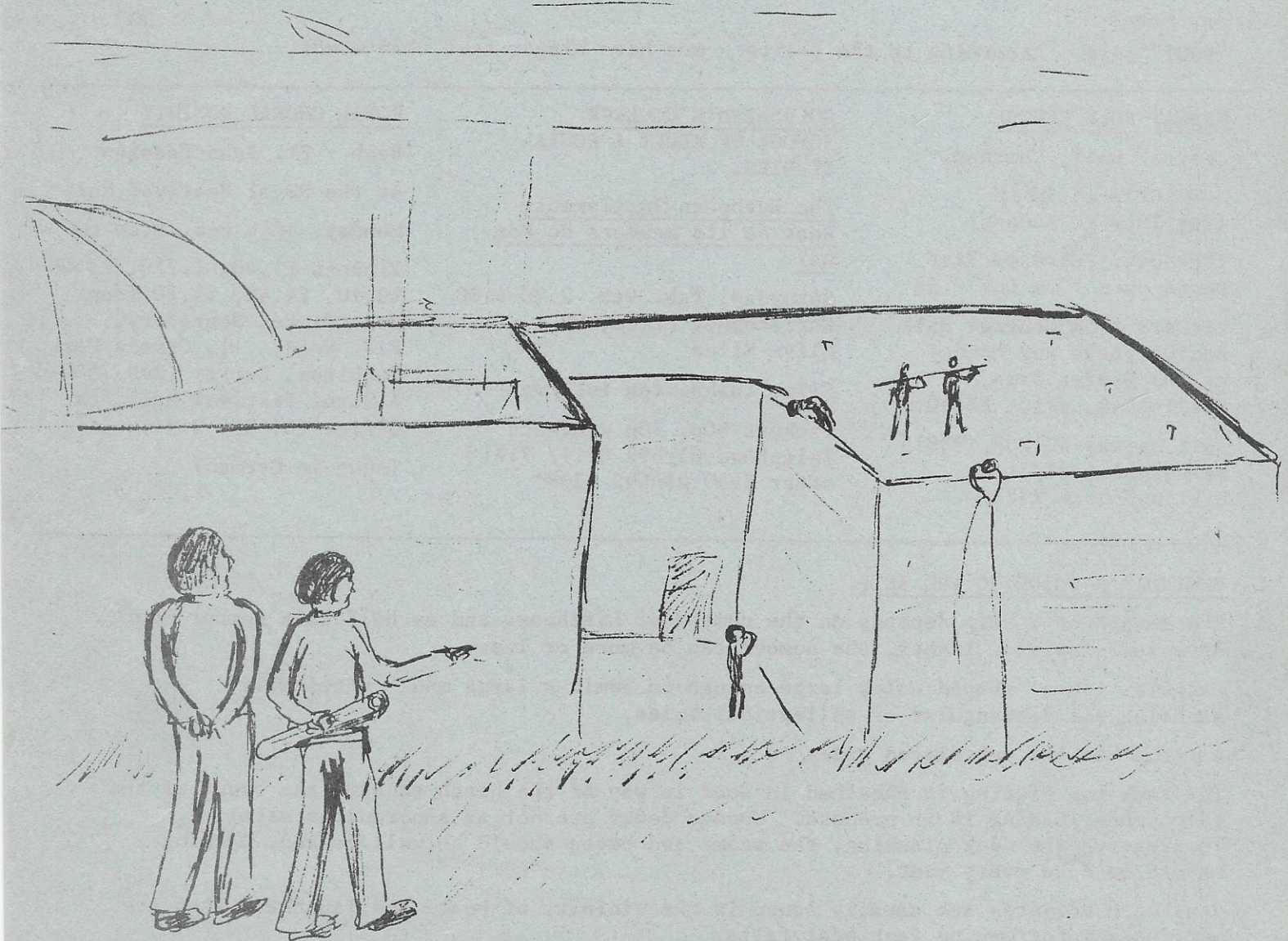


MNC NEWS

No 102

8th February 1980



"It's coming on!"
"Slowly but surely!"

IS HE ONE OF US, OR THEM?

An interesting conversation about the dangers to seafarers in strange ports came round to the not-so-unusual problem of finding oneself in a "gay" bar or club by mistake. (Sure, you shouldn't make the mistake, but people do, and seafarers more than most travellers, will go into areas of cities where the chances of making such mistakes are more possible). How do you tell real women from men dressed as? No, they don't all look like Frank-N-Furter from the Rocky Horror Show, they are sometimes very difficult to spot - and not funny; they and their mates, can be vicious. Anyway, we came up with this list of differences, what do you think?

