

The Haltonian Magazine

64 Edition

January 1953

(Scroll down)



Naafi Sports Showroom

KENNINGS WAY

A comprehensive display of a complete range of sports equipment, sports clothing, trophies and prizes can be seen at Naafi Sports Showroom at Kennings Way, London, S.E.11 (one minute from Kennington Tube Station) One of the many spectacular stands on view is illustrated.

NORMAL HOURS OF OPENING ARE 9 A.M. TO 5.30 P.M., MON. TO FRI., AND 9 A.M. TO 12 NOON ON SATS.

This display should prove of particular interest to Commanding Officers and Sports Officers to whom we extend a cordial invitation. A sample of practically every article listed in the range of Naafi sports catalogues is on show and our staff are available to advise on all matters relating to sports equipment.



The famous event of last Summer—the Presentation of the Queen's Colour—has now receded somewhat into the distance, although of course the Colour itself is still here to inspire us. And indeed it is now that we need inspiration so much. For life at Halton in early Spring is quiet, and the hard unspectacular work which enables the School to perform its task, goes steadily on and on.

Nevertheless a few notable matters occurred last term and are reported more fully elsewhere in this issue. For example, the Mission in the Royal Air Force with its many inspiring talks and services has reached a successful conclusion and needs now a strong and effective follow-up by all those who had the advantage of it.

Christmas, which came so near to being really white this year, brought many celebrations. The Apprentices' Pantomime, parties in all the Messes, the Apprentices' Christmas Dinner, and some really colossal Children's Parties brought the proper spirit to Halton.

Halton has been "on the air" twice recently. On November 2nd the People's Service was broadcast from St. George's Church with the Lord Bishop Suffragan of Croydon, the Rt. Rev. Cuthbert Bardsley, M.A., preaching, and just after Christmas "Top Flight" came to Halton and was later broadcast as a recording. Both of these were full of laughter and a good spirit.

So much for the events of the past. We know less about the future and can only wish our readers all good fortune and health, especially to Wing Commander Rose who, after two years' worthy service as Officer Commanding No. 3(A) Wing and President of the Bands Committee, is leaving shortly for F.E.A.F. Likewise we offer good wishes to the 64th Entry whose Graduation is described in this issue, and we welcome the 73rd Entry whose training is even now beginning.

With this edition we reach the first anniversary of the revived "Old Haltonians" section. It has grown beyond all expectations during the year, and we are always pleased to hear news of Old Haltonians everywhere, so that our coverage may be wider and wider.

We end on a familiar note—an appeal for more apprentice contributions. There are prizes now for articles, photographs, and cartoons which should inspire all apprentices, especially on Tuesday evenings when Pay Parade seems so remote and unattainable. We received some good contributions for this issue, but not enough. Let us hear from you again.



GRADUATION PARADE OF THE 64th ENTRY

On 16th December, 1952, Air Marshal Sir Victor E. Groom, K.B.E., C.B., D.F.C., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Technical Training Command, visited Halton to review the 64th Entry on their Graduation Parade. The Secretary of State for Air, the Right Honourable the Lord De L'Isle and Dudley, V.C., who was originally to have reviewed the Entry was prevented from attending through pressure of Parliamentary business and Air Marshal Sir Victor Groom kindly consented to come in his place at very short notice. He was accompanied by Air Vice-Marshal J. G. Franks, O.B.E., Air Officer Commanding No. 24 Group; Air Commodore J. G. W. Weston, C.B., O.B.E., Commandant No. 1 School of Technical Training; Group Captain R. J. Carvell, Senior Training Officer, No. 1 School of Technical Training; and Wing Commander L. Rose, Officer Commanding No. 2 Apprentice Wing.

