

## ISSUE 20

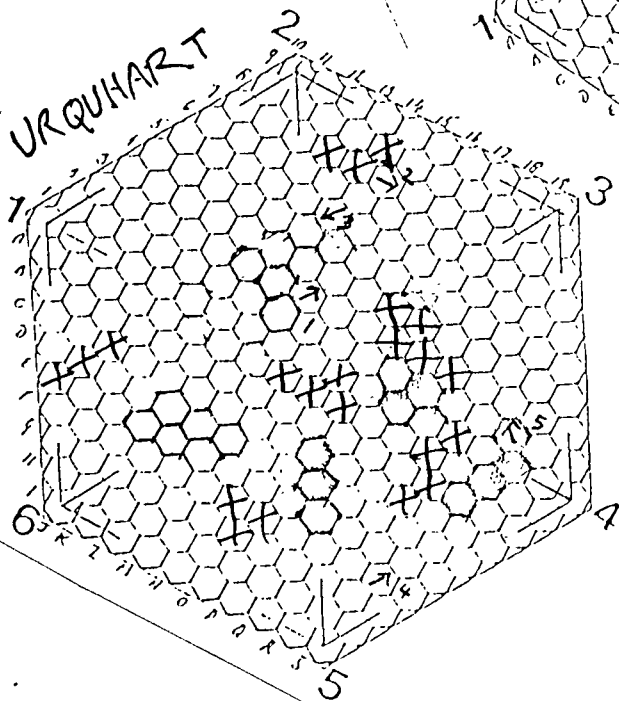
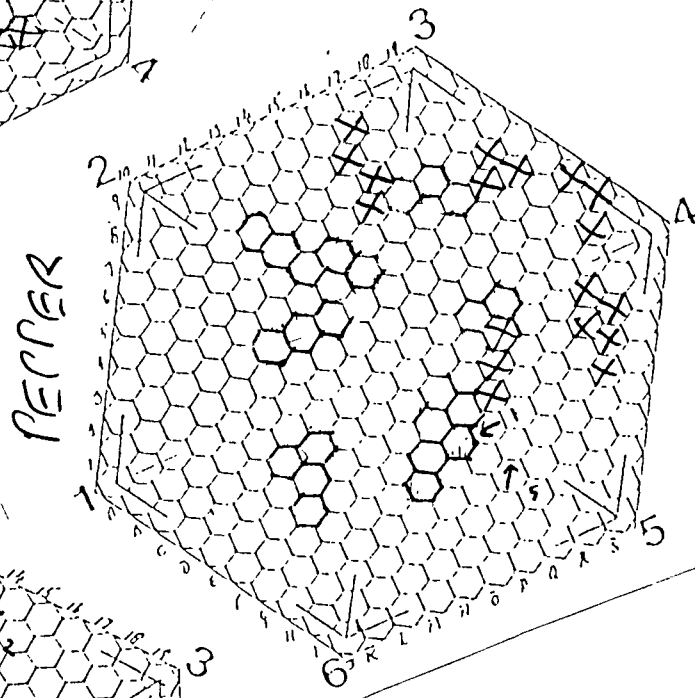
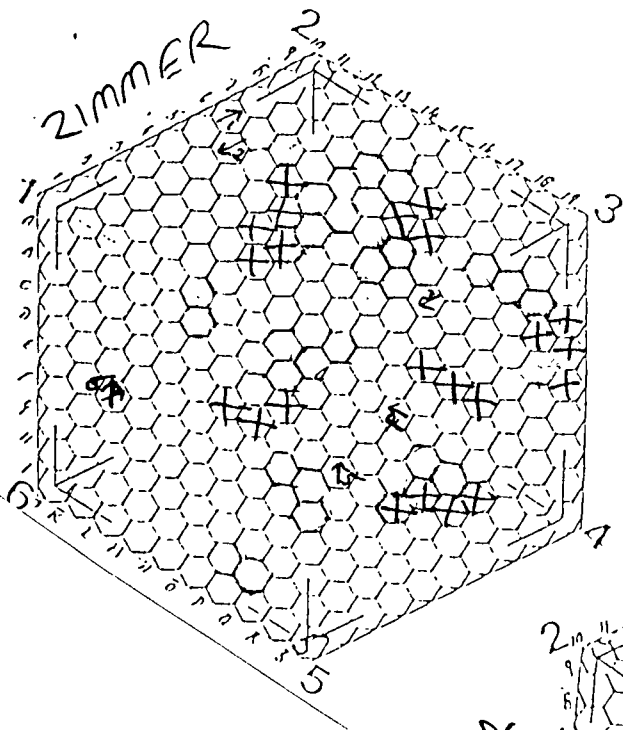
An essential zine for all plaers of  
DIPLOMACY, also raleway rivals, sopwith  
etc etc, those who like reading imenseley long  
leter collums and any others who are interested.

# UP AROUND THE BEND

edited by HAZ BOND

50p. + postige

Apr/May 93



### Star Press

1) When renewing your sub., please make cheques payable to 'Mr H Bond'. I have just found out the hard way that the bank won't accept them if they're to 'Haz Bond'.

2) I've been having postal problems recently - a batch of letters posted a fortnight ago has all gone missing. If you haven't heard from me recently and should have, this is probably the explanation.

Good morning, and welcome to the first page of the zine, for this year's finals of the All-England Summarize Gameszines Competition. The contestants are Denis Jones, Mark Stretch and Dave Newnham, and they're going to give a brief summary of Haz Bond's UP AROUND THE BEND, once in a swimsuit and once in evening dress.

So, Mr Newnham, would you take the summarising spot and tell us all about

## UP AROUND THE BEND issue 20

"Er, well, Bond, U-Bend, there's this zine, this zine, right, and, er, it's on issue nineteen -- no, issue twenty, and, er, it's every five to six weeks, and, er, there's Diplomacy and Railway Rivals, er, and this lettercolumn where this bloke keeps butting in -- what's his name, er, just said it, Bond, Bond --"

\*GONG\*

..--oOo--..

Bond on his first page wrote about, wrote about... he wrote about his Waiting Lists

DIPLOMACY: Keir Hodgson, 6 wanted.

ILLUMINATED VAIN RATS [Dip vt]: John Wilman, 7 wanted. See inside...

ANARCHY RULES OK! [Dip vt, GM Paul Slade]: John R Todd, David Tittle. 5 wanted

SOPWITH: Jeff Cattle, John Miller, Andy Cox, Duncan Adams, Geoff Brown. 1 wanted!

NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST: Geoff Brown, Rob Moore, Paul Slade, Andy Bell. This is enough for a start, but I'll give it one more issue as there's still room for up to 2 latecomers.

RAILWAY RIVALS: Space for a new game of this now. 4+ wanted, open to suggestions for a map.

BREAKING AWAY [GM David Oya]: John Harrington's excellent cycle-racing game. Rules in next issue if I can find a set, but they're very easy.

Count me in for one: 3 wanted, though I shall stand aside if 4 readers want a game.

..--oOo--..

Up Around The Bend, familiarly known as U-Bend and serially numbered Coldcom Press 39, costs fifty pence plus postage per issue. It is a Pretend Family Fanzine -- take that, Norris! Its editor is

Harry Bond, 11 Merrivale Road, Stafford ST17 9EB  
(phone 0785 213259, fax (work) 0785 228317)

and its deadlines look like this:

Main Deadline: TUESDAY. JUNE 1st. 1993

Outside Deadline: Saturday 29th

Outside GMs:

Paul Slade, 164 Park Road, Cowes, Isle of Wight PO31 7NE

Geoff Brown, 65 Scotland Hall Rd, Newton Heath, Manchester M10 6RE

David Oya, 24 Kingsway, Banbury, Oxon OX16 9NY

Your remaining credit is

1 Freebie

EGOLAND  
a bitty editorial

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...er, sorry 'bout that, guys. Looks like the Ee-Zi-Edit automatic Haz Bond I've been tinkering with in the hopes that it'll run the zine for me once the baby's born isn't quite up to scratch yet.

What's new? Well, for starters, this zine's delay is caused not so much by my business, or even my laziness, though both are considerable, but simply by the fact that Gestetner stencils are no longer obtainable in Staffordshire for love or money. Photocopying is replacing duplicating as CDs are vinyl LPs, and in a very similar fashion; higher technology and fancier twiddly bits replacing perfectly workable techniques at increased cost to the benefit of manufacturer's pockets. This being so, I hereby declare the formation of NODE, the National Association of Duplicating Editors. Charter members are myself and Peter Sullivan, and we exist in order to sneak into copy shops and professional printers at night and squeeze nice gloppy mimeo ink all over their clean xeroxes. Gosh, I'm such an anarchist.

Anarchist, did I say? This may have amusing consequences a week on Thursday, when I serve as poll clerk for the ward of Gayton in the council constituency of Stafford Trent Valley. Should news reports percolate to you of the vote for that seat being confused or destroyed by exploding doggie do in the ballot box or the like, you will know which nihilist has struck terror into the hearts of the 103 voters registered at that polling station. Westminster had better watch out.

Seriously, the Parish Room; at Gayton, where I'm to serve, are nothing but a small and unprepossessing wooden hut in a minuscule village off the Stafford - Uttoxeter road. I anticipate having sod all to do all day, and taking all outstanding zines and Dip letters along there along with my sandwiches. The last time I was in such a tedious situation I wrote the best article I've ever done in my life...

### Diplomacy Dept.

Or perhaps I should say LACK OF DIPLOMACY. With 'Hershey' ending this issue, we are down to two games of regular Dip in the zine, which I feel is not enough. Even more worryingly, poor old Keir Hodgson has been stuck on the Dip list on his own for months now. This is therefore an appeal to all Diplomacy players reading this; away with such upstarts as Spring Offensive and ancient fossils like Dolchstoß -- play your next Dip game in U-Bend, the zine that's going places. (Please).

Dispensing with all jollity for a moment, I do want this zine to focus on Diplomacy, and I do enjoy adjudicating games even more than everything else about publishing. What's more, now I've the use of a computer instead of grimly bashing a manual typewriter, I have acquired some reliability as a GM (just ask Mark Stretch if you don't believe me -- he hasn't had to correct any errors for months). Moreover, I

don't mess around with fiddly gamefees and deposits.

U-Bend trades more widely than just about anyone, but the subber/trader ratio is just a fraction out of balance. A dozen or so keen and reliable players, mainly of Dippy, would make me a happy man.

### Cookery Dept

Those who know me personally will be aware that I'm the world's worst cook. I have been known to be defeated by an unfamiliar can opener, let alone fiddling with the contents to make an appetising dish. This is why U-Bend does not contain gourmet recipes on a regular basis, unlike Greatest Hits.

However, one item I do know how to make is  
Fried Thing

Ingredients: vegetable oil, or whatever you like to fry things in; 3 medium onions; ditto potatoes; 1 can tinned tomatoes; a generous amount of soya (omnivores can doubtless use mince); black pepper, chili, garlic etc. ad lib.

Add to a frying pan in the order given (approx) and fry till it smells done. Serves two whose appetites approximate to Joy's and mine.

(Next issue: Gunge au Gratin).

### Nothing Original Under The Sun Dept

(for all you WAYNE'S WORLD fans...)

"Tansy hesitated. 'I know you'll think I'm being romantic and trite, but I've always felt that women were more primitive than men, closer to ancient feelings.' She hurried over that. 'And then there were things I remembered from childhood, Queer mistaken ideas I got from my father's sermons. Stories one of the old ladies used to tell us. Hints.' (Norman thought: Country parsonage! Healthy mental atmosphere, not!)"

Fritz Leiber, CONJURE WIFE (1953)

### What The Papers Say Dept

FT, March 27 -- "Mafia links with politicians now central issue in Italian scandals; FIVE NAPLES BOSSES INVESTIGATED."

We all know who won the Five Italies game, don't we? Time to leave the country, perhaps, Toby. (Thanks to G. Lyon for the clipping)

### Call My Bluff Dept.

A fake of LIES #7 turned up on 1st April; very well and accurately done. The unrevealed hoaxter must have access to all three computers used by the LIES crowd, a copy of Adel Verplichtet, and must know what Gay Gary Lyon's signature looks like. Suspicion so far is split between Bate and Norris/Richards. Me, I think it was all three. Shoot the lot of them.

### Radio Radio Dept.

Tuning in to the new Virgin Radio (1215AM) reveals DJs not as dreadful as the norm and the first time I've ever heard the Pistols' 'God Save The Queen' on radio (sandwiched between 'Gloria' by Them and a Led Zeppelin track, gordelpus). Recommended.

## QUID IN ALVEOS ACCIDET

hobby news

The hobby is fairly buzzing with activity at the moment, it seems, especially on the convention front. Let's start with a new zine, though:

BORN LOSERS (good title!) is from Edmund Morgan, who thus completes the second pair of editing brothers in the UK hobby. It's interesting (if invidious) to compare his approach to brother John's ASSASSIN'S HANDBOOK; where the latter tends towards the antiseptic in style and layout, Ed slaps stuff about all over the place -- newspaper clippings, different typefaces (not Proffitt-style boastful technology but tatty dot matrix), hand-scribbled titles and the like. Edmund has the potential to become a very interesting writer, but this first effort does, I must say, strike me as far inferior to the letters he writes me. Sometimes the thought of writing for an audience can do that to you.

