

DR DARTS' NEWSLETTER

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DR. DARTS' NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 12

BIRTHDAY ISSUE

INTRODUCTION

Can it really be a year since I started *DDN*? (Oh course it can and it is.)

When I initially set out to share my research and miscellaneous dart-related facts and thoughts with anyone who cared to read them back in February 2010 I wasn't expecting such a response. Hundreds of you have subscribed and new members are joining every week; all this with little or no prior publicity. It warms my old heart to know that so many people around the globe are interested in my research. I wasn't sure if it would actually work. It has, so **HAPPY FIRST BIRTHDAY *DDN*!** Special thanks must go to my good friend and webmaster David King for applying all the technical stuff to my ramblings in order to produce each and every *Newsletter*.



And what better birthday gift to the *DDN* than to announce that actor, writer, presenter and darts fanatic, Stephen Fry has now joined our cheerful band. Welcome Stephen. Needless to say I am as happy as a pig in Chardonnay.



(The image shows Stephen, Sid Waddell and Dave Lanning in the commentary box at the 2010 Premier League play-offs. Image © Lawrence Lustig / PDC; reproduced with permission.)

Broadcaster Ray Stubbs, who also recently joined our happy throng, has written to say how much he enjoyed Issue 11, 'great stuff... much appreciated'. Positive response too from Ken H. who said *DDN* was 'well worth the wait' and that 'once again [*it was*] full of interesting items.' Ken added how much he loves to read about the old news saying 'It makes you realise how much darts has progressed.' Finally Dave B who says he is an 'avid fan' enthused, 'Wow, Patrick, these newsletters get better and better. Absolutely brilliant'.

Enough of this personal, egotistical, back-slapping... Onward Issue 12!

FROM PREVIOUS ISSUES

(a) Doug McCarthy

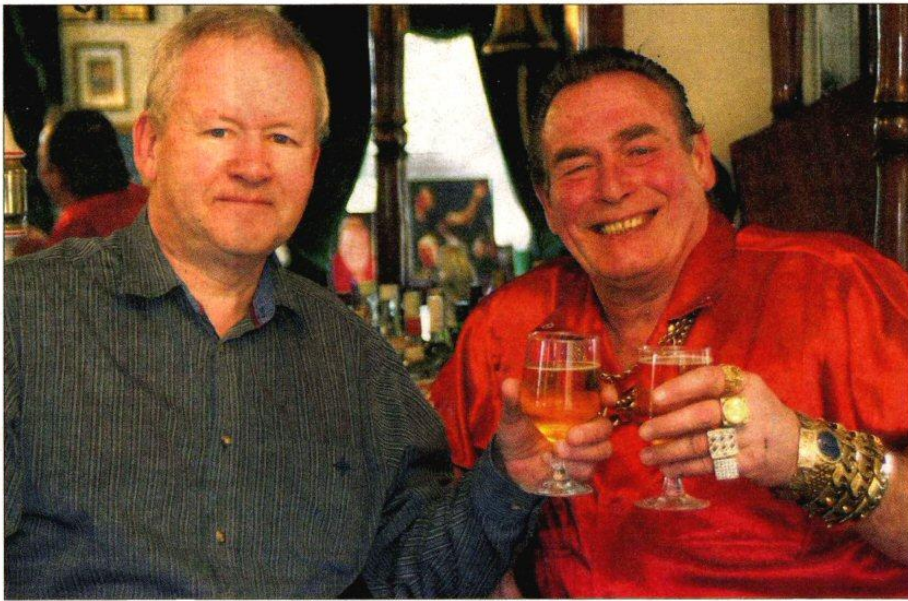


Talking of birthdays, in Issue 11 I mentioned that County Durham's ex-England international Doug McCarthy was 68 years young on Christmas Day last year and had been playing darts for *sixty years*. James H. was impressed and dropped me a line to say how much he enjoyed the piece about Doug, adding 'and he's still playing. What an inspiration!' Indeed, and what better excuse do I need to include an image of Doug in his prime days back in 1980. (Image *Darts Northern News*)

(b) Scoring for show, doubles for dough

As promised, I am going to mention this *every* month at least until the publishing date 25th June.

