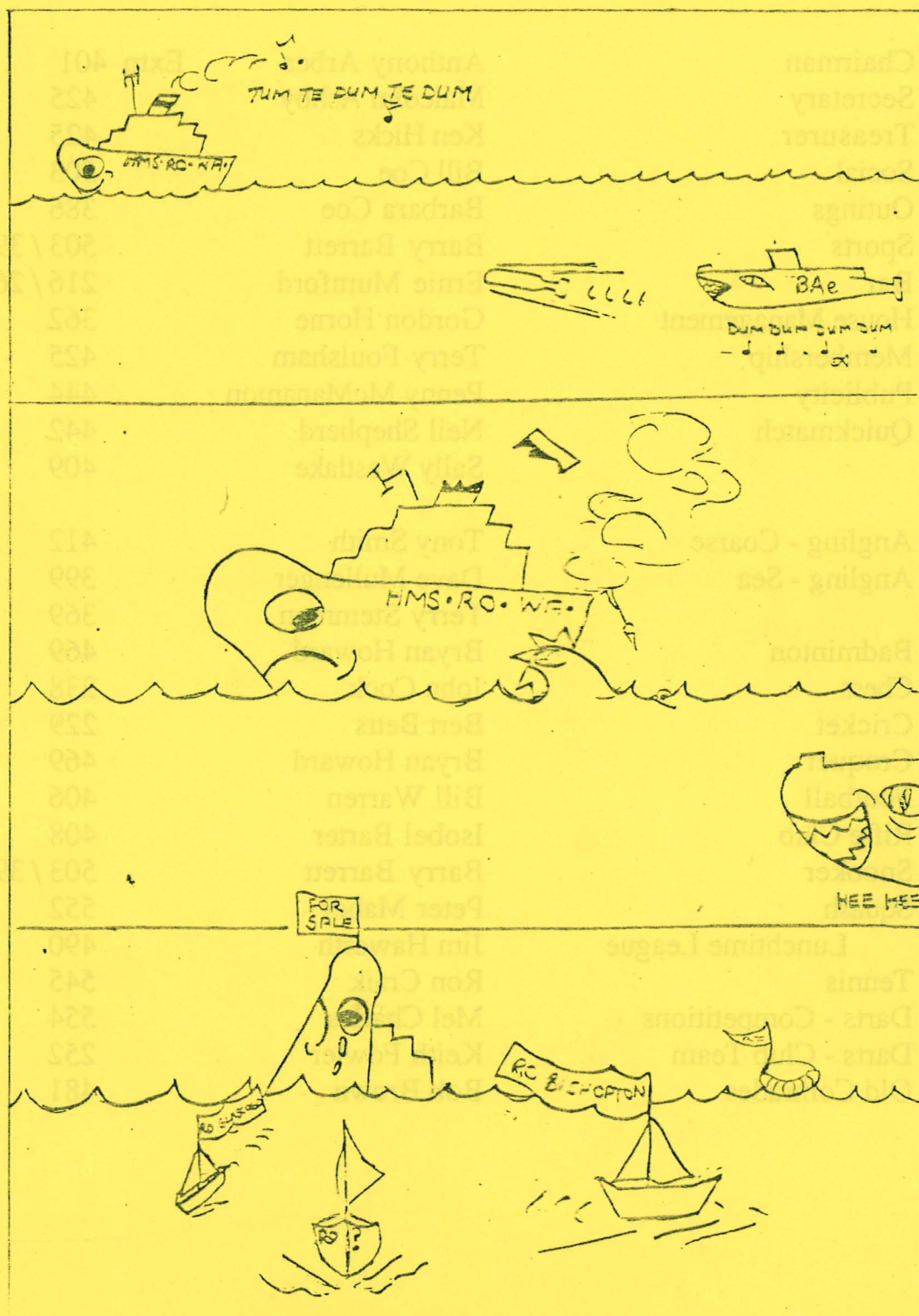


QUICKMATCH

As A Fond Farewell To Our Colleagues & Friends at Royal Ordnance Waltham Abbey , The Quickmatch Team Dedicate This Humourous Cover To You.



SPRING 1989

THE POWDERMILL CLUB

Who 's Who in Powdermill

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Chairman | Anthony Arber | Extn 401 |
| Secretary | Malcolm Ashby | 425 |
| Treasurer | Ken Hicks | 425 |
| Social | Bill Coe | 503 |
| Outings | Barbara Coe | 386 |
| Sports | Barry Barrett | 503 / 391 |
| Bar | Ernie Mumford | 216 / 264 |
| House Management | Gordon Horne | 362 |
| Membership | Terry Foulsham | 425 |
| Publicity | Penny McManamon | 444 |
| Quickmatch | Neil Shepherd | 442 |
| | Sally Westlake | 409 |
| | | |
| Angling - Coarse | Tony Smith | 412 |
| Angling - Sea | Dave Mullenger | 399 |
| | Terry Stemman | 369 |
| Badminton | Bryan Howard | 469 |
| Chess | John Cook | 238 |
| Cricket | Bert Betts | 229 |
| Croquet | Bryan Howard | 469 |
| Football | Bill Warren | 406 |
| Rifle Club | Isobel Barter | 408 |
| Snooker | Barry Barrett | 503 / 391 |
| Squash | Peter Maher | 552 |
| Lunchtime League | Jim Haworth | 490 |
| Tennis | Ron Craik | 545 |
| Darts - Competitions | Mel Charles | 554 |
| Darts - Club Team | Keith Fowler | 252 |
| Old Comrades | Bob Brown | 481 |

EDITORIAL

For the last issue, as promised, we gave you quantity, all 24 pages of it. However the quality left a lot to be desired (we're not perfect). Well this time I hope the quality has improved. We are much more experienced now. One of the duplicators has been repaired, serviced and cleaned ! The other has been replaced with a more modern reconditioned model. We have also got some decent quality paper, so we won't have to rely on the rubbish we inherited.

