

That would be enough

This has been issue 253 of *To Win Just Once*, belatedly published 1st May 2025. It incorporates *Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses*, a game of *En Garde!*. Issues are published ten times a year, roughly every five weeks. © Paul Evans 2025

Deadlines

~~Orders for *Railway Rivals* and *Star Trader* to Mike by Friday 18th April 2025.~~

~~Orders for *LPBS* to Pevans by Monday 28th April 2025.~~

Fictionary Dictionary votes and definitions to Pevans by 7th May 2025.

(Next deadlines: probably 23rd/30th May, then 27th June/4th July)

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 – A new game is starting, but Mike can run a second four-player game if enough people are interested. “Only three more needed for a game of *Railway Rivals!*” (Working map and rules provided).

Star Trader – The list for the next game starts with Mike Dyer. (Rules provided)

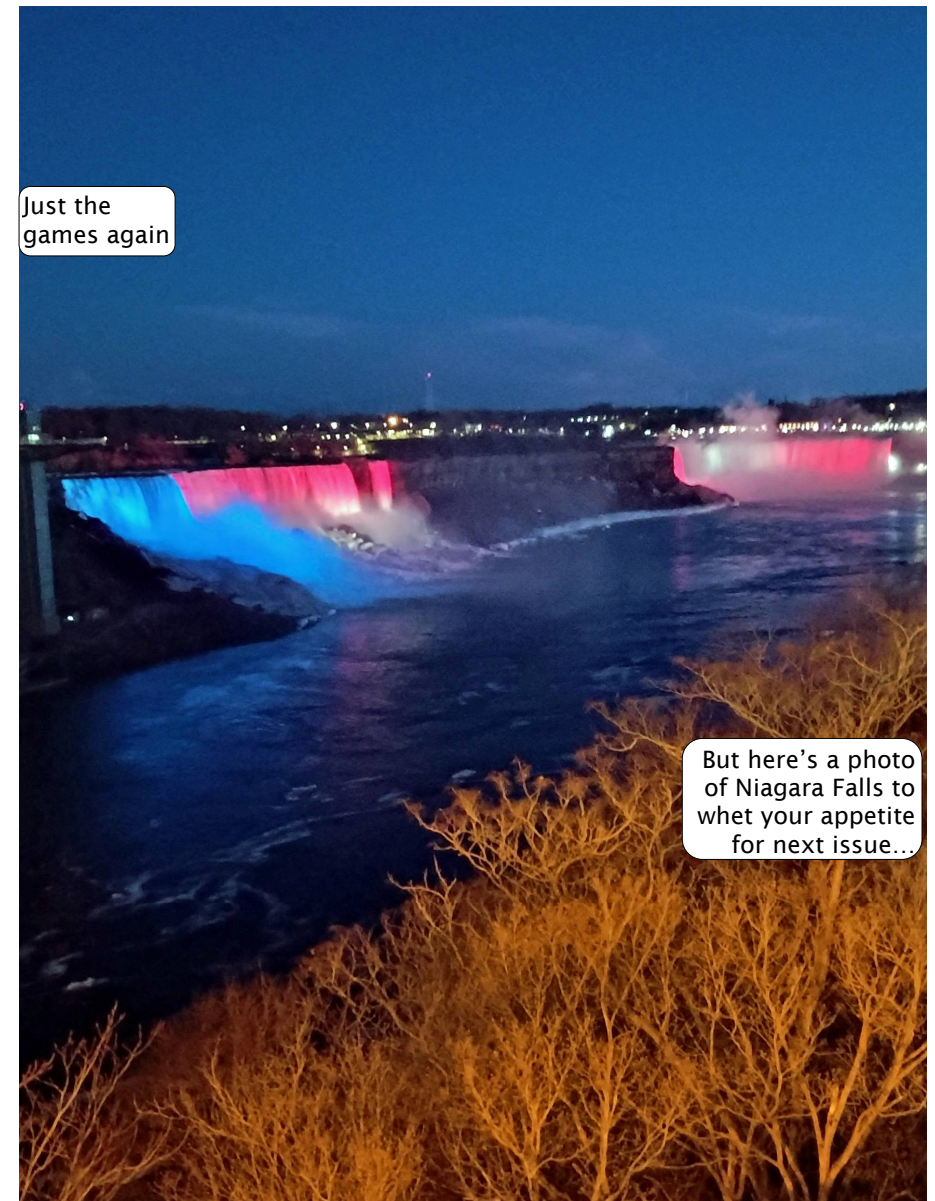
Credits

To Win Just Once issue 253 was written and edited by Pevans. The *LPBS* masthead (page 15) is by Lee Brimmicombe-Wood as is the drawing on page 16. The illustration on page 17 is by Nik Luker and the one on page 18 by Tim Wiseman. Game and book artwork is courtesy of the publisher. Pevans took the photos, except where noted, 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*)



Issue 253: April 2025
(LPBS 390: August 1676)

£2.25 (where sold)
and online at www.pevans.co.uk/TWJO

Contents

Chatter..... 3

Letters..... 4

Reading Matter..... 5

Games Events..... 6

Fictionary Dictionary 7

 Round 2 scores 7

 Round 3 definitions..... 7

Subscribing to TWJO 9

Troodos (Railway Rivals game 18 – RR2528CY)..... 10

 Turn 12 10

Railway Rivals game 19..... 11

 Pre-start..... 11

The Wizard of Anharitte (Star Trader game 12) 12

 Turn 11 12

 Star systems map 13

Les Petites Bêtes Soyeuses 15

 August 1676 (390) 15

 Press 20

 Points Arising..... 23

 Announcements 24

 Applications 26

 Duels 26

 Tables..... 27

 Army Organisation and 1677's Summer Deployment 27

 Brigade Positions 27

 Frontier Regiments..... 28

 Battle Results 28

 Other Appointments 28

 Femmes Fatales..... 29

 Regiments..... 29

 The Greasy Pole 30

That would be enough 32

 Deadlines 32

 Waiting lists 32

 Credits 32

ID	Name	SL	SPs	Cash	Rank,	Regiment/	Appointment	MA	Last seen	Club	EC	Player
HF	Hugo Furst	10	F	Comfy	B.	Bdr-General	13F	5		Hunt	2	Graeme Morris
BLC	Botte Le Chimiste	10	F	Comfy	Lt.Colonel	GDMD		2		Hunt	4	Tym Norris
JdA	Jean d'Aubergine	10	F	Comfy	B.	Bdr-General	4A	4		Hunt	3	Paul Robbins
EIF	Sir Elroi le Flingue	10	F	Comfy	Major	GDMD		7		BG	4	Daniel Racke
MHD	Sir Marcel Hatch Dupree	10+	F	OK	Lt.Colonel	RM		5			4	Graeme Wilson
PPuf	Sir Percival Puffington	10+	F	Comfy	B.	Bdr-General	PM	6			5	Tony Taylor
ID	Sir Ian Dediette	10+	F	Comfy	Major	QOC		3		RP	2	Nik Luker
FdB	François de Blanchefort	9	F	OK	Lt.Colonel	CPC		4		BG	4	Peter Farrell
AH	Arent Hayes	8	F	OK	Major	CPC		4		F&P	3	Mark Cowper
CS	Con Stantinople	8	F	Comfy	Major	QOC		6			1	Pam Udowiczenko
AA	Armand Alsace	7	F	Withy	Bdr-General			11		BG	4	Sebastian Emde
HS	Hugo Serre	6+	25	OK				6	Sue	F&P	3	Paul Murphy
JS	Justin Saad	5	15	Poor				3			3	Gerry Sutcliffe
SBC	Sebastiane Blanc-Chevaux	4	F	Poor		Captain	53F	1			2	Peter Card
CPL	Charles PiedLuminaire	4	F	OK	Lt.Colonel	PLLD		8		RP	3	Nick Tyrrell
MD	Maurice Danseur	4	F	OK	Major	GDMD		6		RP	5	Andrew Whiteley
AC	Agaric Champignon	3	F	OK	Captain	27M		3			5	Richard Cronan
VdF	Vaux de Fon	3	F	Poor	Private	CPC		1			4	John Cooke
JC	Justin Cartier	3	F	Comfy	Captain	27M		1			3	Steven Malecek
PDT	Pierre De Terre	3	F	OK	Captain	GDMD		7			2	Manoj Nair
CdF	Chemin de Fer	3	F	Comfy	B.	Major	RM	5			3	Rod MacDonald
RIR	Rusé le Renard	3	0	Poor				2			4	Tim Rattray
IP	Ignace Pardailion	2	F	OK	Private	GDMD		5			3	Grégory Meurant
SDS	Steve De Sade	2	F	Comfy	Private	GDMD		5			5	Jon Dean
X1		1-	2	OK				1			4	Ray Vahey