Double act Dr Darts and the King of Bling team up for new book



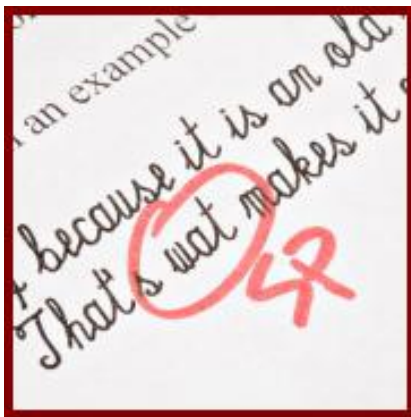
Cheers: Dr Patrick Chaplin, of Maldon, and darts star Bobby George drink to their new book on the language of darts.

A MALDON author has teamed up with a sporting legend to decipher the language of darts. Dr Patrick Chaplin has collaborated with Bobby George, famously known as the King of Bling, to publish *Scoring for Show, Doubles for Dough – Bobby George's Darts Lingo*. The book provides a humorous "dictionary" of darts, tied in with stories from Bobby's time on the road and the unique words and phrases he has picked up along the way. Dr Chaplin, of Norfolk Road, said: "I compiled a dictionary of the 'private language' of darts some years ago, but the material remained on file and unpublished. "I had no idea that the research would eventually lead to me working with Bobby on such a unique project." Dr Chaplin has written a number of books about the sport, including *Darts in England 1900 to 1939* and *The Official Bar Guide to Darts*. His latest book will be published in June by Apex Publishing, priced at £12.99.

Bobby George, Chris Cowlin (our publisher Apex) and I are busy devising ways of bringing our book to the attention of all darts lovers on the planet. A number of book signing dates have been agreed and the publicity machine has started to roll. My local newspaper the *Maldon Standard* has already published a pre-publication piece (see scan) and doubtless the provincial and national press will come on board fairly soon. Bobby's written a humorous piece for his website www.bobbygeorge.com and that should be online very soon.

In the meantime, if you want to read more about *Scoring for show, doubles for dough* – Bobby's *George's Darts Lingo* or pre-order a copy or three, check out our publisher's website, www.apexpublishing.co.uk.

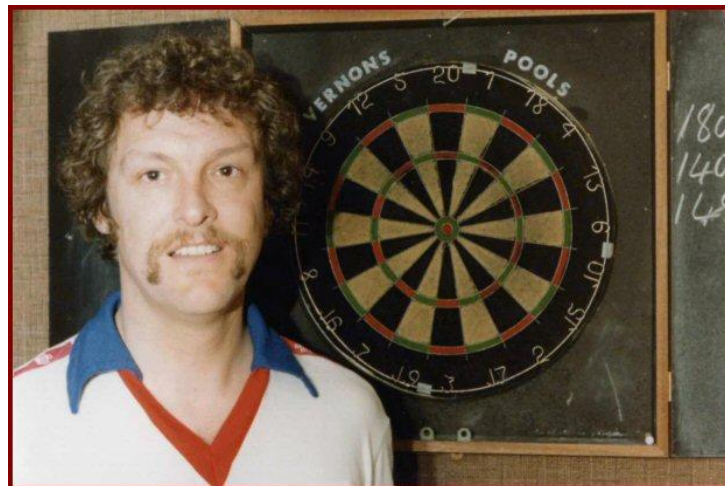
(c) The Lightning Darts Scorer



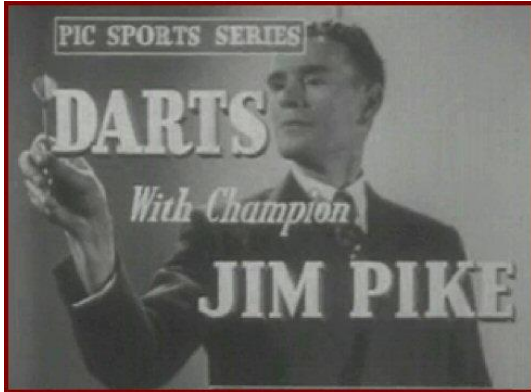
Thanks to the self-confessed 'Mr. Picky' who spotted an error in the text on page 10 of Issue 11. I wrote 'Some time during the 19th century the chalk and dartboard replaced the cribbage board as the standard method of scoring a game of darts.' It should, of course, have read, 'Some time during the 19th century the chalk and scoreboard' or even, at the risk of being politically incorrect, 'the chalk and blackboard...' Sorry about that. The editor has been sent home early.

