

Veni Vidi Vici

Welcome to issue 53 of Veni, Vidi, Vici, (I came, I saw, I conquered), a postal Diplomacy zine which was a sub-zine and will shrotly not exist at all!?

I am Brian Frew: 14, Lower Meadow, Edgworth, Turton, Laacs, BL7 0DQ. 0204/852989

Right team. We have problems. Not having seen anything two weeks after I sent my stuff to Martin, I gave him a bell to find out "what's for t'do" as they say locally. The news was that, for personal reasons, Martin had decided to fold. With number 2 Frew due any day now this news was a trifle unwelcome. Let's be honest, it was a lot bloody unwelcome. Anyway - here's the plan.

In addition to this issue, I will produce one more emergency issue of VVV, (deadline below), as a subzine of Home of the Brave. After that the Diplomacy games and Bourse will be going to HOME OF THE BRAVE where Geoff Challenger will GM them to a conclusion. I would have been happy to go on GMing the games but Geoff prefers to have total control of his operation and I can't say I blame him. (Congratulations to Geoff by the way on the recent arrival of his number 2, Stephanie). With any luck the postal Cluedo should finish in the next turn or so. The Postal Chess League team I will continue to look after myself.

Smodnoc will, after this issue, become a subzine in Gordon MacDonald's AC HONG. Please send your orders to Toby for the deadline given below. Blue Smarties "Gunboat" games players should send their orders to ADAM Harris for 1 and 2 and TOBY Harris for 3. You will need to submit NEW ORDERS as I doubt if Toby or anyone else will get much out of Martin. Railway Rivals I haven't found a home for yet.

The biggest headache is dosh. I have subtracted 60p for this issue. If you are in Smodnoc or Blue Smarties I've sent you to Ac Hong, if in VVV to Home and to both if you are in both. A fair number of you are classified as "Blue Smarties for life", mainly Gunboat players. To continue playing you will need to subscribe to Ac Hong. Clearly, this commitment was Martin's not Gordon's. I've returned cheques to those who sent them recently. Do check your credit standing with the new zine as I would expect, given the number of you, that Geoff and Gordon will have to be pretty ruthless with debtors. If any of you feel hard done by I can only add that Martin didn't send me all of the money owing and I will end up about £50 out at the end of all this.

Do try to get some orders in so we can rescue something form the chaos.

DEADLINKS.

VVV : All orders to Brian for.....25/7/90
SMODNOC: All orders to Toby for.....20/7/90

POSTAL CHESS LEAGUE.

Board.	Player.	Opposition.	Opening.	Current status.
1.	J. Stewart.	D. Longmore (141)	W. Petrov.	+
		(Stars Barred).	B. Sicilian Dragon.	=
		E.D. Williams (159)	W. French; Classical.	=
2.	J. Wilman.	(Royal Insurance).	B. Reti.	-?
		P. Welton (152)	W. Reverse QGA.	=
		(Wuneaton).	B. QGD Cambridge Sp.	=
		A. Plears (?)	W. Indian Benoni ?	?
		(West Herts).	B. French.	?
3.	J. Shepley.	A. Fedorko (128)	W.	
		(Common Factors B).	B.	
		R. McDougall (?)	W.	
		(TSB2).	B.	
4.	R. Frew	W. Prior (131)	W.	=
		(Civil Service 2).	B.	=
		P. Barber (130)	W.	=
		(Peckham PCC).	B.	=
5.	A. McCarthy.	B. Spiller (130)	W. Queen's G.D.	+
		(Sun Life).	B. Petrov. Irregular.	+
		E.A. Hartford (111)	W. English.	++?
		(7 Counties).	B. Scotch; 2 knights.	=
6.	D. Cutmore.	W. Spencer (91)	W.	
		(Royal Insurance).	B.	
		V. Mathais (113)	W.	
		(Stars Barred).	B.	
7.	J. Clissold.	P. Janew (142 J)	W.	=
		(Wuneaton).	B.	=
		R.H. Boardman (?)	W.	=
		(West Herts).	B.	=
8.	B. Frew.	A. MacMillan	W. Reti; King's Indian Att.	=
		(Common Factors B).	B. English.	=
		A. Tones (122)	W. Reti; King's Indian Att.	=
		(TSB2).	B. French; Exchange.	=?
9.	C. Smedley.	A. Sutton (96)	W. Scotch.	=
		(Peckham PCC).	B. Caro-Kann.	+
		C. Bickford (?)	W. King's Pawn irreg.	=
		(Civil Service C).	B. Queen's Pawn irreg.	=
10.	S. Miller.	W. Lawton (?)	W. Slav.	=
		(7 Counties).	B. St. George's.	+
		D. Bliss (?)	W. English.	=
		(Sun Life).	B. St. George's.	=