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
JJ	Count Jean Jeanie	25	F	6 Fithy	General/War Minister		32	Jacky	Flr	4	Andrew Kendall
BRJS	Count Beau Reese Jean Seine	24	F	Rich	Colonel RFG/State Min.		15		Flr	4	Bill Hay
BeV	Count Ben e'Volence	24	F	Rich	B.General		11		Flr	3	Ash Casey
CdB	Count Greg de Bécqueur	24	F	Rich	B.General		13		Flr	5	Anthony Gilbert
CdP	Marquis Camille de Polignac	23	F	Comfy	Lt.Colonel RFG		5		Flr	4	James McReynolds
TC	Count Terence Cuckpowder	22	51	Comfy	B.Lt-General		7	Morgane	Flr	6	Mike Dommert
RS	Marquis Rick Shaw	22	F	Rich	General		2		Flr	6	Charles Burrows
BdLS	Count Bernard de Lur-Saluces	22	F	Fithy	Lt-General		19		Flr	3	Rob Pinkerton
HDS	Count Henri DuShite	21	F	Fithy	B.Lt-General		16		Flr	4	Dave Marsden
JdG	Count Jacques de Gain	21	F	Fithy	Fld Marshal		24		Flr	6	Ben Brown
ZUT	Marquis Zavier Ulric Turenne	20	F	Withy	B.General		4		Flr	1	Bob Blanchett
LR	Marquis Louis Renault	19	41	Withy	Lt-General/Min w/o Port		3	Maggie	Flr	4	Roy Bleasdale
JIT	Count Justin Thyme	19	F	Rich	B.Bdr-General QOC		18		Flr	2	Gerald Udowiczenko
LSD	Baron Louis Severin Descartes	18	F	Rich	B.Bdr-General GDMD		6		Both	1	Chris Schotmann
CdN	Baron Claude de Nord	17	F	Withy	Colonel KM		4		Both	4	Andrew Larder
ZvT	Baron Zeold von Tu	16	F	Withy	B.Lt-General		8		Both	3	Tim Macaire
NM	Sir Neville Moore	15	F	Withy	Captain RFG		1		Hunt	2	Cameron Wood
MdG	Martin de Garnache	15	F	Withy	Major RFG		3		Both	4	Bill Howell
JH	Sir Jacques Hatt	15	F	Withy	B.General		4		Both	3	Joel Halpern
FXC	Marquis Frank X Change	14	F	OK	Major CG/Justice Min.		11		Both	4	Nigel Monaghan
BS	Earl Balzac Slapdash	13	F	Rich	B.Bdr-General DG		21		5	Matthew Wale	
HJ	Baron Hugh Jeneaux	13	F	Withy	Colonel ALC		9		Hunt	3	Bruno Giordan
FS	Baron Felipe Savant	13	F	Withy	Captain RFG		5		Both	4	Brick Amundsen
TTT	Sir Tiny Thierry Toothpick	13	F	Comfy	Captain RFG/CPS		5		Both	1	Jason Fazackarley
HWB	Hector William Boone	13	F	Withy	Major RFG		6		Both	5	Paul Wilson
SE	Stephane Etrange	11	F	Withy	B.Bdr-General CPC		3		Hunt	4	Neil Packer
CA	Baron Come Asiouar	11	F	Withy	Lt.Colonel QOC		7		Hunt	4	Jacob Andersson

Chatter

Yes, it's late. Very late. This is partly due to how busy I've been over the last month (and then at the Gathering of Friends for a week – report in next issue). However, I've also found it difficult to write anything – I've made three starts on a game review, for example, and haven't managed to finish any of them. Hence this is a games-only issue again.

And the game reports in this issue were published on my website in good time for players to get their orders in.

It seems that Sainsbury's has finally twigged that a sign reading "Free from Wellness" may not be a good idea (see my original photo in *TWJO* 244). Here's the sign (now on aisle 23) from a more recent visit – it's only taken them 10+ months to change it.



I mentioned daffodils last issue and Ickenham's churchyard (St Giles) had a fine crop – they were definitely out in good time for St David's Day. Our own daffs deigned to flower as April started. By then, it was full-on blossom season.



"A host of golden daffodils" Ahem.

I'm surprised no-one responded to my query in last issue's Reading Matter asking why Samuel Delany, an American SF author, used 'curb' rather than 'kerb' in *Dhalgren*, the book I was writing about. The answer being that Americans spell 'kerb' as 'curb'. At least it's obvious from context which meaning applies – unlike some other British/American confusions.

Online stats

The PDFs of *TWJO* 252 were published on 3rd March and were downloaded 185 times in the rest of the month. March saw 55 more downloads for *TWJO* 251 to make 218 in two months. And the previous issue's PDFs were downloaded 35 times in March, which brings this issue to 246 downloads since publication.

Letters

Tim Macaire has a seasonal observation.

Spring Equinox! It must be time for a snowstorm...

Nah, not until April. I can certainly recall snow at Easter in years gone by. While celebrating the arrival of Spring, Jonathan Palfrey has a word on spelling.

I noticed that you kept the spelling of 'Civilization' but changed 'recognized' in my message to 'recognised'. I, too, was taught as a child to spell these words with s rather than z, but sometime in early adulthood I was persuaded by the Oxford English Dictionary that the spelling with z is the authentic and original English spelling, derived from Latin, whereas the spelling with s was introduced in the 19th century in imitation of French. There seems no reason for us to imitate the French, especially as the z is a better match for the pronunciation.

That's interesting: I've always believed that 's' is the British spelling and 'z' American. However, I'm not going to argue with the *OED*. My own (paper) dictionary is an elderly (1983) Collins. It gives "recognise/recognize" as being derived from Latin: *recognoscere*. Definitely an 's' there. Searches on the internet support Jonathan, but also suggest that "recognise" is preferred in British English.

Jonathan picks up on books by Samuel Delany (see last issue's Reading Matter).

I have a feeling that I bought Dhalgren long ago but never got far into it. Babel-17 is one of my favourite books, and I quite like the novella Time Considered as a Helix of Semi-Precious Stones, but I have yet to find anything else by Delany that I like. Rather odd, that. Some authors produce plenty of books that I like, others only one or two.

Babel-17 is a fairly short and action-packed novel. It does include some unconventional sexual relationships, but they're just talked about in odd moments, as far as I remember: any sex happens offstage.

The protagonist of the novel, Rydra Wong, is a poetess who is also a linguist, a cryptographer, and incidentally a spaceship captain. She has been asked to make sense of Babel-17, which has been heard in use only in connection with damaging sabotage incidents by persons unknown. It's assumed to be code of some kind, but she figures out that it's a language. In the background, there is an interstellar war going on. There is a weird kind of afterlife in this universe: dead people can continue to exist as spirits of a kind, can talk to the living through some kind of communication device, and can do useful jobs.

Babel-17 turns out to be a particularly powerful language that (in effect) enhances human intelligence, but with side-effects.

Hmm, don't think I've read that – I'll add it to the list.