The zine's chosen subject, games apart, is to be music. I wish Ed luck at this; music/games crossovers tend to either make a tremendous impact, like Greatest Hits, or else sink like stones, as with Inflammatory Material (anyone remember Flame?)

As for games, apart from the usuals, Ed contributes postal I-Spy. Oh my.

Despite this bad review, I am sure BL will get better -- I know Ed well enough to be confident in this verdict.

Available for SAE initially from Edmund Morgan, 40 Cranbourne Road, Old Trafford, Manchester M16 9PZ.

As I was saying, conventions. MASTERCON is the brainchild of Shaun Derrick, perhaps the ideal person to run a con -- not only is he an excellent Dip player, but he's a travel agent (good for hotel liaison) and ex games-shop owner (contacts with the trade, one presumes). It is to be held at the Forte Crest Hotel, Hinckley Rd, Coventry, on 11th-13th March 1994; con fee is £8, or £10 for non-hotel residents, and room fees are guaranteed at £24 pppn double/twin.

The major selling points of the con are a) location -- it's on a newly developed site 5 minutes from the M6 that boasts a cinema, 10-pin bowling, a laser arcade, various places where nourishment may be procured, and a drive-through MacDonalds; and b) the Diplomacy tournament.

This will be a 3-round affair, with the final reserved for the top 21 qualifiers from the first two; Shaun declares that the first board of the second round will be for novices only, though what criteria he will use to judge this I cannot tell, and quite frankly, I think it's a bad idea -- to force a novice through to the finals if they don't have the requisite skill will simply result in them being sat upon in the finals instead of the qualifier, and take up more of their time.

Still, this is a minor point. Shaun can be contacted at 313 Woodway Lane, Walsgrave, Coventry CV2 2AP, and will doubtless be glad to pass out information.

MIDCON, in the meantime, has gone crazy. Or at least, so it seems. Apparently in response to some casual comments by Neil Kendrick in YER TIZ, John "Running a con is so much better than running a zine" Dodds has decided that the previous system of letting anyone who wanted enter the Midcon dip tourney is all washed up and outdated, and we must needs have qualifying rounds all over the country instead. This at a time when allowing any Tom, Dick or Harry to enter regularly results in six or even seven boards being played! "For the first time, the Championship will be truly 'national'" burbles Dodds. Oh yeah? What was it before, then? We have to face facts, people; not all that many people are interested in playing f-t-f Diplomacy for a national title. This isn't the British Open, or even chess, where qualifying heats are definitely necessary; holding a string of qualifying tournaments all over the shop will not make it any more 'national'.

What's more, the heats are almost all at other conventions. Now, people do not,

unless I am much mistaken, go to Baycon for a game of Dip. I haven't seen any reports yet, but I shall be surprised if many played there. I shall be still more surprised if they even manage to fill one board at the Beer and Pretzels weekend in Burton on Trent, which is definitely not a Dip players' con.

Ah well, Doddsy has arranged it all now, so no doubt it won't be changed this year, though I confidently predict a hasty return to the old ways when this system proves unworkable. Heats have so far been arranged for Manorcon, Stakiscon (Nottingham in August), the aforementioned Burton, and the Oxford Univ. Dip Club. So if you live in the North you may have difficulty finding a heat near you, unless they really did, as was rumoured, let Toby Harris run a heat at his housecon.

Those with long memories will know that Dodds (and presumably his back-up men) suffer from periodic delusions of grandeur -- the last time was when they came up with a Vast Cash Prize for the winner of the tournament and opened no end of cans of worms. The hobby at large was against the prize system, and I suspect it won't be greatly enamoured of this silly set-up. Why Dodds cannot leave well alone if he can't think of any better ways to improve turnout at the tournament is beyond me.

Gosh, all this criticism and I haven't even touched on their scoring systems. I shall leave that angle of attack to Nick Kinzett.

And as I type the above comes the second post, with the latest Yer Tiz from Kenders and a Baycon report. Ha, just as I predicted: Baycon saw but one board, with the inevitable result that as soon as three players got a nose ahead, stonewalling was the order of the day. "Tempers became a trifle frayed," reports Mr Kendrick, who filled the third qualifying spot: and I'm not surprised (moreover, looking at who failed to qualify, I'm amazed there wasn't murder done. Hi, John Wilman). Tournament Diplomacy is always unsatisfactory, due to time constraints and scoring difficulties; but the top-three-qualify system will do nothing but encourage such undiplomatic play. I do not blame Kenders -- one has to take advantage of the rules imposed by the organisers, and in his place I would have done the same -- I squarely point the wagging finger of metaphor mixing at John Dodds. (+2 Finger of Metaphor Mixing, that is; check your AD&D Dungeon Master's Guide, page 94).

Those involved in the North American hobby will presumably know that the Runestone Poll's deadline is 30 June (votes for N. American zines to Eric Brosius, 41 Hayward St, Milford, MA 01757, USA). One section is for zines, one for subzines, and one for GMs. As an incentive to enter, one voter will win a travel Dip board with magnetic units. I only see Pereiandra from the US, but if there are any more at home like that I'd be happy to trade with 'em.

Coyote (Steve Jilks, 12 Station Road, Braunton, Devon EX33 2AQ) is a small-circulation zine well worth a sample for those into quizzes or postal motor racing.

Snippets. Steve Doubleday (Norton House, Whielden St, Amersham HP7 0HU) produces an issue of Gallimaufry that is full of three quizzes, with a couple of games tacked on. The best is Steve's own SF test, which I've been puzzling over all week... Arfle Barfle Gloop has a big quiz too, all on detective fiction, to celebrate its demicentenary; they reprint the issue 1 editorial, since when Krum and Chele have improved beyond measure... Gladys Awards deadline past, and I didn't even tell you to vote for me, dammit... Stephen Agar and Alex Richardson carry out reader surveys in Spring Offensive and Obsidian respectively... Agar's last issue very rushed and error-filled, conflating James Nelson's home/term addresses, reviewing the same issue of CMag twice, and claiming "One year ago, the idea of running a zine had never even entered my head." If that's so, who did 30 issues of Pigmy and various oddities fifteen years ago, Agar?... Wilman shamelessly nicks my irregular verbs in SO's letters... that's all, see you in sixty...

# THAT'S ALL, FOLKS!

game end summaries

## FARADAY (Atlantic Airlines)

LAKER (David Tittle -- won): You need two qualities to win this game.

Firstly you must be cynical enough to grab as many passengers as possible -- they're far better off in the ocean than on someone else's airline. Secondly, you need small planes to avoid going into debt -- if you returned David Oya's £500 per turn interest he'd be doing very nicely indeed. ~~Congratulations to whoever wins the revised adjudication~~ and thanks to Harry and my opponents for a game I'd like to play again.

Judge English: Ah, the winner always says that. Personally I found this a very unsatisfactory game due to the heaps of dropouts and resignations, and the fact that I kept cocking it up. If only I'd had my computer then! Thanks to David, and to David Oya and Steve Guest who were the only others to stick with it. I may run this again, but not just yet.

## Mica/AQUARIUS (4002AD)

Arcturus (Andy Bell -- won): This is being done from memory, as I can't be bothered to dig out all my back issues.

I started by expanding slowly and quietly, having established a non-aggression pact with Pavo. Luckily, I NMRed at the same time as Pavo went into anarchy, allowing me to land on his home star on the next turn. I continued to expand quietly, leaving Rigel and Segin to fight each other. I don't remember how Rigel went out [[Jonathon Ridley NMRed it into anarchy -- Haz]], but by this time I'd built up a huge advantage and it was only a matter of time before I won. Actually, I should have won much earlier, but I got there in the end.

The game is an interesting variant of 4000AD, and an improvement, but doesn't really save what is a fairly dull abstract game. Thanks to all who stuck with it. [[i.e. Rob Cullender]]

Judge English: I second Andy on that. 4002AD is ghastly, and I speak as someone whose first postal game it was. This game saw only two survivors out of four players, a GM and a zine who began it.

It has its tactical moments, and the movement system is certainly its best point -- which is utilised to the hilt in Time Lords Dip, a few pages hence -- but once a player has a killing advantage it is a dreadful grind to the end. I ran this game from issue 3 on, when I absorbed the Mica orphans, and there was never the slightest doubt that Andy would triumph eventually; moreover, the indispensable map took up a page that could well have been used for more interesting games with more than two players. There will be no more games of this here. Congratulations to Andy, and thanks to Rob for sticking with a cause as lost as a very misplaced thing indeed.

## BARRETT (RR map Y0)

Start issue 2 (May 91)  
End issue 19 (Mar 93)

Player	Rd 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
IYI (Damien Cosgrove):	26	39	44	56	57	65	93	137	191	223	266	294
NUTS (Nicholas Parish):	26	36	47	54	53	64	55	92	131	161	186	205
LUST (David Oya):	23	19	44	41	47	69	99	114	159	215	265	320
THEE (John Webley):	32	28	33	40	49	54	69	77	82	89	133	188
AE (Jas Thorp/Jas Nelson):	24	27	24	27	40	23	33	72	87	130	136	159



James Thorp resigned on turn 5, whence [whence? ghod, Bond, you're turning into Bowen] James Nelson stepped into his shoes.

IYI (Damien Cosgrove, 2nd): I figured that I had a reasonable network, with a small monopoly, but in building, it went wrong when I failed to get to the NE corner of the board. This never struck me until round 9/10, by which time, my time had run out. Congrats to Dave, and thanks to Hazza for GMing so marvellously (well, someone has to compliment you, if only once!)

NUTS (Nicholas Parish, 3rd): Average game, average map, average everything really. This is the first RR game I've played where I've not come first, second or last. Anyway, thanks to all the other players, and Haz. Mind you, since the gamestart was in issue 2, how come we didn't finish to issue 19? Good game.

[[Blame James Thorp for that one, not me]]

THEE (John Webley, 4th): And so ends Barrett. Given the circumstances -- one round no zine, twice the zine arrived moments before the deadline -- then I'm not too displeased. And so too ends my association with U-Bend, again a cause for quiet pleasure. My congratulations to whoever wins; I'm only sorry that I was not allowed to compete on an equal basis or we might have had a good game.

Judge English: Frankly, Webley, I am well glad to be shot of such a whining little turd as you. I know of nobody since the infamous Ian Lee so eager to take offence and assure conspiracies to be sprouting against oneself. I posted every issue of U-Bend to you at the same time as everyone else, with the correct postage and in decent envelopes (this last especially because I know that international post can be dodgy), and when notified of the missing zine, replaced it without charge. Despite this you continued to sling accusations at me that postal delays and mishaps were entirely my doing. Truth to tell, I would have refunded your subscription and told you where to stick it were it not for my obligations to the other players. By terminating your sub you have denied me this pleasure; I can only say that one in the hobby for as long as you, and especially one who has run numerous postal games himself as you have, should have learnt a sight better manners by now, and that it is my devout wish never to happen across you again in gaming circles.

Enough -- I wash my hands of this sorry cretin.

The game? THEE's chances were wrecked by constant NMRs and AE's by a dunce of an original player who left James Nelson little chance. Of the three contenders, IYI had more monopoly but LUST more overall cover. NUTS was perhaps unlucky not to be bucking for first with them.

The Yorkshire map is a funny one, all mountains on the Pennine side and flat as a pancake in the east. This is of course nature's fault rather than David Watts's, but it does mean that if you don't get into the vales first thing you are likely to find it prohibitively expensive to build there afterwards. Anyone who strikes out across the plains Scarborough-wards is unlikely to find their strategy paying off, as it's impossible to maintain a monopoly there even if you get there first.

Still, like many of the trial maps, it has interesting features and is less likely to suffer from hackneyed strategies than 'production' ones.

Should any of the above (save Webley) wish to try their luck again, a new RR list is hereby opened.

# THE GRATE ST CUSTARDS DIPLOMACY GAME

by nigel molesworth

KLANG-pip. KLANG-pip.

Wot noise is this that summon the skolars of that super-smashing hem hem acaddey ST CUSTARDS to the grate hall which smell of carbolik poo gosh? Why, it is O else but the skool bell which hav had all hols to be mended in but still hav crack down one side.

And wot livley and handsom youth is this that charge pel mel into hall shouting ta ran ta rah? I giv you I guess, it is I (grammar) nigel molesworth who like all other yobs oiks bulies swats and goody-goodies of St Custards is back in the jugg agane for a new term chiz chiz chiz.

When afourmentioned yobs oiks ect ect are asembled in hall and all cattapults, knuckle dusters, coshes ect konfiskated by masters a heavy tread come from outside and HEADMASTER AGAR enter.

"Boys," he sa with leer on face almost as cracked as skool bell, "welcome back to St Custards. Sadly there are a few changes this term due to unfourseen circumstanses and cost of living hem hem."

He pause. Wot will be the news? Will skool CABAGE be served three times a day insted of twice? Will caning become part of every lesson more than it is allready? Hav Sigismund the mad maths master finally been cuaght feasting on blud of innocent viktims and sent to Broadmore where he belong?

