

# THE MARK NELSON EXPERIENCE (XMAS 1992)

Welcome to Volume One, Issue Eleven, of The Mark Nelson Experience.

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The Mark Nelson Experience is available for the "usual" (circulation this issue is 35). This zine contains Hobby discussion<sup>1</sup> and will fold with the September 1993 issue.

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"No, there isn't enough news and gossip to fill a global hobby magazine." *Mike Siggins*  
Electric Monk 31 (*August 1991*)

## THE HOBBY HACKING TEST - Version 1.0

Preface: 14.11.92

This test was conceived and written by Mark Nelson in November/December 1992.

**Scoring:** Count 1 for each item that you have done, or each question that you can answer correctly. Then convert your score to a percentage of the maximum possible.

If you score is between:	You are
0% and 3.0%	-> Hobby Illiterate
4% and 12.0%	-> a Hobby User
13% and 25.0%	-> a Hobby Operator
26% and 40.0%	-> a Hobby Nerd
41% and 50.0%	-> a Hobby Hacker
51% and 75.0%	-> a Hobby Guru
76% and 100.0%	-> a Hobby Wizard

**Note:** If you don't understand the scoring, stop here.

And now for the questions...

- 0001 Have you ever written an article on diplomacy?
- 0002 Had it published in a zine you don't publish?
- 0003 Had someone ask you if they could reprint it?
- 0004 Had it reprinted in a zine from another country?
- 0005 Had it reprinted in a zine from another continent?
- 0006 Had it reprinted in zines from two different continents?
- 0007 Have you written seven diplomacy articles, one for each power?
- 0008 Have you had five, or more, articles pubbed about diplomacy?
- 0009 ... 10?
- 0010 ... 25?

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<sup>1</sup>Actually it contains Crazy Markie writings about the Hobby.

- 0011 Have you ever an article (not necessarily on diplomacy)  
of yours pubbed in a language other than your native one?
- 0012 Have you ever designed a diplomacy variant?  
0013 Had it published in a zine you don't publish?  
0014 Had someone ask you if they could reprint it?  
0015 Had it reprinted in a zine from another country?  
0016 Had it reprinted in a zine from another continent?  
0017 Had it reprinted in a zines from two different continents?  
0018 Have you had three, or more, variants published?  
0019 ... 10?  
0020 ... 25?  
0021 Have you ever GMD a variant you designed?  
0022 Has anyone else ever GMD a variant you designed?  
0023 If you are a zine editor: Has one of your designs been run in  
another zine?  
0024 Have you ever produced a revision of Downfall?  
0025 Has it ever been run?  
0026 Have you ever played in a variant that you designed?  
0027 Have you ever won a game of a variant that you designed?  
0028 Has anyone ever redesigned a variant you designed?  
0029 Can you remember all the variants that you have designed?
- 0030 Have you ever written a hobby filk song?  
0031 Ever sing it in a public place?  
0032 Anyone else sung it in a public place?
- 0033 Have you ever published a subzine?  
0034 Produced more than 5 issues of a subzine?  
0035 ... 25?  
0036 ... 50?  
0037 Produced two, or more, subzines at the same time?  
0038 Had different subzines pubbed in different countrys?  
0039 Had different subzines pubbed in different continents?  
0040 Produced a roving subzine?  
0041 Rover over different countries?  
0042 Roved over different continents?
- 0043 Have you ever missed a class to pub a zine?  
0044 Have you ever missed an examination to pub a zine?  
0045 Have you ever missed a wedding to pub a zine?  
0046 Have you ever missed your own wedding to pub a zine?  
0047 Have you ever missed a meal to pub a zine?  
0048 Have you ever pubbed while intoxicated?  
0049 ... Did it make sense the next day?
- 0050 Have you ever produced a fanzine?  
0051 ... On a hectograph?  
0052 ... On a spirit duplicator?  
0053 ... On a Roneo?

