

# SPRING OFFENSIVE No. 35



A postal Diplomacy zine, available every five weeks or so from:  
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Tel. 01273-562430, email CIS 100276,775 or spoff@demon.co.uk.  
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# SPRING OFFENSIVE



ISSUE 35 (July 1995)

## The Spring Offensive Editorial Board

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## Editorial

I suppose some of you think this issue is late. Well, you're wrong. The deadline was early! Unfortunately, last issue had two deadlines on it - the one on the front cover said 24th June (which was the deadline I was aiming at), but when the zine got delayed I put it back to 1st July to preserve your diploming time, which was duly noted on the back page. Unfortunately I forgot to correct the cover (which was printed in advance) which meant that half of you submitted orders a week early. Well, at least that makes a change! With luck this issue should be back to normal turnaround of 5 days or so from deadline to post (not quite up to TIM or TCP standards, I know, but remember, I'm pushing middle age).

One clear indication of getting old is the fact that now that I am faced with three choices: (1) stay up for another hour and make do with 5 hours sleep; or (2) delay the zine by two days; or (3) leave the maps blank and get you lazy buggers to fill them in yourselves, I have decided to opt for No.3. When I was 19 I could cope with essay crises at college, now, at 34, I'm just too old for that sort of thing anymore...

John Miller has announced the results of the 1994 Gladys Awards and Spring Offensive has been duly honoured by being voted Best Zine, Best Zine for Diplomacy and Variants, Best Zine for Hobby News and Best Lettercolumn. WOW! I am of course thrilled - my only question is that now Spring Offensive has been voted Best Zine for three years in a row, do I get to keep it? Many thanks to all who voted and thanks to John for running it, despite having a host of other troubles to contend with.

Other winners were On The Game - Best Zine for Other Games, SNOT - Best new Zine; Cut & Thrust - Best looking Zine; Smodnoc - Most regretted Fold; Toby Harris - Best GM. Well done all.

I know this has nothing to do with postal games etc. but when I was driving to Swindon this morning I heard the news that this Government has released Lee Clegg. Am I the only person in the country who thinks this is an utter disgrace? What other convicted murderer is released after only 4 years? His supporters claim he is innocent - but so did the supporters of the Guildford Four or the Birmingham Six. There are many celebrated miscarriages of justice which have not been righted, and yet they release Clegg after a media campaign of a couple of months!

And what's all this about him being 100% innocent? The media has almost completely overlooked the fact that three of Clegg's comrades were found guilty of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice over the cover-up which was organised. For those of you who have forgot, as soon as the soldiers realised they'd gone over the top, they tried to concoct a defence of self-defence, even injuring one of their own number so they could allege the injury was caused by the joyriders. Unfortunately the members of the RUC who witnessed the event told the truth. Is this the action of innocents??

The final straw was the revelation from the Secretary of State for Defence that he may be allowed to go back to his old Regiment, as he wants. This on the same day as another of the news stories is the continuance of the ban on gays in the armed forces! That means that a closet gay can't serve in the army, but a convicted murderer can! This is a crazy society indeed.

I should be at ManorCon, though at the time of writing this I haven't booked! Can I make a late plea for players to make up a Spring Offensive team for the Diplomacy contest - at least 4 needed, so far there's just me, Stewart Cross and Steve Cox. Telephone me if you're going to be there and you're interested.

Chris Palm mentioned the idea of some zines getting together and agreeing to guarantee each others games - a kind of an ABTA Scheme for postal Diplomacy. I think there is much merit in the idea, as it would not only lead to more efficient ways of dealing with zines that go AWOL (anyone seen Nothing to Declare?), but it may also give us a handle to use in promoting the hobby. I really don't think that there is anything to lose by considering the idea seriously. Any comments?

Well, I'm just finishing off the zine now, filling in the odd space here and there, cutting out the odd letter or article to make the zine take up an exact even number of pages, and on the radio all there're talking about is John Major. You've got to admit that the Tory Party was in an impossible situation - John Major can probably hold the party together by being wimpish and conceding things

to the Right, but his government since the last election has been a complete disaster, especially given the bunch of incompetents in the cabinet. A charismatic leader such as Michael Hesletine would probably do better at the Polls, but would split the Party as the Portillo freaks would go bananas. the same in reverse also applies, save that I refuse to concede that Michael Portillo could ever be described as charismatic. In the end they've opted for the least worst choice, and Tony Blair will be laughing all the way to No.10 Downing Street.

