

Move over Bulmer and let me into the Editorial Chair - can I help it if there isn't room for the secretarial lapsitting twixt thee and t'desk? This issue of steam is being edited by me, Pamela, and is being published for a very special reason,
 SPECIAL ** For once, I'm the custodian of the Bulmer reproduction
 ISSUE *** processes in more senses than one. We've always wanted
 *** a family, but have had to wait whilst Ken served a some-
 * what ricketty apprenticeship to the craft of writing.

Well he now has a small but we hope steady foothold and our long hoped for plans look like coming to fruition on the 7th March next year, which is our seventh wedding anniversary - how's that for planning? We're both tremendously excited and delighted at being prospective parents and we do hope that no one will think we're being either rash or ostentatious in making a personal announcement.

We feel it's something we'd like all our friends to know and it would be simply impossible to write to everyone of them, and the way news travels in fan circles we'd rather they heard it from us rather than as a rumour which might cause them personal embarrassment. We're both aware, without being in the least pessimistic but merely facing facts, that 'anything can happen'. But I'm happy to say that I'm quite disgustingly healthy and with our splendid medical service anything untoward that does happen will literally be an Act of God. As Ken has explained we have only had our mailing for a week and since I have only just left work it's unfortunately been impossible for us to get anything larger out; but we hope very much to be able to remedy this by next mailing - and also to catch up on that ghastly backlog of correspondence.

Meanwhile, here's a titbit of information that methinks may raise some astonishment from the US. I ain't goin' into hospital - our baby will be born at home.

P.S. We add our personal recommendation to this particular method of reproducing fans rather than fnz. Although the process is more lengthy, the results are vastly more original in every way and moreover the mechanics involved are infinitely more enjoyable and satisfying than turning a duplicator handle!

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 MERRY CHRISTMAS
 and a
 HAPPY AND
 PROSPEROUS
 NEW YEAR
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 * Official Calliope to the Bulmer *
 * Aqueous Vapour Company. *
 * Edited by H. Ken - ow! Edited by *
 * Pamela Bulmer, Tresco, 204, Well- *
 * meadow Road, Catford, London, SE6. *
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