

DIB DIB DIB

ISSUE

30

Vote for Dib!
(10 that is)



This is the 30th issue of what may now be classed as a 'gameszine' called Dib Dib Dib. Price for each issue will cost you but a mere 35p (UK rates) and 15p + postage (overseas rate). Anyone needing to subscribe or trade should write to me, Tom Tweedy, at 29 Stanley Hill Avenue, Amersham, Bucks, HP7 9BD. But if you'd like to telephone my number is: 02403 4513.

Postage Rates (Printed paper 60 grams): America 55½p; Europe 23p.

EDITORIAL

Must quickly get this lot finished and in the post so I can watch the bloody Wimbledon. Football and cricket you can have - but, tennis, this time of the year? Great. Still one shouldn't talk about sport in a game's magazine anyway as it's not to everyone's taste.

Pete Doubleday, man of the future? Hmmm, maybe. I feel I have to get it out of my system... that it needed to be said at all is the worse thing that's ever happened to me. If I leave it any longer I may just chicken out:- I'm beginning to enjoy reading Thing on the Mat! Yes yes, I know it's a sick thing to say, but some of Pete's latest articles - his ramblings on his life at Oxford; his IBM interview etc - have been very good indeed. At one point I was beginning to believe the man had actually freaked out, and was totally out of control. He had only one way out - the fact that he should be destroyed. But after seeing his 'AARDVARK' flyer when Pete stood for Oxford in the General Election, I now realise just how wrong I was: the man is a man for all right-minded thinkers. Anyone that can guarantee in his manifesto that he will NOT introduce hanging for Catholics, can't be all bad. I only wish I had seen his flyer first before I voted for Maggie ... it may well have turned the tide of the Tory landslide. *Sigh* Yes a sad day for Britain indeed. But enough about Doubleday - he's not used to all this praise. Better I should change the subject quickly.

I've had a tremendous response so far to the D&D campaign idea. People who have shown interest so far are: Clive Booth, George North, Dave Tant, Derek Andrews, Sandy Peters (maybe), Nick Clark, Simon Craddock, Daniel A. Worthington, and Mick Antrobus. Others that want to play but have also offered to act as DM are: Victor Hall, Chris Sandow, John Boogert. I still haven't been able to decide who will DM the game yet as Victor, Chris, and John are still undecided as to how much work they are likely to take on. I do have some very worthwhile hints on Postal play Pete Tamlyn sent me; taken from an article Dave Tant did for the glossy magazine. Imagine. These should be included with this copy of Dib to those that offered to DM the game. I think you'll find the advice Dave gives of great help as it covers most all areas of postal play.

Actually, talking of Imagine, it's nice to see the close ties it has to this postal hobby. They already number amongst its contributors such hobby greats as Pete Tamlyn, Brian Creese and Dave Tant. This being the case it could very well be that this should become required reading for the hard-hitting, go-getting, man-who-has-everything, humble postal hobby member (I already subscribe to it myself). Certainly it has the 'friendly' feel of a ordinary hobby magazine. Strongly recommended you get to see a copy.

That last sentence may not justify too well because of the hyphens joining the words up. Ah well... there are worse things in life than having big spaces all over the place. Having Mike Close as an ally in a Diplomacy game is one... Ah sod the editorial and on to something else - must get this printed up.

CENTRAL GAMESTART SERVICEList Of Zines Awaiting Regular Starts:-

Foiled Again, The Question Mark, War and Peace, The Drooling God, Perspiring Dreams.

List Of Zines Awaiting F(Rom) Starts:-

Watch Your Back, Panzerkreuser.

DONATIONS TO THE CGS:Game Filled:

Dave Thomas.....£1
 John Harrington...£2 (donation)
 Derek R. Caws.....£1
 John Wilman.....£2
 Paul Segal.....£1
 Mike Sharpe.....£1
 Ian Winstanley....£6.32½p (donation)

Games Unfilled:

Derek R. Caws.....£2
 Mike Sharpe.....£1
 Alec Winton.....£1
 Paul Segal.....£1
 John Dodds.....£1
 Miles Cowling.....£1

JOTTO Turn 11

Two people decided to take guesses this time: Larry Trask and George North; and both got them wrong. Heh heh, great innit? George got the 1st word wrong, and Larry, the 2nd and 5th. Both had worries that their numbers were wrong - but they weren't. There is one point I'd like to make. The first word is NOT in the SOED (though Jan told me it was - and anyway that was the one Larry got right), but IS in the Chambers.

