

A NOTE FROM THE SOCIETY

Recent personnel changes at 'Dwarf News'.

After his comment on the subject of bondage magazines in a recent letter to new readers, the Editor has been dismissed.

The Assistant Editor has been promoted to fill the position.

Applications are invited by the Society for the post of Editor, 'Dwarf News'. You must own a Dwarf, and be a full member of the Society. Previous applicants need not apply. Previous holders of this post are advised not to waste their time.

The Deputy Editor, Dwarf Keeper Jane Longfellow, is on compassionate leave. She is to be moved to the less demanding post of Assistant Editor in an attempt to reduce her workload on her return, and to give her more time to find a replacement for her much loved Dwarf and late husband, Charles.

The Society has decided to change the wording on the title page of future issues to 'The Official Newsletter Of', rather than 'The Organ Of', as after emptying the previous Editor's desk following his dismissal, it was felt that the word 'Organ' was no longer appropriate.

The Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dwarf Keeper Jane Longfellow on her award of a B.A. in Applied Dwarf Lore from Merkin College, Cambridge.

DWARF NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain

Only one Dwarf was killed in the making of this publication

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Welcome to this edition of 'Dwarf News'. In this month's issue, we announce the untimely death of the Dwarf Charles Longfellow, husband of our own Deputy Editor, Jane, in a tragic accident here at the Printing Shop. A full report on the funeral follows. There are major developments in the Eric Von Smith kneecapping case, so be sure to read Court Diary to bring yourself fully up to date. On a happier note, there is great news on the sports pages, for the owners of all Dwarfs of an athletic disposition. Finally, there is a report by our correspondent in Milton Keynes, on the Dwarf Society Wedding of the Year, to be found in the Colour Supplement. (This is in black and white for this edition only, as the printers have run out of green paper).

'DWARF NEWS' ENGINEER CRUSHED IN PRINT ROLLERS

We regret to announce the passing away of Charles Longfellow (4ft 9in) after he slipped and fell into the printing press, while adjusting the steam pressure release valve on Friday evening. Our deepest sympathy goes to his widow Jane, without doubt the most popular staff member of 'Dwarf News'. Jane has been granted a month's compassionate leave, and has promised to be back at her desk in time for our next issue. Our office junior, Harry (5ft 1in), has been to see her at her home, and reports that she is "bearing up well".

The funeral, which was held on Tuesday, was attended by all at the office, and the paper was shut down for the day to allow the Printing Shop staff to pay their last respects.

The coffin was carried by thirty-two members of The Ancient Brotherhood of The Dwarfs of Albion, of which Charles was a leading member. The casket was specially made for the occasion, and at twenty-four feet long and eight feet wide, it was probably the longest, widest, and above all the shallowest coffin in Dwarf history. The funeral director's claim that the coffin was made of solid oak, rather than the veneered cardboard so often used today, was called into question at the graveside, when it was found necessary to fold it in half no less than four times, to reduce the size to a more manageable six feet by two feet so that it would fit into the grave.

A traditional wake was held afterwards at the 'Printer's Arms', Mr Longfellow's watering hole of choice. Many thanks to the staff there, for keeping the supply of shorts coming.



(The rules of the Society state that any member of staff at 'Dwarf News' must be a full member of the Society. Any member who loses their Dwarf is granted a period of grace, usually three months, in which to find another Dwarf or resign from the Society. Under the circumstances, the Rules Committee have agreed to meet next month, with a view to granting an extension of a further three months, as all here at 'Dwarf News' would hate to say goodbye to our favorite colleague - Ed). A collection held during the evening for the widow raised forty-seven pence, five pesetas, two buttons and a polo mint. Jane has asked that we print her thanks to all her workmates for their generosity, and promised that she won't forget who her friends are when the time comes to return to her desk.

COURT DIARY

Mon 15 March

A police spokesman announced today that officers investigating the brutal kneecapping of Eric Von Smith, author of the controversial best seller '*Chariots of the Dwarfs*', have arrested two members of The Radical Dwarf Feminist Movement, The New Age Sisterhood of The Dwarfs of Albion.

Tues 16 March

Police have today charged two members of the Radical Dwarf Feminist Movement, The New Age Sisterhood of The Dwarfs of Albion, with membership of a proscribed organization. Further charges are expected. Both have been remanded in custody for seven days. A police spokesman identified them as twin sisters Minnie and Maxine Small, (3ft 9in and 3ft 10in respectively). Both have denied the charges.

