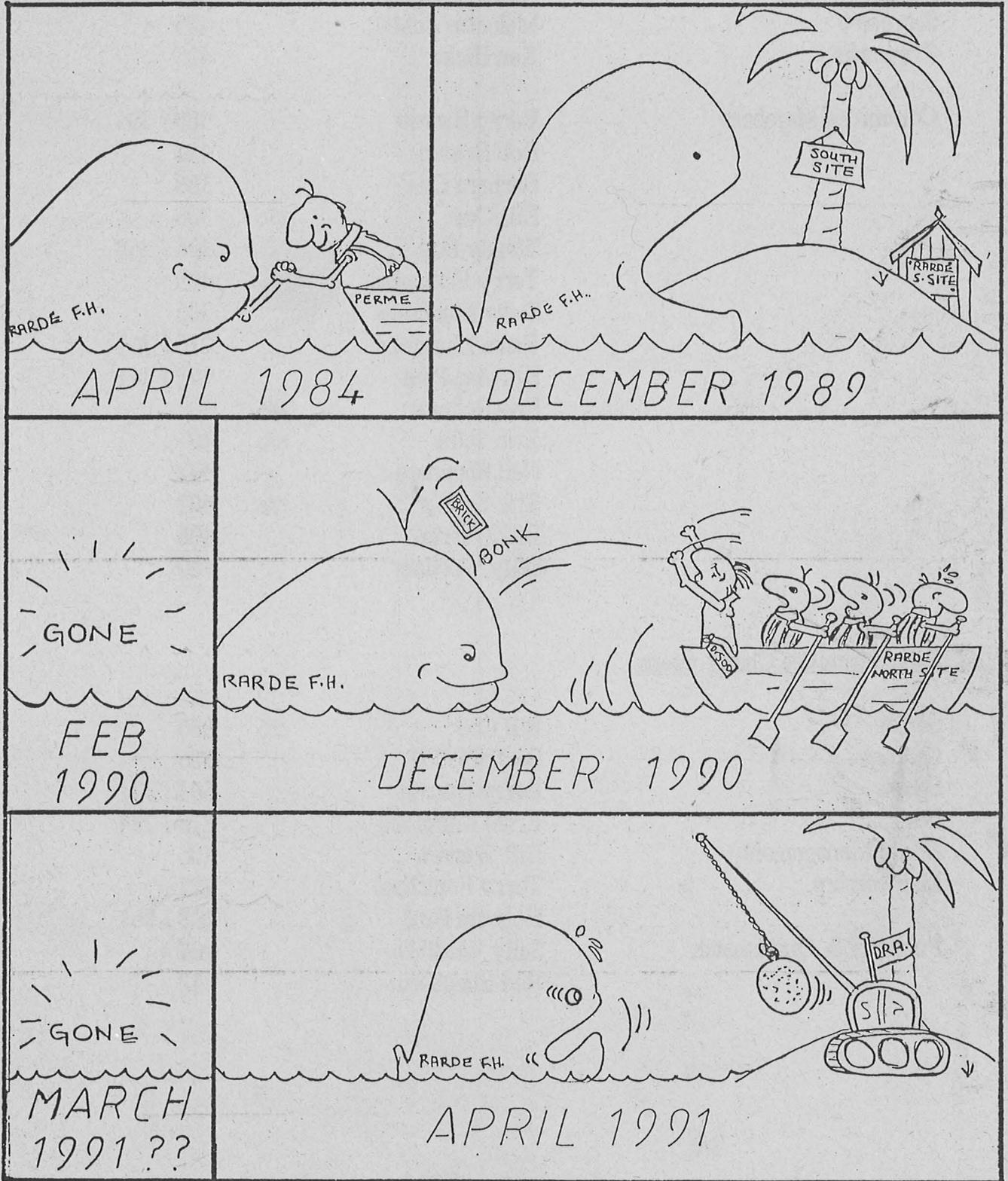


# QUICKMATCH



**AUTUMN 1989**

THE POWDERMILL CLUB

## Who 's Who on Powdermill Committee

Chairman	Anthony Arber	Extn	401
Secretary	Malcolm Ashby		425
Treasurer	Ken Hicks		425
Committee Members	Barry Barrett		503 / 391
	Bob Brown		481
	Barbara Coe		386
	Bill Coe	c/o	386
	Wendy Day		396 / 350
	Terry Foulsham		425
	Steve Hutchings		532
	Ernie Mumford		216 / 264
	Norman Paul		493 / 361
	Roy Roberts	c/o	401
	Eric Sallis	c/o	401
	Neil Shepherd		442
	Eric Speller	c/o	401
	Bill Warren		406
	Sally Westlake		409

### Sub-Committee Chairpersons

Social	Bill Coe	c/o	386
Outings	Barbara Coe		386
Sports	Barry Barrett		503 / 391
Bar	Ernie Mumford		216 / 264
House Management	Bill Warren		406
Membership	Terry Foulsham		425
	Norman Paul		493 / 361
Publicity & Quickmatch	Sally Westlake		409
	Neil Shepherd		442

## Chairman's Report.

The AGM was held on the 25th May, with an attendance which was only just quorate, was over in fairly quick time. The new constitution having been passed at the earlier SGM and for the first time in the last few years we had a close fought election for committee, the unfortunate candidate being Stan Williams. On committee we now have two non-employee members, in the shape of Roy Roberts and Eric Sallis, two committee members representing the Old Comrades group ( Eric Speller and Bob Brown ) and the remainder being made up of employees and retained membership members ( A full list can be seen on the opposite page ).