Key. = equal. ? unclear. + small advantage. ++ big advantage. - small disadvantage. -- big disadvantage.

The figures in brackets are the grades I can find for your opponents in last year's B.C.F. grading book, (my thanks to Julien Clissold). Anthony seems to be monopolising the ladies this year. They aren't to be underestimated - Julien Clissold got a useful one last year. She knew nearly, but fortunately not quite, as much as he did about the French, Advance, Milner-Barry

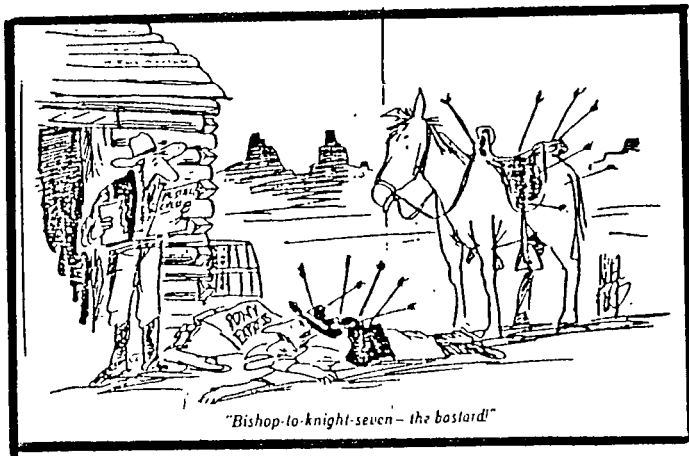
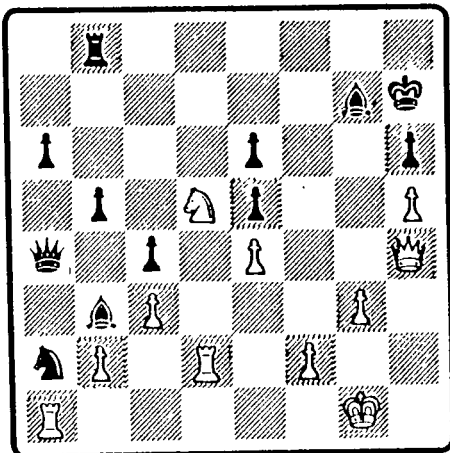
One lady who certainly shouldn't be underestimated is John Wilman's wife, Carey, who I notice was joint winner with Sheila Jackson of the British Ladies Quickplay Championship. Well done. By the way I can imagine Chess quizzes of the future featuring a question on naming all the well known British players who have been married to Shiela Jackson. Miles and Bellin I'm pretty sure of and I suspect Hartston as well!

A new subscriber, Charles Dreyer, has asked if anyone, not quite up to a Postal Chess League game, would fancy a friendly postal match. I am always happy to arrange this sort of thing - any volunteers? Andrew Hardy?

