time throughout a region to one standard time. The railways were concerned about the inconsistencies of local mean time so they forced a uniform time on the country. The original idea was credited to Dr. William Hyde Wollaston (1766-1828) and was popularised by Abraham Follett Osler (1808-1903). The first railway to adopt London time was the Great Western Railway in November 1840; other railways followed suit, and by 1847 most (though not all) railways used London time. On 22 September 1847 the Railway Clearing House, an industry standards body, recommended that GMT be adopted at all stations as soon as the General Post Office permitted it. The transition occurred at 12:01 for the L&NW, the Caledonian, and presumably other railways; the January 1848 Bradshaw's lists many railways as using GMT. By 1855 the vast majority of public clocks in Britain were set to GMT (though some, believe it or not, were fitted with two minute hands, one for local time and one for GMT). The last major holdout was the legal system, which stubbornly stuck to local time for many years, leading to oddities like polls opening at 08:13 and closing at 16:13. The legal system finally switched to GMT when the Statutes (Definition of Time) Act took effect; it received the Royal Assent on 2 August 1880.

However Standard time in time zones was not instituted in the U.S. and Canada by the railroads until 18 November 1883 and did not get passed into legislation until 18 March 1898 as the Standard Times Act.
