



Greetings all

And welcome to this August issue of BP!

A little late this month as both Graham and I had pressing concerns, but we hope better late than never!

I cannot vouch for conditions in general as my operating has been light to say the least – the startup Bantenna.co.uk took an enormous amount of time and taxed my desire to spend any free time in the shack somewhat sorely!

Now, I had a visit from Alan, MW0BGL yesterday en-route to his alternative QTH. Alan kindly dropped of a 4m rig so that I could build and test 4m Travellin' Jim aerial for my business but it was a great way to put a face to a fist!



Here is Alan standing at my gate as we decide on social distancing policy...but when a chap offers a rig in exchange for a cuppa what is a man to do???

Thanks Alan!

Another chap new to me is Wolf, DL3HAE who has joined the Ladder for the first time. Welcome Wolf!



Another new joiner is Steve, M0SHM, but I sadly have no photo of him.

Last time I mentioned the above company I said there'd be some interesting news - well I can now disclose that when Tom, G4TPH stops selling his mag. Loops later this year I shall be taking them on. At the moment I am busy developing my own antennas, especially the Sleeve vertical aerial which has so far sold well. An HF vertical with no radials and capable of 100 watts. It takes time to build them so for now, no mag loops but I hope there will be.



This is my Sleeve antenna free standing with three guy cords. It works fine given the usual limitations of the physics!

SKW

Straight Key week seems to have been a success this time round (again) and I even managed to give the club callsign an airing. I didn't work many folks but it was fun doing what I did. I hope you all enjoyed yourselves.

I think that's it for now...

73

David G4YVM F15868

New to the 2020 Ladder in July were Wolf DL3HAE and Steve M0SHM.

Comments for Straight Key Week 2020

Entrant	Comments
Richard G0ILN	I am not at my best on a straight key sometimes my wrist just does its own thing! but at least I entered into the spirit of the activity. I used a PB213 (Copy of a PS213), Comet key (the key used on Comets), Swedish key, and an old Raymart key which is a copy of a J38. Richard G0ILN Fist 398
Peter G3JRH	Haven't used straight key for a long while. Found the week very enjoyable, but hard going. Peter G3JRH #15995
Graham G3ZOD	This is the first time I've used a straight key in several years. The key is a wooden straight key with a magnetic return - mixture of old and new tech! I find that my arm gradually tenses up until I notice and relax it ... over the days after SKW I think it is going to ache somewhat! HI Thanks to everyone for their patience with my weak signal. 80m was apparently the band of choice in the evenings; although very noisy and with QSB all the time. 73 de Graham G3ZOD
Robin G4DNP	Very challenging but a very enjoyable activity. Great to meet some old and new faces and thanks for contacts. 73s Robin G4DNP
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI Claim for July SKW gud fun as usual, but I'm afraid the band condx were not at their best, lots QSB & QRM but I got a few QSOs in spite of that Hi. Mni tnx to the organizers of this great event73 Peter
Mark M0UZE	Thanks
Graham MX5IPX	For my first SKW slot this year, I forgot about BST vs. UTC so was a bit early (oops) but did have a nice 20m QSO with Robert F6EJN before moving on to a qualifying QSO in the correct time slot. You'd think after half a century of logging UTC that I would have got the hang of it by now! HI Thanks to David G4YVM for giving MX5IPX an airing too. 73 de Graham G3ZOD
Erkki OH7QR	Hello David, here comes my log for SKWeek. The key I used was The Swedish Key by Lennart Pettersson. Many thanks and keep safe, 73! de Erkki OH7QR nr 8318
Jan PA0SIM	Fun using the straight key again. Condx not very good to the UK. Thanks for the very fine SK activity.
Adam SQ9S	Tnx for all qsos and great fun. Best 73 Adam SQ9S