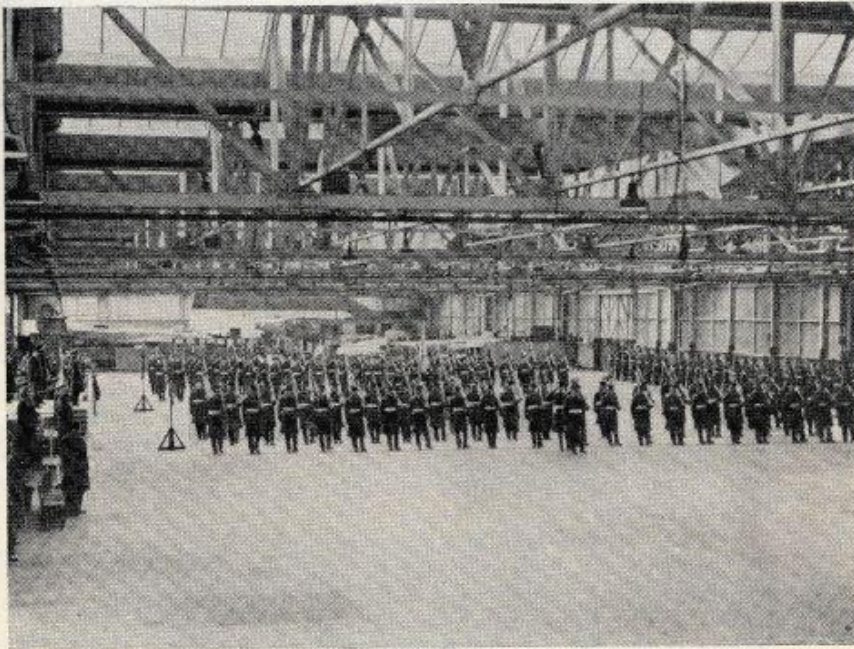
The Parade which, owing to a heavy fall of snow, had to be held indoors in the New Workshops, was under the Command of F/S/A/A A. C. Corbett, 64th Entry. Entries on Parade were the 64th supported by 65th and 66th. For the second time at a Graduation Parade at Halton the Queen's Colour was marched past.

Colour Bearer	S/A/A McGill
Colour Escort	S/A/A S. A. Thomas
	C/A/A R. J. Stock
Apprentice i/c Junior Entries	S/A/A D. L. Coleman
Parade Warrant Officer	S/A/A Abassi
No. 1 Flight Commander	S/A/A I. N. Burnham
No. 2 Flight Commander	S/A/A P. W. Power

Later, in the Burnett Gymnasium, the Commandant read his report to visiting officers, to the 64th Entry, and to their friends and parents. After mentioning that certain changes in organisation and syllabus at Halton were under consideration, Air Commodore Weston emphasised the importance the authorities attached to the character training of

Apprentices. In this connection he paid a tribute to the part played by Apprentices on the day of the fatal crash at the S.B.A.C. show at Farnborough. The Commandant next mentioned the presentation of a new trophy—the Quinton Trophy (in memory of the late Flt.Lt. Quinton, G.C., D.F.C.)—which will be awarded to the ex-A.T.C. Cadet Apprentice who gains the highest aggregate of marks in competition with other ex-A.T.C. Apprentices of his Entry.

Referring to the attainments of the 64th Entry the Commandant said that their technical results and their educational attainments had been satisfactory. Thirty per cent. of the Entry qualified as candidates for the Ordinary National Certificate in Engineering. The Entry had



The Colour being marched past in slow time

(By courtesy of the Bucks Advertiser)

produced some excellent N.C.O. Apprentices, and had gained 52 School Colours in sports—the largest percentage for many years. “Finally,” Air Commodore Weston said, “I would like to congratulate all of you who are graduating today on having achieved the standard required. I wish the British Apprentices the best of luck in the Royal Air Force, and the Pakistani Apprentices all good fortune in the Royal Pakistan Air Force.”

The Commandant then asked the Commander-in-Chief to present the prizes and address the Entry.

Sir Victor Groom began by regretting the absence of the Secretary of State for Air. He then read a message from the Secretary of State which we now quote in full:

MESSAGE FROM

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR AIR
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD DE L'ISLE AND DUDLEY
TO THE 64TH ENTRY, NO. 1 SCHOOL OF TECHNICAL TRAINING

May I say how disappointed I am that I am compelled to remain in London and cannot therefore attend the



F/S/A/A Corbett receiving his prize from Sir Victor Groom

(By courtesy of Keystone Press Agency Ltd.)

“Passing Out” Parade of the 64th Entry.

I should like to congratulate all those who have successfully completed the course and qualified as Junior Technicians, especially those members of the Entry who have won prizes.