I think we also promised an Easter issue. Well Easter was so early this year we didn't think you'd all be quite ready for another astounding issue so soon. So this is a slightly post Easter issue.That's our excuse and we're sticking to it.

So what has happened since Christmas.....Not a lot. There was the round of festivities over Christmas and the New Year, which were well attended and enjoyed by all. Since then everyone seems to have been recovering and keeping their heads down. The only two events that your editors have heard about are the infamous party held by Dick Morrell & Jim Haworth and the Charity Quiz night held in the club in March. There are good accounts of both within the covers of this Quickmatch. All I can say about the account of the party is DONT BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ !!! A lot of people found it quite a stiff quiz, but it was still enjoyed by most and apart from the eventual winners (who had a professional in their team !!) it was quite a close run thing for the top half dozen teams. (*Yours truly being amongst them - Sally. My apologies, I did try to keep Sally quiet this time ! - Neil*). One round was thought to be exceptionally difficult.....namely the HISTORY ROUND. I think one teams answer to the question.....Where did Martin Luther pin his 95 theses?....." ON BERNIES BUM WITH A SIX INCH NAIL" neatly sums it up !! The lynching party will be sometime next month. Joking apart the Quiz raised £150 for the Amwell School's totally soft play environment and a cheque was presented to a representative from the school on the night.

In the last Quickmatch we ran two quizzes. The caption quiz only had one reply, from Win Yeandle, but she gave us a choice of three. The one we thought was the best can be found on the bar report page. A bottle of wine awaits your collection Win.

The brain teaser quiz had a few more replies, but the first correct answer came from Nigel Salisbury, one of our courageous policemen. A bottle of wine also awaits your collection Nigel. For those interested the answers were

- 1) The man was playing Monopoly.
- 2) The man is a Dwarf and cannot reach button 13.

Two alternative answers received in late February are worthy of mention. They are.....

- 1) The sports car was mine and I left it in the short stay car park at Gatwick, outside the Hotel, whilst I went to Canada for 3 weeks !!
- 2) ***** only ever learnt to count up to 10 (The name has been deleted as it would be libelous. Bribes to the editors will be accepted to reveal it.)

signed

The Transatlantic Correspondant.

On that note I will shut up and let you read this thrilling installment of Quickmatch. One last word though. Please send us articles for publication. We can't print Quickmatch without your contributions. We are even offering a prize for the best article so don't be shy, pick up a pen and start writing. It's quite easy really. You have a choice of 26 letters which you string together in a random manner to make WORDS. These words are then combined with other words to make SENTENCES. Easy really !! (If I can do it anyone can - Sally).

oo00oo

Chairman's Message.

Dear Membership,

I hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year, the Club events over the festive season were well attended and sold out on most occasions. Our grateful thanks go to those who helped in the organisation of these events.

The future of the Club however is still a pressing problem to which we are trying to find a solution and to this end a Special General Meeting was held on the 22nd March. It was open to all grades of membership and on the night was well attended, the chief speakers being the two site directors from RARDE and Royal Ordnance. At the meeting the future of the Club was discussed, several options being put forward regarding membership, organisational and financial matters (*Full story inside - Ed*). The meeting generated a lively debate and was highly productive in that the committee were given a positive direction in which to proceed, which will ensure the continuation of the Club facilities for the membership. However, the overriding unknown in this equation at the moment is the time scale for the availability of the Club premises.

RO membership is dropping already as personnel are moved to other sites or are made redundant; this process will increase towards the middle of the year of this year and be complete by year end. This will mean a far smaller pool of employee members from which to draw committee members, those of you who have never been elected to committee or just fancy helping out, come forward and be counted. Even 'retired' committee members may like to return. Remember as Kitchener once said Your Club Needs You (*Are you sure that's what he said Mr. Chairman! - Ed*). So put your name forward, and your best foot, and stand for election at the AGM in May.

A. ARBER

Special General Meeting.

An SGM was held at the Club at 8 pm on the 22nd March 1989. The meeting took the form of an open forum to discuss the future of the Club. All grades of membership were invited, with Dr Hooper (MoD) and Dr Tisley (RO) attending to express the points of view of the respective establishments and to update the site closure plans.

The initial question was " Does the membership wish the Club to continue ? ". Those attending the meeting agreed that the Club should remain open for as long as is practically possible. Dr Hooper, in his opening speech, assured the meeting that there would be no pressure to vacate the building until all staff had left the North Site, and that this would not occur before at least the start of 1991. However, the future beyond this date is much less clear.

The major problem facing us is how to maintain, finance and organise the Club with the imminent closure of South Site and the loss of the Royal Ordnance staff from the membership. A number of questions were taken from the floor and informative discussions followed. After the open forum, a number of general proposals were put forward which will have to be formulated into detailed amendments for inclusion in the constitution. In summary, these changes would involve the upgrading of associate, life and spouse members to full members with consequent voting rights and entitlement to stand for election to committee. The Honorary officers (Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary) would remain as employee members and only employee members. Retained full members will have access to Club assets on closure.

