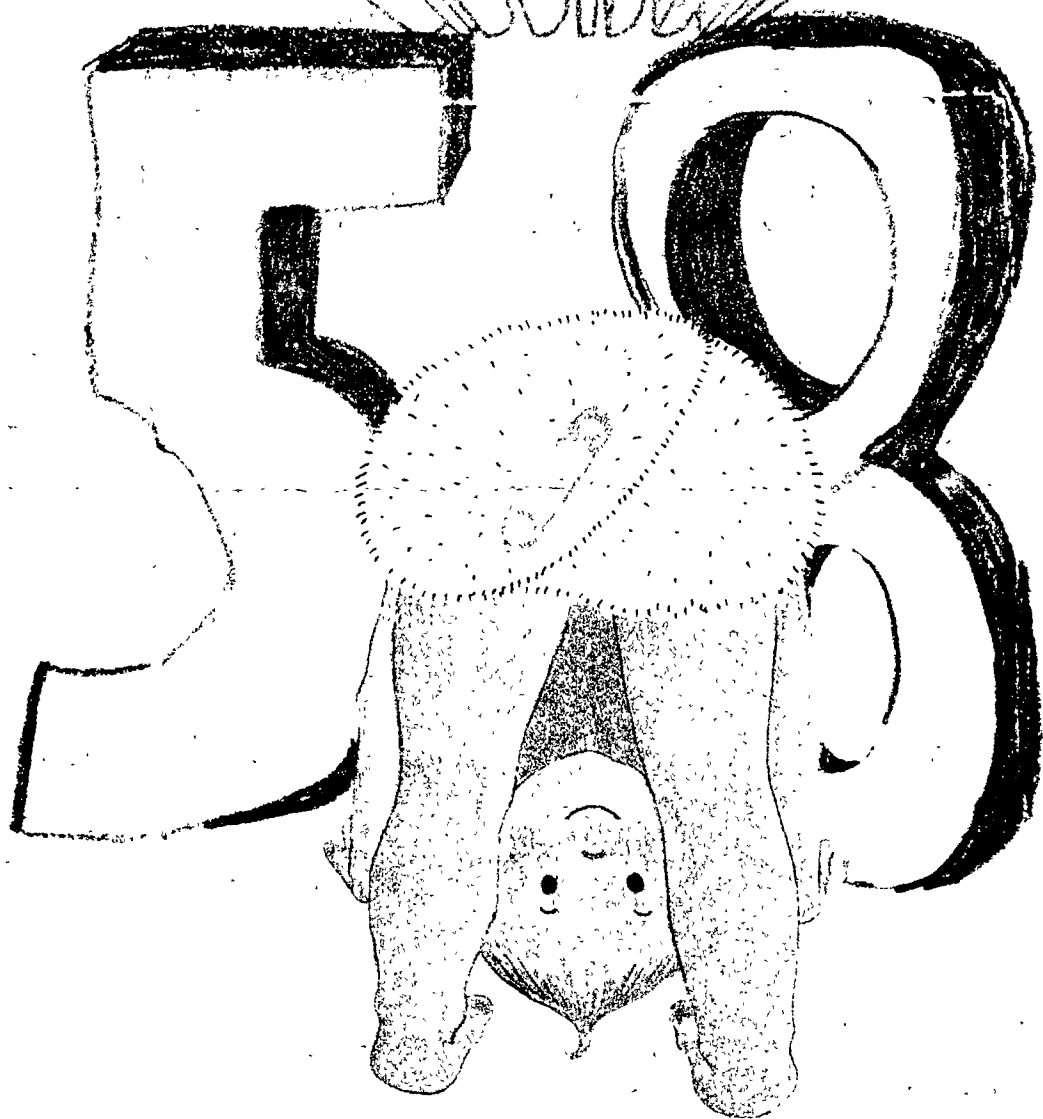


DIB DIB DIB



Congratulations
to Liz and Alan Sharples
on
Stephanie

Welcome to the 58th issue of Dib Dib Dib - which is SUPPOSED to be a games-only issue. The cost is a fixed rate of 45p per issue in the UK and 28p + postage overseas. Send money, to Tom Tweedy, 29 Stanley Hill Avenue, Amersham, Bucks., HP7 9BD. Tel. 02403 4513

BR 'Icene' (1982ES)

Spring 1909

ONLY AUSTRIA PLAYING

AUSTRIA (Alan Frost) F(WMS) S F(Tun)-NAf, F(Tun)-NAf, F(TYS)-GOL, A(Pie) stands, F(ION)-EMS, A(Tri)-Alb, A(Mun)-Sil, A(Pru)-Sil, A(Tyr) S A(Vie)-Boh, A(Vie)-Boh, A(Bud)-Gal, A(Ukr) S A(Rum)-Sev, A(Rum)-Sev, A(War) S A(Mos), A(Mos)stands, A(Bul)-Rum

ENGLAND (Andrew Glynn) NMR! Has: F(Nor), F(ENC), A(StP), F(NTH), A(Lon)

FRANCE (Anarchy) Has: *F(NAf), F(MAO), A(Mar), A(Spa), A(Ruh), A(Bur)

GERMANY (Bill Haygarth) NMR! Has: A(Ber), F(BAL), F(Kie), *A(Boh), *A(Sev)

TURKEY (Anarchy) Has: A(Arm)

Retreats: FRENCH F(NAf) dies; GERMAN A(Boh) and A(Sev) die.

ENDGAME PROPOSAL: 1st A; 2nd E/G. ((Votes for next time please - failure to vote counts as YES))

PRESS:

Austria - All: I can do it without any French centres, anyway. Give in. ((I think everyone has.))

~~'Lamfhada' (1983EE)~~~~Autumn 1912~~

AUSTRIA HANGING IN THERE AGAINST THE BIG TWO

AUSTRIA (James Cowie) *A(Mun)stands, A(Ser)-Gre, A(Gal)-Rum, [[A(Smy) S ITALIAN F(Con)-Ank]]

FRANCE (Alan Sharples) *F(Bre)-ENC, F(Por)-MAO, F(IRI) S F(Por)-MAO

GERMANY (R.J. Lampard) A(Sil)-Mun, A(Ber) S A(Sil)-Mun

ITALY (Paul Donley) F(Bul-sc) S F(Con), [[F(Con) S AUSTRIAN A(Smy)-Ank]], F(TYS)-ION, F(GOL)-WMS, F(Spa-sc) S F(MAO)-Por, F(MAO)-Por, F(Gas)-Bre, A(Par) S F(Gas)-Bre, A(Pie)-Tyr, A(Bur)-Bel

RUSSIA (Mike Close) F(ENC)-Bel, F(NWG)-NAO, F(Kie)-Hol, A(Pru)-Kie, F(BAL) C A(Pru)-Kie, A(War)-Gal, A(Sev)-Rum, A(Ukr) S A(Sev)-Rum, A(Mos)-War, F(BLA) S TURKISH A(Ank)

TURKEY (Simon Craddock) A(Ank)stands

Retreats: AUSTRIAN A(Mun)-Ruh; FRENCH F(Bre)-Pic

ENDGAME PROPOSAL: =1st R/I; 3rd F/A; 5th T/G was defeated

COA: Paul Donley, back to Telford Hall.

Winter 1912 Adjustments:

AUS: Bud, Ser, Tri, (Rum), (Con), Smy + Gre	= 5 Builds: A(Bud)
FRA: Por, Lpl, Lon, Bel, (Spa)	= 4 (NBO 1 SHORT)
GER: Vie, Ber + Mun	= 3 (NBO 1 SHORT)
ITA: Ven, Rom, Nap, Tun, (Gre), Mar, Par, Bre, (Mun), Bul + Con, Spa	= 10 No Change
RUS: StP, Mos, Nor, Sev, Swe, Edi, Den, Hol, Kie, War + Rum	= 11 Builds: A(Sev)
TUR: Ank	= 1 No Change

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PRESS:

ANNOUNCEMENT: Liz and Alan Sharples are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter, Stephanie, on 14th April, 1986, weighing in at a bonny 9lb 6oz. ((Yeah, a good size - congratulations Alan (well, Liz did all the work so there's more congratulations to her). A nice name Stephanie.))