Even as a Labour Party member of 18 years standing, I have to be a little alarmed by the rush of New Labour to embrace the values of "Middle England" (whatever that is). I feel torn. My head tells me that that is the right thing to do, that some Tory policies have worked after a fashion (e.g. privatising BT, TU ballots - though the later was actually stolen from In Place of Strife) and it is better for the country for Labour to come in and make a better job of running the country. However, my heart is still wedded to The Red Flag, Clause IV and the re-distribution of wealth. The problem is the Working Classes seem to prefer buying Council Houses and the smack of a handbag round their ears. No doubt Tony will only be too glad to oblige. Oh well, I do firmly believe he will make a better Social Democrat PM than any member of the Gang of Four (remember them?).

One advantage of a multi-media PC is that you can use the CD Rom drive to play CD's while you work. One disadvantage with having all the CD's downstairs is that you can never be bothered to change what you're listening to. I shudder to think how many times I've listened to Elvis Costello's Kojak Variety (which I don't rate that highly), Tom Robinson's Living in a Boom Time or (dare I admit it) Don McLean's American Pie. It must be 10 times each. Here it goes again... *A long, long time ago, I can still remember how that music used to make me smile. And I knew if I had my chance, that I could make those people dance, and maybe they'd be happy for a while...*

## Forthcoming Cons

### MANORCON XIII

**21 - 24 July 1995** at Lake Hall, Birmingham University. £12 convention fee, £20 per single room per night, details from Peter Sullivan, 55 Brunton Street, Darlington, Co. Durham, DL1 4EN.

### MidCon 95

**10 - 12 November 1995** at the Royal Angus Thistle Hotel, Birmingham. Details to be announced. Contact Brian Williams, 30 Rydding Lane, Millfields Estate, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 2HA.

### MASTERCON III

Shaun Derrick writes...

**23-25 February 1996.** MasterCon will return to the Kings Head in Cirencester for one more year. Rooms will be £26.00 per single and £23.80 per person in a shared room. This will include VAT & breakfast. Registration fee is only £8.00. More information will follow, but there will be a 3 round Diplomacy tournament, an Intimate Diplomacy tournament and Skittles tournament.

# ZINES /// ZINES /// ZINES /// ZINES /// ZINES

**One Man's Rubbish** is a spanking brand new zine from Mark Stretch of 2 Over Mill Drive, Selly Park, Birmingham, B29 7JL. Issue 1 is free and future issues will be £1 per issue. A4 photocopied. With the recent appearance of **TIM** and now the emergence of **OMR** (both zines being produced by ex-**Springboarders**) things are indeed looking up on the Diplomacy scene. After a dearth of new zines for some considerable time, we now have two zines launched within 3 months of each other which have all the hallmarks of future success stamped upon them. Mark is not a newcomer to this hobby, he's been around for several years, playing games, attending cons, and notably running the Oxford University Diplomacy and Board Games Society. So he knows what he's letting himself in for. Issue 1 has many of the things you'd expect - House Rules etc., but points of note include a review of **Ausgebremst** (Formula One racing game), Railway rivals tactics article, some Diplomacy analysis, a reprint of a hobby scam and (would you believe) a history of Motorsport 1894-1906 (!). Still all good zines need one eccentricity or another. Mark has put together a Diplomacy gamestart for his first issue (always a good idea if you are starting a zine) and he has lists open for Diplomacy, United, Railway Rivals, Breaking Away and is open minded on the question of Dip variants. Get in at the beginning and ask Mark for a free copy of issue one today.