These detailed changes to the constitution will have to be ratified by the Heads of Establishment and there will be an SGM, to be held at the Club on Thursday 27th April (8 pm start), to have the changes approved by the current full membership. This will considerably shorten the AGM, which will be held on Thursday 25th May, and enable the other grades of membership to be nominated for committee and also to be able to vote on proposals at the AGM itself.

I thank those members who attended the SGM on the 22nd March and urge all full members to attend the next SGM and to come to the AGM in May.
WATCH YOUR NOTICE BOARDS !!!!!

ANTHONY ARBER
Chairman

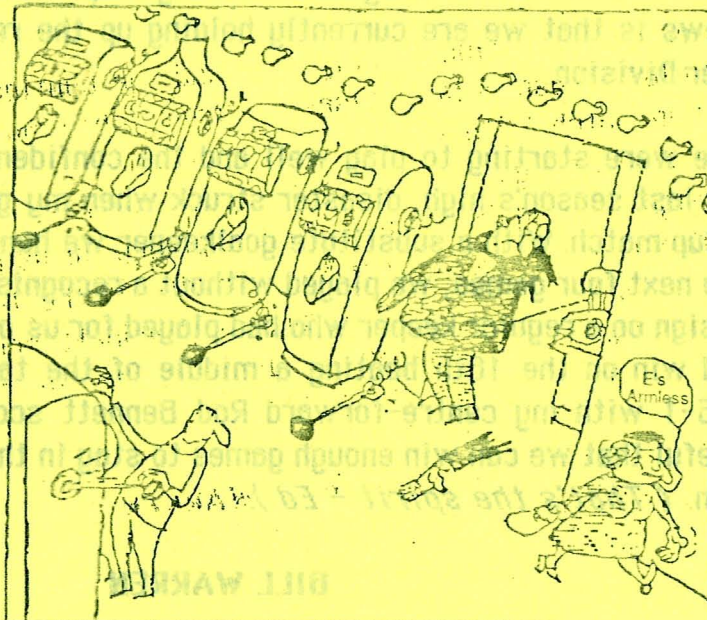
BAR REPORT.

Ah, the sweet smell of spring, for once the infamous Budget has been and gone without the Right Honourable Chancellor raising the taxes on our favourite tipple, be it beer, wine or spirits. Is he becoming generous in his old age or is it just the threat of that bogeyman, Mr. Inflation, that has held him in check? Whichever, we are grateful and so I am happy to inform you that our prices will remain at their already low levels for the near future. If this isn't enough, we are pleased to further publicise our Happy Hour (and a bit), which runs from 7.30 - 19.00 pm on Monday and Thursday evenings (Is it a coincidence that committee meetings are held on Thursdays or do I just have a suspicious mind - Ed). During this period all prices on drinks are reduced across the board by 15p; where else in the Abbey can one enjoy a shot of whisky for the princely sum of only 41p - an offer not to be missed!

Recent additions to the bar include McMullens AK, which is proving extremely popular, and Newcastle Broom Ale in bottles. We now also offer a variety of non-alcoholic wines, low alcohol lager and beer for the drivers amongst us, so giving us a full range of non-alcoholic drinks. So why not come along one evening.

The Club is presently looking for extra bar staff, particularly at the week-end. The hourly pay is very competitive, there are numerous fringe benefits and rumours of a company bicycle cannot be discounted. If you are interested or just want further details, don't hesitate, get in contact with any committee member or the Bar Chairman, Ernie Mumford, directly.

COMPETITION WINNER.



Tennis Section.

The Tennis club are happy to report a successful 1988 season. We were able to field two teams in the West Essex League and the new team gained useful experience from playing in competitive matches.

A very enjoyable Finals Day and American Tournament were held in the Autumn with successes going to Andy Willis and Andy & David Goodwin. We are all looking forward to the coming season and so we are very keen to recruit new members. Club play is held on Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings. Anyone interested in joining the Tennis Club is warmly invited to come along and sample the delights of our neo-Wimbledon facilities, or to contact the undersigned on Lea Valley 714436 for more information.

T. P. DOUGLAS

A decorative horizontal separator consisting of a repeating pattern of diamond shapes.

Football Report.

I stated in my report in the last issue of Quickmatch that I was hopeful that we would have a good Cup run and pick up enough league points to maintain our Premier Division status. The good news is that we are through to the 3rd Rounds of the League & Charity Cup Competitions, however the bad news is that we are currently holding up the rest of the teams in the Premier Division.

Just when we were starting to play well and the confidence in our ability was back to last season's high, disaster struck when my goalkeeper broke his arm in a Cup match. With a substitute goalkeeper we hung on for a 2-0 win but, for the next four games, we played without a recognised keeper until I was able to sign on a regular keeper who had played for us previously. We had a very good win on the 18th beating a middle of the table team, namely Thorn FC, 5-1 with my centre-forward Rod Bennett scoring four goals. I am still hopeful that we can win enough games to stay in the Premier Division next season. *(That's the spirit - Ed).*

BILL WARREN

Chess Club

In its first season in Division 1 of the Essex League, and under our new captain Gary Thompson, the Chess Club has more than held its own with wins against Upminster, Wanstead 2, Southend, Basildon and Waltham Forest. A draw was achieved against Wanstead 1. Currently the club has five and a half points from ten matches, and with two matches to be played is assured of a mid-table position.

In the National Club Championship, Powdermill created a stir in the chess world by defeating the powerful Streatham & Brixton club 4-2, with Paul Byway and Terry Turner scoring notable victories on the top boards. However we came down to earth with a bump in the next round with a 5-1 defeat at the hands of Muswell Hill. Peter Rose being our only winner.