Not to keep you, dere reader, in suspense, HEADMASTER AGAR impart the news that skool fooball, cricket, rugby ect ect are no longer on the kurrikulum. Skool funds being at all time low and helth & saftey excutiv having closed down whelk stall in new cross, the skool plaing feilds hav been sold off at speshul sacrifice to GRABBER HOMES and estate of maysonette is to be erected as overspill for komuters and stockbrokers, with extream attractiveness to first time buyers.

Silence greet this horific news. Wot will become of skool? Any fule kno that batle of Trafalgar is won on plaing feilds of Eton and even plaing feilds of St Custards must hav part to pla in defending ENGLAND chiz chiz. Will French, Germans and other assorted dirty foreiegners swan past custom kontrol to invade now plaing feild defences are breeched? But hist, HEADMASTER still address skool:

"However, boys, I am not unmindful of mens sana in korpor sano. Young minds left to long without helthy pursuits may turn to unmanly habbits" (he swepe room with eye and all look inocent) "and so I hav aranged for a new way of spending sport period." He hold up large square books with DIPLOMACY writen on lid.

It transpire, dere reader, that HEADMASTER hav managed to akquire large no of sets of said DIPLOMACY at chepe rate in leiu of cash settlement of dett. Now, insted of urging the ball with boots or bats, it seme we are to pla games of europe at WAR chiz chiz. Natcherally all boys want to pla ENGLAND and skorn foreiegn powers but 6 out of 7 must be french, italian or even RUSIAN. Who want to play RUSIA chiz chiz? it is nerely as bad as Turkey where all smoke hookey pipes and look disrepputable. Gillibrand sa he hav seen film MIDNITE XPRESS and will not pla turkey if they pay him.

Soon arrives the hour when the DIPLOMACY is to comence and all ar agog to see who will pla whom. HEADMASTER AGAR read big list and boys slink of as if to a kondemned sell. But the fare name hem-hem of molesworth 1 is conspikouos by its absense. Eventually HEADMASTER look up.

"The last board," he sa, "will consist of molesworth 1, molesworth 2, peason, fotherington-collman and grabber. And as that completes the skool role myself and Sigismund will fill the board."

100000000 boos to Diplomacy. I would rather hav xtra french or hist 3 times a week than pla with such clots as these. But soft, dere reader, I am mindful (prety nifty prose eh molesworth, go it) that I hav not yet introduced you to the miscreents who are to struggle for Europe with our hero.

Fotherington-collman is uterly wet and a weed. Natcherally he take to diplomacy like a duck to water and skip everywher saing hello clouds hello sky hello unwanted convoy. Headmaster AGAR sa this sho promise which just go to sho how the pore man is misled, to me it sho 0 but what a milksopp the lad is.

Grabber is of korse head of skool and win mrs gladys prize for rafia work 10000 times. He is head not bekaus of any moral quallities or such, but bekaus his pater pay HEADMASTER large ammounts of CASH chiz chiz. Grabber is otherwise a weed like most other boys.

Molesworth 2 My bro. His inocent years bely the blak inniquity to be found in this miskreants hart. He hav often raded skool larder, plaed tricks on deaf master such as doughnuts in mortar board hem-hem, and is famed for his massakering of fairy bells on skool piano which resemble h-bomb xploding. I care 0 for molesworth 2 and he care 0 also for me.

Peason my frend hav a face like a squashed tomatoe but cannot help it of corse, any more than tomatoe can help looking like peason. Personaly I feel sorier for the tomatoe. Peason is a konstant grief to Headmaster AGAR's hart. How often head sa This will hurt me more than it do you befor giving peason six with dredded CANE? almost as often as he sa it to me, dere reader. I can only presume that headmaster is a massokist from the number of times he hurt himself more than us chiz chiz chiz. I hope Peason to be my best chance of aly in game.

Sigismund is maths master and is uterly round twist. He enter room weelding chalk and sa Right lads who fancy a game of criket? then buzz chalk at random boy and larff like crazy. He kno more about angle x and angle y than is good for human brane it must be dificult really for him. Or perhaps it is years of skool sossages and such food that drive him potty for he often eat boys food rather than smoked sammon, pettit poys, strawbres and cream chiz chiz which are masters regular fare. This make him larff like crazy also.

Headmaster AGAR I come to last. Wot tyranny is displaid in the hart of this beak, wot evil he imposes on pore boys under his care it is like oliver twit chiz chiz xcept that oliver twit would not ask for more skool food if he had an oz. of sense. Headmaster kepe large no of CANES and SWISHES which he use to terorise boys into obaing him. Being head he hav to kno 0 about french, hist, geog ect ect as he hav no teaching to do xcept to write leters to your pater and mater saing Molesworth hav had a slitley ruff term but we feel konfident that we will soon hav his korners rubbed off. I would not mind this sort of thing if he used skool bungee to rub of korners but as he use CANE I deside I would rather stay orriginal shape.

These 7 spessimens sit round map and after 5 mins of Headmaster AGAR saing how it will improve our geog to pla he get round to drawing for countries. This is how it come out:

Austria -- GRABBER  
England -- FOTHERINGTON-COLLMAN chiz  
France -- PEASON  
Germany -- SIGISMUND  
Italy -- MOLESWORTH 1 chiz chiz chiz  
Rusia -- Headmaster AGAR  
Turkey -- MOLESWORTH 2

All boys komplane about country draw but AGAR sa Silence. you lot. A good Diplomat can win with any country. Personaly I doubt any of clots siting round table could be described thus hem-hem but let it pass, molesworth, let it pass.

Diplomacy then begin with all going off into hudles and wispering to one another. Headmaster go with Sigismund, Fotherington-Collman with Grabber and I butonhole Peason. This leav molesworth 2 at board making jet bomber noises DA-DA-DA-DA-DA and straffing europe. He seme quite hapy.

"Peason, o you wet" I sa, "will you asist me to dismember austria and germany?"

"But of course" is his reply, "as long as thou openest not to peidmont."

Natcherally I assure him that such a thort hav never crosed my mind hem-hem and notice that if I open there then marsielle is wating to be captured. Wot fancies of italian boots trampling the citizens into the ground, eh? But peason is my freind, cry the voice of consense. So wot, I tell it, wot are freinds for if you cannot tough them up once in a while. Will the italians invade peidmont? Wot of the english fleet? Will molesworth betra his ashent frendship for the sake of a game?

(Now read on.)

Of corse it is not so simple as that. Any fule kno who read Dick Sharps famous bestseller hem-hem The Game of Diplomacy that italy hav xelent chances if he LEPPANTO and invade turkey. This become even more attractiv when I recall that my odeious brother molesworth 2 pla turkey. But wot of headmaster AGAR as rusia, eh? So I trip over to him and make with the soft flanel e.g. Sir Sir Sir please sir.

Wot is it, molesworth 1?

Do you intend to open to blak sea, sir?

Depends, dunnit? How about a bob till next thursday?

But I am skint, sir, I hav to send all poket money home to feed sick pet rabbit. Dunno then, molesworth. Grabber hav given me 2/6 to go for sigismund insted.

Ah, wot money can acheive! My next port of call is the other beak e.g. Sigismund who look as tho plaing germany make him madder than ever.

Please sir please sir.

Ah, molesworth 1. Do you think it ethical for a peddagog of mathmatix such as I to ally with a boy who think the opposite sides of an isososcoles triangle are inequal?

I do not kno, sir. But I kno that grabber hav given rusia BRIBE to invade you.

That may place a diferent complexshun on the case, then. Shall I open to Tyrolia?

Gosh sir, that would be a super idear, sir. And I shall open to Treiste.

At this junkshure there is an interuption as fotherington-collman hav burst out blubing, it transpire that he hav been threatened by peason into not opening to ENG. Once he is passified my unwiling feet drag me to my bro. in guise of turkey.

Molesworth 2 o you weed.

You need not think you can get away with leppanto, molesworth 1. I kno all about such manoevers, also secret of who place stag betles in headmasters tea last week.

Hem-hem. This place tactikle posishun under severe strain e.g. rusia hav been bribed not to attack turkey and i am blakmailed out of it. But a good DIPPLOMAT always sho poker face so I smile at odius features of molesworth 2 and sa Of corse not. But you kno headmaster AGAR think it to hav been you and wish to punish you by moving to blak sea or armenia.

In that case, sa molesworth 2, I had best do likewise and be reddy for him.

Wot diplomacy eh?

Time is almost up and I hav not yet spoken to grabber. Thort crosses my mind that if he can give HEADMASTER 2/6 bribe he may well tender simmlar ammount to me. I therefore anounce my plans to him:

Grabber you bilge rat I hear you giv AGAR 2/6 not to atack you.

That is true, o weedy one. I also give peason 2/6 to atack you so you need not think you will last long. It is the erly bath for you.

Chiz chiz. At least in DIPLOMACY when you get erly bath you do not have to get wet, unlike cricket foopball ect ect where the skool showers are joly freezing and if you made duck everyone flil wet towles at you. But hark, Headmaster AGAR call time and summon sets of orders. They ar delivered to centre of board and bludstained knife placed on them as simbol of secrecy by molesworth 2 who hav v. dramatic sense of atmpshear and see erol fling film in hols.

Teeth are grited and presions tense as headmaster read out orders for spring 1901.

AUSTRIA: F(Tri)-Alb, A(Vie)-Gal, A(Bud)-Ser.  
ENGLAND: F(Lon)-NTH, F(Edi)-NWG, A(Lpl)-Edi.  
FRANCE : A(Mar)-Spa, A(Par)-Gas, F(Bre)-ENG.  
GERMANY: A(Mun)-Tyr, A(Ber)-Sil, F(Kie)-Den.  
ITALY : A(Ven)-Pie, A(Rom)-Ven, F(Nap)-ION.  
RUSSIA : A(War)-Sil, A(Mos)-War, F(StP/nc)-GOB, F(Sev)-Rum.  
TURKEY : A(Smy)-Arm, A(Ank)-BLA, A(Bul)-Con.

Howls of outrage appeer from various quarters at this, not least from molesworth 2 who sa You lie to me Molesworth 1 you tadpole. I shall see you regret it. fotherington-collman start blubing agane becoss Headmaster AGAR sa A(Lpl)-Edi is anti-Rusian, which sho that AGAR kno little about english openings methinks. And peason bear down on me with face like thunder chiz chiz.

But I observe I hav used my alocated space so the autumm orders and dipploming will hav to wate till next issue of that super-smashing hem hem zine U Bend.

[Nigel Molesworth will appear again in U-Bend 21]

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Unapproved by Bate but Unrepentant

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## Illuminated Vain Rats

a Diplomacy variant by John Wilman,  
based on ideas by Richard Sharp and others

First published in WATCH YOUR BACK!

1. The normal rules of Diplomacy apply, except where amended below.
2. Each country has a special power, based on the game 'Illuminati'. Seven such powers are allocated to the seven regular countries in Diplomacy. An eighth player, the UFO's, starts the game off the board. The seven powers are:
3. Bavarians - once per season, may announce one 'privileged attack' on any unit which has the effect of automatically cutting all support for that unit.
4. Gnomes of Zurich - receive double income (see later).
5. Servants of Cthulhu - any unit dislodged by the Servants loses its retreat option; it is automatically annihilated.
6. Discordians - twice every Spring season, and once every Autumn season, may order a unit of another country. [This is the old 'Evil Eye' power].
7. Network - every unit ordered to 'stand' (original orders) acquires a unit of 'transferable power' which may be moved anywhere. If the unit ordered to stand is legally attacked, the unit of transferable power is lost.
8. Assassins - once per season, may remove a unit from the board [the old 'Thief' power]. Units are simply returned to the box and may be re-built.
9. Bermuda Triangle - once per season, may 'swap' two provinces which are geographically alike in every respect [the old 'illusionist' power].
10. UFO's - start the game with one off-board centre, which can never be lost, and one unit which starts off-board, and can never be destroyed, disbanded or affected by a special power. Each Spring season, the UFO special unit may survey up to three provinces (The GM announces "UFO's are sighted over ...") In the autumn, the UFO unit may land, or support an action in any one of the specified provinces. If it lands on an undefended supply centre, it may build an ordinary unit there. All UFO builds are amphibian. The UFO's may also mimic the special power of any one country still in play once per turn.
11. Important! - No country may use its special power on the same country in two consecutive seasons (this does not affect the Gnomes or the Triangle, but it does affect the Network when making direct attacks at extra strength). The Discordian Spring attacks must be against separate countries. The UFO's may not 'mimic' the same power in successive turns.
12. Megabucks - each country starts with as many megabucks as it has centres [ie 3

for everyone except the UFO's (1), Russia (4) and the Gnomes (double)]. They have 3 possible uses:

- a. Defensive spending - 1 megabuck spent on a unit protects it for one season against any use of a special power. It is not recoverable if the unit is not attacked!
- b. Privileged attack - 3 megabucks spent on any attack order will guarantee its success... except in the case of a stand-off against a similarly privileged attack, when all money invested is lost.
- c. Bribery - 5 megabucks spent on any unprotected supply centre secures ownership. If two or more countries bid for the same centre, all money spent on it is lost.