Well, **The Mag With No Name** isn't exactly new, given that the issue I have in front of me has "No.11" on it, but it's newish with regard to the mainstream Diplomacy hobby and as Ian Willey has been kind enough to send me a sample it deserves a mention. This issue is A5 booklet photocopy, cost 25p + postage (which is very cheap), frequency 6-weekly. The zine describes itself as "wargaming + role-playing + play by mail" so it may not be everyone's cup of tea, but it does at least provide a welcome alternative to the other zines around which carry Diplomacy games. That said, it does appear that Ian is being sucked into the Diplomacy scene as this issue has reviews of **TIM** and **Megalomania**, and even a mini-article on Diplomacy opening theory from Martin Burroughs (which appears to be in response to an article in the previous issue). Role-playing is represented by *How to win at Cthulhu*, some live role-playing rules and games such as *Day of the Triffids* and *RVDIS* (a gladiatorial combat game). Not much mention of wargaming this issue, but apparently issue 10 was mainly wargaming and no fantasy. The Diplomacy games were being GM'd by James Brown, but they've now been taken over by Ian - at present there is 1 regular games in progress and almost a list full for the second, together with a couple of minor map change variants. If you're interested in the mix of topics that Ian seeks to cover, write to him at 15 Metro Avenue, Newton, Alfreton, Derbyshire, DE55 5UF and enclose two 25p stamps for a sample.

Although a little late and by Mick Haytack's own admission a little disjointed, there were a couple of entertaining pieces in **Bloodstock** No.87. I enjoyed Mick's profile of Maxwell Woosnam (Olympic Gold & Silver, Wimbledon

Champion, captain of the England football team, captain of the British Davis Cup team). If only his career had been in the 1980's instead of the early 1920's he would have been a very rich man indeed. The other piece to strike a chord was Mick's description of his recent gardening exploits which just made me break out in a cold sweat. I can imagine little worse than gardening (save perhaps for vigorous and prolonged physical exercise) but I can just about live with experiencing it vicariously. Mick Haytack, 43 Swanmore Road, Littleover, Derby, DE23 7SD

Issue IV of **The Ides of March** came out dead on time - how does Chris manage to get it copied and posted by the Monday after the deadline. I suspect it has to be a **Smodnoc** solution, i.e. photocopying at work at weekends, but maybe I'm wrong. Anyway, this issue is pretty much up to the standards of the last - lots of letters, a bit more from Richard Sharp's book, some history articles (Bannockburn, Roman Diplomacy) and a debate on smoking. The numbers of games are creeping up (9 already). Difficult to criticise this zine - it's very readable (especially if you like the history article and the Debating Club device) and deservedly popular. The hobby needs people like Chris, whatever Danny Collman may say. Chris Palm, 45 Cecil Avenue, Ardeleigh green, Hornchurch, Essex, RM11 2NA.

**A Little Original Sin** continues to impress, and issue 32 was no exception. Any zine which says that people who don't subscribe to **Spring Offensive** would be "missing out" has to be OK in my book. Like the last **Spring Offensive** this issue of **ALOS** was a little late (due to accountancy things called revenue reports, statutory accounts and nominal ledgers, not to mention wild partying), but what the hell, we all have to live a little. In the letter column the resident John Redwood clone in the **ALOS** subscriber list (a.k.a. Alan Frost) speaks his mind as usual ("*Intelligent women are now so busy with their careers that they are delaying their families or not even bothering. meanwhile, their less capable sisters are living at home with the unemployed thickos they marries (who've been put out of work by clever women) and breeding like rabbits. Result: the average intelligence of the population drops through the floor...*") and even Vick himself confesses to visiting a women's loo for a "small multicultural / sexual congregation of six in a cubicle for a speedy snogging session." Why do I never get invited to parties like that? Honourable mention must also be made of Peter Haslehurst's **The Dissecting Room** sub-zine which is already up to issue 16 and as yet there is no sign of it becoming a zine in its own right. Pity. Vick Hall, 115a Offord Road, Islington, London, N1 1PQ (and Vick hates it if you forget the postcode).

**Realpolitik** is not a zine which has been mentioned much in these pages, as Guy Thomas has been winding it down for some time. Indeed, with the recent arrival of issue 100 Guy has announced a fold. However, **Realpolitik** cannot be allowed to pass away without a mention for an excellent final issue, or without recording the thanks of the entire postal Di-

plomacy community for Guy's efforts and support over the past ten and a bit years. **Realpolitik** won the Zine Poll in 1988 (the first year it had achieved sufficient votes to qualify) and so is a member of a very small select club indeed. Issue 100 is some 50 pages long and mainly consists of photocopied extracts of Guy's editorials throughout the history of the zine - together they tell an absorbing story of the varied experiences of life, the highs and the lows. Congratulations Guy, may you enjoy your much-earned retirement. And come back soon.