In the North Circular League, the second and third teams occupy lowly league positions, primarily due to our shortage of players. The club is continually looking for more players of any strength and can offer plenty of chess in the local leagues and in our internal competitions. Please contact me on Ext 238 for further information if you are interested.

JOHN COOK

[illegible]

London Marathon - 23rd April 1989.

Two members of the Club will be running this year, and both will be attempting to raise money for charity. John Cook (Running Number V16) has decided to propel his ageing limbs around the course yet again. His chosen charity is the COLP-AMP Appeal, whose purpose is to provide a colposcope for the detection and treatment of cervical cancer and also to provide equipment for the local Hertfordshire Ambulance Service. Phil Olson (Running Number E227) is running in aid of Leukaemia Research.

Leaflets and Sponsor forms will be circulating within the establishment, and if the support is as generous as in previous years we will be most grateful.

JOHN COOK

IT'S A RACKET !

Well actually it's really a Racquet.

The three "racquet wielding" sub-sections are holding a SUMMER BARBECUE at the Club on Saturday 8th July. This is partly a get together and mostly a fund raising event, so all and sundry are invited.

The catch is that entry will be by ticket only at a cost of £2 each (children £1) and that doesn't even include your barbecue food ! There will also be a disco during the evening and the weather is expected to be clear and warm. Ticket numbers will be limited and will be available shortly - look out for further notices and details.

NORMAN PAUL

Sea Angler's Special.

After a good team performance in last year's MOD Sports Day Competition, which came within half an ounce of the runner-up spot, I thought that I would not have much to report this time. Apart from an all too short spell before the end of 1988, the fishing has not been brilliant; the warmer than usual weather causing the larger fish to move off to their spawning grounds early.

However thanks to good performances by Steve Panting and Brian Smith on March 19th, our team won the AWE Challenge Competition at Wallasea Island - a great performance on the Foulness team's home ground ! We had not fished there before, but all competitors were sent maps showing the best route to take. For those of us having to contemplate a future move to Fort Halstead, it is a sobering thought that three of the RARDE FM team got lost between the Dartford Tunnel and Wallasea Island and had still not arrived when the boat sailed.
(Hee ! Hee ! Hee ! We shouldn't laugh really, should we ? - Ed).

DAVE MULLENGER

What RARDE Staff do in their spare time.

Part 1: The Party.

Due to Dick Morrell's departure to Canada for 6 months and Jim Haworth's moving in to "look after" the house for that time, these two fine young gentlemen decided a Lumberjack and Beaver party should be thrown. The date was set for the week before Jim moved in as he had astutely estimated the ensuing mess and wanted no active part in the cleaning up. This he achieved with complete success! He obviously had a fair idea what the combined effects of his chilli, Dick's cocktails and the punch, which neither of them would claim responsibility for, would have on the human digestive system.

The party was due to start at 9 pm, however since neither Jim or Dick left the pub until late, no-one was there until 11 pm (except, of course, Sally and her husband, Andy, who as usual arrived shortly after 7 pm). Anyway everything was nicely buzzing by midnight although the hosts were wondering who invited the six gatecrashers who had taken over the hifi.

The first person to start the silly party games was naturally, Neil Shepherd. He proceeded to dazzle everyone with his extensive knowledge of combustion as applied to liquid fuels, by setting light to a glass of Schnapps and downing it in one. He even had the gall to announce to everyone that "This is how they do it in Australia, really", I think he meant Austria, and making several other people try the stuff. Apparently it looked, smelt and tasted like meths. Look out Neil it will make you go blind (as will the meths!).

On the subject of blind (drunk) there was the, now well publicised matter, of Laura Taylor and her friend (Jess) and their "little problem". Both (after talking to Eamon Colclough for half an hour each - suspicious that) were feeling "not very well". One hour later they were being carried out unconscious (wearing..... well not that much). Neil and Eamon (again!) carried them upstairs for "a little rest" with limited success. Neil and Laura are currently comparing bruises after falling downstairs. Eamon (fishy!) was commended by everyone as he "watched over" the two unfortunates and refused to allow anyone to disturb them !!! How very chivalrous...probably.

Jim had earlier claimed to have had a word with "The Big Dude" and had arranged for an inch of snow. Amazingly he seemed to have some influence in high places as, at about 1 am, he came in from the garden with a

devious glint in his eye and promptly launched a snowball right into the face of Bernie Downes. This was the first thing to happen to Bernie who had just arrived and was, to say the least, somewhat surprised. Jim made up for it, however by fetching Bernie a pint.

"WHAT THE \$£\$* 4 IS IN HERE", said Bernie turning a bright red. "Just beer" said the remarkably angelic looking Jim. "Tastes more like half a beer and half a gin". "Well.....er.....yes!" said Jim obviously impressed. "That's all right then", said Bernie taking several large swigs.

Jim had obviously 'won' too many snowball fights since, at about 2 am, the staff of the Angel held him whilst others placed snowballs inside his leather jeans. He was actually speechless for almost a minute ! ! ! ! ! However his girlfriend, Linda seemed somewhat relieved for some reason.

