Issue No 5 50p 30 Nov '94

The Georgian Times

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The Georgian Times

Issue No 5 | Shrewton | 30 Nov '94

The Georgian Times

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Views expressed in The Georgian Times are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Editorial Team.

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Well Done to Caroline Lowther who has won this month's prize of a free meal for two with her article 'On Stage'. Runners-up, Tommy Lang and Ian Crawford each win £5's worth of Christmas draw tickets. Please contact Tony.

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Editorial

As promised last month, this issue of your favourite magazine is a bumper edition. Of course, this was made possible by the efforts of not only The George Inn Customers but also by some of the people of Shrewton.

Straight off, I would like to thank the following new-comers, (*in alphabetical order*) for their input: Tom Brown, Ian Crawford, Nicky Edwards, Dave Godsend, Christine Goodhugh, (*a Georgian Times fan from Amesbury*) Caroline Lowther, and of course, Phil O'Soffickle. All have submitted articles for the first time. They cover such diverse topics as the Post office, Arts and Crafts, Scouts and Theatre, whilst some have contributed with their humour. Each and everyone one of them, giving us an insight to our Village. I certainly hope that we will hear from them all again.

I would also like to thank, David and Judy Bodfish, Nicky Edwards, Tommy Lang, Dave Logan, Derek Miles, Lloyd Nosey, Val Pollard and Redeye for their support over the past six months, without which the magazine would not have survived.

We now have a scanner which enables us to scan in photos etc, giving us clearer images and a more professional appearance. So if you wish to submit an article or you have a special occasion you would like us to record and there is a photograph available, let me have it.

I hope that you enjoy *Issue 5*, the most ambitious issue so far. Once more, the Editorial Team and I, would like to wish all our readers, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year

Pat Dempsey

TOMMY MAKES AN APPEARANCE

Delighted Grandparents Celebrate Their First

Saturday 12 Nov '94

"Her waters have broken" said Tonita in a matter of fact way as she plonked two large and foaming beers down in front of John Bolton and me. John looked up, a slight look of annoyance on his face - he doesn't like his conversations to be interrupted. "Send for the plumber then!" he said wryly. Tonita glared at him in disgust. "I'm talking about Janice" she snapped back, "she's in the maternity ward right now." John was most contrite "Oh I didn't realise", he said apologetically, and then in an attempt to show genuine interest, he foolishly asked, "How's Robin?" Tonita could hardly believe her ears. "Robin", she hissed, "it's not him we're worried about, it's Janice. He did his bit nine months ago." Turning her back contemptuously on us, she moved away to serve another customer. "It takes two to tango you know", John replied softly, making sure that Tonita didn't hear him. From time to time Jackie, with a concerned look on her face, dashed through the bar carrying plates of food for hungry punters - we could hear her saying how concerned she was for her daughter. John and I studiously ignored her, we had had enough of a woman's scorn for one day.

A mother's pride.

Sunday 13 Nov '94

At one thirty this morning a healthy and bouncing baby boy, weighing 7lbs 11oz, was delivered to Janice and Robin. It wasn't a difficult birth, nor was it an easy one either.

By lunch-time, brimming with pride, the grandparents, in between serving meals and drinks, were graciously receiving the congratulations and best wishes from the many delighted

customers who filled the bar on that otherwise wet and dingy day. Happily we can report that both mother and child are doing well.

He has been given, so I am told by his grandfather, the unusual name of Tommy Smith. Yes folks, that's his name (don't think I know many Tommy Smiths). I do believe that he might well be given the hyphenated name of ***Thomas Clift-Smith***.

Welcome to my World

"Anyway, welcome to the world Tommy! Very soon you will be in Shrewton and The George. Hope you like it!"

Janice and Robin would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr VeeJay and his Delivery Room Team, Penny and Alison.

Not forgetting of course, the nurses on the ward, Barbara and Janice, for all their care and help - and their numerous cups of tea.

Its not over until the fat lady sings

It was, so I am led to believe, the best stag party Shrewton has seen in a long time. Of course, as often is the case, opinions might differ.

Alan Woods (Little Woody) had no idea what was in store for him that evening. All he knew was that he was to spend the last night of freedom with the lads. Innocently, he took Debbie, his bride to be, to The George for a drink, arriving there at approximately eight thirty. He was totally unaware that a surprise had been laid on for him. A very large surprise indeed!

Hi Woody, guess who?

Tony was somewhat shocked to see Debbie in the George, as he was privy to the night's event, and was anxious to have her, and her chums, out of the way. It was arranged that Debbie and friends go to the Royal Oak for their hen-do, but Debbie, who was starving at the time, wanted something to eat.

This was causing much concern as the *Surprise* was sheduled for nine pm. The resourceful Tony managed to rustle up a basket of chips and then bundled the, by now confused, Debbie et al, into his car and whisked them off to The Oak in the

Billy Baxter's Butcher

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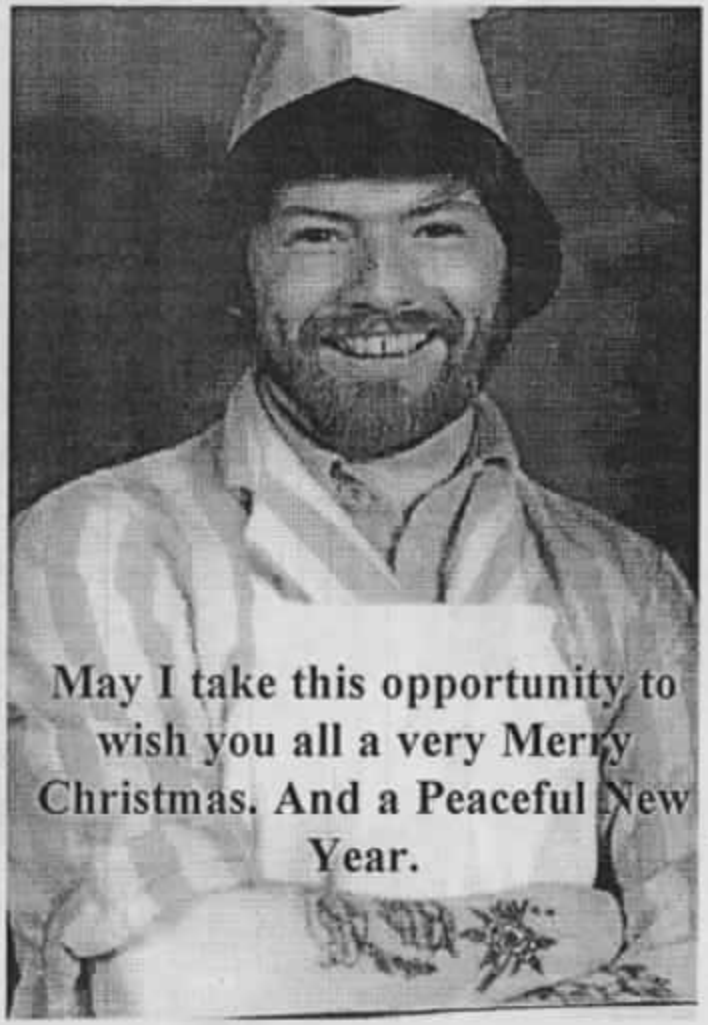

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Shrewton

nick of time."Wasn't it nice of Tony to give us a lift?" Debbie is reported as saying to her friends later later that evening. "It's not often I drive my customers to another pub" was a comment Tony was heard to make frequently that night.

