

THE MEDWAY



No.
3

JOURNAL

C O N T E N T S

Front Cover- Interstellar Pleasure Cruiser!
(Photo by W.Reeves of a painting by T.Thorne).

Back Cover & Interior Illos.by Brian Lewis.

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THE JOURNAL OF THE MEDWAY SCIENCE & FANTASY CLUB!!!

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Policy- Local news, views and what have you plus items
of general interest to fans and clubs everywhere!

THE EDITORIAL!

You are now reading Issue No.3, and we hope you think it an improvement on Nos.1 and 2. This time you can blame us for everything (except the duplicating of the cover) as we knocked the lot out ourselves on a flat bed in the Medway Fantasy Club Cellar! We have now been truly christened with dup-ink and have got into the roll creak, lift, slide, roll etc. routine. Remembering that Eric Jones does Space-Times all by himself we are frankly amazed at his endurance and loyalty. Once a month (occasionally) too!

The electronic stencil is coming along nicely. As you can see we are experimenting with it; we're now expecting to keep to a full-plate photo for the front cover with some drawing or other for the back. If funds and subs increase (as we hope) we hope to do something with it on the inside of the mag, we're wondering how an ordinary photo will come out!

You might be interested to know that a couple of the club's electronic geniuses (?) are busy developing a process of their own using an electrode-stylus and a metal plate with the stencil between. The basic idea is fine, a few hundred volts or more, a fine fat spark every time you put the stylus on the stencil and there you are. Trouble is apparently, the stencil catches fire! These things take time of course; we may have more news soon.

So if you notice a peculiar smear on one of the illos in the next issue, it will probably be Lewis after 2000 volts have got him!

The RONEO stencil method uses a scanning process of about 500 lines to the inch. This gives or should give excellent detail. As you can see, half-tones seem to come out O.K., though some copies are better than others. Anyway with respect to all these start-ling processes - just watch our smoke(?).

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UNDER THE MICROSCOPE No.2.

Club character this issue is Ron Tripp our chief lecturer on Electronics and allied subjects. He is 26

years of age and works on electronics for the Ministry of Supply. Ron manages to attend almost all meetings of the Club i.e. Wednesdays and occasional Saturdays and spends most of the rest of his time studying or building radios and TV sets in his home 'lab'. This lab locks straight out of FRANKENSTEIN complete with flashing apparatus (but we aren't so cruel as to add the obvious remark).

He has an amazing knack of being able to roll off his LOGARISMS without effort and assures us that he has an endless supply for which we are truly grateful. Oh yes; one other thing he is good at, awkward questions when you are trying to gloss over some hazy point in a talk on some awkward subject!

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THE MEDWAY S & F.C. ARCHIVES V.

Future Policy by Tony Thorne.

The Archives threatened to get out of hand. With a new subject every week they fairly piled up and it soon became obvious that we would in future, only present the best of the bunch. Before carrying on with this plan however, here is a short dip into some of the things we have been getting up to since our last issue:- An excellent talk on OPTICS by new member Reg Galloway; two evenings devoted to telepathy; a most intricate 'game' devised by Brian Lewis, that defies description; A talk on the new plastic adhesive-Araldite by ye Ed; Mercury & Venus by Brian and Tony; etc.etc. plus many others, often illustrated with our battered episcope which works very well.

FROM ELECTRONICS TO HYPEROPTICS by Jeanne Thorne.

After some weeks of poor attendance due to bad weather we were hoping to see a fullhouse at the meeting on Dec.3rd. last year! Although a beautiful clear night, the temperature was only just above freezing point and this must have persuaded some of the members to stay at home by their own firesides, no doubt reading their latest item from the library!

Anyway there were 7 brave souls plus Tony and

Tony Thorne

me and we all settled ourselves to hear Ron Tripp going into great detail on the subject of ELECTRONICS. Being an ignoramus on this point, even now, all I remember in spite of Ron's careful explanations, is that it is a mechanical arrow (??-??) which as you can see has nothing to do with the real gen! After a refresher course from Tony I am able to record that Ron admirably described what goes on in the field of a solenoid.

This is a subject dear to Ron's heart and he overran his allotted time while we anxiously sipped tea and chewed biscuits trying not to make any distracting noises.

After the refreshments, Tony, by popular demand, told us all about the 4th. Dimension! I mean the subject was by popular demand of course. This was quite an amazing feat as I believe without exception all of us heard every word he had to tell us. He explained the mysteries of the Mobius strip and Klein's bottle and speculated on the nature of the 4th. dimension as seen by us. He also went on to describe how this and even higher dimensions are used in mathematics. The operator 'J' or $\sqrt{-1}$ is used in maths. and physics to rotate vectors through an imaginary dimension, or so he said!

This brought us round to turning out time which was rather late that week as everyone seemed reluctant to leave. Maybe it was the thought of the icy weather outside?

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THE VISITOR'S BOOK!

Due to various odd reasons, few people of note have been down to see us since our last issue. However we have had a visit from BRYAN BERRY which is reported on elsewhere in this issue.