The Club finances are healthy although the membership figures are dropping as the sites are losing staff to redundancies, resignations and transfers. I appeal to all members to retain their membership if they are still living in the area, your Club needs you!

As for the future, the RARDE Site Director, Dr. Hooper, stated that the future of the Club seems assured until at least Spring 1991 at which time the North Site is due to be vacated. The committee is making every effort to extend the future of the Club beyond this date and we will inform you of any progress as it is made.

A. W. ARBER  
( Club Chairman )

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## EDITORIAL

Well are you ready to sack the editorial staff yet ( at least one person seems to want to )? The printing quality of the Spring issue wasn't quite as we had hoped whilst the Summer issue was aborted due to the pressure of work ( Cue violins playing softly in the background ) but we are coming bouncing back to the fray with a vengeance in this our bumper Autumn issue! Just prior to the release of this issue we received a most constructive comment / complaint which can be found in Reader's corner, alongside our response / defence / apology ( please delete as appropriate ) for your perusal.

Phew ! That's all the negative aspects of this issue dealt with, now we can move on to discuss this season's multitude of articles. We have received a bumper mail bag in the past few months and we hope that there is a little something for everyone in this issue. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone, be they anonymous or not, who wrote in with articles for this issue and we take great pleasure in awarding the editorial prize, of a bottle of wine, to Geoff Allen for his poem, Memories.

Well, what has been happening since our last issue !! Perhaps the highlight for most RO staff, and a fair number of RARDE staff who managed to gain entry, was the RO Farewell Party. We understand no expense was spared in the provision of plentiful supplies of food and, more importantly, drink and that an enjoyable evening was had by all. We have even managed to obtain a lengthy report of the evening's goings on for this issue of Quickmatch.

Other events include the Racquet Clubs BBQ, which was a little dampened by this summer's one and only rainy evening, and AWACS the alternative sports event. Once again this was enjoyed alike by all participants and spectators, the event only being slightly hampered by the announcement of a nose pipe ban which prevented the Tug O'War being held under the torrential conditions of last year. Reports of both events are located within the covers of this issue. Head / NP will be glad to hear that the Adventures of Hooperman are on holiday for this issue, but readers need not despair as we have an equally valiant replacement !

The response to last issue's competition was immense, fully half a dozen replies, with a success rate of approximately 75%. The lucky winner, drawn out of the hat first, is Norman Paul ( You just can't trust these hats nowadays ! - Ed ) who receives a bottle of wine.

Finally, we must bid, on behalf of the Club, a fond farewell to all our colleagues who have recently relocated, taken redundancy or are about to leave. We will endeavour to send a few copies of this issue to the relevant RO establishments. We also promise faithfully to publish a Christmas issue before the final mass exodus takes place at the end of the year. Meanwhile stay cheerful and keep the articles coming in. With all the moving and upheaval there are surely a few stories, funny or sad, worth relating and putting into print.

SALLY & NEIL

## Social Calendar.

Ladies ' Keep Fit ' is held regularly in the Main Hall in the Club every Monday, between 8 - 9 pm or 9-10 pm. Come along and cavort to some of the latest sounds at the cost of £1 per session. For those really dynamic women amongst us, why not even attend both - it's the perfect excuse to recover at your leisure in the bar afterwards!

Bingo sessions are still being held fortnightly on the first and third Sundays in the month. Watch out for the date of the Christmas Prize Bingo to be announced in the next issue of Quickmatch.

Another event that has proved popular in the past has been the Charity Quiz evening held at the Club. The winners of the last quiz have kindly agreed to set the questions for a Charity Quiz to be held on October 19th, in aid of the Amwell School's totally soft play environment. The cost will be £2.50 per head ( four persons to the team ) and that includes a free drink at the bar and bar snacks on your table. A thoroughly enjoyable evening in prospect. A Guy Fawkes Firework party and barbecue is again to be held this year on the 3rd November. Further details with regard to costs , programme and ticket availability will be appearing on notice boards in the near future.

BARBARA & BILL COE

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## Lunchtime Squash Ladder.

What with the hot weather and the South Site migrations, there has not been much squash played over the last few months. In fact, the only game played that I am aware of was between myself and John Rowley (*I'm sure we're all with you in spirit - Ed*) and that doesn't count because we were at Sunningdale. Thus you will understand why the ladder has not been updated - it hasn't changed from last time yet. Never mind though - I'm sure that now the cold weather has set in, everyone will be anxious to get back on the court in an attempt to work off a few pounds before Christmas. I shall be in touch with those currently listed on the ladder in the near future to see if they are still interested ( or still working here for that matter! ). As ever, new participants will be welcome, just get in touch with me on Ext 490 or write to H10, N. Site.

JIM HAWORTH

## Photographic Club

In the past few months, the idea of forming a photographic sub-section in the Club has been put forward by several members, who are currently interested in this popular hobby. Once up and running, it would be hoped that the sub-section would meet on a regular basis to discuss and demonstrate some of the many aspects of photography, from simple holiday snap-shots to more complex photographs involving the twiddling of lenses, lights, backgrounds and other such intricate equipment.

Many topics have been suggested and a brief outline of some examples have been included below in order to hopefully stimulate your interest.