(d) Bob Anderson – Back on the road

In Issue 11 I mentioned that Bob Anderson was back on the exhibition trail. Bob's partner Sally wrote to thank me and said, 'Bob has done quite a few exhibitions since his return and it is all going well.' Coincidentally, I'm currently going through thousands of darts images which were donated to my archive and what should I find but a youthful looking Bob; an image probably taken even before he was dubbed 'The Limestone Cowboy'. (Copyright of image unknown)



(e) Jim Pike on Film



This item on page 13 of last month's issue went down really well with subscribers. Merv Hathaway (Chief Executive of *The Rivals Championship*) wrote 'Just a small note to say I thoroughly enjoyed the newsletter, especially the clip of Jim Pike.....fantastic!!!' while Mick S told me, 'I looked up the J Pike...great to see old footage .While I was looking at J Pike I looked afterwards for Joe Hitchcock and some footage of him doing trick shots with 4 inch nails. I once saw the

late great Tom Barrett do an exhibition with another *News of the World* winner Bill Duddy. They threw darts, nails and household drawing pins. Fantastic to watch. Please thank Jo Day again for the link...' Indeed, thanks Jo.

As you probably know, Tom Barrett was a great English dartsman and the first player to retain the *News of the World* Individual Darts Championship trophy; winning it in 1963/64 (beating Rochdale's Ray Hatton 2-0) and in 1964/65 successfully defending the title when he beat Leicestershire's Norman Fielding 2-1. He and Bill Duddy used to travel the country doing darts exhibitions together and, as Mick said (above) they were 'fantastic to watch'. In my library I have a copy of Tom's book *Darts* (London: Pan Books, 1973) signed by both men.



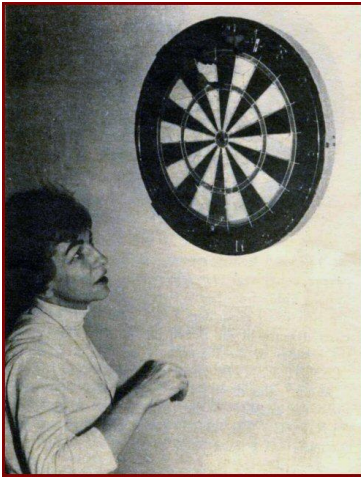
Unfortunately I do not appear to have an image of Tom and Bill together throwing nails but I do have one of Tom with his nails. Tom can be seen on the left of the picture but the date, venue and the names of the two other people in the photograph are not known to me. (Are they to you? If so, please let me know.) The copyright holder of the image is also unknown.

Mick also mentioned the late great Joe Hitchcock. I certainly intend to include something about Joe and his tussles with Jim Pike in a future issue of *DDN*.

In addition darts legend Dave Whitcombe wrote 'The link to the Jim Pike piece was a find indeed and very interesting. I have met a few players in my younger days that either knew Jim or saw him play and they all told me how good he was. I though never even knew what he looked like. John Ross in the film I remember very well from the early 70's when he was involved in the *News of the World*.

Jim Pike died in 1960.

(f) Everything comes to he who waits #1



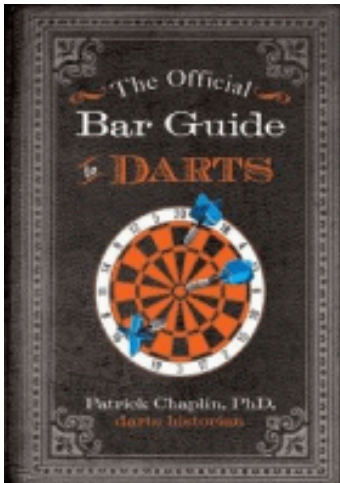
When talking about Sam Hill's booklet *English Darts Explained Specially For Americans and Englishmen* in Issue 11 it was very remiss of me not to include a photograph of Marion Carter of Oakland, California who was (probably) the first lady captain of any organised darts team in the San Francisco Bay area league.

Such an historical moment for women's darts deserves further recognition, so here's an image of Marion being mesmerised by the dartboard.

(g) Everything comes to he who waits #2

In his e-mail to me Dave Whitcombe also made reference to the image dated 1927 where customers appear to be falling over each other to view the darts match. Dave said, "I remember in my earlier days many times when during certain matches you couldn't get in the pub if you came late! I suppose those days are long gone now which is a shame because the atmosphere was electric..."