The two accused have retained top barrister Mr Arthur Law Q.C. to act in their defense.

Wed 17 Mar

At a press conference earlier today, top Q.C. Mr Arthur Law accused the police of incompetence after they claimed that the two radical feminist Dwarfs, Minnie and Maxine Small, were twins. "They are not even sisters", he told reporters. "Although they are similar in height, they are so obviously different that if they are, in fact, related at all, you would probably have to go back a thousand years to find a common ancestor".

He went on to mention that Minnie Small has blonde hair and blue eyes, and looks like a smaller version of Kylie Minogue, (Is this possible? – Ed). While her co-accused has black hair and brown eyes, as is common among both Dwarfs and taller people of Afro-Caribbean origin. "Small is a very common surname among Dwarfs", he added. When it was mentioned to a police spokesman that the girls appeared to look nothing like each other, he replied, "Don't they?" He did reveal that when the Crown Prosecution Service had been informed that Mr Law, Q.C. was representing the pair, they "must have shit themselves". When asked whether he meant that they were incontinent with fear, or laughed so much they lost control of their bodily functions, he refused to comment further. An insider has told me that police are referring to the suspects amongst themselves as the "Too Small sisters", which this reporter feels is in somewhat bad taste.

Thurs 18 Mar

Police have received a letter from Mrs Doris Small, mother of Minnie Small, arrested earlier this week in connection with the Eric Von Smith kneecapping case. Mrs Small has informed the police that she has become the object of much malicious gossip and rumour after they announced that her only daughter has a twin sister of Afro-Caribbean descent.

“They are saying that I must have been intimate with two men of completely different racial origin, within a few hours of each other”, Mrs Small has said. She has demanded a public apology.

A police spokesman said, “We are looking into the complaint”.

Fri 19 Mar

Police have received a letter from Mrs Violet Small, mother of Maxine Small, arrested on Monday along with Minnie Small, (no relation). Mrs Small has complained that the suggestion that her only daughter has a twin sister of Anglo-Saxon descent has made her the object of much speculation.

“You are accusing me of having relations with two men of totally different ethnic backgrounds, one after the other”, she has stated. She adds that she has written to the Commission for Racial Equality, and has demanded a public apology.

A police spokesman said, “We are still looking into it”.

Sat 20 Mar

Police have issued a full apology to the mothers of both Dwarfs held by them in the Von Smith kneecapping case. A spokesman said the inference regarding both women’s private lives was unintentional. He went on to say that the arresting officers had not noticed that the two Dwarfs were of different ethnic origins. “Police today are trained to deal with all suspects in the same way, and to try not to look at them as members of a particular race. To do so would not be politically correct”, he added.

Mon 22 Mar

The two Dwarfs held by police investigating the attack on Eric Von Smith were today brought into court and formally charged with belonging to a proscribed organization, the Radical Dwarf Feminist Movement, The New Age Sisterhood of the Dwarfs of Albion. They were also charged with Grievous Bodily Harm. They have both denied all charges.

There was uproar in the court when it was discovered that neither defendant could be seen over the top of the dock. Their barrister, Mr Arthur Law Q.C., objected when it was proposed that his clients should be given boxes to stand on. It was then proposed that they should be given chairs, (To stand on? – Ed) and seated in front of the dock, as happens if the accused is confined to a wheelchair. Mr Law once again objected, stating that being short was not classed as a disability. Mr Scrote Q.C., representing the Crown, stated that it was if you couldn’t post a letter without a stepladder.

After order was restored, Mr Law objected, and the judge fined Mr Scrote the sum of one hundred guineas for Contempt of Court. Mr Law tabled a motion, stating that the jury should be made up entirely of Dwarfs, as the law demanded that the accused be tried by a jury of their peers. He insisted that peers were defined in law as “people of equal stature”, and “of the same standing in the community”. The prosecution objected, and was told by the judge to sit down and shut up. The judge then granted the motion.

The accused were denied bail, and are to be held on remand until their trial, the date of which is set for next month. Insiders claim the result today was a definite victory for the defense, and the trial has the potential to become the most closely followed event of the year so far.

SPORTS NEWS

March 2004

The beginning of the month saw the wonderful news that Britain has it coming. Yes, the International Federation of Dwarf Owners has announced that Britain has at last been chosen as the venue for this year's Dwarf Owners Olympic Games.