Men strike matches towards them, women away.

Men smoke cigarettes right down, women leave big stubs.

Men wipe their mouths (with handkerchief, napkin, etc.) right across lips, women pat theirs.

Men at dances have occasional bursts of activity, women tend to dance at a steady pace all night.

Men with a bag look into it to get things out - a woman fiddles about inside first.

Men sitting on bar stools keep contact with the bar, women perch without touching it.

Men squeeze or wring out damp cloths with both hands palms down, women with both up, or one up and one down.

Any more?

DG

"FOOT" note. According to the police - men have bigger feet than women.

MEDWAY FOLK CENTRE

Central Hall, Chatham.

FIDDLERS DRAM
(Day Trip to Bangor)

Thursday, February 21st
Doors open 7 pm for 7.30

Tickets from Central Hall
Box Office & any Monday
at The Napier Arms,
Gillingham, price £2.50.

Tel: Medway 401803, 33875
Maidstone 674232
Sittingbourne 22867

GOLDSMITH'S COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF ADULT & SOCIAL
STUDIES.

The European Parliament-
What do its members do for
us?

Saturday, Feb. 9th. 2.30-6.00
Christopher Price, MP &
Clive Eiles

Film, talks, tea interval

Tickets 60p. 30p students
Telephone 01-692 0211/ 7171
after 5.30 01-692 4398

ROYAL CHORAL SOCIETY

Bach - St. John Passion

at the Royal Festival Hall

Monday, 18th Feb. 8.00 pm

Tickets £1.40, £2.10, £3.00
£3.70, £4.40, £5.20 from
Hon. Ticket Secretary,
F.J. Wood, 11, Cranes Park,
Surbiton, Surrey (399 7530)
& Royal Festival Hall Box
Office (01-928 3191)

(sung in German)

BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE SHIP

The length of a ship depends on the number of Lifebuoys and as half this number must have self-igniting lights, the number can be more or less.

Manholes - Oval shaped holes large enough to admit a large man - vertically.
Manholes are rectangular or epileptical holes.

A strum box has percolated sides

The tank top plating is sheathed in wood in way of the hatch to bare the brunt of the cargo when loading is in process. Wooden decks are not as sonorous as metal.
To preserve the deck planking, the seams and butts should be well cocked. Cocking should be done every year.

Stag horn bollards are usually found in the vicinity of boats and launches. They are very useful for making fast boat falls.

Hogging and sagging can be detected by the creaking of the panelling.
You would expect to find strain in her stresses.

The tween decks are to keep the ship in shape and to strengthen it on a bad night.

The rigging is made fast to the deck by means of a bottleneck.

THE LEMMING DILEMMA

Lemmings, when life becomes difficult, resolve their problems by attempting a mass emigration. The fact that there is nowhere within swimming distance to start a new colony is obviously not appreciated when they leap, in their thousands, into the icy seas surrounding both the Arctic and Antarctic.

Rats, when kept in an enclosed area with ample food supplies, lose those characteristics on which their survival depends - apparently even their mating instincts! Poor things.

Rabbits, able to outrun a stoat, sit frozen with fear when caught by the hungry gaze of the hunter.

Ostriches, if the popular story is true, respond to trouble by burying their heads in the sand, while some of the monkey family literally turn their backs on danger - in a very unusual way!

Well, what of Homo Sapiens? In particular, what of the British people? How far have we progressed from these animal instincts? Research shows that an individual tends to make more rational choices from possible courses of action, than a group. When a group studies a problem there is clearly an observable "shift towards risk". This may explain why, although we can sort out our own problems, when we get together we so often make a mess of things. Perhaps this is the reason for the present World situation, the National situation and even more local problems.

But can we learn from this? Or should we all collect our swim-suits and head for Land's End?

"CASSANDRA"

..... AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT!

Are you reading this? What's wrong if not? This is your paper and the more you contribute the better it will be. If you have any bright ideas, views, opinions, comments, jokes, drawings, reviews, stories, complaints (not too many of these!), then do something about it; like putting whatever it is in the "big red box" in the Library, the one with "NEWS" written on it. So come on, get off your butts and start thinking. You never know, you might even make the World a happier place (ugh!)

EDITOR

THEATRE AT THE YOUNG VIC (01-928 6363)

World Premier of "TRIAL RUN" by Nigel Williams

25 Feb → 8 March

..... In the basement packing room of Woolworths in Hounslow are four hostages and two armed men. "TRIAL RUN" is the story of what happens to them as the police wait above...."

