

That would be enough

This has been issue 231 of *To Win Just Once*, published 6th February 2023. It incorporates *Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses*, a game of *En Garde!*. Issues are published ten times a year, roughly every five weeks. © Paul Evans 2023

Deadlines

Orders for *Railway Rivals* to Mike by Friday 17th February 2023.

Orders for *LPBS* and By Popular Demand plus any other contributions to Pevans by Friday 24th February 2023.

(Next deadlines: 24th/31st March, 28th April/5th May, 2nd/9th June)

Waiting lists

En Garde! new players are always welcome in *Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses*. You will need the rules to *En Garde!* in order to play: www.engarde.co.uk

Railway Rivals – Chris Rudram and Rob Pinkerton are in the queue for the next game. (Working map and rules provided).

Star Trader – Mike Dyer and Pevans are up for a game. Who else? (Rules provided)

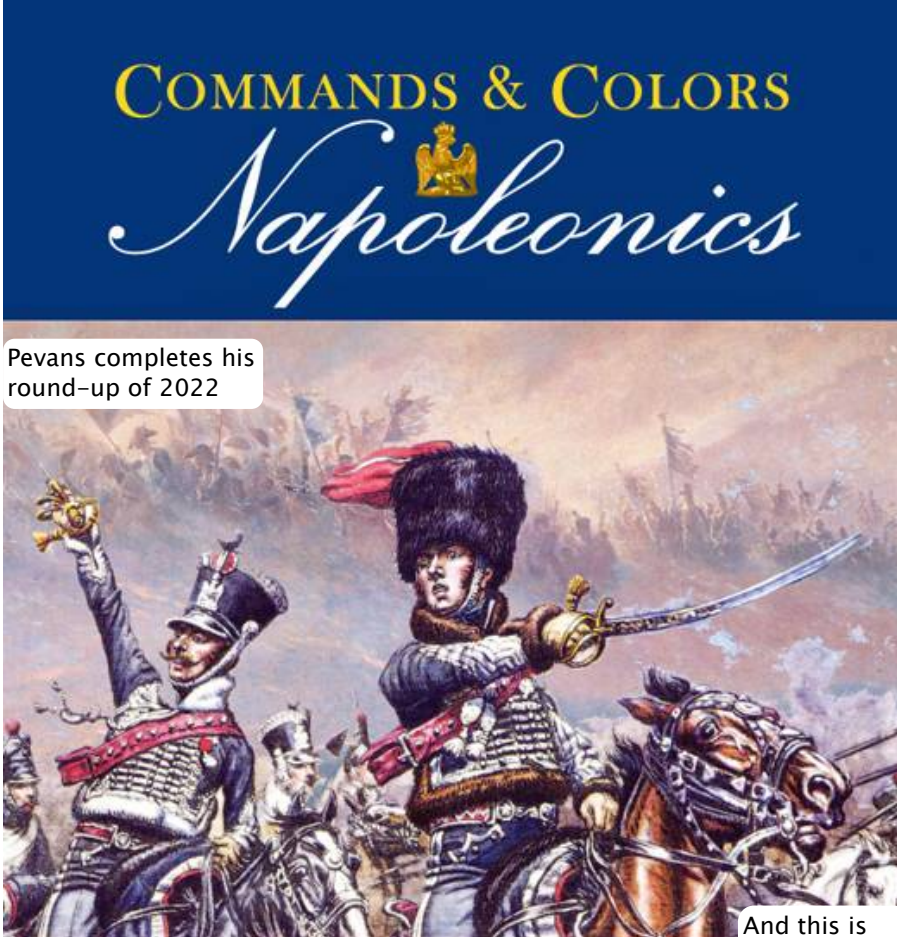
Credits

To Win Just Once issue 231 was written and edited by Pevans. The *LPBS* masthead (page 2019) is by Lee Brimmicombe-Wood, as are the drawings on pages 23, 24, 25 and 26. The illustrations on pages 21 and 22 are by Tim Wiseman. Game and book artwork is courtesy of the publisher. Pevans took the photos and played with Photoshop.

Printed and published by Margam Evans Limited
(A company registered in England and Wales, number 05152842,
Registered office: 180 Aylsham Drive, Uxbridge UB10 8UF)
Tel: 020 7183 6256, E-mail: TWJO@pevans.co.uk,
Web: www.pevans.co.uk/TWJO

To Win Just Once

(incorporating *Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses*)



COMMANDS & COLORS
Napoleonic

Pevans completes his round-up of 2022

And this is the game he played most

15 Napoleonic Battles
France vs England

Game Designer
RICHARD BORG

The Napoleonic
Battlefield
Game

Now YOU are in command!

GMT
GAMES

©2010 GMT Games LLC, Hanford, CA, USA

By Rodger B. MacGowan ©2010

Issue 231: February 2023

(LPBS 367: September 1674)

£1.90 (+ postage)

and online at www.pevans.co.uk/TWJO

Contents

Contents 2

Chatter..... 3

Letters..... 5

Played in '22 6
 Pevans rounds up the year 6

Reading matter..... 10

Games Events..... 11

By Popular Demand 12
 Turn 5 results and scores..... 12

Seahill (Railway Rivals game 17 – RR2509I(N)) 16
 Turn 6 16
 Seahill map 17

Subscribing to TWJO 18

Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses 20
 September 1674 (367) 20
 Press 27
 Points Arising 29
 Announcements 30
 Duels 31
 New Characters 31
 Tables 31
 Army Organisation and 1675's Summer Deployment 31
 Brigade Positions 32
 Frontier Regiments 32
 Battle Results 32
 Other Appointments 32
 Femmes Fatales 33
 Regiments 33
 The Greasy Pole 34

That would be enough 36
 Deadlines 36
 Waiting lists 36
 Credits 36

ID	Name	SL	SPs	Cash	Rank,	Regiment/Appointment	MA	Last seen	Club	EC	Player
CdN	Claude de Nord	11	F	Comfy	Major	KM	3		Hunt	4	Andrew Larder
FS	Sir Felipe Savant	11	+ 44	Poor	Captain	RFG	5	Pet	BG	4	Brick Amundsen
CO	Claude Oppere	11	+ 40	Poor	Lt.Colonel	DG	3		Hunt	6	Paul Murphy
ZvT	Zeold von Tu	11	+ 38	OK	Subaltern	RFG/BdGen's Aide (BeV)	5		Hunt	3	Tim Macaire
BS	Sir Balzac Slapdash	10	30	Comfy	B.Bdr-General	PLLD	12	Alison	Hunt	5	Matthew Wale
HWB	Hector William Boone	10	11	Comfy			5		Hunt	5	Paul Wilson
MP	Maurice Pauvre	9	20	Comfy	Colonel	PM	3		Hunt	4	James Waters
LSD	Louis Severin Descartes	9	+ 40	Withy	Lt.Colonel	GDMD/FMshl's Aide	2	Sheila	BG	1	Chris Schotmann
RdH	Roger d'Horne	9	+ 31	Comfy	Lt.Colonel	QOC	1	Henrietta	HCds	4	Steven Malecek
LV	Lascar Vivrebras	9	+ 28	Comfy	Subaltern	RFG	4		BG	4	Olaf Schmidt
AC	Alexandre Capone	8	- 7	Poor	Captain	ALC/ALC Regt. Adjit.	3		BG	5	Ray Vahey
HT	Henri Tard	8	F	Comfy			7		BG	3	Nigel Monaghan
AICH	Alvin Charles	7	19	OK	Major	GDMD	4		F&P	2	Graeme Wilson
TdLL	Thomas de la Lune	7	+ 22	OK	B.Bdr-General	4A	3	Violet	F&P	5	Peter Card
TS	Tristand Sault	6	12	Poor	Major	GDMD	4			2	Mark Nightingale
SI	Sid Inducque	6	F	OK			1			4	Nik Luker
X2		5	0	Poor			5			3	Gerry Sutcliffe
VdIP	Vinne d'Pooh	5	+ 24	Comfy	Major	RM/1 F Brigade Maj.	4		RP	2	Terry Crook
JCE	Jean-Claude Etienne	4	+ 37	Comfy	B.Major	RM	7	Viv	RP	4	Tim Rattray
FXF	François-Xavier Flamand	4	+ 18	Poor	Major	PLLD	2	Thomasina	RP3	Robert Strudwick	
FLV	Fouche La Vache	3	+ 14	Poor	Private	GDMD	3			2	Pauli Kidd

An F under SPs means that the character was at the Front, RIP that he died. Ret that he retired.

+ against SL means it went up this month, - means it went down.

Cash: Poor = <500, OK = 500-1500, Comfy = 1500-5000, Withy = 5000-10000, Rich = 10000-25000, Flthy = 25000+

Last seen is the lady the character was last seen with in public.

