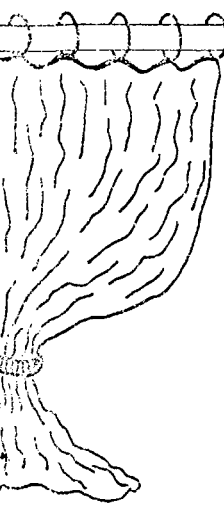


# megalomania

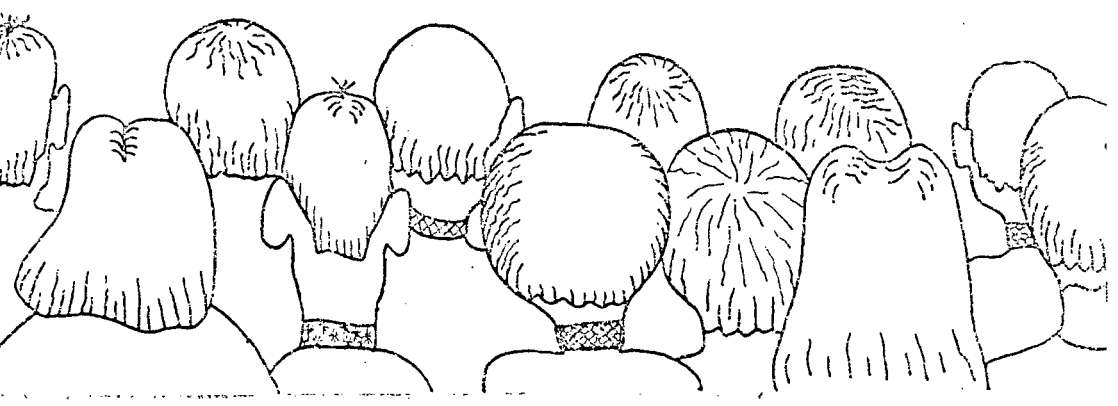
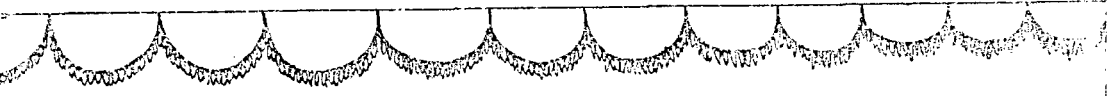
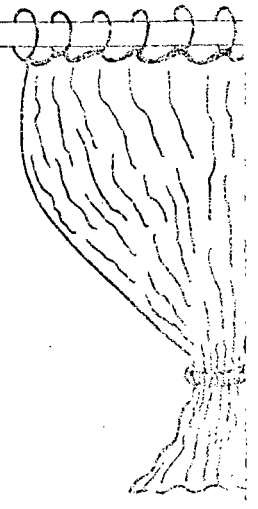
## WARNING

We would like to warn all potential purchasers of this magazine that it contains explicit photographs of both male and female genitals; and material of a highly erotic nature only suitable for extremely broadminded adults. We warn you of these facts as it is not our intention to solicit orders from anybody who may be shocked or offended by this type of material.

No. 9



The Team that brought you VNVS  
PROUDLY PRESENTS  
**FERKIN 2½**  
They Came From Beyond  
**EAST PENGE**  
Produced and Directed by Mike Jervis A.C.I.S.



The ad on the right appears regularly in the programme of the Mansfield Town Football Club. 'What kind of company is this?' you may ask. 'Do they knock people off and then bury them? Are the prunes poisoned?' I'm afraid I can't tell you but I'm sure you will draw your own conclusions. While we're on the subject of advertising the pride of place on the Mansfield Town ground is the area surrounding the North Stand Clock. This has been taken by a local Estate Agent who proclaims "MORE PEOPLE USE SANNKY THAN FOR ANY OTHER REASON." We're a funny lot us Stags Supporters.

I've decided to name my Diplomacy Games. This decision came to me at the recent Stags v Owis match when Ernie Moss made his first appearance for Mansfield for about ten months. In honour of this auspicious event Ferkin Game One will henceforth be called 'BIG-ERN'. I'm sure all the participants will agree that this name adds just the right amount of elegance to what is bound to be one of the greatest Postal Diplomacy Games of the Decade. I hope you players realise how lucky you are to have a G.M. of my calibre on hand to appreciate the nuances of play implicit in your orders.

Ferkin One was, on the whole, pretty well received. One or two people believed it was a continuation of the FVWS hoax but hopefully seeing this twelve page issue will persuade them that they are wrong. The main complaint concerned my attitude to Trades as set out in the editorial. I fear that on consideration I must revise my attitude. If any zine to which I currently subscribe wants to trade then I will be very happy to do so. After all if I subscribe then the Zine must be good (apart from one glaring exception) so trading would save me money. I have no objection to saving money! Unfortunately, like it or not there is a lot of rubbish about. I'm not saying that if I do not subscribe to a zine then it must be rubbish. Simply that if I don't subscribe then I don't want it. Editors please take note.

Now on to more serious matters. I have received a letter from a Doctor in Hungary who got my address from God knows where. In a nutshell his letter told me of a young man so badly crippled that he spends his life in an armchair. Having seen some games advertising literature this young man set his heart on acquiring a copy of AVALON HILLS' CHALLENGE GOLF. He lives in a communist country so cannot buy the game since he is not allowed to send cash out of the country so I am asking for contributions towards the £10 or so it will cost to buy this game and post it to Hungary. This request is not a leg pull and I am determined to see that the lad gets his game. Any contributions, however small should be sent to me and I would be most obliged if Editors would publicise my request. Let's see if the U.K. hobby has a heart.

Finally the 'I LIKE FERKIN' car stickers are now printed and very beautiful they are too. One of these blue on white stickers will enhance the window of any car and you can only get one by winning a Ferkin Competition or describing a Famous Ferkin. These stickers are sure to become collectors items so try to get yours now.

**IVAN  
BRAMLEY**

**Removals--**

*"WE MOVE YOU  
AS SMOOTHLY  
AS PRUNES"*

**Funeral Director**

**ROLLS ROYCE  
ROLLS BENTLEY  
& DAIMLER LIMOUSINES**

**BANCROFT LANE  
MANSFIELD  
Tel. 24918 & 22111**

THE FERKIN INDEX

The Editor of Ferkin does not believe in the use of page numbers since this makes it too easy for the reader to find his way about the zine.

