

DWARF NEWS

The Official Newsletter of the Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain

No Dwarfs were harmed in the making of this publication

EDITORIAL:

Welcome to September's 'Dwarf News'. August has seen great news from the first week of competition at the Dwarf Keeper's Olympic Games. There is also surprising news regarding our assistant editor, Jane Collins B.A., which is reported to have infuriated Dwarfs throughout the country.

'Dwarf News' received the following letter two weeks ago, with a request to print it on our front page. We have decided to grant the request.

AN OPEN LETTER TO 'DWARF NEWS', FROM PINK OCTOBER

Dear 'Dwarf News',

There seems to have been a lot of speculation about our little group of friends recently, in the pages of your magazine. Everyone seems to have got hold of the wrong end of the stick. In order to end this speculation, and put the record straight, I have decided to drop you a line, which will, I hope, make things clearer.

Back in nineteen seventy-three, some friends and I, all members of the Ancient Sisterhood of The Dwarfs of Albion, felt that the Sisterhood could be doing more for Dwarf rights. We were all a bit young and silly in those days, some of us were students and suchlike, you know how it is. Eventually, a small group of us gave up our membership, as a sort of protest. There were no arguments; we all just felt that the Sisterhood wasn't really in tune with the young female Dwarfs of the day.

It is true that we didn't have a name for ourselves for ten years, because we were never a movement, we were just a few individuals who all felt the same way. Over the next few years, we all kept in touch, and we eventually decided to form our own little club, because we all had to admit that we missed the companionship of the Sisterhood. We decided to call ourselves Pink October. This was because we had resigned from the Sisterhood in the month of October, and we chose Pink because we all blush now when we think about it, really. We had all been a little bit silly, but we were very young then.

Over the years we have all kept in touch. We keep our member's names a secret, because now we are older and more sensible, we would be embarrassed if people knew what we were like in our youth. The other reason we don't tell people about ourselves is that we are all respectable ladies now, and we spend our time raising money, some of which goes to charity.

I am sure you will understand that we would all rather keep our names out of the papers. The way 'Dwarf News' has been carrying on about us, anyone would think we were a bunch of gangsters! Nothing could be further from the truth.

So, please leave us alone to get on with our lives, and our good works. We thank you for your co-operation.

Yours truly,

Auntie Rachel.

P.S. Please don't waste your time by asking the Ancient Sisterhood of The Dwarfs of Albion if they can check their records, to find out who left in October nineteen seventy-three. Unfortunately, all the records for that year were destroyed when their office accidentally caught fire, two days ago.

Editor's note: Dear Auntie Rachel, as requested in your note, which accompanied the above letter, I have printed it on our front page. In answer to the question you asked in that note: Yes please. I really would like the Deputy Editor back in one piece, preferably a big piece, with both the kneecaps he had when he disappeared.

'DWARF NEWS' OFFICE BOY RESIGNS

After the granting of a 'quickie' divorce from assistant editor Jane Collins B.A. our office boy Harry (5ft 1in), has resigned from his position at 'Dwarf News'. Harry told our secretary, Sophie, that things had become very tense in the office of late, after the break-up of his marriage. He added that it was unfair to other staff, and he felt that the best thing was a clean break.

Since Harry's departure, he has sent us all an invitation to his forthcoming wedding. The bride is to be girlfriend Minnie Small, who was released from prison last month after the court of appeal overturned her conviction for GBH. Minnie is currently on probation for two years, for belonging to a proscribed organization of radical Dwarf feminists. Miss Small, when contacted by Dwarf News this week, admitted to us that Harry is the father of the baby she is expecting in approximately one month's time. "I know that most Dwarfs marry a taller person, but even we sometimes like a little bit on the side", she revealed. As the conception must have occurred while Harry was carrying on his affair with Jane, in the stationary cupboard during their lunch breaks, staff now realize why Jane and Harry's marriage broke up after only two months. It seems that Minnie telephoned the Collin's house from prison at the end of June, to give Harry the good news that he was due to become a father. The fact that Jane subsequently threw Harry out of the house, without bothering to open the window first, suggests that she did not take the news particularly well.

Harry, who is now unemployed, has decided to accept an offer made to him some months ago, to advertise Do-It-Yourself chain B&Q's extensive range of own label buckets. As his new wife is three feet nine inches tall, Harry has applied to join the Society as a Dwarf Keeper. The rules committee is considering his application.

