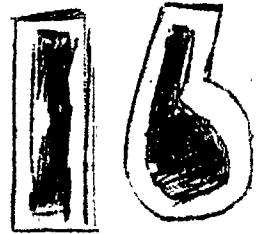


# DIB DIB DIB

ISSUE



"Oh Gee John  
You shouldn't  
have"

This is supposed to be a rather thin issue of Dib Dib Dib 16...supposed to be because I had expected to get the 'After Christmas Blues' blues - plus I didn't think that many people would have time to write (what am I doing the bloody editorial here for?!). As with other issues this issue comes to you at just 1p per sheet + postage. If anyone wished to unload more money on me my address is, 29 Stanley Hill Avenue, Amersham, Bucks, HP7 9BD. Tel. 02403 4513

EDITORIAL



Here we go again. As I said above, I'd banked on this being a thin issue, (a) because of lack of time, and (b) because I didn't think you lot would be interested enough to write; what with celebrating the New Year an' all that. Trust me to get it wrong. It's now three days before the deadline, and this is the first bit of typing I've done towards the zine. Great start to the New Year this! Anyway on to the first thing that pops into my head - COMPUTERS!.....Nah, better not - which brings me on to GH and Birks (unfortunately).

If you'll remember last issue, I mentioned the fact that GH held a rather unfavourable review of Dib 14. Well apart from the fact it sparked off one of Dib's subscribers to....um....take up my cause, so to speak (Birks deserved every word of it, says I), it seems as though the review was initially done for the good of the hobby! To quote Pete:-

"Twenty-nine lines in Dib Dib Dib in my response to my less than adulatory review. Now this is what the public like to see. Let's get a bit of down the line gutsiness in a hobby far too prone to becoming a mutual admiration society for rather self-satisfied editors."

Great, eh? "...less than adulatory review..." ho ho, I like that! Mind you, I'm not really sure what the hell Pete meant. If he was suggesting that it was for the good of the hobby, why pick on me? There's far more deserving cases to pick on....what about John Wilman, he started it all off by arresting that 'Moonie' (tsk tsk, shouldn't have done that, John). If he hadn't have done his duty the Birksonian anger would have stopped at Watch Your Back's doorstep. I BLAME YOU ENTIRELY, WILMAN! You know when it comes down to it, a horrible thought kept occurring that Pete really believes that issuing chummy reviews is good for the hobby. Could this start off a new trend? Will editors start trying to 'help' the hobby, and therefore themselves, by slagging off each and every zine? It's possible I suppose, but to me it's just the same rut as the 'self-satisfied editor' status. Already I'm falling into that rut - another 20 odd lines given to the subject (piss off, Birks).

I'd talk about what sort of Christmas I had but for the fact I'm already fed up with Christmas and I'm glad it's over - roll on the summer! Oh I had a good time, don't get me wrong, but I think it sufficient to mention that we finally finished wrapping presents at 12.30 Christmas Eve: after which we dropped them by Stuart's bed, sneaked gratefully to our own bed, only to hear the little sod get up and start opening them.....I just covered my head with a pillow. That, coupled with the trip I had to make down to Brighton to visit Jan's family (and back again the same day - on the 29th) might give you some idea of how hectic my Christmas was becoming. So.....NO MORE...

Once again the CGS list has changed since last issue - a game has been successfully installed within the pages of Perspiring Dreams. Not that I expected any gripes (from the players allocated), but I was a little worried the much-talked-about PD/Sodds Law merger might upset things. Anyway, the list now stands as: Dib Dib Dib, Outposts, Bohemian Rhapsody, Fall of Eagles, Match Abandoned, and Home of the Brave. Any other editor wishing to put their zine on the list please let me know....novices have to be placed somewhere.

The CGS gamestart for Dib shouldn't take too long to fill, I have five players already. There were a couple of novice Dib subscribers who wanted to play in my CGS (to save subbing to more than 1 zine) so please let me know as soon as possible if you want to join.

And whilst I'm on the subject of the CGS, I notice there has been some talk in Home of the Brave about how the CGS is run. Apparently, a game allocated to Casus Belli

EDITORIAL (cont.)

by the last CGS organiser, Richard Hucknall, has now had to be rehoused in HotB. Geoff says:-

"The whole question of 'Ab Initio' ((the orphan game)) raises some kind of question mark over the way the CGS system operates. After all, everyone in Ab Initio is new to the hobby and is probably rather brownd off at the disappearance of their GH and their money."