Each home supply centre provides an income of 1 megabuck every autumn for the original owner, until it is lost. (If it is regained, it will only provide half income). Each supply centre gained provides a one-off gain of two megabucks. If lost and subsequently regained, it provides nothing. The Gnomes receive double income, but gain at the ordinary rate for new centres.

13. Each special power has a special victory condition, as an alternative to controlling 18 centres:

The Bavarians win if at the end of any autumn turn, they own at least 5 of the 7 capital cities (London, Berlin, St Petersburg, Constantinople, Vienna, Rome and Paris).

The Gnomes can win by accumulating 40 megabucks.

The Servants can win by annihilating 12 hostile units.

The Discordians and the Triangle can win if at the end of any autumn season, they control at least one supply centre of all seven original countries.

The Assassins can win by annihilating at least one unit of all other players (if a power is eliminated before the Assassins get there, they may drop that power from their list).

The Network can win if at the end of any season they have a unit in every edge province on the board (NAO, NWG, BAR, StP, Mos, Sev, Arm, Syr, EMS, ION, Tun, Naf & MAD).

The UFO's special victory condition is known only to them and to the GM. (I assume it's one of the above six chosen secretly by the player -- Haz)

14. A 'regular' victory (control of 18 centres) takes precedence over a 'special' win. Two or more 'special' wins achieved at the same time count as a joint win.

[John Wilman comments:]

I don't suppose for one moment that the above rules are complete, so queries and comments are welcomed. Nor do I make any claim to balance, since the whole thing came off the top of my head (while quite sober, I might add).

[And Haz adds:]

This was the most interesting suggestion for a variant to be run, so I hereby open a waiting list. I assume Wilman is on it; seven more needed.





there was one -- but better than the consequences of Kennedy winning, and the thugs then thinking they could do what they like. Their behaviour after the vote at the buffet confirmed everyone's opinion "they're a crowd of obnoxious little shits." But what do you expect from Labour -- as big a pile of scum as the Tories, say I.

Tell Joy to read Nancy Friday and leave that bigotted [sic] Dworkin shit alone. Has she ever considered a career in the NF's Feminist wing (Tina Wingfield and Ms Pauline Read)?

[[Who -- Joy or Dworkin?]]

[[This sort of thing is the reason I always steered very far clear of student politix. Nice to have my suspicion confirmed that the Mark Boyle from last issue's clipping was the one we all know and love. What I don't understand is why the Mirror Group should get involved in an election for a figurehead post (I assume it is, or else the grinning prat off Think of a Number wouldn't have been nominated. Then again, the grinning prat off Countdown is now MP for Chester...)]

Alan Harvey Littleover I am pleased we have a new GM for Luton, though I imagine that is the least of your worries at present. It is possible to run a zine with external GMs. Mick Haytack does very well with Bloodstock; we've had 4 or 5 over the years. I think it's Mick's drive that keeps Bloodstock going though.

I am curious about David Tittle's offer of accomodation though -- I thought David was in Scotland; is he back in the Midlands?

[[No. "Thank you, David" on last issue's back page was shorthand for "Thank you for offering to point it out, David, but I do know how to spell 'accommodation'." Which was not as simple as going back and adding the missing M to the word, but we zine editors do things like that.]]

Old zines -- did you ever see any issues of Bob Howe's Lemming Express? Well worth looking out for. If you do come across the early issues I would love to read them too. I only saw the later ones. The covers were wonderful; quite often related to lemmings, but not always. I remember one about the life of a paper clip!

[[My collection boasts 0 (zero) copies of Ellie. Anyone wishing to remedy this situation (do you still have those later issues, Alan?) would be most welcome.]]

John Wilman Blairgowrie I hope I'm not the person being accused of making snide remarks, but if I am, you might as well say so, then I can put an unqualified apology on record.

I have a voracious, eclectic and catholic interest in all things sexual, [[you are a bit of a goer, he is a sex maniac... oh, sorry, carry on]] and I can't believe that I'd ever confuse paedophilia with any other aspect of fringe or minority activities.

You, in my view, and apparently you realise this, are neurotic, and either slightly paranoid, or fearful of unfair discrimination. So what to me is a sick, tasteless joke may look like bigotry to you, but I only go in for cheap jibes because as an unusually tolerant person I refuse to bow to political correctness. (Revenge is also a motivating factor).

I sold 2nd hand zines to Mark Nelson! I never said he'd be able to sell them on again...

[[Qui s'excuse s'accuse. No, it wasn't you, Wilman, or at least, if it was, I hadn't heard you saying it. Why this apology? Conscience prickly? Wondering who'd repeated private comments to me? And yes, I know I tend towards the paranoid, but just because you're paranoid it doesn't mean they're not out to get you.

Anyway, the point I was stumbling blindly towards is that if someone makes such a joke thinking it to have grounds in reality, they should be onto Stafford social services, and if they don't, what is the point of making the joke?

Perhaps I'm just being a humourless leftie again \*sigh\*.]

John Morgan            I thought I ought to write to put right an impression given by my  
Carshalton            brother when he described me as "definitely an aging punk". As I'm  
25, I never wore safety pins and bin liners either. When punk first  
came round in the 70s, I wasn't really old enough to do anything more than appreciate  
Sham 69 on Top of the Pops. (They were much better than anyone else at the time). I'm  
more of a participant now, having been to see Sham 69 four times in the last two  
years, but there's still no bin liners or safety pins.

I see Edmund has been doing his "I'm a chemist" trick to ask for details about  
drugs. I'm continually amazed at how many people fall for it. (To be fair, I don't  
think he actually takes drugs, it just goes with the image of living in Manchester).

[[I'm sure Geoff Brown and Malc Cornelius will have something to say about that  
remark.]]

[[When punk first broke, I was just of an age for all my contemporaries at  
school to be endlessly amused by the lyrics to the Pistols' 'Frigging in the  
Rigging'. As for Sham 69, I don't agree that they were the best at the time, but I  
will grant that 'Borstal Breakout' is probably one of the best records never to get  
into the charts.]]

Neil Duncan            Please find enclosed with these orders a tape with 'Crossing the  
Basingstoke            Red Sea with the Adverts".

If you are interested I have a true mini-tale about the  
Adverts; about ten years ago, whilst I was 'active' in the Green Party [[wasn't it  
called Ecology then?]] one of our members was the PA to some big wig in the Civil  
Service. Whilst recruiting for some new staff she had an application form from none  
other than Gaye Advert. I remember asking "Oh, what was her real name?" but was told  
that 'Gaye Advert' was all that was on the form. What I can't remember is whether she  
got the job or not, sorry. I guess it must be all that pot they force you to take in  
the Green Party.

Toby Harris            Unfortunately I don't have a copy of "Crossing the Red Sea with the  
Sunderland            Adverts", although I do have the next best thing! Here, you can  
have this single as I don't play it much these days ['No Time to be  
21']. I also have 'Gary Gilmore's Eyes' on a compilation album -- but I like it too  
much to give away (the album, that is, not the song). In fact, 'No time to be 21'  
(and the B side) is much better than their more famous hit, 'Gary Gilmore's Eyes'.

I suppose next you will be telling the hobby that you are the number one  
Adverts fan, now that you have one single of theirs!

[[Bitchy, bitchy. At least I don't claim to be an authority on the Stranglers  
just because I bear a passing resemblance to Hugh Cornwell, which your compatriot Ryk  
Downes has been doing.]]

It isn't so much that I am no longer into punk -- quite the contrary -- but I  
suppose it is a case of still liking the bands which were around at the time I first  
got into music. Most of these have either broken up or mellowed to the point of not  
being classed as punk any more... gone are the days when I would turn up at Midcon in  
tartan bondage trousers and a fluorescent fluffy jersey (like the Captain wore on the  
front of 'Machine Gun Etiquette'), not to mention a home made haircut, laced with  
trick blood.

[[And aren't we all eternally grateful]]

[[Stephen Agar too offered a tape of CTRSWTA, quite a heartening response. I wonder what would happen if I asked the readership whether they have an unwanted copy of 'She Just Satisfies' by Jimmy Page (Fontana, 1966)?]]

Mark Stretch  
Oxford University

As to the chess, there's no need for a preference system for moves, but then I control the Oxford block vote: TurboNick votes as I tell him.

Keir Hodgson  
Leicester

I would never argue the certainty of any moral cause, just the usefulness of belief that a certainty exists somewhere. Beware my written word, I've been reading the broadsheets since I was ten and it shows whenever I put any thought into my writing. It compensates for my verbal laziness. I'm one of those who needs to use the word 'like' at least once a sentence -- something to do with grammar, so I believe.

David Oya  
Banbury

U-Bend a baby zine? That's going to take a bit of getting used to. I am, I should say, genuinely very happy for you and Joy. Not that I can imagine why anyone would actually want to have a brat, but, given that you do, that's just peachy and I wish you all the very best of luck.

What exactly was your tv appearance all about? I wasn't lucky enough to see it or even be aware of anything called 'the naked chat show'. Was Terry Wogan involved? I think we should be told. And where do coffee tables come into this? The mind boggles. Yes, please, do dig out the SoftCon 4 article. Sounds jolly fun. Re Gary Lyon's first irregular verb, surely it's 'I am an environmental health operative...'

[[I am told that I said something about coffee tables in a soundbite-interview during Channel 4's "Love Weekend" on Valentine's Day. I remember making ever so many pithy and quotable comments when they interviewed me, but not that one, needless to say.]]

Ian Harris  
Chester le Street

Congratulations on the forthcoming issue! The baby, I mean, not U-Bend 20. Perhaps I should put the prospective Bondlet or Hibbertling's name down on the Borealis Deluge waiting list; the damned thing might just be closing as s/he prepares to enter college.

Onto this Spanner thing, and a point on which I imagine you can put me right. Speaking as an utter Vanilla; so straight, in fact, as to be positively rigid, I think the main thing that I can't understand about all this is how anyone can get pleasure from those activities described in the newspapers. Let's face it, pain HURTS, and is your body's way of telling you to do something about the situation. Further, how much of the enjoyment comes down to the knowledge that these activities are 'naughty' and outside the norm of society? And if society were to accept them, would not the participants seek to take things a step further to maintain their 'differentness'? I suppose the ultimate fear is of straights being dragged off the streets to become unwilling participants in the S&M world. No doubt you'll have plenty to say about this.

[[Whilst people whose interest in 'forbidden' activities takes them to SM exist, I don't think they're a majority. Whilst I must admit to a teensy wee enjoymentette in shocking people, I can do that just as easily by camping it up or wearing blatantly homoerotic tee shirts or badges as by being a leather queen or whatever you may call it.

Pain isn't necessarily a way of telling you to stop it -- childbirth, to take a

case much in my mind right now, hurts like bugg... ahem... hurts a lot, but there isn't a lot you can do (if you haven't modern techniques such as anaesthetics, a TENS machine or the ilk) except wait for it to finish.

As for forcing or coercing a vanilla into an SM scene, I would as lief abuse children or small furry animals. Take away consent and no pleasure remains. I realise you'll have to take my word for that one (and me a Diplomacy player!) but such is indeed the case.

By the way, it would hearten me greatly if people stopped using 'straight' as a synonym for 'vanilla'.]]

Hope the housecon went well; will you still be having them amidst bucketsfull of filthy nappies, sick stained sofas and the like?

[[Tell you in six months. But I suspect not.]]

Duncan Adams            Which model do you want; baby boy XR3i, with fuel injected nappies  
Northampton            and super wide bath towel or baby girl with hot brush and real  
tears?

[[I dunno, I just went into the shop and asked for 'a baby'. And don't be so bleeding sexist, or I'll send Joy round to East Hunsbury and she'll show you what real tears are]]

Simon Cutforth        Congrats on the pregnancy. For fairly obvious reasons, I had no  
Exeter                    idea that you were attempting such a thing. Now at least I  
                          understand why you got on a bit of a hobby horse about the way  
people introduce themselves in Dippy letters ie hi I'm married, telling all about the  
lifestyle. Your hi, I'm gay doesn't give it away at all.

[[I don't deliberately conceal things, but I always feel that if I can make people question their inbuilt assumptions, it's my good deed for the day.]]

On the same lines I was sorry to hear about your split within the household. I don't know what it is with people, long term relationships just don't seem to happen. I've gone from 21st birthday parties, to engagements/weddings, to childbirth (only a few of my friends have done this) to divorce/break up and I only went to my 1st 30th birthday party a few weeks ago.

People sure are packing it in, into a short time, I mean.

As for the sweepstake. Why the hell not. Glad you can have a sense of humour about this, and a touch of irreverence.

Change of subject. Hershey has been ruined by dropouts as you rightly say. I would have dropped out myself a few seasons ago and written off my (at that time) odd quid sub left in credit. But I don't think it's fair to the other players so I stuck it out. (And lo and behold, U Bend is a better zine again, that I don't want to drop anymore).

Unless players have a good reason for dropping out (and even then they could order without diploming), can't we blacklist them, or something?

[[Well, in your game we had Paul Bennett, Dave Hicks and Chris Sutton drop. The latter two, as far as I can see, departed the whole hobby at the same time. Mr Bennett is currently running a subzine in The Laughing Roundhead, wherein he debunks such myths as the tale that Mick Jagger and co. named themselves after the Bob Dylan

song (yeah, and the reggae songster who did 'Big Six' et al named himself after the 2000AD strip, I don't think) but you are unlikely to see him here again.]]