"My God!" cried a shocked voice from the rear of the pub "It's Sambo in drag!"

At 9 pm. sharp, the door to the bar was suddenly thrown open. There was a moment of silence as startled customers tried to come to terms with what they hoped, could only be an apparition. Its form appeared to be female. Large and rotund, dressed in only a scanty and flimsy type negligée which left nothing to the imagination. She stood for a moment in the door looking around her at the aghast drinkers. - *It's life Jim but not as we know it* -

"My God!" cried a shocked voice from the rear of the pub "It's Sambo in drag!" Then without warning she lurched across the room towards the unfortunate Woody. Large rolls of fat wobbled around her stomach as she moved, dimpled thighs brushed against tables, as she thundered towards her target. People pushed back to give her room, fear and consternation showed in their eyes as she pushed her way through them, grinning like a demented ogress.

Taking poor old Woody by the arms, she forced him down on a chair. Then to the delight of all concerned she started to slowly, and deliberately, move suggestively around him, now and again a large mammary gland was flashed, and all the time she crooned softly as she warmed to the job of showing Woody her *delights*. The crowd went wild! Finally she lowered her gargantuan buttocks onto his lap and read him a poem. Then suddenly, much to Woody's relief, it was over and she was gone. After that there was nothing more to do but get zonked, and, so they did....

Tonita Goes to the Races(?)

It is alleged that one day last summer, Tonita went to the races. On the way there she stopped off at Marks and Spencer's to buy a new pair of knickers.

For some obscure reason she decided to wear the new pair. Having changed, she put the old ones in a carrier bag and set off for the races in her newly purchased underwear.

It just so happened that she bumped into Roger Hughes, who was working at the races, or maybe gambling, and he offered her a lift home. Naturally she accepted his kind offer and together they set off for Shrewton.

Alas, poor Tonita left the carrier bag and its contents in Roger's car. Later that evening they were found by Roger's wife, Ann, who is, so I am told, a very understanding lady. She would have to be!

It seems that people do all sorts of strange things once they start using The George !

Bryan Takes a Tumble.

It was a dark and windy night, the rain was lashing against the windows of the George.

Bryan Bolton was just finishing his last pint and although he lives virtually next door to the Pub, he did not relish the idea of leaving the warm comfort and facing the unkind elements.

Eventually he downed his drink and, calling a hasty goodnight to all, dashed out determined to get home as soon as he could. Ripping open the door, he fled into the stormy night, head down. Sadly, visibility was poor and your man collided with that silly sign, shaped like a chef, that stands outside.

"By the time I saw it, it was too late" Bryan confided in me the following day. "Before I knew what was happening, I was almost on top of it!" It seems he tried to leap-frog the chef, but didn't make it and landed astride it. "It didn't half make my eyes water", he said with a painful expression on his face. "Do me a favour Pat, don't tell anyone". - Don't worry Bryan your secret is safe with me!.

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Head Hunting

I expect that, like me, many of you were unaware that we have a talent scout in The George. I was busy chatting with the Sports Editor, Dave Logan, one evening last week when Dave Bodfish came in. Once he had ordered a drink, he started up a conversation with Tony, about the Pub Quiz, not the Sunday night one - the midweek competition. He was heard to say that the team still had one or two vacancies. "We're fine with subjects like history, science and the arts" he told Tony "but a bit short on some other subjects". Logan, cutting short his chat with me, about his roots in Liverpool, called over to Bodfish saying that he would be interested in joining the team. "Know anything about pop music?" Bodfish asked. "Well I'm not too bad on the 60's and 70's pop", Logan replied eagerly. Taking his cigar out of his mouth, Bodfish pointed the soggy end at Logan and said, "Actually we're looking for somebody with intelligence and preferably without a Northern accent", I looked at Logan's crestfallen face and felt a twinge of pity. Bodfish turned to me and asked if I would be interested. I coughed nervously before answering, wondering how he was going to cut me down. "Actually, I don't have a Northern accent", I replied, intimidated by his aggressive approach, "but I'm not into pop music either.....anyway I'm far too busy with the magazine these days". Having said my bit I walked hurriedly away not wanting to get involved any further. Having put some distance between us I watched, as he weighed people up, like a hungry predator, listening to their accents, and searching for intelligence. Personally I thought Logan was the right man for the quiz.

Dave Bodfish looking for talent

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The Redeye Column.

So it's the season to be cheerful, or will be by the time I have finished this bottle of Becks.

Last month we had the Beerex at The George. The only way to fit in that weekend, was to wear a goatee beard, carry a guitar and push yourself around on a zimmer frame.

Mind you, at a quid a pint, it was bearable. (Apparently Tony did a ram-raid on Gibbs Mew in his Transit, his Volvo still recovering from diesel intoxication. I hope he picks up some lager next time).

But this leads Redeye to make his usual observation. You know the Criminal Justice Bill has just been made law. So at next year's Beerex, just remember when the throngs descend on The George and are enjoying a warm pint and nodding their heads to a repetitive guitar strum, old Betty could spring quite a surprise. Never mind, any law that keeps folks singing is alright by me.

Redeye.

Garden Corner

The time has come to tidy up the garden and rough dig any spare parts not being used for winter greens, using a spade. Use it to its full depth so that winter can get into the soil: bury any top ground weeds

Spring cabbage plants put in September, should by now be making good headway and will produce some early cabbage during April and May. I suggest Sutton's April as one of the best for this part of the country.

After a nice Summer, we are able to save a lot of our own seeds, such as runner beans, broad beans, and quite a lot of the flower seeds. Select the best and this will save a lot of money during the Spring. I always save most of mine, cutting out expenses later.

Any flowering shrubs and roses should be planted now whilst the weather is still mild, also any border plants requiring dividing.

It's not too late for planting on bulbs - don't delay!

For an early crop of broad beans, sow about the third week this month, weather permitting.

J.C. Digmore.

In Die Gestion.

Isn't it odd how someone can do a bit of good by being a bit nasty. Heard a lovely story the other day and it's true as I'm riding this bike - yeah gospel truth, despite what may be dodgy about them. This nice chap tells me that he was walking through the woods one morning, carrying a felling axe over his shoulder, when he heard a rustling noise in the undergrowth. As nothing much happens in Shrewton, he thought that he would investigate (thinking that it might be a mushroom waking up, or something) and he saw a snake with its head stuck through a mesh hole of a wire fence. The snake was threshing about trying to get through, but couldn't, due to a large bulge in it's body just behind the head. Our intrepid woodsman doesn't like snakes (although being a cider drinker, I would have thought that he was partial to a snakebite) so he swung the axe, powered by 17 stone towards the head of the snake, and, the axe won. As the snake's head fell away from the body, the twitching corpse ejected a very relieved looking frog, who hopped away without as much as a "thank you".