Another hobby leading light who's retiring this month is Fred C Davis Jr., the renowned US variant designer and zine publisher. Fred joined the postal Diplomacy hobby back in 1968, starting publication of his variant-only zine **Bushwacker** in 1972 which continued regular production up to 1991 and issue 234. Fred founded **Diplomag** (the newsletter for the US Mensa Diplomacy SIG) in 1974, passing it on to others from 1981-85, and publishing it himself again for the past ten years. Issue 124 of **Diplomag** is Fred's last, and so ends 23 years of continuous Diplomacy zine production. Fred's contribution to postal Diplomacy on the variants side has been massive - far too much to detail here (maybe I could persuade Fred into writing an article on the variants scene over the years) - and we can't let this opportunity slip by without saying a big Thank You for all that Fred has achieved. Thanks, Fred.

The fact that Pete Birks includes a news clipping on the front of **Greatest Hits** No.193 on the subject of "road rage" brings to mind the TV programme on the same subject that I watched last night. Most of the film consisted of interviews with drivers who have been the "victims" of such incidents, but as the BBC cleverly conducted all the interviews while the interviewees were in the process of driving, we were able to see first hand how these people reacted to others on the road themselves. The protestations of some drivers about how badly they had been treated looked a little hollow when they were effing and Blinding at other road uses themselves. It made you wonder if there wasn't two sides to some of the stories. That is not to say that some of the incidents weren't truly horrifying - indeed, in Portsmouth recently one driver was almost killed when another driver attacked him with an axe. What is it about driving which brings out mindless violence in some people, and why has it got worse recently? I bet it's all Margaret Thatcher's fault.

Anyway, back to **GH**. Lots of letters this issue, including interesting contributions from Neil Rowlands, Jonathan Palfrey and even Peter Northcott (editor of the long defunct **Last Stand**). The letter from Geoff Challenger was most revealing in that he confesses that he contemplated starting to run another Diplomacy zine. Go for it Geoff! Don't let the Diplomacy put you off - I can adjudicate 17 games in an evening thanks to Stewart Cross's program - and the new one which will be available at ManorCon (plug) is written for windows and automatically produces maps in BMP format.

# ZINES /// ZINES /// ZINES /// ZINES /// ZINES

Stewart will only be taking a few copies, so ring him to reserve one (0171-359-0107). Don't know the price yet - probably £10-£15 to allow Stewart to recover his costs. The disc will also include the most up to date version for DOS as well. Pete Birks, 181 Friern Road, East Dulwich, London, SE22 0BD.

Per Wrestling sent me a copy of issue 36 of Lepanto 4-Ever, a Swedish zine written predominantly in English. A while ago L4E was the premier Swedish zine, with a strong international following, but standards have slipped of late, Per only managing 3 issue in the past year. However, in a spark of enthusiasm Per has decided to get out of the doldrums and put the zine back on its feet. I'm now trading with Per so I'll let you know how things develop. Per Wrestling, Ostanvagen 10, S-61135, Nykoping, Sweden. Email pow@lysator.liu.se.

As TCP No.30 only arrived this morning, it would be a shame not to mention it. Neil expresses amazement that Ian Harris can allow Borealis to take so long to turn around, saying that he'd go up the wall if TCP wasn't done by the Wednesday after the deadline. Well, I used to feel that way - guilt would drive me to keep typing away until 3.30am, despite having to get up and go to work, just to get the zine to the printers by Tuesday. But after 3 years of publishing and with a baby daughter who gets more and more fun to play with every day, well it just doesn't seem THAT urgent anymore and the guilt is all a little less. The 5 week deadlines for the moment are probably a good thing because it means if the zine takes a week to get out, then the games don't suffer. Chris Palm seems to be similarly affected to Neil - so far TIM has been in the post on the Monday following the deadline (though that doesn't beat Smodnoc's deadline Friday, in the post on Saturday). It's fine being a guilt-tripping speed freak, but I reckon that sooner or later you have to learn to pace yourself or you run out of puff. That said, if Spoff was ever 3 weeks late (as some zines seem to be practically every issue), then I think I'd consider it folded.