We were all very pleased to welcome CLIVE JACKSON back home from the Singapore area, moreso because he lives in Whitstable (quite close) and thus automatically becomes a member of the Medway Club. We look forward to Clive's talents swelling our own (Ahem?) in fact we do already have one of his drawings on show in the SHOP!!

NEWS & VIEWS RE BOOKS, FILMS etc.

A Fan Takes the Fanna-tasy:- THE WAR OF THE WORLDS.

Scene- Outside the Plaza, Piccadilly after the Press

Showing.

Tony- Ouch! Daylight! Well what did you think of it?

Jeanne: It was all over too quickly.

Tony: I got the same impression, there was so much action, to me the whole thing only seemed to last about 10 minutes.

Jeanne: I missed a lot of the original story. My trouble is that I form my own ideas after reading or hearing an original story. Usually then as in this case, the film disappoints me to a certain extent. I was waiting for the machines to start hooting to one another; in the original story this gave an atmosphere missing in the film.

Tony: Somehow I think the film is an improvement over the original. The plot has been modernised and made credible to me anyway. Wells was no engineer; I've always thought his tripod machines were impractical and besides he said that the Martian machines used no wheels in any form! That's impossible, you can't have any bearings without some sort of wheel action.

Jeanne: How many times have you said that it's not possible for us to imagine something from another world. You can't imagine a machine without wheels but you never know.

Tony: That's a point I suppose. I still think the film version is better though. Those machines supported by magnetic beams are quite plausible. I've never seen anything that gave such an alien impression as all those Martian gadgets. It was remarkably well done.

Jeanne: I was looking forward to seeing the red weed appear everywhere. Also, in the original the scene where in the cellar the alien's tentacles was groping for the hero, was much more horrif-

ing I think.
 Tony: I must admit there was no red wood or flyers or poison smoke, not that they needed them, but I think the basic plot was fairly well followed. The cellar scene in the book is paralleled by the farmhouse scene in the film. Incidentally that hit where the glowing egglike ship slithers along and ploughs through the farmhouse is just about the most spectacular scene I've ever seen.

Jeanne: I thought the shots showing the dugout being hit by the alien's beam was very well done. Flames appeared from nowhere.

Tony: I wonder how they filmed that soldier who was set alight? He was burning fiercely for quite a spell.

Jeanne: The scene just after where the sergeant got hit and showed just his skeleton before that also disappeared gave me the shudders. I thought though that the film ended rather abruptly; the Martians died so quickly! There again in the original the fading hoots gave the impression something was wrong. If some of those love scenes had been cut out too, the film could have been lengthened. Anyway, it was a very good film, better than I expected.

Tony: I thought it excellent. I expect some people will say it would have been nothing but for the special effects. Peter Pan would have been nothing if it hadn't been for the artists! To change the subject, I'm hungry, let's get something to eat ch?

----ooooOoooo----

A Fan then dragged his Fanne-tasv: THE MAGNETIC MONSTER.

Scene- Outside the Palace, Gillingham in a queue!

Tony: We've missed 2 minutes of it already!
 Jeanne: Stop moaning, we'll be in there soon!
 Tony: When I think of all those monsters getting magnetic without me seeing them! It's a shame that's what it is. (Pauses, watching some people climb out of a car). Look at that lot.

Jeanne: They won't be able to get in,
 Tony: Serves 'em right! Too many people want to see films; an honest fan never gets a chance. Five minutes of it gone now, we might as well go home. No point in seeing it if we've missed the beginning! I won't enjoy it now, we'll miss the whole point of it, we might as well give up the idea of ever seeing it (muttering darkly to self). Let's go, my feet are killing me. I think --

Commissionaire: Five doubles, come along this way!
 Tony: Quick, let's push past that old couple, 2 please!

.....

Scene- much later on the way home.

Jeanne: I liked ROUGH SHOOT.
 Tony: Eh? Oh, the GALLINARI film, not bad. What did you think of the main film?

Jeanne: That was the main film clot! The SECOND (Tony winces) feature was quite good. From the title I expected to be some Frankenstein epic, I'm glad it wasn't.

Tony: I thought I told you it wasn't going to be? Must have been someone else - er Brian I expect. I thought that super atom-smasher was a bit overdone. If it had got up and walked I shouldn't have been surprised. It looked capable of anything!

Jeanne: Those shots of the metal absorbing radiation were fascinating weren't they? You really could imagine the stuff being alive.

Tony: Yes that was clever. Perhaps they used a jet of water on to a block of butter! Those magnetic effects were a bit silly, but on the whole it was an honest effort and I enjoyed it.

Jeanne: Did you notice that couple in front?

Tony: (With interest) No! Did they see any of the film?

Jeanne: When the scientists took that tiny piece of metal out of it's container, they laughed out loud.

Tony: Morons! The public needs educating, I think --

Jeanne: Get off that soapbox, everyone's looking.