(Lamfhada press cont....)

To German Puppet from English Slaves: I'll vouch for my Russian master, there's nothing to worry about, he treats his vanquished enemies well.

Latest Betting: Russia evens favourite, Italy 7-4, Austria 4-1, France 5-1, Germany 25-1, Turkey 100-1.

Austria - LUTON AIRPORT: Thanks for the letter Tom, I only hate you half as much now. ((Yes, the truth always hurts...))

Italy: Due to final year exams shortly correspondence will be limited until early June.

'Olwen' (1984B0)

Spring 1911

FRANCE STARTS TO FEEL THE BITE OF THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE

FRANCE (Colin Pickard) F(Cly)-NWG, F(ENC)-Lon, F(Bre)-ENC, A(Edi)-Yor, A(Pic)-Bur, A(Bur)-Ruh, A(Bel) S A(Bur)-Ruh, F(Mar)-GOL, F(TYS)-Tun, F(Gre)-ION, A(Pie)-Tus, *A(Bud)-Ser, F(Nap)-TYS

GERMANY (Kenny Adams) A(Tyr) stands, F(NTH)-ENC, A(Boh)-Mun, *A(Ruh) S A(Boh)-Mun, A(Mun)-Kie, A(Den) stands

ITALY (Anarchy) Has: *A(Rum), F(Tri), A(Ven)

RUSSIA (Nicholas Whyte) A(Gal)-Bud, A(Ukr) S A(Sev)-Rum, A(Sev)-Rum, A(Nor) stands

TURKEY (Ian Winstanley) A(Vie) S RUSSIAN A(Gal)-Bud, A(Ser) S RUSSIAN A(Gal)-Bud, A(Ank)-Con, F(Bul-sc) S F(Smy)-AEG, F(Smy)-AEG, F(ION)-Nap

Retreats: FRENCH A(Bud) dies (NO); GERMAN A(Ruh)-Hol; ITALIAN A(Rum) dies

COA: Nicholas Whyte, Schubertstrasse 4, 7105 Leingarten, West Germany.

ENDGAME PROPOSALS: TWO proposals have been put forward:-

(a) 1st F; 2nd T; 3rd R; 4th G

(b) =1st R/F/T ((Votes for next time please - failure to vote counts as NO))

LUTON AIRPORT: Endgame Proposals and votes cannot be made conditional. Press conditional on this subject must be worded carefully as GM is often too thick to work out split decisions.

PRESS:

Russia - France: I'm hanging on in here: Why? 'Cos I don't think you can make it on your own.

'Quadri' (1984DX)

Spring 1909

RUSSIA MAKING SLOW PROGRESS - WILL OTHERS GAIN ENOUGH INTEREST TO STOP HIM?

AUSTRIA (James Steele) A(Tri) & A(Ser) stand, A(Alb) S A(Ser), F(Gre)-AEG

FRANCE (Alan Powis) A(Bur)-Ruh, A(Eel) S A(Bur)-Ruh, A(Pic) S A(Bel), F(ENC) S F(Lon)-NTH, F(Lon)-NTH, F(NTH)-SKA, F(Cly)-NWG, A(Lpl)-Edi

GERMANY (Richard Wernick) NMR! Has: A(Mun), *A(Ruh), F(Kie), F(Hol)

ITALY (Martin Clifford-King) F(TYS) stands, F(Tun)-ION, F(Bul-sc)-Con, A(Ven)-Tyr, F(Con)-BLA, F(Nap)-Apu, A(Rom)-Nap

RUSSIA (Richard Downes) A(Bud)-Ser, A(Rum) S A(Bud)-Ser, F(Edi)-NWG, F(BLA) S A(Arm)-Ank, A(Arm)-Ank, F(Stp-nc)-Nor, A(Swe) S F(StP-nc)-Nor, A(Mos)-War, A(Gal)-Bud, A(Vie) S A(Gal)-Bud

Retreats: GERMAN A(Ruh) dies

COA: Martin Clifford-King, Cell K104, Glen Eyre Hall, Bassett, Southampton, S09 2QN. (Cont'd over.....)

(Quadri cont...)

ENDGAME PROPOSAL: 1st I; =2nd R/F; =4th A/G ((Votes for next time please - failure to vote counts as NO))

LUTON AIRPORT: Just to put the record straight, Russia COULDN'T build A(War) last season, but instead built A(Mos).

PRESS:

Paris - GM: Why bow to pressure? Why not stick to your decisions? (Do you get the impression I'm not glad to be back?) ((Yes, but rules are rules...))

'Setanta' (1984BF)Spring 1907

RUSSIA LOOKS STRONG WITH NO CONCENTRATED EFFORT AGAINST HIM

AUSTRIA (Jon Moss)	*A(Ser)-Bul, F(Gre) S A(Ser)-Bul
ENGLAND (Anarchy)	Has: F(Lpl)
FRANCE (Robert Lozynskyj)	A(Wal)-Yor, F(ENC)-Lon, F(MAO)-ENC, F(Bre)-Pic, A(Bur) S A(Bel)-Ruh, A(Bel)-Ruh
GERMANY (Anarchy)	Has: F(Kie), *A(Ruh), A(Mun), A(Ber)
ITALY (Alan Powis)	F(NAO)-NWG, A(Tri)-Tyr, A(Ven) S A(Tri)-Tyr, A(Rom)-Tus
RUSSIA (Paul Finch)	F(NTH)-Hol, F(Den)-HEL, A(Swe)-Den, F(StP-nc)-Nor, A(War)-Pru, A(Boh)-Sil, A(Vie) S A(Bud), A(Bud) S TURKISH A(Bul)-Ser, A(Rum) S TURKISH A(Bul)-Ser, F(Sev) S A(Rum), A(Mos)-Ukr
TURKEY (Victor Hall)	A(Bul)-Ser, F(Nap) stands, F(Arm)-BLA, F(BLA)-Con, A(Smy)-Arm

Retreats: AUSTRIAN A(Ser)-Tri; GERMAN A(Ruh) dies

ENDGAME PROPOSAL: =1st T/R/F; 4th A/I; 6th G; 7th E was defeated. A NEW proposal has been put forward:-

=1st R/F/I/T; 5th A; 6th E/G ((Votes for next time please - failure to vote counts as NO))

PRESS:

Italy - Austria: Well, you only got what you deserved. By the way, why have you stopped writing?

'Taranis' (1985BG)Spring 1906

ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE, THERE'S BLOOD EVERYWHERE

ENGLAND (Dave Fish)	F(Nor) S F(Swe), *F(Swe) S F(Den), F(Den) S F(Swe), F(Edi)-NTH, A(Lon)-Yor, F(Lpl) stands unordered
FRANCE (Neil Parkin)	F(Spa-sc) S F(Bre)-MAO, F(IRI) S F(Bre)-MAO, F(Bre)-MAO, A(Hol)-Bel, A(Mar)-Pie, A(Gas)-Bre, A(Por)stands
GERMANY (Luke Clutterbuck)	F(BAL)-Swe, A(Fin) S F(BAL)-Swe, F(NTH)-Den, A(StP)-Nor, *A(War)stands
ITALY (David Abbott)	[[F(ION) S F(AEG)]] ((COUNTRY NOT NAMED)), F(Tun) S F(ION), F(Alb) S F(ION), *F(MAO)stands, A(Ser) S RUSSIAN F(Rum)-Bul-ec, A(Vie) stands unordered, A(Ven)-Tyr, A(Gal) S RUSSIAN A(Mos)-War
RUSSIA (Ulf Jiretorn)	A(Ukr)-War, A(Mos) S A(Ukr)-War, F(Ank)-Con, F(Rum)-Bul-ec
TURKEY (Ken Haywood)	*A(Bul)-Ser, F(Gre)-ION, F(AEG) S F(Gre)-ION, F(Con)stands

Retreats: ENGLISH F(Swe)-GOB; GERMAN A(War)-Lvn; ITALIAN F(MAO)-NAO; TURKISH A(Bul) dies (NRP)

(Taranis cont'd...)