EC is Endurance Class: 1 = <60, 2 = 60-90, 3 = 91-120, 4 = 121-159, 5 = 160-200, 6 = 201+

The Greasy Pole

ID	Name	SL	SPs	Cash	Rank	Regiment/Appointment	MA	Last seen	Club	EC	Player
LdH	Count Leonard de Hofstadt	27+	87	Withy	General/Min w/o Port		7	Frances	Flr	5	Neil Packer
BRJS	Count Beau Reese Jean Seine	24	63	Fithy	B.Bdr-General RFG/State Min.		12		Flr	4	Bill Hay
PC	Count Pierre Cardigan	24	34	Withy			10	Edna	Flr	5	Matt Shepherd
JdG	Count Jacques de Gain	24+	75	Fithy	Fld Marshal		24		Flr	6	Ben Brown
JJ	Count Jean Jeanie	23	45	Fithy	General		32	Jacky	Flr	3	Andrew Kendall
BdLS	Count Bernard de Lur-Saluces	22	57	Fithy	Lt-General		18		Flr	3	Rob Pinkerton
TC	Viscount Terence Cuckpowder	21	38	Comfy	Bdr-General/HGds Brigadier		6		Flr	6	Mike Dommert
BeV	Earl Ben e'Volence	21+	91	Withy	B.Bdr-General CPC/Min w/o Port		9	Lotte	Flr	3	Ash Casey
GdB	Viscount Greg de Bécqueur	20	F	Rich	B.Bdr-General/KM/Gds Brigadier		11		Flr	5	Anthony Gilbert
CdP	Baron Camille de Polignac	20+	61	OK	Lt.Colonel RFG		4	Angelina	Flr	4	James McReynolds
Anon	Baron Les Anonyme	19	51	OK	Bdr-General/Min w/o Port		3	Carole	Flr	4	Bruno Giordan
XM	Baron Xavier Money	17	46	Withy	Bdr-General/Min w/o Port		7	Kathy	Flr	3	Pam Udowiczenko
HDS	Marquis Henri DuShite	17+	58	Rich	B.Bdr-General RM		13		Both	4	Dave Marsden
LS	Lou Scannon	16	50	Rich	Captain RFG/C.Prnce Aide		4	Bess	Both	2	John Cooke
RS	Baron Rick Shaw	16+	68	Withy	B.Lt-General/Adjutant Gen		2	Maggie	Both	6	Charles Burrows
EdL	Baron Eclair de Lame	15	35	Rich	Major RFG		12		Both	3	Peter Farrell
GM	Sir Gaz Moutarde	15	31	Withy	Bdr-General		4		Both	2	Mike Clibborn-Dyer
TIH	Tarquin le Hatter	15	F	Comfy	Lt.Colonel KM		2		Both	5	Jason Fazackarley
NM	Sir Neville Moore	14	33	Withy	Captain RFG		4	Freda	Hunt	2	Cameron Wood
PFL	Sir Phillippe F'Loppe	14	24	Comfy	Colonel DG		4		HGds	4	Phil Urquhart
ZUT	Baron Zavier Ulric Turenne	14+	66	Withy	Lt-General/Min w/o Port		4	Laura	Both	1	Bob Blanchett
JiT	Marquis Justin Thyme	14+	60	Withy	B.Bdr-General QOC		11	Guinevere	Both	2	Gerald Udowiczenko
CT	Sir Charles Trenet	14+	54	Rich	Major RFG		1	Leia	Both	3	Graeme Morris
PaN	Pierre a'Noyer	12	38	Poor	Captain RFG/Capt.K's Esc		3	Sue	Hunt	3	Tym Norris
MdG	Martin de Garnache	12	38	Comfy	Captain RFG		3	Fifi	Both	4	Bill Howell
LR	Sir Louis Renault	12	34	Withy	B.Lt-General		2	Di	Hunt	4	Roy Bleasdale
JH	Sir Jacques Hatt	12	21	Comfy	Bdr-General/Drgn Brigadier		4	Cath	Both	3	Joel Halpern
PCR	Sir Petit-Garson Riche	12	17	Comfy	Major QOC		1	Emma	HGds	2	Mark Cowper

Chatter

Winter in south-east England means cloudy, grey days (hence the HS2 works having floodlights on at 2 pm), lots of rain and mild temperatures. Hence my walks are increasingly muddy. It's now reached the stage of real suck-your-boots-off mud. Until we have a cold snap, when the mud freezes.

The rain means the River Pinn is trying hard to live up to its status with the water flowing rapidly. As a result, Pooh Sticks has got less interesting: the sticks hurtle under the bridge, so there's no anticipation, and come out in the same formation they hit the water. Definitely no scope for floating donkeys.

Walking in the other direction, the waterway is the Yeading Brook (note the lack of pretension here – though it is smaller than the Pinn). This, too, has had a brisk flow in the wet weather. It's also where there are some fenced fields in the marsh – where sheep may safely graze. Here's Yeading Brook in mid-Jan with a sheep just about visible in the background.



I'm amused that the gate into the field with the sheep is padlocked shut when it's easy to go over the stile into the adjacent field and then hop across the fence. So no real barrier to walkers. However, as Geraldine pointed out, it's much harder to hop over the fence if you've got stolen (rustled?) sheep in tow.



And here's a clearer view of one sheep. Grazing safely behind the padlocked gate.

Tabletop Gaming notes

I haven't whinged about typos in *TiG* for a while, but I recently caught up with the October issue. In an interesting piece about Leder Games' upcoming *Ahoy*, Christopher John Egget uses "dice" as both plural and singular while also using "die" for the singular and, on one occasion, "dye". Yes, I know, "consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds", but "dye" is just wrong and having to check whether "dice" is plural or singular each time is distracting. At least that's one a spell-checker wouldn't have caught. A few pages on we have an article on solo games with the subtitle "A Conversation with Oneself". Oops!

The same issue contains James Wallis's take on the 2021 and 2022 Spiel des Jahres winners – a follow up to his series looking at SdJ winners through the years. The winner in 2021 was *MicroMacro Crime City*, in which participants pore over an incredibly detailed drawing to solve crimes. James describes it as "great fun" and concludes "If there was a scale for measuring the pleasure you can get from a game-experience, *MicroMacro* would rate very highly."

I don't get it. As far as I can see, it's a giant "Where's Wally" that requires magnifying glasses and the fanatical devotion of the Spanish Inquisition. It's a puzzle. A very clever one that builds narrative into the drawings. And has a cooperative element (though I'm not sure if this extends past taking turns with the magnifying glass).

James argues that my position "can and should be ignored. The boundaries of what is and isn't a game aren't fixed, they are being pushed back all the time". And he's right. However, to my mind, *MicroMacro* remains a puzzle rather than a game. There's no opponent, apart from the designers, and, once solved, you know the answer and can't repeat the experience (though *MicroMacro* contains multiple crimes to solve). That sounds like a puzzle to me. (As I've written before, I have a similar issue with solitaire games, but these usually have variables that change the challenge/experience each time.)

Femmes Fatales

No	Name	SL	Attr	Lover
66	Morgane Le Fay	24	B	
67	Justine Caisse	22	I	
65	Therèse Le Vert	21	B/W	
7	Chris Pacquette	19		
61	Bette Noire	19	I/W	
64	Edna Bucquette	18	W	PC
3	Kathy Pacific	17	B	XM
35	Katy Did	16	I	
42	Maggie Nifisent	16	B	RS
55	Jacky Tinne	16		JJ
52	Guinevere d'Arthur	15	B/W	JiT
10	Frances Forrin	14	B	LdH
48	Fifi	14	B/W	MdG
62	Alison Wunderlandt	14		BS
11	Laura de Land	13		ZUT
27	Lucy Fur	13	B	
30	Leia Orgasma	13	B	CT
45	Cath de Thousands	13		JH
8	Lotte Bottle	12	B	BeV
17	Henrietta Carrotte	12	I/W	RdH
28	Vera Cruz	12		NM
31	Bess Ottede	12	I/W	LS
1	Sue Briquet	11	B	PaN
23	Agnes Sorel	11	I/W	
40	Sheila Kiwi	11		LSD
63	Carole Singeurs	11		Anon
20	Emma Roides	10	I	PGR
38	Pet Ulante	10	W	FS
43	Di Lemmere	10	I	LR
53	Angelina de Griz	10	B	CdP
6	Viv Ayschus	9		JCE
59	May Banquot l'Idée	9		
19	Jenny Russe	8	W	
32	Sal Munella	8	W	
47	Eve Ningalle	8	I/W	
34	Freda de Ath	7	W	PFL
39	Thomasina Tancenjin	7	I	FXF
5	Belle Epoque	6	B/I	
24	Violet Bott	6	I/W	TdIL
25	Lois de Lô	5	B	

Mistresses in Paris. Attr(IBUTES): B=Beautiful, I=Influential, W=Wealthy. Lover only if seen in public this month.

Regiments

Col	RFG	CG	KM	DG	OOC	ALC	CPC	RM	GDMDPM	13F	PLLD	53F	27M	4A	69A	Gscn
LCol	BRJS	N5	GdB+	PFL	RdH		BeV	HDS	LSD	MP	N5	BS	N5	N7		N5
Maj 1	CdP	N3	TIH	CO	RDH		N1				N6	N6				
Maj 2	EdL	N3*	CdN		PGR		N1+	VdP+	TS		FXF					
Capt 1	CT	N5*	N1+	N4	N5		JCE	AICh								
Capt 2	NM	N5	N1+	N4	N1		N6	N2	N5*							
Capt 2	LS	N2	N3	N2	N4		N3	N5	N3							
Capt 3	MdG	N2	N4*	N1	N4		N4	N2	N3							
Capt 4	PaN			N6*	N4*		N5	N4	N3							
Capt 5	FS															
Capt 6																

This table shows the ten senior positions in the 17 regiments by rank. Entries are Character abbreviations, N (+MA) for NPCs, blank for vacant. * shows the regiment adjutant; + indicates the reserve position of a character assigned elsewhere due to their appointment or brevet rank.

Brigade Positions

Guards Brigade	GdB/N/N1
Horse Guards Brigade	TC/___/___
Heavy Brigade	N2/N/N1
Dragoon Brigade	JH/___/___
First Foot Brigade	N4/N/VdP
Second Foot Brigade	N5/N/___
Third Foot Brigade	N3/N/N5
Fourth Foot Brigade	N4/N/N5

Current CO/Aide/Brigade Major of each Brigade; entries are ID for player characters, “N” (+ MA if needed) for NPC, __ for vacant

Frontier Regiments

	F1	F2	F3	F4	(Defence for Sept-Nov) RNHB
Colonel	N5	N3	N2	N3	N8
Attached				HT	SI
Also at the Front	Guards Brigade (Cardinal's Guard, King's Musketeers)				

This table shows the Colonels of the Frontier regiments (“N” + MA for NPCs), together with the volunteers assigned for the season.