Femmes Fatales

No	Name	SL	Attr	Lover
66	Morgane Le Fay	24	B	TC
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	
3	Kathy Pacific	17	B	
54	Madelaine de Proust	17		
35	Katy Did	16	I	
42	Maggie Nifisent	16	B	LR
55	Jacky Tinne	16		JJ
52	Guinevere d'Arthur	15	B/W	
10	Frances Forrin	14	B	
48	Fifi	14	B/W	
62	Alison Wunderlandt	14		
11	Laura de Land	13		
26	Ella Fant	13	B	
27	Lucy Fur	13	B	
45	Cath de Thousands	13		
8	Lotte Bottle	12	B	
17	Henrietta Carrotte	12	I/W	
28	Vera Cruz	12		
31	Bess Ottede	12	I/W	
1	Sue Briquet	11	B	HS
4	Anne Tique	11	W	
23	Agnes Sorel	11	I/W	
40	Sheila Kiwi	11		
63	Carole Singeurs	11		
20	Emma Roides	10	I	
38	Pet Ulante	10	W	
43	Di Lemmere	10	I	
53	Angelina de Griz	10	B	
6	Viv Ayschus	9		
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	
39	Thomasina Tancenjin	7	I	
5	Belle Epoque	6	B/I	
24	Violet Bott	6	I/W	
25	Lois de Lô	5	B	

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

Col	Regiments															
	RFG	CG	KM	DG	OOC	AIC	CPC	RM	CDMD/PM	13F	PLLD	53F	27M	4A	69A	Gscn
LCol	BRJS	N7	CDN	BS	JIT	HJ	SE	N6	MHD	LSD	PPUF	HF	N3	N8	JdA	
Maj 1	MdG	N1	N4	ID	CA	N5	FdB	AH	N1	BLC	N2	N4	N4	N3	N6	
Maj 2	HwB	N3	N3	CS	CS	N2	N3	N1	EIF	MD	N1	N4	N4	N4	N4	
Capt 1	NM	N6	N1	N6	N4	N2	N5	N2	CdF+	PDT	N1	N6	N1	N5	N5	N5
Capt 2	FS	N1	N4	N3	N4	N2	N6	N2	N5	N5	N3	N5	N6	N5	N3	N3
Capt 3	TTT	N1	N1	N2	N4	N4	N4	N5	N3	N3	N4	N2	N4	N5	N3	N5
Capt 4	N5	N1	N3	N5	N4	N5	N2	N2	N5	N5	N4	N2	N4	N4	N3	N3
Capt 5										AC						
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.

Frontier Regiments

	F1	F2	F3	(Defence for Sept-Nov)	
Colonel	N6	N3	N5	F4	RNHB
Attached				N3	N9
Also at the Front					

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

Battle Results

Field Army: 2	Cavalry Division: 2
First Division: 2	Horse Guards Brigade: 3
Guards Brigade: 1	Dragoon Guards: 3
Royal Foot Guards: 1	Queen's Own Carabiniers: 1
Cardinal's Guard: 4	Heavy Brigade: 3
King's Musketeers: 1	Archduke Leopold Cuirassiers: 3
1st Foot Brigade: 2	Crown Prince Cuirassiers: 4
Royal Marines: 1	Frontier Division: 4
Picardy Musketeers: 2	Frontier regiment 1: 5
Second Division: 5	Frontier regiment 2: 2
2nd Foot Brigade: 1	Frontier regiment 3: 3
13th Fusiliers: 2	Frontier regiment 4: 3
53rd Fusiliers: 3	RNHB regiment: 1
3rd Foot Brigade: 3	Dragoon Brigade: 4
27th Musketeers: 4	Grand Duke Max's Dragoons: 4
4th Arquebusiers: 5	Princess Louisa Lt Dragoons: 2

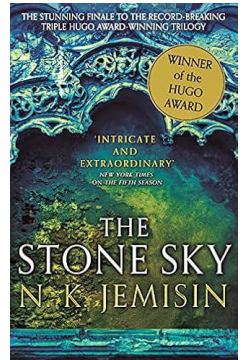
Other Appointments

King's Escort: Ensign __	Captain __
Cardinal's Escort: Ensign __	Captain __
Aides: to Crown Prince __	to Field Marshal __
Provincial Military Governors: __/__/__/__/__	
City Military Governor __	Adjutant-General __
Inspectors-General: of Cavalry __	of Infantry __
Commissioner of Public Safety TTT (until end June 1677)	
Chancellor of the Exchequer __	
Minister of Justice FXC (until end May 1677)	
Minister of War JJ (until end May 1677)	
Minister of State BRJS (until end January 1677)	

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

Reading Matter

Having finally finished *Dhalgren* (see last issue), the book I most wanted to read next was *The Stone Sky*, the final volume in NK Jemisin’s “Broken Earth” trilogy. To recap, this Earth has a single, unstable continent and is wracked by periodic geological upheavals – the fifth seasons of the first book’s title. For years ash fills the sky, the planet cools and nothing will grow. Humanity has to survive on what it has stored, following rules laid down in ages past.



However, these humans have an extra organ in their heads. This allows the ‘orogene’ minority to sense – and control – geology, generating what are effectively supernatural powers. Orogene children are thus very dangerous – a two year-old that can cause earthquakes and kill at whim?! – and usually killed when identified. Unless spotted by a ‘Guardian’ and whisked away to the Fulcrum organisation where adult orogenes can train them to control their powers and serve humanity. Or kill them.

This book picks up the story of our original heroine, “you” (now using the name Essun), and her estranged daughter, Nassun. Both powerful orogenes, they want to harness the crystal ‘obelisks’ (networking them as “The Obelisk Gate” – the title of the second book) that hang in the air in the way bricks don’t (to quote a very different author). This will let them capture the Moon as its erratic orbit brings it back to the Earth. But not for the same purpose...

Interpolated with these two narratives is a third, taking us back to the original creation and purpose of the obelisks. This introduces us to a long-ago civilisation, before the Earth was broken (and the Moon sent on its way), and we gradually discover who the enigmatic stone eaters are. (We’ve already discovered that what they eat is orogenes who’ve tried to harness the obelisks and are turning to stone as a result. This doesn’t bode well for Essun or Nassun...)

The story reaches a crescendo with the final confrontation between mother and daughter as the Moon returns. And all that’s left is the tidying up. *The Obelisk Gate* brings the story to a satisfactory conclusion and has an explanation of what has been going on for millennia. However, I didn’t find it as entertaining as the previous volumes. Perhaps because we’re largely on familiar ground with Essun and Nassun. I strongly recommend the series as a whole, though – it has been quite magical exploring this Broken Earth.

Games Events

The next Oxford Meeples' Big Day of Gaming is on 3rd May 2025 at Wolvercote Village hall in the village of Wolvercote, outside Oxford (from Oxford the number 6 bus is your friend, apparently). This is a day of open gaming (starts 10:30) with the Oxford Meeples game club. See the website for more: www.oxfordmeeples.org

Swiggers: games club that meets on 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 these days. For more info, see www.pevans.co.uk/Swiggers or the BGG Guild at boardgamegeek.com/guild/1672

UK Games Expo: 30th May – 1st June 2025 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. 23rd-26th October 2025, at the Messe (Exhibition Centre) in Essen. Contact Friedhelm Merz Verlag, Postfach 210250, Bonn, 53157 Germany or see www.spiel-messe.com/en

MidCon: 31st Oct–2nd Nov 2025 at the Derby Mickleover Hotel in Mickleover (two miles from Derby city centre). **MidCon** is a friendly board games convention, now in a comfortable modern hotel. It's largely open gaming, but the new website allows games to be scheduled in advance – useful if you want lots of players for something. There's also a Bring 'n' Buy and a quiz on Saturday night. See midcon.org.uk

Games from Pevans

Hand picked board games since 2004



Fishing (Fischen)

An ingenious trick-taking card game from FF. You score by winning tricks and the first hand is straightforward. Then new cards come into play that add higher values, trumps and more.

For 3-5 players, aged 8+, playing time 40-60 minutes: **£12.00**



Power Grid (Funkenschlag): Outpost

I'm fascinated: the central mechanisms of *Power Grid* merged with mechanisms and the setting from vintage space game *Outpost*. So you're building power plants for human colonies on a new planet.

For 2-6 players, aged 12+, playing time 90-120 minutes: **£47.00**



Online at www.pevans.co.uk/Games

Terence Cuckpowder (Sabre, adv.) for pinching Justine.

first duelling sequence need only contain six actions.

Camille de Polignac (Rapier, Seconds BdLS, 5 rests) has cause with Terence Cuckpowder (Sabre, adv.) for pinching Morgane.