- 1) Discussions on various cameras, how they work, how they differ, and how to make the best use of your current model.
- 2) Practical demonstrations involving cameras and lenses.
- 3) Studio and background lighting and their design.
- 4) Practical photography including still life (*Plenty of opportunity for that around here - Ed*), portrait, natural history, glamour, classical nude and wildlife.
- 5) Demonstration by the local photographic professional.

It might even be possible to hold competitions, subject matter still to be decided, with small prizes for the winners. So if anyone out there is interested in joining or setting up a photographic sub-section then please contact Ray Toop on Ext 425 or address mail c / o Ministry of Defence Police.

## Chess Club.

Last season was the Club's first in Essex League, Division 1, and the team finished in a creditable position just above mid-table. The Club also reached the semi-final of the Essex League Knockout Cup, losing narrowly to Brentwood. Perhaps the highlight of the season was the 4-2 win over the powerful Streatham & Brixton team in the National Club Championship, the team coming down to earth in the following round with a 5-1 defeat at the hands of Muswell Hill. The Club Championship was won for the first time by Alan Sterne.

On a more pessimistic note, the teams entered in the North Circular League finished bottom of their respective divisions. Historically the Club has always had quality on the top boards but has lacked depth. New players of any skill level are welcome, and the Club is organising a programme of simultaneous displays and speedplay before the 1989-90 season gets underway in mid-October. If you are interested in any of these events, please contact me on Ext. 238.

JOHN COOK

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## **The Racquets Summer Barbecue.**

The three Racquet wielding sections of the Club, i.e. Tennis, Squash and Badminton, ran this event as a fund raising function on July 8th. As you would expect the unusually good weather broke the day before and the entire event was confined to the Hall; except for Sally Westlake and her gallant band of cooks who braved the elements outside at the barbecue.

Attendance was well down on usual numbers for such events but this was put down to the RO Farewell Party held the night before where, the drink flowed freely (and free). We don't suppose many of them were in a fit state on Saturday! Despite the lower than expected numbers a pleasant evening was had and, just as important, the three sections ended up by sharing the profit which amounted to nearly £200. Many thanks to all of those who helped and to all those attending.

**Tennis, Squash & Badminton Sections.**

## RO Waltham Abbey Farewell Party.

I was somewhat bemused by the prospect of a " Farewell Party ", being organised 6 months before the proposed shut-down but, as someone far more intelligent than I put it, there's not much fun having a party on your own.

The organisation of such a unique occasion was obviously too much for one individual so a committee was formed and lunchtime meetings arranged, mostly arranged at " The Plough ".

Finally, on the afternoon of the 7th July 1989, all the planning having been completed, volunteers turned up to arrange the tables and decorations. The hall was soon festooned with balloons of all sizes, quantities of streamers and other party novelties. The selection of these people must have been very shrewd, as they worked extremely well together as a team. This trait seems to be synonymous with the Waltham Abbey people anyway.

The scene was now set for the evening's festivities. Would the event be a success ? Would it be an anti-climax and go like a damp squib ? Would it be an occasion for gloom and doom or would it be a last chance for a lot of people to socialise and enjoy each other's company, maybe for the last time ?

At last the time came to throw open the doors. As the guests arrived, they had tickets checked by two thorns, in the guise of Maxie Bear and Norman Paul, who proffered a rose to the ladies, a personal gesture from mine host.

The atmosphere became increasingly pleasant as more and more people arrived to be welcomed by Dave Tisley and an open free bar. They then found a suitable table equipped with party poppers, streamers and a few Chinese fans. The socialising was now well under way. A lot of the current



personnel were very pleased to note that some of the guests were ex-employees and in particular, it was pleasing to see Darrell Bottomley.

The 'disco' had been in operation from the very start of the evening and, in between the general musical entertainment, Barry Barrett was making various dedications to certain personalities followed by an appropriate record.

At last the buffet was ready, which meant that the traditional queue for food formed. This came as some relief to me, who then promptly made a dash to the depleted bar. Here an extraordinary event took place. The sight and sound of Dave Lee asking for a glass of water was not the first sign of a reformed character but an attempt to keep the roses alive.

After the buffet queue had died down, the raffle was held and some very nice prizes were suitably distributed. This was followed by special presentations to Peter Bourn who received a briefcase instead of a stripper and Joyce Overton, who received a large bouquet of flowers from the Closure Project Team for all her help and endless coffee supply.

A whole series of surprise awards was made by Norman Paul as an unbiased member of the gathering. A full list of these awards is available from Norman or myself to interested parties. The culmination of the ceremony was that Dave Tisley ended up by being the receiver of a large engraved print of Waltham Abbey as a memento, presented by his RRRDE opposite number, Geoff Hooper.

The evening then took off into a wild dancing spree culminating in Geoff Hooper dancing with Harry Edwards and everyone being covered in a combination of streamers and confetti from the explosion of some of the larger balloons.



## ES BOAWA

The race itself went according to plan except that from 14 miles I could feel blisters growing on my feet, ironic this, as only the previous week I was loudly informing everyone at the running club that I NEVER suffer from blisters, and neither would they if they knew how to look after their feet properly. By the time I finished this race I had five large blood blisters to tell me how wrong I had been.