Mopsy No.111 was a little thin and I only mention it to say that Bryan needs a bit of cheering up on the zine front. Recent issues have been a bit empty of content and enthusiasm - so why not write to Bryan and ask for a sample and let's get Mopsy re-invigorated. I fear that unless Bryan gets some new blood and new energy then Mopsy may be in a terminal decline. Bryan Betts, 5 St. Francis Road, Denham Green, Middlesex, UB9 5JS.

I for one approve of the change in the format of U-Bend to A5. Haz's been using photo-reduction for 4 or 5 issues now and it manages to make his sense of layout look almost coherent. Certainly one of the more light-hearted and fun zines around, the absence of Joy Hibbert takes some of the over-seriousness and pretentiousness out of it. Haz spends less time posing and more time being himself, which is good. I particularly enjoyed Haz's review of the jackets he has in his wardrobe - the PVC jacket sounds particularly interesting... Haz Bond, Longfield, Watling Street, Gailey, Stafford, ST19 5PR.

For the record, Edoardo Mattei has sent me Turn Around No.2, which is the zine of the Italian Variants Bank, written in English. There are only 60 or so variants in the Italian Bank, but I may do some swapping with Eduardo to get the ones I don't recognise. Eddy also publishes Compendio Ars Diplomatica in both Italian and English. Edoardo Mattei, Viale Sartorio 95, I-00147, Roma, Italy.

Continuing this international theme, Making Love In A Canoe is the only zine I see from Canada. The density of the words on the pages with absolutely minimal margins would make Alan Parr proud. Brent McKee's article on terrorism in the USA in the wake of the Oklahoma bombing was thought provoking. I have never understood why the USA gets away so lightly when it comes to urban terrorism - that society seems to breed lone nutters who take their AK-47 to McDonalds, but not (until now) violent and organised political extremists. Maybe such atrocities will enable the US to better understand the attitude that the British Government has towards the IRA. There's always a lot to read in MALOC so if you want to see a Canadian perspective on life contact Brent McKee at 901 Avenue T North, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, S7L 3B9.

Some months it seems I see more foreign zines than UK ones. Perelandra is probably the most successful zine in the US hobby. Not for the first time, issue No.129 has one of those so ridiculously right-wing Letter column contributors that you would only get in the US. Christ, they can make Alan Frost look like a woolly liberal. Pete is far more even-tempered with these Newt Gringich clones than I would be. Pete Gaughan, 1236 Detroit Avenue #7, Concord, CA 94520-3651, USA.

Another substantial US zine is Doug Kent's Maniac's Paradise. Doug is a bit of a Superman, he does far too much for the US postal Diplomacy hobby for his own good, especially as he is now editor of Diplomacy World, but MP is as reliable as ever. I've lost track of all the subzines in MP so I won't try and list them all, but they are an eclectic bunch held together with Doug's wit and wisdom. Doug does a Zine Recap every issue which does at least give the reader a (very brief) oversight into the US hobby and that, coupled with the free comix with most issues, make MP a must have for international Diplomacy freaks. Doug Kent, 6151 Royatton Drive, Dallas, TX 75230, USA.

Another US zine is The Abyssinian Prince from Jim Burgess. In issue 160 Jim reviews Spring Offensive which is the first review of SpOff I think I've ever seen in a US zine. All in all a very favourable review - Jim is obviously a big Steve Cox fan - Steve take a bow! The only misunderstanding worth correcting is that Jim thinks I'm having a feud with Andy bate over the Walkerdine Zine Archive. That's not true. How is it possible to have a feud with someone who hasn't produced an issue of his zine for over two years and isn't really a member of the hobby anymore anyway. I just wish he'd passed the Zine Archive on to someone else before he went back into hibernation. Jim Burgess, 664 Smith Street, Providence, RI 02908-4327, USA.

Time for some UK zines for a change. Outbreak of Heresy NO. 9 was entertaining and informative as usual. Nick's appreciation of Dinosaurs of the Lost World was certainly a labour of love. Steve Jones gets a letter printed in which he claims that Steve Thomas libelled him last issue. All good stuff. Nick Kinzett, 11 Daleway Road, Green Lane, Coventry, CV3 6JF.

