

• UNDER • THE • WIRE •

(Editorial - from centre column)

Visited a selection of museums, and had a wonderful French meal as a birthday treat from Jill. Shame that her steak was over-cooked and tough (so she had some of mine instead, and wasn't charged for hers!).

The Castle Museum is famous for its Victorian and Edwardian street settings, with shop windows, workshops and other business premises filled with objects of the day. But you have to have a good imagination, since few of the objects are labled. There are also some thematic displays - kitchens through the ages, for example, showed typical kitchen features from the 1700s through to the modern day, while another showed design styling changes of everyday household items such as washing machines, hoovers, televisions.

The Jorvik Viking Centre is built on the site, excavated during the late 70s and early 80s, of the old Viking Age capital. Descend the stairs from the modern entrance hall and climb aboard the time car and travel back with brief snatches of York's recent history to a small corner of what was 10th century Jorvik. The time car, guided by electronics, passes through typical buildings of the period where the sights, sounds and smells give a glimpse at what it may have been like. A commentary describes the various vignettes - Thorfast the bone carver, a stall in the market where Lothin is selling his bowls and barrels, the jeweller Snarri's and Svein's leather shop. We see inside a typical house, and travel alongside the river, where a merchant's longship has just arrived and is being emptied of its cargo, and a fisherman is gutting his catch. Then the scenarios change and as the time car returns to the present we see displays showing aspects of the dig itself. Finally you enter the museum where some of the finds from the excavation are displayed, and explained. But it didn't really tell me about the Viking history of York - it was more a snapshot, an interesting experiment. I believe the history

(continued Column 3)



(Editorial - from left column)

of the city is explained in another museum, but it was one which we didn't have the time to visit.

York has many snickleways. These are a maze of narrow walkways, paths and closes between the buildings in the oldest parts of the city. They avoid the modern renovations and retro-designed public-facing fronts to shops and houses and let you see the architecture that lies behind the façade. Some of the walkways pass buildings with interesting histories - Thomas Gent's Coffee Shop (seen on the BBC Holiday program the week prior to our visit) is sited in the Coffee Yard, a snickleway that gained its name from the presence of the coffee merchants who lived there during the C17th. Thomas Gent, was an C18th printer by trade, and he had premises there. The aroma of fresh brewed coffee pervades the candle-lit rooms, and you can taste foods based on recipes handed down from the C18th.

We walked some of the City Walls, and alongside the river, and it was a very enjoyable few days, and well worth a visit.

Our return drive brought us up through the heart of the Yorkshire Dales, still recovering from some late heavy snowfalls. Though the road was clear and dry, snow still lay banked up against the dry stone walls that line the roads, and mark out the many small fields in the landscape. We drove slowly using single track back roads, and took in the prettiness of the scenery. Another place we plan to visit again, with more time to enjoy at our leisure.

Through her work, Jill has access to occasional free tickets at a local film theatre. However, it's been a pretty bum deal over the months, as there never seems to be anything interesting when we could get tickets. We did see the film adaptation of a book (briefly) reviewed by Pete Haining in *Prisoners of War!* #19. "Waterlands", by Graham Swift, stars Jeremy Irons as a history teacher who's failing to get the concept of HISTORY through to his class of (in the film American)

(continued on Page 3)

The house move in June still seems to be on - nothing unexpected has happened - so the next issue of *UTW* will be produced amidst the chaos of just having moved - if I can find the Mac and laser printer, and your orders. Please continue to use the current address for orders and I will give you the full address and telephone number of the new house next time. With a month to go, we're now starting to pack things up, and co-ordinate the moving of all our stuff from Arbroath. It will be good for us both to have our own things around us. Jill's stuff has been in transit and storage for about eighteen months, and it will be like Christmas for her trying to find out just what she brought back from America, and what she left behind (or thought she'd brought).

We'll miss the view from the living room window here though. It's so nice, on a lazy Saturday morning, to sit and stare out the window at the misty, tree covered slopes about half a mile away. With modern estates, you're just too damned close to each other for pleasant views. I guess we'll just have to make the garden into something worth looking at!

The BMW is very nearly road legal - still needs an MOT, and Road Tax though. Had it out round the block last week, but it had virtually no back brake to speak of, so it's back into the garage and a strip down of the rear brake leverage system looks to be what's needed. The sooner I get that fixed, the better, as I've been getting really itchy about getting back out onto the road - after a layoff of two and a half years!

During the lull before the storm, so to speak, and to tie up with my birthday we took off to York for a long weekend.