(h) The Official Bar Guide to Darts



I was chuffed to receive praise from subscriber Lenny Boyle who wrote, "Dr Chaplin, I am currently reading your *Bar Guide to Darts* and finding it a valuable resource and really interesting. Particularly your reminder to keep the sight of the dart in the corner of your eye while throwing, because darts after all is about hand eye coordination. It might seem obvious to you but that helped me."

I'm glad you're finding the book of help. So many others seem to be of the same mind.

Lenny asked if I would mention his new darts blog which he recently set up and of course I am pleased to do so. It's at

<http://tectonic-tungsten.blogspot.com>

Check it out.

AND TALKING OF DAVE WHITCOMBE...

The aforementioned Merv Hathaway told me, "Dave Whitcombe was the reason I loved darts from a young age. I watched him play an exhibition match against my cousin Mark and his team in a smoked filled social club, (Little Stoke Social Club) in Bristol. I think I must have been about eight at the time. What a feeling to watch the man off the telly play my cousin. Ha ha! I was hooked!"

Merv is indeed a darts nut. Here's a photo of Merv with Trina Gulliver who was his mentor in the John Smith's People's Championship at Lakeside in 2010.



(Image © 2010 Chippix)

AND TALKING OF THE RIVALS...

I asked Merv to update me about The Rivals darts championship and he told me, "The Rivals" soft launch met all our expectations before Christmas, with the format changing to accommodate our new sponsorship deal. In essence we've extended the tournament to suit all involved. Everyone seems to have had lots of enjoyment so far which is fantastic, along with our pot for Cancer Research building steadily, whilst the Landlords enjoy the extra revenue. We have the other two groups playing through till September, regionals in October/November with the grand final being held at the Circus Tavern [Purfleet, Essex] in November.' Merv is keen to bring on board any and every pub in the UK to participate so if you'd like to learn more contact him at

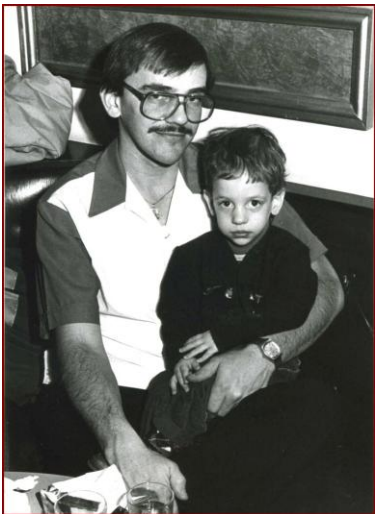
Mervyn@therivalschampionships.com.

BOB SINNAEVE BACK ON THE OCHE

Canada's Bob Sinnaeve was a familiar face on the international darts circuit from the late 1970s until he retired from darts in 1992. But what's he up to nowadays? I tracked Bob down and found out.

Robert David Sinnaeve was born in Tillsonburg, Ontario, Canada on 10th October 1949. His father and mother Urben and Agnes owned an equipment business that serviced the surrounding farming community. Bob was the third of six children. In December this year Bob and his wife Judy will be celebrating 40 years of marriage. They have three children including son Adam who was born during the Embassy World Championships in January 1982. They live in Langton, Ontario where Bob owns a heating and air-conditioning company.

When asked how he started out in darts Bob told me, "My wife's uncle convinced me to try the sport". It was as simple as that. Finding that he had a natural flare for the game Bob began playing on a regular basis and entering tournaments. At that time Bob set himself two major targets; to win the Canadian National Championship and to play darts at international level. He succeeded on both counts becoming Canadian National Champion no less than five times (in 1979, 1983, 1986, 1987 and 1991) and posing a serious threat to darters across the globe. Between 1981 and 1992 Bob was Canada's Number One ranked player and in 1986 he was ranked Number Four in the world.



Bob became a familiar face at the Embassy World Professional Darts Championships. On Saturday 9th January 1982 he was knocked out in the first round by Welsh star Alan Evans. There was a good reason why Bob's concentration was not as good as it perhaps should have been that day. A few hours before Judy went into premature labour and had to be rushed to the North Staffordshire Maternity Hospital. Judy told me, "That was not a good way to send Bob off to play!" Their son Adam was born on Sunday 10th January; *fifteen weeks* premature. (The first image shows Bob and his young son Adam (aged 3) at the Embassy World Professional Darts Championships at Jollees, Stoke-in-Trent in January 1985. Image © Robert Sproston).