Tony: Well, it's true. Anyway to get back to the film,

did you see anything that didn't ring true?
 Jeanne: I thought that anyone with any sense would have placed the world before a machine, even if it did take eleven years to build!
 Tony: You mean that Canadian scientist? Well, he hadn't really had time to understand the danger. All he knew was that he had to let the A-man do anything he liked.
 Jeanne: Wasn't that scientist in the beginning awful? Looked like Dorian Gray!
 Tony: Oh, the one who was running away with the metal? Reminded me of Willis making his speech at the Loncon last year, the same desperate look etc. Oh well, it seems we both enjoyed it, it was a good second feature!

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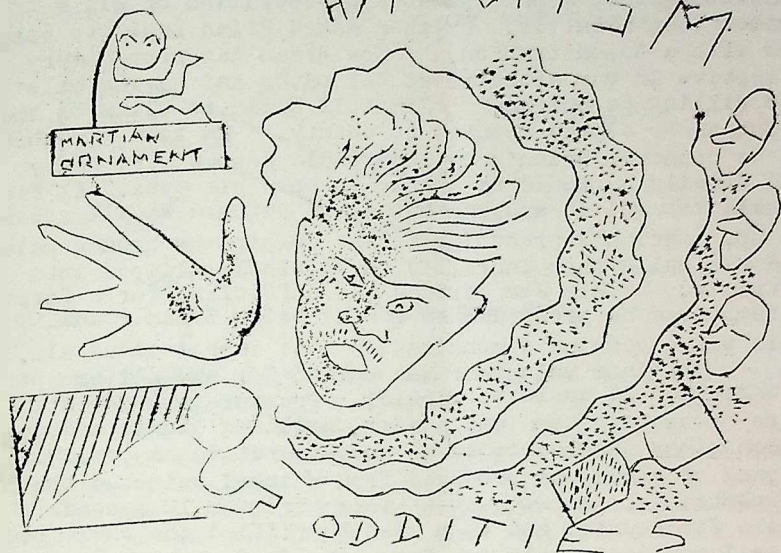
THE MEDWAY S. & F.S. ARCHIVES VI.

GREAT ESpectations! or HOW ODD CAN YOU GET?
by Winnie Thorn.

"Bring over anything out of the ordinary" said Tony, "Anything odd will do!" Brother Ron turns up on Feb. 25th. saying, "I've brought Winnie!" Ignoring the general laughter I mentally resolved to remain coldly distant for the rest of the evening. If you have ever met our crowd you will realise how impossible it is to remain bad-tempered for any length of time, anyway my sulking passed unnoticed.

First oddity of the evening was the arrival of Tom Batho (All libel suits arising out of this article must be conducted on the assumption that the editor is entirely innocent - T.T) who has long been a member and has shown interest in all our activities but had been unable to attend any meetings until the 25th.

Having introduced him all round, we got Bob Durl of photofam to give us a short account on STEREOSCOPIC He passed around several sets of photos some taken by his father many years ago. The first picture had been taken



in the usual manner but for the second the camera was moved 4 ins. to one side. Then with the aid of a double lensed viewer the 2 photos became as one in 3D! The Stereoscope is far from new of course, it was a form of amusement in Victorian Times, but it never fails to please and I could have spent the whole evening looking at the various scenes. There were country lanes where I felt I could have walked around the trees, where even the blades of grass stood out clearly. I was still lost in this wonderland when someone passed a picture of a large open-mouthed hippo who was DROOLING. This proved so realistic that I put the viewer down to dry my hands and mop up generally. This gave Tony the opportunity to confiscate the viewer and to announce the next item.

This was to be a demonstration of Hypnotism by Jim Gay. Jim is a schoolmaster by profession and as he stood and gazed all around waiting for silence one by one

and in a few seconds he had our full attention; all teachers do this. Firstly he gave us a brief talk explaining that Hypnotism is a co-operation of wills rather than a battle. He then asked Brian Lewis to help him with a demonstration. Now Brian has proved very receptive in our attempts at telepathy and he was only too willing to oblige. Jim told Brian to blink on the count as he slowly counted to twenty. He told him that as he counted, Brian's eyelids would become very heavy; and finally he would be unable to open his eyes. At first we all thought it amusing but as we watched we all sobered up. Brian's breathing became deeper, he became paler and his pulse rate increased as he slowly slipped into a trance. This Jim decided was sufficient for a first attempt and he proceeded to gently bring Brian round. This was a genuine demonstration that impressed us all.

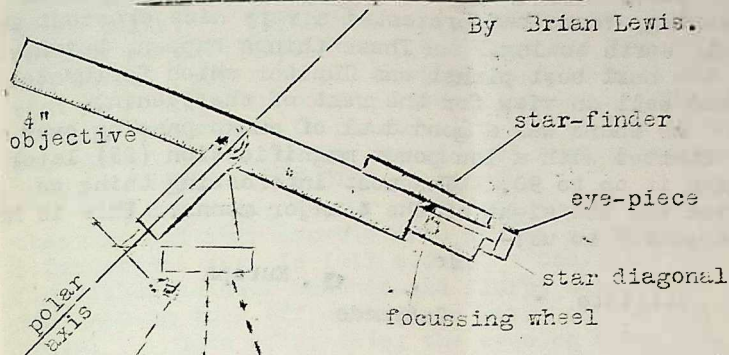
Another volunteer was called for and all except one decided it would be Winnie! Pressure and threats were brought to bear and a very unwilling Winnie made an unconscious resolve to be as unco-operative as possible. A pack of cards was produced from which I selected the 3 of clubs. I was to gaze at this card for 10 seconds while Jim counted and then when he riffled the whole pack over I would see only one face, the 3 of clubs.