You will find, in this issue of Ferkin, spread about in totally random fashion, the following:-

A cover (Back and Front) not necessarily on the outside.

A false cover (Back and Front) hopefully on the outside.

Famous Ferkins from Malcolm Brown and Chris Farmer.

A Polycon Report (yawn) from Don Brown.

Competition Results.

Ferkin Dippy Game One (Big Ern). Spring 1991 Orders and Press.

Ferkin Dippy Game Two (Bill Curry). Gamestart.

Editorial.

Ferkin About.

A Scrabble Competition.

An Illegible Letter from Clive Booth.

A Cartoon Strip - Superchris and Malcolm ex-Boy Wonder.

Timetable Competition.

Don Brown's Bourse Rules.

This issue has far too much in it. It was originally planned to have twelve pages, as mentioned in the editorial, and now has eighteen. That makes Ferkin two pages larger than Megalomania 8 at 40% of the cost. What a bargain. Don't expect so much next time.

FERKIN is Edited and Published by MIKE JERVIS, 19 POKTREE DRIVE, RISE PARK, NOTTINGHAM. TEL: 274369 (evenings & weekends). FERKIN costs only 10p a copy including postage and games on offer are priced as follows:- Regular Diplomacy £1 Intimate Diplomacy 50p Bourse 20p. SUBSCRIPTION LISTS ARE NOW OPEN. PUBLICITY WOULD BE APPRECIATED.. DEADLINE Thursday 26th October (Wednesday 25th by phone) NO DOUBLE DEADLINES.

## The Diplomacy Bourse (including Walkerdine Amendments).

The Bourse is not really a Diplomacy variant, but a separate game to be played together with a Diplomacy game. A player may play in both the Bourse and the associated Diplomacy game should he so wish.

The Bourse rules were created by Don Miller and the game has the Miller suffix 'cr'.

1. Each player starts with 1000 units of currency of each country in the game; Austrian crowns, English pounds, French francs, German marks, Italian lira, Russian roubles and Turkish piastres. All are equal in value and are worth \$1 at the start of the game.
2. The deadline for Bourse orders is normally a day or two before the deadline for the Diplomacy game. The orders are in two parts, buying and selling.
2. Each time 100 units of a currency is sold its value in relation to the dollar drops by 1 cent. Thus if in the first season the total of everyone's orders results in 500 more marks being sold than bought then the price of the mark for the following season would be equal to \$0.95. Each time 100 units of a currency is bought the price in relation to the dollar rises by 1 cent.  
Only complete multiples of 100 units of a currency affect the value of that currency in relation to the dollar. For example; if 299 more marks were bought than sold then its value would only rise by 2 cents. If 299 more francs were sold than bought then its value would only drop by 2 cents.
4. A player is not allowed to buy more currency than he can afford. Thus if the price of the franc is \$1.15 and the price of the piastre is \$0.65 then a player selling 100 units of francs to realise \$228.85 can only buy \$228.85 worth of piastres (in this case 352 units of piastres). This may cause the price of piastres to rise and the piastres may be sold the following season to make a profit.
5. A player may never sell more than 500 units of any one currency at a time. He may buy as much of one currency as he can afford.
6. Each season the GM will list who bought and sold what, old price, net change and new price in a convenient table. He will also list the holdings of each player in the game and their net worth.
7. Unless a country is eliminated from the Diplomacy game the value of its currency will never drop below one unit equalling 1 cent. The value of a currency has no upper limit.
8. When a country is eliminated from the Diplomacy game (after the autumn season) the value of its currency drops to zero and all trading in that currency ceases. Note that if a country is eliminated in the spring then trading in that country's currency still takes place in the autumn season when most players would sell as much of that currency as possible.
9. Anyone may join the Bourse at any time and will receive 1000 units of currency of each country still in the Diplomacy game.
10. At the end of the Diplomacy game each Bourse player's worth will be computed as follows: the number of supply centres owned by each country multiplied by the number of blocks of 100 units of that country's currency owned by the Bourse player (fractions will be carried). Thus if England wins with 13 centres followed by Italy with 16 centres and a player has 10,000 pounds and 5,000 lira, he would gain 1300 'credits' for England and 800 'credits' for Italy for a total of 2600.

### Walkerdine Amendments.

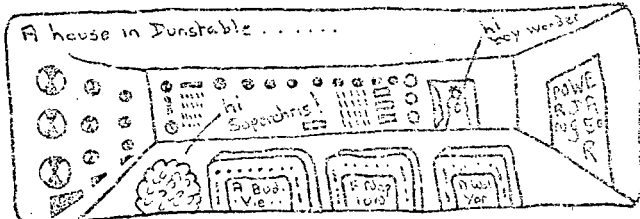
This amendment allows players to sell more currency than they purchase in order to amass a reserve of dollars which may be used on a future turn when they wish to purchase more currency than they sell. The amendment was created by Richard Walkerdine in order to make the Bourse game more realistic.

1. A player may buy less currency than he can afford and the surplus dollars may be left as a reserve which may be used to balance future transactions.
2. The GM will also list each season the dollar reserves owned by each player.
3. Any dollar reserves that are left when the Diplomacy game ends are lost and are not used in calculations of a Bourse player's worth at the end of the game.

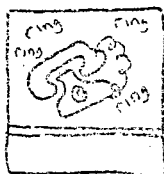
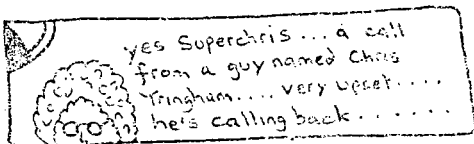
FERKIN PROUDLY PRESENTS

SUPERCHRIS  
AND MALCOLM  
EX BOY WONDER

IN THE  
MEGALO  
AFFAIR

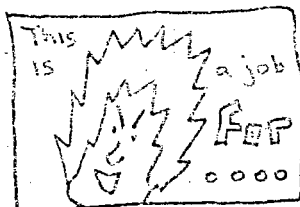


ANY CALLS BOY  
WONDER?