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

"adv." shows who (if anyone) has the advantage of higher Expertise: his

Tables

Army Organisation and 1677's Summer Deployment

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

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

Brigade Positions

Guards Brigade	--/--/--
Horse Guards Brigade	--/--/--
Heavy Brigade	--/--/--
Dragoon Brigade	--/--/--
First Foot Brigade	--/--/--
Second Foot Brigade	--/--/--
Third Foot Brigade	--/--/--
Fourth Foot Brigade	--/--/--

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

Applications

Here are the applications again, this time in the order in which they will be resolved, with the characters who are applying for each post. Characters in **bold** are re-applying for the appointment they held in August (and thus get +1 on their application).

Minister of Justice: CA, HJ	Guards TC;
Minister without Portfolio: CA, HJ, RS	Horse Guards TC;
Chancellor of the Exchequer: CA, HJ, RS	Heavy TC;
Commissioner of Public Safety: CA, HJ	Dragoon LSD , TC;
Army commander:	1st Foot PPuF, TC;
First BeV, GdB, JH, RS;	2nd Foot AA , HF, TC;
Second BeV, GdB, JH, RS;	3rd Foot JdA, TC;
Third BeV, GdB, JH, RS	4th Foot TC
Adjutant-General: JH	Army Adjutant:
Inspector-General of Infantry: JH	First HJ;
Inspector-General of Cavalry: JH	Second HJ;
City Military Governor: JH	Third HJ
Division commander:	Aide to Field Marshal: BLC, CA
First BeV, JH, LR, ZvT;	Division Adjutant:
Second BeV, JH, LR, ZUT , ZvT;	First BLC;
Third BeV, JH, LR;	Second BLC, CPL ;
Cavalry BeV , JH, LR;	Third BLC;
Frontier JH, ZvT	Cavalry BLC, CA;
Provincial Military Governor: BdLS, JH	Frontier BLC
Brigadier:	Brigade Major:
	Guards MdG ;
	Dragoon MD
	Captain of the King's Escort: NM
	Regimental Adjutant:
	RFG NM

Duels

Results of August's duels

None

Grudges to settle next month

Beau Reese Jean Seine (Rapier, Seconds JJ, 5 rests) has cause with

Fictionary Dictionary

The scores

Player	This round	Total
Colin Bruce	1	6
Mark Cowper	1	4
Mike Dommett	1	1
Anthony Gilbert	11	14
William Hay	1	4
Andrew Kendall	0	5
Andrew Larder	4	4
Nik Luker	3	8
Tim Macaire	2	3
Nigel Monaghan	0	1
Graeme Morris	2	5
Jonathan Palfrey	1	1
Mike Pollard	1	1
Pam Udowiczenko	1	3
Bruce Whitehill	3	3
Andrew Whiteley	0	1

Round 2 scores

"Some heavy Eskimo and Womble action in the definitions!" notes Andy Kendall. Indeed.

Yet kinnikinnick means "the dried leaves and bark of certain plants ... formerly smoked by some [native American tribes]."

While nombles is a variant spelling of numbles, meaning "the heart, lungs liver, etc of a deer or other animal, cooked for food." Yum, yum.

Mike Dommett tried to vote for his own definition of Nombles. "I can't remember which ones are mine," he quavered. "Is it old age?" (Mike is younger than me by... months.)

But then Andrew Larder tried to vote for his own definition of Kinnikinnick. What's your excuse, Andrew?

We had 17 voters and, with the votes in, Anthony Gilbert's definition of kinnikinnick (the noise of a double-bogeyed railway carriage) garners him lots of points and an early lead. Plenty of time to go, though.

Round 3 definitions

Here are the proposed definitions for the next two words. All you have to do (whether or not you submitted anything) is let me know your favourite definition for each word.

Aspersorium

1 When academics reference a paper so old that the identities of the authors have been lost then it is often attributed to Aspersorium. Aspersorium is pronounced "as per

saurian" implying that the paper is so old the author might as well be a dinosaur. Aspersorium has authored almost as many papers as Ibid.

2 A well-appointed room for Egyptian Queens to commit suicide in Plutarch:

"Was this well done, Charmion?"
"Extremely well, and in the best Aspersorium!"

3 A variety of lily plant. "The aspersorium blooms are very beautiful this year".

4 The term for someone who drones on because they like the sound of their own voice ("Trump has Aspersorium").

5 A social disease that even dictionary compilers do not talk about.

6 A small cubicle for the exclusive (and mandatory) use of vape-smokers.

7 A room or chamber in which the reputation or integrity of a person is commonly attacked: e.g. the House of Commons or the Oval Office.

8 A quiet room in your home, in which you can sit and think of devastating criticisms and put-downs for future use in conversation.

9 Psychiatric construct for those with delusions of grandeur.

10 A newly discovered chemical element that makes it difficult for people to socialise.

11 A medical facility where people are treated for hurt feelings, their integrity having been called into question.

12 A delightful bric-a-brac shop in Brighton dedicated to selling all things retro-Egyptian, run by a lady with large bangles called Cleopatra. [But what's the lady called?]

13 The censorious substitution of Aspartame for Sugar in fizzy drinks (by fat-shamers).

Wrasse

1 What Elmer Fudd got instead of a higher salary when he asked for a 'raise'.

2 A variety of seaweed, laced with a delicate aubergine taste.

3 A small eel common to the Mediterranean Sea around Malta.

4 A short sarong or wrap covering just the area between the hips and upper thighs.

5 A seawater fish, quite common but not good to eat, sometimes fed to pigs.

6 The Northumbrian name for a river estuary.

7 The ninth deadly sin., omitted from the King James Bible at the request of the Queen. [Ninth?!]

8 A nasty grass burn on the buttocks, usually as a result of someone being dragged across the lawn by an uncontrollable dog on a lead.

9 The hygienic cloth used by baristas ALL DAY to wipe down the nozzles of their espresso machine.

10 Conflation of words meaning stupid and wrong.

11 An angry donkey. Portmanteau word invented by Lewis Carroll in *The Hunting of the Snark* from Wrath and Ass, hence Wrasse. Later adopted by the makers of *Shrek* as an insult directed to the character voiced by Eddie Murphy.

12 An alternative spelling of race invented by Scots in an attempt to

Hugh Jeneaux applies for Army Adjutant of First, Second and Third Armies

Hugh Jeneaux applies for Commissioner. of Public Safety

Hugh Jeneaux applies for Chancellor of Exchequer

Hugh Jeneaux applies for Minister without Portfolio

Hugh Jeneaux applies for Minister of Justice

Jean d'Aubergine applies for Brigadier of 3rd Foot Brigade

Jacques Hatt applies for Province Mil. Governor

Jacques Hatt applies for Division Commander of First, Second, Third, Cavalry and Frontier Divisions

Jacques Hatt applies for City Military Governor

Jacques Hatt applies for Inspector General Cavalry

Jacques Hatt applies for Inspector General Infantry

Jacques Hatt applies for Adjutant General

Jacques Hatt applies for Army Commander of First, Second and Third Armies

Louis Renault applies for Division Commander of First, Second, Third and Cavalry Divisions

Louis Severin Descartes applies for Brigadier of Dragoon Brigade (as incumbent)

Maurice Danseur applies for Brigade Major of Dragoon Brigade

Martin de Garnache applies for Brigade Major of Guards Brigade (as incumbent)

Neville Moore applies for Regiment Adjutant of RFG

Neville Moore applies for Captain, King's Escort

Percival Puffington applies for Brigadier of 1st Foot Brigade

Rick Shaw applies for Army Commander of First, Second and Third Armies

Rick Shaw applies for Chancellor of Exchequer (as incumbent)

Rick Shaw applies for Minister without Portfolio

Stephane Etrange applies for Army Quarter Master Gen. of First, Second and Third Armies

Stephane Etrange applies for Minister without Portfolio

Terence Cuckpowder applies for Brigadier of Guards, Horse Guards, Heavy, Dragoon, 1st Foot, 2nd Foot, 3rd Foot and 4th Foot Brigades

Zavier Ulric Turenne applies for Division Commander of Second Division (as incumbent)

Zeold von Tu applies for Division Commander of First, Second and Frontier Divisions

Nothing from Jason Fazackarley (TTT) – I used his July orders for bravery/poltroonery – 1 turn missed.