Rob Moore           The timing of U-Bend and the impact of your pronouncement did cause  
Cumbria            me to check the calendar (March 31st) and to repeatedly pinch my  
                    bottom (sad when you have to do it yourself) [[I can always come  
round and do it for you]]. But good for you and all the best, I hope all goes well.

What about that MP on Radio 1 (FM) though: 'legalised buggery of one man by another'  
was his description of homosexuality. Damn, and here's me thinking there was 'love'  
in it. Here's me thinking there was the odd kind of soul bonding in it, just like a  
hetero relationship, but he's a Tory MP so I guess he must be right. Basically, you  
bisexuals are insatiable genitalia on legs, inhumanly craving for carnal pleasure.  
Damn, another illusion shattered.

[[Here's me thinking that buggery was just one of many facets involved. Here's  
me thinking that you get the odd two women doing it -- I bet that isn't buggery.  
Insatiable genitalia on legs? Well, if I were, I'd be out boffing some cute person of  
similar persuasion, not sitting here typing my letter column. I hate to have to break  
it to you, Rob; but there is no Santa Claus, it is one's parents and not the tooth  
fairy who puts ten pee under your pillow, and MPs do not have a monopoly on the  
truth. I hope you aren't too shattered by this.

Actually, I hear that said MP was Geoffrey "Witchburner" Dickens. Nuff said.]]

Sex & violence and the collapse of the family unit. Could be the title for an essay  
on morality in the 90s. I admit I was raised by my biological parents. I appear to be  
in a shrinking minority. Single parents. Single sex partners. Multiple parents in any  
combination of sexes. The traditionalists are in panic, the immoral majorities are  
breeding!! Who will teach the next generation the age old moral codes which have  
served us so long? Dad's homosexual and 'Mum' is a cross dresser. There's a bullwhip  
in the bedroom and some handcuffs in the hall! And the offspring of a 1 night hetero  
stand is going to grow up with this. Worse, he might even think it normal and accept  
them as people. Even worse still, he may then live his life according to his wishes  
and desires and not according to some outdated ethical straitjacket. Is there no end  
to it all? We'll have racial harmony next, if you can imagine such a thing.

Seriously though, given that the parents form the primary influence on their children  
(he/she will gain all your bad habits!!) surely a generation raised in acceptance and  
tolerance will carry those attitudes through their lives and onto any children they  
have. So the demise of marriage isn't as bad as it seems. Hmm. Excuse me while I  
climb out of this hole and hide somewhere quiet for a bit!

I see Bernard Manning is on tour, he did a show locally which was an hour of jokes  
about blacks, jews and queers. The audience loved it.

Oh no! I'm reverting to my lefty activist right on student days! Nurse?

Oh, you don't mind me name dropping about your tv appearance do you? I'd used it to  
lead into quite an interesting chat t'other day, but then Emyln Hughes walked in, so  
it died a death.

\*blush\* Don't mention John Norman. I was young and innocent, it wasn't my fault.

[[Oh, Rob. Oh dear, oh dear. Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear.]]

Pete Gaughan I like the badge idea. Perhaps there are a couple of  
USAmerica similar badges my family could find. For my sister: I'M  
PRO-CHOICE .. AND SO IS MY PRIEST. For my wife: I SING BASS; and my  
mom: I SING BARITONE. They're both in a ladies' barbershop chorus. I love this kind  
of incongruity -- weird shit, George Carlin used to call it.

[[Who's George Carlin? Another bloody culture gap, no doubt.]]

Nicholas Parish "I'm gay and so is my girlfriend." Hmm. I prefer "I'm Brian  
Oxford University and so is my wife" [[In which case you should enjoy this  
issue's colophon]] but then I suppose I would. I'm not sure  
quite what I thought the relationship was between you, Dave and Joy, but I'll admit  
to being surprised to read, just after the fact that Joy had conceived by you [[Not  
so! This fact was kept a deliberate uncertainty]] that Dave and Joy were married.  
Sorry -- just shows how far I've got to go before I become a queer, young radical.

[[Living in unconventional relationships is not a prerequisite for this,  
actually, Nick]]

Dave Newnham Ah! Quote from the Rocky Horror Picture Show. I saw it when  
Disgusted of Lewes it first came out. Let's see; you must have been about 5  
years old at the time!

Fortune smiling on Brad & Janet since the zine had dropped on their doormat just as  
it had five weeks hitherto... Means that it's as late this time as last?

A rise from 30 to 50p seeming steep? It doesn't seem steep; it seems bloody near  
vertical.

[[Sorry if I spoilt your neat point about zine prices in your letter to ABG,  
boss. I'm still cheaper than Krum and Miche, mind... And my zine is too ((c) Anne  
Olde-Joak, 1934).]]

Doubtless you have deliberately written the EGOLAND editorial the way you have, to  
confuse your readers. And, I'm most certainly not setting myself up in judgement of  
other people's moral standards but... As written it would appear that you and Joy  
(Dave's wife) have planned and achieved her pregnancy whilst she was still married to  
him. That he has decided to opt out of such a situation seems hardly surprising. If  
this is indeed what you have done, I don't see what either of you can have any reason  
to criticise him. Still, doubtless I'm just not in the picture.

[[Not only aren't you in the picture, Dave, you aren't even hanging on the same  
wall. Whilst it's true that Dave and Joy were married, said marriage bore little  
resemblance to what you appear to think it was.]]

Joy Hibbert Actually, Haz, we are not 'breeders' in that sense of the term.  
Stafford Doing, or being, one of the things attributed to the 'other group'  
(whoever they are) does not make you one of that group. That  
melanin-deficiency disease doesn't make Michael Jackson a 'honky'; cooking my tea  
doesn't make you a 'woman'; and being full of foetus doesn't make me a 'breeder'.

C'mon Haz, you know that 'the sin of Sodom' was inhospitality. Far too many people  
don't. You shouldn't be encouraging this sort of ignorance. Their inhospitality took  
the form of subjecting visitors (both sexes) to various sorts of sexual abuse. See  
Judges 19 for a similar incident, this one involving a female victim (who died during  
the attack) and thus generally ignored.

[[Oh, no, not the biblical quotes...run for it before Danny Collman arrives]]

James Nelson: Euthanasia is generally used (except by the all-life-is-sacred-unless-it's-worth-living crowd) to mean easing someone out of a life which has become, for physical reasons, intolerable. I would be the first to support such a right, and the first to object to it being taken further. People who are poor enough, or depressed enough, or want their families to be rich enough, could easily be persuaded to die for someone else's pleasure, if money was involved. The problem, yet again, isn't S&M, but that more common sexuality which I tend to think of as simply 'violence'.

Edmund Morgan is probably correct in saying that there would be a decline in the population if homosexuality was the norm; assuming that the homosexual norm was for single sex couples living in the same way that nuclear families do. Not many female couples would be into producing and raising the 4 - 6 children necessary to maintain a stable population. However, a different family system, something more communal and involving male parenting, would make it a lot easier. What would decline, and in my view for the better, would be the numbers of unwanted children born to unwilling mothers, and the misery and cycles of abuse that go with this unfortunate side effect of heterosexuality. I doubt this figure for Norway. I have always assumed that the incidence of homosexuality is stable in all populations, but the incidence of homosexual behaviour depends on the extent to which a society condones it.

John Miller Irregular verbs... I think Bananarama are seriously under-rated,  
The Potteries you have no musical taste, he names his games after Status Quo records.

I make the occasional minor adjudication error, you frequently cock things up, he was the starter for the Grand National.

[[Regarding which, incidentally, Joy drew the favourite in a sweepstake. Bah.]]

Andy Bell From Stygian Depths -- I first saw this in Games and Puzzles 74  
Middlesbrough (Autumn 1979), on the same page as a Diplomacy variant! When did it appear in Chantecler?

[[Dunno, guv, I copied it from the Fall of Eagles reprint]]

Paul Norris Congratulations on the impending birth -- I suppose you realise  
Bristol this can only mean one thing.

It isn't that U-Bend is about to become a 'baby' zine, but that it is about to cease being a 'pretend family' zine -- at least from a legal/societal viewpoint. Woman plus man plus child does tend to get interpreted as being a real family.

[[Hah! Who says pretend families can't be real? I still speet on your new-cleeah families, gringol]]

Pete Birks The Willy Haughan extravaganza at Manorcon '83 is engraved on my  
London Town memory. I know you won't believe this, but the report was understated (as all good reports are). It was quite easily one of the most unrecalable nights of alcohol abuse I have ever undergone. Woodhouse doesn't get pissed that often, but when he does he is incredible. His line to the barman, "You know, this is a shit pub, but these are fucking great shades" would be unsustainable unless you were 6'3" and quite clearly on the edge. [[of what?]] Even I wouldn't have tried it.

I have some great articles from the seventies and eighties which I shall dig out. Indeed GH #1 (collector's item) consists solely of a con report which, even on

re-reading, is quite good.

If the London Hobbymeet voted Spring Offensive down en masse, I doubt it had much effect. I heard nothing about such a plan. However, the Diplomacy Zine Poll seems more and more irrelevant each year. Is Springboard really the worst zine in the hobby? Indeed, is yours the second worst? All zines these days are marvellous compared to the 1970s'. Dolchstoss wins because it is frequent and concentrates on Diplomacy. Springboard comes bottom for the same reason.

Nice to know that plenty of gay people, especially lesbians, have kids. Er, how does a gay non-lesbian 'have' a child? If you know, please tell me how. After all, you state that "by definition, homosexual couples produce no children".

[[Edi! That was Ed Morgan, not your omniscient editor. I do admit that it's harder for two gay men to have a child; it usually depends on whether or not they can find a friendly motherhood-inclined dyke.]]

On the topic "a few Xs short of a Y". "Sandwiches short of a picnic" was used in a commentary on a horse race the other day (referring to a horse!) How about...

- a few memos short of a folder (civil servants)
- a few strings short of a chord (Status Quo)
- a few words short of a sentence (Kelvin McKenzie)
- a few cards short of a full house (anyone) [[esp. poker players, hmm?]]
- a few kids short of a life (Woody Allen)
- a couple of legs short of an ending (Joanna Lumley)
- a philosopher short of an (Wittgenstein)
- a movement short of a symphony (Tchaikowski)
- a gas mark short of boiling point (Nico Landennis)
- a cigarette short of a packet (Philip Morris)
- a half pint short of a gallon (anyone on the piss)

To the letter column. You cannot "stamp out" bigotry, and neither should you try to do so. Consider the implications of your statement. [[It was Damien Cosgrove's, actually, Pete. I'm the one inside the brackets, like this.]] It implies (a) that there is a 'right' way to think, and (b) that such a manner of thinking should be enforced. Well, I may be alone, but such concepts scare the shit out of me, if only because I know that I am in the minority group who opposes capital punishment ("murder by the state", if Joy wants a new loaded catchphrase). If there were a referendum, and the vote were 35 million yes, and 1 no, I would still be "right".

[[Hold hard! hold hard! You take wrong views on several points there: for a kick off, the best way to eradicate bigotry is not to stamp it out with violence, but with education. This may sound like a wimpish, liberal statement, but I assure you it's true. Moreover, there is no such thing as a 'right' way to think; there is a very large number of differing and equally valid ways to think, set apart from which there are several unpleasant ways. It should come as no surprise to find that my wish should be to excise the latter whilst ensuring that all the former continue to bloom. Heavens save us from such politically correct imbeciles as would impose rigid thought policing on us; mind you, heavens won't have a hard job to do so, for such people don't exist outside the fevered imagination of a few mainly right-wing fools.

As for capital punishment, I can tell you there's be at least 2 no's. If it truly is a minority group that opposes the death penalty, which may be the case these days, I can tell you now that if it were reintroduced, the majority would want to scrap it again in a couple of years, after it transpired that it failed to solve at a stroke all the problems of our society and that miscarriages of justice with such a penalty are even more irreversible than they are now. Imagine the scenes of protest if the Tottenham Three or Guildford Four had been hanged, when it came out that the police had falsified evidence!]]



More on words. I feel that there is a confusion these days between the words "racism", "agism", "homophobia" and "prejudice". To be racist is not necessarily to be prejudiced; indeed, we all "pre-judge". Life could not function without such a concept. The argument is that racist prejudice is, empirically, wrong. In other words, if I am walking home through Peckham at two in the morning, and I see three drunken youths walking towards me, do I have any empirical right to be more worried if the youths are black? If the answer is yes, then a different response is certainly racist (I act differently because they are black) but not prejudiced (I act differently because of empirical evidence). Of course, I suspect that such empirical evidence is false, but it would be nice if people understood the words they were using. "Racism" is only wrong if there is no empirical back-up. Prejudice is only wrong if you are using incorrect data. Thus racial prejudice in, for example, Warwickshire is normally wrong because blacks are rarely seen outside their ghettos. Racism in Brixton often has a justification because of personal experience. This concept applies equally to blacks walking alone and seeing a group of whites and vice versa.