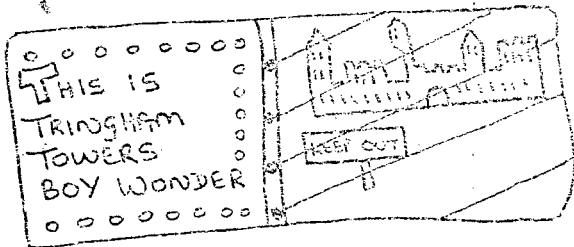
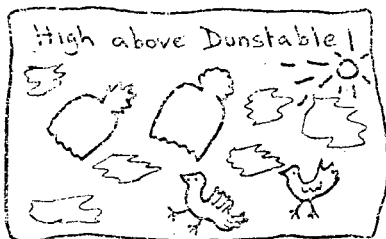
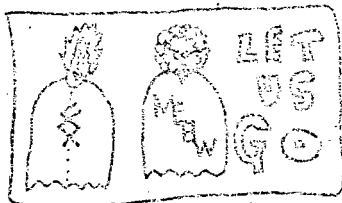


FARMER  
... yes.. this  
IS SUPERCHRIS  
... how can  
we help you?

This is Chris Tringham...  
... I'm in trouble...  
... Someone is sabotaging  
my zinc... please help...  
... you must **HELPY**



SUPERCHRIS  
and  
MALCOLM'S  
ex boy wonder  
**ZAF** ooooo



WE'LL  
GO  
IN

What is the secret of Tringham Towers?  
Who is the saboteur?  
Do you care?  
Will Malcolm swallow his teeth?  
Buy **FERKIN** it's the real thing.

MEGALOMANIA  
LIVES...  
JUST.

This page is a work of art and should be carefully removed from the zine, framed and hung on a white wall.

Which zine editor plays in his own games under a pseudonym? The first correct answer wins a wonderful 'I LIKE FERKIN' car sticker.

What do the following people have in common? HAROLD WILSON, JAMES HUNT, RICHARD SHARP, RICHARD WHITMORE, DAVE ALLEN, WILLIAM WHITLOCK and JAMES TAYLOR.....None of them read Ferkin.

Is Chris Tringham fed up already with producing MEGALOMANIA? After a brilliant start there has been a steady deterioration and MEGALO 7 was deplorable. It was obviously thrown together in a great hurry for there were typing errors, spelling mistakes and strange gaps of logic in the sentences. Tringham ought to wake up.

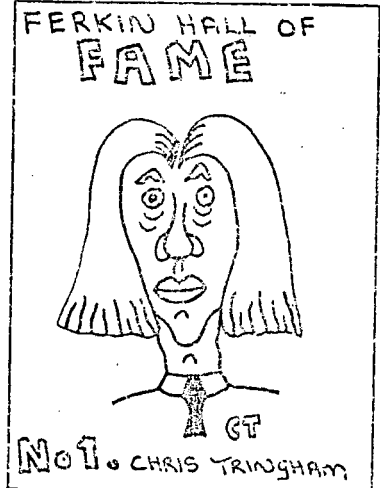


Someone who never woke up is Mike Allaway. In a rash moment I subscribed to Pyrrhic Victory and joined a game therein. P.V. is even worse than FERKIN and that's going some. It's about 5p dearer as well.

The best two zines I receive are Fall Of Eagles and Non Sequiter and you could hardly find two less alike publications. FOE is straight Dippy, duplicated, a bit serious and has the benefit of an enthusiastic and knowledgeable Editor. Richard Jarvinen, who edits N.S. is equally enthusiastic and knowledgeable and litho produces a zine containing all kinds of games, written with tongue firmly in cheek. Subscribe to both now but wait and see if M & PV improve.

Ferkin is published by Mike Jervis, 19 Portree Drive, Rise Park, Nottingham. Tel. 274369..... It costs 10p. and £1 for a game. Oh yes.

Good isn't it  
OH  
SUIF  
YA SEN



FOE is from Richard Hucknall, 124 Southcliffe Road, Carlton, Nottingham and N.S. comes from J. Richard Jarvinen, 2404 Sunset Avenue, West Linn, Oregon 97068, U.S. of A.

The picture of Chris Tringham opposite was drawn from a description given by Don Brown who, poor guy, met Tringham at POLYCON.

# Gamestart

Bill Curry

GAME TWO 1978 ??

Game Two is named Bill Curry in honour of the Stags' Centre Forward of about fifteen years ago. The only player to have scored a goal while lying unconscious in the penalty area, Bill stood 4'9" and weighed about 16 stones.

- RUSSIA COLIN "I like Eunice" JOHNSON, 7 Wells Close, Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts.  
Shares his abode with a rabid animal with black hair, razor sharp teeth, flesh tearing claws and a lust for human blood. Also has a cat called Fred.
- TURKEY TONY "Armageddon" MITCHELL, 348 Newton Road, Rushden, Northants.  
Designer of NUCLEAR DIPLOMACY, a variant the rules of which will be published in FERKIN 4 if he sends them to me. Tony is a former Human Cannonball and hot air balloonist, now employed as corsetiere to Northampton Town F.C.
- AUSTRIA STEPHEN "Nose" AGAR, 3 North Road, Chester 1e Street, Co. Durham.  
Suffers from a shoulder in a permanent state of dislocation caused by his father trying to prise him away from the telephone. GM and publisher of unplayable Dip variants and Agitator in Chief for S.O.T.H. Stamp Out The Hardcore.
- ENGLAND PAUL "Ageing Lothario" TEAGER, 8 Oahhurst Close, Belper, Derbys.  
A sad case. Formerly a brilliant rugby player, goalkeeper and womaniser now reduced to playing games by post. Works for British Midland Airways and was once seen to remove the weight from his posterior before five o'clock in the evening. Be gentle with him.
- FRANCE CHRIS "Donkey" FARMER, 3 Westborough Lane, Long Bennington, Nr. Newark, Notts.  
Those of you interested in Chris's personal details will be fascinated to hear that he has just found a way of making it 18" long.....  
.....he bends it in half. A former Malcolm Brown enthusiast he is currently in the grip of an adolescent crush on Ian McIntyre. Speak to him with a Scottish accent and he's yours.
- GERMANY ROY "Hard Boiled" EGGINGTON, 24 Somerton Court, Kingston Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 2QZ.  
Roy is about to finish second in NGC 222, and he intends to do even better in this game. He works for Newcastle Corporation as a Garden Gnome.
- ITALY DAVE "My surname's bad enough" PRATT, 9 Borman Close, Hempshill Vale, Nottingham.  
Recently promoted to Senior Girl Guide after winning his badge for tying knots in knicker elastic. Arrested last week together with his Brother in Law Richard Hucknall for bathing naked under the fountains in Slab Square and performing an indecent act with a policeman's helmet. Intends to plead "excess of Shippos" when his case is heard next week. This plea is unique to Nottingham Magistrates Court and is the equivalent to "temporary insanity" elsewhere in the country.