Feeling self-conscious and determined that no-one would make me see anything that I did not want to see, I stared ---. "NOW!" said Jim and he flicked the pack while I sat dumbfounded. They WERE all the 3 of Clubs! I was amazed and overawed by Jim's wonderful ability. Reg Callow (our new member) offered to try it but was disappointed, it didn't work for him. Bob Dunlop decided to have a go and by a strange coincidence picked out the 3 of clubs again. He too saw a whole pack of the 3 of clubs but he saw further than I did, it was in fact a pack of cards all bearing the same face and we had been well and truly hoaxed. The laughter that followed relieved any previous tension so we tried a second sincere demonstration. For this Jim asked us all to place our hands upon our heads while he tried to convince us that we couldn't remove them. Several members did have

cont. on page 21. (Sorry - T.T.)

A S T R O B S E R V A T I O N S

By Brian Lewis.



New member Reg??????? was the first to arrive at the 'Observatory' (252 Canterbury St.) on the night of Sat. 7th March. We nattered about this & that until another new member Tom Batho showed up, leaving his Bantam against the kerb & inclined at a precarious angle.

He had questions to ask about the various star maps which decorated the walls. Alan Ridgeway and Len (ye treasurer) Smith arrived within 10 secs. of each other, then hardly had they taken their seats, when the knocker went again and a whole crowd trooped in; Winnie Thorn, warmly clad this time in one of her brother Ron's polo necks, headed a party consisting of two pals of Ron's from outside Gravesend, and lastly Ron Tripp himself.

I now began eyeing the seating arrangements with a little anxiety.....

The rota I had decided upon was to take the viewers out in small groups of two or three as opposed to last time when we all went out in a crowd and stood and froze in turn. Tony was due one minute with our guest of honour - so I asked for volunteers for the first session. Reg and Win stepped forward, so donning our protective clothing we sallied forth!

Planets first. It was a great pity that Venus was just departing from our view behind some more infernal

chimney pots! I was most annoyed because earlier in the evening, Venus had presented a very nice crescent and was well worth seeing. These things happen, but next in mind, the next best planet was Jupiter which fortunately remained well in view for the rest of the evening.

As there was a good deal of smoke passing over it we started with a low power magnification (25) later bringing it up to 90. The most interesting thing we observed was the sight of the 4 major moons. This is how they appeared to us:-

Io Europa
Callisto Ganymede

The scope was then swung to cover that beautiful little cluster, the Pleiades. They showed up better in the 'spotting scope' (view-finder) a smaller refractor with hairlines, which is attached to the larger scope. It is synchronised to the main tube and gives a larger field enabling the viewer to spot the star he wants in the hairlines, when it will then be in the smaller field (but greater magnification) of the large scope.

Having shown Win & Reg the Orion Nebula, we returned to the house and found that Tony had at last arrived with BRYAN BERRY who had come down for the afternoon and evening and had been subjected to the usual shop-tour and tea. Of course there was no lack of conversation back in the house now so I was soon back at the scope with Len Smith and Tom Batho. As well as the previously mentioned objects, they saw the double star γ Leonis, (Magnitudes 2.4 and 3.8) which came up well with a higher magnification. Tom had come well equipped for the weather, wearing his flying suit. When we returned to the house, he kindly lent it to me for the rest of the evening. Although it just about enveloped me, it was very comfortable. (Note:- Bryan turned around sharply once and the suit didn't! -Ed)

Next on the list to observe, were Ron & his two pals. These 2 of course, were strangers to the club, but

they afterwards said that had 'enjoyed every minute of it'.

While we were at the scope, we were joined by Tony & Bryan Berry. Bryan had expressed his interest months earlier at the White Horse, and Tony had promptly invited him down. We were all very pleased to meet him and hope that he recalls his outing with enjoyment. He was of course, introduced to practically all of the 'gang' and can now say that he has experienced that alarming phenomenon, A MEDWAY S & F CLUB meeting!

On returning to our cosy room in the house, we found that Win had very capably made a nice steaming 'cuppa' & refreshments were in full swing. Conversation then flourished between munches and slurps until 9.30 when Tony had to rush off with Bryan Berry to see him on his train. Soon after this, the evening broke up.

Viewing conditions had remained extremely good throughout the whole evening which fact played an important if not paramount part in the success of the evening.

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ASTRONOMICAL TOPICS by Ian Cunningham.