ASSISTANT EDITOR DENOUNCED BY ANCIENT BROTHERHOOD

Jane Collins B.A. Assistant Editor of 'Dwarf News' has angered the Ancient Brotherhood of The Dwarfs of Albion, after she announced the shock news that she intends to marry controversial author Eric Von Smith. Play Dwarf, the unofficial name for the Dwarf's monthly newsletter, 'Tall Tales', has stripped Jane, only recently divorced from her second husband, the former 'Dwarf News' office boy Harry Collins, of her title 'Playmate of the Month'. There are rumours that they may even have issued a blood oath against her. As the Deputy Editor was unavailable, the Editor asked Sophie the Secretary if she could go to Oxford, and talk to Jane. She returned with the following report:

After the break up of her marriage, Jane told me privately last month that she was looking for a man who would appreciate her for her mind, rather than her body. She says that she has found this man in her new love, Author Eric Von Smith. "I've had enough of men who are only interested in one thing, Eric's not like that" Jane said, as she sat next to her fiancé, who is still confined to a wheelchair. "In the past, I've been a slave to my physical desires, but I'm over that stage of my life now. Eric and I have separate rooms", Jane revealed, admitting that she has now moved in with the author to look after him, and put the home that she shared with her first husband, Charles Longfellow, and her second husband, Harry Collins, up for sale. "The house has too many painful memories, and it's no good for Eric, because of his wheelchair". The couple are having modifications made to Mr Von Smith's twelve-bedroom Georgian mansion, which the author purchased after the success of his first book, *'Chariots Of The Dwarfs'*.

Eric Von Smith, the victim of a brutal kneecapping carried out by two female Dwarfs, as yet unidentified, admitted for the first time since the assault that his injuries were worse than initially thought. It appears that his attackers crushed more than just his kneecaps with their toffee hammers. "We are not going to be able to start a family, and the doctors have told me I shall be in a wheelchair for the rest of my life", he told me. Jane has confirmed this. "Our love is pure and spiritual. We don't need a physical relationship, our feelings for each other go beyond that sort of thing", she said.

The Ancient Brotherhood of The Dwarfs of Albion issued a blood oath against the author after publication of his book, which they have not yet carried it out. Although technically Eric has run out of kneecaps to break, the police have warned the couple to be on their guard. As well as having the house altered for Mr Von Smith's wheelchair, it is being turned into a fortress. "As Jane is also a possible target now, we have had the house surrounded by an eight foot high steel chain link fence. It is connected to a generator, and wired into a switch under the stairs", said Eric. "Any Dwarf who tries to climb over it is going to get hit with twenty thousand volts. That should stop the little buggers".

The wedding is next month, and Sophie has promised to write a report for 'Dwarf News', after she told the Editor that she has received an invitation. Jane has asked her to be the

Maid of Honour. “Always the Bridesmaid, never the Bride”, Sophie told the staff on her return to the office.

In a related story, the Chair of the Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain’s Rules Committee has told ‘Dwarf News’ that Jane has made an attempt to remain in the Society by claiming that Eric Von Smith is, technically, a Dwarf. As Jane is now divorced from her last Dwarf and husband, this is seen as a cynical attempt to remain a member of the Society. According to the rulebook, any Dwarf Keeper who loses their Dwarf must replace him or her within three months, or resign their membership. As it is a condition of employment at ‘Dwarf News’ that members of the editorial staff must be full members of the Society, Jane is facing the prospect of losing her job in three months time.

In a letter to the Rules Committee, Jane has quoted rule number four, which states that, for a person to be recognized as a Dwarf by the Society, their head “Must be less than the maximum specified distance from the ground, and the head concerned must also be closer to the ground than that of their partner, by at least the stated minimum difference”.

Jane has pointed out that, due to his being in a wheelchair, Eric Von Smith satisfies rule four on both counts. The Rules Committee has promised to look at her application as soon as possible.

‘DWARF NEWS ONLINE’ LAUNCHED AT BARREL BIKERS CUSTOM SHOW



Sophie the Secretary, Roger the poetry competition winner, and the Editor at the launch of ‘Dwarf News Online’ at the Barrel Biker’s Custom Show

Sun 8 August

The society has launched a new service for members, giving access to back issues, and the chance to discuss matters of concern with the ‘Dwarf News’ team. The service is available at; www.dwarfnews.co.uk

COURT DIARY

Thurs 19 August

The former editor of 'Dwarf News' has been sentenced to six months imprisonment, after pleading guilty to the charge of wasting police time.