IF MIKE ALLAWAY WERE LEFT WITH A SPACE LIKE THIS HE WOULD WRITE "THIS IS A SPACE FILLER" ALL OVER IT. I WOULDN'T.

8'2 , EYES OF BLUE , BIG PAUL TEAGER'S AFTER YOU.



# Big Ern.

FERKIN GAME ONE.....SPRING 1901.....1978 ??

England

MALCOLM BROWN. F (Edi) Norwegian Sea, F (Lon) North Sea  
A (Lpl) Yorkshire.

France

STEPHEN AGAR. F (Bre) Mid Atlantic Ocean, A (Mar) s A (Par) Burgundy.

Italy

CHRISTOPHER FARMER. A (Ven) Tyrolia, A (Rom) Venice, F (Nap) Icnian Sea.

Germany

TRINGHAM. F (Kie) Denmark, A (Ber) Kiel, A (Mun) Burgundy.

Russia

ROB CHAPMAN. F (St.P.s.c.) Gulf of Bothnia, A (Mos) Ukraine,  
A (War) Galicia, F (Sev) Black Sea.

Turkey

IAN McINTYRE. A (Con) Bulgaria, A (Smy) Constantinople,  
F (Ank) Black Sea.

Austria

DON BROWN. F (Tri) Venice, A (Vienna) stands, A (Bud) Serbia.

PRESS PRESS PRESS PRESS PRESS PRESS PRESS PRESS PRESS PRESS PRESS PRESS

GERMANY - EUROPE Games aren't important. Read Megalomania to see how unimportant I think games are. If anyone does nasty things to me ( are you listening Malcolm, Stephen, Chris, Rob, Ron and Ian?) I shan't send you any more nice letters so there.

HORROR SHOCK PROBE!!!! That well known 'zine FERKIN whose title is said to have been derived from the obnoxious habits of its' editor ~~YANL FERKIN~~ MIKE JERVIS was exposed today when information from a secret source arrived in our offices here in London.

FERKIN, it seems, does not refer to its' Editor, but is really the well designed anagram of the word KNIFER (cf STABBER). What's more, the little known Chris Farmer (who just happened to go to the same school as FERKINS' editor) also had the school nickname 'Stabber Errol'.

We of the DAILY SPLURB would like to point out that Chris Farmers' nickname was probably well deserved and we would like to take this opportunity to warn Stabbers' neighbours of this potential threat to their own countries.

Furthermore we would like to hear from Chris Farmer about some money in connection with certain photographs we hold showing a certain person with two other certain persons at the back of a certain school dining hall.

Contact us quickly Chris Farmer, your time is running out.

Christopher Tringham, Editor in Chief, The Daily Splurb.

MEDIA - WORLD The Prime Minister sends his best wishes to all.

A CORRECTED VIEW OF THE G.M. MIKE 'Please don't stab me now I'm only on four units' JERVIS. Devoted follower of the 'Try to win if you can but don't let anyone else beat you' School of Diplomacy. Lives in constant fear of drinking a pint of Home Mild by mistake and will not let anyone buy him a pint of anything just in case. Noted for his uncanny ability to assess a strategical situation whilst running five miles from his local to his abode at eleven o'clock at night. Also noted for his uncanny ability to fall over in the dark and break at least three fingers each time.

Thirty years old and never seen in public due to the strange face he was born with.  
QUOTE (Mother of Jervis) "Well, I've never seen a baby with a beard before!"  
QUOTE (Father of Jervis) "Doesn't he look like his Grandmother? He's certainly got her chin."

Avid supporter of Mansfield Town and hates anyone who can do any better.  
Hobbies include refusing pints of Home Mild, trying to get the better of Tringham and running in the dark in order to break all ten fingers at once.  
Ambitions include winning a game of Diplomacy, successfully GMing a season of Diplomacy, and managing to break all ten fingers at once.  
Likes include his wife **WHO?** his beard, breaking fingers, the dark and running.  
Dislikes include Home Mild, daytime, complicated sets of Diplomacy orders and getting cramp whilst running (although he can turn this to his advantage and manage to break a few fingers).

ENGLAND - THE REST Now then chaps, let's all be good friends. I have a plan, yes another good idea coming up.....why don't we all form a Grand Alliance to smash the GM (or at least a few of his fingers). By the way, if he should send you what purports to be a copy of my orders before the deadline please ignore it, it will be a hoax. You see he's manufactured some of my personalised letterhead and uses it as part of his hate campaign against me. It's very naughty very sinister.

FINGERS - ENGLAND

## WILLENBROOK LTD.

MALCOLM R. BROWN

2 PARK STREET,  
DUNSTABLE,  
BEDS LU9 1NL  
DUNSTABLE (0662) 602848

It's a lie !!



NO. 1048490 NO. 184022 REGISTERED OFFICE OF CHARITABLE DONOR, WILLENBROOK, BEDS  
DIRECTOR: MALCOLM R. BROWN - PATRICK W. HUGHES

CLEAR THE SLAG, WE'VE GOT A BODY COMING IN said Don.

"What? Already?" exclaimed the disbelieving Jervis, "It's only Spring 1901, you can't have stabbed someone yet!"

"Despite your disbelief Mr. Bitter Swilling Jervis, I tell the truth. The body is absolutely fresh and bears all the hallmarks of having just been stabbed. Note the gaping wound in the back, the way the uncongealed blood drips to the floor to mingle with the corpuscles of the many other bodies we've had in recently. Now take that one last Thursday for instance, did you not observe that the stab was not as effective as my usual ones? Did you observe that the body was in fact still alive?" said Don.