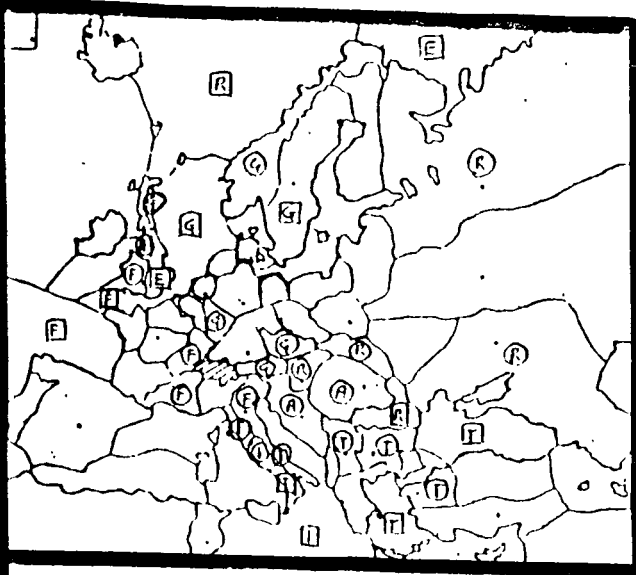
Here is a position which caused me a lot of thought in one of my PCL games last year. It is my move as White. White to play and win as they say.

The game actually went:-

1. Nc7
 2. Qc7
 3. b2xc3
 4. Rd7
 5. Nxe6
 Resigns.



"Bishop-to-knight-seven - the bastard!"



Austria. Andrew Hardy.
A(Tri)-s A(Bud).
A(Bud)-s A(Tri).

England. Adam Harris.
F(Lon)-NYH.
F(Stpac)-BAR.

France. Mark Ford.
A(Bel)-Wal.
A(Bur)-Mar.
A(Par)-Bur.
A(Pie)-Ven.
F(IRI)-MAO.
F(RNC)-c A(Bel)-Wal.
A(Lpl)-s A(Bel)-Wal.

Germany. Stephen Othen.
A(Hol)-Nwy.
F(NYH)-c A(Hol)-Nwy.
F(Swe)-s A(Hol)-Nwy.
A(Tyr)-s French
A(Pie)-Ven.
A(Boh)-s Austrian
A(Bud)-Vie.
A(Rdi)-stands.
A(Nun)-Ruh.

Italy. Peter Charles.
A(Rom)-s F(ION)-Nap.
F(ION)-Nap.
A(Ven)-s A(Rom)* rets Tus

Russia. David Tittle.
F(Nwy)-s A(Mos)-Stp.*
Bets NWG.
A(Vie)-Bud.
A(Gal)-s F(Rum).
A(Mos)-Stp.
A(Ser)-s F(Rum).
F(Rum)-stands.

Turkey. Simon Armstrong.
F(BLA)-s A(Ser)-Rum.
F(Nap)-s A(Apu)-Rom.
F(Smy)-ARG.
A(Ser)-Rum.
A(Con)-stands.
A(Apu)-Rom.
A(Bul)-s A(Ser)-Rum.

FRANCO-GERMAN ASSAULT TAKES VENICE.

GH. Please note that the Russian A(War) which appeared on last season's map didn't exist. Russia didn't get a build. Everyone seems to have worked it out for themselves.

Press.

Russia - World. Apologies for lack of letters - will try harder next time.

Berlin - London. How can I help you if you don't write?

Germany - Turkey. Write, will you!?