Fri 20 August

Mrs Violet Small, the mother of radical Dwarf feminist Maxine Small, has settled her compensation claim against the police and the prison service for an undisclosed sum. Mrs Small, who's daughter committed Upsy Daisy while working unsupervised in the kitchen of Hollywell Prison, has told 'Dwarf News' that she has decided to retire to Jamaica on the proceeds of the settlement. A police spokesman told reporters, "With her payout, she could probably buy Jamaica".

Her barrister, Mr Arthur Law Q.C. has also filed a claim on behalf of Mrs Doris Small, mother of Minnie Small, demanding compensation for stress, and loss of reputation, after the police announced that Maxine, who was of Afro-Caribbean descent, was Minnie's twin sister.

OLYMPIC SPORTS NEWS

Dwarf Keepers throughout Britain were celebrating after our lady Dwarfs took the Gold Medal in the opening event, the basketball competition. The Americans, who have dominated the sport for years, were disqualified half way through the final. Their coach admitted afterwards that the drug problems in the team are worse than previously thought. "We suspended two players from the ladies team last month, after they tested positive for highballs. I had a good talk down to the other ladies, and thought the problem had been dealt with", he told reporters afterwards. "Once the final started, it was obvious that at least three of the other players had been taking highballs as well. They were so pissed that they kept falling off their stepladders".

The winning team's new state-of-the-art titanium stepladders, paid for by the Society after an appeal in 'Dwarf News', have now been passed to the all male snooker team, who are full of confidence regarding their medal chances when the event begins. There will be a report on this, and all the other competitions scheduled for the second week, in next month's issue.

Sadly, we have to report, once again, that Britain finished last in all three height divisions of the limbo dancing. The coach was philosophical. "People should remember that limbo dancing is not really a British activity", he pointed out. "A few years ago, people laughed at Eddie 'The Eagle' Edwards, but he held the British record as a ski jumper. He was the best this country has ever produced. With limbo dancing, it's not winning that's important, it's taking part without doing your back in that counts".

On track, the competition has seen the preliminary heats in the Floodlit Dwarf Racing competition. The British team, still reeling after the sad death of the Dwarf Owner's Racing Club president, Lady Felicia Crumble, nevertheless did well in the early stages. The International Federation of Dwarf Owner's officials are closely watching the event, as the sport's reputation for race fixing is well known. After the first round of the Sprint they have announced an enquiry into the result of the first and third races. The first race was won by the complete outsider, 'Slowcoach' Sidney Brown; after the other five competitors decided to stop for a smoke half way round the track. In the third race the favorite, 'Lightening' Larry Rogers, failed to finish. Larry, who told 'Dwarf News' last month that he feared for the safety of William Bigger, Britain's former Super-Dwarf, left the track in an ambulance, after his trap failed to open as the rest of the field made a good start. Before officials could release him for the restart, the trap mysteriously caught fire, and he was fortunate to escape with only minor burns. Larry spoke to our reporter as he was taken to the waiting ambulance, saying, "I was stupid. This is what happens when you talk to the press. You're not a reporter, are you?" One spectator claims to have seen William Bigger in the crowd, and said that the former British star appeared to be in poor condition. "He looked as though he had been drinking heavily, but when I tried to talk down to him he threw an empty meths bottle at me, and then disappeared into the crowd", he told our reporter. The organizers of the competition later held a collection among the spectators for 'Lightening' Larry, after news from the hospital that he would not be taking part in the competition during the second week. They raised twenty-seven pounds and fifty-one pence, five pesetas, and two buttons.

We have to report that our competitor finished last in the pole vault. This was not entirely unexpected, and the mood of the coach can probably be summed up by quoting the words of the guest announcer for the day, Mr Murray Walker, who told the crowd, "If all the other competitors hadn't been much better than he was, he would have finished first". Mr Walker agreed to be the guest announcer after the society's first choice, Gareth Gates, called in sick at short notice.

Be sure to read next month's edition, for all the news from the second week of the Dwarf Owner's Olympic Games.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To: The Editor
Dwarf News

Sir:

I note with dismay the dreadful doggerel perpetrated by certain of your readership, purporting to be poetry. In my opinion, there is far too much of this kind of thing in the respectable press these days, these people obviously have too much time on their hands.