Phil O'Soffickle

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Recipes of the Month

by
Emsie

On Christmas Eve, when you are up to your elbows doing your final preparations for your Christmas dinner and you still have to cook supper for your family and guests - pasta is always quick and easy to make. The following recipe takes about 20 minutes to prepare. This quantity is for 4 people

Farfalle (Bow or Butterfly shaped) with shredded Leek and Bacon:

Salt and freshly ground black Pepper
1 tsp Olive oil
350 gr dried Farfalle pasta
100 gr Bacon - cut into strips
50 gr Butter
l large Leek - finely shredded
1 med. Onion - finely chopped
5 tblsp single Cream
50 gr Cheddar cheese - grated
50 gr Parmesan cheese - roughly grated

1. Heat up a pan of salted water to boiling point, add the oil and then the pasta. Cook for 12 minutes or till 'al dente'. Drain thoroughly and put in a warm serving dish.
2. Meanwhile. cook the bacon in its own fat until brown and crisp. Remove with a slotted spoon. Add the butter to the pan to melt and add the leek and onion. Cook gently until just softened.
3. Put the cream, Cheddar cheese, cooked bacon, leek and onion in with the pasta. Season with salt and pepper and toss gently to mix. Sprinkle the Parmesan cheese over the top and serve immediately.

o O o O o O o O o

Champagne:

Champagne is always popular this time of the year. Because it is quite expensive, here are a few ways to make it go further and it also looks prettier. This is for a 750ml bottle.

Champagne Orange Blossom Combine l cup of fresh orange juice with half a cup of Cointreau liqueur and add 1 tablespoon of castor sugar. Stir until sugar is dissolved. Divide mixture between 6 or 8 champagne flutes and top up with chilled champagne.

Gin and Lemon Bubbly Combine one quarter cup of lemon juice with one three-quarter cup gin and two tablespoons of castor sugar. Stir until sugar has dissolved. Divide mixture between 6 or 8 flutes and top up with chilled champagne.

Mango Surprise (My Mum's invention). Puree pulp of one mango, two tablespoons of castor sugar and one tablespoon of Grand Marnier. Stir until sugar has dissolved. Divide mixture between 6 or 8 flutes and top up with chilled champagne.

Toulouse Chestnut Pudding 100 gr unsalted Butter
100 gr Icing Sugar - sifted
125 gr plain Chocolate - melted
425 gr can natural Chestnut Puree
100 ml good quality Brandy

You must make this pudding a day in advance. It serves 6 people.

Cream together the butter and icing sugar, then add the melted chocolate and beat well.. Push the chestnut puree through a fine sieve, then add a little at a time to the creamed mixture, alternating with a little brandy until thoroughly blended and all the brandy and puree have been incorporated. Transfer the mixture to a rectangular dish, 18x9x5cm, smooth the surface to make it level and refrigerate it for 24 hours. Turn out, slice and decorate with sliced kiwi fruit (or any other fresh fruit) and fresh whipped cream.

o O o O o O o O o O o

THE SILLY PAGE

12 Green Bottles:

I had 12 bottles of Scotch in my house and my wife told me to empty them down the sink - or else! So I said I would and I proceeded with the unhappy task.

I withdrew the cork from the first bottle and poured the contents down the sink, with the exception of one glass, which I drank. I extracted the cork from the second bottle and did likwise, with the exception of one glass which I drank. I withdrew the cork from the third bottle and emptied the good old booze down the sink, with the exception of one glass, which I drank.

Then I pulled the cork of the fourth sink and poured the bottle down the glass, which I drank. Then pulled the bottle from the cork of the next and drank one sink of it and threw the rest down the glass and poured the cork down the bottle. I pulled the next cork from my throat and poured the sink down the bottle and drank the glass. Then corked the sink with the glass, bottled the sink and drank the pour.
When I had everything emptied, I steadied the house with one hand and counted the bottles and corks and glasses with the other, which were 29. To be sure, I counted, I counted them again when they came by and I had 74 and as the house came by, I counted them again.
Finally I had all the houses and bottles and corks and glasses and

sinks counted, except the house and one

which

/ drank.

I am not under the affluence of incohol as some thinkle peep

I am, but I fool so feelish, I don't know who's me

and the

drunker I stand

the longer I

get.

Emsie Dempsey, Shrewton

TIPS

Tips for the motorist
Remove your trousers and tie them around your neck before getting into the car. You will then be able to remove your hankie, keys, and wallet from your trouser pocket with ease, even after you have fastened your seat belt.

Christmas Parcels
Fellas next time you have to wrap up a Christmas present, DON'T because you're hopeless at it. Give it to the wife and she'll do it properly with extra girlie bows and fiddly bits whilst you're down The George having a drink.

New wipers
Ask Billy Baxter, Shrewton's Butcher, to thinly slice those old wellington boots and and hey presto, you have an endless supply of w/wipers for the car.

The Cottage Look
Nail new floor boards to your trees in order to attract woodpeckers for that oldie worldie look.

Carpet Colour
An even sprinkling of flour will lighten the colour of your carpet. If you don't like the new shade, simply hoover it up.

Tom Brown.
Stonehenge

The Paupers' Christmas Party

It was Christmas day in the Workhouse
The only day of the year
When the paupers' hearts were full of gladness
and their bellies full of beer
Then in came the workhouse master
And looking on those grimy old walls
He wished them a merry Christmas
And one of the old paupers answered 'B--ls'
This angered the workhouse master, he swore by all his gods
"I'll stop your Christmas pudding, you saucy lot of sods"
Then up spoke a bold old pauper, with a heart as bold as brass
You can keep your Christmas pudding and stuff it up your a... *jumper(?)*

Letters to The Editor

Dear Ed

As the 1994 Thrift Club nears its end, I would like customers to watch out for next year's AGM date. This is an important meeting where the rules need to be made regarding draws, competitions, minimum payments etc, etc. Failure to attend might mean that the Landlord and I have to make the decisions. This is not good enough. So, will all of you make an effort to attend!

Yours faithfully
Ray Bailey
Hon Sec.

OK everyone take heed! You have been warned! Ed

Dear Editor

I recently purchased a copy of The Georgian Times, in the Butcher's shop, and I was most impressed. A readable monthly is something that has been sadly missing for a long time in this village. I hope it goes from strength to strength. Well done!

A non-Georgian.

Thanks. I have heard it rumoured that Billy Baxter sold more magazines than meat last month! Ed.

Dear Ed.

Local Postman, Mr Alan Dredge was recently honoured on Wilshire Radio by a female admirer in the next village. She said what a nice helpful and polite man Mr Dredge was. As I have observed him having his daily pint and doing The Sun crossword in two minutes, I thought yes, it was about time that he was cut down to size.

Name and Address supplied

Well done Alan. I missed that particular broadcast myself. However, like most people in Shrewton, I concur. Ed

A Drinker's Hymn

Copied from an old manuscript that has suffered the ravages of time. If any readers know the missing words, could they please write to the Editor in order that restoration of the manuscript can be completed.

Bless this pub Oh God we pray
Keep it open night and day
Bless the lager and the stout
By the bottle or poured out
Bless ---------- here within
Give them tonic with their gin
Bless the ---------- -- either sex
Keep them free of bouncing cheques
Bless the ---------- cold or hot
Whether on the ---------- or not
Slow me up on -------- coke
When you find -------- and broke
Bless me when ---------- hard
Reinstate me when I'm barred
Bless us all now come what may
--------- as---------- at close of day.

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Open All Hours?

By David Gosend

At The George it's the world and his wife you might meet but at the Post Office it's more likely to be the wife and his world. With commuting increasing apace, The George is doing well. Open till lord knows when for all those parched souls who have parked up for the night within staggering distance, or are in a syndicate of orange blossoms anonymous, or who even might run to a taxi.

Shrewton Post Office

However, at the Post Office we rarely see much of the hot hatchback brigade. They are gone in a cloud of dust, or more likely spray, long before we open, and zoom back to their watering holes way after we have closed.