ENDGAME PROPOSAL: 1st F; 2nd Luke Clutterbuck's ego; 3rd I; 4th Those people unmentioned, was defeated.

PRESS:

LUTON AIRPORT - Ulf: Okay, no press - but I normally check the press for giveaway tactics anyway.

Italia - LUTON-AIRPORT: Me, got a dirty mind?! My mind is as pure as driven mud snow. It's you who's trying to corrupt your subscribers' innocence. ((I shall treat that with the contempt it so obviously deserves.))

England - Germany: Sorry, I can't read my writing either.

Italia (again) - LUTON AIRPORT: The trouble is that I don't know nufing - if I did, I certainly wouldn't trust the likes of Clutterbuck. ((Stands to reason, dunnit...))

England - Russia: Re your last press: I bet it's not as good as what Germany told me.

Italy - Russia: You never did tell me which army was moving into Warsaw (unless you did in your 1st letter, in which case I plead lack of information) - I hope I got this right [and no witticisms from the back, TT] ((I wasn't going to say anything! It's not my fault you have to plead ignorance 99% of the time.))

A Casual Observer - World: Beware a sudden Franco/German alliance.

'Uther' (1985DV)

Spring 1904

ITALY GETS CAUGHT TRUSTING RUSSIA... TURKEY?

AUSTRIA (Kevin Baker)	A(Vie)-Tri
ENGLAND (Piers Shepperson)	F(NTH)stands, F(Swe)-Nor, F(Lpl) S F(NAO), F(NAO) S F(Lpl), A(Lon)stands
FRANCE (Daniel Brooks)	A(Bel)-Ruh, A(Bur) S A(Bel)-Ruh, F(ENC)-Bel, A(Pic) S F(ENC)-Bel, F(IRI)-ENC, F(MAO) S F(IRI)-ENC
GERMANY (James Cowie)	F(Kie)-HEL, F(BAL)-Ber, A(Ber)-Kie, A(Hol)-Ruh, A(Mun) S F(BAL)-Ber
ITALY (Tim Collieu)	A(Tyr)-Ven, A(Alb) stands, *A(Tri)-Bud, F(Nap) S F(Rom)-TYS, F(Rom)-TYS
RUSSIA (Kris Morris)	F(StP-nc)-Nor, A(Ukr)-Gal, A(Bud) S TURKISH A(Ser)-Tri, A(Pru)-Ber, A(Sil) S A(Pru)-Ber, A(War) S A(Sil)
TURKEY (Kath Collman)	F(ION)-Tun, F(EMS)-ION, F(AEG) S F(EMS)-ION, A(Gre)-Alb, A(Ser)-Tri, A(Bul)-Ser

Retreats: ITALIAN A(Tri) dies (NRO)

COA: Kevin Baker, 14 Maple Way, Donington, Nr. Spalding, Lincs, PE11 4XL.

PRESS:

Kaiser - Turkish Delight: Stop it Kathy, you're married - someone will find out.

Sultana - Tsarina: Sorry, I didn't know he had a dicky heart. I'll be more careful next time - but I can't be held responsible for his funny fetishes.

Rasputin - Germany: I've tried oh how I've tried to be good, but I just can't resist attacking you, I wonder if you've done the same to me?.

Russia - Luton Airport: Lady, what lady? Oh I see, you must mean the Sultana, that star of stage, screen and crossroads, well believe me, if you saw what she sent me in the post, you'd know she wasn't a lady!!!!

Tsar - Sultana: That's the trouble with the Germans, they will insist on using dirty tactics. (You'd think they would wash them first wouldn't you?)

Italy (Govt) - Austria: Sorry, I haven't replied, will do soon - promise, if I find a break in revision schedule will write.

Russia - Everyone: One down, five to go, who's next for the early shower? (what do you mean, me!!!) (Cont'd over.....)

(Uther press cont'd....)

Russia - Luton Airport: Well she certainly scares me.

Germany - Turkey: For a female you are a nasty specimen.

Turkey - Russia: Your suggestion about special hardcore for the garage was extremely tempting!!

Russia - England: At last a letter, but don't worry, your secret's safe with me. How do you think Germany will react when he finds out about it?

Onward ever onward went the juggernaut, freeing the poor oppressed nations of Europe, giving them cause to be happy and joyful once more. Let there be singing and dancing in the streets (but only during the hours of 7 to 7:30 am, after which all people must report to their collective supervisor after work - i.e. after 9pm - for one hour, when the curfew will be imposed until 7 am the following day. Anyone found in the streets after this time will be requested to help the police with their enquiries). All power to the Tsar and Sultana, long may they reign.

Italy (Govt) - Turkey: I cried and cried and cried and cried and cried, however I accept that you are sorry.

Sultana - Franz Josef: Time quickly passes by;

If only we could talk again

Someday I hope I'll see you (smiling)

When you're a free man again.

Compost Heap Garden of a Thousand Delights Vienna: The Austrian Emperor wishes to apologise for the NMR last season due to a sudden house move. ((That's the trouble with caravans!)) This was coincident upon his equally sudden removal from Tri and Bud in the game, but was not intended to show disillusion or insult to other players.

Disguised as an itinerant jobbing gardener. Their last communications was today issued by the sadly deposed Emperor:

Austria - World: Goodbye, cruel world.

Austria - Russia: Watch what you put your foot in, bossy boots.

Austria - Turkey: Hell hath no fury like a Colman spawned.

Austria - Italy: It is not for I to call you ignorant, illiterate, stupid, thick skinned and short-sighted, but if others should consider you so, and choose to walk all over you, don't be too surprised.

Austria - Germany: Good luck, my friend.

Austria - England: There'll always be an England.

Austria - France: Beware of the Lion's den.

Turkey - LUTON AIRPORT: Wildcat? WILDCAT?? Wot an insult to us ladies - I'll scratch yer eyes out! Why not go the whole hog and call it CHEETAH? ((Cheater, eh? How boring.))

Special Message Austria Emperor To Tsar: To, Tsar, for your kindly concern as to my passing I am happy to say that once I am finally interred, the bricks in which I am inturd can rectum from my own passage to the bowels of the earth, much to my personal relief.

Magnus Magnusson - Russian Peoples: Is your Tzar a pervert? Nuns and sheep suggest so.

Turkey (Uther) - Italy (Xanten): Has your wife seen Dib 57?? She only lets you play Dip because she thinks you can't get up to anything while you're playing! I warn you, I shall have no mercy another time! ((The gentle sex, eh?))

Italy - Tweedy: I never knew women could be so ruthless! ((Ah the naivety of youth... Now you know why women prefer the older and mature types; because they're cynical, and wise to the ways of women. Mind you, I'm older and mature but I still haven't figured out what makes Jan tick - but then, she's difficult!))

LUTON AIRPORT - France: It's not a good idea to put retreats on the back of a slip of paper without a 'PTO' - I nearly missed it.

Italy - Russia: Will be in contact soon, now about those wellies... ((Don't be so filthy!))

'Vortigern' (1985GA)Spring 1904

TURKEY WAKES UP TO THE AUSTRIAN THREAT

AUSTRIA (John Piggott) A(Ven)-Rom, F(ADS)-ION, F(Gre) S F(ADS)-ION, *F(Bul-sc)-AEG, A(Ser)-Rum, A(Gal)-Sil, A(Ukr)-Sev, A(Bud)-Gal

ENGLAND (Michele Morris) F(NWG)-Edi, A(Lon)-Yor, F(ENC)-Lon, F(Nor)-NWG, A(Fin)-StP

FRANCE (Bob Watson) A(Bre)-Par, A(Pic) S A(Bur), A(Bur) stands, F(MAO)-ENC, A(Mar)-Pie

GERMANY (Alan Frost) F(NTH) C A(Hol)-Yor, A(Hol)-Yor, F(HEL) S F(NTH), F(Den) S RUSSIAN F(Swe), A(Bel)-Ruh, A(Mun)-Ruh

ITALY (Anarchy) Has: A(Tun), *F(ION), A(Apu)

RUSSIA (Per Von Gavel) F(Sev)-Rum, A(Mos) S A(War)-Ukr, A(War)-Ukr, [[A(Swe) stands]] ((NO SUCH UNIT)), F(Swe) stands unordered

TURKEY (Jon Moss) A(Con)-Bul, F(Smy)-AEG, F(BLA) S A(Con)-Bul

Retreats: AUSTRIAN F(Bul-sc) dies; ITALIAN F(ION) dies

COA: Per von Gavel, 13 Chamberlain Street, London, NW1 8SB

PRESS:

Turkey - All Nations: It doesn't take a fool to see that without an Italian influence Piggott ((Sir, to his friends)) will walk over us making manure while the hay shines. If there's no organised defense, alliances and trust we may as well go home.