Results for Straight Key Week 2020

Callsign	Posn	Points
G4LHI	1	309
IK2RMZ	2	178
G3ZRJ	3	148
G3JRH	=4	75
I5ECW	=4	75
G0ILN	=6	71
OH7QR	=6	71
PA0SIM	8	49
G3XVL	9	32
G3ZOD	10	27
M0UZE	11	24
G0JHK	12	21
G4DNP	13	19
SQ9S	14	16
M0DRK	15	15
MX5IPX*	-	21

* Check log

Comments for Ladder July 2020

Entrant	Comments
Wolf DL3HAE	Gentlemen, As expected condx were not in my favour. 40M to the UK at this time of the day/month was no success. 20M so much the better. Good fun nonetheless. Ham gear used, a Kwd TS430s / 100 W into a Baby Windom (sloper). 73 Wolf (Wolfgang), DL3HAE
Nils DL3HR	Conds could be better, sometimes it is quite difficult to get the Signals despite deep QSB. TNX to all for their Patience. Hpe cuagn in August, vy 73.
Ivan G0BON	Had my best session on the first weekend. The last weekend was hard going on the ears with the bands incredibly noisy with S9 background much. Thanks once again to all for the friendly QSO's
Richard G0ILN	The evening session of the 26th July. It is the first time I have had pile up's!! I think the afternoon session was flat but the evening was buzzing. Thanks to all my contacts and sorry to the ones I missed. Richard G0ILN F398
Andrew G0OEY	Not many this month.
Peter G0TLU	Found 80m very noisy on the 26th. Apologies to Ivan G0BON, we couldn't quite make the exchange.
Peter G3JRH	Only worked the first Sunday as other commitments precluded any operation on 2nd Sunday. Peter G3JRH
Graham G3ZOD	Very successful session (by my standards! HI) on 12th July. 73 de Graham G3ZOD
Tony G3ZRJ	Glad to give out some points. 73 72 Tony
Roger G4CGU	Did two evening sessions this month on 40/80m with good results. Pleased to work Graham MX5IPX. Thanks to all involved. 73 Roger G4CGU #18710
Robin G4DNP	Very poor conditions during first sessions.. 73s to all Robin
Peter G4LHI	G4LHI Claim for July Ladder gud fun as usual, but I'm afraid the band condx were not at their best, lots QSB & QRM but I got a few QSOs in spite of that Hi .Mni tnx to the organizers of this great event73 Peter
Richard G4TPJ	TS530 - 100 watts- straight key Ten Tec - Argosy - 50 watts
Ray G4XUZ	Conditions tough in the afternoon sessions, but better in the evenings, and good fun as always. Ray G4XUZ (Fists 777)
John G4YTJ	Operating from Son-in-law/daughter's QTH for 26th July
Paul M0GSX	Hi To All, Hope everyone's well and keeping safe down at FISTS HQ, Please find attached my Ladder log for July 2020, just the two evening sessions again this month. Condx for the first session were gud at the start on 40M, then switched to 80M for the final hour - nice sigs with a little QSB. The second session started on 40m, condx were poor for me here just the one local Contact - Roger G4CGU, then switched to 80M better condx with gud Inter G but with a little more deep QSB than normal for me - but got some nice contacts.

	<p>12 July: Condx were good on 40M to start, switched to 80M, nice sigs with little QSB, sigs improved over the Hour.</p> <p>26 July: Condx were not too good on 40M with only one local contact, switched to 80, much better condx with a little more QSB than normal.</p> <p>Hpe to See you all next month. Paul M0GSX #17642.</p>
Phil M0PBZ	Good session on 26th. Interesting and variable prop on 80m
Steve M0SHM	Nice to have inter G on 40m again.
Mark M0UZE	Thanks
Pete M5ABN	Thanks to all who came on for the ladder & hope to see you all in August. Please all stay safe and well during this difficult time. Vy 73 Pete M5ABN
Will MI0WWB	Thanks everyone, poor conditions can be fun!
Graham MX5IPX	Hard work on 26 July but where would the fun be if it was easy? 73 de Graham G3ZOD
Erkki OH7QR	Hello David. Please find attached my Ladder log for July. Hope you are feeling well, keep safe. Thanks and 73 de Erkki OH7QR nr 8318
Norbert ON4ANE	73 de Norbert
Joop PG4I	I participated in the last evening session. Signals on both 40 and 80 were very low at first. After 30 minutes of calling other stations without any result I called CQ on 40, next made one QSO after another with very good signal reports. Thanks for the QSO's!