When I visited Halton a few weeks ago, I was deeply impressed by the high standard of skill and achievement demanded of all Apprentices, and very heartened by the quality of the Apprentices who are now passing out into the squadrons and units of the Royal Air Force.

I was also glad to see Apprentices from other Commonwealth Air Forces under training at Halton, and wish them every success when they return to their own countries.

I am sure that the parents of all the Apprentices in this Entry are very proud of their boys. I wish good luck and successful careers in the Royal Air Force to all of you.

After reading this Air Marshal Groom drew attention to the aim of all apprentice training as exhibited in the Workshops where the Parade had been held, and went on to show how important technical training is for preserving the essential teamwork upon which the efficiency of the Royal Air Force is based. In his long experience in the Service he had learnt that although most of the glamour is with those who wear wings, hard work and integrity on the part of ground staff is of the first importance.

Meanwhile, changes were taking place. The Service was much larger than it was when he first joined it, but the number of apprentices graduating was smaller. Therefore it was essential that they should be of the highest possible standard, and the responsibility for this lay with himself and other Authorities. But, owing to the war, the increase in the size of classes, and other factors, boys were leaving civilian schools with a somewhat lower standard of education than formerly. Therefore

the training course might well have to be changed to concentrate more on general principles and upon the preservation of the sense of values, even at the expense of detail.

The importance of a clear sense of values appeared every day. The nation expected the Royal Air Force to be efficient in every respect, and this was possible only if every member was prepared to put more into the Service than he sought to get out of it. This kind of self sacrifice showed at its best in the story of Flight Lieutenant Quinton, and it was "really appropriate that the trophy



C/A/A Qureshi with the Azhar Memorial Shield for the Best All-Round Pakistan Apprentice
(By courtesy of Central Press Photos)

given for such conduct should be awarded to a place like Halton."

Air Marshal Sir Victor Groom ended his speech by saying: "I wish success to the 64th Entry and hope that in a short time I shall be able to see something of you in your own careers of tomorrow."

So yet another Entry prepared to leave Halton, and it remained only for personal farewells and good wishes to be given at the excellent dance held by the 64th Entry that evening. And to those good wishes we of the Magazine join our own.

CADETSHIPS

S/A/A MCGILL	Boteler Grammar and Worcester Royal
C/A/A DURNFORD	Lancing College

PRIZE-WINNERS

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, T.S. PRACTICAL FITTING TEST
(AND WINNER OF CREBBIN ROBINSON CUP)

A/A SIMMONDS Clarke's College, Romford

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, GENERAL STUDIES
(AND WINNER OF ELLIOTT MEMORIAL PRIZE PRESENTED BY R.Ae.S.)

A/A ROBERTSON Carick Academy

MONSIGNOR BEAUCHAMP PRIZE (FOR THE BEST ALL-ROUND APPRENTICE)

F/S/A/A CORBETT Fareham Grammar

AZHAR MEMORIAL SHIELD (FOR THE BEST PAKISTAN APPRENTICE)

C/A/A QURESHI

AIR MINISTRY PRIZES

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, ALL SUBJECTS

C/A/A MURPHY St. Joseph's Grammar

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, GENERAL SERVICE EFFICIENCY

1st F/S/A/A CORBETT Fareham Grammar
2nd C/A/A ROCKALL Luton Junior Technical

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, EDUCATIONAL SUBJECTS

1st C/A/A MURPHY St. Joseph's Grammar
2nd C/A/A JONES Ogmore Grammar

HIGHEST AVERAGE FOR PRACTICAL FITTER OVER 3 YEARS' COURSE

L/A/A MITCHELL Purley Grammar

BEST TRADESMAN IN T.S. TEST

Airframe Fitter	L/A/A GREAVES	Harrogate Junior Technical
Engine Fitter	1. S/A/A THOMAS	Gowerton Grammar
	2. L/A/A BROWN	Staines Grammar
Armament Fitter	A/A WATSON	Chesterfield Technical
Electrical (Air)	L/A/A KHAN	
Electrical (Grd)	A/A WILLIAMSON	North Walsham Grammar
Instrument (Nav)	C/A/A RAYMONT	Enfield Secondary Technical
Instrument (Gen)	C/A/A HOGARTH	Berwickshire High School