How true those Italian war jokes are! ((A perceptive man...!))

London, England April 23rd: A messenger arrives bearing news of hostile German fleets to the East and a French fleet to the West. It was noted that the French sailors were seen to be grinning, but it was not known if this was in friendship or if they were grins of derision.

"What now Piglet?" asked the Queen. "What do I do now? The Russians have ceased all communications, the Germans have declared war and the French are playing it both ways. Advise me for heaven's sake!"

"I don't know what you should do, Ma'am, but I'm off. It's not safe around here anymore!"

"Oh no you don't, Piglet! You got me into this mess. Desertion is treason. Guards arrest him! Take him to The Tower, he's become far too big-headed, so cure him of it. Off with his head!" (Must bake some jam tarts)

The Prince Consort enters. "My dear, we've just received word that our little Princes have arrived safely at their secret destination. Whatever happens to us now, they are safe."

The Queen flicks idly through the pages of an old photo album. "Look darling, there I am riding a unicycle! It was taken when my father sent me to the Moscow State Circus to train as a 'trick cyclist'. I couldn't see the point at the time, but he knew better. He knew there'd come a time when I'd need to be able to keep my balance when provided with very little in the way of support!"

"These are indeed troubled times. Courage my dear. Where is Piglet, your Chief Advisor?"

"My training stands me in good stead. As for Piglet, he has already lain down his life. I too may go where Ego's, but Ids Super Egos first. I may be Jung but I'm not a Freud to die!"

England - World: Now do you know what I'm studying? ((Cooking...?))

Russia - All: Exams loom over me, sorry for the noncommitment to this game, but my future is more important. As for the future in this game, it's very bleak. Hope the exams are better.

Kaiser - Queen: Sorry, but I never could resist a lady with her knickers down.

England - Germany: Too right! I don't believe you. Too many girls have already been caught out by fellas claiming to fire blanks while the ammo's still live!

Russia - Turkey: Well?!

League of Good Taste - LUTON AIRPORT: What about a competition for the sweeping statement that offends most people? I'll kick off with 'Only tarts

(Vortigern press cont'd...)

have their ears pierced'. ((Ermm, a good one - for a start Jan has her ears pierced, and I don't know what Andy Mansfield will say about being called a tart...))

The Queen - The League for Good Taste: If you want to censor something may I suggest you try the Kaiser's depraved ravings. The man sinks lower with every missive!

Russia - Italy: You're a copout.

'Witham' (1986??)

Spring 1902

AUSTRIA TAKES ANOTHER POUNDING... BUT FROM A 4-WAY ALLIANCE!

(What has the shameful German to say for himself...?)

AUSTRIA (Nick Hoyle)	*A(Bud)-Tri, A(Ser) S A(Bud)-Tri, F(Tri)-ADS
ENGLAND (Per Von Gavel)	F(Nor) S RUSSIAN F(GOB)-Swe, A(Yor)-Lpl, F(Lon)-ENC, F(Edi)-NTH
FRANCE (Pete Mason)	F(Wal)-IRI, F(Bre)-MAO, A(Pdr)-Bur, A(Bel) stands, A(Spa) stands
GERMANY (Alan Powis)	A(Mun)-Sil, A(Tyr) S ITALIAN A(Ven)-Tri, F(Kie)-BAL, F(Den) S F(Kie)-BAL, A(Hol) stands
ITALY (Kris Morris)	F(Tun)-ION, A(Nap)-Apu, A(Rom)-Ven, A(Ven)-Tri, A(Vie) S A(Ven)-Tri
RUSSIA (Danny Collman)	F(GOB)-Swe, A(War)-Sil, A(Gal) S A(Rum)-Bud, A(Rum)-Bud, F(Sev)-Rum
TURKEY (Rowland Goodman)	A(Gre)-Ser, F(Bul-sc)-Gre, F(Con)-AEG, F(Smy)-EMS, A(Ank)-Con

Retreats: AUSTRIAN A(Bud) dies (NRP)

COA: Per von Gavel, 13 Chamberlain Street, London, NW1 8SB

PRESS:

England - All: Exams are looming over me, so sorry for the noncommitment and the noncorrespondence in this game. Forgive me and try till July to write but you may not get a reply, but if I can I will.

The Silly Old Man took another look at the comments on his last story, and thought: if that's how you feel, sod off. ((That's a relief then, I thought you might take it to heart.))

Sing Song in Byzantium: "We don't want to fight,
But by jingo if we do,
We won't go ourselves,
We'll send the gentle Hindoo."

England - France: I thought I could trust someone, but obviously not you.

Russia - France: What happened? You didn't reply.

Paul Oakes (Witham Bourse) - Luton Airport: I can think of two reasons for Italy building two armies in the face of Turkey's two builds.

Realising that neither Russia or Turkey is his ally and having attacked Austria he made himself so weak that, if Russia and Austria don't ally with him then Turkey will race through the Med. and the Balkans to almost certain victory. Thus he gets Russia and Austria to do the brunt of the work, he keeps his two builds and Austria is still weak and vulnerable to a future attack by him, and Turkey is disposed of.

The other possibility is, that he is a complete and utter imbecile! Err, Kath any chance of giving Danny some advice?

Bald Eagle - Kermit: There was a young lass from Brum
Who kept putting stuff on her tum ((tongue?))

Berlin - 49 Steps: What were those first six again? ((Oh no you don't, ask him in a letter!))

England - Germany (or Berlin): YES YOU DID! Or did you? Ah so you want to help me against France (Ssh) oh woops sorry not so loud!

And it came to pass: That he looked down and wherever he looked chaos and

(Witham press cont'd...)

confusion ruled. "The Spaghetti Junction was a mistake," he thought.
England - The Green Pasta: We're only in S'02 so five seasons doesn't make any sense, in fact nor does anything else. But I'll except the post, what's the catch?

Berlin - England: I got 49, 55 and 61. Which ones did you get?

Italy World: Does anyone out there know what the silly old man's press was about? never mind being terrible to type it was terrible to read.

Kermit Bald Eagle: Charlotte was a married lady

A stripper once was she

(I told you you would regret this didn't I)

((She also painted, decorated

Well, husband's are lazy!!!!))

Butoni Mail: Welcome news on the business front. Ice cream sales have been so good that a new factory has been opened in Vienna and (hopefully) that lovely coastal resort of Trieste. There is no truth in the rumour that these new factories were unwanted, the Austrian Government has welcomed them with open arms.

Butoni Times: Due to an all strike in the shipyards, there has been a drastic reduction in the number of ships being built. However, thanks to a top level meeting we are now pasta the worst, and everything is reverting to normal. This means that the new breed of super warships can be built, designed by that well known design team of Lyons and Maid. They will be fitted with the all-new fez-seeking guided raspberry ripple cones, developed by our weapons expert, Mr Walls, to combat the growing threat from Turkey, or what our defence minister refers to as "that laughing hyena with the funny hat".

Italy - France: Thanks for the offer, I'll despatch the air-force as soon as you request it.

Italy - Forty-nine steps: Do you think that if you take enough steps, you may (hopefully) step off the plank, and drown?

'Xanten' (1986???)

Autumn 1901

A LOT HAPPENING...