The Moon Crater Controversy

There would appear to be considerable difference of opinion regarding the origin of the craters on the moon. The two main groups support the following theories:-

1. They were formed by the impact of meteorites etc.
2. Formed by the cooling down of active volcanoes.

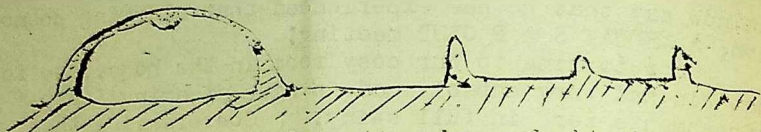
I have read of experiments which sought to prove the Impact Theory. These consisted of simply dropping or throwing objects into mud or loose dust etc.; in my opinion, results are suspect due to the impossibility of reproducing exact conditions, i.e. no atmosphere on the moon etc. These experiments of course were carried out at normal earth temperatures and pressures.

I personally support another theory that is not so widely known. Have you ever seen the results of a bubble bursting in thick mud or porridge? The result is startlingly like the moon craters, or at least some of them. Sometimes, the bubbles have a blob in the centre

and when the bubble bursts this blob falls to the floor of the crater forming a 'central peak'. This is a feature of some craters that is not at all well explained by the other two theories.

Before burst.

After burst.



The truth of the matter is no doubt that all the theories are applicable. Craters on the moon were probably formed in any of these ways, we must wait for the first actual survey to supply us with the answer.

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LOONAHISLS By Ron Tripp.

A RETROGRADE planet is one with backward inhabitants.

PERMIAN PERIOD - Length of time which fixing lotion must be left before rinsing the hair.

SYMBIOSIS - Mathematician's disease also known as 'A hardening of the abscissae'.

ATTENUATORS - Wavy antlers as possessed by BEMs.

SPECTROLELER - Instrument for checking the 'spirit level' of ghosts.

COLLIMATOR - Man who breeds sheepdogs.

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DID YOU KNOW THAT:-

A sensible philosophy controlled by a relevant set of concepts saves so much research time that it can nearly act as a substitute for genius?

N.W.Pirie.

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THE MISSING LINK

by Alan Ridgeway.



One Wednesday evening whilst we were in attendance at our weekly amalgamation, someone discovered a very interesting advertisement in a scientific journal. It seemed that the sponsor of the journal required a specimen of every animal species for a proposed inter-planetary rocket experiment.

We read the copy with profound interest except Lewis that is who was snoring away in one of Tony's best armchairs. Suddenly our minds operated as if synchronised. We all spoke up at once. "Lewis!" Anyone seeing him there would have seen the similarity to man's reputed early ancestors.

Three days after we had written, a bearded professor bounded into THE SHOP and asked after the specimen. Meanwhile Jeanne had persuaded Lewis to try some of her home-made toffee the super stickjaw variety of course. Once started on it, the Lewis face was going through more changes than a stage impersonator's so taking advantage of his indisposition we rushed him before the prof.

"Ah! What a marvellous specimen of Chimpus Fleainfestus. I've never seen a better!" he exclaimed.

"Gug - Gugh" said Lewis, tearing his hair out and looking more like Tarzan's playmate every second.

Seeing the professor in such a jubilant mood, Tony took advantage of the opportunity to swell the club funds and made him a member on the spot, getting 5 years subs. in advance. The learned man was only too pleased to cough up and soon vanished with his specimen.

After a couple of weeks, Lewis was still conspicuous by his absence. We were getting worried. We became frantic! We didn't mind his absence, but he owed 2 weeks subs!

One morning a large trunk was delivered to the SHOP. Yes, you've got it; inside was Lewis. Tied around his neck was a large card. On it in red letters was the legend:- FAILED INTELLIGENCE TEST.

Oh well, pass the nuts, he's hungry again!

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THE MIDWAY LOST & FOUND DEPT.

Being a sort of aimless ramble conducted by Tony Thorne,

Welcome again to the page where we try to make your dial crease itself into a weak grin. First of all to the competition set in the last issue. Pretty poor response! We can only assume that the lyrical genius in this country is confined to the Midway Area. Anyway, the offer still holds so lets have your comical rhymes, any type at all!!! Prizes will be awarded for these printed.

Lewis spent some agonised hours at my typewriter one afternoon trying to compose a clean rhyme but all he could manage was this:-

Martian Sal was a red-headed gal
who had a B.M. for a special pal,
"A more'orrible critter I've yet to see,"

Oh yes and also this:-

The Men of Space are a rampant breed,
With fiery beards and eyes a'glint,
A ready fist and a soaring spit,
And a roving eye for a

Here the Lewis imagination came to a soggy halt. A pretty poor effort really. Still the two rhymes are perhaps worthy of completion so see what you can do.

Someone handed this saga in to the editorial cellar:-

The Ghoul howled dismally...he crept ..slowly. slowly towards 21 Granville Road where a meeting was in progress...he mounted the doorstep and rang the bell... a lush brunette opened the door and smiled provocatively

.....
Ron looked round anxiously. "Win's been gone long time." Someone laughed..... Finis!

Oh well, we have to print something.

Here's something handed in by Stuart Conley:-

To prevent glue from cracking.