The devil makes work for idle hands, sir, and these people would be better off for a regimen of 40-mile route marches, cold baths and six dozen lashes every day. This was my unfailing remedy for idleness in the Queen's Own Heavy Submarine Cavalry, it made me what I am today and I am proud of it. Give me charge of these scurrilous versificators, I'll soon make real men of them!

Yours sincerely

Major Arthur Dingforth-Sebag (Mrs.)
Indian Army (Retd.)

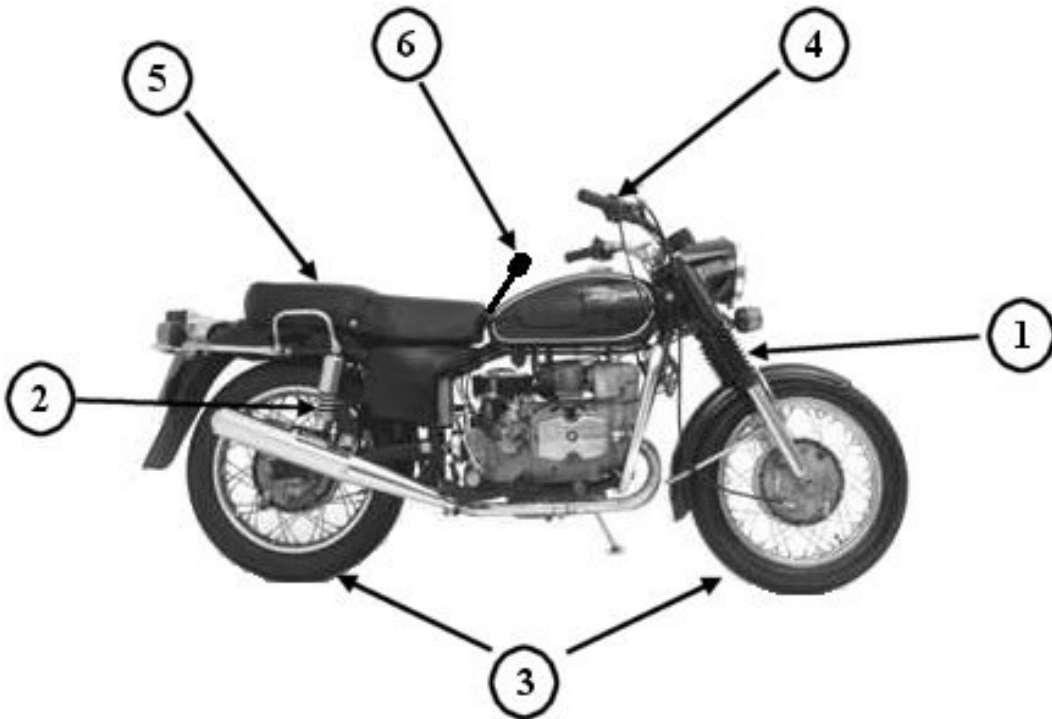
Dear Sir or Madam:

Thank you for your interesting letter. I was also a little disappointed by the standard of the entries received. One reader, who shall remain nameless, even tried to rhyme 'Bucket' with 'Muppet'. If I was Alex, I would hang my head in shame.

It is always a pleasure to hear from someone who served his or her country overseas, and I feel sure that your retirement followed a long and distinguished career. I too served my country in my youth, by enlisting for nine years in Her Majesty's Royal Air Force. My Commanding Officer's personal and oft-stated belief was that I did Queen and Country a far greater service by being discharged after only four.

Yours Sincerely,
The Editor,
'Dwarf News'.

URINAL SIDE STAND COMPETITION



- 1/ Air forks, charged from compressed air cylinders.
- 2/ Air shocks, also charged from cylinders.
- 3/ Tyres, automatically deflate on operation of air dump switch.
- 4/ Air dump switch.
- 5/ Compressed air cylinders for re-inflation, under seat.
- 6/ Emergency hand pump, in case air cylinders fail.

When the dump switch is operated, the tyres deflate, and the suspension collapses, allowing the lower frame rails to sit on the ground, therefore doing away with the need for a side stand. If the compressed air cylinder fails, the rider's expertise in manual dexterity is utilized by sitting on the seat and pumping back up by use of the emergency hand pump.

A half bottle of whisky is carried under one side panel, as the inventor claims that the rider's tendency to become a complete wanker after drinking whisky is well known.

For his design, Big Pete wins this month's exclusive 'Dwarf News' T-Shirt.