AUSTRIA (Colin Kinsella) A(Ser) S RUSSIAN F(BLA)-Rum-ec, A(Bud)-Tri, F(Alb)-Gre
 ENGLAND (Stephen Cloves) F(NWG)-BAR, F(NTH) C A(Yor)-Nor, A(Yor)-Nor
 FRANCE (Heiko Schafer) A(Gas)-Por, F(MAO) C A(Gas)-Por, A(Mar)-Spa
 GERMANY (Chris Sandow) A(Ruh)-Bel, F(Hol) S A(Ruh)-Bel, A(Kie)-Den
 ITALY (Andy Mansfield) F(ION)-Tun, A(Tri)-Vie, A(Ven)-Tyr
 RUSSIA (Tony Reynolds) F(GOB)-Swe, A(StP)-Fin, F(BLA)-Rum-ec, A(Ukr)-Sev
 TURKEY (Rowland Goodman) A(Bul)-Rum, F(Con)-BLA, A(Arm)-Sev

LUTON AIRPORT: Yes, certainly a lot happening. France makes the favoured Piggott opening (quite a nice one too) keeping his fleets north; Austria fumbles and loses Vienna; Italy forgets to make use of his extra gain and fails to order build; Russia comes under extreme anti-Russian pressure from Turkey and England; and Germany is on SIX centres! This certainly doesn't look like it's going to be a dull game.

Autumn 1901 Adjustments:

AUS: Tri, Bud, (Vie) + Ser, Gre = 4 Builds: A(Bud)
 ENG: Lon, Lpl, Edi + Nor = 4 Builds: F(Lon)
 FRA: Bre, Mar, Par + Por, Spa = 5 Builds: A(Por), F(Bre)
 GER: Mun, Kie, Ber + Bel, Hol, Den = 6 Builds: A(Mun), F(Kie), A(Ber)
 ITA: Rom, Ven, Nap + Tun, Vie = 5 Builds: F(Rom) ~~(T-SHORT)~~ A(Ven)
 RUS: Mos, War, StP, Sev + Swe, Rum = 6 Builds: F(StP-nc), A(Sev)
 TUR: Smy, Ank, Con + Bul = 4 Builds: A(Con)

(Press cont'd over....)

(Xanten press...)

PRESS:

LUTON AIRPORT - England: Why does your orders come in Danny Collman's envelope?

England - Turkey: Sorry about Saturday!

Russia - Italy: Sorry for not writing, expect one soon.

Henry Root: It has come to my attention as Chairman of the Campaign for the Return of Capital Punishment that certain elements of this game are worrying a few players - namely who the player I referred to last time is, and who The White Spy is - well to put the record straight it's not me, twice. ((Nor me, three times...))

However this season's missive does concern a more serious matter to us supporters of the knife grinders institute, namely the eternal E,F & G triangle. Sources close to my wife (Lady Root, magistrate and door to door salesman) ((salesperson, surely?)) suggest that although all looks quiet, this is a fallacy, and one of these exalted gentlemen is in fact planning some rather obvious fleet builds next year (1903). I mention no names but remember the MAO is only one move away from IRI - fleets in Brest always look pretty. I will admit to wrong timing if it happens this year and fully applaud such demonstrative moves.

England - Italy: Thank God for word processors!

Russia - Germany: Thanks for Sweden, you're on my Xmas card list.

Gare Du Sud - Tout Le Monde: Oops, my troops must have been in reverse...!

The Forty Nine Steps: Step 8: What product does W&J LEIGH & Co. manufacture? ((Are people really answering these?))

England - All: Due to O'levels (June 2-19) letters will be shorter and less will be written as they draw closer, sorry.

Italy - Austria: Although I've gone further don't do anything hasty - listen to Uncle Danny.

Russia - All: Now listen you lot, anyone tries to convoy and oust Gadhafi and I'll set my radiation on you (sic).

Ste - Skidmark: Was he scared of you know who?

Austria - England: Trieste.

England - Germany: Who is/was Niels Bohr?

A Friend who's bound to know - Whoever misspelled 'Lebensraum': Do that again and the V-4 will fly!

Russia - GM: Should have been 'No Lebensraum in the east'. Don't you know your history man? No living space as demanded by Hitler in the 1930's. ((No, it didn't seem to crop up in my Roman, Greek and Celtic studies... A deprived childhood I guess.))

The Czar - London: If you think you're gonna use that Norweigan cul-de-sac. GO AWAY!

Radio Trieste: We have been bugging the Sublime Porte... here are some of his naive and simplistic deliberations...

"Worshipful highness, what have you done!"

"So I lied, Mole, what of it?"

"You fool, you simpleton, I've thus accidently lied to all our friends and allies."

"And told the truth to all our enemies? Well I thought you would, that's why I did it!"

(Announcer speaks): "Enter the men in white coats to drag the madman away. Only which one will they drag away?"

Mr Glide - All: I dream of Heiko Schafer. ((We all have our problems...))

Italy - England: I'm sure he won't feel free to attack.

Lt. Dez Troy (screaming at his map of the No-Man's-Land): Oh no, I've flown into the wrong game! Thank God these sods haven't invented AA guns yet (then again, neither have we).

'The Root of All Evil' - 'Witham' Diplomacy Bourse Spring 1902

GM: Richard Downes, 2 Brisbane Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 1XZ. (0795) 77027.

Currency	Gr	£	FF	DM	Li	Ro	Pi	\$
Paul Oakes	-500			+4946	-500			-42.86
Fireball		-10	+25	+5030	-500		-500	+0.00
Alison's Brother	-500	-500		+5000	-500	+2300	-500	-12.00
Junkie	-500			+7219	-500	-500		-4.79
Lemming	NTR!							
General Jarolselski	NTR!							
Hrodvitnir	-500	-500	-500	+9329	-500		-500	+0.11
The Rabbi	-100	+100	-500	-500	-500	-500	-500	+30.93
Morph		-500	-500	+4000			-500	+200.00
Kerensky Corporated	-500			+400	-500		-500	+18.21
God Emperor				+3600	-250		-450	-50.50
Loki		-500	-500	+5707			-500	-499.87
Total	-2600	-1510	-1975	+44731	-3750	+1300	-3950	+4504.09
Change	-0.26	-0.15	-0.19	+4.47	-0.37	+0.13	-0.39	
New Value	1.50	0.73	0.67	4.88	1.84	0.72	1.55	

Current Holdings

Currency	Gr	£	FF	DM	Li	Ro	Pi	\$	Victory Pts
Fireball			25	5030	4782		4904	0.00	737.05
Alison's Brother	2500	1100		6000	2500	2300	1500	44.00	734.00
Paul Oakes	500			4946	9350			4.14	729.80
Hrodvitnir				9829		500	4000	0.11	716.45
Junkie	7281	500	500	7719			500	0.33	675.38
God Emperor			2900	4000		2900		6.50	490.00
Morph		2000	2500	4000		500	750	292.50	467.50
Lemming	3945	3300					3400	1.40	420.35
Loki		200	200	6207		800	200	1880.13	376.35
General Jarolselski	2500	500	300	500	2500	300	1500	1300.00	350.00
Kerensky Corporated	100	900	1500	1900	100	1000		2309.00	264.00
The Rabbi	150	350	700	650	650	850	550	3379.00	188.50

BIG MAC: This time I have been able to calculate the victory points seeing that it is a spring move. It's very close at the top with 21 points separating the top four (8 between the top 3). Hrodvitnir makes an impressive climb and the poor Rabbi along with Kerensky missed out on the heavy DM purchases. Lemming and Genral Jarolselski take little interest in the proceedings. But failing to submit any orders.

PRESS:

Sign from Valhalla: I saw this forthcoming. Let's organise a charity fund to my benefit.

Kerensky Corporated - God Emperor: Prepare to be made bankrupt ((Who him or you?!))

Kerensky Corporated - The Rabbi: After you've finished with the stockbroker, can I have him?

((From these moves I don't think he has found the stockbroker yet!))

For Instant Financial Success: Call (****) ***** ((censored - we can't have private deals going on now can we?)), & say it's to do with Stockbrokers - Jormungandr.