And so we move on to the highlight of the evening. Apparently Jim and Sue had disappeared upstairs for 10 minutes and had returned wearing each other's tops. Most people agreed that Sue looked rather fetching in Jim's shirt but Jim was perhaps not so attractive in Sue's black mini dress with two socks shoved down his front. Now to the good bit --- although most people knew that the exercise was in jest (done for a dare), Linda (Jim's girlfriend) did not. The result of this was that he was duly frogmarched into the bathroom where, shortly after a resounding THWACK could be heard followed by a long string of very fluent anglo-saxon. However, Jim explained the situation to his beloved and all was settled thanks to Jim's (and I quote) "superior charm and wit". If this is cockney rhyming slang for "superior bull*?*\$" then we can all quite believe it!

Pretty well everyone had either collapsed or left by 5 am although it has been rumoured that there was one elderly reveller left. He was reported to be "an old bald bloke with a greying beard" who kept muttering "gimme half a bitter topped up with gin". Nuff said!

That's about it for now although you may hear from me again - I have sources and informants everywhere ! ! ! ! !

An anonymous transatlantic correspondent.

AUNT SALLY'S PROBLEM PAGE.

Dear Auntie Sally,

I am very depressed as, after patiently waiting for my shiny new company car for most of last year, I have discovered to my horror that the car's bodywork is prone to foreign object damage. Is there anyway that I can stop this unfortunate occurrence happening again?

Deeply Depressed of South Site

Dear Depressed,

Very sorry to hear about your unhappy incident. It is highly probable that this will happen again, due to the high density of traffic in the London area, perhaps you might consider moving to a more remote area, where I'm told the chances of incidents of this type are lower.

Yours sympathetically,

Aunt Sally

oo

Dear Aunt Sally,

I was interested to read in the last issue of Quickmatch about the 'bonking' Barclays Bank Manager. I was somewhat disappointed as I bank with the Midland and all they do is listen and not much else. Could you please print the address of your bank in the next issue of Quickmatch so that I can take steps to change my account to that branch of Barclays.

Yours sincerely,

Lusty Linda

Dear Linda,

Alas, on account of the favourable publicity generated by that story, the branch in question has been deluged by requests to open bank accounts and is unable to accept any more new customers at the present time. Sorry I can't be more helpful.

Yours regretfully,

Sally

(P.S. Aunt Sally has been instructed to change her embarrassing typing font, after this little typographical error slipped through.- Ed). Ah, that's not fair ! !- Aunt Sally.

Twitching Down in Halstead

Now that Spring is coming and the wild life in Kent is waking with the temporary southwards migration, why not organise an expedition down the M25 for a good twitch and compare the brews in some of the nearby Pubs at the same time.

Opposite one such Inn, the Poihill Arms, named after an unfortunate incident where a twitcher froze to the steering wheel of his car and was cut loose by a local engineer, you will find a sanctuary where it is possible to meander all day in peace studying the faunae.

Your first encounter will be with the "Mobile Digit Pollits", (Parus Plodicus) who guard the sanctuary from a little nest at the gate, a species you will recognise by their black plumage, painful stance and randomly moving wing tips. It is possible to approach them very closely, for their sight is so bad that you can be sure of not being recognised – but be on your guard as they have a propensity for curiosity brought on by boredom. Move on up Crow Drive carefully as the site is patrolled by the RSPRARDE in their special khaki uniforms with greaseproof shoulder pads. Avoid them if possible as they are prone to barking and handing out blank sheets of paper. (If one does stop your car, mention the code words "Non-PC compatible" and promise to buy him a drink, with a bit of luck you should be able to escape within ten minutes).

The main site is densely covered with a random collection of buildings many of which are listed in Lucinda Lampton's book of "Follies of the Thirties and Other PSA Mistakes". The system of interconnecting paths is complex, a phenomena created by the indigenous nidicolus fledglings. Through the windswept woodscape of broken trees you should be able to catch glimpses of the occasional spot bedecked Thrush, (Turdinus Gastropodicus) hitting its head against stones in pursuit of food. (This is a very good example of a primitive beginning to use a tool and one hopes that this species will soon learn to find a snail first or it will surely die out). Leave the car in one of the many quaint twitcher parks and walk quietly past the nesting boxes lining the roads. Peering through their glassed openings you may chance to see several varieties of species brooding in preparation for hatching golden eggs. There is one area labelled the "Extra Committed Group", which devotes itself to the electronic detection of salmonella. On the odd occasion, it succeeds, producing one good egg only and calling it EGO month in celebration of the event.

Wander down past the Crane Park, (where they keep lorries for scattering feed over the roads in winter), until you come to the transport museum. Opposite is a small cage which houses the delightful Flasher-Bird, a chirpy thing which spends most of the time

exposing itself before rushing into a dark room to sleep. Adjacent in a desolate hut there is the anti-RATS group who spend their time working out plans for nudification in order to keep the birds laying without going broody.

As lunch time approaches, murmurations of starlings, (*Sturnus Vulgaris Quercus Septimus*), gather and fly off to the local watering ponds for refreshment. Select a small group and follow them (they will usually ignore you) but make sure you do not inadvertently stop at the Site's own canteen which is an experimental outpost of Porton Down Naffi. These flocks usually congregate at one of the many inns to be found in the area and one favourite, the Halstead Arms, being in the nearest small village, is recommended. Try and be friendly, a scattering of free pints on the feeding tables usually helps them to break into song – noting the individual lyrics for later. If you sit quietly in a corner you can observe the interaction of the flocks as they feed. Although known to each other, the activities of the various groups remain entirely separate punctuated only with the occasional brief interchange which apparently serves to re-establish social harmony. The crescendo of song reaches a peak at which point feeding finishes and the flock disperse to defecate before winging their way back to roost.