RICHARD BASS: 11th (- NMR! -)	ALAN PARR: 11th (3,1,3,3,1,3)
TIM BALL: 11th (2,1,2,2,2,1)	ROBERT LOZYNSKYJ: 11th (3,1,2,1,1,1)
R.J. LAMPARD: 11th (2,1,1,2,2,2)	NICHOLAS CLIFTON: 10th (2,1,2,2,1,1)
ALAN SHARPLES: 11th (2,0,6,2,0,1)	11th (- NMR! -)

**** DIB'S GALLERY ****

"Here, as promised, is who I am, so prepare yourself to be bored.

NAME: Daniel A. Worthington

"Known to friends, foes, and indifferent as Arthur. I am 18 years of age and am presently between the 1st and 2nd years of the HND in Computer Studies at Southampton College of Higher Education.

But, what, you say, is he doing if he's between years. Surely one of this country's students (most worthy and industrious types) ((Hah!)) cannot be intending to idle away his time for several months? ((Oh? isn't that what students always do?)) No! Of course I shan't be idle, I'm spending the summer break working in a fish and chip shop - making chips and washing up (it's hell trying to get the grease out of those used fish and chip wrappers). ((I bet it is...))

Now for the bit Tweedy gets upset about when people leave it out.

When reading I enjoy science-fiction and mysteries, although I have been known to read Tolkien and books by lesser authors. I don't mind most music, if it is not played too loud, and I can actually hear the words of the lyrics. As for hobbies I don't really have many apart from messing about with my ZX81 and attempting to teach myself to play the guitar (very badly) ((Wrong - if you want to to play a guitar you must learn to play it well oh you've heard that one have you?)) My political views, I don't intend to mention in this Tory Propaganda Sheet (er sorry I seem to have misspelt zine) in case I get thrown out.

(cont'd on Page 11)

IT'S THE CLIVE 'HE'S SO HUNKY' BOOTH VIDEO SHOW!

((It seems as though my little comment last issue about Clive looking like Kenny Everett hit near the mark. A few people have written in agreeing with me. Clive's own wife, Pauline, agrees with me. Now you may judge for yourselves, as Clive has kindly sent us a photo - hope you can see it - and a letter of complaint of all things.))



● ON THE BEAT — Pc with a smile is Clive Booth, community officer for Heanor, Langley Mill and Marlpool.

A GALLUP poll reveals this week that seven out of ten people are happy with the work done by the police force in Derbyshire.

Derbyshire County Council commissioned the poll as part of an investigation into local authority services

It was centred on the multi-racial areas of Derby.

Although the Derby East sub-division was most closely connected with the poll, through its experiments with community policing, police throughout the county are delighted with the result

Community policemen have been assigned to most large police stations in the county — and by and large there are more policemen "on the beat"

Chief Constable Mr Alf Parrish said "Community policing is not new. It is what I did when I joined the service. The move throughout the country and certainly within Derbyshire is back to the traditional role

"I intend to use the experience gained in Derby in my approach to policing in the rest of the county"

Gallup presented their poll to Derbyshire Constabulary on Monday

Just over 1,000 people were asked a series of questions on the police, culminating in a question about opinions of the force "They are efficient and do their job well," 68% replied

Of 432 people who had made contact with the police, 72% were very satisfied or quite satisfied with the response they got. One in five were either rather dissatisfied or very dissatisfied

Even so, 81% of all those questioned still wanted to see more officers on foot patrol

"Tweedy, You imbecile!! I don't mind you drawing the attention of the whole of the lower echelons of the hobby that result to the fact that there is a faint resemblance between my own good looks and those of Kenny Everett, but fancy putting it on the front of an envelope addressed to me that the postman is going to see. And then, to cap it all, posting it to arrive on the very day when the enclosed appeared in the centre of the front page of the local rag. Can you imagine what is going to happen when it gets back to the sorting office and tells all the other postmen that I look like Kenny Everett and produces the paper to prove it? How will I ever walk down the street again when all the females I pass are swinging their legs wide and declaring: "It's all in the best possible taste!", or picking their nose and shouting "Gizzard Puke here!"

You've ruined my credibility, Tweedy! I'll get you for this! Have I ever told you that you remind me of one of Everett's characters? Cupid Stunt - or similar anyway..."

((No, it's no use attacking me with my own idea, Clive (Kenny). You'll have to think of something more original than that. There you are, in all your glory, for all the world to see (if it has turned out alright). It serves you right for supplying me with the ammunition. I just hope you never manage to get your hands on a photo of me!))