SOPWITH (T084DD)

'Great Lil'

TURN 7

GM: Richard Downes, 2 Brisbane Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 1XZ. (0795) 77027

	Moves	Hex	F/Hex	Ammo	Dge	HP
MACHINE GUN JOE (Stuart Tweedy)	A-f0, RT-fR, A-fR - Lands	A10	???	16	2	11
SAUER VON MESSERSHIP (Per von Gavel)	LS-fL, LT-f0, LT-f0	F12	E12	7	2	8
MAJOR CRINGEWORTHY (Terry Dibden)	I-f0, A-f0, LT-fA	M6	L6	7	7	14
PHANTOM PHART (James Steele)	RT-fR, RT-fA+L	Q14	Q13	7	3	11
WOODY WOODPECKER (Daniel Brooks)	RT-f0, A-fA, LT-f0	O12	N12	9	5	5

CLOUD POSITIONS (At the beginning of Turn 6) All move toward S10.

(1) D5, E5, F4, F5, F4

(2) J11, K11, L11

(3) J5, K6, K5

(4) J14, K15, L15

(5) N11, N10, O11, P11

(6) D8, E8, F9, 69

DAMAGE: On move one, the Phantom crept up behind Woody and slammed him for 4 pts of dge.

PRESS:

SAUER VON MESSERSHIP - MACHINE GUN JOE: Lets make peace till we reload & refuel. Agreed?

SAUER VON MESSERSHIP - BIG MAC: I'm not thick, I'm desperate, as to our editor, please you must address him with God.