The afternoon is a good time to hang around the control centre where if you are lucky, you will hear the immediately recognisable cry of the Hoopoe, (*Upupa Epops Pinticus*), as it fights to protect its nest from the silver and maroon feathered cuckoo, (*Cuculus Ordnancus*). Below is a cage where a collection of hungry *Mustela Putorius* can be found pacing up and down whilst they wait to be fed. In the adjacent building a gentle cry of "mallophaga?" – (using the aspirated indefinite article with the plural usually works better), will bring out the secretary bird, (*Sagittarius Serpentarius Financicus*), with its grey plumage and strident call. Fortunately the perch used by the voracious *Menura Superba* is no longer occupied and you will be safe against attack.

On your return make sure you fill out the report (the funny green one apparently designed by a Hebrew scribe), send it in to the Twitcher's and Seedcorn Department, clo Barley Office, where in time you will be re-imbursed in full for your effort.

Happy twitching in 1989.

"Great Bustard"
(*Otidus Crypticus*)

Charity Quiz

The Club held another of its popular charity quiz nights, on March 16th, on behalf of the Amwell School's totally soft play environment. There were over twenty teams present and £150 was successfully raised for the project. On this occasion, the question masters and mistresses (and previous winners - now there's a novel prize !!), introduced some new categories which seemed to immediately throw some of the teams; these ranged from 'The Sea' to 'Gardening'. What proved to be even worse, they slipped questions concerning Chemistry into some of the rounds at which there seemed to be many horror-stricken faces around the hall. Overall, the quiz was most enjoyable, and although there were a few extremely hard questions here and there (which netted a bonus prize of a Smarties Easter Egg if answered correctly), the setters produced a remarkably balanced quiz. Our thanks go to those involved, both on and off stage, in the organisation of this a most enjoyable evening. If you would, in turn, like to baffle your friends and colleagues with these same problems, a copy of both the questions and answers can be acquired from Peter Maher or Wendy Day at the bargain price of 50p, the proceeds being donated to the Amwell appeal.

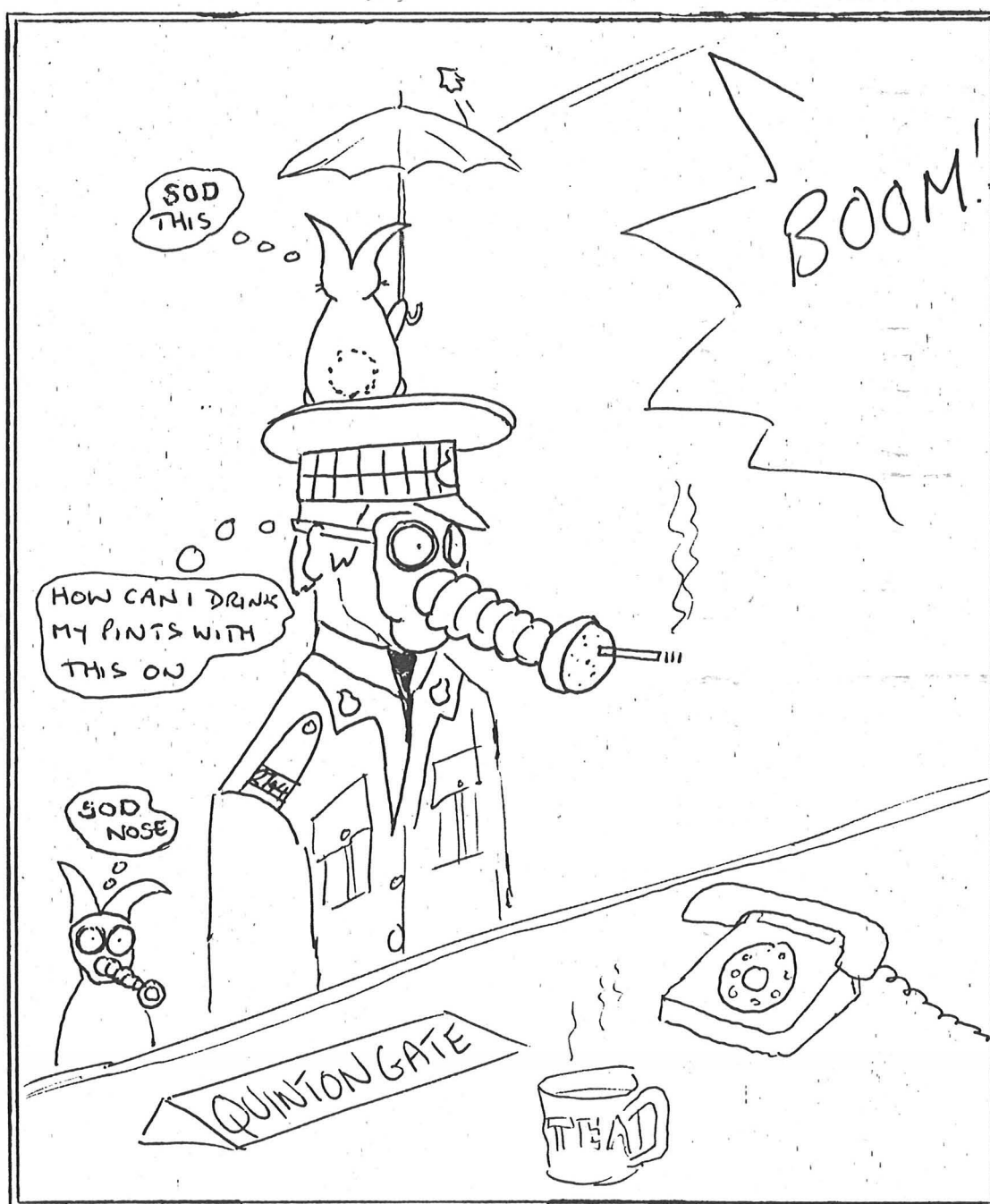
Analytical Brief.