Surprise, surprise after years of regimented opening hours, the powers that be are seeing the light and now we are being encouraged to experiment with flexible hours. All well and good, the only question is when...

One suggestion for Mondays, in order to spread the early morning pushchair and brolly battle, is to open at 08.30 am and close at 5.00 pm. This has some general support but we are also looking at an extended evening opening time. Which day will suit the most, for us to practice our excellent quick and efficient service, always, excepting when Alan has gone to see the fairies. Regrettably, this is becoming more frequent, it's his age you know! Practically no one comes in between 2.00 and 2.30 pm, very wise, he is usually voiding his lunch-time pint.

So we should welcome suggestions along any lines within reason. Nevertheless, should anyone win the jackpot during a night out and come pressing their nose on the window slurring - I want to pay into my Gg..iro before I get mugged - be forewarned - they will get short shrift but we might consider giving Alan's telephone number for advice.....

I wouldn't like to you - It's pension day tomorrow!

The Fortunate Ones

By

Tommy Lang

They are the chosen few, the envy of all, the lotus eaters and the providers of celestial gifts, without which man would perish.

Consider their life style: They live 'on the job', no problems of getting to work in the morning, no clocking on, no bosses to criticise their work, and flexible working hours to suit their own convenience. A living-in chef providing cordon bleu meals at any time of the day or night and a cleaner, washerwoman and general labourer to take care of all the dull chores. What bliss!

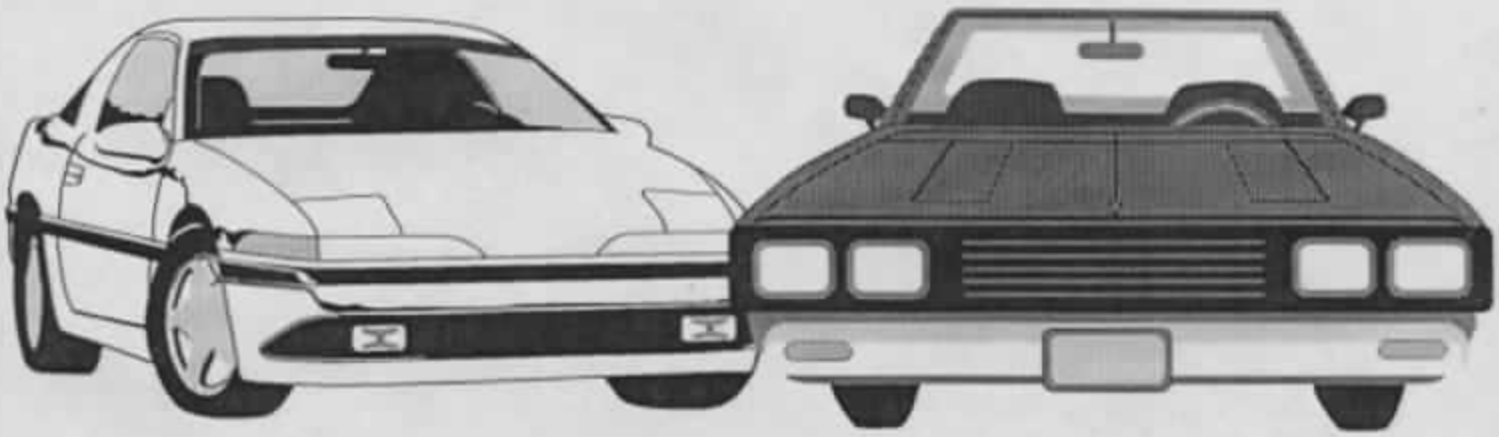
The need for educational qualifications is minimal. A brief acquaintance with grammatical English will suffice but an in-depth knowledge of idiom, dialect, patois and jargon is essential.

Mathematics pose no problems. Costs are all rounded up and calculations are performed by electronic machines. Macro economics are dealt with by a willing host of advisers such as bank managers and accountants.

Training courses are run regularly to update the science of "daft speak" and teach the use of such phrases as "there you go" when the customer has just arrived; addressing obvious geriatrics as "young man"; lager louts as "gentlemen", especially when they appear aggressive and saying, "take care of yourself" to some aged widower as he totters off to his lonely home where he has no option but to do just that.

They really have no need for great knowledge of any subject, surrounded as they are by experts who are only too willing to impart their wisdom on any topic from racing, motor cars, politics, gardening, football and who's laying who..

Their brains stimulated by the intellectual conversation of their clients, they retire to bed to wonder why they were selected to be so lucky in life's lottery.



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Guess Who?
By
Lloyd Nosey

"AND seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit .....
Blessed are they that mourn .....
Blessed are the meek .....
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst .....
Blessed are the merciful .....
Blessed are the pure in heart .....
Blessed are the peacemakers .....
Blessed are they which are persecuted .....
Blessed are they ....."

There appears to be an awful lot of blessing in Matthew Chapter 5. In fact, in the whole of the New Testament, blessing seems of paramount importance. Does our friend in The George therefore, see himself in his pulpit as the reincarnation of the most holy of wonders? Does he avidly read every word of the New Testament every night before thinking of his message for his congregation the following day? Or is it that there might just be the slightest hint of sarcasm when we hear so often "BLESS HIM!"

If ever you have heard that you have been verbally blessed, BEWARE! St John used to do his blessings with water from the Jordan; perhaps liquid blessings may be the order of the day in future. I am sure the band of blessed disciples would significantly increase.

Talking of things biblical and a reincarnation of a "holy Wonder", was the beard too much of a cross to bear due to instant recognition? What happened to it? If he were not such a Wonder, one might think it proof of the onset of puberty; growing a beard or proving shaving is necessary - take your pick! And don't you just love the subtle after-shave at times!

Master builder, master this, master that, master _____? Is there no end to the entrepreneurial skills displayed by our friend to try and make a pittance? Always at our expense, however! How on earth can you make so much money only working (apparently) a few hours a day? He must obviously work hand in hand with the last subject of "Guess Who"!

I expect you have heard of, and noticed, the supreme organisational skills that are inherent with our friend; never confused, totally in control of money matters, never forgets anything, as he walks into the toilet and says to the world in general, "Now what did I come here for?"

And all this carried out with a total command of the English language, noted for its complete subtlety, always makes you think "I wonder if, for once, he might speak his mind?" And perhaps sometimes he does - "Yes dear", or "Coming Dear", or "Now Dear? Of course Dear!" and back to the blessing - "Her indoors, bless her!"

One final question - how do you, as mentioned earlier, equate the onset of puberty with being a grandfather? A holy Wonder!

Pets Parade

By Val Pollard

Goldfish and other cold water fancies are probably the easiest fish to keep, although the basic principles apply to all forms of fresh water aquaria.

Whether keeping a humble goldfish bowl or venturing into the depths of a larger aquarium, remember that untreated tapwater can be poisonous to your fish. Always, either stand the water in a spare bowl or bucket for 24 hours before using, or use a especially formulated dechlorinator. Any gravel, rocks etc., should be bought from an Aquatic outlet as these will have been properly treated for the purpose. Never use anything from a garden, beach or building site. Even items you have bought should be well rinsed to remove any dust etc. before being place in the tank.

If your tank is big enough, a filter of some description is always an advantage. Not only will this help to keep your water clear but also oxygenates the tank and, believe it or not, fish do need oxygen to survive. If a filter is not practical, as in a small bowl, there are live plants available which will oxygenate the water. Even with a filtration system, these have their place. They not only look good but also form a part of your fish's diet.