SERGEANTS

S/A/A BURHAM	Torquay Grammar
S/A/A MCGILL	Boteler Grammar and Worcester Royal
803 S/A/A JONES	Farringdon Secondary
S/A/A CORBETT	Fareham Grammar
S/A/A POWER	Chingford Grammar



Prize-winners of the 64th Entry charring C/A/A Murphy
(By courtesy of Central Press Photos)

64th ENTRY POSTING LIST (in order of merit)

1	Murphy, B.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Pearson, L. H.	32 M.U. St. Athan
2	Thomas, W. M.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Thom, G. D.	C.S.E. Watton
3	Jones, D. G.	32 M.U. St. Athan	59 Cheetham, F. J.	Abingdon
4	Raymont, P. V.	63 M.U. Edzell	60 Wray, B. S.	F.C. Cranwell
5	Hogarth, G. G.	F.C. Manley	61 Johnston, R. W.	32 M.U. St. Athan
6	McGill, B. J.	Cadetship	Riseborough,	Hemswell
7	Williamson, R. M.	C.S.E. Watton	C. E. T.	
8	Law, P. G.	Hemswell	63 Loder, J. R.	Bassingbourne
9	Corbett, A. C.	Gosport	Moss, R. L.	Lyncham
10	Annesley, M. R.	32 M.U. St. Athan	65 Wood, C. C.	C.S.E. Watton
11	Harris, R. L.	32 M.U. St. Athan	66 Chessum, G. A.	Topcliffe
12	Macrae, K. J.	Abingdon	67 Attewell, J.	32 M.U. St. Athan
13	Stock, R. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan	68 Ansell, G. L.	32 M.U. St. Athan
14	Copeland, P. J.	Stradishall	Stone, J. R. B.	32 M.U. St. Athan
15	Anderson, L. E.	Abingdon	70 Hockin, N. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan
16	Mitchell, J. L.	32 M.U. St. Athan	71 Turner, L. E.	32 M.U. St. Athan
17	Sharpe, F. W.	32 M.U. St. Athan	72 Leese, E. W.	Topcliffe
18	Chambers, G. A.	116 Sqn. Watton	73 Jarvis, R. M.	Abingdon
20	Nixon, J. D.	Horsham St. Faith	Rook, P. A.	49 M.U. Colerne
21	Power, P. W.	Boscombe Down	75 Daniel, J.	Aldergrove
22	Durnford, H. T. M.	Cadetship	Jarratt, G. T. F.	32 M.U. St. Athan
23	Bentley, R. V.	32 M.U. St. Athan	77 Broughton, I.	F.C. Cranwell
24	Simmons, N. G.	63 M.U. Edzell	78 Padgham, L. H.	32 M.U. St. Athan
25	Burnham, I. N.	32 M.U. St. Athan	79 Batterbee, G. S.	Topcliffe
25	Rockall, R. M.	Bassingbourne	Cogan, E.	32 M.U. St. Athan
27	Greaves, J.	32 M.U. St. Athan	80 Jones, R. A.	Stradishall
28	Hardwick, J. R.	Abingdon	Levitt, B.	32 M.U. St. Athan
	Brown, M. H.	192 Sqn. Watton	Richards, F. J.	Topcliffe
	Thurston, B. R.	F.C. Manley	84 Rooke, H. H.	32 M.U. St. Athan
31	Longley, J.	Hemswell	Chew, C. F.	32 M.U. St. Athan
32	Trickey, A. R.	32 M.U. St. Athan	85 Jeffery, J. H.	32 M.U. St. Athan
33	Gardner, P. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Jenner, S.	Boscombe Down
34	Hales, S. B.	32 M.U. St. Athan	88 Atherton, P. W.	Church Fenton
35	Reynolds, F. A.	32 M.U. St. Athan	89 Wilkinson, R. G.	32 M.U. St. Athan
	Southwork, D.	32 M.U. St. Athan	90 Barker, B.	C.S.E. Watton
37	Hurst, A. J.	Hullavington	Kimberly, D. A.	32 M.U. St. Athan
	Robertson, J.	Horsham St. Faith	92 Cossens, J. F.	Lyncham
39	Walker, M. E.	Hemswell	Eaves, P. B.	Leeming
40	Jowett, C. D.	Topcliffe	94 Jolly, K. R. C.	527 Sqn. Watton
41	Pritt, G.	Topcliffe	95 Nicholson, R. W.	32 M.U. St. Athan
42	Johnson, M. J.	Wittering	96 Dodds, B. D.	Abingdon
43	McCormick, J. J.	Hemswell	97 Newton, V. R.	Stradishall
	Pattenden, M. G.	Boscombe Down	Rose, S.	32 M.U. St. Athan
45	Ward, G. R.	West Rainham	99 Wilcox, E. C.	C.S.E. Watton
46	Hood, D. J.	Topcliffe	100 Thompson, J. E.	Hemswell
47	Murray, J. S.	Abingdon	101 Birtwistle, F. W.	32 M.U. St. Athan
	Watson, G.	Leeming	102 Dyer, R. G.	32 M.U. St. Athan
49	Holmes, A. D.	32 M.U. St. Athan	103 Waring, H.	Martlesham Heath
50	Shucksmith, A.	Binbrook	104 Maddicott, M. J.	Horsham St. Faith
52	Spencer, G. L.	Martlesham Heath	105 Larke, J. H.	32 M.U. St. Athan
53	Bennett, G.	Church Fenton	106 Potter, B. E.	Lyncham
	Bunting, F. A.	Boscombe Down	107 Macrostie, D. J.	32 M.U. St. Athan
	Carter, M. J.	Abingdon	108 Buick, K. F. C.	32 M.U. St. Athan
54	Groves, P.	32 M.U. St. Athan	109 Barrett, J. A.	Bassingbourne
			110 Ford, R. J.	Water Beach