SUPPLEMENT

This month's supplement contains the first part of the Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain's A to Z yearbook, being compiled for release to members early next year. As the world of Dwarf Keeping is ever changing, readers are invited to submit their own entries, for inclusion in the list. The best suggestion will win a 'Dwarf News' T-Shirt.

Editor's Note - Although most of the personalities mentioned in the guide are listed by their surname, it has been decided to list assistant editor Jane Longfellow/Collins/Von Smith B.A. by her Christian name, for obvious reasons.

THE A TO Z OF DWARF KEEPING, (PART ONE)

A.D.A. – The American Dwarf Association. The transatlantic equivalent of the Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain.

Albion – The mythical homeland of the Dwarfs. Believed to refer to the Kingdom of King Arthur, where the first recorded Dwarfs lived. Claimed by Eric Von Smith to be the name of the Dwarf's home world. He suggests that, as a child, Arthur had a Dwarf nurse, who told him tales of a land where elastic was so common, it seemed to grow on trees. The author believes it is the memory of these stories that prompted King Arthur to name his Kingdom Albion. Recent discoveries in Italy point to Dwarfs having been present in Roman Britain, and it may be that mankind has lived with Dwarfs for longer than originally thought.

Ancient Brotherhood/Sisterhood of The Dwarfs of Albion – Two organizations for Dwarfs, run by the Dwarfs themselves. The Brotherhood has been around since the time of King Arthur, and may be thought of as a small-scale version of the Freemasons, the Sisterhood, a kind of Women's Institute in miniature, was formed in the early years of the twentieth century.

Atlantis – According to Eric Von Smith, an island in the Atlantic Ocean, about the size of the Isle of Wight, where the Dwarfs first lived after their arrival on Earth.

Auntie Rachel – A mysterious figure, believed to be the leader of Pink October. This organization is a secret society with very few members, who claim to be dedicated to raising money, "Some of it for charity".

Bigger, William – Nicknamed 'Super-Dwarf', the country's best-known Floodlit Dwarf racer, and holder of the British record at Last Dwarf Standing.

Blackpool Tower – The site of the highest scoring Upsy Daisy in recorded history, by Walter Peasegood, in September of nineteen sixty-three. He scored sixteen out of ten.

Blood Oath – A statement issued by a Dwarf, or a group of Dwarfs. Once a blood oath is issued, the Dwarf or Dwarfs concerned will carry it out, or commit Upsy Daisy if they fail. Sometimes used as a defense by a Dwarf accused of a disgraceful act, if he is subsequently found guilty, he is bound by his honour to commit Upsy Daisy, and not to winge about the verdict.

Bodkin, Doctor William – Chair, The little Known Department of Dwarf Psychiatry at Merkin College, Cambridge. Doctor Bodkin is the leading; some would say the only, specialist in this field. He finances his own department through donations from the Bodkin family trust fund, and claims that it is better than having to work for a living. Author of the book *‘Four Questions Of Life, With Answers Included’*.

Boudica – An ancient warrior queen, and champion Dwarf hunter.

Bricks – If rats are the Dwarf’s greatest biological enemies, then bricks must certainly be their least favorite inanimate objects, particularly for males. Whether they are placed in two large suitcases prior to an attempt at Upsy Daisy, sewn into a sack along with the Dwarf for a premature burial at sea, or used to neuter the Dwarf by his owner, male Dwarfs hate bricks. Possibly the main reason that you never see a really short bricklayer.

Bucket – A sex aid used by male Dwarfs, when copulating with a taller person in the standing position.

Cannarbis, Doctor Leon – Principle Reader of the Newly Established Department of Political Infighting at Merkin College, Cambridge. The youngest, and least popular, member of staff. (Amongst the faculty, he is certainly the most popular staff member among female students).

Chariots Of The Dwarfs – A book by controversial author Eric Von Smith, which has led to various Dwarf organizations issuing blood oaths against him.

Conker – The name given to one type of failure at Upsy Daisy, where the Dwarf’s body, plus the two large suitcases of bricks, continues downwards, however his head remains swinging on the end of the elastic.

Corkscrew – Another type of failure at Upsy Daisy, no longer a problem, since the discovery of elastic.

Crumble, Lady Felicia – Former president of the Dwarf Owner’s Racing Club, now deceased. Best known as the owner of William Bigger, a former champion racing Dwarf.

Darkley, Professor Hugo – Senior Lecturer in Applied Dwarf Lore at Merkin College, he holds a B.A. in the subject. Former teacher of Jane, and an occasional contributor to ‘Dwarf News’.