Battle Results

Guards Brigade: 1
Cardinal's Guard: 4
King's Musketeers: 3

Frontier regiment 1: 3
Frontier regiment 2: 1
Frontier regiment 3: 5
Frontier regiment 4: 4
RNHB regiment: 4

Other Appointments

King's Escort: Ensign N	Captain PaN
Cardinal's Escort: Ensign N	Captain N
Aides: to Crown Prince LS	to Field Marshal LSD
Provincial Military Governors: N/N/N/N/N	
City Military Governor N	Adjutant-General RS
Inspectors-General: of Cavalry N	of Infantry N
Commissioner of Public Safety __	
Chancellor of the Exchequer __	
Minister of Justice __	
Minister of War N (until end November 1674)	
Minister of State BRJS (until end January 1675)	

Shows who holds appointments outside military units (except Aides): ID for Characters, “N” for NPC, __ for vacant, “CPS” for extra posts held by the CPS

Online stats

December's figures show the PDFs of *TWJO* 229 were downloaded 127 times to make 262 in just over a month. Issue 228 got a further 40 downloads, making a total of 296 in three months.

TWJO 230 arrived at the start of January and the PDFs have been downloaded 204 times during the month. January added 34 more downloads for issue 229, taking it to 296 in two months and 30 for *TWJO* 228, making 326 since publication.

Other interesting stats are that my 2010 review of *Age of Industry* (Martin Wallace's clever development of *Brass*) received a lot of visits and downloads. I wonder what prompted that? This stands out from the reviews that always attract visitors – and the numerous attempts to find a way in to WordPress on my site. The latter would probably be less amusing if I actually used WordPress.

Letters

Charles Burrows chips in on the seasonal matter of mince pies.

I enjoy the Waitrose brown butter mince pies. I thought they were a cut above the usual fare. I am more of Christmas cake and Yule log man though.

Nothing wrong with them, Charles. I just prefer Wenzel's. To each his own.

Jonathan Palfrey chips in on my reading matter.

On Heinlein, I reread The Moon is a Harsh Mistress and Double Star not long ago, and thought they were OK, gave both 3 out of 5, but I thought better of Heinlein when I was young. The general standard of writing in sf and fantasy is higher these days.

The first half of Stranger in a Strange Land still makes quite a good story if you can overlook the dated aspects of it.

I think Moon over Soho is one of the lesser books in Aaronovitch's saga of Peter Grant and the Folly [the Rivers of London series]. It's not that bad a story, but the tragic aspect of it makes me sad, and Peter goes on running up dead ends in his sex life for a while.

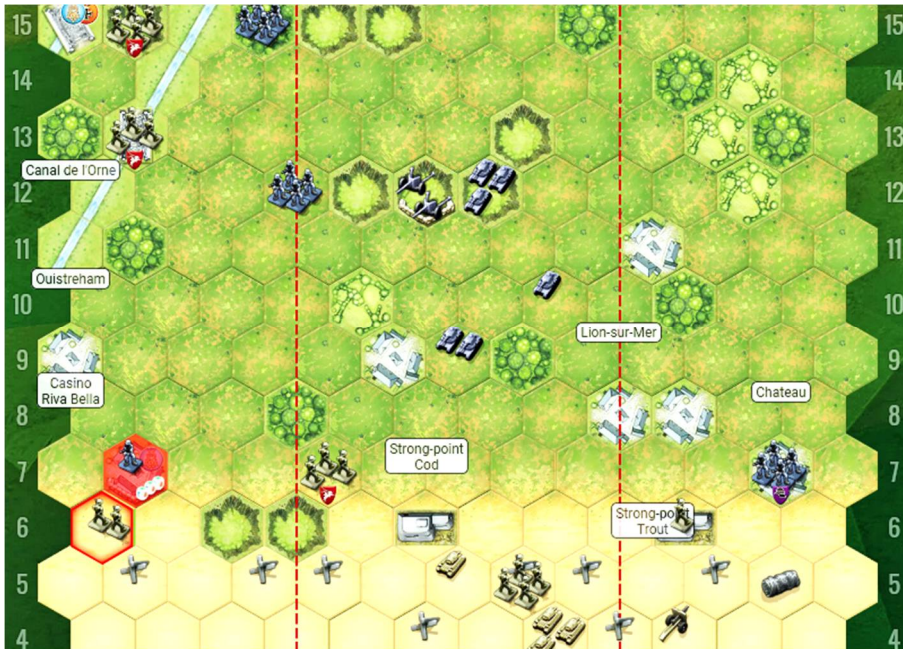
As I noted last time, acquiring dodgy romantic partners seems to be the lot of fictional detectives.

Played in '22

Pevans rounds up the year

For the last few years I've been recording the games I play (in real time, anyway) on BoardGameGeek. This means I can look back at what I played last year, see what was popular and spot the games I should be playing more often. I covered most of the new stuff last issue and I won't repeat them here.

It's no surprise that the *Commands & Colors* family is top of the list. 32 plays for *Commands & Colors: Napoleonics*, mostly on Vassal (www.vassalengine.org). 18 plays of *Memoir '44*, particularly now that it's implemented on BGA (screenshot below). This is much more convenient than Days of Wonder's stand-alone app - available at www.memoir44.com or on Steam - and supports some of the Breakthrough scenarios that I prefer. And just one play of *C&C: Ancients*. That's a total of 51 - very nearly a game a week. It's odd that I haven't fitted in any *Samurai Battles* or *The Great War*, both of which I really like, and I must play more *Ancients* and some *Battlelore*.



Memoir '44: the Sword Beach Breakthrough scenario on BGA with the Allies poised to win. British tanks punched through the centre, only to meet German armour. There's been intense fighting on the beach and the paras have held Pegasus bridge (top left).

Duels

Results of September's duels

Alexandre Capone didn't turn up to fight Tarquin le Hatter and lost SPs.

"adv." shows who (if anyone) has the advantage of higher Expertise: his first duelling sequence need only contain six actions.

Grudges to settle next month

Phillipe F'Loppe (Sabre, Seconds BeV, adv.) and Petit-Garson Riche (Sabre, 1 rests) have mutual cause for being in enemy regiments.

All duels listed above (including any to be voted on) must be fought next month unless held over (below). Orders conditional on a challenge being voted cause are acceptable.

New Characters

Jacob Andersson gets the Bastard son of a very wealthy Merchant: Init SL 2; Cash 450; MA 3; EC 3 (X1).

Tables

Army Organisation and 1675's Summer Deployment

First Army (Defence)	--/--/N2/N
Cavalry Division (Defence)	N4/N/N2
Heavy Brigade (Defence) - ALC CPC	
Dragoon Brigade (Defence) - GDMD PLLD	
Frontier Division (Defence)	N1/N/N3
Frontier Regiments (Defence)	
Second Army (Siege)	--/--/N4/N
First Division (Assault)	N1/N/N4
Guards Brigade (Assault) - RFG CG KM	
1st Foot Brigade (Assault) - RM PM	
RNHB Regiment (Assault)	
Second Division (Siege)	N3/N/N2
2nd Foot Brigade (Siege) - 13F 53F	
3rd Foot Brigade (Siege) - 27M 4A	
4th Foot Brigade (Siege) - 69A Gscn	
Horse Guards Brigade (Field Ops) - DG QOC	

Organisation and Deployment for the Campaign Season with Army and Division posts (Commander/Aide/Adjutant/QMG)
 Entries are ID for player characters, "N" (+ MA if needed) for NPC, __ for vacant

X2 (Gerry Sutcliff) was floated at his request.

Notes

The *En Garde!* rules are available to LPBS players at a reduced rate: see any month's Points Arising page at www.pevans.co.uk/LPBS.

There's an email group for *En Garde!* players and GMs, providing a forum to swap stories and ideas. Sign up at: <https://groups.io/g/EnGarde>

Announcements

Camille de Polignac applies for Aide to Field Marshal

Camille de Polignac applies for Chancellor of Exchequer

Camille de Polignac applies for Minister without Portfolio

Camille de Polignac applies for Minister of Justice

Charles Trenet asks NPC Brigade Major of Guards Brigade to resign

Charles Trenet asks NPC Brigade Major of Heavy Brigade to resign

Charles Trenet asks NPC Brigade Major of 3rd Foot Brigade to resign

Charles Trenet asks NPC Brigade Major of 4th Foot Brigade to resign

Charles Trenet asks NPC Aide to General of First Army to resign

Charles Trenet asks NPC Aide to General of Second Army to resign

Reminders: It is worth sending orders in even if they're late: I may be able to action the orders and should be able to use any press. It also reassures me that you're still there.

Orders (and press) should be emailed to lpbsorders@pevans.co.uk – you'll get an automated reply when the message arrives in my mailbox. Please give your name and your character's name and specify actions in full detail. If you want a query answered before the deadline, please use LPBS@pevans.co.uk instead.

Charles Trenet asks NPC Aide to General of Third Army to resign

Charles Trenet asks NPC Aide to General (JJ) to resign

Charles Trenet asks NPC Aide to General (LdH) to resign

Charles Trenet applies for Brigade Major of Guards Brigade

Charles Trenet applies for Brigade Major of Heavy Brigade

Charles Trenet applies for Brigade Major of 3rd Foot Brigade

Charles Trenet applies for Brigade Major of 4th Foot Brigade

Charles Trenet applies for Aide to General

Louis Severin Descartes asks these to volunteer: ALC – whole Regt



Second is *Scythe* with 14 plays. Specifically, the Steam (www.steampowered.com) implementation, which has become a regular (more than monthly!) favourite. I even win occasionally.

I played *Undaunted: Normandy* ten times (I thought it was 11) through the year in two sessions with nephew Tom. He won nine of those games! On those stats I must be doing something wrong. Though each individual play just felt like bad luck. More practice needed – and we should try the *North Africa* game.