"Ulp. Stop it." said Jervis, "You're making me sick."

"Nonsense my dear fellow, it's all in the mind. Now come over here and look at this."

So saying Don led the green and trembling Jervis over to one of the many large cupboards in the room. Reaching inside Don pulled out a clear Perspex case containing a lump of what looked like cheap dog food. Jervis turned greener still.

"Ah, I see you recognise it," said Don, "This is indeed that Tassell fellow we stabbed in Megalomania 7. Agreed?"

"Uuulllpppp" agreed Jervis.

"Right then, notice the exacting similarity to the body just brought in. How can you now doubt that the new body is a genuine stab?"

"I admit that there...is...a... superficial resemblance" said Jervis trying desperately not to throw up, "But I may...aswell...agree with you. Put the case back now please."

"Ah very well. Really Jervis, you ought to be used to a few bodies now, after all you've done a few stabs yourself so you ought to have had enough practice. I'll tell you what. I'll leave you in here until Autumn 1901 when I shall let you out and you can then see what I've done in that season. In the meantime you can sit here and get used to all of these. I particularly recommend case 97. It's a beauty. Byeese."

"Wait" screamed Jervis, but too late, for Don had closed and locked the mortuary door.

"I suppose I'd better do as he says, I only hope I won't starve."

With this he started wandering about, getting paler as time went on.

SCOTTISH PERRRRSON - FINGERRRS Whae's ma frae Worr Gressy riccadd thin ?  
Yew prormised me a frae Worr Gressy riccadd Jimmy eff ah pled in ya gem.  
Och, hav ye haired tha Rochdel Lassie seng "Sally". Och, ets Magic,  
magnefecent. Sheeerrr portry mon, sheeerrr portry.

IN MEMORIAM Little Mick I, Emperor of Austria, passed away in his sleep  
last night after a short illness. A public Thanksgiving Service will be  
held at Dunstable Parish Church on Sunday 8th October. No flowers. Donations  
to The Balkans Trust.

FINGERS - MAL THE MOUTH Balls.

ERROL - SAMMY I hope you don't play Dip like you used to play footy. Watch  
him Ref.

FINGERS - ERROL Sams' reputation is not unknown to me. Neither is yours.

AN ANECDOTE OF EUROCON Master Christopher Tringham tripped tipsily out  
of the Grand Pichon (sic) one afternoon and almost upended a stately John  
Piggott. Tringham started to apologise but Piggott froze him with a stare  
and muttered "How gauche !"  
"Just fine, John," answered a bewildered Tringham, adding solicitously  
"how gauche it with you ?"

EUROPE - FINGERS Can we have our money back ?

FINGERS - EUROPE Pardon?

A PLEA TO CHRISTOPHER TRINGHAM ESQUIRE Sir, would it be at all possible to  
refrain from up-cocking virtually every adjudication in Megalomania ?  
The way things are at the moment it would be easier for your players if you  
just type the orders and let them adjudicate.....oh....sorry....that's  
what you're doing.....I see.

RUSSIA - TURKEY No I don't agree. Sod off you Scottish twit. Up your kilt Mac.

FINGERS - EUROPE I'm glad that lot's over. Bloody hell , two full pages of  
press. As bad as FOE 16.

.....

BOURSE BOURSE BOURSE BOURSE BOURSE BOURSE BOURSE BOURSE BOURSE BOURSE

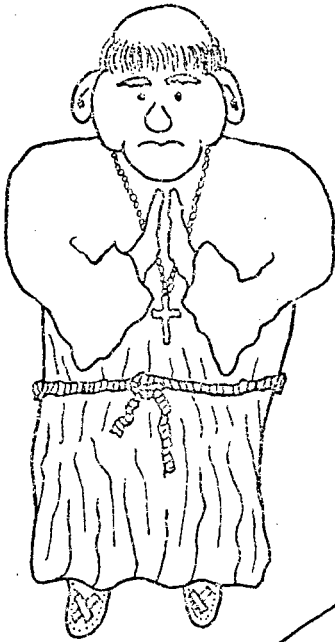
Don Brown has kindly agreed to g.m. a Bourse, the rules of which are printed  
elsewhere in FERKIN. The game will run with third Diplomacy game and the  
game fee will be twenty pence plus a twenty pence contribution to the  
winners prize. Pseudonyms will be used and, as in every FERKIN game, press  
will be encouraged.

Please let Don have your views on the Walkerdine Amendments shown in the rules  
as printed, and let him have your game fees.

Dons' address is 61a Church Street, Old Basford, Nottingham, NG6 OGA and  
Bourse deadlines will run three days prior to the Dip deadlines.

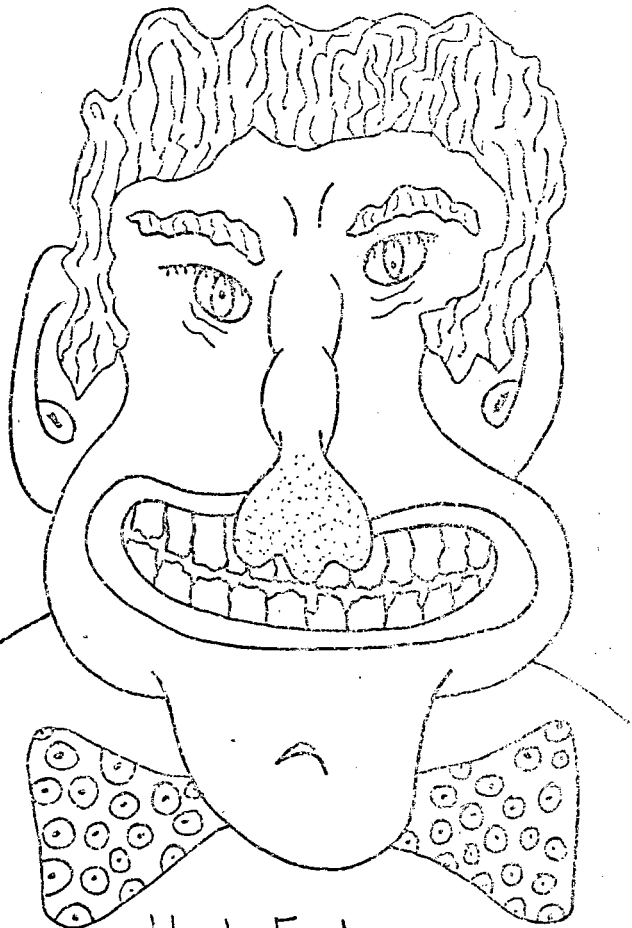
BOURSE WAITING LIST

Goldenprick and Company.  
Stud Holdings.