Nothing from Ray Vahey (X1): 1 turn missed.

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

All characters may use Influence (and/or a bribe) for or against these actions.

Armand Alsace applies for Brigadier of 2nd Foot Brigade (as incumbent)

Bernard de Lur-Saluces applies for Province Mil. Governor

Ben e'Volence applies for Division Commander of First, Second, Third and Cavalry (incumbent) Divisions

Ben e'Volence applies for Army Commander of First, Second and Third Armies

Botte Le Chimiste applies for Division Adjutant of First, Second, Third, Cavalry and Frontier Divisions

Botte Le Chimiste applies for Aide to Field Marshal

Come Asiouar applies for Division Adjutant of Cavalry Division

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.

Come Asiouar applies for Aide to Field Marshal

Come Asiouar applies for Commissioner. of Public Safety

Come Asiouar applies for Chancellor of Exchequer

Come Asiouar applies for Minister without Portfolio

Come Asiouar applies for Minister of Justice

Charles PiedLuminaire applies for Division Adjutant of Second Division (as incumbent)

Greg de Bécqueur applies for Army Commander of First, Second and Third Armies

Hugo Furst applies for Brigadier of 2nd Foot Brigade

prove that Doric Scots is not just a lazily pronounced dialect of English.

13 16th century spelling of the word race. Earliest use – William Shakespeare, in his 1598 comedy “*Like ’tis a Wrasse ne’er Won*”.

Words for round 4

Lexeme and Partan

What do you think they should mean? Send me your definitions.

What’s this all about?

This game is open to all readers and I guess most of you will have come across some variation of it. Each issue I will put up a couple of obscure (or not) words. Anybody who wants to participate writes in with a fictional definition for each word. (For example: “Geranium: a ceremonial dagger used by Aztec priests for human sacrifice.”) I publish the definitions, anonymously.

All readers (not just those who contributed) vote for their favourite/most plausible/most amusing definitions (any vote for yourself will be ignored). Players score points for the number of people who choose their definition. (In other versions of the game, the definitions include the correct one and players get points for spotting it. However, the internet makes this too easy, so I’ve left this bit out.)

We’ll run this for 10 rounds. The winner will be the player with the most points.

Send your votes and definitions to Pevans at 180 Aylsham Drive, UXBRIDGE UB10 8UF or to TWJO@pevans.co.uk by 7th May 2025

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 shows the subscription rates for the paper edition, including postage, and the games only sub.

	UK	Rest of World	Games only
10-issue (1 year) subscription	£39.00	£50.50	£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 Games@pevans.co.uk. Or subscribe online at www.pevans.co.uk/TWJO, where you can pay by credit card or PayPal.

Troodos (*Railway Rivals* game 18 – RR2528CY)

Turn 12

MEDITRAINEAN stayed just enough ahead to win. INLAND IRONHORSE INTERNATIONAL, in his first game, scored almost as many and was a very good second, while CANTERBURY RAILWAYS had a poor selection of runs and finished third. ALL GREEK TO ME pulled out a very good last turn to cheer him up by finishing last.

Race results

Race	From	To	MT	CR	AGTM	III
31	12 Paphos	21 Polis	10-3			20+3
32	15 Limassol	23 Evrykhou	+3	10-3	20	
33	35 Larnaca	45 Nicosia	20-1	0	10+1	
34	61 Athna	32 Dhali	10		20	
35	55 Akanthou	65 Theodoros		10+3		20-3
36	52 Kyrenia	43 Nicosia	10-4	+1	20+3	
TOTAL			45	21	74	40

JR = Joint Run; ERP = Exchange of Running Powers

GM Notes

In Turn 9 CR's total was 10 points short and in Turn 11 race 26 CR got 10-2 rather than the 5-2 reported. This affects his running total which was therefore 260 and not 245 as reported. Thanks for pointing it out, Anthony. Mea Culpa.

Builds and Points

MediTrainean (MT), Anthony
 Gilbert – Red
Starts: Larnaca
Points: 266 +45 = 311

Canterbury Railways (CR), Rob
 Pinkerton – Blue
Starts: Famagusta
Points: 260 +21 = 281

All Greek To Me (AGTM), Mike Dyer
 – Black
Starts: Kyrenia
Points: 155 +74 = 229

Inland Ironhorse International
 (III), Chris Rudram – Green
Starts: Lapithos
Points: 260 +40 = 300

With the new CPS it remains to be seen
 Whether his spies will be tangerine.
 A ferret typically has a white coat –
 It may be he prefers a weasel or stoat.

Scars of the Soul

1 He marched away with youthful
 pride,
 A spark of hope, a gleam inside.
 His heart was light, his spirit bold,

A soldier's tale yet to be told.
 2 Through fields of fire, through skies
 that bled,
 He faced the storm, where angels fled.
 The clash of steel, the cry of pain,
 A world consumed by war's domain.
 3 The man returned, but not the same,
 His eyes now bore a distant flame.
 The laughter once that filled his core,
 Lay buried deep, behind the war.
 † CPL

Points Arising

Next deadline is 28th April

Note that the deadline is a Monday –
 the day I get back from this year's
 Gathering of Friends.

Next turn is the start of a new season.
**All characters start the month in
 Paris and all duels must be fought.**

The new Military Appointments and
 empty Government Appointments will
 be filled at the start of September.

Players whose characters can make
 appointments should do so in their
 orders. They may appoint a specific
 character (who meets the require-
 ments in the rules and house rules) or
 an NPC or may leave an appointment
 vacant. So, if you have applied for an
 appointment – or hold a rank – that
 allows you to make other
 appointments, don't forget to do so.

Any appointment that's not filled or
 specifically left vacant will be taken by
 an NPC.

As shown on character sheets, returns
 on investments will be paid out at the
 start of September. If there's a

shortfall, it must be made good at once
 or the investment will be lost.

What, no deaths at the front?! I found
 a bug in my software (first time for
 ages) and had to re-do what happened
 a couple of times. There were a lot
 more deaths in one iteration! Anyway,
 bug fixed, I think, but let me know if
 you spot anything odd.

At Bill Hay's suggestion, the Greasy
 Pole is not showing expired appoint-
 ments any more. Instead, characters
 who are getting the +1 modifier for re-
 applying for the same job are noted in
 the Announcements and shown in bold
 in the Applications list. Hopefully, this
 should be less confusing, but tell me
 what you think.

Absent friends

The following didn't get orders to me
 in time and suffered the consequences.

Nothing from Steven Malecek (JC): 1
 turn missed.

Tim Rattray asked for RIR to be
 floated as he's ill (get well soon, Tim).

Earl Slapdash,
Thin ice, my friend, very thin ice.
But we'll take it all in good humour.
† Baron Louis Severin Descartes
Dragoon Brigadier

To the Gentlemen of Paris,
Gentlemen, whilst I have greatly
appreciated the companionship of my
fellow soldiers whilst on campaign, I
am looking forward to some time with
the fair sex when we return to Paris.
To that end, I am giving notice that I
intend to court the fair lady Belle
Epoque in the first week of September.
I would hate to meet any of you on her
doorstep, it would be a waste of time
and money for all concerned. I thank
you for your attention.

† Maurice Danseur,
Bvt. Major, GDMD

(Of course, if I'm dead the above letter
becomes irrelevant.)

“So Sammy Phipps was right along –
there is a Spy in the Camp” mused
Arent Hayes, as he stared sadly at the
graves of his ex-colleagues Lt Colonel
Pinot-Noir and Major Boule. Sammy
had always told Arent that his gift was
to always look more stupid than he
actually was, and people always
underestimated his cleverness. Well,
time to follow the evidence – now, who
benefited from the death of his
comrades?

New to Paris. Justin Saad. Having
paid respects to the remains of
Grenville, son of a dear merchant
friend.