Add a little chloride of potassium. This prevents the glue from becoming dry enough to crack. Glue thus treated will adhere to glass, metals etc.and may also be used for pasting on labels!

Well? It is scientific isn't it?

Here's a couple of rhymes I have entered for the comp. myself:-

I shot an arrow into space,
It disappeared from the human race.
But ages later after light years legion,
It hit a B.M. in his nether region!

Roses are red and violets blue. (?)
But B.M.'s can be almost any hue.

Oh well, the only thing left to save this section is another selection of LUNARISMS by stalwart wit Trippi-

ECLIPPTIC is the duty of a Chinese bus-conductor.

A HAVESIDE is a little black book carried by American sailors.

A POLITICAL PARTY is like a rocket motor- it's progress depends upon mass-reaction.

A COSMOGONIST is a man who marries film-stars.

ESCAPE VELOCITY is the speed the stone has attained when the string breaks.

There are all saucer forms an alien spaceship might take.

That seems to be the lot for this issue. Thanks for bearing with it. Who knows this Lost and Found Section might grow into something some day. However I certainly shouldn't count on it if I were you.

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RIGEL

OUT
OF
THIS

OUR LETTERS SECTION.

Last time was nuthin! This time we have been just about deluged with letters, which means that some of you are not going to get quoted. Sorry and all that, but it does mean that the standard of quotes will go up and that will make this dept. more interesting for the non-epistle minded fan. Right, here we go:-

ORVILLE MOSHER - Emporia, Kansas, U.S.A.

Your zine hit here with quite a thump, the postman dropped it on my foot! Main reason for writing is that I'd like to use some of your articles to reprint in my PROJECT FANCLUB Booklet. The reason is because I have not come across any good write-ups on club programs yet --i.e. I do have a couple but they don't sparkle like the ones which appear in your mag.

-----Thanks for the kind words Orville, go ahead and use anything you want. Best of luck to your PROJECT.

JACK WILSON -Spalding Lincs.

Nice effort this time old boy! Big improvement generally on No.1, methinks. I like the binding, it's neat, handy and business like. Cover design a bit scrappy I think -lacks stability if you know what I mean.

Re contents, would it be possible for you to arrange all the funny (?) bits, news items etc. at the end of the mag? I find it disconcerting to come to the end of a serious article and then drop suddenly to what is supposed to be a funny bit.

-----The idea is simple Jack. Contrast! Not only that, this mag is put together at a first attempt. We don't have the time to lay it all out beforehand. We'd love to mind you and perhaps will eventually.

JOHN GUTTERIDGE, ---Brighton.

Thanks for the second ish. of the journal; it is so different from the first that it hardly seems the same zine. I'd go so far as to say it had the best cover for a fanzine that I've seen. Best feature was THE ALIEN VISITOR by Winnie Thorn. Glad to see no sign of irritating interjections this time. Please keep the Archives also Book reviews, odd magazine reviews and possibly fan mag reviews!

-----Glad you liked our cover John, I think I can say that the one on this issue has reproduced even better. (I can't say any more than that!) It isn't our policy to review pro-mags but no doubt an occasional fanzine will get it's deserts in those pages.

flash FRED ROBINSON -Cardiff.

Firstly I like your cover, these electronic stencils are certainly effective but the black shows through somewhat. Give with the gen we're all interested here. Can't say I'm impressed with the artwork apart from the cover. Where are all these artists we saw at the LONCON last year? I liked SPACE TRAVEL FOR THE BILLIONS, now I may be alone in this but I don't care for the ARCHIVES by all means have local news but don't build the mag solely around them. ASTROOBSERVATIONS is off on the wrong track to my mind. Instead of merely being more archives this should give information on what to look for in the coming month etc. or astronomical data etc. Lunarisms very good, keep them coming. Summing up, a definite improvement on No.1.

----- I've given Fred's letter the most space because it is honest criticism (even if I am gnashing my teeth). Most of it strikes hard home I think. Briefly, artwork is a problem with us. We can do it but can't reproduce it on stencils - still lots to learn. You are probably right re ASTROOBSERVATIONS Fred and this issue we start a new section dealing with astro-info so I hope you're satisfied with that. Yes you are definitely alone re the ARCHIVES. So they stay, we try to make them of interest and use to all, Orville Mosher seems to think we succeed.

P.J.HERON ---Harrow Weald.

Your remarks concerning the lack of really good S-F in this country should be heeded by our authors and some real S-F produced. I am heartily sick of these aliens of terrific mental powers and evil genius who always seem to be destructive. Would such minds be evil for evil's sake? Is it a sign of our own sick minds today that this sort of thing is produced?

-----Most writers seemed to agree with my points as raised in our last issue, and since that issue I think it is true to say that things show a definite improvement

BOB FOSTER --Brighton.

How cute the idea of being able to read the cover from the inside!

----- Hmmm!

ERIC BENTCLIFFE -Stockport.

Pretty good review you got in AUTHENTIC S-F and I agree with most of it.

----- It shook us Eric, we had to get our copy out and reread it to see if he really meant us.

BRYAN BERRY --Orpington,Kent.