Abbot Ferkin

Ignations Ferkin was Abbot of a monastery at Farnsfield, near Mansfield, during the years 1260 to 1265. A pious man, Abbot Ferkin was well respected by his brothers but had one fault which irritated them. He was invariably late for prayers. This tardiness so upset one of the monks that one day when Abbot Ferkin arrived for the 7 o'clock devotions at 8.30 the impatient brother was heard to remark "What time is it? It's ABBOT FERKIN TIME that's what it is."



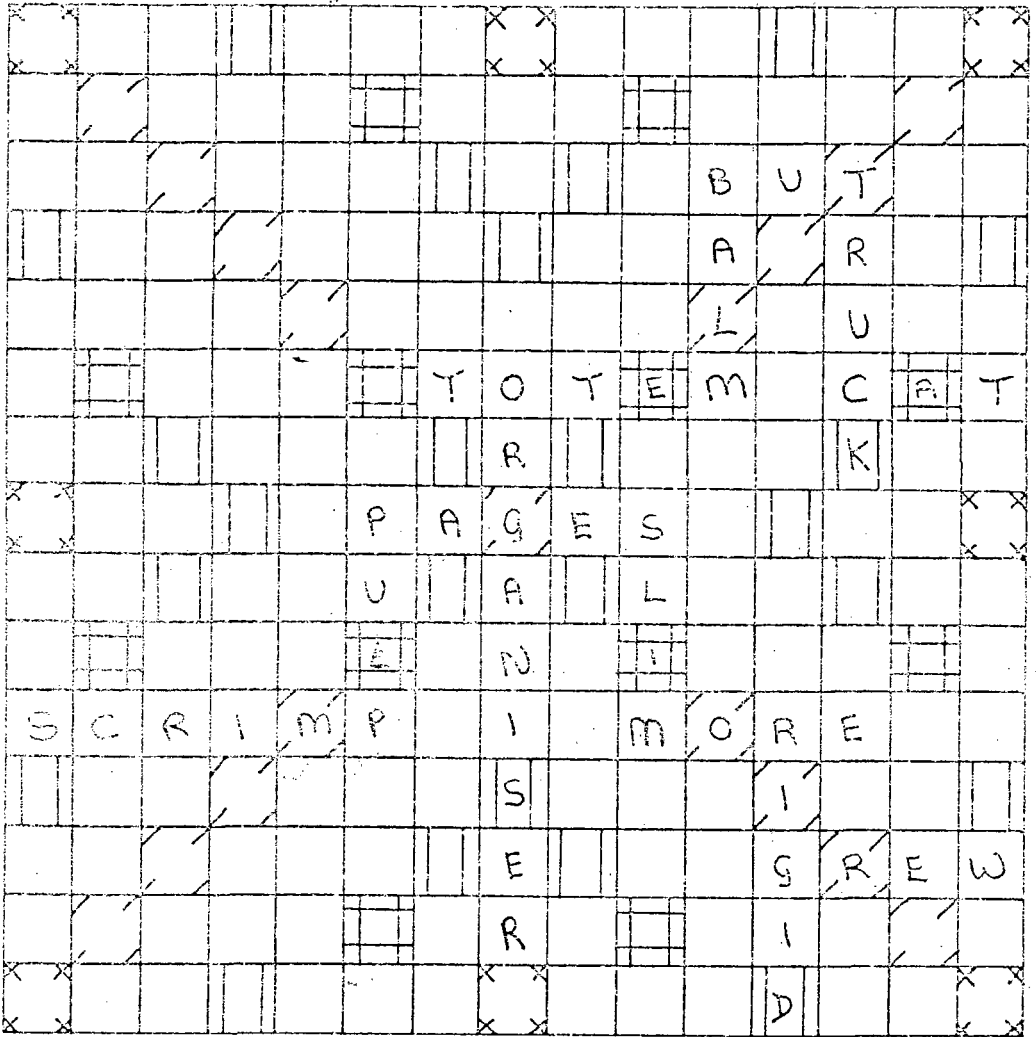
Hugh Ferkin

Hugh Ferkin was born on 23rd August 1935 and attended schools in Mansfield between 1940 and 1950. His first job was as Trainee Bar Attendant at the Nottingham Y.W.C.A. and he has been employed as Bar Tender in various establishments ever since. He is currently engaged by the Nottingham branch of the Post Office Social Club where he is a popular and genial host. He is however a stickler for the rules and his habit of refusing to serve drinks after 10.30 causes Richard Hucknall to exclaim "HUGH FERKIN BAR STEWARD !"

Freely adapted from ideas from Malcolm Brown and Christopher Farmer. Thanks both.

# Famous Ferkins

PART TWO



X X TREBLE  
WORD  
X X SCORE

||| DOUBLE  
LETTER  
SCORE



TREBLE  
LETTER  
SCORE



DOUBLE  
WORD  
SCORE

Place the following letters on the above Scrabble board so as to score more than anyone else who tries. Scoring is in accordance with normal Scrabble rules.

X Q Y R I O U

There's a sticker for the winner but don't let that put you off.

Polycon was the second con I'd ever attended and, compared with the previous one (Midcon (I)), it was a roaring success. This report will be different to the ones that you usually see in 'zines for the simple reasons that I am not a 'zine editor and, perhaps more importantly, I am not a member of the 'hardcore'.

Where did it all start then? Well, for me it started with a five hour coach journey from Nottingham up to Preston. Not the best way to start a weekend away from home but in the next couple of days I was to get well acquainted with tiredness.

The first thing I saw at the con was the game of Cosmic Encounter which I had never played before and which was very interesting. More interesting however was one of the players whose name was Terry Hill and who greeted me with;

"Don Brown?? Ah! I want a word with you!", at which I went a whiter shade of pale and didn't get to see Terry for the rest of the weekend.