Bob regularly returned to the Embassy as Canada's national champion and became a recognised face on the circuit. However, his best memory was when he made the final of the 1986 WINMAU World Masters. *Darts World* reported that Bob was in 'sparkling form' during his 3-2 semi-final win over Scotland's Jocky Wilson averaging 30.33 per dart. Bob was to meet England's Bob Anderson in the final.

The final was a well-balanced affair between the two Bob's and an enthusiastic crowd appreciated the fact that no leg lasted more than 18 darts. Sinnaeve took the first set in 18 and 16 darts but then Anderson fought back to take the second set in 14 and 18 darts. In

the third set Anderson threw a 118 finish which gave him the slight edge and then took the set in 15 and 14 darts. Not to be outdone Sinnaeve came back at Anderson hitting a 143 game shot and winning the fourth set in 15 and 16 darts.

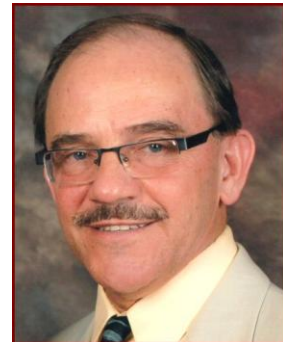
In the deciding fifth and final set Sinnaeve started slowly and Anderson took the first leg in 14 darts. In the second leg Sinnaeve matched Anderson *exactly* shot for shot (100, 60, 100, 180) but then with both players on 61 and Anderson having the advantage of throw Sinnaeve could only stand by and watch Anderson calmly and coolly hit treble 15, double 8 to take the title.

Nevertheless, Bob Sinnaeve had securely put Canadian darts on the map. In 1989 Bob was a member of the Canadian Men's World Cup squad who came runners-up to England in competition held in Toronto that year but whose team secured the team event Gold Medal. In 2002 Bob was inducted into the Canadian Darts Hall of Fame.

Despite his success Bob was never a full-time professional. Bob told me, "I always considered myself to be a semi-professional." Although this was not cited as one of the reasons he withdrew from the darts scene in 1992 clearly the life of a professional, international darts player with a company to run played its part. Recently Bob blamed 'burnout' and 'the prize structure versus the cost of travel' for him withdrawing from the darts scene.

That, one might think, would have been the last the darts world might have seen of Bob Sinnaeve but no. In 2008 his son Adam wanted to see a PDC event and so they went together and as a result Bob caught the darts bug all over again. He told me, "Within one month I played my first major since 1992." Success followed quickly and early in 2010 Bob won singles events in both Philadelphia (January) and Syracuse (February) with further success in the Philadelphia singles in 2011.

More recently Bob suffered problems with a tendon in a finger of his right hand which brought his resurgence in darts to a temporary halt. Bob decided to have an operation and is now fully recovered and scheduled to play '12 or so' tournaments travelling with his darts partner on the circuit, Larry Butler. According to *Bull's-Eye News* (*BEN*) magazine Bob is ranked #4 in the 2010 *Bulls-Eye News* Pro Rankings with Larry up there at #1. They both occupy the same positions in the *BEN* Cricket Rankings too. (The second image of Bob was taken in 2010.)



Bob's wife Judy told me, "We have enjoyed meeting the new people and seeing many old friends. It is nice to hear "I watched you back in the 80's" (we have to laugh) and the genuine appreciation that Bob is back playing again." Judy added that they really want to come back over to England in the near future so let's hope that it won't be long before Bob Sinnaeve, the five-time Canadian National Champion, brings his family and his darts back to the UK.

(With special thanks to Judy and Bob Sinnaeve.)

RULES IS RULES

Steve 'Metalman' dropped me a line not only to thank me for Issue 11 of his 'favourite e.magazine' but also to ask me to try and solve a problem for him. He had been posed the question, 'Can you use one set of darts to score and another set to finish your double?' and despite extensive research and discussions on a darts forum could not find anything. He wrote, 'From what I remember from the eighties the original rule went something like:

The player/s must use only the darts with which they started the game, flights or stems may be replaced if damaged or broken.

I looked through the National Darts Association of Great Britain (NDAGB) rule book to see if there was any such rule as Steve mentioned back in the early 1970s but I drew a blank too. I also examined the BDO rules for the 1977/78 season and there was no mention there either. I then had a chat with BDO chief Olly Croft and he said that his organisation has never had a rule specifically stating that an alternative set of darts can be used during a match. However, the current BDO rule is very clear. It reads:

23.13 If a player's equipment becomes damaged, or is lost during the course of a throw then the player shall be allowed up to a maximum of three minutes in which to repair, or replace, the playing equipment.