Ark Nova was played five times, including solitaire games and those with the Ruislip group. I reviewed this in *TWJO* 228, so won't go on about it here.

I also got in five plays of *Azul*. Unsurprisingly, my 100% record from my first two games (back in 2019) has long gone. I'm only a 43% winner now.

There were five plays, too, for *Can't Stop* (one of my favourite fillers) and *Terraforming Mars*. The Steam implementation of the latter has become another regular online game in recent months as having the computer handling the admin makes play so much more convenient.



Played three times were Corné van Moorsel's latest, *Exhibition: 20th Century* (see *TWJO* 221), the fun *Lost Ruins of Arnak* (*TWJO* 223), neat filler *Lucky Numbers*, the absolutely not addictive (I can give it up any time, honestly) *Obsession* (reviewed in *TWJO* 226), the new-to-me and hugely entertaining *Secret Hitler*, the still challenging *Space Base* and the evergreen *Thurn and Taxis*.

Other highlights were *Food Chain Magnate* (why haven't I played this more?), *Power Grid* (played two, won two), the statutory minimum (in my world) of one



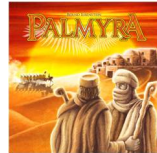
Undaunted: Normandy and a stonking win for Tom's Americans in scenario 4. There's only one German unit left on the board!

game of *Tales of the Arabian Nights* and *Tapestry* (played twice, thrashed twice). A total of 65 different games.



What I don't log on BGG are the many turn-based games I play online at various websites. Or the games I play through 'zines. For some reason it just doesn't seem appropriate. However, let me see what I can report.

I play *Agricola* on Boîte à Jeux (www.boiteajeux.net) with the West Front crew: 11 games finished in 2022, so that's roughly one a month (though we generally have several on the go at once). Startlingly, I appear to have won seven of these! Plus one tie for first place. The other game I play on this site is Bernd Eisenstein's *Palmyra* which I really enjoy, despite it being almost abstract. Fourteen games finished in 2022, eight of them won by me - I'm currently the No 2 ranked player of the game on BaJ, despite only winning 49% of my games. Go figure.



Food Chain Magnate getting started, though my pizza parlour could have been better positioned.

still my favourite of Phil Eklund's Pax games, at 18 plays. Yucata ranks me 67th out of 965, so I must be doing something well.

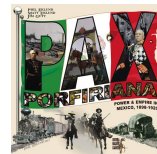
Vinci comes second, with 14 plays. I really enjoy this game and am surprisingly successful at it - I'm ranked 45th out of 1,118 players.



Grand Austria Hotel is a fairly recent discovery for me: I got in 11 games in 2022. My ranking for this one is 1,502nd of 4,282 - must do better!

My best rankings on Yucata (I'm getting into this now) are for *A Few Acres of Snow* - 9 plays in 2022 and ranked 63rd of 1,766 -

I play a lot more games on Yucata (www.yucata.de/en): 159 that finished in 2022. Most played here was *Pax Porfiriana*,



Personal

Lord Percy Percy says, as fashion is turning towards the competence of Liz Truss, Tarquin le Hatter is very fashionable.

Oh woe is me. I return from the front. Looking for love and a job fit for my skills set. Anyone want to offer me some employment? I am honest, loyal and ready to step into breach for a small fee or a fine wine.

I love good art. So I am sad to hear of the death in August of painter Philippe de Champaigne He was a founding member of the Académie Royale de Peinture et de Sculpture in Paris, the premier art institution of France. Sad to say I asked him to decorate my bathroom, but he refused on the grounds it was below him.

† Claude De Nord

Is your bathroom in the cellar then?

† Le Roi

Tarquin le Hatter,
I will take you on blade to blade whenever you are free.

† Cuckpowder

Poetry Corner

(All signed poetry submissions gain their author at least 1 SP)

They seek him here, they seek him there,

De Bécqueur seeks him everywhere.

Is he in the mess tent, making himself fatter,

That damned elusive Tarquin le Hatter?

Last someone saw him, he was looking green,

Has anyone looked for him in the latrine?

No! He's fighting the fight

As best he is able:

In the back of his tent

Hiding under the table?

† HT

Points Arising

Next deadline is 24th February

First off, my apologies for failing to update the Army Organisation table to the new structure in last issue.

Secondly, let me remind everybody that any actions announced in advance are, in effect, orders given a month in advance - you can't change them in the following month's orders.

And I've been making some adjustments to the mistresses. I have reduced the number available overall while adding some higher SL ladies. The aim is to increase competition for

mistresses and bring more level 9 favours into the game.

Welcome

Our latest recruit is Jacob Andersson, a veteran of several other games. Welcome to *LPBS*, Jacob.

Absent friends

I didn't receive orders from the following (No Move Received) and they suffered the consequences:

AC Alexandre Capone (Ray Vahey) has NMR'd. Total now 1

The next meeting of the Young Gentleman Of Paris (YGoP) will be held in The Horse Guards Club and will feature a Halloween Party (Week 4, October 1674), hosted by Chairman Petit Garson-Riche and Emma, and under the organisation of YGOP Party animal Claude du Nord. Please bring your mistress and come in costume – there will be a 100 Cr prize for the best-dressed (as decided by La Roi himself.

[OOOC: put a description in your orders and Le Roi can choose which he thinks is the most scary.]

Of course, being a gathering of Gentleman, members of the Dragoon Guards will be refused entry and pelted with rotten vegetables by some ruffians employed for such a purpose. All costs covered by Club Funds (from the deep pockets of PG-R).

We are looking for a new Master of the YGOP Bucket after the previous incumbent, Alexandre Capone, got himself spitted by the Ghastly Dutch. We will dedicate the party to his memory. if you are interested, please let Petit know at the event.

I'm sure Captain Capone will be intrigued to learn of his sad demise.

† Le Roi

Military Missives

Lt Gen Sir Xavier Ulric Turenne Sir, in every meaning of the words, congratulations on your well-earned Knighthood. In that last month we finally started to get what we deserved for our efforts.

It was an honour to serve with you. Many thanks for the opportunity to serve at higher ranks.

Although promoted to Brevet Brigadier I intend to spend some more time in the Regiments developing further my leadership skills. In the meantime I will be watching your own career closely.

Yours in friendship,

† Henri Tard

Henri,

I may address my Comrade in Arms thus most fondly.

I was just attending to reports and then I turned over your letter and word of the Happy news of His Majesty's blessing and gift (which I will bear with honour), which had not then reached me from Paris, came from you and your intelligence communicated to me.

You are an excellent Officer and servant of the King and France and I will happily campaign together alongside you should the opportunity present itself.

Fair Winds and Bon Chance, Mon Ami,

† Xavier

Henri!

I hope this little note finds you well.

As one old campaign comrade to another, the young lad La Vache has impressed me greatly

I think he'd be a great asset to France and to your fine Regiment, the GDMD.

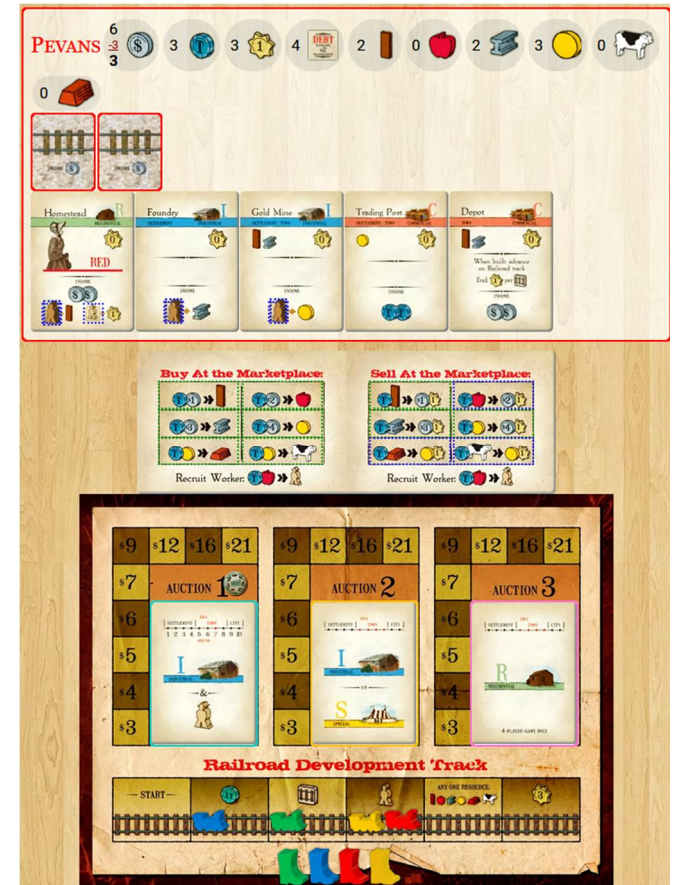
He knows one end of a horse from the other (unlike me as a rank and file old tirailleur!)

Amicalement!

† Xavier

and, surprisingly, *Snowdonia*, a game I haven't played that much (7 plays on Yucata in 2022), but am ranked 63rd of 1,625.

I've played even more games on BGA: 170 games finished in 2022. Top of these are *Memoir '44*, with 22 plays – helped by joining in a tournament, *Tapestry*, with 21, *Through the Ages: A New Story of Civilization* on 17, *Viticulture* 15, *Agricola* (Revised Edition) 13 (though I'm nothing like as successful as I am at the original edition) and *Homesteaders* 10. I was particularly excited to re-discover *Homesteaders* through the BGA implementation (screenshot below) – it's a cracker, though the online version lacks the tactile element of the appealing playing pieces in the physical game.



Homesteaders on BGA. In the physical game resources are neat wooden pieces looking just like the icons across the top.