Eventually we all moved up to the main hall of the Students Union and I managed to meet two people that I had hoped to meet, namely Peter Calcraft and Iain Forsyth. After chatting about various things including how to produce 'zines we decided that it was about time to get something to eat. We foolishly chose to hunt for food in the wilds of central Preston (a decision that the Gods didn't like too much) and we managed to get rather wet before we eventually found a place that sold food (or that's what they claimed anyway). Reeling from the delights (?) of Kentucky Fried Chicken and with the smell of Lemon Hand Cleanser up our nostrils we staggered back to the polytechnic to take part in a game of Kingmaker. This was another game that was new to me and I found it very hard to grasp the rules and I got very bored before the game ended in a draw. (In a recent 'phone call Iain said that he had felt very sorry for me but I'm not too sure that he means it!).

By this time it was quite late and as I saw my brother staggering about the room we decided to head back to his place to get some kip. At Bob's place I met for the first time James O'Fee along with Paul and Karen Simpkins, all very nice people and I hope to meet them again.

Saturday morning saw the Diplomacy contest under way and I couldn't resist having a go. Ten minutes later I was looking at the Italian pieces I'd been given and was wondering why I was so stupid as to play that bloody silly game! To cut a long story short I managed to win myself a place in the final by having more units than any other Italy (4 in fact!).

After further games and a trip to some Indian restaurant with Phil Bass and Der Garvey I eventually had a game of Warlord which I had been playing for some years though on a different board. A good game was played by all and the result was a draw between my brother and Roger Ayre with myself taking third place. The game was perhaps more notable for the number of empty and full beer glasses that were spilt or broken (usually over the mapboard), so if one of you out there has got a sticky Warlord mapboard then I suggest you write to Der Garvey and demand an explanation! (Phew! Another close shave..)

Sunday morning was the morning of the Diplomacy final and I drew Germany, I did very well at first but eventually fell before an ingenious stab by all of my neighbours because I had made my usual mistake of growing too fast. Never mind, I will return!

The final was eventually won by Gary Murkin (Mary Gurkin) with Iain Forsyth second and Dave Gray third. Congratulations gentlemen, I hope we meet again (in a dark alley maybe??).

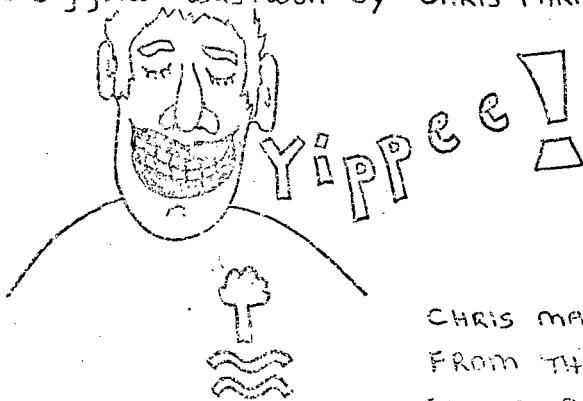
Ho hum. Nothing much happened on Sunday afternoon as people were disappearing back to their origins and the only things I really remember are watching the Bridge tournament and a very nice chat with Michael O'Shea. All in all a fantastic con and I hope to see a lot of you again as soon as someone organises another big con.

Many thanks go to Rob Brown who arranged the con and thoughtfully gave his brother some bed space.

Cheers. *Donald Brown*

# Competition Results

BOGGLE was won by CHRIS FARMER



CHRIS MADE 135 WORDS FROM THE LETTER SQUARE 91 OF WHICH WERE DISALLOWED FOR

REASONS OF OBSCENITY, STUPIDITY OR CHEATING. HIS 44 ALLOWABLE WORDS MADE HIM THE WINNER BY 6 WORDS.

SCRABBLE was won by DAVID KENDAL



DAVID MADE THE WORD "TUTANIA" FROM THE SEVEN

LETTERS PROVIDED AND PLACED IT DOWN THE RIGHT HAND SIDE OF THE BOARD, MAKING "BOA" INTO "BOAY." HE SCORED 80 POINTS FOR THIS MOVE. CHRIS FARMER CAME NEXT WITH 39. LOUSY TRY CHRIS.

DIPPY RAILWAYS LTD. TIMETABLE.			
SOUTHBOUND		NORTHBOUND	
2:06	2:09	3:07	5:41
			5:46
2:17	2:19	3:17	
			5:46
2:22		3:21	5:56
			6:59
	2:29		
			8:22
	2:32		
			8:31
2:33	2:37	3:10	
			8:51
			6:59
2:41			
			9:18
	3:54	3:26	
			7:29
			6:49
2:55	2:58		
			9:18
			6:36
			9:12
			9:29
			9:39
			9:39
			9:29
			8:46
3:24	3:27	4:24	
			8:11
			9:29
			9:55
			5:47
			5:43
			6:51
			6:39
			7:57
			6:12
			9:17
			10:36
			2:34
			3:20
			2:24
			2:20
			2:46
			2:55
			5:18
			7:42
			2:01
			2:50
			2:43
			5:07
			6:09
			7:32
			1:55
			6:03
			2:33
			4:52
			5:47
			7:16
			2:23
			1:56
			2:12
			4:25
			4:30
			5:55
			4:25
			6:50
			7:00
			9:13
			1:44
			2:09
			3:30
			5:08

It is 2:30 and you are at FERKIN VILLAGE.

Reach Malcolmsboth by 9:30.

You may travel back and forth, wait, use the same station more than once etc. etc.

ANSWER NEXT ISSUE.

To Clara Hunt Esq,  
 Wexley  
 Wexham  
 201719

11/9/8

Right then, but still reserve judgment and temperance towards  
 as with the case for the time being. After all if it was  
 common the way would have done more research into the  
 the. Anyone that knows the place it's black over hills and  
 ought to know that Ferkin is what you're doing when you're pulling  
 the bits out of your rear.....

I might have entered your competition, in fact I still  
 might if you'd care to send me a photograph of the  
 first

Clara  
 Hunt

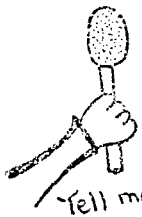
Dear Mde.

I like it...but I don't believe it. Well,  
 after what you do you expect? Do you know we spent  
 part of the journey up to Peat on discussing you and why  
 it had to be you that had perpetrated the lux??