DIPLOMACY STATS

Well some Diplomacy stats. Yes, at last Diplomacy Hobby Statistician, Pete Calcraft has sent some out. Now that I have them though, what to do with them? Pete doesn't print them in a form that's interesting to the 'ordinary' zine editor. I know it can be done because Mick Bullock's New Statsman was always of some interesting read (well, so it seemed to me). Trouble is, I can't really remember how Mick laid NS out. A couple of things in Pete's latest batch were of interest though. One was his calculations on how much the stats were costing him to produce. And I quote:-

"In view of some of the editorial whingeing ((?)) going around some sections of the hobby at present, I thought it might be interesting to set out the costs incurred by yours truly in this enterprise so far.

"I'll start by ignoring production costs entirely (paper, ribbons, tippex, reminders to editors, queries, photocopied forms, typewriter servicing, broken fingernails, files, glue, postage, lighting, heating etc etc) and so sticking to publishing and distributing costs only."

Which is probably just as well. Costs according to Pete are as follows: (ITB = In The Beginning, TFT = The Finishing Touch, and SOTA = Spirit of the Age - Pete's zine which I thought had folded...)

Printing ITB 12 & TFT 38 (3x150x2)	£21.51
Printing ITB 13 (1x150x2)	£ 7.17
Printing SOTA frontsheet (1x200x1)	£ 4.14
Approx postage on SS1-3	£11.00
Printing TFT 39 & TFT 40 (4x150x2)	£28.68
Printing ITB 14 (1x150x2)	£ 7.17
Approx postage SS4-6	£ 9.00
Total	<u>£88.67</u>

All very interesting, but the printing wasn't what all the hue and cry was about or am I wrong? Certainly I've never 'whinged' to Pete about his production costs. He continually brings this subject up himself, as if this justifies the REAL problem; the fact that no-one was getting to see the precious stats. I've said it once and I'll say it again: If Pete's worried about his litho production costs, why not change to a mimeo format? (Pete?) Certainly no-one will hold it against him.

But enough of my petty bickering (I think I only do it now to egg him on) and on to the other interesting point of the stats; the final WINS and DRAWS table, complete from the time Pete took the job over.

<u>TFT 38-42</u>	<u>5-Way</u>	<u>4-Way</u>	<u>3-Way</u>	<u>2-Way</u>	<u>WINS</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Austria	2	6	4	6	13	19.233	6
England	2	13	8	5	14	22.816	5
France	3	9	6	8	21	29.850	1
Germany	3	3	8	5	21	27.516	3
Italy	2	7	5	8	10	17.860	7
Russia	2	6	8	4	21	27.566	2
<u>Turkey</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>23.200</u>	<u>4</u>
Totals	3	13	16	21	115	168.000	

It's not so surprising that Italy and Austria did badly, but it certainly surprised me that Germany did better than Turkey or England. I LOATH playing Germany, and have found it, so far, to be the hardest country on the board to control.

Anyway, apart from, and perhaps ignoring, the odd little whinge above... my thanks to Pete for getting the stats out ... Here's to the next set.

SOPWITH STATS 2
by Richard Morris

((Richard has put a HELL of a lot of work into these stats since taking them over. SS2 is six pages long! In fact much too long to cover them fully here. They make interesting reading though so if you want to see the full results I suggest you send Richard a stamped addressed envelope: Richard Morris, 1 Highlandville, Lightcliffe, Halifax, HX3 8AG - they're well worth a look. Anyway on to Richard...))

"I shall be using the convention of showing pure rating in brackets for games which have been re-rated in future 'down to earth's' and in my ratings list."

Sopwith Records Richard Morris 28/5/83

1. Most Pts. in game: 50(69) Richard Morris DDD RAVEN
33 Tom Tweedy Hops GOTHA
29(41) Richard Turner Hops FOKKER (incomplete)
2. Most Pts. not winning: 22 Brian Moore Hops GOTHA
15(24) Rob Chapman DDD RAVEN
3. Worst Performance: -5 (Turn 4, Move 2) Peter Cowling DDD PELICAN
-5 (Turn 4, Move 2) Robert Lozynskyj DDD REDWING
-5 (Turn 4, Move 3) Martin Allen DDD KINGFISHER
4. Worst Winning Performance: 6 Keith Loveys DDD MUDLARK
5. Most Wins: 2 Frank Dunn
6. Most Kills: 6 Sandy Peters
7. Most Kills in a Game: 3 Richard Morris DDD RAVEN
8. Quickest Win: Turn 14, Move 3 Keith Loveys DDD MUDLARK
9. Slowest Win: Turn 24, Move 1 Dave Tant DDD KESTREL (20 pt. game)
Turn 15, Move 1 Tom Tweedy Hops GOTHA (normal game)

ACES HIGH SOPWITH RATING LIST Richard Morris

I don't have the time to include all the names this month - there are now 110 names on the list. Anyway everything here is correct up to and including: Thing 15/16 & 17: HtL 31 & 32; Acolyte 46 & 47; Zeeby 12/13 & 14; Hopscotch 31; Dib Dib Dib 29.