Once you have your bowl or tank set up, it's time to select your fish. These days there are many to choose from, ranging from the traditional goldfish and fantails to a variety of so-called 'tropicals', especially bred in lower temperatures. These can bring a lot more colour into your tank and also enable you to keep more fish in the space available as they usually tend to be smaller. However, be careful how you mix them or you may find that the bigger fish, if too large, find their own midnight snack.

Feeding is also very important - over feeding can be deadly. The uneaten food simply rots on the bottom and causes bacteria to build up and contaminate the water. A general rule would be to feed one small pinch per fish every two or three days, remembering that any treats, such as live food, should be given instead, not in addition.

As I said earlier, the condition of the water is vital. The more mature the water, the happier the fish. As far as possible, only change about one third of the water at a time and clean the whole set-up when absolutely necessary. How often normally depends on size, number of fish and whether a filter is installed, but once every six to eight weeks for a small bowl should be more than enough.

If after all your tender loving care you find you still develop a problem, don't panic. Cold water fish can be as prone to disease as any other pet. The best advice that I can give in these cases, is to take a careful note of all the symptoms - any unusual behaviour, odd spots, ulcers etc. - and ask at your local pet shop or garden centre. They will be able to provide the appropriate treatment and further advice, depending on your problem. If you do ask - please listen.

Happy Fishing!!!

Shrewton Scouts

By
Nicky Edwards

1994 has been a very busy and successful year for the Shrewton Scout troop, during which time the numbers have increased steadily and now include several girls.
A 'Night Owl' competition was held at the start of the year to which the troop took two teams. There were teams from several troops in the district and it was with great delight that one of our teams won. Two teams also took part in an inter-troop football competition at Larkhill during the summer - it was a very exciting day and our 'A' team, reached the final after a penalty shoot out in the semi-final.
The scouts spent several Friday nights taking part in a St John's Ambulance First Aid course, and each and every scout passed the exam at the end of the course - they were awarded by having their photograph featured in the Salisbury Journal!
In July, Shrewton Scouts were the only troop in the district to take part in 'Salopia 94', a week long international scout camp in Shropshire. A marvellous time was had by all and the ten scouts that went, enjoyed meeting scouts from all over the country, particularly a troop from Sefton, Liverpool.

The Shrewton Scout Troop

Billy Baxter organised a clay shoot in August to raise money for the cubs and scouts. This was a tremendously successful day, very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all the parents who went along to help.
The most visible achievement of the scout and cub troops this year, had been the renovation of the Church Hall. With many offers of help and materials from around the village, a tremendous amount of work took place, with teams of willing helpers and the result is there for all to see.

Training Fun

By

Ian Crawford

I work for one of those US companies who practically reinvent the English language every time they open their mouths. They are however, quite good at training and courses come in all shapes and sizes..... literally I thought when on the course " MANAGING PERSONAL GROWTH " (MPG) and that's another thing they are fond of .....Acronyms usually three letters which some wag called TLAs.....talking of wags and training courses and generally the need for the great British sense of humour to overcome the intensity of the Yankee light, I would like to share with you the following missive circulated recently.

PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT RESIDENTIAL TRAINING COURSES

It is felt that many members of staff will benefit from further training to help them deal with the philosophies and ideals embodied in the divisions Critical Success Factors (CSFs). As training has also been recognised as an essential part of People Development, it is recommended that all members of staff should attend at least 3 of the 5 day residential courses shown below.

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On Stage with Caroline Lowther

unOriginal Sin

Naughty but nice and nothing to do with Stanley Trickett - the latest offering from the Shrewton Drama Club, our very own cultural oasis.

Dave Tristam's play was performed admirably and brought a touch of risqué into the otherwise sedate population of Shrewton (i.e. sedate on the morning after the night before). It was considered so outrageous by certain members of the public that they did not even stay until the second act, but I believe these were the same people who complained about the ubiquitous relationship between Noddy and Big Ears.

This story depicted a very "ordinary" extremely wealthy couple who were on the verge of divorce. The aggrieved wife was out to obtain a pecuniary advantage over the errant husband and with that in mind, had taken certain damning Polaroids of said husband in matrimonial conservatory with unknown female body in compromising wicker chair. Bill (Nick Sebright), not being entirely clever, swapped her photos for that of an innocent squirrel in a tree and hid the dubious photos in the nearest book available which strangely enough, happened to be the family Bible.

In the procedure of securing the country cottage, asking price a mere £250,000 - Bill encounters the delightful would-be purchaser in the shapely form of Eve (Sarah Wootton), who, if you remember, was responsible at one time for the demise of Adam in that ever famous garden - Eden - not Tony Clift's!

Bill being a founder member of the writer's guild of supreme male chauvinism is his normal cynical self in the face of such innocence and beauty and resorts once more back to the JB whisky, advocating this as part of a healthy regime "when I'm pissed, I can't find my cigarettes!"

Unfortunately Eve is part of a couple - if you could call Neville (Doug Crook) part of anything. When Jenny (Jane Blizzard) is introduced to the sweet couple, the scene evolves into a silly bet between husband and wife as to who can get off with Neville or Eve first - however, the bounty is the cottage. Neville, the boring badminton-playing librarian, whose nature is similar to a tortoise I used to own, is a pushover - half-drunk and inebriated even more by the sight of Jenny's ample cleavage. The climax to the scene i.e, the climax that we are allowed to witness - not the one that would seem to have occurred elsewhere culminating in the shameful Neville falling down dead drunk, clutching onto Eve's skirt, pulling it down to her feet revealing previously hidden talents to all and sundry. Recovering her dignity, she gracefully leaves the cottage half-dressed to face the wrath of her vicar father! Jenny has won the cottage !!

In the Second Act we saw more of the wheeler-dealer lawyer in the slender shape of Miles (David Walkling), whose Charles Jourdan shoes appear to attract cow dung whenever he leaves the safety of his Maida Vale *pied-a-terre*. We also learn of his

misdemeanour with a buxom traffic warden who finished with him by a plastic-covered 'Dear John' under his windscreen wiper.

The relationship between Bill and Eve began to enter a new phase and they nearly kissed - but not before he had agreed to sell the cottage to Eve for the princely sum of ten pounds. Sadly the path of true love never runs smoothly and in true fashion, a misunderstanding occurs in which Eve doubts her man. She appears just at the time of a brotherly hug between recently bereaved Jenny, and Bill and sadly slinks away.

The wrath of God appears to Bill in the guise of Father Tomlin (Neil Whitton) - he had noticed his daughter arriving home without a skirt on and would like to warn Bill off in an extremely friendly way - i.e., by trying to dislocate Bill's jaw! It would appear that Bill had not listened to the prologue of the play in which the good priest expounded the virtues of lives free from original sin.

Eve returns to the house for Neville's lost badminton racquet so carelessly forgotten on his last visit and they reaffirm their new love. This coincides with Father Tomlin's return for the donation to the church that Bill promised him. Bill hands him all his worldly goods which is now precisely £10, Eve is discovered and a farcical run around the sofa ensues. Eve explains to her father what a nice bloke Bill really is and that he is a closet romantic novelist (under a female pseudonym) - one of Father Tomlin's favourites. All is forgiven. Jenny has returned to London and the coast is clear UNTIL - Bill goes to make tea and Father and daughter engage in a light-hearted argument about a passage from the Bible to settle the debate, the Bible is brought down from the shelve. I leave it to your imagination which photo is discovered, it's certainly not the cute little squirrel in the tree! *SHOCK, HORROR* - More tea vicar?