The following ex-63rd (September 1949) Entry also qualified as Junior Technicians

Bater, R. J.	Ballykelly	Harris, J. P.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Coleman, D. S.	Boscombe Down	Kimpton, D.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Collier, P. D.	Boscombe Down	Smith, A. D.	Martlesham Heath
Brooks, K. J.	Bassingbourne	Gilgannon, D. M.	32 M.U. St. Athan
Blacker, G.	32 M.U. St. Athan	Fenton, R. S.	Wittering
Gardner, M.	Bassingbourne		

ROYAL PAKISTAN AIR FORCE

1	Qureshi, S. R.	13	Hasan, S. A.
2	Halim, M.	14	Lodhi, N. D.
3	Nasir, J. M.	15	Hussain, S. A.
4	Khan, M. A.	16	Siddique, M.
5	Hussain, S. S.	17	Khan, W. M.
6	Rafi, M.	18	Joad, A. K. M.
7	Abbasi, Z. R.	19	Ali, A.
8	Ahmad, M.	20	Haider, S. A.
9	Mirza, S. B.	21	Iqbal, M.
10	Hamid, A.	22	Ahmed, M.
11	Shaukat, M.	23	Malik, M. A.
12	Mirza, H.	24	Rehman, H.



CHRISTMAS AT HALTON



The Best Decorated Room—
No. 1 Wing (top)

The festive board—No. 3 Wing
(left)

"Look! One of the waiters is a
"Wing Commander!" (below)



INTERESTING FIND IN THE CHILTERNES

OR

THE MISSING LINK

When Senor G. O. Rilla, the eminent South American anthropologist, died two years ago, it was a widespread belief in scientific circles that he failed in his quest to prove that man evolved from the ape. Now, however, new facts have been brought to light showing that he did find what was hitherto referred to as "the missing link."

Apparently and by accident, he made this remarkable discovery while on a visit to this country as guest of the Royal Society of Anthropologists, for in some of his recently discovered notes this is what he had to say on the subject:—

"Acting on a sudden impulse while walking in Buckinghamshire one day, I glanced over my shoulder to see a most amazing creature. It was human in form and copied human mannerisms well enough to deceive a layman, but the gleam of animal cunning in its eyes was quite plain to an experienced anthropologist like myself. It aroused my curiosity and I decided to learn all I could about it. Being in the vicinity of Halton I named the creature "Haltonorum Apprenticorum."

Careful to avoid detection, I followed the brute for a short distance and to my great joy found that it had led me to a large colony of the same species. After studying their habits and way of life for several years I am now in a position to set down the following facts:—

Haltonorum Apprenticorum is a young male biped, possesses a unique character and weird habits and speaks a dialect of English not to be heard anywhere in the world. Usually harmless, the creature becomes a real menace on the few occasions when it starts to think. Singly it is known as an oaf, clot or yob. A group of them may be referred to as a shower or rabble.