The following short article was spotted, in a recent edition of the Journal of Chromatographic Science (January 1989), by one of our more diligent readers, who thought that it might prove an interesting read for the members of the Club.

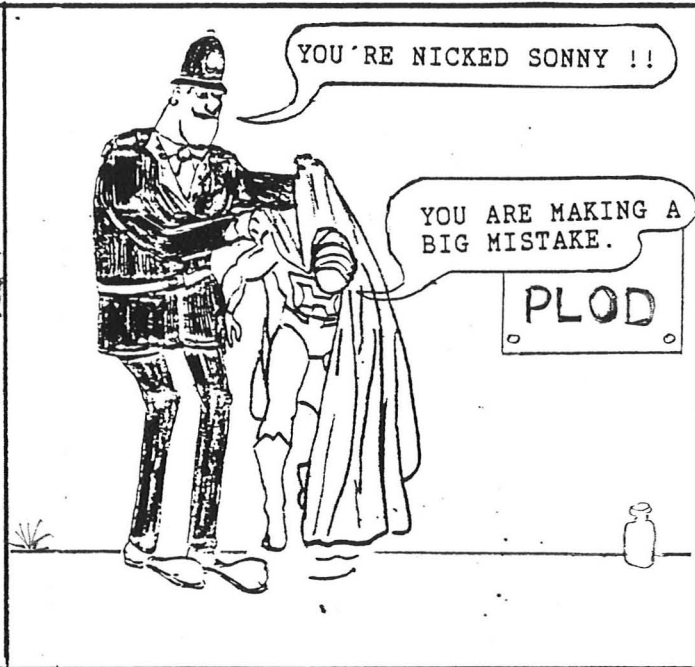
'A variant of the brown ring test for nitrates has been pioneered by Royal Ordnance at Waltham Abbey and which has proved useful in detecting the entropy levels of unstable reaction mixtures. They have demonstrated this new test as being sensitive down to 200kg samples and since the side effects are easily shown by a resulting 75ft plume of NO_x fumes, the test does not require skilled operators. A spokesman for Royal Ordnance said that at least three brown rings were evident thus proving the test positive but it was hoped that the number of personnel involved could be reduced in future as it was still rather time consuming in deciding which ring was responsible. Unfortunately repeatability has yet to be proven due to lack of sufficient experimental equipment.'

Cartoon Time

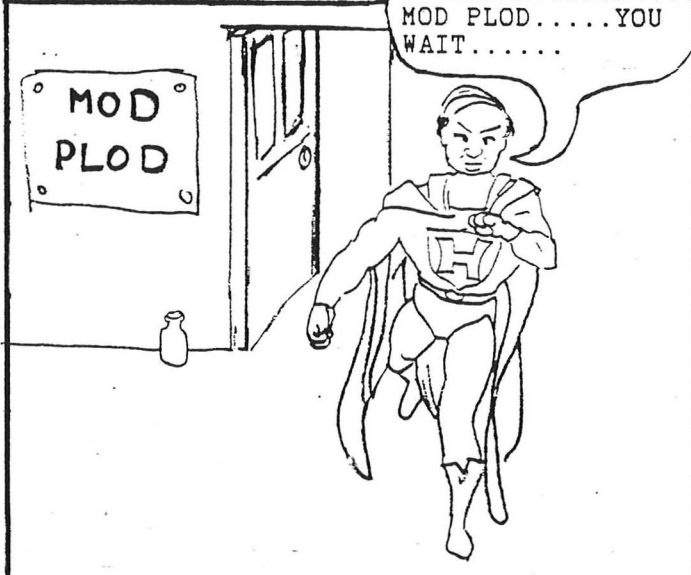
I HAVE HEARD THAT IT HAS BEEN PRETTY EXPLOSIVE ON SOUTH SITE RECENTLY. THIS IS ONE PERSONS VIEW OF THE EVENT.



