

No. 7.

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MONTHLY

Has escaped from Eric Bentcliffe, 47, Alldis St, Great Moor, Stockport, Ches. This is the May issue, and is the 7th issue of this monthly magazine to appear this year!

To balance off the logo there's a nice quotable letter from The UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA... " On behalf of the Faculty and Students I wish to acknowledge your gracious gift to the Library of the University of Southern California..". I sent them a copy of that Checklist of British S-F which Eric Jones and I were responsible for many moons ago, via Bruce Pelz, and.. 'in case their copy was getting a bit dog-eared'.

#### ABROAD WITH FORD

The weekend after the convention I tested my stamina to the utmost by visiting the Liverpool Group in its natural habitat (of Chinese Restaurants and Hr. Bebington). Don Ford, Dave Kyle, and Alan Rispin were also there. I travelled over early Saturday afternoon in time to welcome home Norman Shorrocks and Don Ford, who had been shopping in Liverpool, to 2 Arnot Way. It was nice of you to come, Norman and Don! The afternoon was spent in natter and talk of British and American fandom, Cameras, Tapes, and other interesting topics. We ate at least one meal, and Janet, Roy, and Linda Shorrocks took Don out to buy them some ice cream.. Alan Rispin joined the part and towards sixish we journeyed down to Liverpool for some more food, and to meet Dave Kyle who was due in from London just before 7p.m.

#### A BROAD WITH FORD

Don has a most disconcerting habit of wandering off, and Festooned With Cameras, looking for a few moments the cartoonists delight of an American Tourist. On the way to eat he demonstrated this technique when a rather sozzled female wandered cross his path singing something highly undesirable. I'm not quite sure which was causing the most consternation to the Saturday afternoon shoppers, the over-happy female or our intrepid boy photographer flourishing camera and light-meter! He promised to bill her in the States as a Member of LaSFaS, so I thought it might not be a bad idea to get in first with our story!!

#### CAN WE AFFORD TO FORD HERE WITH FORD

We stayed a little too long in the Chinese restaurant and instead of us meeting Dave Kyle, Dave met us.... Knowing the habits of the Liverpool Group he'd made a bee-line for the Chinese Restaurant nearest to the station. We decided to test out stomachs by crossing the Mersey by ferry - and succeeded in doing so after extricating our photographers (we now had two of them) from the resident Speakers at Pier Head ( which is a sort of local Hyde Park Corner). Ignoring their tendency to veer whenever something photograpable appeared we guided them, happily snapping each other (and us, and the seagulls) back to Higher Bebington. A Party Was To Be Held There. By the time we arrived back several other members of the Liverpool Group had arrived, Eddie Jones and John Owen came early, closely followed by..... pto

John Roles, Norman Weedall, The Hon. Gerald Lascelles, Stan Nuttall And Girl Friend, Frank and Patty Milnes, Jeff and Ted Collins with suitable female appurtenances....round about here I lost count, but it was a very fine part. I made a tape to Terry and Miriam Carr whilst it was on full blast, I had to play it back to find out what I'd said. Jeff's girl friend is the only person I know who can break the sound-barrier without an aircraft..and Patty has a fine set of lungs, too! Don said it was all very much like the parties in Cincinnati. He even forgot to take a photo for a couple of hours! The guests were feasted on vintage vodka and vintage Chaplin, and seemed to take to the diet naturally. Dave Kyle is now undecided whether to go live on the West Coast or the Wirral.

#### FORD GOES ABROAD

Next day. After a respectful full stop. The Festivities continued with Brag sessions enlivened by some truly gruesome puns from Dave - face it, Ina, he can make almost as horrible a pun as I can! Don bid us a tearful farewell during the afternoon en route for the fleshpots of Paris, and they had to haul me off the train just as it left the station. Come Back Don Ford. There was time for more Brag, talk, and some excellent Ina Shorrock Sweet and Sour Wun Tun (I don't mean that you're a wantun, Ina!). Alan and I left, reluctantly, during the evening to travel back to Stockport and Irlam respectively. It was nice. Come Back, Dave Kyle, as well...

#### THE BIGGEST BASTION OF THEM ALL

The title of the New Magazine to be perpetrated by one Eric Bentcliffe, together with Norman Shorrock and the Liverpool Group is BASTION. This was decided over the dead-body of a certain LG member who wanted to change it slightly in honour of his father. Anyone who cares to try and work out the highly esoteric meaning behind this title may submit their solutions to me...we're offering one of the LaSFaS Ladies as a prize over the aforementioned dead-body of her spouse. BASTION will Uphold Harrison (somebodies got to hold him up!) and practically everything else. BASTION will be sent to all TRIODE and SD subscribers, if you don't happen to be on that list you could send 1/6 (4 for 5/-) to me - One Dollar will get you six issues from Dale R. Smith kt.S.F., 3001 Kyle Ave, Minneapolis 22, Minnesota. Norman and I will be getting together shortly to sort out the mailing list regarding TRADES and sech, pretty well everyone who has been trading fmz for TRIODE and SD and who is still showing signs of life will receive the first issue of BASTION, and probably, future issues as well.

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BASTION - THE FORTIFIED FANZINE !

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#### SD AND TRIODE READY FOR MAILING

Or, Can Fandom Withstand This Double Blow.....! At the time of typing both magazines are in process of being collated and stuck in envelopes. I've a pre-publication copy of SD here, and it's an excellent final issue - I think the last TRIODE is rather good, too, but I admit prejudice. INNUENDO No.10, HABAKKUK No.3 and JD-A 52 & 53 are other recent publications which deserve praise. Excellent stuff. But..Bye