Poetry Corner

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

1 Joined up the Regiment,
Next I know I was sent
Urgently to the Front.
They needed extra men
To help our defence.
At the stroke of a pen
Now we bear the brunt.
How will this all end?
Chorus: At the front –
You can't really like it!
At the front –
Just try to survive it!
2 Carry lots of ammunition
To achieve my ambition
Of shooting down the enemy
Before they can get me.
Learn to dive and duck,
Not running out of luck...
[Chorus]
3 Just try to survive it!
Fortunate to survive,
Just glad to be alive,
Outcomes are so unfair –
You don't get your share.
Wondering how did
The Captain get a MiD
When you know he was hid
Under the latrine lid.
[Chorus]

† FXC

Beautiful Belle, Oh Beautiful Belle
In fair Paris town, wherein you do
dwell
So far from the front, oh how can you
tell?
How well I could love you, my
beautiful Belle.

† Maurice Danseur

Game End Statements

Inland Ironhorse International (III), Chris Rudram – Green: **2nd**

My first ever game of *Railway Rivals* and being in contention at the end was all I could ask for. I didn't get towards the eastern central part of the map – I think a branch line in Kythera or Nicosia from the north coast would have got me into a couple more races. But learned for next time! [*Look forward to seeing you.*]

Canterbury Railways (CR), Rob Pinkerton – Blue: **3rd**

I really loved this map, the combination of mountains, the narrow passes and the coastal plains made a great game! [*I did wonder if it might be a little crowded but it seems to have worked out quite well.*]

All Greek To Me (AGTM), Mike Dyer – Black: **4th**

There is not too much to be said. Poor lines, bad dice, tough players... whingeing, whining and moaning. But I have high hopes for the last turn and, if I can cross the 200 point bar [*achieved*], then I will be declaring a win and doing a little dance. Thanks, Mike!

Railway Rivals game 19

Pre-start

We have three players signed up:

Mike Dyer,
Chris Rudram and
Gerald Udowiczenco

There's room for one more. If you're interested in playing let Mike or Pevans know asap. (Otherwise, Pevans will be dragooned into playing!)

We're playing the Lake District map, LD. Working copies of the map (and the rules) have been sent to the players.

To start the game, please confirm you're playing and let me have:

Your company name,
Preferences for starting position (Carlisle or any port except Heysham) and
Preferences for colour (Black/Blue/Green/Red).

**Orders to Mike Dommatt, 12 Watton Park, Bridport DT6 5NJ
or by e-mail to mike_dommatt@yahoo.co.uk
by 18th April 2025**

The Wizard of Anharitte (Star Trader game 12)

Turn 11

The big news this Quarter was a technical breakthrough in Monopoles. Production advances mean that more Monopoles can be produced from a given volume with the expectation that prices will steadily fall with time.

ROCKET TRADERS were last out of the blocks this Quarter, choosing to jump after everyone else. Vanguard went into Safe Berth at Tau Ceti, though their ships were loaded with goods for next Quarter.

At Gamma Leporis MADNESS & MAYHEM bought 5 Alloys on Contract.

Trading at Epsilon Eridani was COSTA NOSTRA COFFEE INC selling 2 Isotopes for 12 HTs apiece.

COSTA NOSTRA COFFEE were doing bigger trades at Tau Ceti, selling 12 Alloys for 8 HTs each and gaining a Dealership.

COSTA NOSTRA COFFEE intended to unload some of their Monopole stockpile at Mu Herculis, but the recent breakthrough meant their bid of 14 was ignored as prices dropped.

At Sigma Draconis SOLAR SPICE & LIQUORS bought 5 Spice on Contract, after which TREKBOER bought 8 Isotopes for 6 HTs each, taking a Contractors' position, and then 6 Alloys for 2 HTs apiece to get a Dealership as well. What they lacked was storage.

At Beta Hydri MADNESS & MAYHEM sold 2 Alloy for 8 HTs each. SOLAR SPICE & LIQUORS then sold a single Spice for 10 HTs and MADNESS & MAYHEM unloaded 7 more at the same price and became dealers.

TREKBOER jumped to Tau Ceti on planet and took OP 3, loading weapons. On Sigma Draconis they belatedly bought more storage and at Beta Hydri shipyards they laid down a Phoenix hull, Beluga, with augmented jump, 6 cargo pods, and A class crew. Some of their gains being recycled already.

ROCKET TRADERS launched their Corco Iota Hull at Tau Ceti Shipyards and moved it to a safe berth.

COSTA NOSTRA COFFEE's new ship, Pumpkin Latte, launched with 6 Light weapons pods, Augmented Jump and A class crew .

MADNESS & MAYHEM bought a new Warehouse at Beta Hydri.

SOLAR SPICE & LIQUORS loaded passengers on one ship and kept their heads down.

Personal

To Sir Tiny Thierry Toothpick,
 Congratulations on your elevation to the nobility and indeed to high office. Many thanks for your invitation in the first week of September. Like many others I have other plans for that first week back from the front so I must decline your offer for that week.

Perhaps some other time,

† Marquis Frank X. Change

The regimental clerk's office, GDMD (again)

"Ah, M.Danseur, how can we help?"

"I've just been told I am now a Major! But I have an application in to be an Aide to a Lt. General! How can I do that if I am a Major?"

"You cannot, I fear. You could of course apply to be an aide to a General – Oh no, you are not of sufficient social class."

"I am well aware of my lowly social class! If I were higher, I could be a Chevalier by now! So what do I do now?"

"You could always apply to be a Brigade Major. Not exactly an Aide's post, but it's something. And we can put in the paperwork for you..."

To: General de Gain, Army Commander
 Your Excellency,

For reasons I cannot fathom, the Holy Roman Imperial Command has sent a number of their top-secret carrier-pigeons about their upcoming operation regarding Maastricht to a random scribe in a village we captured last month. Here is the transcript as we could translate it:

Von Starhemberg: "My excellencies, I think we are making a mistake. 3 per cent of Holy Roman trade runs through Maastricht. 40% of Dutch trade does."

Baden-Baden: "Charles, if you think we should do it, let's go. I just hate bailing the Dutch out again. Let's just make sure our messaging is tight here."

Charles V: "Hofkriegsrat – I fully share your loathing of Dutch free-loading. It's pathetic. But Ernst Rüdiger is correct, we are the only ones on the planet who can do this. I feel like now is as good a time as any, given His Imperial Majesty's directive to reopen trade lanes."

Baden-Baden: "As I heard it, His Imperial Majesty was clear: green light, but we soon make clear to Brandenburg and the Netherlands what we expect in return."

Von Starhemberg: "Weather is favourable. Just confirmed with Army Command we launch the Heavy Brandenburgers over the Southern approach down the Imperial Road, while two regiments of Dragoons ride via Gronsveld and the Heavy Imperial Guard attacks in the enemy's flank in Meersen (...)"

Charles V: "I will say a prayer for victory."

Given the complete enemy attack plan, which I have added to this dispatch, the Dragoon Brigade will strike swiftly and decisively.

May God protect us!

† Louis Severin Descartes
 Dragoon Brigadier

Dear TTT,

I would love to meet you face to face. But which of your two faces would you be using?
 † CDN

Press

Announcements

The Royal Foot Guards are still looking for officers and men. Financial assistance available for suitable candidates who lack the necessary cash.
† Beau Reese Jean Seine

**** 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.
† Count Thyme

Despatches from the Front

A Dragoon writes:

Still out on Frontier, but now with a Squadron to look after, not just a troop! Talk about being thrown into the deep end. Oh well, on we go against the foe – whether they speak French, Spanish, Dutch, German or English, they are still the enemy.

Messieurs,

The glory of life at the front!

Valiance, camaraderie and the chance to give those Dutchies a damn good licking.

Although on second thoughts, that's revolting: I wouldn't lick a Dutchman if he was glazed in Stroopwafel.