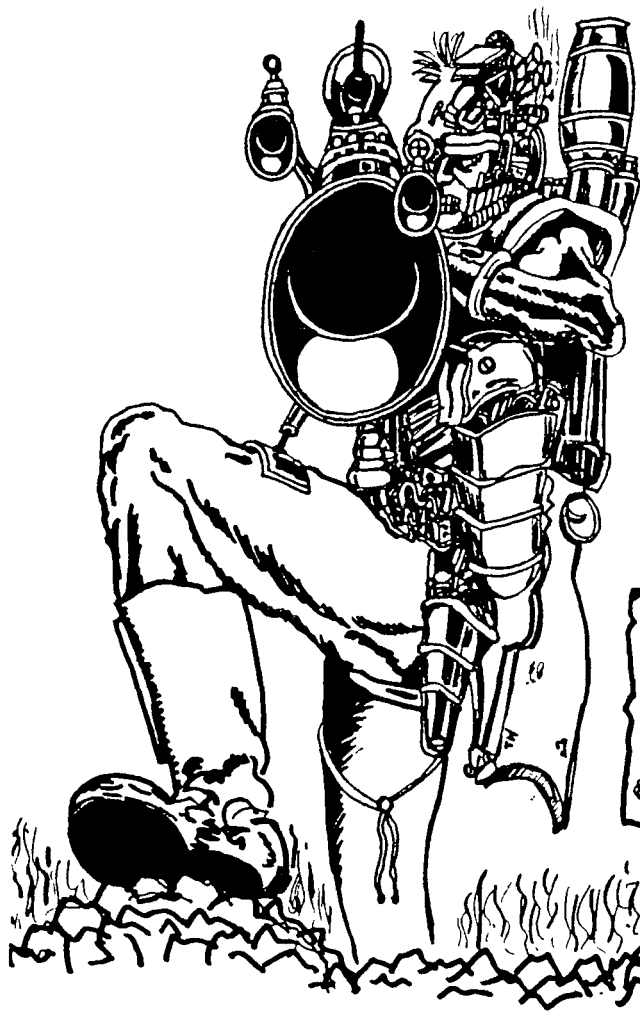
Impatient one - The computer whizz. Where's my overdue letter?

To Russia. Defend Romania before the swine swipes another centre.

VVV Continues after Smoldoc

SPOON

22



IMAGINE, IF YOU DARE,
A MANIAC WITH A
MOLECULE DISSEMBLER...

TOBY HARRIS.
MANIAC
FOR
HIRE.
HAVE RIOT, WILL TRAVEL.
081-869-3489

You are reading issue 22 of Smodnoc; The subzine with the subsubzine.

We are :

THE BUTCHER (Toby Harris) : 421a ALEXANDRA AVENUE,
RAYNERS LANE, HARROW,
MIDDLESEX. HA2 9SG.
(081) 868 3489.

THE BAKER (Adam Harris) : 47 KINGFISHER COURT,
BRIDGE ROAD, EAST MOLESEY,
SURREY.
(081) 979 4067.

THE CANDLESTICK MAKER (Jon Pollock) : Of no fixed abode !

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& Jon).
- 9.....Sopwith - "Frew's Revenge".
- 10.....Sopwith - "Lead Zeppelin".
- 11.....Sopwith - "Airwolf".
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- 14.....Dippy Article.
- 15.....Dippy Article ctd. / Cartoon.
- 16.....Back page - £10 Puzzle / Othello.

WAITING LISTS

- CLUEDO - 'Supersleuth', 'Cliverian Sinclarium', D.T. ((pseudonym !))
Gamefee = 50p + 50p deposit. 3 more wanted.
((sorry guys - have to wait till next time for the rules)).
- SOPWITH - 6 Wanted. Not surprising with a gamestart this issue.
Gamefee = 50p + 50p deposit.
- OTHELLO - FREE , join in at any time.
- STOCKS & SHARES - See 'Black Jelly Babies' for gamestart.

Harriscon was a good day's gaming, but more about that later on. The main news for me this month is that work is shifting the entire computer room up to Sunderland ! Moving a mainframe, consisting of two CPU's , running ten VSE's , sixteen tape drives and fourteen cart drives (not to mention some 14,000 tapes & 15,000 cartridges) is bound to cause problems; Even so much as a few loose wires will take days to rectify.

It took a sixteen year old operator to suggest that it might work better if they were to install new equipment in Sunderland, run the two machines in parallel for a few weeks and then sell the equipment in London.