Now, this is a worrying situation. I agree with what Geoff says entirely; something must be done to protect newcomers to the hobby from this kind of very demoralising problem. My idea was to be strict with new zines. Something which has cropped up with Pete Doubleday's Thing on the Mat. My rule is, newish zines asking for a CGS game for the first time, go to the top of the CGS list - but they must have started at least one game of their own (not just a proven track record. Pete asked for a CGS game to 'start him off' - unfortunately I had to say no. I felt bad about refusing a new zine (I would much prefer to encourage new zines), but felt I had no other choice; the novices come first - after all it's they that have to pay out the money.

Of course Pete put forward some very sound arguments against my decision, saying that a new editor peaks in enthusiasm soon after starting his zine, and by the time he has proven himself is probably close to folding anyway. Also, that players in any zine might find a 'reliable' editor chucking them out in mid-game. What he says is entirely probable - but I have to make a stand somewhere. What do others think?

But getting back to HotB, Geoff went on to say:-

"The CGS's role in helping new zines is essential. But couldn't we work out a way of arranging a sort of after-sales service? I'm not saying Tom should be lumbered with further work rehousing orphans but couldn't CGS operate some kind of deposit scheme for the GH's? Thus if you want to take a CGS game then you must have some kind of track record or you must give Tom a £10 deposit returnable on the game reaching say, Autumn 1904. Should a GH disappear before the game reaches Autumn 1904, the money could be passed on to the new GH so as to compensate the orphaned players' credits."

Once again I agree; Geoff's put forward a very sensible suggestion. It would mean anyone could take a CGS game, but the novices would be protected. And I certainly wouldn't mind the extra work of rehousing orphaned CGS games - I keep an eye on them anyway (the ones I've allocated that is). Ideas on this will be gratefully accepted.

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JOTTO (Round 5)

Nicholas Clifton:	5th (4,1,4,1,1,3)	Martin Allen:	5th (3,1,2,3,2,2)
John Miller:	5th (1,3,2,1,2,1)	William Fisk:	5th -missed-
George Davies:	4th (3,0,1,1,2,1) 5th (0,3,0,1,1,2)	John Lee:	4th (4,3,3,0,-1,2) 5th (3,5,3,0,1,1)
John Field:	5th (1,0,2,2,1,3)	Richard Bass:	5th (0,0,1,0,1,1)
Keith Loveys:	5th (1,0,2,2,2,2)	David Huson:	1st (1,4,1,1,1,0) 2nd (2,1,2,1,0,3) 3rd (1,0,1,2,3,1)
Sandy Peters:	5th - missed -		4th (3,3,3,0,1,1) 5th (3,0,2,1,2,2)
George North:	5th - missed -		

Good turnout this issue - I'm pleased with the amount of interest generated by this simple little game (I don't know why other zines stopped running it). Keep it up gentlemen. Those that want to catch up just send the two words in next issue. Mind you, it shouldn't be too long now before someone takes some guesses...

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In case anyone is interested, I've still got 2 Atari Cartidges FOR SALE: Othello and Checkers (as new). Better hurry up though as Pete Mearns says he'll snap them up in a year or two. Offers invited.

# WINGE!

Chris by Mark  
Sardow & Newman



SECRET WEAPON  
RESEARCH.  
KEEP OUT,  
BRITISHER  
AGENT.

## EPISODE 5:

In which the plot  
is finally explained.

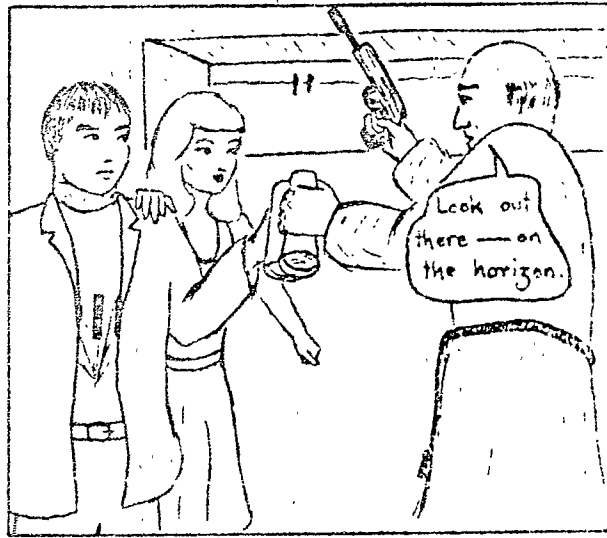
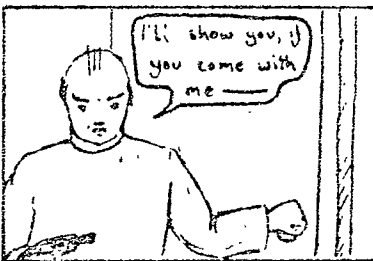


Well, well, Miss Angel and Tweedy, ipse prassens!