At the finish I went straight to the first aid tent, no ordinary facility this, it was the size of three tennis courts with specialised departments - foot, leg, hypothermia cases etc. As I was one of the first customers, the facilities were scarcely stretched and I had the unusual and flattering experience of SIX women carefully examining my feet. The podiatrist ( foot specialist to you and me ) donned her surgical gloves ( even fitness fanatics cannot be guaranteed free of AIDS ), attacked the first blister with her scalpel and received a jet of blood in the eye for her trouble. This led to a short intermission for cleaning up before she proceeded to complete the treatment on my feet. Seriously though, the girls in first aid did a wonderful job.

### Statistics.

**John Cook** 2 hrs 41 mins 21 secs - overall position 605  
(2nd best time for the distance.)

**Phil Olsen** 4 hrs 28 mins dead - but managed without  
a visit to the first aid tent.

The amount raised for the COLP-AMB appeal was £358-40. I would like to thank everyone for their support in achieving this figure.

**JOHN COOK**

## AWACS 89

What is AWACS you might well ask. Well AWACS stands for Alternative Waltham Abbey Comic Sports and was instituted last year as a RARDE Waltham Abbey North Site Sports Day. The first sports day, AWACS 88, held last year was in the nature of an experiment and was so well received that it was decided to run the event on an annual basis until such time as the North Site closes. We don't therefore expect to have a Bicentenary Sports sometime in the future.

As the title suggests this is not a serious sporting event ; the emphasis is on employees making a fool of themselves rather than showing off their athletic prowess. Nevertheless, there is keen competition between the competing teams and much ingenuity is employed in trying to do the other teams down, employing such tactics as "nobbling", obstruction and cheating.

This year's event consisted of ; The Five Legged Race, a Multitransport Race, Hockey Slalom, Bicycle Jousting, a Water Obstacle Relay Race and Tug O'War. In addition a fiendish Scavenger Hunt was run throughout the afternoon. Five teams were entered representing most of the sections eligible and each team had picked some fanciful name for themselves :

The Dukes of Hazard ( good name that ) from Hazard Assessment ( NP1 ),  
The Unmentionables from Sssh ! you know who ( ISRD ),  
SCABS 2 ( Synthetic Chemistry Amateur Boozing Squad ( NP4 )) - did I mention that we had a bar on the Long Walk area,  
The 27th Army ( out to get everyone else ) from NP2 and  
MMQC ( Mary, Mary and the Quite Contraries ) a rag-bag assortment from Admin and BWD.

A special mention should be given here of the Unmentionables who provided a great spectacle, arriving in home-made fancy dress outfits. I'm not sure what they were meant to represent but they certainly added a festive air to the occasion. One small drawback to the proceedings was the hose-pipe ban which meant that the traditional soaking of Tug O'War losing teams was confined to the throwing of buckets of water and this task was ably performed by Peter Yandersluis. He did get a bit carried away at this task but was ably rewarded by two rather wet competitors who sneaked up behind him with a bucket of water each. many thanks Peter for your efforts.

The final result was very close ; so close that there had to be a play-off " Bicycle Relay " between the 27th Army and the Unmentionables. The final

winners were the Unmentionables from ISR D who carried off the AWACS Cup which was presented by Dr Geoff Hooper. A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon and my thanks to all helpers, competitors and spectators.

NORMAN PAUL

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## The Transatlantic Correspondent II

Note to the Editors.

I know that you're editors but did you have to cut out bits last time? Kindly refrain from such nasty censoring this time. And where's my bottle of wine? - You said a bottle for the best article and the others weren't that good (That's your opinion - Ed). I hope you liked it, part two is enclosed and part three is being prepared. I may choose to cover the forthcoming AWACS 89, if that doesn't clash with anyone else's plans. (It does - Ed)

The events described were accurately (more or less) and truthfully (don't make me laugh) reported. However, to protect the innocent, no names are mentioned in part II. This, contrary to rumours, has nothing to do with the hate mail the author would have received following his last article, had anyone known who the hell he is. HA!

"And like a cloud of smoke  
He fades into air  
Only to reappear  
Elsewhere"

ooOOoo

Reply from the Editors,

The Editorial team are the judges of the most original article and award the prize of a bottle of wine at our discretion (bribery helps, slandering the editors doesn't surprisingly!). In any case, in order for you to receive a prize you would have to reveal your identity! The choice is yours to make. Is the prospect of all that hate mail worth a bottle of wine?

If any readers would like to write to either of the editors with their opinions upon any of the articles in this issue, they would be given due consideration. It would help us to decide which article was most appreciated and enable us to award future prizes on that basis.

Sally & Neil.

And so on with the story,

## **What RARDE Staff do in their spare time. Part II : The Friday Lunchtime.**

Every Friday lunchtime from 12.30 until either 2 or 3 o'clock all laboratory experiments, office facilities, phone calls, computer programs and idle conversations cease. The latter, however, are merely suspended temporarily until all persons concerned have reached their appointed place, at which point it is resumed with fanatical vigour. What is this place, I hear you ask!

Well, it is a shrine of considerable " holy " interest, where devotees gather to partake of the " Communion Wine " ( usually with ice and a slice of lemon ), give readings from their " bibles " ( beefburger and chips please ) and to spread the word of Gossip to all who would listen. This hallowed place is known to pagans, gentiles and infidels as .... " The Angel ", but the truly faithful call it simply ..... " Home ".

As mentioned earlier, the ritual starts at 12.30 and continues until 2 or 3. The reason for there being two finishing times is that there are two different types of pilgrim :

- a) The casual, semi-devout, part-time believer who also worships the pagan Deity known as " Core time " and,
- b) The true devotee who remains at prayer until 3 pm when the " church " shuts. Even then the devotees are sometimes seen heading for other churches of different denominations such as the Welsh Harp, The Sun or The White Lion.