All in all, it means that in late August I will be moving up there for at least six months. I am not too keen on the idea but , with free rent as part of the package, it's an opportunity not to be missed.

This will probably totally screw up my part in postal gaming. Things may run smoothly if I were to know my new address before actually moving.

Incidentally, does anyone from the hobby live up there ?

HARRISCON

Getting seven dedicated dippy players is never an easy task. It was a stroke of luck that four of them all came in the same car. With the line up complete, we all drew a unit out of the hat with the following results : Austria - Adam Harris, England - Mark Ford, France - David Little, Germany - Pat Lenehan, Italy - Tony Huddle, Russia - Anthony McCarthy, Turkey - Toby Harris.

The only aggressive opening came from Italy : F(Nap)-Ion , A(Rom)-Apu, A(Van)-Pie. We all got off to a good start with no firm alliances on the cards. The early highlight of the game was England's ownership of eight supply centres by 1902. As the game was only to last 8 years, this caused some concern and Mark was soon to be pegged back. France soon got the upper hand with Italy, whilst Austria & Turkey ploughed into Russia. Germany was unlucky not to get the break he deserved and remained on between 3 & 5 for the entire game. Italy was the first out, closely followed by Russia. Then, my faithful Austrian ally got the brunt of a nasty stab. I was expecting a few comments like "how could you stab your own brother ?", but the others were too busy worrying about how they could stop me.

However, England had a 'better' plan and got stuck into France, claiming a lot of his hard earned centres. My position was too strong to be hampered but I was concerned with England catching up.

Harriscon etc....

This didn't happen and, after a miscalculation over the Italian centres, the end result was : Turkey - 17, England - 11, France & Germany - 3 each, with Austria 5th, Russia 6th and Italy 7th.

It was a good , friendly game with no squabbles. We went on to play Risk , Stocks & Shares and one or two other games. All in all a good day and you would all be very welcome again.

LETTERS

Tony Frazer : "Sorry about the lateness of these orders. I thought that the deadline was at the end of the week."

((Fortunately, with Harriscon, I left Smodnoc until the Bank Holiday. However, you may not be so lucky next time.))

Jim Stewart : "Not that it matters to me, but I thought that last time's '8 pawns in Chess' was a very generous give."

((Actually, Jim, everybody had this answer except you ! It was also the answer I thought of when writing it. You got a mark because, although it would be a very overcrowded game , you can play Civilization with 8 players.))

David Tittle : "Hard ones this month. Or maybe they refer to games I havent played."

Howard Sykes : "I am a bit put out by the way that the moment I hit the top you change the quiz. From a general knowledge type of quiz, where lateral thinking will get you the answer, it becomes a specialized games quiz wher lateral thinking is secondary to whether or not you have the game in your cupboard."

((Sorry, Howard. It may appear that way, but I changed it in the hope of relating it to the hobby in some way.))

Due to these last three letters, I have decided to revert the quiz to its original format. Appologies for upsetting anyone.

POWER PLAY

Tony Huddle has sent me details of his new zine, Power Play. It looks quite promising and contains such games as Diplomacy, World Nuclear War, Football Fortunes, Countdown and a chess column run by Anthony McCarthy.

If anyone is interested then contact Tony (with 50p) at :

2 GREENSTEAD AVE, WOODFORD GREEN, ESSEX. IG8 7ET.



BLACK JELLY BABIES

Again!



Hello, and welcome to the fourth fabulous issue, and with it comes the second installment of John's "Visions of Harrison." I was a bit hesitant as to whether to put it in or not, for obvious reasons, but as you read it you will see that the "offending bit" is crucial to the whole plot, and I feel sure that no offense is intended.