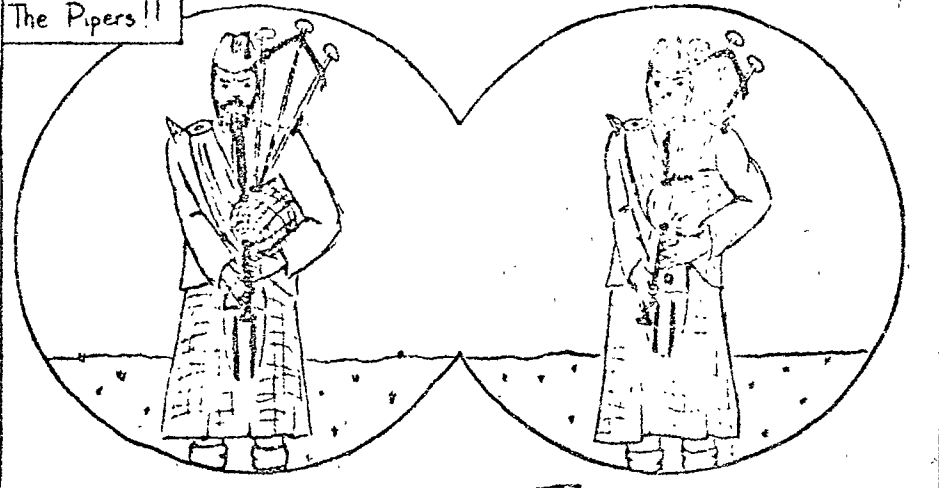
Reverend Johnson!



2 in person



## The Pipers!!



What will happen next?  
How long will the script-writers avoid the revenge of the Pipers?  
How much will you pay us not to write you into the next episode?  
These and other questions will probably not be answered in the next episode of:

WINGE!

Another good episode of Angel - thanks Chris. I think you've done it now taking on the Pipers, though -- the consequences could be quite horrible. Mind you, you should make quite a packet with people paying you to keep them out of the story (story?) -- don't forget my 10 percent cut, will you? But.....to other things...

### DENNY BLACK

Well golly gee here I am again and all ready to sock it to you with all the news. I guess the biggest happening of the month was the Dib Dib Dib office party which was something of an eye opener, although having worked in Margate Carnival A Gogo '81 I thought it would have taken plastic surgery to open mine wider.

Looked like it was going to be quite a respectable and low-key party at first but then Mr. Tweedy told me he thought that five people do not a party make, especially when two of them are his cute little boy and his over-affectionate Dalmatian, so he'd invited a few more people from the Hobby. Mr. Ashbey was not able to come to my chagrin as he was going to be wintering in Klosters, which I think is nr. Broadstairs but Geography was never my Forte so maybe it's nearer Herne Bay. Anyway my chagrin evaporated when I started to think about how I would get to actually meet some of these Famous People after reading back copies of their zines for a month!! Well I mean a Girl has to look on the Bright Side haven't you?

The first to arrive was Mr. Clive Booth and well really I hate to say it but he was just such a disappointment. It was my fault I guess because I had mixed him up with the balding Australian gentleman who writes witty Television reviews for The Observer and features on Panels. Whereas in fact he wasn't like that at all, except maybe in appearance a little bit.

Michael Allaway and his fiancee. Well I guess it was around then that things started to go wrong. I'm sure Mr. Allaway can be a Very Nice Person sometimes but like all the great writers he does have these Pouts come on him now and then, of Black Depression I mean, and he seemed to be right in the middle of one. So I really tried to jolly him up a bit but somehow I don't think Marie appreciated my efforts, at least not the Can-Can routine, though I think the Songs from the Shows bit was more to her taste. Anyway Mr. Allaway just sat there for a while looking like what I imagine John Paul Sartre would have looked like had Mr. Tweedy invited him to the party rather than Mr. Allaway. So I gave up and played games with Mr. Tweedy's little boy for a while, and we were just in the middle of a nice game of Squasp when unfortunately I swatted Mr. Allaway by mistake, right on the Pernod. Well it was a shame of course and I was just apologising to him but he became really ve'ry Demonstrative and started throwing things round the room.