The congregation is usually split into two main factions referred to ( in their own long forgotten dialect ) as NP2 and NP4. Other groups sometimes come to worship on important occasions, one of the most notable of which being those from the far distant and ancient city of " Administration ". They tend to visit towards the end of each month when they can't afford to go to the wine bar.

The two factions are constantly in conflict for the favour of the High Priest and his acolytes who stand behind a great wooden " altar " dispensing Blessings contained in intricate glass vessels. The flock, in return, give appropriate contributions to ensure the upkeep of the " church " and the High Priest. By tradition, a larger contribution will earn you more Blessings, which will have a beneficial effect on your everyday life as well as making the High Priest smile most favourably at you.

Indeed, ancient legend has it that in times long past there was a worshipper who donated so many contributions and received so many Blessings that good

luck smiled upon him and he rose in his station of life to be a wielder of great power and knowledge and to eventually rule his own kingdom, mysteriously called Northsite.

The devotees vigorously defend the sanctity of their "church". Many outsiders try to join the cult but are unsuitable for various reasons such as bad prayer recital ( otherwise known as boring conversation ), unwillingness to donate to the collection ( buy a drink ) or other unseemly characteristics ( being far too tall, having a bald head or walking in a peculiar sideways manner ).

After receiving their first round of Blessings, the devotees begin reading from their prayer books. Revered phrases such as Taco Salad, Sausage Sandwich and Baked Potato with curried prawns are uttered with great enthusiasm. A short time after the High Priest comes forth with plates of finest wares, for which the devotees donate much to the collection. The High Priest receives this homage gladly ( rather to gladly in fact ! ) and looks most pleased with his flock, especially if his acolytes are very busy at the "altar".

At several places around the "church" are ancient icons which the devotees cherish and take great enjoyment in laying their hands upon. These relics have names such as "Givus Abreak" and "Kashpot". Here people ( usually after a few Blessings ) generously give even more contributions to the "church", although some manage to cheat the icon into returning some money in the form of metal tokens which the High Priest will redeem for further Blessings.

It is important to win the favour of the High Priest and not to anger him in any way as he speaks with the authority of "God" whilst in the "church" ( Oh yes he does ! ). Should he find a pilgrim lacking in any respect he may cast that person from the "altar" and excommunicate him from the "church", often using the ritual words of banishment, "F\*\*\* O--, you B----d". For lesser sins the High Priest may curse you instead of giving you a Blessing. This will cause nausea, stomach cramps and rectal difficulties. The High Priest has a special term for such a curse and that name has been translated from the scared dialect into English although none can guess its meaning; the translation being "Aykay".

At the end of the worship period the devotees solemnly thank the High Priest and reluctantly leave the "church", pausing only to return some of the Blessings bestowed upon them into a large white receptacle. The High Priest is reputed to then give these Blessings to a needy group of people, apparently called Hartsmen. Yes, for surely all know that the people from the empire of Rardey are honourable and faithful to their religion and are deservedly many times blessed. Indeed, as often as not, they are considered to be as Blesses as newts !!!!!

An anonymous Ecclesiastical Affairs Correspondent.

**The Gospel according to St. Geoffrey**

And Geoffrey spake saying ; Let not your heart be troubled :  
 Ye believe in the Mod, believe also in me. In my Fort house  
 there are many mansions ; if it were not so, I should have told you.  
 I go to prepare a place there for you, I will come again and receive  
 you unto myself : that where I am, there ye may be also.  
 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.  
 And a doubting Thomas saith unto him, Sir, we know not whither  
 thou goest ; and how can we know the way ?  
 Geoffrey said unto him, I am the way, the M25 and the Dartford  
 Tunnel : no man cometh unto the Fort, but by me.

**A Psalm of David**

For Dave is our shepherd, we shall not want  
 He maketh us to lie down so we can be trodden upon  
 He leadeth us beside the still factory, he restoreth our  
 pension rights and leadeth us in paths of redundancy  
 For BaEs sake.

Yea, though we walk through the valley of the shadow  
 of redundancy, we will fear not : for he is with us, his  
 rod and carrot they comfort us.

He prepared a table for us in the presence of our friends  
 And anointed our stomachs with food ; our cups ranneth over.  
 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the remaining  
 days here and we will dwell in the RO for ever, or until such  
 time as the gates close, whichever is sooner.



## Staff Appraisal or How to Stick The Pin in the Right Place

Staff appraisal is a subject dear to most of our hearts. People from personnel try to guide us through this veritable jungle by providing guidelines defining the precise meaning of each personal quality, be it responsibility or waist measurement. Somehow, however, it all seems contrived. This artificiality was neatly captured in the guidelines ( see below ) which appeared on many an office notice board in the 1970's and which were printed in *The Sunday Times*.