Which begs the question, am I racist? To which the answer must be yes. Just as I am heightist, agist, stoutist, tobacconist, boozeist, baldist, hattist and carrist. One classifies people by certain traits because experience teaches you that these traits tend to indicate certain other attitudes. Occasionally one is wrong, but to say that because this is the case you should discard all prejudgments is to throw away the baby with the bathwater. I don't like tall, old, bald, fat, non-smoking, non-drinking, hat-wearing blacks. But I don't like tall, old, bald, fat, non-smoking, non-drinking, hat-wearing whites either. But I can get away with saying the latter. And by the way, I daresay that they don't like me.

[[Right! To take your last point first, this is a red herring and has nothing to do with racism. All you need say is "I don't like tall, old etc etc people and you save a mouthful of breath and a lot of space in my letter column.

Of course you are racist, and so am I. We are all taught to pre-judge from our cradles. Combatting racism is about learning to disregard the urge to prejudice. In the drunken youths case, a sensible avoiding action might seem indicated no matter what the drunkards' colour.

It is true that you can make a fair guess at some of a particular person's life and opinions from the colour of their skin, but ideally it should only cover minor points such as whether they are likely to prefer roast beef or curry for dinner. In a truly non-racist society (which we don't have, of course) the things which make racism, personal or institutionalised, wrong, wouldn't be important.

And until we do have such a society, I for one feel it incumbent upon me to do my level best to get there. As I said above, this wouldn't mean turning everyone into identical grey cubes as Richard Sharp seems to think, but equalising opportunities so as to make physical and societal differences of no more than coincidental interest.]]

[[More Birks next time, if you'll pardon the expression.]]

---

## FETUS FACTS II

The fetus is still alive and kicking; in fact it's kicking so much that I can feel it from the outside, a marvellous sensation (even if visions of John Hurt in ALIEN flash across my brain). It is, indeed, now legally a person, having crossed the curious divide between 24 and 28 weeks where anyone can kill it except Joy.

The bad news is that the midwives appear to be wimping out and saying that it will have to be delivered by a team of hospital midwives under the accursed Mr ----. Needless to say, we are not standing for this if we can help it, and steps are being taken.

oimoi, peplegmai kairian plegen eso  
the games section

XIMENEZ

Chaos II Diplomacy

Spring 1902

Pace too hot for some?

ANK (John Miller): A(Ank)-Arm  
BEL (Peter Ritchie): F(Bel)-Pic  
BER (Steve Guest): A(Ber)-Sil  
BRE (John R Todd): F(MAO) S Marseillaise A(Spa).  
BUL (Vick Hall): A(Gre)-Bul, F(Bul/ec)-BLA  
DEN (Peter Dunnett): F(Den)-Swe (nsu), F(BAL) H u/o  
EDI (Denis Jones): F(Edi)-NTH  
HOL (Anarchy): F(Hol) H u/o  
KIE (Duncan Adams): A(Mun) S A(Kie)-Ber, A(Kie)-Ber  
LPL (John Morgan): A(Lpl) H  
LON (Gary Lyon): A(Yor)-Edi  
MAR (Guy Thomas): A(Spa) S A(Mar)-Gas, A(Mar)-Gas  
NWY (Toby Harris): F(NTH) S Swedish F(Swe)-Den  
PAR (Damien Cosgrove): A(Gas)-Par  
POR (Mick Haytack): F(Por)-MAO  
ROM (Alex Richardson): A(Nap)-Rom, A(Rom)-Tus  
RUM (Bill O'Neill): NMR! A(Rum) H u/o  
SER (Mike Clark): A(Ser) H  
SEV (Anarchy): A(Sev) H u/o  
SMY (Neil Duncan): F(Con) S A(Smy), A(Smy) S F(Con)  
SPA (Edmund Morgan): F(Tun)-ION  
STP (Paul Norris): NMR! F(GB) H u/o  
SWE (Stephen Agar): NMR! F(Swe) H u/o  
TRI (Anarchy): A(Tri) H u/o\* [dies pro]  
VEN (William Whyte): NMR2! = anarchy. A(Ven) H u/o  
VIE (Allan Gordon): A(Bud) S A(Vie)-Tri, A(Vie)-Tri.  
WAR (Peter Charles): NMR! A(Mos), A(War) H u/o

Press

Strauss: Don't laugh, but I've only just sussed how to play this game! You sit tight on your butt and see what fool comes sniffing in your direction -- with any luck, he'll try again next turn..... in which case, you step politely aside, hand him the keys and swiftly leg it to the nearest pub!

Neil - GM: 'Budding stalwarts' hey? ....hmm, I wondered what those lumps in my underpants were.

Lpl - Ank: Yes, good idea. Please support me into Vienna in Autumn 1908

Ser - All: Where the hell are you?

COA Alex Richardson to 6 Millow, Dunton, Beds SG18 8RH (he will not be back at Newcastle)

Paul Norris to 111a Belmont Road, St Andrews, Bristol BS6 5AR

Judge English: I've checked last season's orders and can't find any for you, Gary, unless you put them with the Lift Off! by mistake, in which case I'll never have had them.

Several disappointing misses there, and Laughin' Bill Whyte's absence becomes permanent.

=====  
BEECHING

This issue's freebie goes to Steve Guest for spotting the payment error in 'Yavilland'. IOU approximately 0.667 of a pint at convention prices, Steve-a-rino.

## QUINCY

Time Lords Dip III? 9188 rd??

Spring 1906

Italians have more warps than USS Enterprise

AUSTRIA (Mike Allaway, 62 Herga Road, Harrow, Middx HA3 5AS)

NMR! A(Bud) H u/o.

ENGLAND (John Wilman, 2 Keillor Cottages, Kettins, Blairgowrie, Perthshire PH13 9JT)

F(Lon)-NTH. A(Lon W A05)-Bel.

FRANCE (RJ Walkerdine, 6 Honeybourne Way, Wickwar, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos GL12 8PF)

NMR! A(Lpl), F(Mar), A(Spa), F(Swe)\* all H u/o.

GERMANY (Steve Doubleday, Norton House, Whielden Street, Amersham, Bucks HP7 0HU)

A(Bre)-Par, F(Nwy)-WARP-Swe\*, A(Edi) sits and cries, A(Gas)-WARP, A(Vie)-Tyr, A(Mos)-Sev, A(Par)-Bur, A(Ser)-Rum\*, A(Bur)-WARP-Mun, A(Ven)-Apu\*, F(Den)-Kie, wishing it had done so earlier.

ITALY (Rob Moore, The Cedars, Ruskinville Bridge, Abbey Road, Dalton in Furness,

Cumbria LA15 8LS)

A(Pie)-WARP, F(Gre)-WARP, F(Kie)-WARP, A(Mun)-WARP, A(Nap)-WARP-Apu\*, A(Rom) H. A(Ven W S04)-Den; A(Rom W S05).

RUSSIA (Peter Ritchie, 241 Days Lane, Sidcup, Kent DA15 8JX)

A(Alb)-WARP-Tri, F(Rum)-WARP-Gal (not maritime).

TURKEY (Edmund Morgan, 40 Cranbourne Road, Trafford, Manchester M16 9PZ)

A(Bul)-WARP-Ser\*, A(Ber)-WARP, F(Ank)-BLA, A(Con)-Bul, A(Smy)-Con. A(Ank W S05)-Gal, A(Bul W S05).

Retreats None; anti-matter explosions in Swe, Ser, Apu.

Judge English: Please note that when entering warp you must specify area and date of exit -- you can't just enter warp and then decide where to go turn by turn, like 4000AD.

### Press

The Kaiser: considered the option of suicide, but decided to take a few of you bastards with him first.

Turkey - Russia: Sorry for any pick-up, but no letter received.

Flumph: went Doubleday the immense amoeba. The immense, amorphous amoeba. A protoplasmic protozoan with protruding pseudotentacles. Seeking nutrition for his nucleus he sprawled across the board. Treason and deceit were quintessential parts of this quinquennial quango. But for all his omnipotence, he remained oleaginous and was suitably ostracised.

Judge English - All: Who bought that man a dictionary?

Off Dalmatia: I felt my way up to the deck, my eyes open as far as I dared, which wasn't very far. Too much rye, Janson, and getting old.

Lady Penelope was there and looking worried. "They're gone," she announced without preamble.

"Who? Where?"

"Walkerdine and Ulrika. I was monitoring them, and ten minutes ago their signals blinked out, just like that. Now I know they've some neat gadgetry, but nothing I know they have could do that. Which means we're in a whole new boardgame."

"You mean Walkerdine might not be the ultimate force of evil after all? But that's unheard of!"

"I know. It flies in the face of all tradition. But still..."

Mission Control: Hello to all U-Bend Lift Off players!!

My name is Geoff Brown, and I am your new Lift Off GM. I have been running the game for about 2 years in another games magazine, so I have a reasonable amount of experience.

All orders should now be sent to: 65 Scotland Hall Road,  
Newton Heath,  
Manchester M10 6RE.

A sack load of U-Bends fell through the post box on Tuesday and did substantial damage to the cat. After a quick chat with Haz I realised that it was too late to make the deadline, and we would have to hold the game over for this issue. I have orders on file for John Breakwell and Gary Lyon, but these may be changed if you wish.

Tables with a comprehensive rundown of players' current technological research and items in stock have been circulated.

Finally, some of you may have access to my home or work telephone numbers. I would appreciate it if you were to only use the one for work, as my father works shifts and doesn't appreciate some lunatic asking about single stage rockets just after he's gone to sleep.

Judge English: My thanks to Geoff for taking over the game, and to Davids Dya and Tittle who also offered. I may take Mr Dya up on his concurrent offer to GM Breaking Away for me, mind you.

=====

ENGLISH

RR map OH

Round 12

Race Results

- 45) KH-SD Indiana - Warren: ORNATE 15-4, IDLE 15, OSCAR 0+4, CCI 0.  
 46) OC-TH Lake Erie Port - Newark: ORNATE 20-4, OSCAR 10+4+1+1, AC 0, CCI 0-1,  
 IDLE 0+5+1-1, FF 0-6  
 47) TD-JS East Liverpool - Gallipolis: CCI 30-4, AC +4  
 48) 6S-9H Dayton - Mansfield: FF 20, IDLE 10+1+1, CCI 0-1+1, ORNATE 0-5, AC 0-5+1,  
 OSCAR +4+3.  
 49) 8H-7S Marion - Dayton: FF 20, AC 10-2, ORNATE 0-7, IDLE +1, CCI +1+7.  
 50) 7C-4C Cleveland - Toledo: IDLE 20+1, FF 10-1.  
 51) TS-6H Ironton - Columbus: CCI 20+5, OSCAR 10-5.  
 52) 9D-JC Alliance - Ashtabula: AC 15, IDLE 15-5, OSCAR +5; a very fitting final  
 dead heat for such a close game. Final scores, please, maestro;

Final Scores

OSCAR (Bowen/pink): 182 +32 = 214  
 ORNATE (Charles/blue): 243 +15 = 258  
 FRIENDLY FASCISM (Jones/black): 243 +43 = 286  
 CCI (Lomas/purple): 231 +58 = 289  
 IDLE (Ritchie/red): 234 +64 = 298  
 ANNE'S CLIQUE (Parish/green): 297 +23 = 320

Congratulations to TurboNick for hanging on at the end, and my thanks to all the other players. Game end statements will be welcome and published in due course.

DREDD

Diplomacy 91DC

Autumn 1908

Look here, broken underlining is a sod to do on this

AUSTRIA (Allan Gordon, 3 Forest Avenue, Chingford, London E4 6AR)  
A(Boh)-Mun, A(Bud)-Rum, A(Ser) S A(Bud)-Rum, A(Rom)-Nap, A(Tyr)-Ven,  
F(Bul/sc)-Con, F(Tus)-TYS, F(ION) S A(Rom)-Nap.

FRANCE (Peter Dunnett, 328 Old Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 3NU)  
A(Yor)-Edi, F(Cly) S A(Yor)-Edi, F(Lon)-NTH, F(Hol)-Kie, A(Pie)-Tyr,  
A(Mun) S A(Ruh)-Kie (nso), A(Ruh) S F(Hol)-Kie, A(Bur) S A(Mun), F(GOL)-Tus,  
F(NTH)-NWG, F(HEL)-Den, F(MAQ)-WMS.

ITALY (Toby Harris, 6 Durham Terrace, Silksworth, Sunderland SR3 1BW)  
F(Con) H\*, F(TYS) S Austrian F(Tus)-GOL (nsu to suppt), A(Nap)-Rom\*.

RUSSIA (Vick Hall, 49 Vartry Road, London N15)  
F(NWG)-Cly, F(Edi) S F(NWG)-Cly, A(Kie)-Ruh\*, F(Nwy)-NTH, A(Ukr) H, A(Den)-Kie,  
A(Sil) S Austrian A(Tyr)-Mun (nso), A(Smy) S F(BLA)-Con, A(Ank) S F(BLA)-Con,  
F(BLA)-Con.

Retreats Russian A(Kie)-Ber; Italian F(Con) disbands, A(Nap)-Apu.

Press

The Gingerbread Man: Spring madness was in the air..... there were frogs everywhere -- the Big Bad Woluff was shedding his coat (and bits) like there was no tomorrow and didn't appear to give a damn -- and the Green Stump was even thicker than normal. Ginge shrugged. "Time I got me some rays", he decided -- and pointed his cheery face towards Napoli.