Well what happened next was Mr. Tweedy showed his Acumen and took several Positive Steps, ending up in the corner behind his dear wife and dog. This was undoubtedly the best Tactic and seemed to me to underline his prowess in the Diplomacy field, as I don't think anything could have calmed Mr. Allaway down quite so much as being administered several slobbering kisses in quick succession, by the Dalmatian, whilst at the same time having Mrs. Tweedy speak rapidly to him in her special telephone voice, which has been known to unnerve the mightiest in the Land.

Well Marie very wisely took Mr. Allaway home, and Mr. Booth helped the rest of us to clean up the room a little bit whilst Mr. Tweedy telephoned the glazier. I never got to finish the game with Stuart but somehow it didn't seem to matter, I just felt so grateful at having sat at the feet of one of the Hobby's greatest thinkers. (Or was it on them?)

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Thanks for the article Penny, it certainly shows Allaway in his true light. I'm not too sure who you mean when you say you sat at the feet of one of the Hobby's greatest thinkers.....surely you can't mean Booth?.....nah, you must mean me! Please accept this issue free...

AN ADVERT AN ADVERT AN ADVERT AN ADVERT AN ADVERT AN ADVERT AN ADVERT AN ADVERT AN ADV

I've got some 70+ wargames for sale. They range from SPI mini games through to such gems as Warsaw Rising. The bulk are SPI standard games and S & T games. If interested send me a SSAE for a list or 'phone: Frank P. Dunn, 32 Gateacre Park Drive, Woolton, Liverpool, L25 1PA. Tel. 051 722 7915

*now!*

I'm not sure I have the strength to see this column through, but here goes anyway. A nice easy one to start with from a new subscriber....

DAVE HUSON: "Cheers for the letter with issue 14. In fact I've had enthusiastic welcoming responses from all the editors I've written to, which is a kick in the head for what I said to you earlier about it being difficult to get into the hobby - I'm really glad it's like that."

((Thanks for the letter, Dave - welcome to Dib. Pity you didn't let me print the rest of your letter, the points you brought up about newcomers expressing their own views needed to be said (still, I've said it now). Nice to know you're receiving good responses (most editors are really not too bad!) and that you're settling down to things okay.))

However to prove you can't please all Dib subscribers all of the time....

JOHN MILLER: "I found the stuff about the Police boring and somehow out of place - you'd do well to take George North's advice (I never thought I'd hear myself say that...) and stick to chameleons etc. Humour suits Dib much more than comment on current affairs does, in my opinion.

Are you aware that dear ol' Bob Howes was once on the point of opening a real waiting list for Postal Snap? Rules were courtesy of Terry Hill - what more can I say?

Wonder what the Germans have against tortoises - or is the hedgehog a national dish? Maybe in Norway it's Hare and Lemming? Rabbit and Pork in London's East End? Hare Today and Gone Tomorrow in the Portobello Road? Kangaroo and Koala Down Under?...

P.S. I bet Rob Chapman's 'active dislike for the Police' is nothing compared to my active dislike for Adam and the Ants....or for all that reggae, come to that...."

((What more can you say indeed! I think you've been exposed to too many Martin Allen and George North letters, John - you're beginning to sound just like them! You could well be right about 'serious' topics not being right in Dib, but I still have views, and this being the case, subjects like the police are bound to crop up now and again - I admit, I find them harder to type though.))

GEORGE NORTH: "When you read the other letter you will be thinking I already said enough. Still, there is a true story needs to be told. Peg and I have a mate who got into trouble with the police for nicking lead. He went inside for a goodly few months when we met his wife who told us "Len came out two days before Christmas".

She said it was too late to get to the Social Security and claim benefit and they hadn't a thing for the kids for Christmas. She kept telling them Father Christmas won't be coming this year, but they didn't really believe her.

On Christmas Eve the kids were ready for bed, and their last words were: "Father Christmas will be coming, won't he mum?" and our friend had told them "yes, she expected he would turn up". And this was rather stupid because there was no way she could buy the kids toys that time of night even if she had the money.

Then there was a knock at the door. It was the police.

She said her first thoughts when they asked for Len was, "Oh my goodness, what's he been up to this time?"

Well they asked to see Len. Then they wanted him to tell them how long he had been out of prison. Then they suggested he was broke. After that they brought in the biggest hamper you ever saw in your life. It was from the Police Benevolent Fund and not a penny did they ever have to pay back after Christmas or at any time. She said she never saw Len cry before.