Yours etc, † SdS

Mmm, stroopwafel... † Le Roi

Social

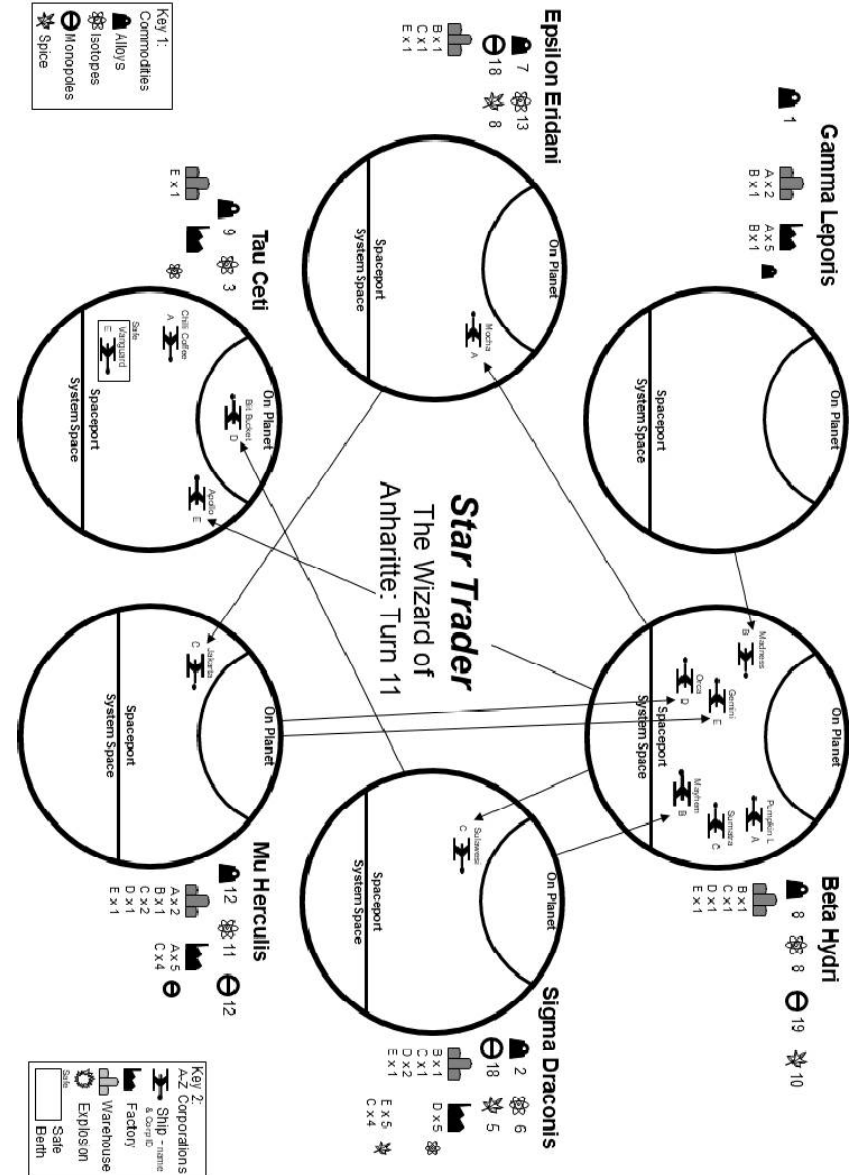
Gentlemen of Paris,
During week 2, Miss Nifisent and I will hold a banquet at my club in honour of all our brave sons of France who have so valiantly fought against our enemies and pray for the souls of our brothers who will not return. We extend a warm welcome to all gentlemen and their ladies. All food and drink will be at my expense.
† Marquis Louis Renault

Welcome home troops party at the Fleur in week 2 of September. All returning troops, their ladies and those welcoming them home are invited without regard to social standing.
† Beau Reese Jean Seine

DRAGOON VICTORY PARADE
I invite all officers and troops of the Dragoon Brigade and all officers of SL 14+ to our Dragoon Victory Parade in week 4 of September. Regimental enemies of the GDMD and PLLD shall wait outside my club. Drinks are on me – or rather on the Dutch, who supplied such a generous supply of trinkets and goodies. Ladies welcome.
† Baron Louis Severin Descartes
Dragoon Brigadier

To celebrate my office, all are invited to my club in week 2 of September. Ladies welcome; all costs paid. † JJ

Orders to Mike Dommett, 12 Watton Park, Bridport DT6 5NJ
or by e-mail to mike_dommett@yahoo.co.uk
by 18th April 2025



Market Positions

System	Commodity	Positions
Gamma Leporis	Alloys	Dealers: A and E. Contractor: B.
Epsilon Eridani	Alloys	
	Isotopes	Dealers: A and D.
	Monopoles	Dealer: C.
	Spice	Contractor: C.
Tau Ceti	Alloys	Dealer: E.
	Isotopes	Market Manager: E.
Mu Herculis	Alloys	Dealer: E.
	Isotopes	Dealers: A, D and E.
	Monopoles	Dealers: B, D and E.
Sigma Draconis	Alloys	Dealer: E.
	Isotopes	Dealer: B. Contractor: E.
	Monopoles	Dealer: E.
	Spice	Dealer: B. Contractor: C.
Beta Hydri	Alloys	Contractor: B.
	Isotopes	Dealer: E.
	Monopoles	Dealers: A and D.
	Spice	Dealer: C. Contractor: E.

News

EV 7 took place this turn and affects Monopoles for the rest of the game.

Turn 13 P3, **B4**
Turn 14 **P6**

There are two new News chits this turn. The current list (new chits in **bold**) is:

(Chits are identified by the Connection type and level required to see them and disappear/take effect in the News Phase of the turn listed.)

Turn 12 C4

Corporation Table

Corporation letter and name	Connections Bus/Crim/Pol	Init'v Bid	Turn order	Cash Rep	Player
A Costa Nostra Coffee	10 0 1	0	4th	143 36	Mark Cowper
B Madness & Mayhem	9 5 0	0	2nd	113 21	Anthony Gilbert
C Solar Spice & Liquors	7 3 4	+4	1st	770 40	Paul Evans
D TrekBoer	6 7 2	0	3rd	542 40	Mike Dyer
E Rocket Traders	10 0 8	0	5th	294 40	Przemek Orwat

N under Initiative Bid means No move received, F indicates the Corp was floated

Who was where – in the clubs

Where	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Fleur de Lys	TC + Morgane	JJ + Jacky LR + Maggie . JS . HS + Sue		JJ + Jacky

Shows who was in or outside a club: . = Toadying to character above; (G) = Gambled; CP = Crown Prince; (id) = expected host.

Who was where – with the ladies

Where	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Sue	HS succeeds	Out		Week 4
Maggie		Out		
Jacky		Out		Out
Morgane	Out			

Shows who was with a mistress or on a doorstep: Out = Mistress with current lover; I = Indiscreet (+ mistress name); EX-id = Pinched from former lover.

Who was where – round and about

Where	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Bawdy houses				JS + FC
FC = Female Company; Mug n = Mugged & amount lost; (G) = Gambled.				
Practising	JJ - Rapier LR - Rapier	TC - Sabre	JS - Rapier JJ - Rapier TC - Sabre HS - Rapier LR - Rapier	TC - Sabre HS - Rapier LR - Rapier
Busy doing nothing	JS			

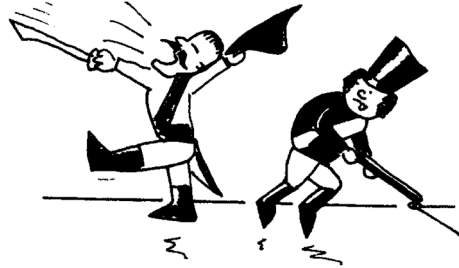
Shows everybody else: FC = Female Companionship; Mug n = Mugged & amount lost; (G) = Gambled; Weapon = Weapon practised with. For those doing nothing: -club = not in a club; -Cash = insufficient funds; -SL = insufficient Social Level.

Beau Reese Jean Seine's brevet rank has expired, so he leads the Royal Foot Guards as Colonel. The regiment's success brings him over a thousand crowns in booty. Lt-Colonel Camille de Polignac plunders the same amount for himself. Major Hector William Boone goes larger, looting over fifteen hundred crowns to go with his Mention in Despatches ("Good looting skills"). Senior Captain Neville Moore's looting is on a par with his Colonel's. Captain Felipe Savant takes his looting to exactly 1,500 crowns' worth. There are MiDs for him ("Exactly? Exactly!"). And Captain Thierry Toothpick gets a little bit more.

Exactly fifteen hundred crowns is also the value of KM Colonel Claude de Nord's plunder. He is also Mentioned for his foresight in appointing an able Adjutant to boost the Regiment's competence. There two Mentions for the new Major in the Cardinal's Guard, Frank X Change, but nothing else ("No loot here. Hang on, wasn't he a Musketeer last month?").