BIG MAC: Please note that Machine Gun Joe is now an Ace.

```

GGG AAA RRRR DDDD EEEEE ! SSSS V V AAA N N N 4 4 4 4 000
GGG AAAA RRRR D D D EEEEE ! SSSS V V V AAAAA N N N N 44444 000
GGG A A R R R DDDD EEEEE SSSS V V V A A N N N N 4 000

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HELLO, good evening and welcome to the March 1601 turn of Dib Dib Dib's En Garde! campaign. Back to pre-typed after the mess Tom's stencil cutter made last time.

STATUS LEAGUE TABLE

Character	SL	SP	CASH	RANK	REGT	MIST	CLUB	MA	EXP	Name
Jean Gardian*	6	9	325	CAPT	DrGd	-	BIGb	5	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	Brian Moore
Louis Pasteur	6	14	470	MAJ	QOC	Sally	F&P	1	12.	Daniel Brooks
Piers Tastanute	6	Fr	175	CAPT	QOC	Wanda	HoGd	4	12.	Simon Craddock
Charles Valliant	5	16	44	CAPT	RM	Ethel	RdPh	1	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ulf Jiretorn
Grene Perce-Beumbed	4	Fr	30	MAJ*	PLLD	Phylis	RdPh	3	11.	David Abbott
L'Ancelet Fallan	4	Fr	-254	MAJ	13th	-	RdPh	4	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cathy Ozog
Gaspin Forebreath	3	10	721	MAJ	27th	Ruby	RdPh	6	9.	Chris Sandow
Poisson Le Bonke	2	Fr	310	CAPT	69th	Farrah	-	6	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	Jake Cheung

MISTRESS TABLE :

SL	WBI	Beau
10	-B-	Louis Pasteur
10	--I	Piers Tastanute
8	---	Grene Perce-Beumbed
7	W-I	Gaspin Forebreath
7	W--	Charles Valliant
3	--I	Poisson Le Bonke

Wendy Boatcumsin 3 has left Paris in disgust at being ignored.

IN GAY PAREE : not much was happening.

BEHIND THE BIKE SHEDS :

Jean Gardian (2nd Poisson, Wit Charles) vs. Louis Pasteur (2nd ?, Wit ?) : Our two heroes matched each other stroke-for-stroke, even to the point of surrendering simultaneously, thus both losing. (JG End 19, -2SP) (LP End 67, -2SP) Charles Valliant (2nd Gaspin, Wit Louis) vs. Poisson Le Bonke (2nd Louis, Wit L'Ancelet) : Poisson was never really in this duel after his weapon broke within 2 turns, and he surrendered after being on the receiving end of some particuly vicious slashes. (CV End 135, +5SP, +1 Exp) (PLB -2SP, 40 end)

WEEK ONE saw Louis Pasteur, determined not to be caught out a-duelling again, practiced his sabre in the gym. (+ $\frac{1}{2}$ exp) Charles Valliant sucessfully courted Ethel Luent (+4SP, -63Cr) whilst Gaspin Forebreath visited Red Phillips with Ruby Conned and caroused (+1SP, -11Cr).

WEEK TWO and Gaspin Forebreath went to the gym to practice his sabre, where he remained for the rest of the month. (+ $\frac{1}{2}$ exp) Louis Pasteur managed to patch things up with Sally Munella (+5SP, -90Cr) whilst Charles Valliant joined Red Philips (+2SP, -5Cr) and went for a quick carouse with Ethel. (+1SP, -11Cr)

WEEK THREE was the week that Charles Valliant joined Gaspin Forebreath inth the gym for two weeks cutlass practice. (+ $\frac{1}{2}$ exp) Louis Pasteur went to the Frog & Peach where he caroused (+1SP, -6Cr)

WEEK FOUR saw Louis Pasteur Carouse at the Frog & Peach. (+1SP, -6Cr)

SHYLOCKS all as last time.

NMR! from Brian Moore, although several others of you came close !

THE DUTCH WAR entered a new phase this month which may well bring the war within measurable distance of its end. The Fronteir Army were on Defence, where the result was Inconclusive. Piers Tastanute was captured by the Spanish (Ransom Cr600 - see rules), but Grene Perce-Beumbed was luckier, as was L'Ancelet Fallan now back with the Fronteir Army after his regiment has returned to Paris. The 69th were in the forefront of the action, with Poisson Le Bonke being promoted to Major(2).

RULE QUERIES :

- a) Note that, with wealthy mistresses, it is not possible to affect the die roll by spending more money.
- b) Apologies for the rather boring & compressed form of the report this time - pressure of work, I'm afraid.

And no PRESS, either.

Sopwith (T067DD)

Albatross

Pre-Turn 12

Still haven't received anything from John yet, I did ring him and although I can't remember what he said, I do know that he's still interested in GMing this game. (Although I can't see why, one problem was with NMRs I think)

SOPWITH (T0??DD)

'Tinamou'

TURN 6

GM: Matt Quartermain, 76 Wilwood Road, Priestwood, Bracknell, Berks, RG12 1SN

	<u>MOVE 1</u>	<u>MOVE 2</u>	<u>MOVE 3</u>	<u>HEX F/HEX</u>	<u>AMMO</u>	<u>DGE</u>	<u>RAT</u>
CURLY CARRUTHERS: Brian Moore	RS - F0,	O - *FL,	O - *FL+A	M9 N9	8	1	48
MAJOR I. SWOTTER: Dave Tant	RT - F0,	RT - F0,	RS - F0	I12 I11	16	12	0
STONE EAGLE: Jake Cheung	RS - *FA,	A - FL,	LT - FA	N10 O10	7	6	3
KAMEE KAZEE: Ian Tillson	RT - F0,	RT - *FA+R,	DEAD...				3

DAMAGE (DGE): Kamee Kazee flies through a cloud (1) leaving him with only 2 damage. Meanwhile, Stone Eagle hits Curley Carruthers for 3. Kamee and Curley then exchange fire (Kamee knocks 4 off Curley - being an ace) but the latter kills the former (2+10). Finally, Eagle flies into the sighting range of Curley for 5.

CLOUD POSITIONS (beginning of turn 7): All moves North East

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| (1) D7,E7,E6,F7,F6 | (2) J13,K13,L13 | (3) J8,J7,K7 |
| (4) J16,K17,L17 | (5) N13,N12,O13,P13 | (6) D10,E10,F11,G11 |

SOPWITH (T025DD)

'VULTURE'

TURN 29

GM: Matt Quartermain, 76 Wilwood Road, Priestwood, Bracknell, Berks, RG12 1SN

	<u>MOVE 1</u>	<u>MOVE 2</u>	<u>MOVE 3</u>	<u>HEX F/HEX</u>	<u>AMMO</u>	<u>DGE</u>	<u>RAT</u>
LT. DEZ TROY: Martyn Ives	LT - F0,	A - F0,	A - F0	H8 I9	2	4	21
FLYER TUCK: Richard Morris	LT - F0,	LT - F0,	A - F0	C9 D9	16	8	89

DAMAGE (DGE): None

CLOUD POSITIONS (beginning of turn 30): All move South

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| (1) M9,N8,N9,O8,O9 | (2) Gone forever | (3) O15,P15,P16 |
| (4) I11,J12,K12 | (5) Gone forever | (6) Q12,Q13,R14,R15 |

JOTTO Turn 7

The prize is £4.50. As you can all see Rosie is back on the scene again so get your skates on.

ROSIE ROBERTS : 5TH 223213	BRIAN MOORE : 7TH 213003
6TH 222123	MATTHEW WRIGHT: 7TH 423123
7TH 314121	DENISE SMITH : 7TH NMR
ULF JIRETORN : 7TH 221114	MIKE CLOSE : 6TH 122022
KATH COLLMAN : 7TH 332014	7TH 231012
MICHELE MORRIS: 7TH 222241	BILL HAYGARTH : 7TH NMR

SOPWITH STATS 10 (WINTER 85/86)
from Andy Murby

Just to keep Dib readers up to date, these stats were copied from the recent 10th edition of The Sopwith Stats. I won't give the full set of stats because I haven't got the space.

<u>ACES HIGH</u>	
Richard Morris	126
Brian Moore	109
John Bycroft	104
Tom Tweedy	102
Nicholas Clifton	90
Dave Tant	82
Sandy Peters	62
Ian Tillson	57
Ian Winstanley	56
Terry Dibden	52
Stephen Woods	52
Rob Chapman	50
Frank Dunn	49
Nick Edwards	46
Matt Quartermain	46
Martyn Ives	45
John Norris	43
Keith Loveys	42
Steve Norledge	40

Aces High: To become an Ace you have to score a minimum of 40 points. This score must be reached in 5 games or less. Your totals are added, including minuses, to see if 40 or more can be reached.

Ratings List: The scores from all your finished games only are totalled and divided by the number of games finished plus one.

Positional Rating List: When you end a game you are given points depending on how many other players you beat. Generally you receive one point per player beat. However, if a player crashed or died at the same time as you then only half a point is awarded. A sole winner of a game receives a bonus point. Rat is worked out by dividing total Pts x No. of Gms + 1

If you wish to see the full set of stats write to:-
Andy Murby, 12 Townsend Lane, Donington-Le-Heath,
Coalville, Leics. It will cost you 5p + postage.

SOPWITH RATING LIST

Pos.	Name	Rat	Gms	Pts	Best
1.	Ian Winstnley	28	1	56	56
2.	Nick Edwards	23	1	46	46
3.	Richard Morris	20.16	6	121	50
4.	Tom Tweedy	19.16	5	115	55
5.	John Bycroft	18.5	3	74	37
6.	Malcolm Peltz	17.5	1	35	35
7.	Terry Dibden	17.3	2	52	42
	Stephen Woods	17.3	2	52	26
9.	Dave Tant	17.05	6	123	40
10.	Martyn Ives	17	1	34	34
11.	Graham Holmes	16.5	1	33	33
	Ian Tillson	16.5	1	33	33
13.	Frank Dunn	16.33	2	49	26
14.	Nicholas Clifton	15	5	90	41
	Donald Macleod	15	1	30	30
16.	Ray Miller	13.5	1	27	27
	Ken O'Brian	13.5	1	27	27
18.	Brian Douglas	13	1	26	26
	Len George	13	2	39	30
	Doug Rowling	13	1	26	26
	Ivo Steyn	13	1	26	26
	Michael Woods	13	3	52	37
23.	Brian Moore	12.9	7	103	71
24.	Martin Adlem	12	1	24	24

SOPWITH POSITIONAL RATING LIST

Pos.	Name	Rat	Gms	Pts	Best
1.	Len George	3.66	2	11	6
2.	Tom Tweedy	3.33	5	20	6
	Stephen Woods	3.33	2	10	5.5
4.	Dave Tant	3.07	6	21.5	6
5.	Frank Dunn	3	9	9	5.5
	Ken O'Brian	3	1	6	6
7.	Richard Morris	2.9	4	14.5	6
8.	Neville Cooper	2.75	1	5.5	5.5
	Derek Gomer	2.75	1	5.5	5.5
	Constance Hacket	2.75	1	5.5	5.5
	Malcolm Peltz	2.75	1	5.5	5.5
	Doug Rowling	2.75	1	5.5	5.5
	Ian Tillson	2.75	1	5.5	5.5
14.	Brian Moore	2.71	7	21.5	6
15.	Graham Holmes	2.5	1	5	5
16.	Mike Vernon	2.33	2	7	4
17.	Nick Edwards	2.25	1	4.5	4.5
	Donald Macleod	2.25	1	4.5	4.5
	Sandy Peters	2.25	5	13.5	3.5
	Ian Winstanley	2.25	1	4.5	4.5
21.	Mick Antrobus	2.2	10	23	4
22.	Keith Loveys	2.14	6	15	6
23.	Richard Bartle	2	1	4	4
	Mark Billenness	2	1	4	4

The rest of Dib's subscribers: Nick Hoyle 35; Andrew Smith 38; Simon Craddock 46; Robert Lozynskyj 58; George North 59; Richard Downes, Steve Gregory & Alcn Sharples 60; James Cowie 68; Clive Booth 78; David Crawford 91; Matt Quartermain 103; Colin Bruce & Chris Sandow 122.

Nicholas Clifton, Terry Dibden, Richard Downes, Nick Hoyle, & Martyn Ives 23; John Bycroft & George North 40; James Cowie 43; Simon Craddock 48; Cathy Cunning & Steve Gregory 49; Robert Lozynskyj 71; John Marsden, Matt Quartermain & Andrew Smith 75.

LETTERS

I wasn't going to do a letter column this time but... I received this strange letter the other day, so much so that at first I thought it had to be a hoax. C'mon, someone is pulling my leg, isn't he?

MARK BOYLE: "Dear Tom, John Piggott's now in charge of the Zine Poll and is now no longer allowing Soccer zines to enter it. He doesn't consider them part of the postal gaming hobby. If a zine so much as runs a single Soccer Management game, then it's excluded. This is nothing but sheer prejudice. Since when does he have the right to decide what's part of the hobby and what is not. Furthermore, if he's allowed to get away with bullying the soccer GM's, what's to stop him then picking on the Railway Management zines, the Sopwith zines, the Racing Car zines, etc.