"TRIAL RUN" follows Nigel Williams' highly successful play CLASS ENEMY which is currently playing off-Broadway in New York and also won him the 1978 Most Promising Playwright of the Year Award.

Starts each evening 7.30 pm

(This play contains language which some people may consider offensive!)

IMPORTANT

A change of Doctor's surgery times is necessary since our re-registration.

As from now and in the future, the Wednesday clinic is cancelled and will take place on Friday at 1100 each week during term time.

Students are reminded that appointments are necessary and should be booked by 0900 on Friday.

.Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

P. DONALDSON (Sister)

Just think, if the World strife laxes (some hope!) and Muhammed Ali's jaw is eventually beaten, then, with countries from differing political backgrounds going to Moscow for the Olympics, the first words they are likely to hear are "On your marks"(!)

Don't forget, all you kool kats and kittens out there, Friday Night is Honky Night at the M.N.C. Get your dancing shoes on and be ready to groove at 8 pm - 'Cause that's when Laid-back Lenny will be twiddling the knobs!

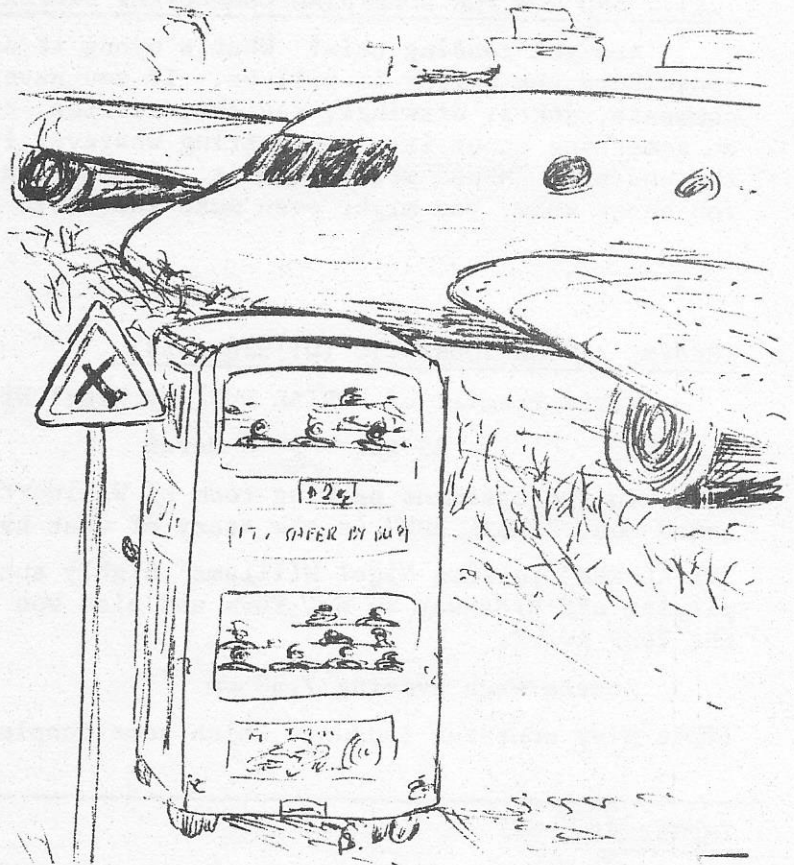
'Cassandra' (of "The Lemming Dilemma") thought this quotation remarkably up-to-date and appropriate. No marks, though, if you guess its true origin.

I AM not unaware that many have held and hold the opinion that events are controlled by fortune and by God in such a way that the prudence of men cannot modify them, indeed, that men have no influence whatsoever. Because of this, they would conclude that there is no point in sweating over things, but that one should submit to the rulings of chance. This opinion has been more widely held in our own times, because of the great changes and variations, beyond human imagining, which we have experienced and experience every day. Sometimes, when thinking of this, I have myself inclined to this same opinion. Nonetheless, because free choice cannot be ruled out, I believe that it is probably true that fortune is the arbiter of half the things we do, leaving the other half or so to be controlled by ourselves. I compare fortune to one of those violent rivers which, when they are enraged, flood the plains, tear down trees and buildings, wash soil from one place to deposit it in another. Everyone flees before them, everybody yields to their impetus, there is no possibility of resistance. Yet although such is their nature, it does not follow that when they are flowing quietly one cannot take precautions, constructing dykes and embankments so that when the river is in flood it runs into a canal or else its impetus is less wild and dangerous. So it is with fortune. She shows her power where there is no force to hold her in check; and her impetus is felt where she knows there are no embankments and dykes built to restrain her.