The awards/penalties are: +1 point for every hit a player makes; +5 for making a kill; +10 for killing an ace; and -10 if you're an ace that's been shot down. To become an ace a player must get a score of 40 or more. Anyone needing to understand more has but to ask me for a copy of the postal rules.

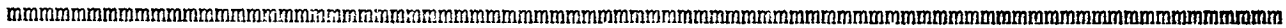
The breakdown of it is: Pts = Points/Hits (obviously); K = Kills; Sta = Status; C/R = Games Complete/Running; W = Wins.

Pts	K	Sta	C/R	W
90	6	ACE	3/3	-
88	3	ACE	2/2	1
73	2½	ACE	3/2	1
68	2	ACE	2/0	2
54	3	ACE	2/4	1
47	2	ACE	2/1	-
43	3	ACE	1/4	-
41	2	ACE	0/1	-
36	1	-	1/4	-
35	2	-	1/7	-
23	0	-	0/1	-

	Martin Mills	23	1½	-	1/10	-
13.	Nick Hoyle	22	1	-	1/1	-
14.	Alan Sharples	19	0	-	1/0	-
	Ian Tillson	19	1	-	0/1	-

Other Dib subscriber positions: =16 Alec Winton; =20 Iain Singer; =22 George North; 24 Tim Sharrock; 25 Clive Booth; =31 Keith Loveys; =33 Alan Parr & Larry Trask; =46 John Field & John Lee & Karl Piper; =62 Colin Bruce; 68 Richard Bass; all =69th Simon Billinness, John Bycroft, Cathy Cunning, Derek Cowan, Martyn Ives, Richard Lewis, Nick Marshall, Gary Piper, Matt Quartermain, Chris Sandow, Mike Sharpe, Richard Wernick, Ian Winstanley; =105 Robert Lozynskyj.

Phew you'll have to turn Sopwth Stats into a fee paying zine, Richard. If it gets any longer...



LETTERS

And who better this time to open Dib's lettercolumn than the brave a noble...

DEREK ANDREWS:

"I'd like to have my name included on your D&D waiting list. I've never played the D&D system, although I've proved myself to be an abject coward when playing T&T, Sorcerer's Cave, etc. I've got a broad, yellow, run-faster stripe down my back and a reputation for becoming a snivelling little shit when confronted by an Orc. Should you get the act together, and I do make the first team, can you forward an abundance of white flags and a bottle of Jack Daniels to the above address?"

((My God, this sounds like an earlier version of a Clive Booth profile! Must be a Communist plot to infiltrate Dib's lettercolumn... damn cowardly pinko subversives, ought to have their nuts put through a mangle and shot at dawn. That goes for any other commies left of Thatcher as well.))

oo000oo

DAVE TOTTEY:

"Have you ever thought about doing a survey of unusual pets of Dib subscribers?"

((The rest of this letter was censored because of subversive babblings and 'cos there was one deliberate mention of C*****n's. As for your single question Dave..... do you think I'm mad!? Martin Allen made friends with a pound of stewing steak - and he's the LEAST of my worries.))

oo000oo

GEORGE NORTH:

"On the front cover of Dib Dib Dib there is this bloke jumping out of the top window of a high building and in his hand he holds a copy of Dib Dib Dib and on the front cover of that Dib Dib Dib there is this bloke jumping out of the top window of a high building and holding in his hand a copy of Dib Dib Dib; and on the front cover of that Dib Dib Dib there is this bloke jumping out the top window of a high building and in his hand a copy of Dib Dib Dib; and in that copy of Dib Dib Dib there is this bloke jumping etc etc. ((So starts a typical George North letter - I think I get the point, George.))

I had a similar experience when I held a glass up to a mirror and saw glass; glass, glass, glass, glass, ad infinitem almost. It is strange that these things never go on foe ever and ever though, isn't it. I have tried it in the barber's chair where you see your face, back of the head, face, back of the head