So for 'equipment' read 'stems, flights, points or darts'.

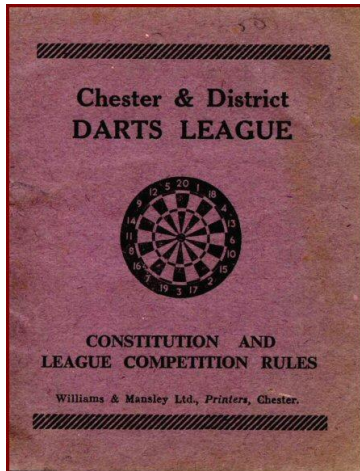
(Steve and others may remember from *DDN* Issue 11 (page 5 'Return of Ashfaque') that Ashfaque Sayed broke the point of one of his darts during a recent national tournament and had to play on with someone else's set; Ashfaque not carrying a spare set.)

Olly added that "It doesn't matter how many darts you have in your hands, you can only throw up to three in any one turn." That made me think perhaps the original question might be a wind-up or, at least, a trick question. The question is "Can you use one set of darts to score and another set to finish your double?" then the answer is "No. You can only use up to three darts per turn. No way can you use the first three to score and another set to go for double."

However, if the questioner actually means "If my darts are damaged beyond repair or stolen during a match, can I replace them?" then my interpretation of the rules says categorically "Yes, but you have to achieve that within a maximum of three minutes."

Steve was more than happy with my reply and duly posted it on the darts forum he uses.

By the way, whilst researching old rule books in order to respond to Steve, I found a fascinating rule from the *Chester & District Darts League – Constitution and League Competition Rules* (circa 1967/68). This had nothing to do with Steve's enquiry but I thought he (and all my other subscribers) would like to hear about it. **Rule 6** reads:



‘A throw consists of three darts, and any type of darts may be used; should the flight of a dart become loose or detached whilst being thrown, it shall count as a throw. *A dart must travel 4-feet 6-inches to constitute a throw.* [My italics.]

...which begs the question ‘How do you measure that 4’ 6’’? How can the referee ever be sure of the distance the dart has travelled before losing a flight and descending to earth?’

Over to you!

MOST EXPENSIVE DARTBOARD?

If you have a bank full of cash and your are looking to spend a load of it on a dartboard then Andrew Wood of *Bullseye TV* game show fame my have found the answer for you. See what you think... <http://www.mars-made.com/dart>



Andrew says that there was an article about this company in a February *Mail on Sunday* supplement. My webmaster David King found it and here it is.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/moslive/article-1353629/Mars-Made-dartboard-What-arrows-fans-aim-for.html>

I lost interest when I saw the price tag!

THE ARROW MAGAZINE



A few weeks ago Cyril Evans from the county of Powys, Wales wrote to me via my website www.patrickchaplin.com saying ‘‘I have in my possession what I believe to be a full (?) set of six of 'The Arrow Magazine' starting with the December 1988 issue and am wondering how rare it is to have the full set and approximate value?’ Cyril went on to describe the condition of the six issues.

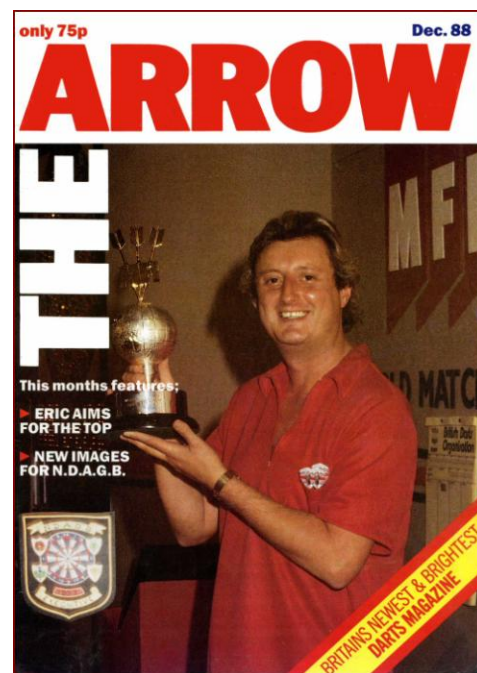
Unfortunately, Cyril did not have a full set but that did not mean that the magazines are worthless; far from it. I told him that I would have thought that a keen collector of darts memorabilia might pay upwards of £40-£70 even though one issue had sustained damage, having said that I advised Cyril to consider putting the magazines up for sale on an internet auction site.