On its arrival at Halton the potential apprenticorum is quite normal—that is, apart from its long hair, hand-painted tie and a firm conviction that its promotion to Air rank will come through in a day or two. It continues in this state for a further period of two days. On the third it emerges in a new and creased uniform, a little self-conscious but ready to do or die. As time progresses, however, it does neither; it just takes life easily, learning the best ways to avoid work, and that the man with the white-topped hat does not sell ice cream.

At this stage of the proceedings, the senior members of the community, i.e. the senior entry, decide it is time to take the newcomer in hand. They promptly do this, presumably to make a man of it, but I fear this is only a thinly veiled excuse to make it do all the dirty work possible. Naturally enough the rookie is loud in its protests, but a growled "If you don't keep yer trap shut, you'll get yer swede thumped," accompanied by the appropriate gesture of raised fists gives it a gentle hint that the incident would be best forgotten."

Senor G. O. Rilla goes on to say: "I found that the apprenticorum had by the end of his first year of training adapted itself perfectly to its environment and acquired a wide vocabulary of slanguage. It speaks of a hat, service dress, as a 'bull,' the N.A.A.F.I. as a 'tank' and all sergeants as It harbours a deep suspicion of all policemen, senior

N.C.O.'s and cookhouse kippers. It likes girls, cigarettes, girls, liquor, girls, lying in bed on Sunday and, of course, girls.

Like every other species of animal, Haltonorum apprenticora play games and get a big thrill from simple things like drenching each other with cold water, tipping beds, letting off fire extinguishers and smashing plates.

By the end of its third and last year at Halton, the apprenticorum has developed fully its low leanings towards blondes and beer, it is master of the art of 'skiving' and just about ready to graduate. After the graduation parade, Haltonorum apprenticorum is given the benefit of the doubt and is called a man. One would have thought that after its harrowing period spent at Halton, the apprenticorum would only be fit material for an insane asylum. This, I am sorry to say, is very true. It is completely barmy, crackers or, as they say in Halton, absolutely harpic."

It's all very sad, isn't it?

B. PATTON (65th Entry).

(Runner up - half guinea prize)

DEVON PRATTLE

Us was all down to the 'Plough' t'other noight talkin' about our young days. Arter a woile us got to talkin' about fishin' an' Dan'l Carter, oo've always got a lot to say, telled us this little tale. Moind yu, Oi don't believe 'alf o't but still:—

"Oi moinds the toime," says Dan'l, "when me an' Arry Stewart (ee as digs the ditches for Charlie Barnett) was yunksters, 'ow us went down to Crabpot Crick fishin'. T'were early November an' us 'oped to catch a foo woin' an' maybe a cod or tu.

Soon as us got there, 'Arry started:

"Caw, tis cauld yere, an' no mistook, me vits be fair frauzed Dan'l."

Oi didn' take no notice o'n though, 'cos 'Arry were inclined to shout fer nort. Proper moaner ee were. Oi jist says to ee, Oi says, "You get along round thicky point an' look fer bait. Oi'll start riggin' up tackle."

"But Dan'l," he says, "Me vits be cauld."

Oi wadn' 'avin' that an' Oi let en naw it: "Yu get round there fer bait," Oi says, "That'll make ee warm all roit."

Off ee goes, an' Oi starts gettin' the loines ready. Arter about tane minnuts, Oi yeres a shout an' a splash and round the point Oi 'urries. There were 'Arry, sittin' under six veet o' water blowin' bubbows an' with a sprig o' say weed draped over wun yere. Oi leans over an' Oi says: "'Arry," Oi says, "'Ave ee fallen een?"

Is vace went a quare reddish-brownish-bluish-blackish sort o' colour and Oi reckons 'is langwidge musta bin sorta coloured tu.

Any'ow Oi fished en out an' us vound a cave an' lit a voire. Caw, tu yere 'Arry, you'd 'ave thort ee 'adn' got no vits, talk about 'em just bein' cauld.

Whane ee'd droid off, Oi says to en, Oi says: "'Arry, seems as 'ow Oi can't trust yu fer foive minnuts. Yu get on with the tackle an' Oi'll get the bait," an' off Oi goes.