Performance Factor	A Far exceeds job requirements	B Exceeds requirements	C Meets requirements	D Needs improvement	E Does not meet requirements
Communication	Talks with God	Talks with angels	Talks to himself	Argues with himself	Loses the argument
Adaptability	Walks on water consistently	Walks on water in emergency	Washes with water	Drinks water	Passes water in emergency
Initiative	Stronger than a diesel	Stronger than a bull elephant	Stronger than a bull	Shoots the bull	Smells like a bull
Timing	Faster than a bullet	As fast as a bullet	Not so fast as a bullet	As fast as a slow bullet	Wounds himself with bullet
Quality	Leaps tall buildings in a single bound	Needs a running start to leap a tall building	Cannot manage buildings with a spire	Crashes into buildings	Cannot recognise a building

## Archaeological Abstract

### Site of Ancient Worship Discovered

Archaeologists and theologians have been astounded in recent days with the discovery in heavily wooded ( ? ) North Kent of the remains of what is believed to be a site of primitive worship. The discovery was made during the soil investigations of the area for a branch line of the new Channel Tunnel rail link. The remains are thought by the best brains in the area and RARDE management to be so important that construction work on the site has been halted for 12 hours whilst a complete survey is made prior to the utter destruction of the area.

Preliminary findings are just beginning to be revealed. After beating a path towards the site which is extremely overgrown and derelict the visitor comes first to the Ploditorium, apparently the sanctuary of the guardians of the temple. The Ploditorium is a complex building, complete with its sumptuous banqueting suite and costly wall hangings. Clearly the Plods were very important people ( they wore big hats ) and no expense was spared for their comfort.

Further inside the site where daylight seldom penetrates the all encompassing gloom, the more intrepid explorer comes to the Directorius, or office of the " mighty one ". This appears to be for decoration only and has no useful function at all.

Many of the buildings and sites discovered so far are easily identified and the functions are clear. Into this category falls the Refectory where the inmates devoured burnt offerings prepared by the NAAFI. Quite what or who the Naaf one was is not clear but that they were greatly feared is known by the presence of the safety barrier or " counter " still to be seen today.

Other parts resembling primitive living and working areas are shrouded in mystery and even close questioning of the shambling remnants of humanity found permanently seated in these areas has failed to discover their purpose.

This discovery leads the experts to believe that the temple was an out-station for the far more technically advanced and sophisticated headquarters located at Stonehenge. It would appear that attempts to relocate Stonehenge to the slightly younger site in Kent were hampered and ultimately thwarted by the only recently discovered localised magnetic field ( paper published by the distinguished Dr Sod ) which has the effect, noted again by our explorers, of upsetting all calculations performed and reducing the answers obtained by a factor of 50%. Tests performed using the standard RARDE calculating engine resulted in half the beads falling off the wires of the abacus.

Now that the experts have completed their investigations only the report has to be written. Even here the sinister atmosphere of the workings have left their mark. Since spending a day at the site the Chief Investigator and his Deputy have been unable to agree about anything at all. Indeed the situation has become so bad that the Chief has been reported as saying "I even check my watch when he says 'Good morning'"

So readers, the final outcome of this saga may take a long time to be fully revealed. In fact there might even be two conflicting reports to study. The truth as usual you will have to decide for yourselves.

LORD DACRE



## Competition.

I'd like to thank everyone who entered after delving through the twists and turns of last issue's logic puzzle. The successful winner was Norman Paul and his correct answer being set out below. Full details of the logic pathways are available on request from Neil Shepherd.

February	West Germany	Phutt Inc.	Guidance went haywire.
April	France	Noble Ordnance	Motor case blew up.
June	Canada	Whizz Bang Ltd	Selected wrong target.
August	UK	Damp Squibs Ltd	Missile didn't detonate.
October	USA	Sizzle Industries	Warhead fell off.

The competition for this issue is in the form of a word puzzle ; the idea being to construct as many words from the letters in the grid as is possible. Each letter may only be used once per appearance in the grid ( i.e. the letter A may appear up to three times in any word constructed ). Plurals, foreign words and the names of people and places are not allowed. The winner will be the person who constructs the most available words. ( Clue - The fifteen letter word construct could be described as both the bane of Royal Ordnance WA and of RARDE WA. )

A S O T A  
 N I R A L  
 I N O T I

# Poet's Corner.

As very few people need reminding, it is 50 years this month since the start of WWII and 50 years since many school children were evacuated to the relative safety of the countryside. Their time as evacuees varied greatly, some being miserable and homesick, but others probably finding it a wonderful experience and looking back on it as one of the best times of their lives. The following poem has been written by Geoff Allen and is about the time he was evacuated to a Norfolk farm at the age of seven. He seems to be one of the fortunate ones who enjoyed his stay. It is a lovely poem and we thank him for letting us print it.

## Memories

I am telling this story of this Thursford farm  
Because of its beauty and wonderful charm  
And as you read on it will be plain to see  
How I enjoyed life as an evacuee

From this verse on I must try to remember  
What happened on the farm from January to December  
From ploughed lands to beautiful green  
And then the harvest, what a wonderful scene

Starting January in the stony lane  
The sound of horse and turnbrill would reign  
To the fields for the hay and beet  
So that the cattle are given a treat

February comes, the ploughman must toil  
Turning deep furrows of rich black soil  
He must cover many a field  
So that good crops the harvest will yield

March is the month lots of winds so they say  
But the beautiful springtime is on its way  
Crocus and snowdrop and daffodil yellow  
And in the far distance you can hear a bull bellow

Here comes April and Easter as well  
New grass on the meadows the cows doing swell  
The winter wheat showing a few inches through  
And new lambs leaping glad to be hear too

On to May and summer days  
The trees all budding with coloured arrays  
The birds are nesting the lark is high  
He's looking at the beauty from high in the sky

Here comes June the corn growing up  
And the meadows covered in buttercup  
The cuckoo is here and changing its note  
And occasionally you will see a weasel or stoat