Hope Ferkin is for real 'cos you've got a nice

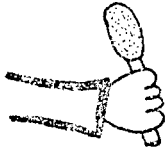
CLIVE BOOTH RECEIVES A  
 STICKER FOR SENDING THE 1st LETTER.





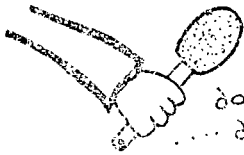
Tell me Mr. Clough...  
... Why do you read  
FERKIN?

66 Well, Mike, FERKIN is the  
wittiest, most original, best  
Illustrated Diplomacy fanzine  
ever. In short, I read FERKIN  
because it's FERKIN GREAT



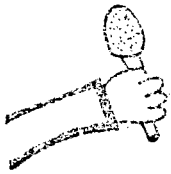
and how about  
you Mr. Tringham

# FERK ORF



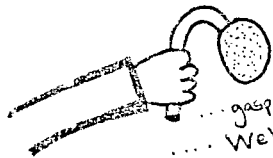
how do you  
do Mr. Sharp...  
... do you enjoy  
FERKIN?

"FERKIN IS, WITHOUT DOUBT  
THE BEST UK ZINE. SEND THE  
MONEY TO THIS ADDRESS PLEASE MIKE



Mrs Thatcher...  
... any comments  
please?

It IS A GREAT TRIBUTE TO  
THE BRITISH CHARACTER THAT  
AN ENTERPRISE SUCH AS THIS  
COULD SUCCEED UNDER A  
LABOUR GOVERNMENT INTENT  
ON CRUSHING THE INDIVIDUAL  
UNDER A..OOOOW...mmm  
do that again Big Boy.....



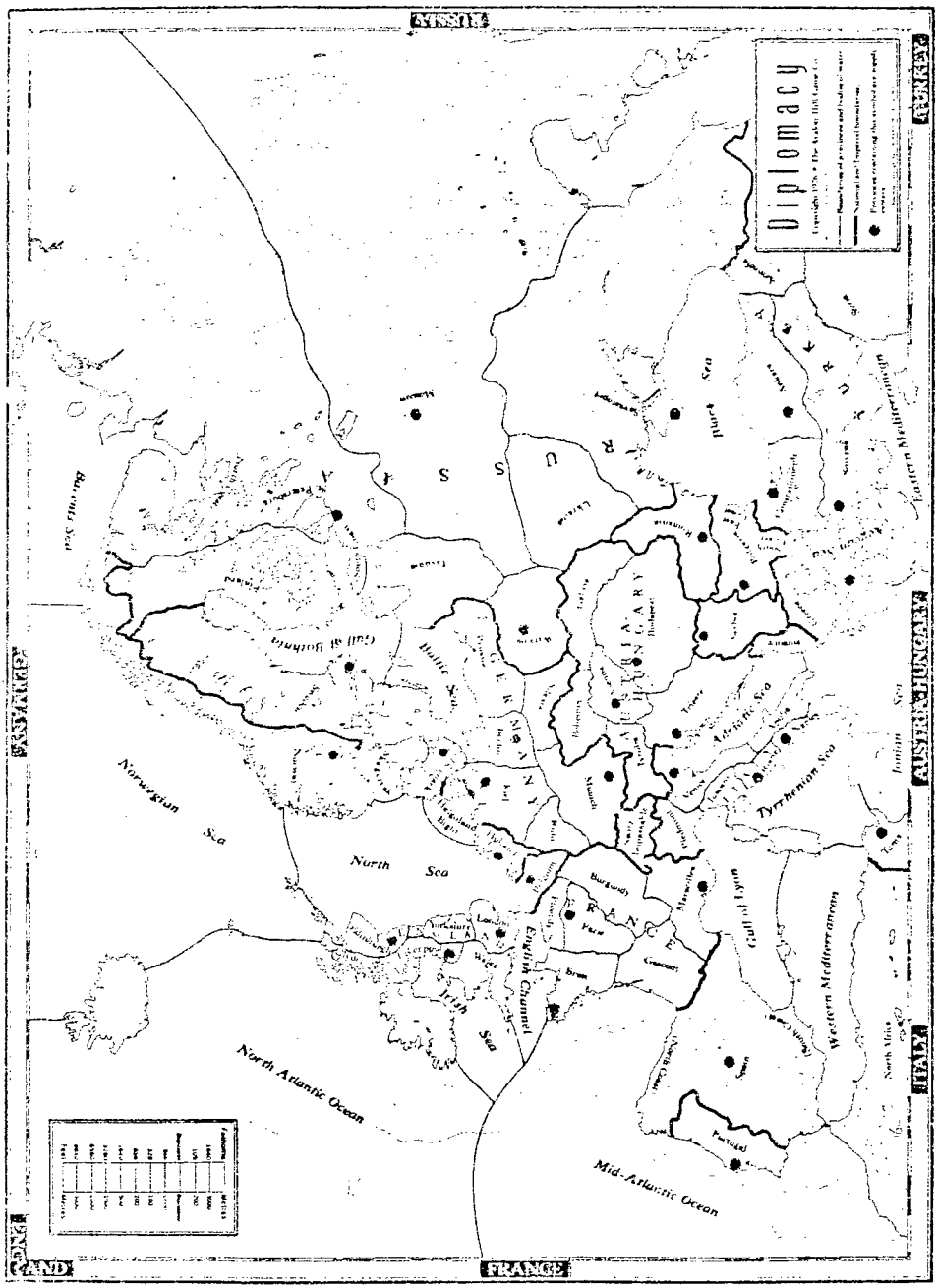
... gasp... pant...  
... Well Mr Booth  
What do you  
think?

WHAT DID SHARP THINK?



he liked  
it.

I WANT DOUBLE WHAT YOU  
PAID HIM.



**Diplomacy**  
 Copyright 1916, by The Stokes Hill Co., Inc.  
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 National Geographic Society  
 Washington, D. C.

Miles	Kilometers
0	0
100	160
200	320
300	480
400	640
500	800
600	960
700	1120
800	1280
900	1440
1000	1600

CHINA

FRANCE

ITALY

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY

RUSSIA

PRUSSIA