Despite the continuing lack of face-to-face play (picking up now I've found the Ruislip group), I've got through a lot of games through the year. And it's been a good mix of new (to me) and old favourites. Onward to 2023!

Reading matter

One of the characters I met when I first started visiting the Spiel games fair in Essen was games dealer Colin Wheeler. Many years later and long since out of the games industry, Colin has published his first novel. Knowing I like science fiction, he was kind enough to send me a copy. *The Coming (Past Imperfect)* is billed as the first of the Eldorans trilogy. And it's with the Eldorans that we start: peace-loving humans fleeing their antithesis, the warlike Xavos, in their last spaceship. I was immediately reminded of the conflict between Arisia and Eddore in the Lensman stories (or maybe Vorlons versus Shadows in *Babylon 5*).



Anyway, the story starts when the Director of the Eldoran ship spots the opportunity to promote their ideals of love and peace on the latest planet they visit. And hopefully stop the intelligent humanoids that have evolved here from eventually destroying themselves as the Eldorans have seen so many other life-forms do – in many different ways.

Stop me if this sounds familiar... The Director sends one of the crew to a young woman, Marin, of the Juhl, a monotheistic people under a military empire. She agrees to carry the Director's child, who will thus have the powerful psychic (or "telepathic" as Colin has it) abilities of an Eldoran – able to cure others of physical ailments, for example. As she nears her due date, the Emperor calls a census and Marin and her fiancé Jespeth have to travel to his home town. But the town is packed solid, so the couple have to stop in a stable where Marin duly produces a baby boy called... Empas!

Somehow it seemed appropriate to be reading this in the run-up to Christmas. But it isn't just the Christmas story that's been appropriated, it's the whole of the Gospels! As I realised when Empas was given medical nano-bots that would allow his body to recover from almost anything...

I think paraphrasing the Gospel for your plot is kind of cheating (mind you, "great artists steal"!), but what makes the book is how Colin embellishes this. Empas's childhood and maturing into a young man, working the Eldorans into the story, inventing detail and providing intriguing motivations – plus an arch-enemy – make for entertaining reading. And I was constantly wondering how far Colin would take it. In fact, I kept expecting the Director to explain that he's following the model of an ancient religion in the Eldorans' past (thus making them us), but the little twist in the coda surprised me.

Press

Announcements

**** Join the QOC ****

Gentleman of Paris, if you are new to the city or are looking for a new Regiment, then you can do no better than join the Queen's Own Carabiniers. Please contact me for more details, and some financial help is available. † Marquis Thyme

Please apply to Terence Cuckpowder if you desire a job within my gift.

I am in need of an aide to sort the Voluminous Military missives that beset me from HQ.

Captains looking for interesting looty, ahem, duty should contact me, quickly.

† LtGen Xavier Ulric Turenne

**** Aide Required ****

As I have recently been promoted to Bdr-General, I am looking for a competent Aide. Please contact me with your credentials.

† (Brevet) Bdr-General Marquis Thyme

Social

******* Halloween Party
October Week 4 *******

Gentlemen of Paris
Please dress as your favourite spooky character and come to a party at my club to celebrate All Hallows Eve. October Week 4. Please bring your ladies. All Gentlemen of social level 9+ welcome. Costs Paid.

† Xavier Money

To officers and men of the King's armies: you are all invited to my club in the second week of October to celebrate our survival.

Manner maketh man.

All gentlemen of decent manners (which means all but the soldiers of the ALC) are invited in week 4 to my club.

Ladies welcome, drink tab will be picked up by me.

Let's raise a glass to the sunny autumn season and to good manners.

† Louis Severin Descartes
LtColonel GDMD

Gentlemen of Paris, who does not enjoy a wee flutter? I invite you to join me during October week one at my club for a night at the tables.

Refreshments provided, but must be willing to make at least one bet of 10 crowns.

Miss Lemmere will entertain your ladies with a few hands of whist and other games.

† Sir Louis Renault

******* November Week 2 - Ball *******
Gentlemen of Paris

There will be a Ball at my club, November Week 2. Please bring your ladies. All Gentlemen of social level 9+ welcome. Costs Paid.

† Xavier Money

and gave him the heave-ho. This makes for an uncomfortable week for his guests, Zavier Ulric Turenne and Laura who are visiting their second host this month. The following week Zavier and Laura Toady to Bernard de Lur-Saluces, as do Lou Scannon and Bess. Bernard is another who started the month in the red light district. Apart from this visit to his club, he's busy working out with a two-handed sword. Lou and Bess get it right at the end of the month, Toady to Ben e'Volence. Zavier gets it wrong, trying to Toady to Les Anonyme. He's otherwise engaged and Laura finds somewhere else to be, too.

A few socialites are missing from this schedule of Paris's club-going. Gaz Moutarde is one. He's with his lady friend the whole time. Well, he has been away for months.

And then there are those who didn't stir outside the gym. Iron man this month is Henri DuShite as his work-outs involve a cutlass. That's a hefty piece of steel to be waving around. Particularly compared to the rapiers that are preferred by Beau Reese Jean Seine and Jacques de Gain. You'd think both of these two would be too busy counting the massive pay-outs they've just received from their investments.

All quiet in the United Provinces

For the French forces in the Netherlands, it's a question of hanging on to what they've got in the face of continuing pressure from the Dutch and their allies. Two thirds of the Guards Brigade is on hand to help: the Cardinal's Guard and the King's Musketeers. The new Guards Brigadier, Greg de Bécqueur relishes having plenty of company as he works through his disgrace. His clever disposition of the regiments earns him the title of Viscount and he pulls the best part of a thousand crowns worth of booty out of what's been netted by the troops.

Lieutenant-Colonel Tarquin le Hatter leads the King's Musketeers in Bécqueur's absence and does ... okay. His reward is ... tiny – just 50 crowns worth of loot. Major Claude de Nord gets a double Mention in Despatches ("He really shouldn't laugh at his superiors," "It's not like he's got any cash").

Volunteer Henri Tard is assigned to Frontier regiment 4 and survives the month. That's good going for a Private in a Frontier regiment.

The other volunteer, Sid Inducque, has gone for the Royal North Highlanders and also survives, despite a close call when a Spanish cannonball shatters the rampart he's stationed at. ❖



I did find the writing a bit clumsy in places and, pedant that I am, was put off by the appearance of "miniscule" in the first paragraph of the first chapter. (Apparently dictionaries nowadays allow this as an alternative spelling, but only "minuscule" was correct in my day!) However, once I got into it, the story zipped along at a good pace and I found it thoroughly entertaining. Particularly where it diverged from its template.

Now Colin's threatening me with volume 2 – *Second Coming (Present Chaotic)* – which is due for publication soon.

Games Events

Oxford Meeples have announced their "Big Day of Gaming" on 11th Feb at Wolvercote Village Hall. No surprise: it's in the village of Wolvercote. This is the north-western corner of Oxford city (and on the Oxford canal, which is why I know it). More details are in this post on BGG: boardgamegeek.com/thread/3005939

And, looking ahead to March, the Airecon (9th-12th March in Harrogate, N Yorks) organisers have announced that tickets are now on sale: see www.airecon.co.uk

The following box concentrates on events I usually attend.

Swiggers: games club that meets most Wednesday evenings (co-ordinated on WhatsApp) upstairs at The Shipwright's Arms, 88 Tooley Street, London SE1 2TF (next to London Bridge station) – though without me. We also play online at various websites on Wednesday evenings. For more info, see www.pevans.co.uk/Swiggers

Games Games Games Days: from noon(-ish) on the second Saturday each month at the Leon in Spitalfields Market (London E1 6DW). It's brightly lit, has big tables and they don't mind us stopping all afternoon. Closest stations are Liverpool Street (Tube and rail) and Shoreditch High Street (Overground). Please contact me if you're thinking of attending in case things have got in the way.

UK Games Expo: 2nd-4th June 2023 at the NEC. This is a public event that showcases games of all sorts with a huge trade hall plus demonstration and participation games and guests. For gamers there are lots of tournaments and open gaming. For details see www.ukgamesexpo.co.uk

Spiel: the board games event of the year. 5th-8th October 2023, at the Messe (Exhibition Centre) in Essen. Contact Friedhelm Merz Verlag, Postfach 210250, Bonn, 53157 Germany or see www.spiel-messe.com/en

MidCon: November 2023 at the Mickleover Court Hotel in Mickleover (near Derby). **MidCon** is a friendly board games convention, but has been in a new venue since 2021 that I haven't been to. Expect mostly open gaming and a few organised events, including a Bring 'n' Buy. See www.midcon.org.uk

For more extensive information on UK board games events, try The Queen's Lane Advertiser at www.boardgamers.org.uk/qla.php

By Popular Demand

Turn 5 results and scores

Name	Labour leader		Conservative leader		Liberal leader	
Martin Abrahams	Lansbury	23	Lord Salisbury	1	Lloyd George	22
Alex Bardy	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22
Chris Baylis	Lansbury	23	Liz Truss	8	Lloyd George	22
Colin Bruce	Lansbury	23	Liz Truss	8	Lloyd George	22
Charles Burrows	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22
Mike Clibborn-Dyer	Lansbury	23	Liz Truss	8	Lloyd George	22
Mark Cowper	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22
Terry Crook	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lygon	1
Mike Dommett	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22
Paul Evans	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22
Anthony Gilbert	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22
Andrew Kendall	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22
Andrew Larder	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lord Russell	1
Nik Luker	Lansbury	23	Liz Truss	8	Lloyd George	22
Tim Macaire	Lansbury	23	Lord Liverpool	2	Lloyd George	22
Brad Martin	Lansbury	23	Lord Liverpool	2	Lloyd George	22
Nigel Monaghan	Lansbury	23	Liz Truss	8	Lloyd George	22
Graeme Morris	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22
Mike Pollard	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22
Chris Rudram	Lansbury	23	Liz Truss	8	Lloyd George	22
Richard Salmon	Lansbury	23	Liz Truss	8	Lloyd George	22
Pam Udowiczenko	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22
Matthew Wale	Len Duvall	1	Liz Truss	8	Lloyd George	22
John Watson	Lansbury	23	Law	13	Lloyd George	22

Ben e'Volence accompanies Lotte Bottle to his club and they settle in for the month. Joining them for three quarters of September is Claude Oppere (concluding in a Bawdy-house). Lou Scannon (whose Arms investment has paid off handsomely) is Ben's second Toady and brings Bess Ottede for the start and end of the month. He finds different hosts in between, but still in the Fleur.

