



Welcome to this edition of *BrassPounder*, which covers FISTS CW Club Europe's [on-air activities](#).

Greetings Dear FISTS

Goodness how time flies. I seem to have achieved so little vis a vis on air activities this month, what with the beautiful but very hot weather driving me from my shack and the school and university holidays grabbing my attention as my 'children' gobble up my time. A few comments support the hot weather problems, particularly Nils DL3HR, who seems to feel the same as me. Well done Nils for battling on.

I did manage to go out portable a few times but drew blanks most of the time,. The worst was yesterday when I called out for an hour or more on 80,40,30 and 20m. RBN showed: 1 db, 1-10 db, nil, 1-10 db in respective band order. Pretty poor all round. I have been very frustrated by flat bands of late, as have we all, and so have been looking for any new advantage to help me get qsos. I recently bought one of the SOTABeams three band 'band hopper' dipoles (40,30,20) to add to my armoury and I must say it is very good. It's not a cheap bit of kit but it does work. I would recommend it, so more details next time.

Winter Sports 2018

I have started putting plans together for an ambitious winter sports event this year. Some activities will be only for FISTS, some for all. I've had no comments as yet – I assume that the heat is keeping you, like me, out of the office and in the cooler outdoors.

One FIST I did work with great pleasure was Mike, GOAXE, F361, in Wilsmlow. Great callsign and always a pleasure. A second QSO which filled me with joy was with Martin, MOMWS, F16211 who has been struggling to learn cw for several years now. He has been practising hard and whenever I work him I try to push him a little then back off. Anyway, he usually manages around 15wpm with spaces but this last week I was able to push him to over 20wpm with perfect copy! He even managed "perseids meteor shower". I then dropped it back to 15 before he got tired and I called it a day, but well done to Martin...a truly wonderful feat. Now it is just about getting the brain 'fitter' for longer qso. If you hear Martin, or fancy calling him, I am sure he'd appreciate the rag chew.

Chirp 'n' Drift 2018

One fun event for 1800Z Friday 2nd November to 0100Z Saturday 3rd November this year is the Chirp n Drift event. The Dam Busters activity a few months ago was just too much fun to be allowed to go away for ever. I think that on the Friday night there are no contests (is there EVER a night with no contests??), the kids will be in bed, the work will be finished and the weather too rubbish to be out, so...fire up the crystal / valve gear, warm up the vintage wartime stuff and let's have another bash. Open to all, obviously, it is

nothing more than a focal point for vintage operators. Spread the word, pass the details and let's have fun. Comments / logs can be submitted but no special exchanges required.

73

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Comments for July 2018 Ladder

Entrant	Comments
Phil 2E0DPH	please find my log for July Ladder. 73 Phil 2E0DPH
Thomas DK3DUA	I try to be qrv in ladder agn as time allows. It's always a pleasure to meet FISTS. Sri for my bad CW, I start learning to use paddles in reverse order now. vy73 and cuagn soon Thomas DK3DUA
Nils DL3HR	really hard work in July - hot Air in my Shack and sometimes very tiny Signals. But I have had Fun. Thanks for all QSOs!
Richard G0ILN	Hard going on the 22nd of July evening session. It felt more like Snakes and Ladders and I was stuck with all the snakes! Good fun as usual regardless of condx. Richard G0ILN.
Andrew G0OEY	Bands still poor and local QRM on 3.558 not helping. Still I had fun trying to improve my score.
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI.Ladder claim for July.Vy much better condx during second session, enjoyed it as usual & mni tnx fer all members participating. 73 Peter G4LHI
John G4LRG	Hard work with poor conditions but pleased to see all of the activity again.
Vanni I5ECW	really poor conditions:500w and 2 el moxon to uk but nobody heard me! hope will be better next month.
Emil I5EFO	HPE CUAGN. 73 de Emil I5EFO
Mark M0UZE	Many thanks
Pete M5ABN	Bands still very poor, hope better in August Vy 73 Pete
William MI0WWB	I am getting there!!
Jarmo OH2BN	73 - Jarmo OH2BN
Erkki OH7QR	Hello David, Please find attached my log for July. Condx were quite poor. Hpe better in August. Many thanks and 73 Erkki OH7QR nr 8318

Results for July 2018 Ladder

Callsign	Posn	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
G4LRG	1	1	-	473	58	68	71	68	61	78	69
G0ILN	2	3	↑	363	45	46	49	66	45	55	57
G4LHI	3	4	↑	350	44	42	42	43	48	58	73
I5ECW	4	2	↓	346	47	41	52	47	54	67	38
M5ABN	5	5	-	308	48	55	34	54	37	43	37
OH7QR	6	6	-	210	40	44	26	13	16	47	24
DL3HR	=7	9	↑	204		43	33	28	28	37	35
I5EFO	=7	8	↑	204	27	33	33	33	15	33	30
2E0DPH	9	7	↓	187	45	45	24	19	21	21	12
G3ZRJ	10	10	-	130	15	27	15	30		43	
M0DRK	11	11	-	114	26	18	15	12	24		19
MW0BGL	12	12	-	88	18	18		13	24		15
DK3DUA	13	15	↑	79	21	25		12			21
M0UZE	14	=16	↑	67	12				9	31	15
M0PBZ	15	13	↓	63				27	36		
G0XAH	16	14	↓	60			15	18	27		
SV2BBK	17	=16	↓	53		14	15	12	11		1
G0OEY	=18	23	↑	47				6	3	19	19
G4KLE	=18	18	-	47						47	
OH2BN	20	20	-	42	3		6	6	9	9	9
GM0EPO	21	19	↓	40	9	12		19			
MI0WWB	22	26	↑	31						16	15
EA7KB	=23	=21	↓	29	29						
G4TGJ	=23	=21	↓	29		3		9	10	7	
M0GSX	25	24	↓	21						21	
IZ2FME	26	25	↓	17		17					
OZ8AGB	=27	=27	-	15	3	6		6			
SP7OGP	=27	=27	-	15		15					
IW2JJS	29	29	-	10						10	
DL4FDM	30	30	-	7			7				
OK1PSI	31	31	-	4	4						
G4DNP	=32	=32	-	3		3					
SA5ACN	=32	=32	-	3	3						
SP2SWI	=32	=32	-	3		3					

Upcoming Events

August 2018

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Wed 01 Aug	Fri 31 Aug	FISTS Eu Word Search Month 3 of 4	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 12 Aug		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 26 Aug		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

September 2018

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sat 01 Sep	Sun 30 Sep	FISTS Eu Word Search Month 4 of 4	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 09 Sep		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 23 Sep		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

October 2018

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sun 14 Oct		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 28 Oct		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC