

#### The Official Newsletter of the Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain

No Dwarfs were harmed in the making of this publication

## <u>EDITORIAL</u>

Welcome to the December issue of 'Dwarf News'. In this month's issue, your chance to vote for the Dwarf of The Year, as well as the Society's much sought after 'Dwarf Keeper Of The Year' award.

There is news regarding the betting scandal at DwarfFest last month, and news on the investigation to discover who set fire to the Editor's car at the event.

On the entertainment front, there have been many protests following the announcement that American radical feminist Dwarf rock band The Quickies are to tour England in the New Year, first reported in last month's 'Late News' section. Court Diary brings members up to date with the Bentley trial, after former Editor Piers Bentley and his father were charged with forging a painting of famous Elizabethan Dwarf Phillip of Staines and some of his family, and selling it to one of his descendents.

Sadly, this month we say goodbye to 'Dwarf News' agony aunt Auntie Linda, who has decided to move into the private sector, and open the country's first "Pay As You Winge" counseling service. Readers with serious emotional problems will be referred to Auntie Linda by our staff, providing they have sufficient funds to cover the fees. Poor readers will be ignored, and have to make do with the N.H.S.

This month's edition also contains the second part of our new feature, "Zena's Guide To Domestic Bliss", covering the tricky art of producing the perfect boiled egg, and a Christmas competition. From myself and the rest of the 'Dwarf News' team, we wish all readers a Merry Christmas.

## POLICE INVESTIGATION INTO BETTING SCANDAL AT DWARFFEST '05 "NOT GOING WELL"

Little Hampton Police who are investigating allegations that the judging of the Ancient Sisterhood Of The Dwarfs Of Albion's knitting competition at this year's DwarfFest was fixed, after Society members at the event lost thousands of pounds betting on the result, have admitted that their investigation is going nowhere.

"We have been unable to contact the competition sponsors, Pink October. In fact, no-one seems to know anything about them, apart from the fact that the Drug Squad have spent years trying to tie them in with the illegal trade in giraffe's testicles, admittedly without much success", a police spokesman told our reporter. "We do know that they claim to raise money, some of which goes to charity, but how much, and which particular

charities, seems to be a complete mystery". He went on to admit that the bookmakers who organized the betting, P.O. Bookmakers Limited, are also difficult to trace. "After three weeks investigating, we have managed to find an address in Lithuania, which claims to be their head office. It turns out to be a Post Office box. Frankly, we don't hold out much hope".

A Senior Officer from the Fraud Squad blamed the DwarfFest organizers for the mess. "We spend a lot of time and money warning people about bogus charities, they con the public out of millions of pounds every year. We expect little old ladies to get swindled out of their pensions and savings, but an organization like The Dwarf Owners Society Of Great Britain should have more sense. I'm astounded that they would blindly accept an offer to run a charity bookmaking operation at a major event, without checking the credentials of the organization making the offer very carefully before accepting. Whoever is responsible for allowing them on site is either involved up to their ears, or is monumentally stupid", said Chief Inspector James Swan.

As we went to press, The Dwarf Keeper Royal was unavailable for comment.

In a related story, police at Little Hampton are also struggling to discover the identity of the person who set fire to the Editor's car, which was left in the car park at Little Hampton Hospital while he was attending the event. Police asked the Editor to provide them with a list of anyone he could think of that might have a grudge against him. Apparently the list is so long that the officer assigned to the case, Detective Constable Crumble, told 'Dwarf News' Secretary/Reporter Sophie that it would take him years to check through it. Sophie, who had to take a week off with repetitive strain injury after typing the list, suggested concentrating on people who have personally made threats of violence to the Editor since his appointment, so the list was returned to the office. "It didn't help much, as the victim claimed that he had only included people who had threatened him personally when he dictated the list in the first place", D.C. Crumble later told Sophie when she telephoned him to ask how the investigation was progressing. Apparently, the first list of suspects began with the words "Everyone under five feet two". On the revised list of those who had personally threatened the Editor, by phone, letter, or face to chest, this was altered to" Most people under five feet two".

As the vehicle was insured third party fire and theft with Norwich Union, the Editor submitted a claim, to be told by return of post that the fire cover was for self ignition only, and the vehicle was not covered against arson. Sophie has kindly offered him the loan of her moped. Editor's Note: The case has now been solved: see 'Letters To The Editor'.

### NEWS OF "QUICKIES" TOUR PROMPTS PROTESTS

As reported in last month's late news section, American Dwarf girl rock band The Quickies are set to tour the United Kingdom early next year. The band, who claim they chose their name after being told they were a bunch of short fucks at an audition for the American version of pseudo talent show 'The X Factor', have caused outrage throughout



the U.S.A. with their latest single, "With These Bricks". The record, which encourages girl Dwarfs to engage in the illegal activity of bricking, is also the title track of their latest album. It has been banned by over half the radio stations in America.

A spokesDwarf for The Ancient Brotherhood Of The Dwarfs Of Albion told 'Dwarf News' that his organization intended to lobby the government to refuse the band entry to Britain. "Wherever this group appears in America, the number of male Dwarfs attacked by groups of brick-wielding girl Dwarfs doubles overnight. All their songs call for short females everywhere to go on the rampage, they shouldn't be allowed to get off the airplane", he told 'Dwarf News'.

"We will take action to prevent people entering the country, if we feel that their presence will incite hatred against certain sections of the community, such as racial minorities, or gay people", a government spokesman told our reporter. "Earlier this year some local authorities banned certain crap artists from performing, due to their homophobic lyrics. (This is not a misspelling; the 'c' is silent. - Ed). We only take such action, however, in extreme cases. We believe in people's right to listen to whatever music they want, within reason, and I hardly think that five girls from America, with a total combined height of less than twenty-three feet, are going to cause the downfall of civilization as we know it". Other groups of concerned citizens and musicians have also objected to the forthcoming tour, many on artistic grounds. "Musically, they're rubbish", said former pizza delivery boy Wayne Davis, now the lead singer with latest boy band sensations Fast Lane. "How can they sing and play instruments at the same time? And they write their own songs, which is why they're no good. We were told to stick to songs that had already been hits for at least three other artists in the last forty years. We also have a team of people who write new songs for us, they've written for loads of bands, so they must be good. And I've heard that that The Quickies sing and play live, too. Everybody in the industry knows you get a better sound if you mime, and it leaves all your energy for dancing. How far do you think the Spice Girls or Take That would have got if they'd tried singing live?"

Other people are big fans of the band, among them 'Dwarf News' Secretary/Reporter Sophie. "I'm looking forward to the tour, and I've asked the Editor if I can do a report on one of the concerts", she claimed, adding that Fast Lane in general, and lead singer Wayne Davis in particular, were a bunch of talent less clones, manufactured by the record industry to con twelve year old girls out of their pocket money. A spokesman for Fast Lane's record company has leapt to the band's defence, claiming that they appeal to a wide age range of fans. "There are girls all over the country who love Fast Lane. The fan club's members range from six years old, right up to fourteen", he told 'Dwarf News', adding "and they have a big following in the gay community, too".

## <u>AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR RE-INSTATED AFTER</u> <u>MEMBERS THREATEN TO RESIGN EN MASSE</u>

Faced with the prospect of having to cancel this year's Dwarf and Dwarf Keeper of the Year awards, after the mass resignation of the entire Awards Committee in support of their Chair, the Dwarf Keeper Royal has been forced to reduce Zena's three month suspension for abuse of the Society's new Dwarf Exchange Scheme to just two weeks.

This must be seen as a serious blow to his authority, and is just the latest of a series of disasters, which have undermined his position over the last year. Some members are openly predicting that he cannot hold on to the top chair much longer, and are suggesting that Zena, known as 'Two Dwarfs' Daniels due to her unusual domestic arrangements, will be leading the Society as the first female Dwarf Keeper Royal within months.

As the Awards Committee have now retracted their mass resignation, we can reveal the nominations for the end of year awards, as usual decided by the readers of 'Dwarf News'.

#### **Dwarf Of The Year**

**Harry Collins.** The former 'Dwarf News' office Dwarf is nominated for his starring role in the re-make of classic British comedy *Confessions Of A Window Cleaner*, which premiers in December.

**'Lightening' Larry Rogers**. The famous floodlit Dwarf racer, known in sporting circles as 'The Inflammable Dwarf' due to his tendency to burst into flames, usually just after talking to the press, is nominated for his devotion to the sport, and his determination to overcome a series of injuries which have combined to keep him out of competition for much of the last season. These have ranged from serious burns; through to a broken foot sustained after dropping a two-gallon fire extinguisher half way round the track. He has also struggled to overcome a nasty rash, believed to be due to his decision at the start of the season to wear special asbestos running shorts.

<u>Grim The Cyber Dwarf.</u> Grim is nominated for his work as a computer expert with 'Dwarf News', and for his appointment in May this year as Senior Upsy Daisy judge by The Ancient Brotherhood Of The Dwarfs Of Albion. This appointment followed his involvement in the fake April 1<sup>st</sup> issue of the newsletter, sent to readers in place of the real 'Dwarf News'.

**Sophie, The 'Dwarf News' Secretary.** At 5ft 10in, and now officially recognized by the Society as the world's tallest Dwarf, Sophie has shown remarkable determination to overcome her multiple personality problems. A former Miss DwarfFest, she is determined to make the grade as a reporter, and now has her own portfolio.

#### **Dwarf Keeper Of The Year.**

<u>Alex Titterington.</u> The Society's youngest member, Alex is now on his third Dwarf in less than twelve months. His present Dwarf, publican's daughter Sally Anne, is confidently expected to sort him out.

**Zena.** The on/off Chair of the Awards Committee, known as 'Two Dwarfs' Daniels, Zena has many supporters within the Society, and is tipped by some to become the first female Dwarf Keeper Royal.

Please submit your votes by 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

## YOUNG DWARF KEEPER BREAKS WRIST IN MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT

Dwarf Keeper Alex Titterington is nursing a broken wrist, after he claimed to have fallen off his 125 cc learner bike. The alleged accident happened in his college car park, after he went round a corner and slipped on a patch of gravel. His father Ghandi, common law Dwarf of Awards Committee Chair Zena, has cast doubt on Alex's version of events, however.

"I think he did it jumping out of some girlie's bedroom window when her parents came home unexpectedly, as there is no visible damage to the bike", Ghandi claimed, in an e mail to the Editor. A case of 'like father, like son', perhaps? Others, taking into account that Alex is a seventeen-year-old red-blooded male, have suggested unkindly that the damage to his wrist is more likely to be the result of repetitive strain injury.

As Alex is due a T-shirt for winning a recent competition, the Editor is having a one-off special made, to commemorate the event.

## ARBUTHNOTS NOW ON INTERPOL WANTED LIST

Mr. Richard Arbuthnot and his wife have been placed on the international wanted list, after they skipped bail in Thailand. The couple, wanted for defrauding Norwich Union Insurance Company out of seven million pounds by engineering the explosion that destroyed the Middle Whallop Steam Preservation Society at the beginning of the year, as well as for the death of Steam Society member Fred Clegg, have vanished. They are believed to be somewhere in the southern hemisphere.

'Dwarf News' Assistant Editor Jane Von Smith has put in a claim for their assets in the Thai courts, as three million pounds of the insurance pay out were due to her for the loss of the old 'Dwarf News' printing press, which was on loan to the museum. Officials in Thailand are considering her claim.

## COURT DIARY

Former 'Dwarf News' Editor Piers Bentley and his father have both been sentenced to six years in prison, after they were found guilty of forgery. The pair had produced a painting, which they claimed was by Elizabethan court painter George Gower, of famous Elithabethan Dwarf-About-Town Phillip Of Staines, the first Earl Bodkin, and some of his family; then sold it to the present earl, Cuthbert, for an undisclosed sum.

Piers, already on probation for his earlier attempt to sell 'Dwarf News' a forged copy of late author Eric Von Smith's diaries, will serve an extra two years.

On a related story, the trial of Bentley's sister-in-law Mrs. June Bentley (4ft 10in), for setting fire to her husband, Cyril Bentley, had to be postponed after the court was disrupted by a protest organized by radical feminist Dwarf movement The New Age Sisterhood Of The Dwarfs Of Albion. The number of protesters overwhelmed police who tried to restore order in the court, and several members of the Riot Squad were left

with serious injuries to their lower legs and ankles, despite being fully equipped with shin pads and knee protectors. The Sisterhood, who claim that Mrs. Bentley is being picked on because she is short, has promised to keep up their campaign unless the case is thrown out of court. One police officer, who was left with a fire axe imbedded in his shin pad, told reporters that when the case continues, he is going on holiday.

The trial will be resumed next month, at a new location.

Sophie the 'Dwarf News' Secretary was up before the local magistrates this month, after an incident in a Tesco Superstore. Assistant manager Robin Bustard told the court that Miss Lane had entered the store at the beginning of November, and demanded that an item she had recently purchased should be changed, due to a mix-up at the till. The item, an electric carving knife, was found to have been purchased on her credit card. "When asked if the item was defective, Miss Lane told me that if I could show her to a three pin socket, she would show me if it was defective or not, and threatened to castrate me with it", claimed Mr. Bustard.

Police were summoned, by which time she had removed the knife from it's packaging, and was claiming that she was a victim of height discrimination, and was being picked on because she was a Dwarf. "I pointed out that she was at least five feet ten inches tall, at which point Miss Lane told me that she was a Dwarf, and that she had a certificate from the Dwarf Owners Society Of Great Britain to prove it. She then said, 'I'll cut your b---- off too, you lanky streak of p----', if you've got any'", police constable Brassington, who had been summoned to deal with the incident, told the court.

Miss Lane apologized to the court, and claimed in her defence that she had recently been unwell; a fact confirmed by defence witness Doctor William Bodkin, GF, SRCCP, the eminent Dwarf Psychiatrist.

Miss Lane was found guilty of threatening behavior, and bound over to keep the peace for twelve months.

### SPORTS REPORT

The new captain of The British Naturist Dwarfs Over Sixty Unisex Leapfrog Display Team, Arthur Crabb, has married fellow team member Iris Butcher. The couple announced their engagement last month, after an incident during the team's display at DwarfFest '05. The entire squad was there to wish them all the best. Seventy-two year old Iris, who was first 'frog' when the incident took place, has praised her new husband, sixty-seven, for "doing the decent thing" after the incident, known technically in Dwarf leapfrog parlance as a 'Hole In One'.

Dwarf sports fans in Scotland are eagerly looking forward to this year's Dwarf Highland Games, due to be held in the third week of December. The games, considered by many Dwarf Keepers north of the border to be the premier event in the sporting calendar, will be covered in next month's 'Dwarf News'.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The mystery of who set fire to the Editor's car at last month's DwarfFest has been solved, after he received a letter from his favourite pen pal, eight-year-old Jessica Bentley. The letter is included below.

#### Dear Mr Editor,

Mummy said that I have to send you a letter, to say sorry for setting fire to yore car. She said that cos I am only eight, the filth wont do anything. Mummy has started calling the police rude names since she had to go to court for setting fire to daddys clothes while he was wearing them. She said I cant be sent to prison like uncle Pears, and get reamed out like a drain pipe, becos I am too young.

Grandad is in prison as well, and now Daddy is out of hospital, Mummy and me are living at grannys house, so please send me a tea shirt to our new address. Before we went to grannys, Mummy said that Daddy will miss all the news on telly while he was in hospital, so she got the key to the Cupboard where he keeps all his special videos, like the one about the lady with the also ion, and taped news twenty 4 over them, so he could Catch up when he got home.

Mummy and granny left me on my own when they went to court to tell the judge why mummy set fire to daddy, so I gave granny's Yorkshire terrier a bath. Afterwards, when I got it out of the tumble dryer, it had gone all limp, so I put it outside under someones Car, and said it got out and got run over. Maybe Granny will get an alsation now, to cuddle at night while granddad is in prison.

#### Love,

#### Jessica Bentley, aged 8 and three quarters.

## Mummy said that I don't have to buy you a new Car, out of my pocket money. She said that she Cant afford one, so you Can fuck off.

Dear Jessica, All right, I give in. You can have a bloody T-shirt. Now bugger off and leave me alone.

# The Editor COOKERY COLUMN

'Dwarf News' brings readers the second part of Awards Committee Chair Zena's 'Guide To Domestic Bliss'. After covering the tricky subject of boiling water in last month's issue, our very own domestic goddess now explains how to create the perfect boiled egg.

## Welcome to my second cookery slot in the infamous 'Dwarf News'. Last month I gave tips on how to boil water, the next obvious step is how to boil an egg.

Now, there are several theories other than my own on 'how to boil an egg'.

Firstly, there exists a scientific method, complete with equations and graphs for boiling an egg:

### A Formula for Soft-Boiling Eggs

#### The Derivation

To obtain a simple formula the problem must be idealised somewhat, so the egg will be treated as a spherical homogeneous object of mass M and initial temperature  $T_{egg}$ . If the egg is placed straight into a pan of boiling water at  $T_{water}$ , it will be ready when the temperature at the boundary of the yolk has risen to  $T_{yolk}$ ~63°C. With these assumptions, the cooking time t can be deduced by solving a heat diffusion equation.

#### **The Result**

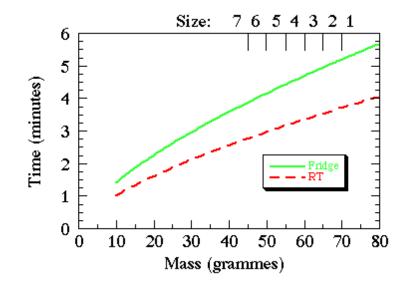
The result is relatively simple:

$$t_{\text{cooked}} = \frac{M^{2/3} c \rho^{1/3}}{K \pi^2 (4\pi/3)^{2/3}} \log_e \left[ 0.76 \times \frac{\left(T_{\text{egg}} - T_{\text{water}}\right)}{\left(T_{\text{yolk}} - T_{\text{water}}\right)} \right]$$

where  $\rho$  is density, *c* the specific heat capacity, and *K* thermal conductivity of 'egg'. According to this formula, a medium egg (*M*~57 g) straight from the fridge ( $T_{egg}$ =4°C) takes four and a half minutes to cook, but the same egg would take three and a half minutes if it had been stored at room temperature ( $T_{egg}$ =21°C). If all the eggs are stored in the fridge, then a small (size 6, 47 g) egg will require four minutes to cook, and a large egg (size 2, 67 g) will take five minutes.

#### **Illustrative Graph**

Here is a graph of the values given by the equation for the cases when the egg is initially either at room temperature or has been in the 'fridge.



This graph is plotted using a value  $T_{\text{yolk}}=63^{\circ}\text{C}$ , which gives a slightly less-than-firm white. The values used were  $\rho = 1.038 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $K = 4.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ W cm}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ , and  $c = 3.7 \text{ J g}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$  The upper *x*-axis gives the European standard size numbers corresponding to the range of masses between the tick marks.

#### **Accuracy**

The model of an egg used to derive the above formula involves several approximations. For a more accurate treatment one would need to note that the thermal properties of the white, yolk and shell are all different, and treat the egg as three concentric, ellipsoids with Dirichlet boundary-conditions at the water-shell interface and Neuman boundaryconditions for the shell-white and white-yolk parts. Changes in its thermal properties when the white changes state from sol to gel, and the latent heat associated with this change would also need to be accounted for.

Ok for those of us who don't understand much past the A in the title, below is another method for boiling eggs, again only if you have mastered the tricky art of boiling water:

#### How To Soft-Boil an Egg

With this technique, you've got to plan ahead a little: the eggs should be removed from the refrigerator and allowed to warm up to room temperature.

- 1. Choose the pan. Ideally, the pan will be just large enough to fit the number of eggs you'd like to cook. Otherwise, choose a larger pot that will accommodate all of the eggs in a single layer. If you have two or three layers of eggs stacked up in a small pot, they may cook unevenly.
- 2. Pour enough water into the pot to cover the eggs with at least one inch (about 3 cm) of water. If you want to be precise, you can place the eggs in the pot to check how much water will be enough. If you do this, remove the eggs before proceeding to the next step!
- 3. Bring the water to a rolling boil, and gently submerge the eggs in boiling water. This is best accomplished using a spoon: place the eggs on the spoon (one at a time) and lower them into the boiling water. Watch your hands--you don't want to scald them. Use a kitchen mitt if you have sensitive hands. After the eggs are in the pot, lower the heat until the water is lightly simmering: a few small bubbles will rise to the surface.
- 4. Watch your timing. With soft-boiled eggs, careful timing is crucial. The recommended range of times is between three and four and a half minutes. Experiment with a batch: take an egg out at three minutes, at three and a half minutes, four minutes, etc. Everyone likes his or her soft-boiled eggs cooked a little differently, so discover which time is perfect for you. For folks who live at higher altitudes, a little extra time may be necessary, since water boils at a lower temperature there than at sea-level. And if you're in a hurry or are too impatient to wait for the eggs to warm up to room temperature, then cook the eggs at least four and-a-half minutes, and check one to see if it's done (see next step).

## Ok, long winded, yes? And only useful if you've managed to master the boiling of water. Below, find the Zena method of boiling an egg without water of any kind:

#### How To Boil An Egg With No Water

To do this you will need two mobile phones -they do not have to be on the same network but you will need to know the number of one of them. The only other items you will need are:

- An egg cup, (make sure that the egg cup is made of an insulating material such as China, wood or glass plastic will do. DO NOT use stainless steel or other metal).
- A radio, AM or FM you can also use your hifi.
- A table or other flat surface on which to place the phones and egg cup. You can place the radio anywhere in the room but you might as well put it on the table.

#### How To Do It:

- 1. Take an egg from the fridge and place it in the eggcup in the centre of the table.
- 2. Switch on the radio or hifi and turn it up to a comfortable volume.
- 3. Switch on phone A and place it on the table such that the antenna (the pokey thing at the top) is about half an inch from the egg (you may need to experiment to get the relative heights correct paperbacks are good if you have any if not you may be able to get some wood off cuts from your local hardware shop).
- 4. Switch on phone B and ring phone A then place phone B on the table in a similar but complementary position to Phone A.
- 5. Answer phone A you should be able to do this without removing it from the table. If not, don't panic; just return the phone to where you originally placed on the table.
- 6. Phone A will now be talking to Phone B whilst Phone B will be talking to Phone A.
- 7. Cooking time: This very much depends on the power output of your mobile phone. For instance, a pair of mobiles each with 2 Watts of transmitter output will take three minutes to boil a large free-range egg. Check your user manual and remember that cooking time will be proportional to the inverse square of the output power for a given distance from egg to phone.
- 8. Cut out these instructions for future reference.

**Note:** During testing the egg was cooked during the evening using free local calls, if you were to cook an egg for lunch it would cost  $\pm 3.00$  - not cheap but you do have the convenience.



Ok, still complicated. Lets try and simplify this a little:

## HOW TO BOIL AN EGG BY ZENA

- 1. Find someone willing to make a cup of tea, if they're not willing, nag them until they are willing. If nagging doesn't work, remind them of the existence of the pickaxe handle, this will always work.
- 2. Tell them to get an egg from the fridge, fill kettle with water, and carefully place the egg into the kettle.
- 3. Plug in the kettle, switch on and wait for it to boil. Tell them to keep the kettle boiling for a few minutes by switching it back on once boiled (usually about 3 or 4 minutes in total).

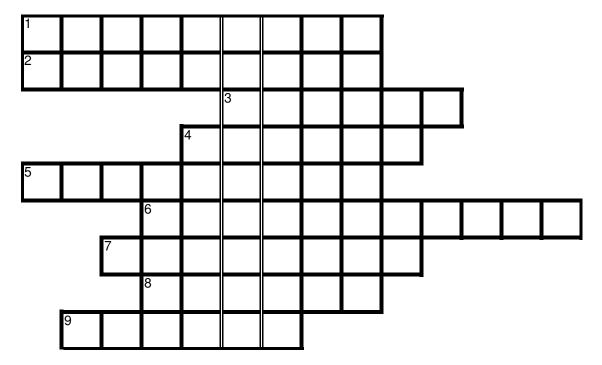
Once the kettle has boiled, tell them to carefully lift out the egg with a spoon, and serve it with a cup of tea and a slice of bread.

There you go, how to boil an egg without cooking it yourself. That's all for this month, next month we'll tackle complicated things like cookers.

**<u>Editor's Note:</u>** Can you think of another way of boiling an egg? The best suggestion received at the office by December 23<sup>rd</sup> will win one lucky reader an exclusive 'Dwarf News' T-shirt. Entries should be submitted by surface mail, electric pigeon, or in person at the office.

## **SUPPLEMENT**

In this month's special Christmas edition, there is the 'Dwarf News' competition. After last year's Christmas crossword was won by Biggles, even though he managed to get one of the answers wrong, this year we have decided to give readers something easier. All the answers to the questions are mentioned in this month's issue. Simply fill in the answers, then read down the marked vertical section to discover the winning word. The first correct answer out of the hat will win one lucky reader an exclusive 'Dwarf News' T-shirt. Answers, by surface mail, by hand, or sent via electric pigeon, to the usual address by 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2005.

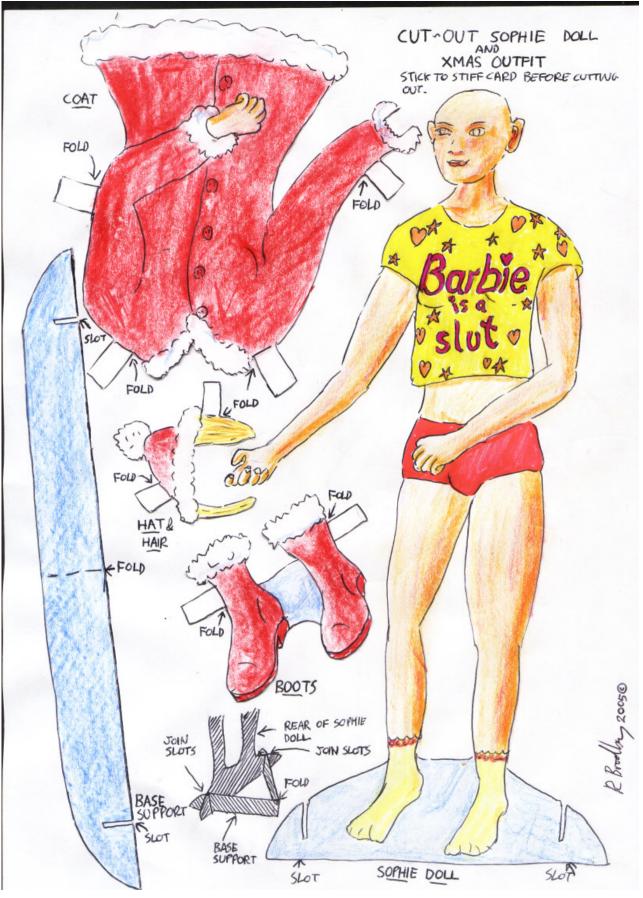


#### FIND THE MISSING WORD

1/ Most valuable parts of a giraffe.

- 2/ Sophie has a pink one.
- 3/ Alex is the youngest one in the Society.
- 4/ June Bentley is one, although she isn't Egyptian. (1,5)
- 5/ Favourite dogs for pretty ladies?
- 6/ Jessica did this to the Editor's car. (3,4,2,2)
- 7/ A kind of contest at DwarfFest.
- 8/ Owner of a Dwarf.
- 9/ How Zena likes her eggs?

Part Two of The Supplement contains your Cut Out And Keep Sophie Doll, and one outfit. Thanks to 'Dwarf News' photographer Roger Bradbury. Have fun!



### LATE NEWS

The Dwarf Owner's Racing Club, the organization responsible for floodlit Dwarf racing throughout Great Britain, have announced that they are opening a retirement home for former racing Dwarfs. The club has been heavily criticized in the past, as many retired racing Dwarfs, who generally leave the sport in their early thirties when they have grown to fat to fit into the traps, end up homeless and living rough. There have even been rumours of some older Dwarfs being abandoned in lay-bys, or put on a train to John O' Groats with a one-way rail ticket and a bag of sandwiches.

Lady Emily Fortescue, the President of the D.O.R.C., told 'Dwarf News' that although such incidents are now rare, many former racing Dwarfs do fall on hard times once they are too old for competition. "Few racing Dwarfs can earn enough, in a relatively short career, to make provision for their retirement. We have therefore, after an extremely generous donation from an organization of philanthropic female Dwarfs who have asked to remain anonymous, decided to open a home for those who struggle to cope with life outside the sport".

The home, due to open early next year, is to be named after the former President of the D.O.R.C., Lady Crumble, who passed away in June last year after falling from the top of the grandstand at a meeting in Bradford. It will be known as The Lady Felicia Crumble Home For Retired GentleDwarfs. Situated in pleasant surroundings in a Grade Two listed building at New Stratton, the main house was once a lunatic asylum and debtor's prison, and was actually the headquarters of The Dwarf Owners Society Of Great Britain and the home of 'Dwarf News' until early in the twentieth century. The building was last in regular use in the nineteen seventies, when it was used as the main offices of a pet food factory. Many of the abattoirs and butcher's shops, as well as the canning plant from the period are still standing, and are being renovated to provide space for workshops, a gym and a half size swimming pool, as well as a snooker room and bar.

#### SOPHIES' COLUMN

#### By Sophie, Secretary/Reporter With Portfolio

November hasn't been a very good month for me. I ended up in court, and was bound over to keep the peace for a year. It wasn't even my fault; it was all down to a mix up at Tesco. I managed to persuade the bank to increase my overdraft, and went in to get the Dwarf Keeper Royal the bottle of whisky I owe him for getting his company, Vinyl Wizard, to make my outfit when I was a bridesmaid at the Isle of Wight earlier this year. I bought him a nice bottle, in a presentation box, and paid for it with my credit card.

When I got home, I found out I had ended up with the wrong bag, the box had an electric carving knife in it, probably a Christmas present for someone. As soon as I could, I took it back and asked to see someone so I could get it changed for a new bottle. When the Assistant Manager arrived, I showed him the receipt. It turned out that somehow Tesco had managed to mix up my flexible friend with the one belonging to the person who had originally bought the carving knife, so the receipt showed that it had been paid for with my card.

When he refused to change it, we had an argument, and he called the police, which was totally over the top. I ended up getting arrested, and having to go to court. They kept the electric carving knife as evidence, though I did get it back afterwards. I never wanted it in the first place, so I really don't know what to do with it. Maybe I can give it to somebody for Christmas. Meanwhile my psychiatrist, Doctor Bodkin, has changed my medication, and told me to avoid stress.

I am really looking forward to the premiere of *Confessions Of A Window Cleaner* next month, although I still haven't decided quite what to wear. The Editor has also promised that I can go to a Quickies concert when they are on tour, and said that I can become the paper's showbiz correspondent, so that I will have something to put in my portfolio. See you all next month, with a report on the premiere.