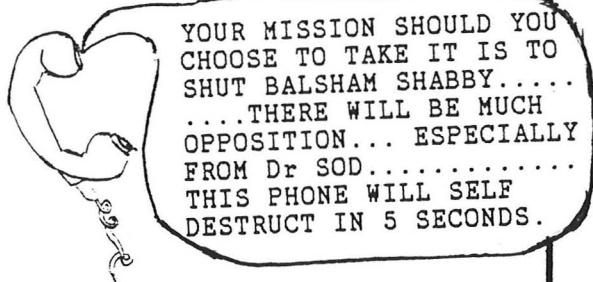
HOOPERMAN



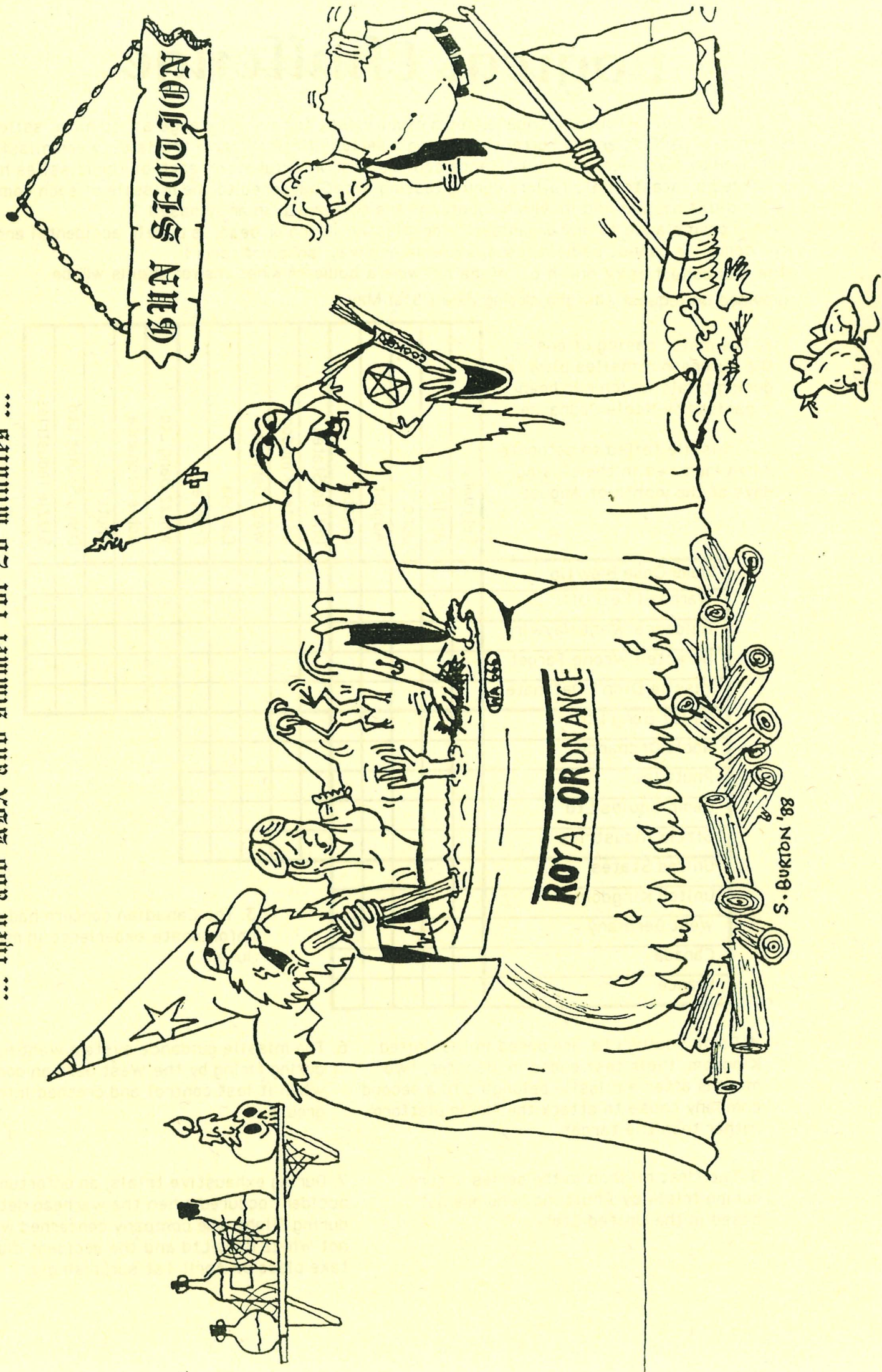
SEVERAL HOURS LATER



IN HIS OFFICE HOOPERMAN RECEIVES
PHONE CALL.



... then add ~~XXX~~ and simmer for 20 minutes ...



Logical Challenge.

The Ministry of Offence has identified a requirement for a short-range air to air missile, codename 'ZAPEM', and is currently holding a series of competitive trials between missiles supplied by five international offence contractors. Unfortunately, each of the missiles has suffered a catastrophic failure during testing. What happened to the missile of each company, when did it happen and in which country is the company primarily based?

(Any resemblance to any organisation or missile, living or dead, is purely accidental and the compiler cannot be held responsible, in any way, shape or form.)

The first correct entry drawn out of the hat wins a bottle of wine; answer sheets will be provided on request after the closing date (31st May).

1. The motor casing of one of the European missiles blew up during trials which had been organised by Noble Ordnance.

2. A missile failed to detonate when launched in the closing days of the month of August.

| | February | April | June | August | October | United States | United Kingdom | West Germany | Canada | France | Whizz Bang Ltd | Noble Ordnance | Phutt Inc | Damp Squibs Ltd | Sizzle Industries |
|-------------------------|----------|-------|------|--------|---------|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------|--------|----------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Motor Case Blew Up | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Warhead Fell Off | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Guidance Went Haywire | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Selected Wrong Target | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Missile Didn't Detonate | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Whizz Bang Ltd | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Noble Ordnance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Phutt Inc | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Damp Squibs Ltd | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sizzle Industries | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| United States | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| West Germany | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canada | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| France | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

3. The Canadian concern had an unfortunate experience in mid June.

4. Damp Squibs Ltd. are based in the United Kingdom, their test ended in disaster, two months after a missile belonging to a second company chose to attack the firing platform rather than the target.

6. The missile guidance system went haywire during firing by the West German concern, when it lost control and crashed into the ground.

5. The first mishap in the series occurred during trials by Phutt Inc, who are not based in the United States.

7. During exhaustive trials, an unfortunate accident occurred when the warhead detached during flight, the company concerned was not Whizz Bang Ltd and the accident did not take place on April 1st surprisingly.