(continued in column 1)

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APRIL 1993

CITY & SUBURBAN MOTO-MORINI TURN 2

COMPANY DETAILS

Eoin Rutter INT Lion no tetsdudó (Eoin's railway)

TRACK BUILDING

Player	Co.	Colour	Builds	Town	Green Belt
Ulf Jiretorn	JIR	Purple	B16 - C02 - D36; B02 - C25	B02	B14
David Watts	PEMBS	Orange	B14 - C06 - D26 - E14	-	C02
Bill Becker	BWR	Blue	City - A06; C05 - D31 - E12	B14	C02
Eoin Rutter	INT	Brown	City - A03; City - A04; A05 - B04	-	B14
Iain Smedley	LOTS	Green	City - A06 - B03 - C23	-	D31
Clive Davenhall	METRO	Red	C15 - D16; B06 - C16 - D14	-	B02

† - see Game Notes below (if applicable)

DEVELOPMENTS

New Towns : none, both blocked

New Green Belt : B14, C02, D31

COMPANY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Player	BF	- Build	± Pay	+ Rev	- Dev	= CF
Clive Davenhall	19	-6	-	+4	-1	= 16
Ulf Jiretorn	19	-6	-	+6	-6	= 13
David Watts	25	-6	-	+3	-1	= 21
Bill Becker	24	-6	+3	+3	-6	= 18
Eoin Rutter	25	-6	-3	+2	-1	= 17
Iain Smedley	22	-6	-	+2	-1	= 17

BUS BOSS NEVAL - BB108USA TURN 7

RACES

Races not possible: none

No	Route	TECTIC	DIS	NAFF	BOSS	SLICK
1	Duluth - Kansas City	10-5	20+5	-	-	-
2	Atlanta - Nashville	-	20	-	10	-
3	San Diego - San Antonio	-	-	20+1	10-1	-
4	New Orleans - Denver	-	9-6	16-6+6	5-4	+10
5	Seattle - Memphis	-	-	10+3	+2	20-5
6	Phoenix - Richmond	5-5	-	+4	16	9+1
7	Omaha - El Paso	-	-	-	-	30
8	Birmingham - East Canada	-	13-3+4	-	5-4	12-3+6
9	Billings - New York	5-4	9-4	-	-	16+8

ROUTES PURCHASED

David Watts - Buses On States Seviles - BOSS - Yellow

Jacksonville-Miami; Atlanta-Knoxville; Indianapolis - Cioncinatti

Bill Becker - Dispatch Illusion Service - DIS - Blue

Salt Lake City - Las Vegas; Birmingham - New Orleans

Eoin Rutter - St Louis Indianapolis Cincinatti Knoxville - SLICK - Black

Chicago - St Louis - Tulsa

John Breakwell - North American Folk Ferriers - NAFF - Green

Jacksonville - Richmond; Nashville - Birmingham

Frank Burns - The Engines Cannae Tak It Cap'n - TECTIC - Lurid Orange

Kansas City - Tulsa - Dallas

GAME NOTES

Races are adjudicated **BEFORE** builds. Build order next time Frank, David, John, Bill, Eoin. Poor race round for Frank. A joint run attempt by Frank and John in race 7 was ruled invalid as the length of their route was more than twice the length of the other designated route.

GAME NOTES

• Iain, track builds ARE conditional, developments are not.

• Both town developments get blocked this time, with one passing for Green Belt.

Oddly enough, Edinburgh has a Green Belt designated ring around it, but it seems that as time goes by, and decent prime building land becomes harder to find, the pressure on the local Planning Authority to designate that Green Belt area for various (non-industrial) uses grows. The question really is what do they mean by Green Belt? Is allowing permission for major sports/leisure/shopping complexes to be developed going against the ideas of a Green Belt?

• With most of the routes out of the City now used up, it looks as though this is going to be an interesting game, and most of you restricted in where you can develop further. I suppose that's the problem with a full complement of six active players. With four or five, there's more scope for leaving the City in opposite directions.

PLAY ORDER (3)

David, Bill, Eoin, Iain, Clive, Ulf

PLAYERS

Clive Davenhall, Flat 59, Stoneygate Court, 298 London Road, LEICESTER LE2 2AJ

Ulf Jiretorn, Västergatan 12B, 332 32 GISLAVED, Sweden

David Watts, 102 Priory Road, MILFORD HAVEN, Dyfed SA73 2ED (0646 692752)

Bill Becker, 1515 Ridgewood, JENISON, Michigan 49428, U.S.A.

Eoin Rutter, 233 High Street, EDINBURGH EH1 1PE (031 226 5214)

Iain Smedley, Top Flat, 70 North Gower Street, LONDON NW1 (071 387 8687)

BUS BOSS P U C H - BB26ENG ROUND 12+

GAME END COMMENTS

John Breakwell (4th) : A good game, very enjoyable. Congratulations to David Watts on winning - always a good sign when the game designer wins! I never expected to catch David but then I didn't realise I'd get overtaken so easily. How ignominious. Thanks to WOL for the GMing and let's have another game.