NEWS

The News would like to thank N. Dolan for his efforts over the last months as editor of the magazine. He may take the satisfaction of knowing that anyone similarly involved in such an enterprise knows well the time, the struggles, the brickbats and the occasional desperation which is inevitable in producing a weekly sheet for so many different tastes. It is always foreseen that pressure of work will eventually oblige editors to stand down, so it is with "Nige". Good luck and thanks, again.

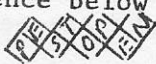
DG



TRELLIS PUZZLE

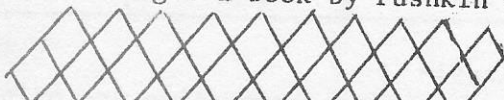
Four-letter words hidden in the sentence below fit into the grid, as shown:-

"STOP, you PEST, it's OPENing"



PEST, STOP, OPEN

I had been saving all year to give Allan a new reed, and when I had SAVED enough I went to the shop, but they said lyres did not use them, so I went to the top end of town and bought a book by Pushkin instead.



To help, the middle word is given. Find the other eight

Clues Across

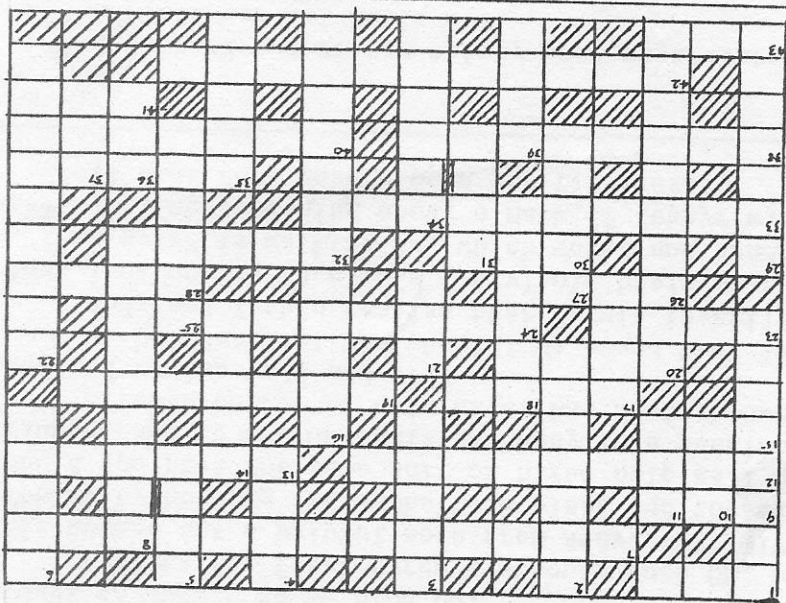
1. (3) Jack is a bird, a crow!
7. (6,2,5) Way for the sick at heart to pass over in Venice.
9. (3) Dam about insane.
12. (5,4) Cupid not seeing object of affection.
13. (6) Jog the memory concerning mental powers.
15. (3) Ask, for alms?
17. (4) Ledge between a ditch and a wall.
19. (7) Proof of descent, to palmist perhaps
20. (4) Intense dislike - loathe in fact.
23. (4) Incline on the thin side.
24. (4,5) Hurry, by first class mail?
26. (4) Vile? - Hardly, a priest!
28. (4) Ruse about one who employs ampersand.
32. (5) From Bob run to take the main force.
33. (4-6) Call chief; the chief villain.
35. (5) Come to grief with unhappy landing.
38. (8) Lag shoes - to keep the wet out.
40. (7) Festival meal as she lives and breaths, Pygmalion's ivory love.
41. (3) Corny - how John Barlycorn hears the joke.
42. (3,3,1,4) Wildfowler is, clean bowled.
43. (3) Drab-coloured debt collector.