Adjustments

AUSTRIA: Vie Tri Bud Ser Gre Bul Ven Rom Rum Nap = 10 + F(Tri), A(Bud)  
FRANCE: Par Mar Bre Spa Bel Por Mun Hol Lon Kie Lpl Edi = 11 Disband A(Yor)  
ITALY: Nap Tun Con = 1 Disband A(Apu)  
RUSSIA: StP Mos Sev War Nwy Swe Smy Ank Den Ber Rum Edi Con = 12 + F(StP/nc), A(War)

PEPPER

Sopwith T178UB

Turn 13

Pilot	Starts	Moves	Ends	A : D : P
<u>Retaliator</u>	Q13-Q12	RT f-L, A f-L, A	N10-M9	01:07:02
1 ACE Mark Wightman				
<u>Atsuko</u>	Q9-Q10	LS f-R, LS f-R, LS	L9-L10	05:04:26
5 ACE Dave Lomas				

Clouds go E, clearing the battlefield, to: (H15,H16,I14,I15):(M17,M18,N18):  
(N11,N12,N13):(P19,Q18,Q19):(Q15,Q16,R14,R15,R16).

Damage Atsuko wallops Ret for four. Still everything to play for.

Press

Ret - Atsuko: Oh shit, hold the war, I'm out of ammo!  
Atsuko - Mark The Almost Ace in Arfle: The shit's hitting the fan now!  
Atsuko - Harry: I owe you three bullets (you can have them anytime!)  
Judge English - Atsuko: Oh my, sarcasm yet. Okay, I cocked up the ammo totals for you, they're right now.

Water, water everywhere, nor any drop not covered in green slime

FRANCE (David Tittle): F(Swi) H\*

GERMANY (Nicholas Parish): F(RUH) S A(Mun)=F(Mun), A(Mun)=F(Mun), F(VIE)-Tyr, F(Bur) S French F(Swi), F(BLA) bobs gently up and down, enjoying the last of the evening sun.

ITALY (Allan Gordon): A(Tyr)-Swi, F(MAR) S A(Tyr)-Swi, F(Pie) S A(Tyr)-Swi, F(VEN) S F(TRI)-Tyr, F(SIL)-Mun, F(MAD)-GAS, F(TRI)-Tyr.

Retreats French F(Swi) dies nrp!

Press

Boche - Frog: You should have supported me earlier! Besides, second is preferable to second equal.

Wop - Frog: Thanks for all your help and for putting up with me.... shame it always has to end this way but that's how the glob blobs.

Boche - Wop: Congratulations.

Boche - Judge: Is there any point in playing the last two seasons?

Green Slime: In every direction, as far as the eye could see, the world was a beautiful puce green..... except for three ugly little black lumps, and even they would shortly disappear. He burped in satisfaction. Quite right, too. Had he not saved the Earth from an awful bubonic fate?..... might even qualify for some sort of Nobbly Prize or something. Sir Slime. Yeah -- it sounded good.

Slay of Pate

FRANCE : Swt

= 0 Out

GERMANY: Mun Nwy Edi Boh Ank

= 3 Disbands F(BLA), F(RUH)

ITALY : Smy Fur Pie Ser Sit Spa Tyr Naf Swi = 4 Disb F(GAS), F(VEN), F(SIL)

Judge English: Right -- that, as Spike Milligan put it, is charlotte.

Everywhere but Switzerland sinks, and Italy cannot be dislodged from Swi, so the game is at an end as a win for Allan Gordon. Especial congratulations are due to the aforementioned A.G. for winning with an army left -- first time I've seen it done. Thank you, all, and game end statements are your next task.

CHESS

Me vs. You Lot

Game I (me white): 1) e4 : e5  
2) Nf3 : Nc6  
3) Bb5 : Nd4  
4) Nxd4: exd4  
5) 0-0 :

Game II (me black): 1) Nf3 : Nf6  
2) g3 : g6  
3) Bg2 : d5

exd4 was unsurprisingly unanimous. Your replies for move 5: ...c6 x2, ...h5 x1, ...Bc5 x2, ...a6 x1

Your replies: c4 x2, d4 x2, 0-0 x1, d3 x1.

Both these on a tiebreaker. From hereon in, please submit three moves of your choice, in order of preference, which should make split decisions more easily resolved.

My replies: 6) d3

4) ...Bg7

LUTON

Atlantic Airlines [GM Paul Slade]

Turn 3

PUSSYCAT 747 N24 / Casablanca / Accra  
 Haz Bond 707 J69 / Paris / F34\*  
 Tristar New York / Atlanta, Chicago / E43

Account -209 -200+162+96+40-24-50-40-20 = -245, -20% = -294

RAC TriStar B57 / Chicago / G43  
 Alan Harvey

Account +142 +224-40-20 = +306

SANTA CLAUS 747 G57 / Amsterdam / K71  
 Rob Cullender TriStar J66 / Pittsburgh  
 DC8 Madrid / Kano / F30

Account -127 -150+319+210-50-40-28-20 = +114

TBNS 707 Algiers / Rome / I27\*  
 John Colledge 747 Frankfurt / Paris / K54

Account -253 -24-50-20 = -347, -20% = -416

Planes Ordered And Paid For Next Turn None

Loads In Flight

Paris	Havana	SANTA/TriStar	2	*	34	=	68
Kano	Miami	SANTA CLAUS/DC8	5	*	36	=	180
Paris	Chicago	TBNS/747	9	*	29	=	261
Rome	Montreal	TBNS/707	4	*	27	=	108
Accra	Rome	PUSSYCAT/747	12	*	18	=	216

Runs Delivered This Turn

Atlanta	Chicago	PUSSYCAT/TriStar	8	*	5	=	40
Pittsburgh	Amsterdam	SANTACLAUS/747	11	*	29	=	319
Milan	Pittsburgh	SANTA/TriStar	7	*	30	=	280
Caracas	Casablanca	PUSSYCAT/747	6	*	27	=	162
New York	Paris	PUSSYCAT/707	4	*	24	=	96
Las Palmas	Chicago	RAC/TriStar	8	*	28	=	224

Runs Available

## OLD

From	To	Size / Dist / Value
Caracas	Atlanta	5 12 = 60
Belem	Paris	10 29 = 290
Bogota	Kano	2 32 = 64
Belem	New York	3 21 = 63
Las Palmas	New York	7 22 = 152
Atlanta	Frankfurt	2 33 = 66
Rome	Dakar	6 14 = 84
Pittsburgh	London	10 27 = 270

## NEW

Dakar	Atlanta	2 28 = 56
Casablanca	Frankfurt	3 9 = 27

From	To	Size	Dist	Value
Atlanta	Belem	5	18	= 90
Madrid	Chicago	7	28	= 196
Tunis	Miami	9	33	= 297
Port of Spain	Washington	11	13	= 143

Press

RADAR (GM) - All: Greetings. I hope I haven't made too many mistakes in my first adjudication.

I have corrected a couple of further errors:

SANTACLUS account corrected to correct amount of interest in turn 1.

PUSSYCAT account adjusted because the NY to Havana load credited in turn 2 had already been credited in turn 1.

TBNS account adjusted due to arithmetic error in turn 2.

The order listed above is the correct order of play for the next turn. A couple of the values of loads have been corrected from values quoted in turn 2.

TEX

Diplomacy 92DY

Autumn 1904

Germany pegged back as Austria and Turkey grow  
France in absentee landlord scandal

AUSTRIA (Peter Dunnett, 328 Old Road, Clacton on Sea, Essex CO15 3NU)  
A(Bud)-Vie, F(ADR) S A(Ven), F(Ven) S A(Tri)-Tyr, A(Tri)-Tyr, A(War) H.

ENGLAND (Edward Ainsworth, 4 Park Avenue, Bedford MK40 2JY)  
A(Nwy) S F(Swe), F(NTH)-Den, F(Swe) S F(NTH)-Den\*.

FRANCE (Ian Harris, 3 Abbotside Close, Urpeth Grange, Chester le Street, Co Durham  
DH2 1TQ)  
F(MAO) S A(Gas), A(Gas) S A(Lon)-Bre, A(Wal) H, F(ENG) C A(Lon)-Bre,  
A(Lon)-Bre, F(Mar) H.

GERMANY (Mark Stretch, Jesus College, Oxford OX2 3DW)  
A(Bel)-Pic, A(Hol)-Bel, F(Den)-Swe, F(GOB) S F(Den)-Swe, A(Lvn)-StP,  
A(Par)-Pic, A(Bur)-Mun, F(Kie)-Den, F(BAL) S F(Den)-Swe.

ITALY (Keir Hodgson, 37 Shanklin Drive, Leicester LE2 3RH)  
A(Tyr)-Mun, A(Rom)-Ven, F(Nap)-ION, F(Tun) S F(Nap)-ION.

TURKEY (Mark Underhay, 65 The Chase, Holland on Sea, Essex CO15 5PZ)  
A(Ukr) S A(Sev)-Mos, F(BLA)-Con, A(Sev)-Mos, A(StP) H, F(ION)-TYS, F(AEG)-ION,  
A(Bul)-Rum.

Retreats English F(Swe)-SKA

Press

France - England: Are we going to work together to stop the Hun? Or should we just throw the towel in now?

England - France: Thanks for the letter. Hopefully I will not have had to take up your offer this season if my moves have proved successful.

If not, I will obviously have to review the situation.



TEX continued:

Game end proposal 6 way draw. Votes with orders please.

Adjustments

AUSTRIA: Bud Vie Tri Ser Gre Ven War = 7 Builds A(Tri), A(Bud)  
 ENGLAND: Edi Nwy StP = 2 Disband A(Nwy)  
 FRANCE : Mar Bre For Spa Lon Lpl = 6 n/c  
 GERMANY: Mun Ber Kie Den Hol Swe Par Bel War = 8 Disbands A(Lvn)  
 ITALY: Rom Nap Ven Tun = 3 Disbands A(Tyr)  
 TURKEY: Con Ank Smy Bul Rum Sev Mos StP = 8 Builds A(Smy)

URQUHART

Sopwith T215UB

Turn 6

Some do well, others not

Pilot	Starts	Moves	Ends	A : D : P
1 Ginger Rogers ACE John Miller	F9/E	RS,RS,LT f-L&A	H10/NE	12:10:02
2 Major Mark E Smith Edmund Morgan	F11/W	RI f-R,RT,RT	F13/E	09:02:08
3 Retaliator ACE Mark Wightman	F13/SW	RS f-A, A f-R&A,LS	F11/SW	05:06:13
4 Lord Biscuit Barrel Mike Clark	D9/E	LT,RS, A f-A	R12/NE	09:08:06
5 Vic Rattlehead ACE Rob Moore	R16/NE	A,LT A	P17/NW	12:08:06

Clouds moved East to: (J13-K13-K14-L14-M15):(F1-F2-F3):(M7-N7-N8):  
(D11-E12-E13):(J9-K10-K11-L11):(O14-O15-P13-P14)

Press

Mjr Smith - Ginger: If you'd moved and fired A last time you were certain to hit Retaliator. Why didn't you? Get him this time. "Incur the wrath, of my -- BOMBAST!"

VIRGIL

RR map CT

Turn 5

ALL TOWNS NOW CONNECTED: One turn to fill in gaps  
{Fergie's 4a) builds should read (G21)-...}

IDLE (Peter Ritchie, red): 5a) (B1)-Newbury; (Oxford)-C45: 5b) (M11)-K12-J11-I12:  
5c) (M17)-L16; (I12)-H12-High Wycombe. 40+6+6+9S= 61

FERGIE (Rob Moore, purple): 5a) (B16)-A16-A15: 5b) (A15)-Maidenhead; (A15)-A13: 5c)  
(A16)-Windsor; (NB)-N6-B45. 51+6= 57

STUPID (Mark Stretch, brown): 5a) (E15)-Maidenhead: 5b) (D47)-G49-Buckingham:  
5c) (D46)-D45-Oxford. 78+6+6-9I+1M= 82

MOO (Jeff Cattle, blue): 5a) (B7)-Reading-B11: 5b) (B11)-B13-Maidenhead; (M11)-  
N10: 5c) (N10)-B49; (C25)-C22. 36+6-1S= 41

Rolls for the next round are 4-6-5.

3-way draw just reward for non-dropouts

ENGLAND (Dave Newnham, 80 Prince Edward's Road, Lewes BN7 1BH)  
A(StP) H, F(NWG)-NTH, F(NAO)-MAO, F(ENG) S F(NAO)-MAO, F(Bel) H, A(Fin)-Swe.:

FRANCE (Mark Stretch, Jesus College, Oxford OX1 3DW)  
F(Bul/sc)-Con, A(Ven) S Turkish A(Tri), F(Apu)-ADR, F(ION)-EMS, F(Nap)-ION,  
F(TYS)-IDN, A(Gre)-Bul, A(Pic) S A(Par)-Bre, F(Bre)-Gas, A(Pie) S A(Ven),  
A(Par)-Bre.