Having read thru the second issue of your Journal I just had to write and congratulate you on the improvements over the first one. I liked the Archives and was glad to see that ASTROOBSERVATIONS are being continued. Many thanks incidentally for reviewing BORN IN CAPTIVITY. My only defence against Brian Lewis' complaints is that the book was written in just over 5 weeks to fit in with the publisher's schedule.

---- I asked Brian for a comment and he said tell him I'm satisfied! Thanks for the comments Bryan, write again!

FERRY JEEVES - Sheffield.

Please find enclosed 3/- as my sub to your wonderful smashing fanzine. The cover and interior illus. are superb. Editorial wizard and even a compliment for SPACE-TIMES in the Brian Lewis column. Didn't care for the odd fillers at the foot of most pages. Why not print

----- Oh Dear! Prune what Terry? We seem to have mislaid the rest of your letter. Whisper it in my ear at the CON club? Thanks for the kind remarks.

Well that I'm afraid is all we have space for this issue. Next time with luck we may go to more pages which will mean a little more room for this dept. Anyway, let's have your letters - we thrive on comment!

-----ooooOoooo-----

THE MEDWAY S & F.C.ARCHIVES. cont.from page 10.

difficulty in moving their hands, Brian more than the others.

Refreshments were then served and Tony said, "Anything else we do tonight will be an anti-climax after that!" but in spite of his statement he proceeded to fix up our faithful blackboard and commence with another installment of his favourite subject MATHEMATICS. He set about showing us and proving to us the existence of three separate infinities. This of course started a lot of arguments as he had intended, but at least I will say he convinced me. Still as you will have noticed- I will believe in anything!

THE L.S.& F.C.FILM SHOW No.1. or

ICE CREAM GATEAU ON THE PLATEAU! by F.T.

Sat.the 25th.April will never be forgotten by the attending members of the club, it was the evening of the first regular film show!

We had been offered the use of various projectors 9.5, 16 mm etc.almost whenever we liked and on chewing this information at one of the meetings we decided to go ahead and make use of the offer. (LenSmith informed us that the funds could stand it).

The news was sent round and eventually we ended up with 18 members in to see the show, all crowded in our living room at No.21.(We usually get about a dozen or more on a Wednesday and that's bad enough).

My brother David (of early SFANFO fame) was performing as operator and amidst an expectant uproar he start-

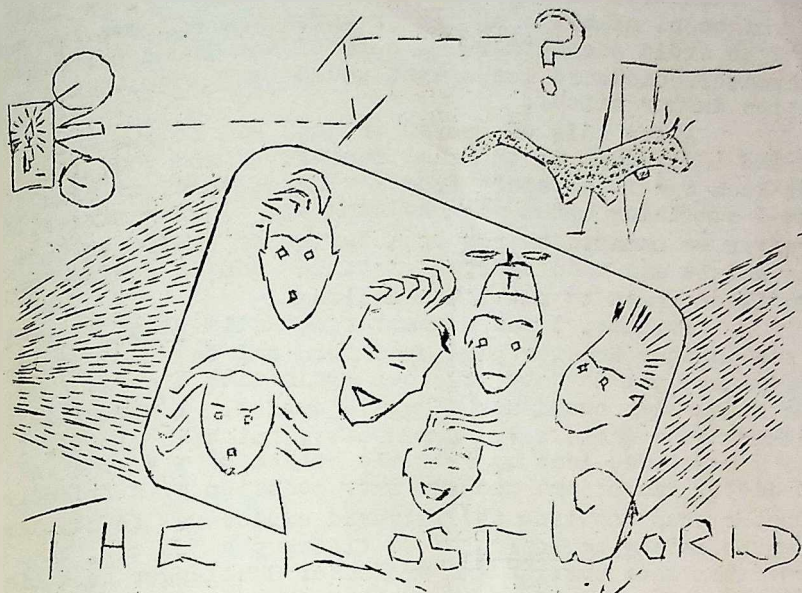
ed the projector rolling on the first reel of THE LOST WORLD.

Guffaws greeted the list of players and parts. "The Ape-Man? I didn't know you were in silent films" etc Not very clever of course, but then we were only just warming up! Well we got through the first reel quite successfully although upon switching on the light, David discovered yards of film draped around Winnie's neck! "I thought you knew about it", someone said helpfully. Muttering dire curses, David efficiently tangled it all back on to the reel and then started on reel no.2.

Halfway through the trouble started. The tension on the film exceeded that of the audience and the film gate (highly technical all this) kept slipping. The combined efforts of David, Tom Batho and ex-projectionist Bob Dunlop all proved hopeless, so Tom vanished with the promise that he would return with another projector (we decided that he must have a collection of them).

Naturally as soon as he left the vicious gadget started to behave itself again, consequently that reel and most of the next were got through with hardly any bother at all. However when Tom returned with a really super projector we decided to swap over to save further tribulations. This ended all troubles and the programme from then on progressed smoothly.