Results for Ladder July 2020

Callsign	Posn	Prev	Move	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
G0ILN	1	1	-	561	27	80	86	92	87	92	97
G4LHI	2	2	-	417	55	54	72	73	62	57	44
M0PBZ	3	4	↑	384	36	33	58	55	65	57	80
M5ABN	4	3	↓	377	36	55	66	57	62	55	46
G4IZZ	5	5	-	312		52	63	56	48	51	42
G0BON	6	7	↑	292		27	29	80	78		78
M0GSX	7	6	↓	272		37	57	35	51	46	46
G4TPJ	8	8	-	212	21	15	60	30	39	32	15
MW0BGL	9	11	↑	211		40	52	45	24	14	36
G3JRH	10	9	↓	206	12	27	37	31	36	43	20
OH7QR	11	12	↑	199	28	25	31	22	18	35	40
2E0DPH	12	10	↓	198	24	16	45	41	39	18	15
DL3HR	13	13	-	190	16	36	39	21	27	17	34
G3XVL	14	15	↑	161	24	27	16	28	45	12	9
G4LRG	15	14	↓	154	24	27	43		60		
PG4I	16	16	-	149			40	6	36	48	19
MI0WWB	17	17	-	146	10	36		28	24	18	30
G4XUZ	18	19	↑	123	9	18	30		21	15	30
G3ZRJ	19	18	↓	115	3	1	45	14	37		15
G0JHK	20	23	↑	79			21			33	25
G0OEY	21	20	↓	73	20	12	9	3	22	4	3
M0DRK	22	22	-	69		6	15	18	6	12	12
G0DFC	23	21	↓	60		21	12		24	3	
ON4ANE	24	28	↑	54				12	12	9	21
G4CGU	25	=30	↑	53					12	12	29
G7WHI	26	24	↓	49	4				33	12	
G0TLU	27	25	↓	46			12	15	3	10	6
G3ZOD	28	=30	↑	45					3	21	21
IW2JJS	29	26	↓	38	7	4	13			14	
OH2BN	30	27	↓	36	9	9		6	9	3	
M0UZE	31	33	↑	30	3			6	6	6	9
G4DNP	32	29	↓	29		4			7	15	3
GM0EPO	33	=30	↓	24			15	9			
DL3HAE	34	-	↑	18							18
G4YTJ	35	40	↑	13						4	9
G4TGJ	36	34	↓	12			12				
G4RHR	37	35	↓	10						10	
G0DDX	=38	=36	↓	9			9				
SV2BBK	=38	=36	↓	9	2	3	4				
M0DHP	=40	=38	↓	6		6					
OZ8AGB	=40	=38	↓	6			6				
M0SHM	=42	-	↑	3							3

M0TEU	=42	=41	↓	3					3	
SQ9S	=42	=41	↓	3						3
MX5IPX*				21						9 12

* *Check log*

Upcoming Events

August 2020

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Sat 01 Aug	Mon 31 Aug	FISTS Eu Word Search Month 1 of 3	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 23 Aug		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

September 2020

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Tue 01 Sep	Wed 30 Sep	FISTS Eu Word Search Month 2 of 3	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 13 Sep		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 27 Sep		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC

October 2020

First day	Last day	Event	Times
Thu 01 Oct	Sat 31 Oct	FISTS Eu Word Search Month 3 of 3	0000-2359 UTC
Sun 11 Oct		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
Sun 25 Oct		FISTS Eu Ladder	1400-1600 UTC, 1800-2000 UTC