Camille de Polignac spends his September in the Fleur – including the party – and has Angelina di Griz at his side the whole time. As is his wont, Camille hits the gaming tables, egged on by Angelina. His preferred wager is 600 crowns and he places five of them on his first visit. The house rolls well, so Camille cuts his first bet. He wins two on the trot, which encourages him even when he loses the next two. On his second visit, Camille loses two wagers in quick succession. Cutting the third reduces his cash so much he stomps off and does not indulge again.

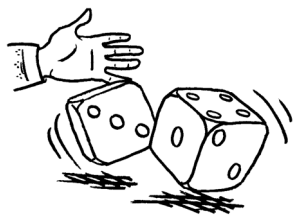


Jean Jeanie warms up for his party with Jacky Tinne, but doesn't bring her to the main event. (And is then away with his rapier.) His invitation was extended to members of the First Army during the campaign, which effectively means the Royal Foot Guards (since only the Guards Brigade was in First Army and the other two Guards regiments have left Paris again). As already mentioned, Camille and Angelina are among the guests. Then there are Charles Ternet and Leia. After an unsuccessful courting visit, Eclair de Lame attends on his own. He's off to the gym with his rapier afterwards as well. After paying back his loans, Felipe Savant has Pet Ulante on his arm for the party, but a rapier in his hand the rest of the time. Lou Scannon and Bess join the party, as does Lascar Vivrebras. Lascar's another unsuccessful suitor and gets in a week with his rapier before regimental duties call him to the RFG barracks.

The next guests are Martin de Garnache and Fifi. Then there's Neville Moore and Vera. Pierre a'Noyer brings Sue Briquet with him. Definitely the highlight of the month for Sue as Pierre is in the gym with his rapier for the rest of the time. Last man in is Zeold von Tu, fresh from his regimental duties. Afterwards, he takes the party vibe with him as he goes courting, but the object of his affections is already partying. With someone else. So it's off to the Bawdy-houses for Zeold. Maurice Pauvre has made a mistake, though, He's in the Picardy Musketeers and did not serve in First Army last season. The club's foyer is as far as he gets.

Leonard de Hofstadt starts his month in the Fleur and has Frances Forrin for company. It's so much fun they stop there until October. The same can be said for Pierre Cardigan and Edna Bucquette, who occupy their favourite niche the whole time. It appears Xavier Money and Kathy Pacific have a favourite spot in the Fleur, too, as they are also there for the month.

Terence Cuckpowder rolls into the Fleur after his courting has gone wrong. Badly gone wrong, in fact, as he's on his tod after Lucy Fur got wind of his two-timing



Carrotte. They make a beeline for the gaming tables where Roger starts placing 250-crown bets. He cuts the first, loses the second, but then wins the remainder to go away with substantial winnings. On their second visit, Roger gives it another go. His winning streak continues. For the first bet, anyway. He cuts the next two, loses the fourth bet, cuts again and loses again. And all those winnings have melted

away. But he's gained a bit of kudos.

There's less excitement, but a bit more activity in Hunter's. Hector William Boone, Louis Renault and Neville Moore are the first members to visit. Wearing his new Lt-General's uniform (with some shiny adornments proposed by his tailor), Louis brings Di Lemmere and Neville Vera Cruz. After which, Neville and Vera are off partying before Neville gets in two weeks with his rapier. Hector returns to Hunter's, as do Louis and Di. This week, however, Jean-Claude Etienne turns up to Toady to Louis, showing off his new conquest, Viv Ayschus. Jean-Claude goes cutlass practising and then hits the Bawdy-houses for a drink. Just a drink.

It's Hector's turn to have a Toady next. In his case, it's Alvin Charles, fresh from Toadying to Louis Severin Descartes. Like Alvin, Hector is another hitting the red light district to wrap up the month. And he's definitely doing more than drinking. Maurice Pauvre, now Colonel of the Picardy Musketeers, has also arrived in Hunter's after his early trips to a Bawdy-house and the Fleur de Lys, and has Fouche La Vache as his guest. Other than this, Fouche's month consists of regimental duties and an initial call at a Bawdy-house. And Louis and Di are there again. They're there for the end of September, too, as is Maurice.

A good crop of members starts the month in Bothwell's. Charles Trenet brings Leia Orgasma, Jacques Hatt escorts Cath de Thousands, Justin Thyme has Guinevere d'Arthur on his arm, new member Martin de Garnache (now debt-free) is with Fifi and Rick Shaw is accompanied by Maggie Nifisent. And not a cross word said. Only Justin and Guinevere repeat this immediately. Rick is away to look after his sabre. Jacques does the same, but only for a fortnight. Charles and Martin go partying, but return to Bothwell's after this – when Justin has nipped off for sabre practice. To wrap up the month, Charles, Jacques, Justin and Martin – plus their ladies – are back in the club.

At the top

Which brings us to the big one: the Fleur de Lys. Members are there in force and many of them admit guests – notably for Jean Jeanie's big party in the second week. Les Anonyme brings Carole Singeurs with him and stops for two weeks. In the first week Zavier Ulric Turenne and Laura de Land are their guests. The second half of Les's month is spent practising rapier, while Zavier looks for other people to Toady to each week.

Name	Act of Parliament	Chancellor			PotUS		Total
Martin Abrahams	Land Reform	1	Lawson	17	Lyndon Johnson	3	67
Alex Bardy	Legislation	1	Lamont	6	Lincoln	21	86
Chris Baylis	Leasehold Reform	4	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	95
Colin Bruce	Laser Misuse	1	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	92
Charles Burrows	Licensing	3	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	99
Mike Clibborn-Dyer	Libel	1	Lamont	6	Lincoln	21	81
Mark Cowper	Levelling up...	1	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	97
Terry Crook	Land Charges	1	Lamont	6	Lincoln	21	65
Mike Domett	Leicester & Ashby-de-la-Zouch Road	1	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	97
Paul Evans	Leasehold Reform	4	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	100
Anthony Gilbert	Law	1	Lawson	17	Lyndon Johnson	3	79
Andrew Kendall	Landmines	1	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	97
Andrew Larder	Lunacy Regulation	1	Lee	1	Lyndon Johnson	3	42
Nik Luker	Lottery	1	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	92
Tim Macaire	Live Fish Importation	1	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	85
Brad Martin	Local Government	2	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	86
Nigel Monaghan	Local Government	2	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	93
Graeme Morris	Licensing	3	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	99
Mike Pollard	Licensing	3	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	99
Chris Rudram	Laws in Wales	1	Lamont	6	Lincoln	21	81
Richard Salmon	Leasehold Reform	4	Lamont	6	Lincoln	21	84
Pam Udowiczenko	Law Reform...	1	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	97
Matthew Wale	Leasehold Reform	4	Lamont	6	Lincoln	21	62
John Watson	Lend-Lease	1	Lawson	17	Lincoln	21	97

I expected Lincoln would be a shoo-in for US President, Lloyd-George for Liberal leader and Lansbury for Labour (he's the only Labour leader whose surname starts with an L). Chancellor, I thought, was between Lawson and Lamont (described by

Richard Salmon as “the man with a yoghurt pot on his head” – still, better than what *Spitting Image* reckoned Douglas Hurd had on his), while Bonar Law seemed the obvious option for Conservative leader. I reckoned without the use of first names – though I notice people aren’t consistent with this.

Nigel Monaghan was one of those who opted for Liz Truss as Conservative leader, but notes “Blink and you’ll miss her”. Matthew Wale’s choice is the Labour leader in the London Assembly. Acts of Parliament was up in the air, but I went for the most recent I could find.

Scores

Player	Turn 1	Turn 2	Turn 3	Turn 4	Turn 5	Total
Martin Abrahams	33			37	67	137
Alex Bardy	48	37	68	53	86	292
Chris Baylis		50	38	49	95	232
Bob Blanchett			43			43
Colin Bruce	54	55	77	47	92	325
Charles Burrows	57	60	84	69	99	369
Mike Clibborn-Dyer	46	57	61	63	81	308
Mark Cowper		58	78	78	97	311
Terry Crook		26	45	51	65	187
Mike Dommett	48	44	70	62	97	321
Paul Evans	53	46	67	78	100	344
Anthony Gilbert	51	50	77	60	79	317
William Hay		57	59	47		163
Andrew Kendall	57	41	80	33	97	308
Andrew Larder	47	37			42	126
Nik Luker		40	73	36	92	241
Tim Macaire	57	46	90	65	86	344
Brad Martin	51	46	73	59	87	316
Nigel Monaghan	7	57	58	54	93	269
Graeme Morris	43	28	90	69	99	329
Mike Pollard	58	67	77	77	99	378
Chris Rudram	52	57	75	41	81	306
Richard Salmon	58	59	64	55	84	320
Pam Udowiczenko	31	30	55	52	97	265

takes a week out to visit a Bawdy-house for some female company, which is when François-Xavier Flamand appears at Red Phillips, bringing Thomasina Tancenjin with him. These two started the month in the more up-market surroundings of Blue Gables as the guests of Louis Severin Descartes (whose Arms investment has paid off handsomely). And the rest of François-Xavier’s time is spent practising with his sabre now that he’s repaid his debts.