I'm trying to get as many people as possible to back me so that with luck Piggott the Bigot will be forced into changing his tune. If he still doesn't, then a Rebel Poll would have to be set up, with another bigwig in charge. With enough support, Piggott's effort would fall flat on its face, and justice would be done. Please reply to my letter to let me know whether you'll support me or not in my campaign to stop Piggott ruining the Zine Poll. Without your support, Piggott's going to run amok. Let's stop the rot before it's even started! Mark Boyle, 15 Linn Park Gardens, Johnstone, Renfrewshire, Scotland, PA5 8LH."

((My reply was:-))

(("Dear Mark,

Thank you for the interesting letter re the Zine Poll and John Piggott's 'mishandling' of it. I think I ought to point out to you, you have got the wrong end of the stick. John doesn't want to discount all the 'game' zines that run Soccer, Railway Rivals, Sopwith, etc. The ruling is simple, any zine that runs at least two Diplomacy games can enter. That being the case, any editor who doesn't run Diplomacy in their zine is in fact making their own choice for not being included in the Poll. It's nothing to do with John. All the best,")

((I thought that would be the end of it but straight back I get...))

MARK BOYLE: "Thanks for your letter dated 26th April. Thanks for putting the record straight for me but I was only acting upon information received in Mad Policy, namely Piggott's own letters! He said: "If anyone can think up a form of words allowing in RGR and Hopscotch whilst keeping out the undesirables like the soccer zines then I would like to hear from you." (Mad Policy issue 116)

Can I now be scorned for acting upon information that is now considered false? So far from getting the wrong end of the stick, I (and many others) were lied to.

Also you said 'John doesn't want to discard all the game zines'. If that's true then he's got a funny way of proving otherwise. First of all his new role, the one you told me about, lessens the dangers to soccer zines and increases it on others. ((?)) Barbarous League is a soccer zine whilst RGR isn't. J.P. admits when taking over that there's going to be some changes, "Out with the soccercross zines for a start." (MP issue 113)

So he introduces said rule. BUT BL runs Dip and RGR doesn't. So out goes RGR, contrary to promise made in MP 116, and in stays BL contrary to promise made in MP 113 & 116. He has said one thing then did the other. So far from being nothing to do with John, it's PLENTY TO DO WITH HIM!!!

I agree that the Euros should be kicked out, but if he wants to kick out anything else, he should kick out the purist zines (i.e. ones that run only Dip or only United or whatever), they're a bore. Or alternatively, kick out all the zines without letter pages! Even better."

((I think he's still got the wrong end of the stick, but I've explained more than enough - with some people it just won't go in. What worries me though is if there's more of these confused people out there stirring up the mud.))

Jan says I should include a bit of humour. Well, as I chuckled through this...

GEORGE NORTH: "That Chris Sandow is a trouble maker, you know. Have you ever tried to get two mirrors stood up at ninety degrees? It doesn't work with the Sun or the Daily Mail, no doubt about that. But with two mirrors you have to be a magician to stand a mirror upright. It either slopes up and reflects the picture rail or threatens to slope down and inspect your boot laces. Even if the first mirror is a fixture you still have to hold the second mirror at arm's length and point it at the other mirror while at the same time putting yourself in just the right spot to see yourself as you really are - a flipping idiot. It can't be done I tell you.

As for Doctor Morris and his little valves that help pump the blood around the body, well I get the picture. Actually the valves were described to me in a first aid course as being like little cups protruding from the walls of the veins or arteries, whatever, so that the blood is pumped up the arm or leg and caught in these cups and held until the next surge, when it is again pushed up to the next cup or valve. You get the picture, don't you?

Well that is alright when the blood is being pumped up the body, but how does it get down to the feet in the first place? Free fall? Or is there some upside down cups or valves. I mean, it appears like it goes down, crash bang, wallop, and then has a job to get back up again. Rather like buses in the rush hour. I rest my case.

I also have another little problem... yeah, well, okay, some other time, eh?"

((Er, yes, but the funny thing is, I can see George's point... Aaaarrgggh!))

PETE MASON: "Is there to be a Dib team at Manorcon this year? I haven't seen/remember seeing you mention it."

((I'd like a Dib team at Manorcon AND Midcon - we could certainly take top honours, look at our subscribers (Mmmmm) - but who to captain the team? Who to hold the rabble together? I certainly couldn't do it (I haven't the moral strength for a start), and don't tell me the likes of Close is good enough. What we need I think is equal opportunity, what we need is a woman on the job - Michele, Kath? I'm sure these two could whip a team into line.))

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#### DIBS AND DRABS

MIDCON has now been fixed for the weekend of 7th - 9th November 1986 at the Royal Angus Hotel. Single rooms will be £21.95, twins £17.50, both per person per night including English breakfast. Registration will be the same as last year (£5), but only until 31st July. Thereafter it will be £6. Registrations to Brian Williams, 30 Rydding Lane, Millfields Estate, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 2HA. Cheques made out to 'National Diplomacy Championship'.

MACHIAVELLI (Advert from Rowland Goodman): I am interested in promoting Machiavelli by post, there are a number of waiting lists, Veni Vidi Vici, I.D., Mellow Yellow & Thing, but they fill up with great difficulty. In addition many of the names on one list differ from those on others. It would probably be for the benefit of all if people interested in postal Machiavelli would contact me, so that there can be some collation of names, resulting in game-starts. I am also interested in producing some Machiavelli statistics.

For those who don't play Machiavelli or are a bit lazy as to the rules:



(Advt. cont...)

Brian Frew's excellent Veni Vidi Vici (which is as good as Dibi) will be publishing some articles in the next few months explaining the rules. Rowland Goodman, Mill House, Flitwick, Bedford. Tel. 0525 713101.

ZINE WITH NO NAME: Now run by Martin Le Fevre, this is the zine that lists all UK and foreign zines - all you need to know in order to play games by post. The cost is 40p for a single issue. Cheques made out to Martin and sent to Martin Le Fevre, No.1 Wellesley Nautical School, Blyth, NE24 3PF. Tel. Blyth 360825. Well worth subscribing to as it's packed with useful information. Martin also does THE NOVICE PACKAGE.

CENTRAL GAMESTART SERVICE: This service is run by Nick Kinzett. If you want to get into a postal game fairly quickly, or as a zine editor wish to run a CGS game, send a 1st class stamp (editors 1 stamp per CGS player), plus your name and address with your request, and send it to Nick Kinzett, 11 Daleway Road, Green Lane, Coventry, W. Midlands, CV3 6JF.

THE ZINE BANK: If you're new to the hobby and would like to see what other zines are around why not write off to Keith Loveys first and see what he has in the Zine Bank - just send £1 and a large SAE to, Keith Loveys, Room 7, 50 Warwick Road, Earl's Court, London, SW5, detailing what zine you'd like to see and Keith will do his best to fill the order.

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HOBBYMEETS: (If this list is not correct please let me know)

London: 'The Vertical Refreshment Company' on the Western end of Old Street, with the nearest tube stations being Old Street, Barbican & Farringdon - BR stations Moorgate and Liverpool Street. Held every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. For further information contact Geoff Challenger (editor of Home of the Brave) Tel. 0322 862213, or Trevor Mendham Tel. 0689 22474.

Newcastle: The Mountbatten Bar next to Newcastle Central Station (every 1st Friday of the month). Contact Dave Thomas Tel. 0207 39630.

Devon: 'The Puffing Billy', Exton on the main Exeter to Exmouth road. Held every 3rd Friday of the month. Contact Rob Chapman Tel. 0803 551045.

Bristol: The White Hart, Park Row, Clifton, Bristol. It's still every 1st Friday. For further details contact either Richard Egan (editor of Vienna) 64 Rookery Road, Knowle, Bristol, BS4 2DT; or perhaps Glover Rogerson (editor of Denver Glont) Tel. 0272 730307.

Glasgow: 'The Overflow' corner of Old Dumbarton Road and Yorkhill Street (every 4th Thursday of the month at 8.15). Those interested can phone Iain Singer (Tel. 0698 815006) or Doug Rowling (041 332 3405).

Ripley: The new transferred 'Godmeet' is at The Talbot, near the A3 and only a bus away from Woking. Every 2nd Tuesday of the month about 8.20pm. For further details phone Richard Walkerdine Tel. 0483 577312.

St. Albans: For further details ring Alan Parr (0442 82 4173).

Coventry: 'The Windmill' in Spon Street, which is just off Corporation Street in the city centre (every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month). Organised by Nick Kinzett (Tel. 0203 414759).

Southampton: The Victory, opposite the station. For further details contact Steve Cunio Tel. Southampton (0703) 331641.

St. Andrews: The Russell Hotel, every 1st Friday. Contact Pete Lindsay, 5 Whitehill Terrace, Largo Road, St. Andrews, KY16 8RN, Scotland.

Dundee: "Lunch'n'Meet", Tayside Bar, Seagate, Dundee. Contact Pete Lindsay (address above).

Yorkshire: Venue is supposed to be at Dewsbury. For further details contact Paul Simpkins, 27 West Park, Dewsbury. Tel. 0924 469937.

Loughborough: None, as yet, but Derek Caws and Paul Donley are interested in starting one up. If you'd like more details I suggest you ring Paul Donley, Tel. Loughborough (0509) 214721