Although it is not becoming a by-word for efficiency and fast-turnaround, Where Is My Mind? is certainly establishing a reputation for being a good all-round chattering classes loo read. And issue 6 is no exception. This is THE place in the Hobby to discuss Pulp Fiction (a brilliant film - Esme and I laughed a lot), Mini Coopers, the Bible, Lesbianism, Cannabis, World War II and fox hunting. Sounds a bit like the Grauniad doesn't it (apart from the Mini Coopers that is). An amusing zine which reads like Haz Bond on one of his mellow days. David Oya, 24 Kingsway, Banbury, Oxon, OX16 9NY.

Dave Tant sent me issue 27 of Sopwith Stats as he has kindly volunteered to take over the Sopwith games that Kris Morris was running. Players see the attached sheet for details. I've now sent all the orders I have on file to Dave and I will pass on the next adjudication direct to the players. As I have a copy of Sopwith I feel quite enthusiastic about running games in Spring Offensive - hence, I have reprinted the postal rules inside. Tom Tweedy has offered to GM games for us, and I certainly want to play. Let me know and I'll email Tom when we get six players. Dave Tant, 32 Nursery Avenue, bexleyheath, kent, DA7 4JZ.

Obsidian No.71 was a surprisingly chunky issue, after a spell of leanness. Flicking through my copy (avoiding the baby vomit on the cover) Alex's predict the Zine Poll results contest was won by Kim Head (which must bode well for Mission from God's future). Interestingly, two non-Spring Offensive subscribers predicted that Spring Offensive would win - thanks lads, if I knew where you lived I'd send you a sample. Obsidian came top among subscribers-only in the Zine Poll, write to Alex Richardson, 8 Kershaws Hill, Hitchin, Herts, SG4 9AQ to see if you would agree.

Another chunky issue arrived in the shape of Borealis No.25. Another editor who attended the Alan Parr School of Layout, but I enjoy it despite the eyestrain. The game of postal Sorcerer's Cave is a hoot, and if I had more time I'd run a game here. If you want to play Jon Lovibond's 1000 AD at a relaxed pace then contact Ian Harris, 3 Abbotside Close, Urpeth Grange, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham, DH2 1TQ.

No space left. On The Game, Dipsomania, Back to the dark Ages, Megalomania, Springboard, Odarodte, LiES, Box frenzy and others will have to wait. Damn, not enough room left to mention Dolchstoß No.198. Life can be so unfair...

*But February made me shiver, with every paper I'd deliver. Bad news on the doorstep, I couldn't take one more step...*

THE UK ZINE POLL RESULTS (1973 - 1994)

