

TWJC Newsletter

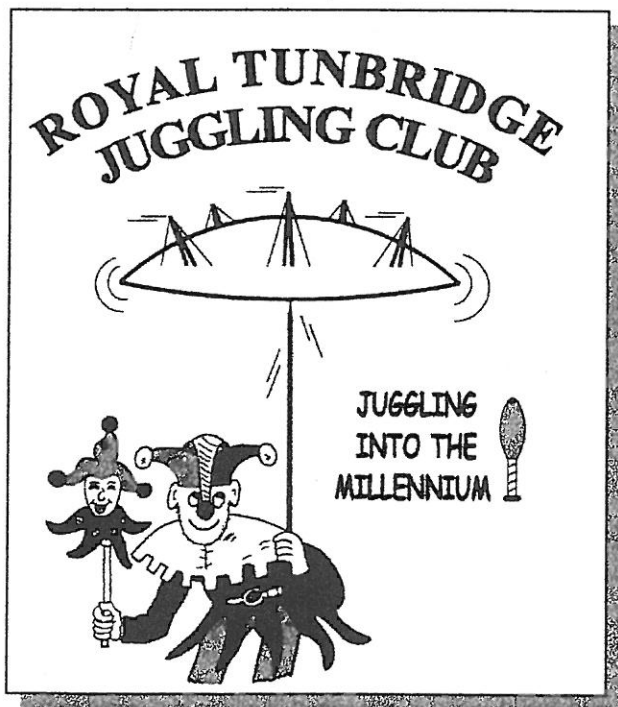
Sept '99, Edited by Jon Relf

This issue includes loads of write-ups of various events that the club has supported so you all know what you missed. We also have another two entries for our millenium T-shirt competition. The winner of which will be announced in 6 months time! There is also a dodgy joke supplied by Dave lurking around somewhere!

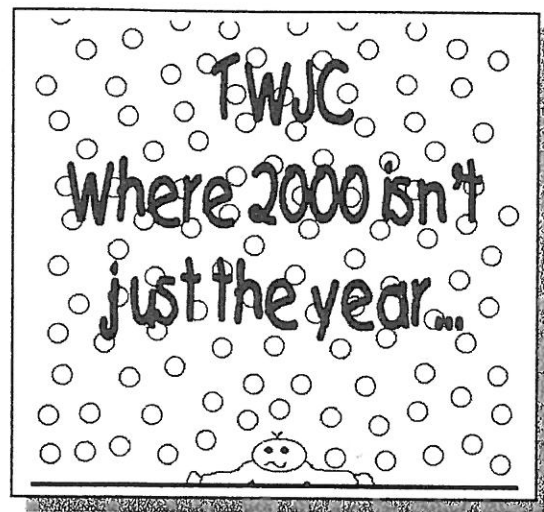
Jon

A couple of late T-shirt entries

We have a design from Dave A. who has adapted the TWJC jester into a more topical image for the millenium:



After his last effort Mark has decided to grow up & put some effort into a design for a T-shirt & here it is:



& On the reverse we have:

“...It’s the number of times Mark drops on a club night!”

Lights, camera, action!

Thanks to those ever so nice people at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council the club now has a brand new video camera with lots of accessories. It will be used primarily for promotional purposes. Club performances at displays, Christmas & summer shows, as well as regular club night activities will be recorded. This footage will then be used for blatant showing off to anyone with a VCR.

It will also be a useful learning tool as well. Get someone to film you performing whatever trick you may be having difficulty with, & then you can play it back to see for yourself where you are going wrong.

I will be responsible for the third use of the video camera. If anyone else is interested in joining my ‘You’ve Been Framed fake & blatantly staged home

video howlers' syndicate please get in contact with me.

Of course the camera is certainly not to be played around with. It is available for use by TWJC members on club nights. The camera will be available for use outside of the club by adult TWJC members only, sorry kids! Anyone who borrows the camera will be responsible for its well being. The committee must be notified of where the camera is & who is responsible for it at all times. The camera costs over £900 so if it is broken the responsible party will be charged for its repair, if it is lost they will be charged for its replacement, & they will also be made to feel very bad about themselves.

One of the conditions of the grant is that the club must use the TWBC logo on all of our publicity material, & that includes these newsletters. So there it is at the bottom of this column, unfortunately I creased the corner during scanning. This problem will be rectified for the next issue. & It will not become a running joke.



Paddock Wood Carnival

On Saturday 17th of July was the Paddock Wood carnival. The procession kicked off at 1pm & consisted of seven majorette troupes, 4 different floats & a juggling club. It was not a long march but there were quite a few spots that had large crowds at the roadside all clapping & cheering wildly as we went by. Well actually most people pointed at **Kim & Bryn** & said, "what are they?"

The parade led to a large field with a funfair & lots of other attractions. It was packed when we arrived & I thought that we would be really busy, but the area that was roped off for us was very small. We were quite busy though, many kids came & had a little play & some were quite good, although Cora kept telling people that I was teaching them wrongly.

For some reason I thought I'd have a go on one of the rides at the funfair. I got on the Sky Fire along with Bethan & Sarah. It consisted of two carriages, one on either side of a central pillar fixed to an arm which would swing the carriages back & forth & around & over at warp 6. When the arms were in their upright position the carriages were suspended upside down at least a mile & a half off the ground.