The reason that John was late was because he was planning a trek across Nepal, and with all the preparations involved in that then he is forgiven all his sins. The next issue of BJB will feature "Postcard from Nepal" by J.Pollock, as he is there as you read this. There may also be a small "Letter from Rome" by A.Harris, as I have to go there for work next week (at the time of typing) in preparation for our humiliating defeat at the hands of the Italian fans...probably. John's article will have preference as Italy is not as interesting as Nepal, and besides Nepal isn't on the Diplomacy board, so not everyone knows where it is.

Anyway, the response for Stocks & Shares has been phenomenal and players in the first game should have received their introduction and playing bits by now. The deadline for your orders is two days before the deadline for Toby and Martin. I forgot to mention in the last issue that players are encouraged to write to each other as this builds an air of trust (and mistrust) between players. Also, orders that say "if so and so does this, then I'll do that" will be ignored, as play goes in strict order, and you tell me what you want to do. If someone does something before you which messes up your orders (like buying all the steel) then that's tough. I will be sticking to the rules printed last time, although amendments may be added at a later stage. If any player has any serious gripes, then obviously I will hear them out, but I feel that the rules explain everything fully and simply, so there should not be any problems.

The waiting list for game two is still open and still free, for anyone who may still be interested. If you'd prefer to wait, then you can try your hand against me and Toby at Manorcon... a drink for anyone who beats us. But be warned, Toby's middle name isn't Gekko for nothing.

For the next issue I was also planning a report on the Gigs by Prince and the Stones, but if anyone else attends them and feels like writing up a report, then let me know and you can have your say.

I've no doubt that Toby has written volumes of stuff on Harrison, so let's go over to our reporter in Nepal for the truth behind the most talked about convention for years.....

Now here's a quick update, what's happened so far
John Colledge the Kaiser, Toby Harris the Czar,
Set off at each other right from the start
But found time with Frank Bradley, to pull Austria apart,
Now Frank's Turkish empire's swept over the top
(Just like his hair of which there's not a lot)
And Toby's in trouble for with Sevastopol gone
He needs a new ally and won't find one in John,
The two dark horses, John Pollock, Brian Frew,
Have picked up some centres without much ado,
John's Italian fleets have control of the Med,
In the Atlantic and North Sea Brian's fleets rule instead,
And to complete the picture I think I'll embarrass,
Those two players dead, Charlie Smedley, Adam Harris,
G.M. Martin Hansen cried, "let's play to a finish
Before the excitement begins to diminish."
Toby's in trouble, he's negotiating madly,
Oh please John, Oh please Brian, Oh please Mr. Bradley,
It's a pitiful sight to see a once useful player
Down on his knees and reduced to a prayer.
Amid scenes of emotion enters Brian Frew
With a huge stab on Germany, perhaps Toby's rescue?
But John's in a fever to be rid of his foe
A madness has gripped him and won't let him go
"Kill Toby, Kill Toby," chanted the man in the kilt
He would enjoy this moment and feel no guilt.
In the meantime Frank Bradley was having to learn
Never a back on an Italian turn
For Pollock had jumped him and no longer a learner
He'd made a brilliant stab to pinch Greece and pinch Smyrna
An angry young Frank went to pull out his hair
Of course as we all know, there wasn't any there.
With Toby's one center and Frankie boy stumbling
The favourites were failing and the crowd started grumbling.
"Order!" cried Martin in his best G.M. voice
In fact his language was a little more choice
Then out from the crowd stepped a man they all knew
He was tall, he was dark, he was all dressed in blue,
"My name's P.C.Wilman, now what's going on?"
"Oh please" said young Toby, "It's just Harriscon"
Martin glared at the man who criticised Blue Smarties
"What's up with you man - don't you like parties
and by the way" added Martin "I'll tell you what I think
To use your words officer...pigs stink!"
Now ten days later it was time to take stock
Of the eight men who stood in the Old Bailey dock
Harris and Harris, Colledge, Smedley and Frew:
Pollock and Hansen and Frank Bradley too
On P.C.Wilman rested the prosecutors case
And everyone knew he would risk losing face
So they ended in jail, some think it's where they belong
Till the next dippy meet to be called Strangewayscon.