An excellent plot well caste and well directed by relative new comer, Ian Townsend.

Luscious lead by Jane Blizzard - first time I have seen you in a skirt longer than eighteen inches, but the cleavage compensates. Utterly believable Nick Sebright as Bill - I have met a few like you!! Neil, Sarah, David and Doug were more than supporting caste and portrayed wonderful characters.

Do not miss the next production which will be the annual pantomime in February.

Full details from Monica Ovel or David Walkling.

A Modern Maxim

We are all aware that when visiting a public house, one stays clear of conversation involving Religion, Politics and Money. In this new 'enlightened' age we must now consider, race, colour, gender, sexual preference, affliction and offensive language (particularly English).

Having engaged in exhaustive conversation about the weather, the patrons tend to talk about the other 'whether'. Whether there is anything else that is allowed to be discussed apart from the 'weather'. There is not many of us that know much about sheep, so the conversation tends to revert to the second 'whether'.

A deeply tanned disadvantaged official of indistinct origin and doubtful preferences, having sat solemnly head in hand for a while, suddenly remarked "For God's sake, what do I have to do to get a Bloody Mary".

Mindful of the maxim and fearful of any misunderstanding, the patron fled the bar, without uttering a word leaving a totally bewildered visitor who had expected table service.

Phil O'Soffick

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Christmas hampers and presentation packs can be made to order

Arts and Crafts at The Laurels

Christine Goodhugh

The weekend of 22 and 23 October was the start of darker evenings as the clocks went back one hour at 3 am on Sunday morning. However, there was some brightness in the approaching gloom as that was the day we went to Shirley Ryan's Art Exhibition. Shirley, who trained in Canada, works mainly in pastels and besides her paintings, there were many other things on show at her delightful 18th Century home.

We were privileged to see Barbara Slater's amazing 3D decoupage pictures, assembled with great skill and patience and producing incredible results. I particularly liked "Morning Glory"- a riot of blue blooms. Her husband frames the pictures, so it is a real family affair.

Tricia Howson also had her decoupage displayed- this time it was the traditional "flat" Victorian-style, but equally stunning, especially her floral trays.

There were Susannah Hoare's pots for us to admire and Tricia was looking after Jeanine Bird's Teddy Bears (every grown-up should have one).

We had a welcome glass of wine in the large but cosy kitchen and bought some raffle tickets in aid of Salisbury Stroke Club. We were not among the lucky winners but it was interesting to hear of the work done by volunteers. So many of us must know someone who has had the misfortune to be affected by this disabling condition. As I write this, Steve has just rung to say that £150 was raised for the club - an excellent sum!

Before we toured the house to look at Shirley's work, I was tempted into the garden by Jean Martin to see the large array of plants for sale. I eventually chose a Christmas Rose-Hellebore "Foetida", and Jean kindly included a little sprig of Rosemary in the price. The hellebore is now growing happily on my patio, its glossy green leaves contrasting with my golden thyme. I am happy to say that I have not noticed it being particularly foetid! Jean also showed me the large garden, including the beehives which produce quantities of honey for Shirley's husband, Steve, to pot and sell.

Last, but not least, we toured the house and looked at Shirley's work. Each room had pictures displayed on the walls and there was also four of Shirley's studies in greetings card form.

"Bluebells"- Grovely Woods, evokes memories of my younger self riding through those sun-dappled glades in Spring with the leaves on the birch-trees just emerging in a heart-breaking tender shade of green.

Summer is depicted by "Buttercup Days" in the Till Valley. It is May or early June in all it's fresh beauty - the buttercups a sea of yellow under a pale blue sky flecked with feathery white clouds.

The Woodford Valley provides the scene for "Autumn reflections". Trees, some still with their bronze and gold foliage, others already leafless, border a tranquil river. Shirley has mastered the difficult technique of portraying water- every reflection and ripple is real.

The Winter scene entitled "Going Home" is of Chute Down. I want to walk in and head towards the distant horizon, past the long shadows cast by the slender trees over the muddy track. One can imagine a cottage with a log fire and a pot of tea brewing to revive the weary traveller at the end of the day.

I have only one criticism of this near perfect afternoon- there were no cats to be seen! They were carefully shut away as there were children and babies about, so it was quite understandable - but I did miss their furry feline forms!

As we left, the sun was setting in a lemon-coloured sky over the water-meadows - a scene ripe for capturing on canvas. I felt privileged to have seen such beautiful work. Shrewton is lucky to have a person of Shirley's calibre. We must not however forget Steve, who has had several short stories published under assumed names in woman's magazines. No, he's not really Barbara Cartland in disguise!

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SPECIAL OCCASIONS

A Message from Tony

Tony and Jackie Clift are, as can be imagined, over the moon with the safe arrival of their first grandchild. They were overwhelmed with the number of people who came to congratulate them. So much so, Tony asked for the following message to be included in this column.

Jackie and Tony celebrate their news

From Grampy (or is it Grumpy?)

As you probably all know, our dear daughter, Janice, has recently given birth to a baby son. This was a new experience for me and I wondered how it affected other grandads.

On our first visit to see Janice, after what had obviously been a very painful and harrowing experience, I must admit, I did feel like holding her close. I resisted however, knowing full well I would have made a pillock of myself. I know that they say grown men don't cry but I've always been a bit of a soft so and so (*you should see some of my slates!*). I even used to shed the occasional tear at Lassie films.

Jan was obviously being very brave and matter of fact about it all (not to worry mum, I suspect) but I did notice the odd wince, "bless her". However, we are both very proud and pleased for Jan and Rob and new boy, Tommy.

We can't wait for Sandy to do the business and from Spring, we will probably have to close two or three days a week for baby - sitting duties!

Anyway, many thanks to you all for your good wishes etc.

Tony and Jackie

A Golden Wedding Anniversary

Beryl Clare taught from 1939 to 1944 at Shrewton School, when Mr Elderkin was the headmaster. She was a member of the Home Guard and of Ivor Chant's concert party.

On Oct 8 1944 she married Charles Sawle at Shrewton Church. Fifty years later on Oct 8 1994, they celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary at The George Inn, with their children, grandchildren, other relations, and their very good friends, Ethel and Tim Towl. (Ethel was a bridesmaid.)

The Swales fifty years on

They enjoyed a wonderful evening, thanks to Jackie and Tony. The following morning they went to Shrewton Church, where they recalled their happy memories of fifty years ago.

Mr and Mrs Alan Woods

"It was a pleasure and honour for us to have them at The George to celebrate such a special occasion" Tony said later. Jackie told me that Beryl was her very first teacher when she started school, so long ago.

Another one Bites the Dust

Alan Woods and Debbie Dalton were married in the Southampton Register Office on Saturday, 15th Oct '94. The reception was held at the Shrewton Village Hall. Congratulations to you both!

Beerex '94

The management of The George Inn would like to thank the following for the support and effort they put into making the Beerex '94 the success it was, despite the lousy weather. The tills never stopped ringing and the punters didn't stop drinking! Brian Witheridge and his lads, for help in erecting the marques etc.

Gazza, Alan and the girls and anyone else who helped in any way. Also the following breweries: Courage, Wadworths, Ringwood and Moles.

Bar Chat

Unwanted Toys

As Christmas is nearly upon us yet again, Tony thought that it might be a good idea if this year we helped the needy. He would be most grateful if you would all, wherever possible, bring in any unwanted toys.