B I S T U B L E
 C O N D U I T A U
 S R E O R A R E
 A C H E A N O R N C A
 A C L O N E E S H I N
 P O F D E S H I N G
 D E V I L S C O A C H H O R S E
 G D H C A N L
 L O C K S G A T E N W R A C
 O A R H R D D A V A
 S T E P O N I T B E D R O C K
 E A U T R I E D D A L E
 R A T E L Y A M A A S H E S
 U D S R I P R
 F A R F E L C H E D I I
 S U S P E C T

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

- Clues Down
1. (4-4) May not be rung, even by one able to lift it.
 2. (7) GT bride is patron saint of wells.
 3. (5) Arch support for Gothic builder?
 4. (4) Distant.
 5. (4) Thin skin, perhaps in Technicolor.
 6. (5) Perhaps in a stage whisper provides half the conflict.
 8. (5,4) Nearly finished; riding off into the sunset?
 10. (7) Malty brew from mine host.
 11. (3) Excavate archaeologically.
 14. (5) Not giving odds to the punter!
 16. (5,7) Illuminating force charged fatally.
 17. (4) Poison - death!
 18. (6) Discontent concerning the wood.
 20. (4,6) Hold, the Admiral as he was by Trafalgar.
 21. (3) Foolish animal.
 22. (4-5) Gambler never caught without an ace, though possibly caught with one!
 25. (6) Frozen wilderness of Alaska.
 27. (5) Valleys say Roman farewells.
 29. (7) Drag about, and beg, and boasted.
 31. (4) Risk, for pleasure quite often.
 34. (6) Craving, of French lord?
 35. (5) Call a new-born chick would heed.
 36. (3) Devoured.
 37. (3) A lot of undrinkable water.
 39. (4) Handle for a blade.

NOTE: 'Cassandra's' quotation. It is from Machiavelli, 'The Prince', written in the early sixteenth century, the origin of the phrase 'machiavellian', but how many have actually read it?



Well, is he or is he not? This is the question which is gripping the Nation. No doubt you've heard most of it from Noel "nice guy" Edmonds, who gets over-excited at the mention of Captain Beaky et al.

If you didn't know, Captain Beaky leads a band of animals who roam the forest "righting wrongs" - a kind of feathered Robin Hood with his band of furry men - if you like - and they have trouble with Hissing Sid who is accused for swallowing Timid Toad, one of Beaky's followers. Apparently we think Hissing Sid is guilty, though Toad reappears eventually unharmed.

It seems a little bit silly to me, but liking a good baddie (?) I think Sid's innocent. I hope next time he attempts to eat something it will be something which will do more good for ITV, i.e. getting rid of the Coloured Swapshop - and Noel Edmonds!

THE M.N.C. NEWS GUIDE TO LIFE

A few definitions to keep your sanity at bay (just in case).

The subject this week is Lecturers.

The Encyclopedia Gaphloptica defines a lecturer as, a pandimensional super intelligent being who teaches wonders about the world.

The T.E.C. Marketing Board defines a lecturer as, your humanoid friend who's fun to learn from.

The Guide defines a lecturer as, a mindless jerk who is such a mind-bogglingly stupid animal that assumes that if you can't understand it, it can't understand you.

Foot note: The Editor would welcome any additions to this section of the MNC News, though it is advised to remain unknown in case of retribution.

HOW NOT TO FIT A JAG I.R.S. (or a Tale of Three Idiots)

The first thing to do, apart from purchasing the afore mentioned lump of iron, is to lure a couple of members as helpers, who know less about it than yourself. (This gives you a feeling of superiority)

The first Neanderthal Man jams his hand between a spanner and the chassis, and then starts to undo the rusted nuts This brings cries of "Ow, my arm", and "Don't do that again!" causing the other brainless wonder to exclaim, "Don't worry, you can always go auto." So we plod on.

Fitting the first three wishbones goes OK, but we have problems with the fourth. This brings out a helpful note from Andy. "TTTTTIVA f*!@*e AMMER!" I get over this problem by holding the washers in place and the wishbone slides in place easily.

Should you have the same sort of hired help as I had you will find that they dance in triumph, and to behold Dennis and Andy in a passionate embrace is something worth seeing! After a bucket of cold water has been thrown over them we soldier on, fitting the hubs and radius rods and

Oh No! But Yes! The wheels! We stand back in amazement to admire our work. Andy and I then realise that Dennis is still on the floor with some sort of a blank look on his face, his (very) old brain must have seized, so quickly we tell him a "fine pair" is walking by, which works and sends him tottering off to his car (hee hee) mumbling something about a Mark II Zephyr with a V8!

(I hope this hasn't been too technical)

FOR SALE

1 pair of red Britex safety head restraints. Will swap for similar black pair. Any offers? - Swale 308

12" sport steering wheel. Also, flumes, murals and airhorns. - Swale 306

Sign seen in an Essex shoe shop window - "Always a good selection of inexpensive shoes. Repairs same day."