Thomas de la Lune, smarting from his recent encounter with the moneylenders’ boys retrieving what was due (and a bit more), brings Violet Bott to the Frog & Peach to start the month with a quiet drink. Then he’s busy working on his rapier technique, leaving Violet at home. They are the club’s only visitors.

Blue Gables is a bit busier. As already mentioned, Louis Severin Descartes holds court there, hosting several members of Dragoon regiments for the first half of the month. Sheila Kiwi joins him in welcoming two members of his own unit, Grand Duke Max’s Dragoons, and two from Princess Louisa’s. Alvin Charles and Tristand Sault are the two GDMD Majors in attendance, while Balzac Slapdash, accompanied by Alison Wunderlandt, and Francois-Xavier Flamand, plus Thomasina, represent the PLLD.

All but François-Xavier and Thomasina return the following week. Then it’s two weeks of sabre practice for Louis and two weeks with his rapier (despite being a cavalryman) for Balzac. Tristand has a more exciting time. First, he goes courting, but finds his intended is on the town with her current beau. So he slopes off to a Bawdy-house to slake his thirsts, only to be mugged on his way home. Luckily he’s spent the money he brought with him, so gets nothing but a bruise or two. This also happens to Alvin, but he, too, has exhausted his cash. In between, he’s in Hunter’s as the guest of another.

There’s a bit of excitement in the Horse Guards club to start off September. Both Phillipe F’Loppe and Petit-Garson Riche turn up! Okay, not exciting. Even if Petit-Garson did get a bit of a pay-out from his Commerce investment. Phillipe is accompanied by Freda de Ath, while Petit-Garson escorts Emma Roides. No, still not raising the blood pressure. Phillipe is Colonel of the Dragoon Guards; Petit-Garson is a Major in the Queen’s Own Carabiniers. That’s it: they’re regimental enemies! A full, frank exchange of views finishes with mutual challenges.



Both men are in their respective regimental gyms for the rest of the month, improving their sabre skills. This leaves the club empty for a week, allowing the staff to clean up. Roger d’Horne arrives to spend the second half of the month in Horse Guards. With him is the lady he spent the first half wooing: Henrietta

to appoint a Regimental Adjutant. Maybe there's just too much choice. Mind you, he limits the choice a bit by not admitting Hector William Boone to the regiment. And Subaltern Lascar Vivrebras, who'd like to be a Captain, doesn't qualify for that exalted rank – nor for Ensign of the King's Escort.

Alexandre Capone gets to be Regimental Adjutant of the Archduke Leopold Cuirassiers, despite not actively pursuing his application.

While leaving Regimental Adjutant of the Crown Prince Cuirassiers vacant, Bdr-General Ben e'Volence appoints Zeold von Tu as his Aide – Tu has already turned down Jacques Hatt's offer.

The only officers in position to be Brigade Major of First Foot Brigade are Majors Jean-Claude Etienne and Vinne d'Pooh, both in the Royal Marines. Drawing straws sees Pooh get the job.

He may be without an appointment, but Lieutenant-Colonel Tarquin le Hatter is acting commander of the King's Musketeers now that Greg de Bécqueur is Brigadier. Feeling that social disgrace is impending, Hatter volunteers his command for active service. The King's Musketeers joins the Cardinal's Guard under Bécqueur's command in the Guards Brigade. Hence, KM Major Claude de Nord is also off to join the fighting.



In a surprise move, Henri Tard has resigned as Colonel of Grand Duke Max's Dragoons so that he can apply to join the Dragoon Guards. Sadly, DG Colonel Phillippe F'Loppe is deaf to his request, leaving Tard without a regiment. Thus, when he volunteers for active service he joins a Frontier regiment as a Private.

This leaves Lt-Colonel Louis Severin Descartes in command of the GDMD and he is quick to sign up new recruits. Alvin Charles buys his way to the rank of Major while Fouche La Vache is just a trooper, despite getting substantial gifts from Terence Cuckpowder and Zavier Ulric Turenne.

New arrival in Paris Sid Inducque doesn't spend long in the city. He just borrows a hefty wad of cash, signs up for the Royal North Highland Border regiment, collects his uniform and heads off to join the action.

All the clubs

Yes, every single club in Paris (not to mention Bawdy-houses) sees visitors this month as the soldiers celebrate their return to the city. Let's start with Red Phillips. Vinne d'Pooh is the man to be found here for almost all of September. He

Player	Turn 1	Turn 2	Turn 3	Turn 4	Turn 5	Total
Matthew Wale	30	30	63	21	62	206
John Watson					97	97
John Webley	44					44

Mike Pollard continues to lead, now by a whole 14 points. With plenty of people snapping at his heels, this is still wide open at the halfway stage.

What's this about?

I have cribbed these rules from the *Variable Pig* website. You can find the originals (with lots of variants) at: variablepig.org/rules/bypop.html

Each turn the GM lists six categories and an initial letter. All players have to do is find something that fits the category and begins with the initial letter; they score points equal to the number of people who offer the same answer. The winner is the person with the most points at the end (after a pre-determined number of turns).

Example: The initial letter is A and the category is cities in Holland. 13 people give Amsterdam as their answer and score 13 points each, 6 people suggest Alkmaar and score 6 points each, 3 suggest Arnhem and score 3 points each.

I suspect I've got the hardest job: deciding on the categories! Anyway, we'll run this for 10 turns and see what happens.

Turn 6 categories

Fanfare! I've gone all dramatic this time. Let me have:

- 1 A play by Shakespeare
- 2 A West End musical
- 3 A British playwright
- 4 A play by someone other than Shakespeare
- 5 A living British theatre actor
- 6 A living British theatre actress (should I say an actor who identifies as female?)

All beginning with the letter O please.

My answers have already been recorded.

Send your list to Pevans at 180 Aylsham Drive, Uxbridge UB10 8UF or to TWJO@pevans.co.uk by 24th February 2023.

Seahill (Railway Rivals game 17 – RR2509I(N))

Turn 6

BASH seemed very generous this round. Indeed, IRA benefitted a lot. Let us hope there is no connection. More connecting by companies.

Builds and Points

IRISH RAILWAY ASSOCIATION

(IRA), Anthony Gilbert – Green

Builds:

- a (Armagh) – G52 (1 to RBR)
- b (G52) – G49 – F48 (1 to RBR)
- c (L24) – L26 – M27 – M28 – Athenry; (M28) – L28 (1 to BASH)

Points: 52 -3 +15 = **64**

RUBBER BANDIT RAILWAYS

(RBR), Mike Dyer – Black

Builds:

- a (Enniskillen) – W14 – V13; (A59) – Cavan
- b (V13) – U14
- c (U14) – T13 – Ballyshannon; (Dublin) – L68 – L69

Points: 33 +2 = **35**

BALLINOKE ARMAGH STRABANE HAULAGE

(BASH), Bob Blanchett – Red

Builds:

- a (Q21) – Q20 – R19 – Boyle (12 to AGO, 8 to IRA)
- b Boyle – T19 – Drumshambo – V18 (8 to IRA)
- c (Q20) – Collooney – Q16 – Sligo (17 to AGO)

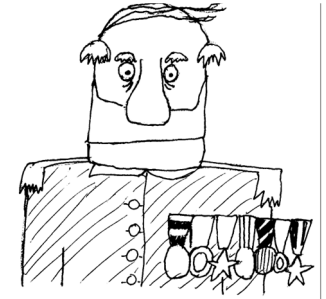
Points: 55 +1 +7 -45 = **18**

GM Notes

The races begin this coming turn. You may enter up to five races in each turn (plus any held over from a previous turn – shown *in italics*.)

doesn't meet the minimum requirements for the job. The government thus has an odd look with plenty of Ministers, but nobody occupying the named positions.

General Hofstadt was the only man interested in leading an Army in the next campaign, but has accepted a Ministerial post instead. The incoming Field Marshal, Jacques de Gain, thus leaves both Army commands vacant for the time being. He does, however, appoint Lieutenant-General Rick Shaw as Adjutant-General and accepts Louis Severin Descartes' application to be his Aide, rejecting Tarquin le Hatter for the job.



There is plenty of competition for command of the Guards Brigade. Brevet Brigadier-General Greg de Bécqueur is the only member of the Brigade to apply. His competitors are full Brigadiers-General – Jacques Hatt and Terence Cuckpowder (still hunting a post). Bécqueur has the advantage of having held the appointment at the end of August and is the only one to call in a favour. While all three qualify for the job, Bécqueur's influence makes all the difference and he gets the job. Mind you, he still has to return to the action to serve out the rest of his year. However, he is now able to mobilise the whole Brigade to support him – though he chooses just to take the Cardinal's Guard into action.

Hatt and Cuckpowder are both up for Brigadier of the Horse Guards, too. This time it's Cuckpowder who gets the position. Petit-Garson Riche would like to be his Brigade Major, but Cuckpowder rejects him, preferring to leave the post vacant. Hatt misses out on Brigadier of the Heavy Brigade, but finally calls in some influence when it comes to command of the Dragoon Brigade. He has an edge, having been Dragoon Brigadier last month, and is re-appointed. Tristand Sault asks to be Brigade Major, but is turned down in favour of an empty position.

Being the Crown Prince's Aide is another sought-after job: Alexandre Capone, Charles Trenet, Lou Scannon, Martin de Garnache and Pierre a'Noyer have all put themselves forward for it. Last month's unexpected promotion to Major has knocked Trenet out of the running, much to his annoyance. (He has formulated "The Trenet Principle: getting promoted as a means of bu**ering up a perfectly decent and competent officer's chance to further himself with a prestigious appointment".) Of the other four, Capone has no hope while Scannon increases his chances with a word in the right ears. Scannon is appointed.