Gasps of admiration were heard all round at the really spectacular scenes involving prehistoric monsters. We were all agreed that it was a most skilfully made film more so considering how old it is. The makers of LOST CONTINENT and similar epics should be ashamed. With all the modern aids to special effects they still couldn't turn out anything as good as this. The animation is wonderfully smooth in most scenes. Shots of a monster running wild in London were thoroughly enjoyed by all. Landmarks were gleefully recognised and the monster was thoughtfully informed as to his whereabouts more than once. Eventually as it crashed through Tower Bridge, and started to swim, a voice was heard to say, "Straight on and first on the right for the Medway!"



The feature film being over, we dished out the ice-cream then said cheerio to CLIVE JACKSON the guest of honour who had to leave for Whitstable. Following this welcome break, we screened a Laurel and Hardy film that provided quite a few laughs. THE BODYGUARDS made their usual hash of things and one scene where an insane killer with a huge scimitar pursued a frantic Laurel with no head (it had got forced down inside his collar): really had us all doubled up.

By this time it was getting late and a few members had to leave, however the remaining brave souls settled down to see JUNGLE ANIMALS. Tom found the reel was upside down! We just couldn't be bothered to have him rewind it so I got a large mirror and held it up in front of the projector thus transferring the picture and also reversing it on to the ceiling. The scene came out the right way up but it was running in reverse! This was easily the hit of the evening. Elephants careering

along backwards have to be seen to be believed! A trio of rhinoceri nimbly went into reverse and all somehow managed to avoid each other. A herd of antelopes performed incredible backward leaps that would have made them a sensation in any circus.

After this of course we just had to run a reel of THE LOST WORLD in the same manner. Mind you, I was not keen myself as apart from a twisted neck, my arms ached something awful with holding the flaming mirror! However we managed to rig up a device of chairs to take the weight and then everyone settled down in comfort on the floor again to watch the ceiling.

Friends, I saw a monster actually plant a tree! I saw another monster pick up a torn and tattered pterodactyl and put it back together again with a speed that Doc Methusalem could never have equalled. I saw similar repairs to a whole bevy of monsters, but best of all, I saw a huge tree leap up from the bottom of a ravine and be deftly caught and dropped into position by a friendly monster thus enabling the intrepid explorers to clamber over to safety, backwards! To finish the job off, the tree then shot upright and Professor Challenger took his axe and proceeded to replace all the wood we'd earlier seen him chop away! Truly a magnificent effort.

The show now really being over, it only remained to dish round the tea and biscuits and unlock cricked necks before turning them all out to a sparkling, very early Sunday morning. I think I can truly say that a good time was had by all!

-----ooooOoooo-----

THE SPACE TOURIST by BLEWIS.

The space tourist stood on the hull of the ship,
To leap into space he'd decided.
To tell his companions what pleasure what thrills,
Fraught with danger this exploit provided!

The space tourist crouched on the hull of the ship,
From it's surface himself he projected.
Imagine his chagrin, he felt for his lifeline,
And found that it wasn't connected!!

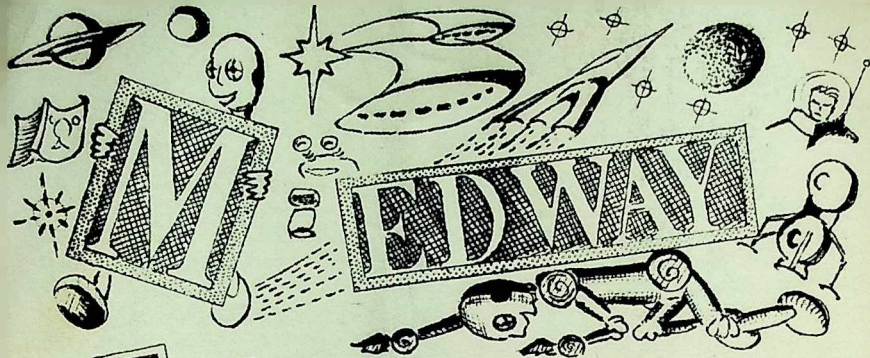


THE LOST WORLD

THE LOST WORLD

THE LOST WORLD

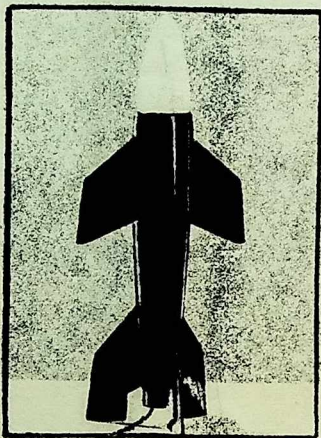
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WE HAVE IT!

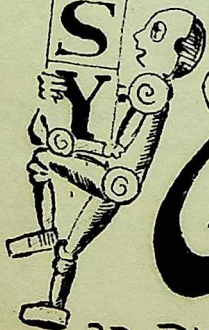
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WHAT HAVE YOU?



PHOTO'S
MODELS

ASTRONOMICAL
MAPS &
CHARTS
ROCKET
ASHTRAYS



← TONY

Centre

3D-PLAQUES

EVERYTHING FOR
THE FAN!