These would be either sold or auctioned off, and the proceeds will go to charity, e.g. an Old Folks Home

The George Inn Privilege Club

Are you a member of our Privilege Club?

It costs you absolutely nothing and you have a chance to win up to £100 every week! All you have to do is to be in the bar on a Sunday night, between 8.30pm and 10.30pm to claim your prize. It couldn't be simpler, could it?

Lucky Winners

The winners of the Qubic Quiz Snowball, on 10 October '94, were: Keith, Caroline, Giles and Iona. They won £85 between them.

Forthcoming Events

There will be a Disco on 26 December.
On New Year's Eve there will be a cabaret starring, "Roger Morely" and A.N. Other.
Entrance free!

Ivan the Terrible

Tony's Russian mate has been at it again! The first person to translate his letter correctly, will win a bottle of wine.

Гебу Фрпъ,
Рнебфе гринд ърц бууббше жру ое хр оеех хне жбх вбдъ. Уне уеокпаф ое рж б экуя И мпеш бирпз ххое бзр. Жуеехкпаф хр бин оъ гроубдеф бх хне Жерузе.

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Kettler exercise bike £15.00. Contact Caroline Lowther 620645

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Girl's cycle, suit approx. 6 to 9 yrs. of age.Good condition. £20 o.n.o. Mrs Bailey. Tel: 620753

Laura Ashley (lilac) Bridesmaids dress (age 11) - £10.00 ono. Tonita Trowbridge. Tel: 620769

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Other smalls entries are 50p per five lines. With photograph - £1.50p

Advertisement

1995 Racing Club in Shrewton

Local Racehorse Trainer, John Bolton, based at The Cleeve in Elston Lane, Shrewton, has just received, from one of his Owners, a promising 2 year filly called PETROS PRIDE which he will train and race during the 1995 Flat Season.

The filly is by the new Sire Safawan (who was a Group Winning Miler and whose yearlings have been fetching high prices at the recent Yearling Sales) out of a Persian Bold mare, so it is hoped that the filly will prove to be a precocious two year old, and she is certainly developing as such.
The Owner, Rosemary Murrell, has had several horses with John over the years, both on the flat and over jumps.
She has agreed that the horse may be syndicated with 12 shares of which she will retain at least 6.
The remaining 6 shares are available at a cost of £1000 each, which will cover ALL costs until the end of 1995.
A real opportunity to get involved in a promising well-bred 2 year old at a fixed price and the chance of a return on your investment.

For full details and a prospectus, telephone John Bolton on 0980- 621059.

If you would like to go along and have a look first, John will be pleased to show you the filly.

The Georgian Times

SPORT

By Dave Logan

Football

<u>OCT 2ND</u> - THREE CROWNS (H) WON 4-3

A BAD MISTAKE BY RICHARD BARNETT GIFTED THE OPPOSITION AN EARLY GOAL. THE GEORGE THEN GOT THEIR ACT TOGETHER AND TWO QUICK STRIKES BY STU BLUNDELL AND ADAM LAW SAW THE HOME SIDE 2-1 UP AT HALF-TIME. IN THE SECOND HALF ADAM LAW COMPLETED HIS HAT-TRICK AND ALTHOUGH THE THREE CROWNS MADE IT 4-3 THE GEORGE WERE NEVER IN TROUBLE.

MAN OF THE MATCH - GRAHAM JACKSON - MIDFIELD MAESTRO.

<u>OCT 8TH</u> - BULFORD CLUB (A) LOST 3-0

A DISAPPOINTING RESULT BUT NOT SURPRISING CONSIDERING THAT THE WHOLE TEAM WERE STILL DRUNK FOLLOWING WOODSY'S STAG NIGHT. THE GEORGE MISSED A FEW EARLY CHANCES, CONCEDED A GOAL JUST BEFORE HALF-TIME AND TWO MORE IN THE LAST TWENTY MINUTES AS BULFORD WON COMFORTABLY.

MAN OF THE MATCH - TONY'S BEER CELLAR.

<u>OCT 23RD</u> - WEST TYTHERLY (N) LOST 8-4

THE GEORGE STARTED WELL ONLY TO FIND THEMSELVES 5-0 DOWN AT HALF-TIME. THE SECOND HALF PROVED TO BE MUCH BETTER AND GRAHAM JACKSON (2) AND NIGEL FITCHETT THE ARREARS TO 5-3. THIS ONLY SPURRED THE HOME KEEPER RICHARD BARNETT TO HAVE ANOTHER BRAINSTORM AND CONCEDE A FURTHER 3 GOALS. GRAHAM COMPLETED HIS HAT-TRICK BEFORE THE END.

MAN OF THE MATCH - RICHARD BARNETT (FOR THE OPPOSITION).

OCT 30TH - HEYTESBURY (H) LOST 5-3

HEYTESBURY SCORED FIRST ONLY FOR THE GEORGE TO EQUALISE WITH A STUNNING TWENTY YARD DRIVE INTO THE TOP CORNER BY TIM BLACKMAN. THE GEORGE THEN WENT AHEAD WITH A GOOD GOAL BY ALAN WOODS TO MAKE IT 2-1 AT HALF-TIME. STU BLUNDELL MADE IT 3-1 EARLY IN THE SECOND HALF ONLY FOR HEYTESBURY TO MAKE IT 3-2. THE MANAGER THEN DECIDED TO JOIN IN. WITH 15 MINUTES TO GO HE MADE A DOUBLE SUBSTITUTION AND HEYTESBURY PROCEEDED TO SCORE 3 IN THE LAST 15 MINUTES.

MEN OF THE MATCH - JAMES CRUSE (IT COULD HAVE BEEN 10)
- THE MANAGER (FOR THE OPPOSITION)

NOV 6TH - FORDINGBRIDGE (N) LOST 4-3

FORDINGBRIDGE STARTED WELL AND SCORED EARLY WHEN THE GEORGE KEEPER WAS CHIPPED (AGAIN). CHOPPER WHITE WAS THEN BOOKED FOR MISSING THE GOAL SCORER IN THE TACKLE AND ALLOWING HIM TO DIVE OVER HIS LEGS. FORDINGBRIDGE THEN WENT 2 UP BEFORE GRAHAM JACKSON PULLED ONE BACK BEFORE HALF-TIME. IN THE SECOND HALF, FORDINGBRIDGE MADE IT 3-1, BUT GRAHAM WAS IN STRIKING MOOD AND COMPLETED HIS HAT-TRICK TO MAKE IT 3-2. IT STAYED THAT WAY TILL THE FINAL MINUTES WHEN THE MANAGER MADE ANOTHER TACTICAL SUBSTITUTION AND THE GEORGE LOST 4-3.

MEN OF THE MATCH - GRAHAM JACKSON (HOME)
- OUR MANAGER (AWAY)

NOV 13TH - GALLERY CLUB (H) LOST 2-1

ALTHOUGH THE GEORGE DOMINATED THE FIRST HALF WITH ADAM LAW STARRING, A BREAK JUST COULD NOT BE FOUND AND AT HALF-TIME IT WAS 0-0. IN THE SECOND HALF GALLERY WENT 1 UP FROM A DISPUTED CORNER AND ALAN WOODS HAD TO GO OFF WITH FLU. NIGEL FITCHETT GOT A DESERVED EQUALISER AND WHILE PUSHING FOR A WINNER THE GEORGE WERE CAUGHT ON THE BREAK BY THE LONG BALL. THE FINAL SCORE OF 2-1 WAS NOT A TRUE REFLECTION AND THE GEORGE CAN CONSIDER THEMSELVES UNLUCKY.