I have never seen *The Arrow* for sale anywhere on the internet and it is probably true to say that many collectors of darts memorabilia have never even heard of it. Therefore I thought I would include a little of what I know about that short-lived magazine in this issue of *DDN*.

The Arrow is indeed a very scarce darts magazine which was the brainchild of the National Darts Association of Great Britain (NDAGB).

The magazine ran from Issue 1 (dated December 1988) to Issue 8 (circa July 1989). It did also have one false start. Issue 1 originally appeared dated January 1988 (presumably as a kind of launch issue (see image)) and then there was a gap until a new glossy Issue 1 (also pictured) was published in December 1988.

In the launch issue in an article titled ‘Play the Game’ editor Peter Degnan told his readers that the main reason for the introduction of *The Arrow* was ‘the continual failure of the press to give the **National Darts Association of Great Britain** any publicity.’ He added that the darts news covered by *The Arrow* would be ‘from all sides of the game regardless of who [*sic*] jurisdiction they fall under.’



Tiny Goodair, Chairman of the NDAGB, in his introduction hoped that the magazine would ‘begin to improve the deteriorating image that has accompanied the association for

the past two years.’ In the glossy Issue 1, the editor’s tone had mellowed and there was no mention of the ‘deteriorating image’ that Tiny Goodair had referred to in the launch issue; the main theme being that *The Arrow* was to be ‘**National!**’ not only in content but availability.’

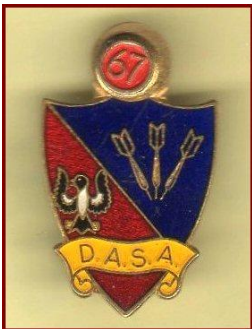
Despite these enthusiastic messages within a year the magazine was experiencing problems.

After the July 1989 issue was published all went quiet and no magazine appeared for the following three months. Then on 18th October 1989 the editor Peter Degnan issued a letter to subscribers stating that due 'to recent events relating to production of THE ARROW we have no choice but to temporarily cease while alternative methods of production are sought.'

The magazine was never heard of again.

(The images of the covers of the ‘launch’ issue and the final issue are from my own personal collection.)

BADGE COLLECTING



Chris M. e-mailed me to ask if I had any idea what the initials DASA meant in relation to darts. Chris, an enthusiastic darts and pub ephemera collector (and a fellow member of the Pub History Society (<http://www.pubhistorysociety.co.uk>)), found the DASA badge (pictured) in a ‘bargain basement box’ at an antique market. Chris told me that the badge is ‘Marked for Brisbane on back’ so could this be Darts Association of South Australia?

Perhaps one of *DDN*’s Australian readers can confirm this.



Kent Bovin, one of our Danish subscribers, submitted a number of darts-related images to me including the lapel pin badge (pictured) and asked for an explanation. I informed Kent that the small pin lapel badge with ‘£.s.d.’ is from the 1930s. ‘£.s.d.’ used to be the UK currency (pounds, shillings and pence) we went decimal. The pin was issued by a charity called the Loyal Society of Dartsmen (£.s.d.) which fund-raised for voluntary hospitals before the Second World War. To join the Society you paid one shilling and for that you became a member and received a pin and a ‘Dartsport’ which was like a British passport and entitled you to collect ‘visas’ as you went from pub to pub.

For those wishing to know more about the £.s.d. there is an article on my website which can be found at <http://www.patrickchaplin.com/Loyal.htm>.



Finally (for the moment) on the subject of badges collecting Kent also sent me an image of a John Lowe-related badge that he had recently won on eBay. I knew nothing about the badge so I approached 'Old Stoneface' himself. John told me:

'Patrick, the badge goes back to the 80's. We had a darts shop in Chesterfield; one of the first where you could go and try out the darts before you purchased. We did a lot of mail order, so we launched the Super Dart Club. It cost very little to join. The benefits where, 10% discount on all goods over £15, members

received a pack, containing a poster, a badge, a set of flights, etc. So really it's a membership badge of a discount club.

I never expected to see one.

John.'

I have a feeling that this is not the last mention of darts badges that will feature in DDN.