For those who believe, as I do, that show Dwarfs, while all very pretty, are basically a little bunch of girl's blouses, now is your chance to win a major award that others will remember for many years to come.

Heats in all the various disciplines will begin next month, in an attempt to pick the best team ever selected before the start of the event in the summer. The Society's sports coach says that he definitely needs Dwarfs volunteered by their owners for the following Track and Field events: Low Jump, Short Jump, and Hurdles. (This year the International Federation has decided that head protection will be compulsory for the hurdles, as four years ago three Dwarfs suffered serious head injuries when they forgot to duck – Sports Ed). Also, if your Dwarf has a strong right, or left, arm, why not enter him for the Shot Putt. This year the weight of the golf ball is to be slightly reduced, and my guess is we could be in for a surprise win here. No more volunteers for the Hammer, though, as we already have a full complement. Lastly, our team desperately needs good Limbo Dancers, an event Britain always seems to come last in. (To many, the strangest Dwarf sport of all, as the loser finishes with the highest attempt, and vice versa. – Sports Ed).

Most surprising news, however, is the inclusion in this year's games of Floodlit Dwarf Racing. Claimed by many Dwarf Keepers not to be a sport at all, the Dwarf-racing world has seen more than it's share of problems in the last few years. Accusations of Dwarf knobbling, protection rackets, and on-course bookies failing to pay up have dogged the sport, and stories of old racing Dwarfs left abandoned by their heartless owners, thrown out of car windows and even sold to laboratories have not been unusual.

The governing body has made sterling efforts to clean up over the last thirty-six months, and recognition as an Olympic sport is a just reward for their efforts. Strongly tipped for a medal is Britain's own Super-Dwarf, William Bigger, who last season clocked the fastest ever recorded time over two laps. Cynics claim that this makes him the odds-on favorite at this distance, and therefore he is almost certain to finish last. The stadium is sure to come under close scrutiny by the International Federation judges, and we can but hope they will find everything to be above board.

I have been promised an interview with Lady Felicia Crumble, Honorary President of the Dwarf Owners Racing Club, in time for next month's issue. As well as running D.O.R.C., Lady Felicia sits on the committees of several Dwarf charities, and is the owner of the Dwarf known as William Bigger.

The inclusion of Floodlit Dwarf Racing in the event will allow many people a first opportunity to see this little-known but highly lucrative branch of Dwarf ownership in action. At the start of each race, the six competitors are placed in the traps. Just before the off, the Dwarf's trainer gives him a two pound ball pein hammer, and tells him "When the door opens, kill the rat". At this point, the 'rat', actually a stuffed toy but traveling too fast for the Dwarfs to notice, comes past and the trap doors open automatically. The automatic trap opening system is just one of the many improvements made to the sport over the last three years by Lady Felicia, in an attempt to clean up it's tarnished image. When she took over the presidency traps were still opened by hand, and delays of two to three seconds on the favorite's trap were common.

The Dwarfs race over three distances, these being the sprint, (one lap), the steeplechase, (two laps, but the Dwarfs most also remember to duck under the hurdles twice on each circuit), and the final race of the evening. There is no specified distance in this event, known as 'Last Dwarf Standing'.

SUPPLEMENT

THE DWARF SOCIETY WEDDING OF THE YEAR

Many leading members of the Dwarf keeping world and their Dwarfs turned out on Saturday, 13 March for what promised to be the Dwarf Society Wedding of The Year, when the Dwarf Simon Bruce finally made an honest woman of his owner for the last twelve years, Jackie. The event fully lived up to expectations.

The bride looked stunned in a fetching green trouser suit chosen, so insiders believe, to prevent the groom looking up her skirt during the ceremony. There were so many guests that it was only with difficulty that they all squeezed into the Nuptial Suite at Bletchley Registry Office. The Bride arrived by 'limousine', accompanied by her Maid of Honour, Barbs, and the chauffeur, and the couple returned to the house of wedding organizer Mr Chris Straw afterwards in the same vehicle. Barbs was left to make other arrangements for her journey to the reception, as the Dwarf mobile isn't really big enough to carry three full size adults and a Dwarf. The same insiders mentioned above claim the real reason for this may have been her reluctance to sit in a confined space with the groom, known throughout the Dwarf world as a notorious groper. Later events tended to suggest this was a wise decision.

Present at the reception was the Dwarf known as Pops, Chair Dwarf of The Ancient Brotherhood of The Dwarfs of Albion. Also present was Tony Dickinson, the Dwarf Keeper Royal, and his Dwarf Gill, believed by many to be the real power behind the throne. Our reporter, who attended the event, tells us that Gill spent most of the time hiding in the clothes cupboard, and made over twenty pounds by charging guests fifty pence each to leave their coats.

Also present was Louise, believed by our Assistant Editor, Jane Longfellow, to be a leading member of The New Age Sisterhood of The Dwarfs of Albion. She claims that Louise is in fact a Dwarf, who has managed to pass herself off as a normal sized person for years by lying about her height. Jane Longfellow is acknowledged by experts to be the leading authority on radical Dwarf feminism, and is considered to be a marked woman. She has been advised by police not to leave her house without wearing shin guards and knee protectors. (Those who doubt that Louise is a Dwarf should consider that she is a very good liar. For further proof, they should look at her mother. – Ed).

As is traditional at Dwarf weddings, many of the guests, both male and female, wore boots.

AWARDS:

Best Dwarf Boots (Male)- Matt.

Best Dwarf Boots (Female)-Weeble.

Best T-Shirt-Louise.

Although not himself a Dwarf Keeper; in recognition of his efforts on the day, The Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain has awarded Mr Straw the honorary title of 'Dwarf Friend'.

LATE NEWS

Thurs 25 March

Police have tonight confirmed that Maxine Small, being held on remand at Hollywell prison, London, while awaiting trial for the attack earlier this month on Eric Von Smith, has committed suicide. Eric Von Smith is the author of the highly controversial best seller '*Chariots of the Dwarfs*'.

Miss Small was apparently alone in the prison kitchens at the time of her death. The prison governor has expressed his deep regret to Maxine's mother in a personal telephone call earlier today. He told our reporter that Maxine was working unsupervised, and staff had no reason to suspect that she might harm herself. "She was no trouble, most of the time you hardly knew she was there, you just felt that she was around somewhere, if you wanted to take the time to go and find her," he told a news conference, adding that she was "a model prisoner". A spokesman for the prison service has promised a full and thorough enquiry.

As we go to press, rumours are circulating that Maxine ended her life in a crude but obviously successful attempt to perform the ancient and honorable Dwarf Rite of Upsy Daisy, the traditional method of atonement for a great wrong. It has, up to the time of writing, only been performed by male Dwarfs, who are members of The Ancient Brotherhood of The Dwarfs of Albion. This rite, for which the Dwarf concerned is given three weeks to prepare himself, has apparently been accomplished by Maxine in half an hour, by using a box of drawing pins, some thick elastic bands, two buckets of water and a shelf unit, with the addition of a standard prison issue cheap brown envelope. One prisoner who managed to make a phone call to 'Dwarf News' before the prison authorities cut the phones off has told us that Maxine used a frozen chip and a bottle of ketchup to write the single word "Mummy" on the envelope before her death.

A source deep inside The Ancient Brotherhood of The Dwarfs of Albion, who has insisted on remaining anonymous, told me that some male Dwarfs are either outraged or greatly amused at the news, but that among many such as himself the overall feeling was one of grudging respect. "Under those conditions she couldn't possibly have scored much over a six, and if old Ivor had been Junior Judge he wouldn't give more than a five point five, even with the best will in the world. But I recon she deserves a full ten, just for the sheer bottle" he told me. "I take my Dwarf hat off to her, I really do. Might as well, really. The flashing light on top of the pole's not working again, and I've changed the batteries three times. My owner would have been better off saving his money. Might as well go back to the old candle on a stick, and just put up with the odd drip of hot wax down the back of the neck".

It has been revealed that her co-accused, Minnie Small, has barricaded herself in her cell, and is singing the ancient Dwarf Song of The Passing, which, if performed in its full form, takes over eight hours, so it is doubtful if the staff or inmates will get much sleep tonight.

Editor's Note: As many of our readers will be unfamiliar with this ancient art, I have commissioned Professor Hugo Darkley, B.A. Senior Lecturer in Applied Dwarf Lore at Merkin College, Cambridge, to write an article on this fascinating subject, in time for next month's edition of 'Dwarf News'.

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