The month of July the orchards do flourish  
With fruit hanging heavy and ready to nourish  
The harvest draws near the hays coming in  
To be stacked in the barn for winter again

August has come we hope with no rain  
The corn ears are heavily laden with grain  
The wagons are moving and hauled by the horse  
And a young lad shouting "Hold Tight" of course

Autumn is nearing its the month of September  
I am sure that many will be thankful to remember  
The granary is stored, oats, barley and wheat  
The next thing to move is the sugar beet

October to church with fruit and vegetable  
This month we hold our harvest festival  
The pheasant shoot is under way  
And the nights pull in for a shorter day

The month of November they didn't fail  
To get every mangel under a large straw hale  
This they must do at all speed and cost  
To stop them all getting bitten by frost

At last here's December my last month of course  
I can hear a blacksmith he's shoeing a horse  
The trees are now bare the hedges being cut  
The squirrel tucked away with a good store of nut

And now at last I must retire  
And pull the old armchair up close to the fire



It would seem that the Club building would be an obvious place to advertise for articles, ideas or letters for each issue; if no response was gained from this, then criticism of the apathy of the membership when it comes to contributing to " Quickmatch " would be founded on a stronger basis.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Baalham.

P.S. May I offer a suggestion for future articles - a puzzle page or competition for the many children of Club members.

Dear Sue,

Thank you for your comments, can we in reply say, firstly we would like to reiterate our gratitude to those people who sent in articles and stories as we have received a bumper crop of such in the last couple of months. This may be partly due to the increasing publicity conferred upon the copy date, notification of which is sent out to all sub-section representatives and which is clearly posted ( Posters for this issue were distributed in early August ), in all inhabited buildings on site and in the Club itself . This is achieved with the help of the section distributors who perform a most important role and to whom the editors are deeply grateful . If by some mischance a building was overlooked we apologise. However, this poster is mainly to act as a reminder ; ANYONE can send in an article at ANYTIME !

With regard to the bias towards RARDE staff and activities, there does tend to be a slight bias, however the article in question was of interest to some people, and in any case was but two pages in a print issue of twenty. Unfortunately both editors are RARDE staff and consequently tend to be more informed on happenings on that side of the fence, if a member of RO ( while there's still time ) would like to become involved in Quickmatch, we would be most happy to hear from them. As it is most articles submitted seem to originate from RARDE personnel, so it is not entirely our fault. However, having said that, we have endeavoured to even the balance as best as we can in this issue.

SALLY & NEIL

## A Few Light Hearted Moments !!

Earlier on this year a caravan was parked in the car park just outside the main gate on North site. Several people observed it and it was reported to a senior admin officer that travellers were setting up camp just outside the gate. So prepared to take on all-comers, the valiant administrator marched up to the gate to do battle, only to discover it wasn't a traveller's van but Ernie's Burger van. Ernie was told in no uncertain terms to reposition it. Perhaps he was considered as serious opposition to the canteen on South site. However the situation has now changed as the South site canteen is closing down in the new year. An alternative catering facility is being sought, perhaps you ought to try again Ernie !!!

Not so long ago I noticed that the gates between the Club and North site were in a bit of a battered state, being shored up with chains and scaffold poles. Upon enquiry I learnt that a certain member of MOD PLOD had opened them one morning, only for them to fall apart in his hands !!! You don't know your own strength Ray !! Probably been eating too many shredded wheat or do we have SUPERPLOD in our midst.

Speaking of gates collapsing, Quinton Gate on South site seems to have developed this chronic ailment also. It's currently being rebuilt for the third time in the last few months !! BOC ( of Waltham Cross ) scored first with a beautiful sideswipe, only for Vanguard Removals to equalise a month or so later. The latest attack has yet to be claimed, perhaps Vanguard have decided to take the lead !!!

At 4.25 am on Sunday 21st May, the local constabulary decided they wanted to arrest one of our colleagues ( He hadn't done anything wrong and it was actually all a mistake ). Anyway about half of the local police force turned up to arrest this dangerous desperado. After hammering on the door until he appeared in his dressing gown and slippers ( not quite the RAMBO image they were expecting ), they announced " We're the police ", to which our quick-witted colleague is reported to have replied " Thank god, I thought you were the Jehovahs' Witnesses ".

I was told that Harry Edwards was very disturbed to find a BAT in his office on his return from holiday. You're not afraid of bats are you Harry ? Shame on you, they are lovely creatures - I hope you didn't hurt it 'cos they are a protected species. Did you know the Nature Conservancy people have people that just deal in bats ..... The BAT PEOPLE, if you write to them then they will send you further information on bats .... its called the BAT PACK !!



A short time ago, a certain young lady (*It wasn't Sally was it? - Ed*) thought she had discovered an intruder on North site. She was working late, being the enthusiastic conscientious person she is (*Nah! Can't have been Sally - Ed*), when she found a battered old car (with no car pass noticeable) parked next to hers in the car park. At first she thought that she may have locked someone in the building so she went back, unlocked and checked. No - no one there. At this stage she started to get a bit concerned. Phone the police - right. Phone engaged - Bother !! Now what. She was very reluctant to get into her car and drive away but felt this was her only course of action. So she gave the suspect vehicle a good inspection from a safe distance (*From about 50 yards away I heard - Ed*) - nothing obvious, so she got into her car and sped off to the police at the gate. By this stage, thoroughly rattled, she gave vent to her pent up emotions on the poor unsuspecting policeman on the gate. Fortunately, he was man enough to take it and wasn't a quivering wreck by the end of the narrative.