Year	Pollster	Winner	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eight	Ninth	Tenth	Vote/s
1973 <sup>1</sup>	RJW	Ethil the Frog	Mad Policy	Dolchstoß	1901 a.a.i.	War Bulletin	Grafati	Frigate	Our Envy	Son of Bellicus	Hannibal	14
1974	RJW	Dolchstoß	Mad Policy	Orion	1901 a.a.i.	Frigate	Fifth Column	= Comet & Hannibal	War Bulletin	War Bulletin	Court Circular	34
1975	RJW	Dolchstoß	Mad Policy	1901 a.a.i.	Fifth Column	Hyperion	=Greatest Hits & War Bulletin		Relief	Lemming Express	Frigate	54
1976	RJW	Chimaera	1901 a.a.i.	Mad Policy	jigsaw	Trojan Horse	Ad Nauseam	Bumm	He's Dead Jim	Rocinante	Dolchstoß	69
1977	RJW	Chimaera	1901 a.a.i.	Jigsaw	Dolchstoß	Rats live on no evil star	Mad Policy	Greatest Hits	Ad Nauseam	Trojan Horse	Puppet Theatre News	111
1978 <sup>2</sup>	MB	Dolchstoß	Ethil the Frog	Chimaera	Lemming Express	New Statsman	Tinamou	Jigsaw	1901 a.a.i.	Puppet Theatre News	Greatest Hits	151
1979 <sup>3</sup>	MB	Greatest Hits	Puppet Theatre News	Chimaera	Mr Gladgrind	Pigmy	Fall of Eagles	Megalomania	Filibuster	Tinamou	Gallimaufry	133
1980	MB	Greatest Hits	Fall of Eagles	Puppet Theatre News	NMR!	Putty Riff	Chimaera	Pyrrhic Victory	Megalomania	Tinamou	Filibuster	69
1981	RJW	Greatest Hits	Puppet Theatre News	NMR!	= Chimaera & Fall of Eagles	Perspiring Dreams		Ripping Yarns	Putty Riff	Ode	Pyrrhic Victory	101
1982	RJW	Ode	Greatest Hits	Fall of Eagles	The Acolyte	NMR!	Watch Your Back	Dib Dib Dib	Home of the Brave	Chantecler	Chimaera	101
1983	RJW	Greatest Hits	Mad Policy	The Acolyte	NMR!	Denver Glont	Hopscotch	Ode	Home of the Brave	Lokasenna	20 Years On	224
1984	RJW	Hopscotch	NMR!	Mad Policy	Die Poppel-Revue	Dolchstoß	Cut & Thrust	The Acolyte	The Church Mouse	Mach Die Spuhl	Take That You Fiend	258
1985 <sup>4</sup>	RJW	Mad Policy	Dolchstoß	Home of the Brave	Hopscotch	Zine to be Believed	Denver Glont	Greatest Hits	War & Peace	Ode	Cut & Thrust	248
1986	JP	Home of the Brave	Dolchstoß	The Thing on the Mat	Take That You Fiend	Denver Glont	Zine to be Believed	Mad Policy	Vienna	Prisoners of War	Dib Dib Dib	194
1987	JP	War and Peace	Zine to be Believed	Cut & Thrust	Denver Glont	Prisoners of War	Vienna	Scorpio	Take That You Fiend	NMR!	Dolchstoß	339
1988	JP	Realpolitik	Zine to be Believed	Vienna	Cut & Thrust	Take That You Fiend	NMR!	Prisoners of War	Denver Glont	Ode	Dolchstoß	235
1989	IDB	NERTZ	Electric Monk	Realpolitik	Home of the Brave	Zine to be Believed	C'est Magnifique	Y Ddraig Goch	Dolchstoß	A Step Further Out	Take That You Fiend	197
1990	IDB	Electric Monk	Y Ddraig Goch	A Step Further Out	Realpolitik	Home of the Brave	Cut & Thrust	Dolchstoß	C'est Magnifique	Take That You Fiend	Ode	145
1991	IDB	Dolchstoß	Electric Monk	Greatest Hits	Arle Barfle Gloop	Realpolitik	A Step Further Out	C'est Magnifique	S.F.C.P.	Cut & Thrust	Bloodstock	142
1992	IDB	Dolchstoß	Y Ddraig Goch	NERTZ	Spring Offensive	Take That You Fiend	C'est Magnifique	Age of Reason	Bloodstock	A Little Original Sin	Electric Monk	196
1993	IDB	Spring Offensive	Smodnoc	Cut & Thrust	Dolchstoß	A Little Original Sin	Y Ddraig Goch	The Cunning Plan	Up Around The Bend	Take That You Fiend	Age of Reason	136
1994	RD	Spring Offensive = Spring Offensive & Take That You Fiend		Dolchstoß	Greatest Hits	The Cunning Plan	Back to the Dark Ages	Smodnoc	Cut & Thrust	Hopscotch	LIES	132

Save where noted below, the Zine Poll was calculated on a straight average vote calculation from 1974-1977, on the basis of a Preference Matrix from 1980-1983 and on a 75% Preference Matrix, 25% average vote from 1985 onwards.

<sup>1</sup> This Poll was run on a Positional System with every voter having to vote for 5 zines (no more, no less).

<sup>2</sup> These results were Mick Bullock's Positional System, not the average votes previously used.

<sup>3</sup> In 1979 Mick Bullock did not issue any definitive results - here the average votes have been used as this system had more support among the general hobby at the time.

<sup>4</sup> This time a Positional System was used, 1st position = 10 points, 10th = 1 point. Highest total of points wins.