Percival Puffington, in charge of the Picardy Musketeers, receives two Mentions in Despatches for their accomplishments and loots over 1,500 crowns' worth. A Knighthood comes his way as a result (of the accomplishments, not the looting).

Another Knighthood goes to Marcel Hatch Dupree, Lt-Col of the Royal Marines, after he is Mentioned for surviving the impact of an English musketball. A bit of looting sees him almost a thousand crowns richer. Captain Chemin de Fer outshines him with nearly fifteen hundred crowns' worth. Two hundred of that goes on buying a couple of horses as he is brevetted to Major.



All this reflects well on First Foot Brigadier Henri DuShite, who gains exactly two thousand crowns in plunder and two Mentions in Despatches.

The French attack forces the Dutch/Spanish/Imperial/English besieging force to pack up and march off. Retaining possession of Maastricht gives the French side more leverage as peace talks start in the town of Nijmegen.

Last quiet month in Paris

New boy Justin Saad begins his time in Paris by applying to join the Blue Gables club. Alas, he doesn't meet the criteria for membership and thus spends some time kicking his heels. Still, at least he is able to attend Louis Renault's party, alongside Hugo Serre, who is showing off his new conquest, Sue Briquet. ❖

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 9). You will also need (access to) a copy of the published rules to *En Garde!* (see www.engarde.co.uk).

Orders for September 1676 to Pevans at 180 Aylsham Drive, UXBRIDGE UB10 8UF, UK or lpbsorders@pevans.co.uk by 28th April 2025



August 1676 (390)

The August sunshine brings a few new arrivals to Paris. Vaux de Fon is one of these youngsters and makes a beeline for the moneylenders. Flush with cash, he heads for the barracks of the Crown Prince Cuirassiers to join up. CO Stephane Etrange has left standing orders and the new recruit is quickly accepted. The new Trooper Fon sets off for the front.

Much more surprising is what Frank X Change is up to. He resigns as Lieutenant-Colonel of the King's Musketeers and signs on with their arch-enemies, the Cardinal's Guard. This explains his suggestion that the CG Lt-Colonel should resign. He's even called in a couple of favours to help this happen, but Terence Cuckpowder puts his influence behind the Lt-Col and the man retains his position. Change buys his way back up to Major and transfers his kit from one bivouac to another before his former colleagues can spot his new uniform.

Cuckpowder's more usual activity is providing cash to recent arrivals and this is something he continues this month. For his part, Camille de Polignac makes a substantial donation to "Tiny" Thierry Toothpick, the new CPS – "in recognition of the great work he does in keeping all of us safe."

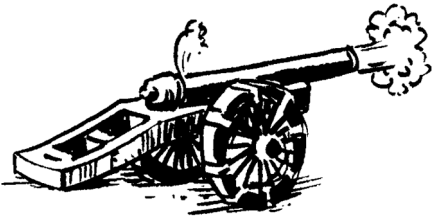
Yep, still besieging

While First and Cavalry Divisions head off to relieve Maastricht, Field Army commander Jacques de Gain marshals his remaining troops to continue the Army's own siege. The spoils of war make him over a thousand crowns richer and he gains a Mention in Despatches ("Good job he's already earmarked for Field Marshal").

This leaves Second Division in the van of the action and its commander, Zavier Ulric Turenne, hurls himself at the enemy. Literally. It's like he's wearing The Wrong Trousers. Luckily, Second Foot Brigade is right on his heels and overruns the Dutch positions. For Turenne there are two MiDs ("Bravest thing I've ever seen" "Ditto"). His newly appointed Adjutant, Charles PiedLuminaire, is busy getting to grips with his administrative duties and has his brevet rank (Lieutenant-Colonel) made permanent.

Second Foot Brigadier Armand Alsace removes the brevet from his rank (Brigadier-General in this case) and appropriates well over a thousand crowns for his own coffers. The damage to the Dutch forces is caused by the 13th Fusiliers and their Colonel, Hugo Furst, is brevetted to Bdr-Gen while gathering close to 1,500 crowns for himself. The 53rd back up the 13th and Captain Sebastiane Blanc-Chevaux finds himself Mentioned ("Commanding a Battalion while a Captain").

Third Foot isn't as successful, but Captains Agaric Champignon and Justin Cartier survive handily in the 27th Musketeers, as does Bdr-Gen Jean d'Aubergine commanding the 4th Arquebusiers.



As usual, the Royal North Highlanders are the success story in the Frontier Division, with now three general officers commanding the battalions. General Rick Shaw collects exactly fifteen hundred crowns' worth of loot – mind you, he's received money from Paris, too. Brevet General Jacques Hatt amasses an exact one thousand crowns' worth – that will let him repay

some of his hefty loan from Louis Severin Descartes. And new arrival Lt-General Bernard de Lur-Saluces picks up just over 500. He does get a Mention in Despatches ("Johnny-come-lately!") into the bargain, though.

Dragoon Brigade continues its roving brief, but finds slim pickings this month. Brigadier Louis Severin Descartes collects a little booty (just over 500 crowns' worth), while Brigade Major Botte Le Chimiste gets even less – half as much as his boss in fact. Good job Louis has lent him some cash, then.

With the regiment's two senior officers running the Brigade, Grand Duke Max's Dragoons are commanded by Major Elroi le Flingue. As acting CO, le Flingue is Mentioned twice ("Stepping up"), which gets him a Knighthood. Junior Major Maurice Danseur has his brevet rank made permanent and is Mentioned as well ("A little promotion"). After collecting some 500 crowns' worth of loot, Captain Pierre De Terre also has his brevet rank solidified. A little bravery from trooper Ignace Pardaillon sees him loot a couple of hundred crowns' worth of goodies. Trooper Steve De Sade isn't brave and doesn't get anything.

Maastricht relieved!

The Cavalry Division trots towards Maastricht, clearing Allied patrols and pickets as it goes. Commander Ben e'Volence is brevetted to General and ensures he gets a big share of the booty: well over two thousand crowns' worth.

The Queen's Own Carabiniers are the Division's success story. They trounce the Imperial cavalry that tries to stop their advance, plundering their supplies to good effect. Justin Thyme is QOC Colonel and takes just under 1,500 crowns' worth of booty. He is promoted to (brevet) Brigadier-General. Surviving a close encounter with an Imperial dragoon, Lt-Col Come Asiouar's loot is worth almost two thousand crowns. His personal success is rewarded with a Barony. There's a Knighthood for Major Ian Dediette to go with just over fifteen hundred crowns' worth of loot and a Mention in Despatches. Captain Con Stantinople's share is closer to two thousand crowns, which means he can easily buy the horses he needs for his new rank of Major.

The QOCs colleagues in the Horse Guards Brigade, the Dragoon Guards, don't do as well, but CO Balzac Slapdash is still able to add over 1,500 crowns to his wealth. He is Mentioned in Despatches too ("Not as good as the carabiniers!") and takes over as Horse Guards Brigadier.

The Cuirassiers in the Heavy Brigade don't have such opposition. Colonel Hugh Jeneaux, leading Archduke Leopold's men, still pockets over a thousand crowns' worth of loot though. His opposite number in the Crown Prince's boys, Stephane Etrange, just gets a (small) Mention ("No loot here"). However, he does get to be Heavy Brigadier for the last days of the season. There's a similar MiD for his number two, Lt-Col François de Blanchefort. Having just bought the rank of Major, there's an even briefer MiD for Arent Hayes ("Need more ink"), while trooper Vaux de Fon is pleased just to survive.

Using the intelligence gathered by the cavalry, First Division is able to hit the besieging force hard. Its success allows the soldiers lots of loot. Division commander Greg de Bécqueur gets over 2,500 crowns worth to go with his double Mention in Despatches ("Stunning success").

The Guards Brigade assaults the English regiments that are part of the besieging force. The Royal Guards and the Musketeers cut through them while the Cardinal's men struggle. There are Mentions for Brigadier Zeold von Tu, who also gets fifteen hundred crowns' worth of English 'memorabilia'. His Brigade Major, Martin de Garnache, takes just over 1,500 crowns' worth.