FINANCES

	Start	Races	Builds	End
TECTIC	27	+6	-10	23
BOSS	17	+39	-12	44
NAFF	24	+54	-12	66
DIS	19	+67	-12	74
SLICK	19	+104	-11	112

ROUND 8 RUNS

You may enter upto five races each turn - sorry for omitting this information last time, though it is in the rules as published in a very old issue of *Prisoners of War!*

10	Tampa - Dallas
11	Indianapolis - Cincinnati
12	Los Angeles - Albuquerque
13	Tulsa - Chicago
14	Albany - Los Angeles
15	Mexico - Chicago
16	New York - Houston
17	Pittsburgh - Spokane
18	San Francisco - Jacksonville

PLAYERS

Frank Burns, 51/26 Caledonian Crescent, EDINBURGH EH11 2AT

Bill Becker, 1515 Ridgewood, JENISON, Michigan 49428, U.S.A.

John Breakwell, 62 Shackleton Way, Woodley, READING RG5 4UT

David Watts, 102 Priory Road, MILFORD HAVEN, Dyfed SA73 2ED (0646 692752)

Eoin Rutter, 233 High Street, EDINBURGH EH1 1PE (031 226 5214)

RAILWAY RIVALS

OSSA

TURN 12

RACES

	JIR	OUI	RRS	GOBLIN
36 21-52 Brest to Limoges	30	-	-	-
37 46-31 St Etienne to Amiens	5-3	13+7	8-3	4-5+4
38 13-66 Paris to Nice	30	-	-	-
39 64-41 Marseille to Strasbourg	+7	16-8	7-7	7-2+10
40 22-36 Cherbourg to Nancy	-	12-9+8	5-1+4	13-10+8
41 54-(5) Bordeaux to Italy	20	10-3	-	+3
42 15-(2) Rouen to Belgium/Luxemburg	-	-	20	10

FINANCES

	START	RACES	BUILDS	RIVALS	END
JIR	370	89	0	0	459
OUI	284	46	0	0	330
RRS	230	33	0	0	263
GOBLIN	201	42	0	0	243

GAME NOTES

So the inevitable win for Ulf. Congratulations to Ulf, and the rest of you for sticking around. Shame there was the loss of Scotty in the mid game. Somewhere I have the board from the previous RR game, and it would be interesting to see if the track layouts of the winning players were similar. My own aim in the France map is to try to get from Paris to Marseille via Lyon and then build out into the rest of the country. Obviously the success of buying Scotty's track at auction gave Ulf some monopolies along the Atlantic seaboard, and the Côte D'Azur dominance as well contributed to a runaway win. I would have expected Bill to have a better final placing with his track, but I guess the races just didn't really suit that well. Any game end comments would be most welcome for next time.

GAME OPENINGS

UNDER STARTERS
ORDERS - Simon McInnes'
horse racing game is
distributed with *UTW* to
players only. Contact Simon
at 236 Sydenham Road, West
Croydon, Surrey CR0 2EB
(081 689 6817)

CCTFL - TouchDown!
American Football league
run by me, separate from
UTW. Sometimes deadlines
clash - which delays one, or
both. Now at the end of its
third season I'm looking for
anyone to act as standbys in
case any of the current
coaches opt to retire. Address
etc on Page 1.

(Editorial- from Page 1)

reluctant high school pupils. To keep their interest, and in part to help explain WHY we need to UNDERSTAND history, he reminisces about his adolescence, love and sex in the Fenlands. I read the book some years ago, and the visualisations I created in my own mind while reading came through in the film.

Seeing "Orlando" was a bit of a chance thing. We were out in the car checking out bike helmets and bits for the bike, and had picked up the programme for one of the other ARTY film theatres. Jill was browsing through it, and as the time was right and we were in the neighbourhood, we decided on the spur of the moment to go and see it.

"Orlando, played by Tilda Swinton, is a young Elizabethan nobleman who has attracted the attentions of an ageing Elizabeth 1 (Quentin Crisp). The 'Virgin Queen' is beguiled by Orlando's callow, androgynous youthfulness and grants him the deeds to his parents' ancestral home upon their death on one condition: he must never grow old.

As Orlando moves, chameleon-like across centuries (changing gender in midstream) his/her life becomes a personification of the elusiveness of identity."

"Orlando" (the book) was written by Virginia Woolf in the early 1920s for Vita Sackville-West. The film is rich and stylish, reminiscent of the work of Peter Greenaway but, as Jill noted, without the nasty bits. The film, and the book, comprise a series of disjointed (apart from the Orlando character), but relatively self-contained, episodes from Orlando's life. These are, we must assume, the interesting parts of Orlando's life, and it's really only from the book that we realise that Orlando has spent much of the intervening years as a recluse writing an epic poem.

The book is written as a biography, with the authoress making asides to the reader. In the film, it is Orlando, who, to camera, makes sharp and observant comment. It is a strange film. Delightful, enjoyable and, apart from the odd touch of sadness, uplifting. This was, if I were to categorise, an ART film.

The Edinburgh Hobbymeet has been resurrected on the 3rd Saturday of the month at The Green Mantle, Nicolson Street, from about 5.30pm onwards, thereby by mutual agreement to a local eating place. Contact myself, or Pete Shepherd on 031 668 1714 for firm details.

DEADLINE FOR UTW 10 ORDERS – 11th June 1993
(USO Deadline 4th June 1993)