I had a bad feeling about the ride from the start, there was an awful lot of rust on the main structure & dangling above my head was a strut that had been sheered off from somewhere & not been fixed. I was clamped in & the cage doors were closed so I was trapped.

The first couple of swings were fine & I thought that it was just like the little swingboats you get at country fayres only without having to pull on the rope. Halfway through the ride when I was hanging upside down I had a significantly modified opinion. Young Sarah giggling next to me didn't make me feel better.

Thanks very much to **Alice, Bethan, Cora, Pete, Geoff, Kim, Bryn, Mark & Steve** for all your efforts!

*Ben Sherman**

* In case you were wondering this is an in-joke!

Russell House Circus

Kevin & I, as Topper & Orinoco (it's a great name!) had the pleasure of running a week of workshops at a private primary school in Sevenoaks, & I have really enjoyed it. We were hired to teach a group of 45 children a variety of circus skills over 5 days & put on a show for all the parents at the end.

The kids were aged 3 to 11 years old & were absolutely fantastic & real bundles of fun & laughter. They really behaved well, always listened to what we said & responded brilliantly to instruction & encouragement. They persevered & all of them had a go at everything we had available. I don't think I saw a bored face all week, everyone had a lot of fun.

Kevin & I were a bit apprehensive about the show because we didn't know how the kids would react to performing & it would be difficult trying to organise so many performers. We set up the hall to be as circus like as possible, a nice big & bright ring mat, colourful backdrops, neat piles of all the equipment needed for the show & pictures of clowns & circus performers around the walls. We were expecting a crowd of just under 40 parents but had to cram over 60 people into quite a small hall.

I was very impressed with the level & range of skills the children picked up in a short time. They only practised 2 hours a day but the show contained a range of ball jugglers, club swingers, diabolo passing, devil/flower stickists, pole balancers, plate spinners, tumblers, stilt walkers, pedal-go, funwheel & skate bike riders, & a huge amount of tightrope walkers. Kevin & I did some club passing

around a terrified parent (naturally); Kevin also balanced a pole with 5 spinning plates on his chin. I performed my diabolo act (which went flawlessly apart from when I hit one of the stage lights a lot harder than I would've liked) & Kevin finished off the show riding his unicycle, with a kid on his shoulders & juggling clubs.

It went down really well & the parents really had something to be proud of. It was a great week, the teachers were fantastic, very friendly, enthusiastic & they all joined in & performed along with the children. Everyone spent ages thanking us for our efforts & praising the show. The kids all came up to us & thanked us, some gave us sweets & one young girl even gave me the poster that she had made in the week. Usually I'm like, "thanks...what am I going to do with this" but this time it was really special.

Lack of pictures

My supply of juggling club related photos has dried up a bit so if you have any pictures please hand them to me or I will be forced to include more of this person (Kevin on his 25ft stilts):



Pembury Hospital Fete

I have finally managed to bully someone into writing something for this newsletter! Everybody say thank you very much to **Bethan**:

I don't know what we were meant to be doing at Pembury (Do we ever? – Ed). As far as I can work out somebody paid us £100 just to turn up, spend a few minutes trying to wring some applause out of a miserly audience, take the obligatory 'tree stump' pictures, and go home again. The four of us who showed up were **Kevin, Pete, Steve and I**. Our display consisted of the usual quality material (i.e. we made it up as we went along.) The only real disappointment was when Kevin failed, yet again; to kill an innocent child with his kid-on-the-shoulders/ "So now do you want to see something really dangerous?" routine (He just doesn't have Mark's style does he? – Ed). Well at least that bit got some applause, just not from the parents. I don't know who's idea the unicycle race was, and I don't think anyone knew where we were meant to start and finish, but it was about then that the audience started looking very worried. Apart from that the whole thing was pretty much as usual – the mayor of somewhere or other refused to have a go on a unicycle and we had to balance on the tree-stump with unicycles and clubs while Kevin put a new film in his camera.

Bethan

Something Funny

A professional juggler was driving to his next performance when the police stopped him. "What are those knives doing in your car?" asked the officer.

"I juggle them for a living." Replied the juggler.

"Oh yeah?" said the disbelieving policeman, "Let's see you do it." So the man started to juggle.

Another driver speeding past said to their passenger, "Wow, am I glad I quit drinking. Look at the test they're making you do now!"

Laugh you philistines!

A master poet!

I have been nagging away at those who went to the Rye juggling festival for a write up of what went on & all I got was this cinquain Poem. A cinquain poem contains (or should) twenty-two syllables in five lines. Line 1: title noun (2 syllables) Line 2: description (4 syllables) Line 3: action (6 syllables) Line 4: feeling phrase (8 syllables) Line 5: title (synonym for the title). I actually researched that so don't argue with me.

Rye,
I wonder why,
We juggled the weekend away,
Down in Rye,
SAD!!!!

Cora asked me not to print the above but I felt that I had little choice really!

A Final Festive Reminder

Christmas falls on the 25th of December this year & the fabulous TWJC Christmas show will be held on the Tuesday before (the 21st) so everyone start working on your act/excuse.



HO HO HO!!