Garnache and a'Noyer are both in the running to be Captain of the King's Escort, too. With no influence, the odds are against either of them getting the job, but Captain a'Noyer clearly interviews well and takes this plum.

As well as being Minister of State, Beau Reese Jean Seine is commander of the Royal Foot Guards. Despite having a plethora of Captains to choose from – particularly Martin de Garnache and Neville Moore who have applied – he declines

Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses

Being a correspondence game of *En Garde!* run by Pevans since April 1986 and now published as part of *To Win Just Once*.

New players are always welcome. If you'd like to play, you'll need to subscribe to *TWJO* (see page 18). You will also need (access to) a copy of the published rules to *En Garde!* (see www.engarde.co.uk).

Orders for October 1674 to Pevans at 180 Aylsham Drive, UXBRIDGE UB10 8UF, UK or lpbsorders@pevans.co.uk by Friday 24th February 2023



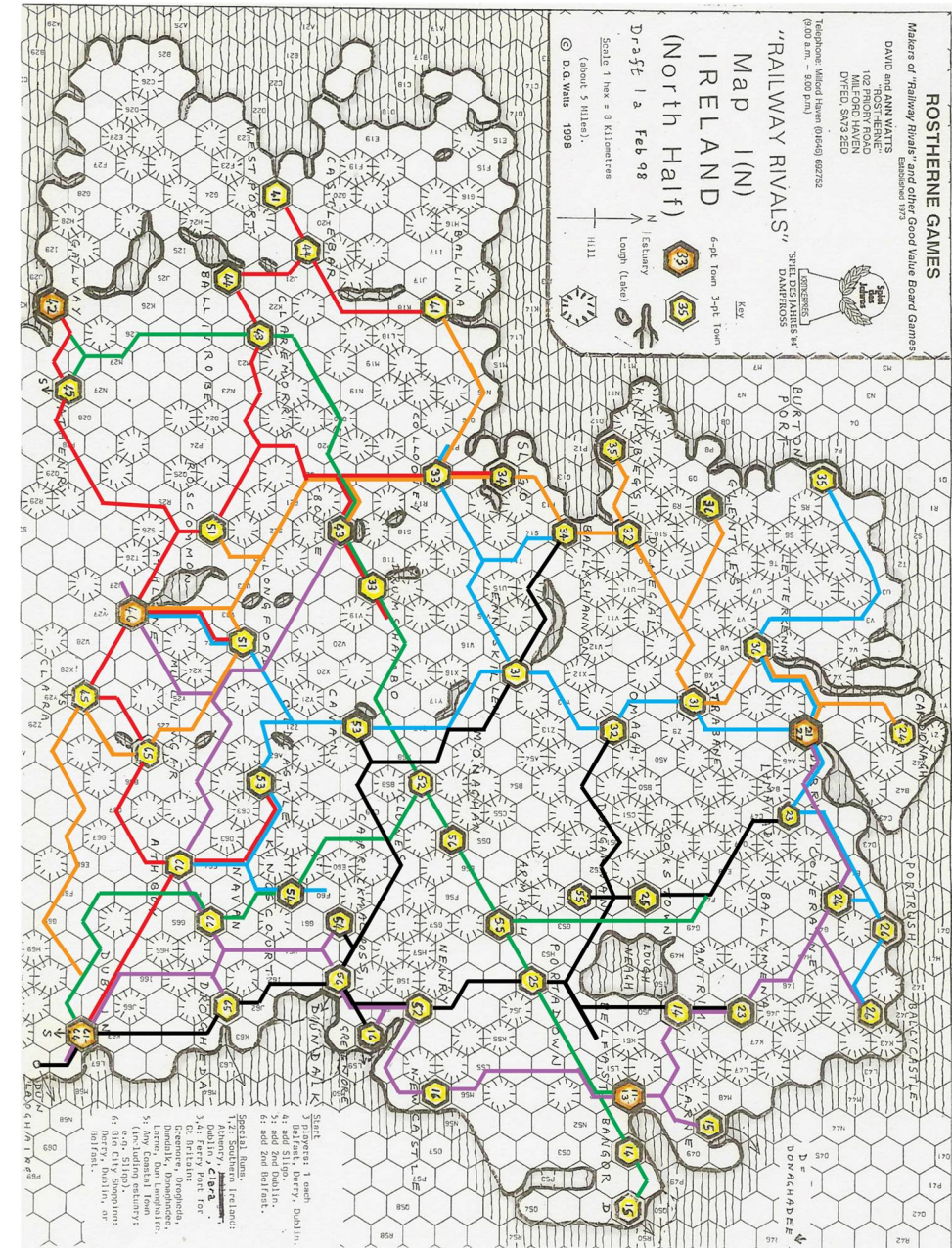
September 1674 (367)

With the summer campaign out of the way, the French armies return to Paris and the city is busy once more. The urgent business for Tarquin le Hatter is his duel with Alexandre Capone. Hatter, his rapier and his seconds, Claude de Nord and Xavier Money, make their way to the appointed rendezvous. Where they wait. And wait. And wait. But of Captain Capone there is no sign. There will be several members of Parisian society sniggering at Hatter getting his own medicine.

What, no portfolios?

Time for the new military organisation to take effect. But first, what about the Government? Minister of State Count Beau Reese Jean Seine calls in a lot of favours to promote the Marquis Ben e'Volence as Minister of War. But it's not quite enough to convince the King. The other applicant, Viscount Terence Cuckpowder, is simply rejected. Both men have also applied to Seine to be Minister of Justice, but the Minister of State turns them down, preferring to leave the portfolio vacant. Instead, e'Volence is one of several Ministers appointed without Portfolio and receives an Earldom. The other Ministers without Portfolio are Les Anonyme, who becomes a Baron, Leonard de Hofstadt, now a Count, and Zavier Ulric Turenne, elevated to Baron.

Having acquired a post, e'Volence is no longer in the running to be Chancellor of the Exchequer, another appointment that Minister Seine keeps unfilled, or Commissioner of Public Safety. Cuckpowder has also applied to be CPS, but Seine rejects this as well and the position remains unoccupied - Tarquin le Hatter



Joint runs and exchanges of running powers are welcome.

After the races you may build up to 12 points worth, including known payments to others. (This allowance decreases by 2 each turn.)

Order layouts: Your Name, Company Name, Company Colour.

Town Names for preference please.

Next turn's races

Race	From	To
1	11 Belfast	53 Cavan/Oldcastle
2	14 Antrim/Bangor	32 Donegal/Omagh
3	23 Ballymena/Limavady	64 Dublin
4	24 Cardonagh/Coleraine	46 Athlone
5	S1 Southern Ireland	66 Athboy/Navan
6	31 Enniskillen/Strabane	55 Armagh/Dungarvan
7	41 Balina/Westport	S3 Ferry port for GB

**Orders to Mike Dommett, 12 Watton Park, Bridport DT6 5NJ
or by e-mail to mike_dommett@yahoo.co.uk
by Friday 17th February 2023**

Subscribing to TWJO

TWJO is published on paper and online at www.pevans.co.uk/TWJO (as a free PDF). If you want to play in any (or all) of the games in TWJO, you have two options. You can subscribe to the paper edition, which includes playing in the games. Or you can take the PDF edition and pay the "games only" subscription.

The table on the right shows the costs for the paper edition, including postage, and the games only subscription.

	UK	Rest of Europe	Rest of World	Games only
10-issue (1 year) subscription	£27.00	£36.00	£43.00	£5.00

To subscribe, send your name, address and payment to *To Win Just Once*, 180 Aylsham Drive, Uxbridge UB10 8UF, UK or TWJO@pevans.co.uk. You can pay by bank transfer (contact me for the account details), by UK cheque (payable to Margam Evans Ltd) or by PayPal to TWJO@pevans.co.uk. Or subscribe online at www.pevans.co.uk/TWJO, where you can pay by credit card or PayPal account.

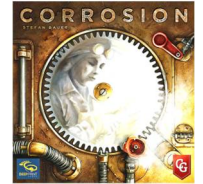
Games from Pevans
Hand picked board games since 2004



Corrosion

An ever-present problem with the steam-powered iron engines you build in this game is the way they corrode. You need to build rust-proof machinery in nice shiny chrome. Which is tricky.

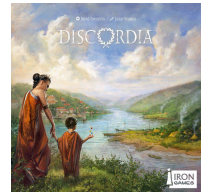
For 1-4 players, aged 12+, playing time 1-2 hours: **£36.00**



Discordia

Develop your settlement on the Rhine during the Roman Empire. You'll need farms, markets and harbours, but also defences against the Germanic tribes. It's a clever balancing act from the designer of *Peloponnes*.

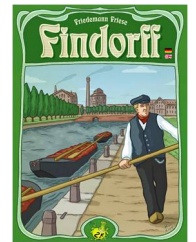
For 1-4 players, aged 12+, playing time 60-90 mins: **£45.00**



Findorff

Time to visit Friedmann Friese's home town of Bremen, specifically the Findorff district, in the 19th century and aid in developing the town during the Industrial Revolution. Sound simple? You try it.

For 1-5 players, aged 12+, playing time ~60 minutes: **£48.00**



Hey Yo

A co-operative game in which players must play cards in time to the music to score points and avoid penalties. It's another fun party game from the Oink stable and the designer of *Tricks and the Phantom*.

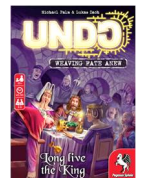
For 2-5 players (co-op) or 4-10 (two teams), aged 8+, 15 mins: **£15.00**



Undo: Long Live the King

Latest in the series of co-operative re-working history games, this one takes the team back to the Middle Ages and the sudden death of a King at the banquet table. Can you work out how to put things right?

For 2-6 players, aged 10+, playing time 45-90 minutes: **£8.00**



Online at www.pevans.co.uk/Games