GERMANY (Simon Cutforth, 1 Greenleigh, Greenway, Woodbury, Exeter EX5 1LP)  
F(BAL)-Den, F(Pru) S English A(StP)-Lyn (nso), A(Ber)-Mun, A(Boh)-Gal,  
A(Vie) S A(Tyr), A(Tyr) S A(Vie), A(Sil) S A(Boh)-Gal.

RUSSIA (Anarchy): A(Mos) H unordered.

TURKEY (Anarchy): A(Ukr), A(Tri), A(Bud), A(War), A(Ser), F(AEG), F(Alb),  
A(Gal)\* & A(Lvn) all H unordered.

Retreats Turkish A(Gal) suffers a well-deserved consignment to oblivion  
Press

London (Govt) - Judge English: No need to apologise -- not your fault!

G - E: My phone # is 0395 232565

Judge English: A piece of press which serves little purpose, because

Draw Proposals The repropoed 3-way garners 2 AYE's and one abstention which counts  
for. I thus declare the game over as a E/F/G draw and solicit (oooh!) game end  
summaries for next issue. Of course the three of you are more than welcome here  
anytime, as is former Austrian Ed Morgan. The dropouts, needless to say, ain't.

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ZIMMER

Sopwith T216UB

Turn 2

Pilot	Starts	Moves	Ends	A : D : P
1 Red Byron Alex Richardson	A4/NE	A f-A, A f-R, A	A7/NE	13:08:04
2 Beelzebub Mark Stretch	B8/SW	A f-A, O f-A&R, O	B7/SW	13:08:04
3 Florence ACE Rob Cullender	I16/W	LT, A, LS	J14/SW	16:12:00
4 Baron von Luftkrieg Paul Slade	P16/W	A, A f-L, A f-L	M13/W	14:11:01
5 Sky Tripper Duncan Adams	P10/NW	A, A f-L&R, RS f-L	N11/NW	13:11:01
6 Boring Boris Ian Harris	K4/NE	LT, LS, A	H3/NW	16:12:00

Clouds move east to: (G13-G14-H14): (K9-K8-J7): (N16-M15-L14):  
(D9-E8-E9-F8-F9): (P13-P14-Q15-Q16): (M19-N19-O19-M18).

Judge English: Jolly fun in move 2 as Beelzebub and Red Byron exchange four points' worth of bullets, von Luftkrieg and Sky Tripper exchange one point's worth, and Boring Boris and Florence exchange hostile glances.

YAVILLAND

RR map LE

Round 2

The Adventure of the Reigate Squires

(DRUNK paid SACK 10, not 7, last turn: b/f payments adjusted)

TBNS/blue (John Colledge): 2a) (A63)-A60; 2b) (A60)-A59-C58-C57; 2c) (C57)-Tonbridge-C52. 26+6 = 32

RADAR/purple (Paul Slade): 2a) (Lewes)-G8-H8; (F13)-G13; 2b) (G13)-H12-I13-K12; 2c) (K12)-M11-N11-Tunbridge Wells. 26+6-1De = 31

SACK/orange (Steve Guest): 2a) (H61)-I61-Chatham; 2b) (Chatham)-Rochester-I57; 2c) (I57)-F55-F53. 33+6+6 = 45

DEAD/black (David Oya): 2a) (G8)-Lewes-E8; (I7)-Haywards Heath; 2b) (Haywards Heath)-M5-Three Bridges; 2c) (Three Bridges)-C47-D46-Reigate. 26+6+6+6+1R = 45

DRUNK/khaki (Duncan Adams): 2a) (F66)-C65; 2b) (C65)-Ashford; (B64)-B63-C63; 2c) (Ashford)-M23-M22-L21; (C63)-D62. Remains at 19

Rolls for the next round are 6-3-6.

Press

In a dungeon somewhere on the Kent/Midlothian border: "Yes! Yes! Charge me £38 for cancelling a cheque! I can take it!" screamed young D--- in blissful agony.

"Ochay, sonny. But what's this? It seems you've exceeded your overdraft limit. Deary me, we can't have that," cackled his leather-clad tormentor, J---. "I'll have to send you a snotty letter."

"Argh! No! Not the snotty letter! Anything but the snotty letter!"

"Aye, and I think I'll enclose a leaflet detailing the benefits of direct debit."

"No! You fiend! Have you no mercy?"

NOXIN

Intimate Ia Dip 91BQ rx03

Still not Spring 1906

Oh dear dear dear. In preparing last issue's list of bits I failed to spot that in issue 18 Italy's move A(Mar)-Gas should have succeeded, and also credited Nicholas with A(Gal) rather than A(Sev) due to backing up the wrong file... shall we try again? Current position:

ENGLAND (Mick Haytack): F(MAD), F(IRI), F(NAD), F(ENG), A(Gas), A(Bre), A(Hol), A(Mos), F(Ber), F(Pic), F(StP/nc), F(NTH), F(NWG), A(Yor).

ITALY (Nicholas Parish): A(Ank), F(BLA), F(IDN), A(Gal), A(Par), A(Bur), A(Gas), A(Pie), A(Mun), F(TYS), A(Tyr), F(WMS), F(NAf), F(Spa/sc), F(Por), A(Ven), A(Nap), A(Rom).

Adjustments were:

ENGLAND: Lon Lpi Edi Nwy Bre Kie Bel Swe StP Ber Par Den Hol Per War Mos = 14 n/c

GERMANY: Mos = 0 OUT

ITALY: Rom Nap Ven Vie Tri Tun Spa Gre Ser Mun Bul Bud Rum Con Smy Mar Ank Par Por Sev = 20 2 short

TURKEY: Ank Sev = 0 OUT

Treasury balances are currently: England 31 ECUs, Italy 22 ECUs. Orders are on file for England, and may be changed.

WELLS

Intimate Ia Dip

Winter 1902

Bids:	E	F	G	I	T	Balance
Austria (Mark Stretch):	0	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	7	0	12
Russia (Peter Dunnett):	0	1	0	<u>15</u>	<u>1</u>	1

Positions after bidding:

- AUSTRIA (Mark Stretch): F(Nap), A(Gal), A(Ser).
- ENGLAND (Neutral): F(NTH), A(Nwy).
- FRANCE (Austrian): A(Rom), A(Mun), F(Edi), A(Tyr), F(Mar), A(Bre), A(Par).
- GERMANY (Austrian): A(Sil), A(Pru).
- ITALY (Russian): A(Vie), A(Tri), F(ADR).
- RUSSIA (Peter Dunnett): A(War), F(Bul/ec), A(Con), A(Rum), F(Lvn), A(Sev), A(Mos), F(StP/nc).
- TURKEY (Russian): A(Arm).

Game End Proposal is put forward, of a win for... France. Methinks we have a joker in our midst.

Sorry, no time for interim adjudication, maybe next issue.

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QUISQUILIAE IN VERSO

And so we fail once again to scrape under the bottom weight band, and once more I give thanks that I switched to a variable pricing system, and rub my hands with glee as I take my bags full of golden coins to the bank, all raised by making you lot pay postage...

Meanwhile, in the real world, I remind you that even an issue this size hasn't got any 'From Stygian Depths' reprints (I can't find my copy of SoftCon IIIb, though I did turn up a very jolly pome from Steve Howe off the back of an old NMR! whilst looking, so that may feature in times to come). Would that I could always use type of the size in last issue's first half! But to combine that with a Gestetner would be folly; what I'd save in paper costs I'd lose to your claims for new reading glasses. No, we must muddle on as we have been doing.

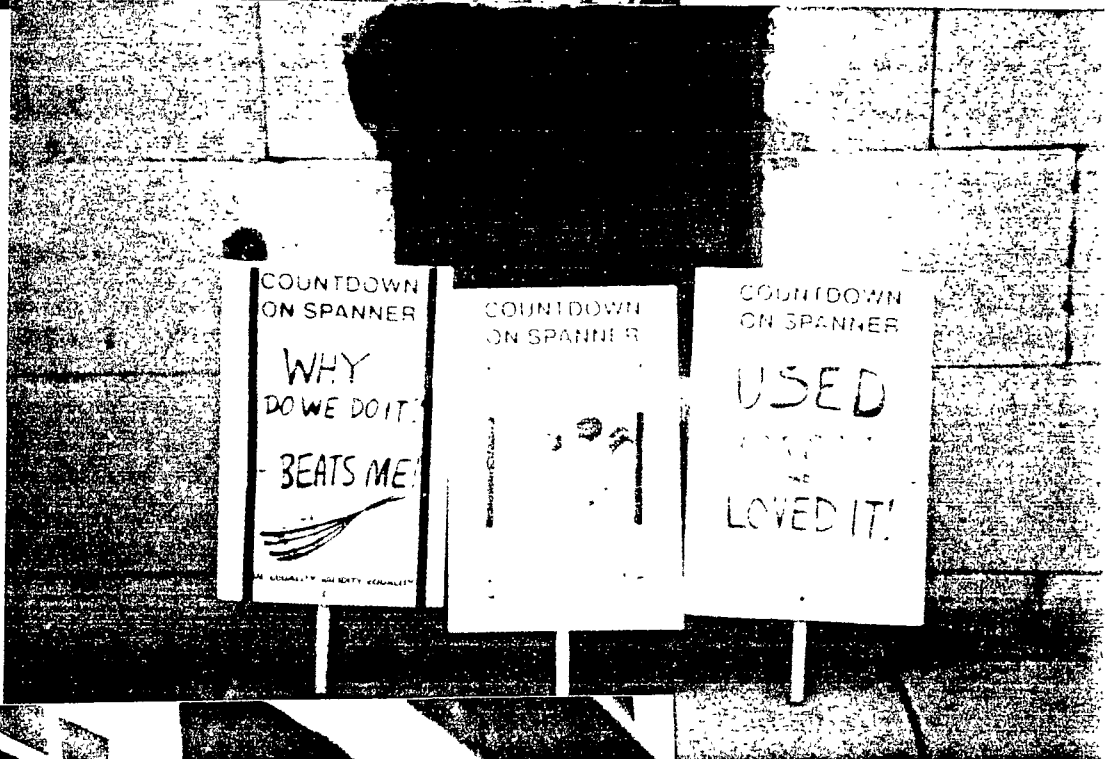
I am asked to plug Mark Boyle... eh? No, let me finish, Walkerdine... I am asked to plug Mark Boyle's Zine of the Year Poll, 1993. This poll, of decidedly dubious antecedents and scoring methodology, is now in the hands of the guy who (arguably) did most to require a separate poll biased towards sportzines, rather than Dippy and its ilk. For my part, I am in favour of one all-embracing poll, but I think neither this nor ye olde Zine Poll should be it. (And don't ask me to put my money where my mouth is and run it unless you want a fat lip). Right, to vote, write down your name and address, and then rank every zine you see regularly that's produced two issues since June last year in order of preference. Joint positions are acceptable. Then send them to Mark Boyle, 15 Linn Park Gardens, Johnstone, Renfrewshire PA5 8LH by July 30th. Alternatively, send them to me and I shall forward them having-checked-to-see-you've-put-me-first.

Last Housecon Before Baby Weekend of June 12-13th. Usual comments apply; accommodation available for long distance travellers, bring games, gossip and yourself, alcohol will be supplied (Joy's home brewed oh-god-my-head wine). Directions available on application. Tell us if you're coming.



Pretend Family  
in Happier  
Times! L to R  
Joy, Haz,  
Dave at  
Haz's  
Graduation  
May 1992

3 Placards  
From S&M  
Pride

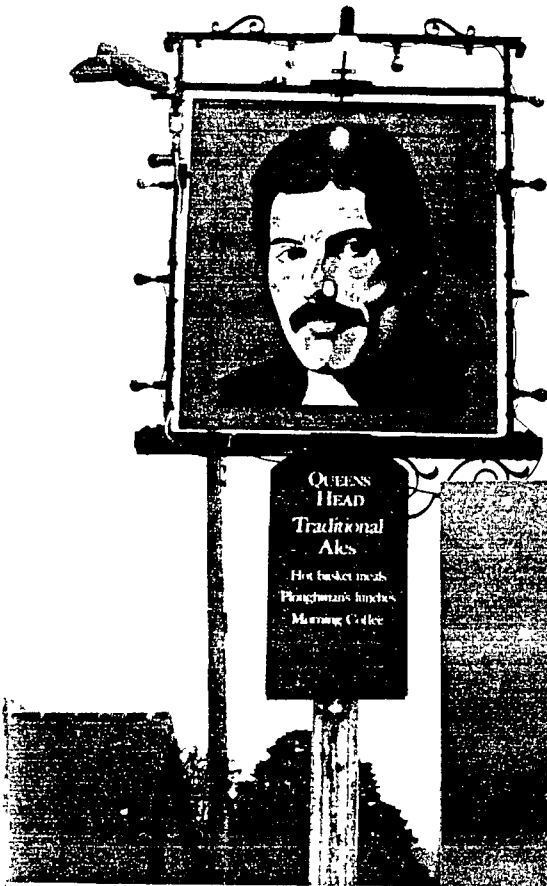


The Sisters  
of Perpetua  
Indulgencia &  
their cute  
Slave at  
S&M Prid

The Queens Head  
at Bolney pub sign



Mork Perdito Nash  
during his lifetime



L to R:  
Haz, Joy  
Joe McNally  
& Deirdre  
Rusling