Dwarf – For the purposes of the Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain, a person whose head is less than the specified maximum distance above the ground, and who is shorter than their partner by more than the specified minimum amount. (Rule Four of the Society)

DwarfFest – An event held every year, by the Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain.

Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain – A Society for people, who have a partner who is considered a Dwarf, under Rule Four. (Rule Four is occasionally relaxed, even if the owner is shorter than their partner, providing the tallest of the couple is a known Dwarf). The first recorded Dwarf Keeper was one of Arthur’s knights, Sir Bedevere, described in an early copy of Sir Thomas Mallory’s *‘Morte D’Arthur’* as “Keeper of the King’s Dwarf”.

Elastic – A stretchy material, most commonly a bungee, used by a Dwarf, to commit Upsy Daisy.

Envelope – Chosen by a Dwarf, for the purpose of posting his remains to his relatives after a successful attempt at Upsy Daisy.

Fellowship Of The Ring – A nickname given to the Ancient Brotherhood of The Dwarfs of Albion, by radical Dwarf feminists.

Floodlit Dwarf Racing – A sport similar to greyhound racing, where six Dwarfs chase a stuffed rat around an oval track. The Dwarfs are given hammers, and chase the rat in the hope that they can beat six kinds of shit out of it. Apart from one recorded instance, they never catch it. The sport has a reputation for Dwarf knobbling and race fixing, and readers are advised not to waste their money backing the favorite.

Flower Arranging – A favorite pastime for members of the Ancient Sisterhood of The Dwarfs of Albion.

Fucking Great Hole In The Floor – Another kind of failure at Upsy Daisy. It is very similar to Conker, except that the Dwarf’s head remains attached to his body, due to the elastic snapping. Unless the Judges look up, or get dripped on, it is hard to tell the difference between the two.

Furry Dice – Yet another specific failure at Upsy Daisy, which leaves the Dwarf swinging in the air, much like the interior mirror ornaments used in cars. Unusually, the Dwarf who goes Furry Dice actually survives the attempt, though almost certainly with two dislocated shoulders.

Great Obstacles, First And Second – Two parts of an attempt at Upsy Daisy, which must be overcome in order to complete the attempt successfully. The first Great Obstacle involves hauling two large suitcases full of bricks to the top of the stepladder, the second involves remembering to let go of the suitcases at the bottom of the descent, just before starting to go back up again. To fail at the first usually means the Dwarf dying of a heart attack; to fail at the second results in the surviving Dwarf never having to bend down again, in order to lace his boots up.

Ground – The target in Upsy Daisy when jumping off the stepladder. If the Dwarf has done all his calculations correctly, he will not reach it.

Hammer – The favorite tool of all male Dwarfs, and most taller men as well. Used in the fine adjustment of delicate safety equipment and electrical appliances. Also carried by racing Dwarfs, the latest models have carbon fibre handles, to reduce weight. Most British racing Dwarfs still use the old hickory, due to their owners being too tight to provide them with modern equipment.

Highballs – Not related to the taller people's cocktail of the same name, a Dwarf highball is an illegal substance taken by some sporting Dwarfs, mainly Americans, to make them taller. It consists of twelve ounces of single malt whisky, into which is dropped two tablespoonfuls of liquidized giraffe's testicles. It has unpleasant side effects, particularly for the giraffe.

Ireland – Home of the Leprechaun, a subspecies of Dwarf only found in the Emerald Isle. The All Ireland Dwarf and Leprechaun Appreciation Society is now incorporated into the Dwarf Owners Society of Great Britain.

Iron Bru – The favorite drink of Scottish Dwarfs.

Jane Longfellow/Collins/Von Smith? (Formerly Walters) – Assistant Editor of 'Dwarf News'. Jane is rarely at work, as she is either on annual leave, compassionate leave, honeymoon, or suspended pending police enquiries. At Merkin College, Cambridge, where she was awarded a B.A. in Applied Dwarf Lore, Jane is considered a budding

intellectual, who may one day return to take up a Professorship. At 'Dwarf News', she is watched closely by the Editor and Deputy Editor, who are convinced she is after their jobs. Until her relationship with Eric Von Smith, she was the favorite pin-up of male Dwarfs, due to revelations about her private life. A former 'Play Dwarf' Playmate of the Month, now stripped of her title after following her engagement to the controversial author of '*Chariots Of The Dwarfs*'.

