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MONTHLY

## " THE DUFFLE-COAT BREEDERS GAZETTE "

Published by Eric Bentcliffe, from:  
47, Alldis St. Great Moor, Stockport,  
Cheshire. Duped by Terry Jeeves.

The March winds have brought in, among other things, a pretty Postcard from Dave & Ruth Kyle from somewhere in Kentucky...another one from Dick and Pat Ellington, this time of 'Looking East At Ft. Littleton Interchange' on the Pennsylvania Turnpike - but I, thought it was 'Go West...young man? And one from Betty Kujawa from Silver Springs, Florida. Donald Franson sent a card to inform me that I'm now a Certified CRY LETTERHACK. Thanks, folks.

### MEANWHILE DOWN IN CHELTENHAM

I had the pleasure of attending the Cheltenham Group's VALCON, which was reported in the last SKY. This was the first time I'd been able to get down to realm of St. Fantony since the group aquired their clubroom, and I was greatly impressed by its fannish magnificence. Not even the smoke-filled room atmosphere could hide the significantly green-distempered walls, and the fannish bric a brac thereon. The gathering was a large and succesful one, and I for one was pleased that I'd made the train journey down. There was a fine atmosphere of 'Kettering' about the whole affair, and I recall interviewing SKYRACK reporter about his feelings late on the Saturday night. I can't give you the whole gist of our long and intelligent conversation here due to the unfortunate fact that I've forgotten most of it...but I do have a couple of notes here... 'When asked how he was enjoying the party, Mr. Shorrock muttered something vaguely indecent about Charlie Chaplin.' And, later, Norman was heard to remark, ' I wish I knew what that line mean't, it might give me a clue to what I've written'. I'd like to tell you more of what happened down at Cheltenham, but, unfortunately, I can't read the notes I made, either! It's a pity we can't have parties like that every weekend.

### HOMO TAPIENS GAINS NEW ADHERENTS

The latest fans to buy themselves tape-recorders are Harry Turner and Eddie Jones. Harry has bought himself a Brennell machine with speeds of  $1\frac{7}{8}$  -  $3\frac{3}{4}$  -  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ips, and this could be a means of getting Harry back into fandom. I know that he's willing to undertake tape exchanges. TRIODE Staff Artist Eddie, has bought an RGD Mk.103 taper, with the same tape speeds as Harry. He, too, is willing to exchange tapes...but if you do send him one, please tell him you do not want a reply until after he's finished the illos for T18's Harrison Epic! I've recently added an FM Tuner and Power Pack to my conglomerat-ion of equipment, and can now tape things without the inevitable squeeks, squeels and howls that used to issue from the old radio. Terry Jeeves tells me that he is considering getting a new record-player. 'I'm tired of winding this one up!' he says....

### BENTCLIFFE SELLS TO CARNELL

But not, I hasten to add, anything that I've written. The story in question is by Dale R. Smith & LeRoy B. Haugsrud of Minneapolis fame, and will appear in SCIENCE FANTASY at some future date. "THE DEITES", is the title. I'm acting as a sort of spare-time, unpaid, authors agent for these gentlemen, and does anyone know a good source for a 34,000 word novel...think I'll try Badger Books first.

### THE WORLD OUTSIDE

It's been pretty obvious for some time that this thing which we term as 'fannishness' isn't confined solely to fandom, and it would be nice if we could gain recognition for fandom by awarding any mundane types who achieve this state with some sort of an award. Any suggestions as to what form this award could take are hereby invited. Peter Mabey, who recently dropped in here for a natter mentioned a friend of his, who, while not interested in science-fiction seems to have a fan-nish turn of mind. One of his hobbies is the inventing of sports to fill what he considers to be blanks in the sporting-calendar; Motor-Cycle-Ice Hockey, for instance! I think he deserves some recognition.

Then there's the BATH TO LONDON BY BATH group. A bunch of students who decided, literally, to travel to London from Bath in a bath tub. A motorised bathtub, of course. I saw the thing on TV and it impressed me greatly, an ideal device for travelling to conventions in - and just think, you could brew your own gin as you travelled! I think they've tapped a whole new idea, here; how about Paris To Brest By Chest, or would anyone care to join me on a trip from LONDON TO FUME BY TOMB!

Of course, if we are going to give an award for fannishness, we should also recognise any supreme examples of Fuggheadedness we may come across. Personally, I'd like to see Dr. Barbara Moore, who, like Felix, keeps on walking, walking, walking, get one. The Order Of The Boot, would be quite suitable, I think.

### CARR FAMILY SUBSCRIPTIONS TAKEN

Let it be hereby declared that as well as being the European representative of Miriam Carr's GOOJIE PUBLICATIONS, I am now the duly accredited agent for Terry Carr Publishing Giant's fabulous INNUENDO. Both of these publications may be had for the bargain rate of 2/- per issue, or 4 for 7/-. Send postal-orders, please, not cheque's.

### THE FICTION FRACTION

STAR S-F No.6 has within it's pages the best esp-yarn since Sturgeons 'Baby Is Three'. "Danger! Child At Large", is the title and it's written by C.L. Cottrell. The theme is that a child possessed of multi-wild-talents may not have the usually assumed (by authors) adult intelligence to go with the talents. PAGAN PASSIONS, by Randall Garrett and Larry M. Harris (A Galaxy Prize Selection) is an original from Beacon. And once you get past the title, the cover, and the obvious 'gimmick' first chapter; is a rather amusing romp. All about when the Gods came back to rule Earth - Zeus, Odin, Thor, and that lot. FUNHOUSE by Benjamin Appel (Ballantine 345k) is another of these crazy mixed up novels disguised as science-fiction satire. It takes 157 pages to go nowhere, and has silly footnotes on almost every page. Pshaw.

There's something for everyone in this magazine....see you next month!

.....Eric Bentcliffe