The End..
(thank goodness!)

STOCKS & SHARES

CURRENT PRICES			
	Steel	Shipping Scores	Motors
20			
19			
18			
17			
16			
15			
14			
13			
12			
11			
10	X	X	X
9			
8			
7			
6			
5			
4			
3			
2			
1			
0			

PLAYER	1	Loan	
TOBY HARRIS			
Current Money £100			
Cards Held	9	20	
Your Card For Turn	3	7	
	Buy	Sell	New
Motors			
Shipping			
Scores			
Steel			

PLAYER	2	Loan	
MARK FORD			
Current Money £100			
Cards Held	22	16	
Your Card For Turn	3	25	
	Buy	Sell	New
Motors			
Shipping			
Scores			
Steel			

PLAYER	3	Loan	
STEPHEN OTHEN			
Current Money £100			
Cards Held	14	18	
Your Card For Turn	3	2	
	Buy	Sell	New
Motors			
Shipping			
Scores			
Steel			

PLAYER	4	Loan	
MICK HAYTACK			
Current Money £100			
Cards Held	15	20	
Your Card For Turn	3	13	
	Buy	Sell	New
Motors			
Shipping			
Scores			
Steel			

NOTICE BOARD

This is the line up for the very first game. Orders to me 2 days before the next deadline; or else you will N.M.R. !!!

PLAYER	5	Loan	
JOHN POLLOCK			
Current Money £100			
Cards Held	5	20	
Your Card For Turn	3	20	
	Buy	Sell	New
Motors			
Shipping			
Scores			
Steel			

PLAYER	6	Loan	
DAVID TITTLE			
Current Money £100			
Cards Held	16	16	
Your Card For Turn	3	23	
	Buy	Sell	New
Motors			
Shipping			
Scores			
Steel			

SHARES AVAILABLE	Motors	30	Scores	30
	Shipping	30	Steel	30

My Editorial Bit...by Donathan.

Oh well, it seems I let everyone down a bit last time - sorry folks, but I never wanted to be an editor...I always wanted to be...a lumberjack and swing from tree to tree with my best girl by my side and sing...

Unfortunately I am not a lumberjack yet so in the meantime I'll stick to this. Anyway, I hope you enjoyed part two of the poem and next issue I'll send you a "Postcard from Nepal" where I will be for all of May. After that...well, it's up to you really. Subject matter is requested for chit - chat or articles. I would like to know what interests you before I write about something different.

Adam, please put my name down for stocks and shares.

Letters from the other Jelly Babies.

Please put my name down for Stocks and Shares. Being a poor student I'll grab any freebies I can.

Mark Ford.

(When you say poor student I assume you mean you have no money!!!)
I forget when I last wrote but there didn't seem much point. Firstly, please put my name down for stocks and shares.

Stephen Othen.

(Isn't it funny how your two worst gaming enemies are the first to write to you when something new turns up...don't worry guys, youre on the list)
Hey, Egg. I wanna play stocks and shares. If you don't let me play then I'll spray paint on all your invisible armies. Is Colledge in this game?
Toby Harris.

(What. Really. Please don't. No.)

I haven't written to you before, but I would really like to play Stocks and shares.

Mick Haytack.

(okay)

Since I started to write this issue, I have done my trip to Rome, been back a week and am now round at Toby's for Harriscon... and in all that time I haven't received one diplomacy related letter. David Tittle, however, has just informed me that he would like to play, so he is the sixth player and it's all systems go.

I won't go into great detail about Harriscon, except to say that the fabulous trophy is fast slipping away from me, but at least it's not going to Scotland. Oh Dear! I've just been kknocked out ... that's what happens if you trust Toby for too long.

Good luck to all you stockbrokers as I bid you farewell whilst gnashing my teeth.

Adam.