MAN OF THE MATCH - ALL ELEVEN.

CRICKET

SINCE THE SUCCESS OF THE OPENING MATCH, THINGS HAVE NOT GONE WELL. THE TEAM HAVING LOST THE LAST THREE IN SUCCESSION. ONLY ONE PLAYER HAS PLAYED TO THE BEST OF HIS ABILITY, YOUNG MATTHEW MILLS WHOSE BATTING HAS SAVED THE TEAM FROM DISASTER. THE TEAM

HAS A CHANCE TO REDEEM ITSELF ON SUNDAY 20TH AT CASTLEDOWN. WE WISH THEM WELL.

Cribbage

SLICK VIC'S TRAINING SESSION PAYS OFF

"SLICK" VIC BIRCH SKIPPER OF THE GEORGE CRIB TEAM HAS HAD ENOUGH. AFTER FOUR SUCCESSIVE DEFEATS HE WAS CLOSE TO THE EDGE. IT WASN'T THAT THE TEAM WEREN'T GOOD ENOUGH, THE POTENTIAL WAS THERE, THEY SEEMED TO LACK THE KILLER INSTINCT.

SO ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE SEASON WHEN WE HAD NO MATCH, WHEN THE TEAM THOUGHT THEY COULD STAY IN PUT THEIR FEET UP AND HAVE A EVENING IN WITH THEIR LOVED ONES. THE SKIP DROPPED HIS BOMBSHELL, TRAINING! YOU COULD HAVE KNOCKED US ALL OVER WITH A BETTING SLIP.

NEVER LET IT BE SAID THAT MORALE IN THIS TEAM IS LOW. THE WHOLE SQUAD OF EIGHT TURNED UP EARLY, ALL KEEN AND WILLING TO LEARN.

THE SESSION HAS A SERIOUS ONE, FIRSTLY THE WARM UP, WE DID FIVE CIRCUITS ROUND THE TABLES OF THE BAR AND WERE ONLY ALLOWED ONE DRINK WHILE DOING SO. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY SHUFFLING PRACTICE, ANYONE DROPPING A CARD HEARD SKIP SHOUT "DOWN AND GIMME FIVE" (PRESS-UPS OF COURSE).

AFTER THE WARM UP WE PLAYED FOUR-A-SIDE WITH ONE HAND. THE MERITS OF EACH CARD WERE DISCUSSED AND TACTICAL PLANS TO BE USED IN DIFFERING SITUATIONS THOUGHT ABOUT AND TALKED THROUGH.

THE SESSION FINISHED WITH TWO "NORMAL" MATCHES WITH THE TEAM PLAYING PARTNERS WHOM THEY HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY DRAWN TOGETHER IN THE LEAGUE. IT WAS AT THIS LATE STAGE THAT WIVES AND GIRLFRIENDS WERE ALLOWED AT THE BAR PROVIDED THEY KEPT THE "GABBLE" TO A MINIMUM.

AT THE END OF THE SESSION, WE ALL HAD A QUICK RUB DOWN WITH "THE SPORTING LIFE". JACKIE PROVIDED THE SANDWICHES (AS ALWAYS, THANKS) AND WE RETIRED TO THE BAR FOR A FEW (MORE)!

THE FOLLOWING MONDAY (OCT 17) SAW US GATHER AT THE BLACK HORSE, CASTLE ST, FOR A LEAGUE GAME. THE FIRST FOUR HAVING BEEN LOST (ALBEIT TWO OF THEM AT 8-7 HAD BEEN VERY CLOSE).

TO ALL OUR RELIEFS, WE TOOK A CLEAN SHEET, ALL THREE TABLES WINNING WITH A RESOUNDING 10-5 VICTORY.

WE ALL AWAIT OUR NEXT CHALLENGE WITH KEEN ANTICIPATION, AND ALL AGREE IF IT WASN'T FOR "SLICK VIC'S" TRAINING SESSION, THE FIRST VICTORY MAY HAVE STILL BEEN AROUND THE CORNER.

SINCE THAT FAMOUS VICTORY ON THE 17TH, THE TEAM HAVE WON TWO OF THE THREE LEAGUE GAMES SINCE, AND ARE STEADILY CLIMBING THE TABLE.THEY WERE UNFORTUNATELY KNOCKED OUT OF THE CUP BUT AS WE WERE DRAWN AGAINST A FIRST DIVISION SIDE,THAT WAS NO GREAT UPSET.

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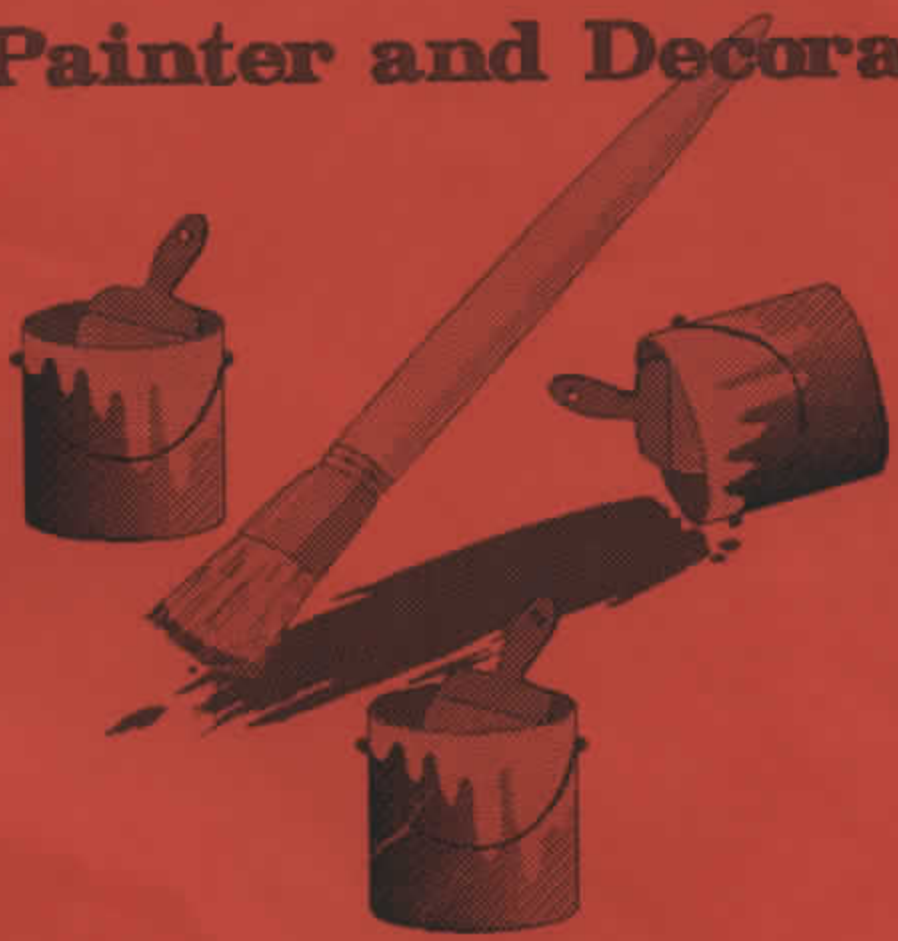

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