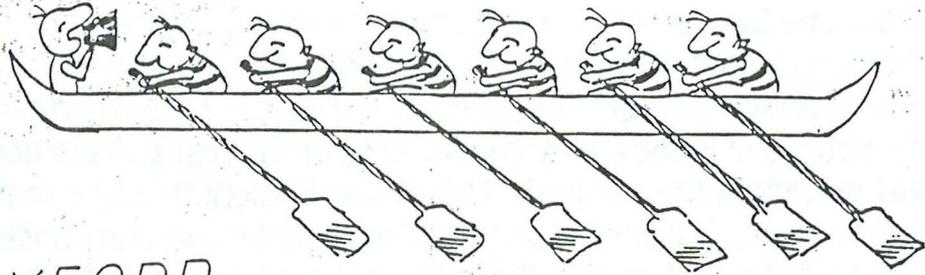
After a bit of head scratching and a short period when our policeman thought there may be a problem, the problem was resolved. The car belonged to a member of staff from South site, who as it happened was a very keen fisherman. This unsuspecting soul had been sitting on the bank of the river behind H10 all of the time. For this person and anyone else it might concern, the young lady has designed a suitable car pass for them to use in the future, just cut it out and affix it to your vehicle before departing.

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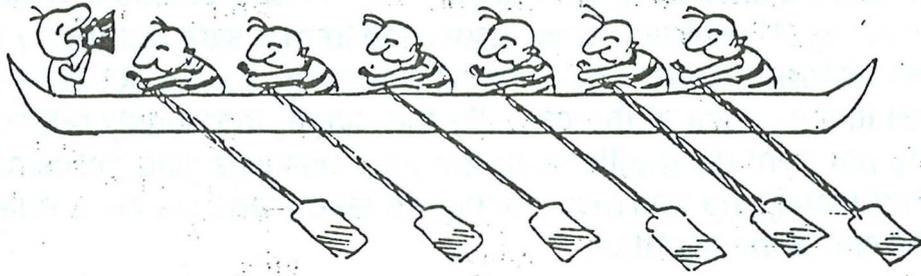
DON'T PANIC

JUST

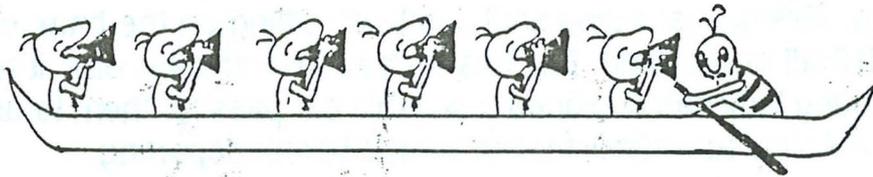
GONE FISHING



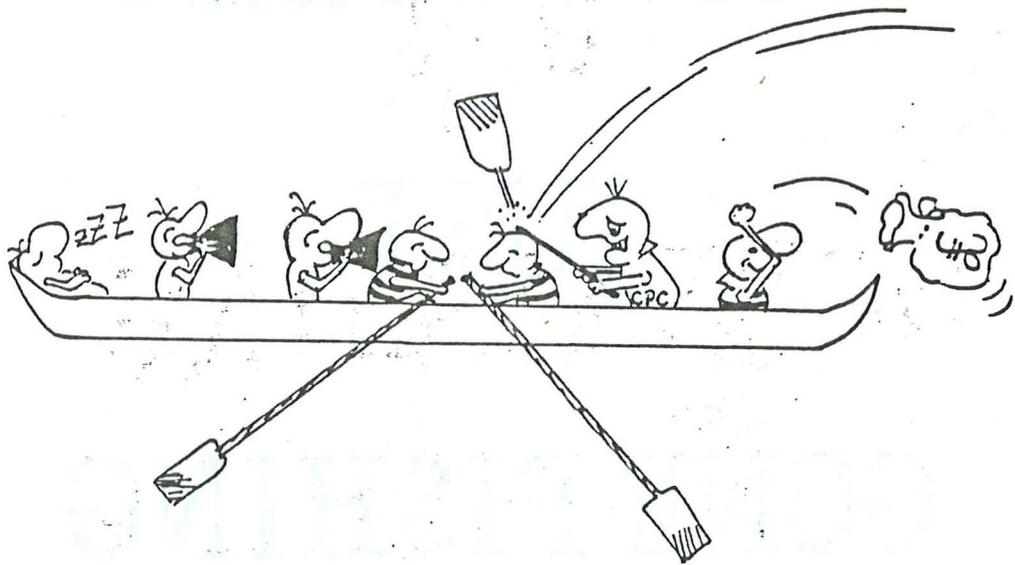
OXFORD



CAMBRIDGE



RARDE WALTHAM ABBEY



RARDE FORT HALSTEAD

THE STORY SO FAR.....

The peaceful monks at the Abbey are under threat from the Warlords of the planet Rationalization. Already the southern territories have come under the influence of Davrof. In the night of the long documents, the rationalization committee have put out an extra-terrestrial contract on a group of Federation Daleks to persuade the monks to leave. Will no-one save them from a Fort worse than death? But wait! Is it a bird? Is it a 'plane? No, it's

# DOCTOR HOOPER and the DALEKS