Jordan – A model with a surgically enlarged chest. Most young male Dwarfs seem to like women with large breasts, possibly because they make a nice, soft pillow. A favorite Dwarf pin-up, and voted 'Best Use For A Stepladder' in a recent poll of 'Play Dwarf' readers.

Judges – A vital part of the Dwarf World, whether they are Show Judges at DwarfFest, or Junior and Senior Judges for an attempt at Upsy Daisy. (See also: Smallpiece, Ivor).

King Arthur – Ancient British King, the ruler of Albion. King Arthur is a favorite figure in Dwarf mythology.

Kneecapping – Traditional Dwarf punishment, carried out against taller people who have offended them. Sometimes used against other Dwarfs who have upset a Dwarf organization. The most recent recorded case was against author Eric Von Smith. In this particularly brutal example, the two assailants used toffee hammers, and delivered over thirty blows to each kneecap. Police have so far been unable to trace the culprits.

Knitting – Another favorite pastime for members of the Ancient Sisterhood of The Dwarfs of Albion.

Last Dwarf Standing – The final race at a Floodlit Dwarf Racing event, as afterwards the competitors are completely knackered. The record for this event is twenty-six laps, set by Super-Dwarf William Bigger, at a meeting in April 2004, two months before the death of his owner, Lady Felicia Crumble.

Leonardo De Vinci – Claimed by author Eric Von Smith to have been the first man to attempt to put a Dwarf into space by means of a giant crossbow, which needed a team of thirty oxen to wind it up. The author says that later tries were partially successful, however the barrels had a tendency to burn up on re-entry.

Little Hampton Hospital – Experts on the treatment of Dwarfs, and specialists at complaints of the small intestine. For female Dwarf Keepers who are worried by the sight of blood, they have a walk in/carry out service for neutering, which is half price all day Thursday. You must book in advance, and ensure your Dwarf is already insensible through drink before you arrive, however.

Louise – A young lady with a nice taste in T-shirts, suspected of being a Dwarf who lies about her height by Jane, who is convinced she is a leading member of the New Age Sisterhood of The Dwarfs of Albion. Louise claims to be five feet eight inches tall, and everyone accepts this. Jane claims that this proves Louise is really a Dwarf. She points out that if Louise said she was six feet two, nobody would believe her. However, everyone believes her when she claims to be five feet eight. As only Dwarfs are good at lying about their height, because taller people do not need to, this proves that Louise is, in fact, a Dwarf. (During her time at Merkin College, Jane decided to study Reverse Logic as a second subject).

Merkin – Dwarf slang for a wig. Amongst themselves, a Dwarf with a hairpiece is said to be wearing a merkin. This is believed to be due to the fact that a Dwarf’s toupee, when worn, is the same height above the ground as a merkin, or pubic wig.

Merkin College, Cambridge – Premier center for Dwarf related studies in England, and acknowledged world wide as the experts in the field.

Minogue, Kylie – A famous Australian Dwarf, who now spends most of her time in France.

(The second part of the A to Z will be published in next month’s supplement).

LATE NEWS

Wed 26 August

After the test copies of this month’s issue were printed, staff at the office were pleased to welcome back the Deputy Editor, who has been on an enforced holiday. (See letter, front page). He has reported being picked up from his home, and taken for a drive in the country. “I’ve been staying at a nice house, with two ladies, about an hour’s drive from my place”, he told the editor. “I’m sorry I can’t give you any more details, only I spent the last fortnight with a sack over my head”. We are pleased to report that his legs still bend in the middle.

Thurs 27 August

The Rules Committee have turned down a request by Jane Collins B.A. Assistant Editor of ‘Dwarf News’, to have author Eric Von Smith registered as a Dwarf by the Society, under rule four. “Jane was perfectly correct when quoting the rule concerned, “A person whose head is less than the specified maximum distance from the ground”, the Chairman of the Rules Committee told our reporter, “But she failed to quote the last two words of

the rule, “When standing”. The Dwarf Keeper Royal has advised her that an appeal is unlikely to succeed.

A collection among staff at the office to buy a wedding present for Jane and Eric Von Smith has raised enough money to buy a bicycle pump and a puncture repair kit. We are sure the couple will be delighted. Sophie has promised to deliver these gifts when she attends the happy event, as Maid of Honour. Other staff members have not yet received invitations, probably due to a delay at the local sorting office.