CROWD NOISE

Back in Issue 10 I made reference to concerns some folks have about the increasing crowd noise at major darts events. Here as just a couple of response I received.

John from Canada wrote:

'Many thanks for Issue #10 of your Newsletter. I read with interest in particular the concerns of crowd noise at major tournaments. In my opinion as long as these money making events are staged in sports arenas and the like allowing up to 10,000 fans there is no way whatsoever of keeping them quiet. I notice some of the players are wearing ear plugs, which is good. Another reason for the excessive noise and boisterous behaviour is the sale of alcohol. That is just fuel for the fire.

We all know what is going on here. The sport has become commercialized and a lot of people beside the players are making big bucks.'

While Mick told me

'My thoughts on the noise at darts to me is simple. Most of the people who pay good money to watch these matches are dart players themselves. I doubt if they would be very happy to try and concentrate with a lot of people shouting out? So why spoil it for not just the players but for the majority of people who just want to watch the best players play darts to the best of their ability?'

If anyone else has views about crowd behaviour why not drop me a line via my website?

LAWN DARTS – One of the most dangerous toys ever made?

Just before last Christmas Lawn Darts was included in a YAHOO! ® Lifestyle list of the most dangerous toys ever made, second only it seems to the ‘Gilbert U-238 Atomic Energy Lab’.



In essence Lawn Darts (pictured) was, as the name suggests, an outdoor version of the game. According to the legend on my box of ‘DUNLOP Playsport Lawn Darts’, such projectiles are ‘great fun for all the family...a wonderfully enjoyable game at all levels of skill and for all ages.’ (The legend also included the warning ‘PARENTAL SUPERVISION STRONGLY ADVISED’.) Two large plastic rings are provided with most sets of Lawn Darts, one to be used as

the target, the other for each competitor to stand in and not step out of whilst throwing – a sort of circular oche. Players then lob the large, fairly heavy, metal-tipped darts (sold in sets of four) into the ring and the one who scores the most hits is declared the winner. No harm in that?

Read on...

Despite the popularity of Lawn Darts the game was banned from toy departments and stores in the USA in the 1970s. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission issued a special notice (see image). Despite this and warnings on the boxes, Lawn Darts were banned entirely in their metal-pointed form in the USA on 19th December 1988 after over 6,000 injuries and two child fatalities.



SPONSORS UNEXPECTED PRODUCT PLACEMENT

Talking of birthdays, which I was earlier, my sponsors at the WINMAU Dartboard Company are currently receiving some extra promotional advertising via product placement of the Blade III dartboard, in a hilarious birthday card produced by a Chichester-based company. Thanks to Shelley Boyd-Platt, Brand Manager of *Violent Veg* for permission to reproduce the front of the card here.



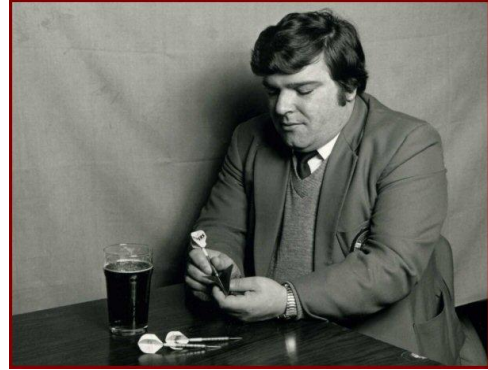
(© Carte Blanche www.violentveg.com *Violent Veg* is a trademark of Brandmaster Limited ®).

AND FINALLY...

JOCKY EXPLAINS...

In 1981, after his world championship quarter-final defeat at the hands of England's Tony Brown, Scotland's very own Jocky Wilson was interviewed by the press and asked to give the reason why he lost.

Jocky who was renowned for imbibing a little before a match 'just to steady the nerves' thought for only a moment and then told reporters "I was too sober."



This rather reserved photograph of John Thomas Wilson shows him using his 'Jocky's Barb' darts sharpener. (Exact date and copyright holder unknown.)

Jocky, we still miss you.

COMING UP IN ISSUE 13...

The next issue will include:

- John Lowe – Poet (Held over from Issue 12)
- DOLF – A special alternative darts game
- A chat with Swedish darts star Stefan Lord
- Dave Francis – Does his record on the Manchester Board still stand?
- From a *DDN* subscribers' collection – Unicorn Diver Darts

PLUS Eric Bristow on wash day!

See you all next time.

Cheers!

Patrick

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