0054 ... On a Gestetner?  
0055 ... On any other kind of mimeograph?  
0056 ... On a photocopier?  
0057 ... Using photo-offset?  
0058 ... Using a typewriter?  
0059 ... That was a computer-print out (ie not then copied by another method)  
0060 ... That was hand written?  
0061 ... That contained colour maps?  
0062 ... in A6 format?  
0063 ... in A5 format?  
0064 ... in A4 format?  
0065 ... that was distributed via email?  
0066 ... that was distributed as a disk?  
0067 ... that was distributed as a tape-zine?  
0068 Have you ever pubbed an article in a language other than your native language?  
0069 Have you ever folded a fanzine?  
0070 More than 2?  
0071 More than 5?  
0072 Have you ever taken orphans from a zine that has folded?  
0073 Have you ever taken a folded zine on as a subzine?  
0074 Have you ever started new games whilst someone else was still running games from your last fold?  
0075 Have you traded with 5, or more, zines?  
0076 ... 10?  
0077 ... 25?  
0078 ... with every zine pubbed in your country?  
0079 ... with a zine from North America?  
0080 ... 5, or more, zines from North America?  
0081 ... 10?  
0082 ... with a zine from Australia?  
0083 ... Austria?  
0084 ... Belgium?  
0085 ... Canada?  
0086 ... Eire?  
0087 ... England?  
0088 ... France?  
0089 ... Germany?  
0090 ... Holland?  
0091 ... Italy?  
0092 ... New Zealand  
0093 ... Norway?  
0094 ... Northern Island?  
0095 ... Scotland?  
0096 ... South Africa?  
0097 ... Sweden?  
0098 ... the Soviet Union?  
0099 ... Spain?  
0100 ... Turkey?  
0101 ... Wales?

0102 Have you pubbed more than 3 issues of any one fanzine?  
0103 ... 10?  
0104 ... 18?  
0105 ... 50?  
0106 ... 100?  
0107 ... 150?  
0108 ... 200?  
0109 ... 300?  
0110 ... 500?

0111 Have you ever printed a fanzine for somebody else?  
0112 Have you ever repaired a mimeograph?  
0113 Have you ever sniffed correcting-fluid?  
0114 Did you enjoy it?  
0115 Have you ever used coloured paper just before a major Hobby Poll?  
0116 Did you ever claim this was a 'coincidence'?  
0117 Have you ever wanted to fake a zine?  
0118 Ever fake a zine?  
0119 Did anyone believe that your fake zine was the real thing?  
0120 Have you ever faked an issue of your own zine?  
0121 Have you ever faked your own death?  
0122 Did anyone believe it?  
0123 Did anyone report it in their own zine?  
0124 Have you ever faked the death of another Hobby member?  
0125 Did anyone believe you?  
0126 Ever been accused of being an evil fakster?  
0127 Have you ever been in a feud?  
0128 Did you enjoy it?  
0129 Did you win?  
0130 Have you been in more than five feuds?  
0131 ... ten?  
0132 Have you feuded with someone from another continent?  
0133 ... two, or more, continents?  
0134 Have you ever written a letter with the hope that it might  
start a feud?  
0135 Were you right?  
0136 Have you ever pubbed a letter in the hope of starting a feud?  
0137 Have you ever claimed that feuding was fun?  
0138 Are you a crazed feudist?  
0139 Do other people think that you uare a crazed feudist?

0140 Do you know what a Fannish Press?  
0141 Do you have a Fannish Press?  
0042 Do you know who runs Revolutionary Penguin Press?  
0043 ... West Riding Press Publications?  
0144 Do you know how many Fanzines you have pubbed?  
0145 Have you pubbed over 10 fanzines?  
0146 ... 50?  
0147 ... 100?

- 0148 ... 200?
- 0149 Have you kept every fanzine that you were ever sent?
- 0150 Do you collect fanzines?
- 0151 Do you have more than 100 fanzines in your collection?
- 0152 ... 500?
- 0153 ... 1000?
- 0154 ... 2000?
- 0155 ... 3000?
- 0156 ... 5000?
- 0157 ... 10000?
- 0158 ... 25000?
- 0159 ... Do you keep any of your old correspondance?
- 0160 ... more than a year old?
- 0161 ... More than 3 years old?
- 0162 ... More than 5 years old?
- 0163 ... More than 10 years old?
- 0164 ... More than 20 years old?
- 0165 Have you ever been sent a letter marked NOT FOR PRINT or OFF THE RECORD etc?
- 0166 More than 10?
- 0167 Have you ever sent a letter marked NOT FOR PRINT of OFF THE RECORD?
- 0168 More than 10?
- 0169 Do you ever make copies of letters you sent?
- 0170 Do you have a special FEUD FOLDER to keep feud letters in?
- 0171 More than 2?
- 0172 More than 5?
- 0173 Do you think it is Fannish to have an Enemies list?
- 0174 Do you have an Enemies list?
- 0175 Are there more than 2 people on it?
- 0176 5?
- 0177 10?
- 0178 20?
- 0179 Is it bigger than Iain Bowen's Enemies List?
- 0180 Have you ever invented a 'fannish' joke?
- 0181 ... Did someone not 'get' it?
- 0182 Have you read 'Bimboes Of The Death Sun'?
- 0183 Did you think it was funny?
- 0184 Do you know which two variants Far Brandonia was based on?
- 0185 Do you think that Philip K. Dick is one of the greatest SF authors?
- 0186 Can you play Bridge?
- 0187 Do you know what NGC stands for?
- 0188 ... ARDA?
- 0189 ... BDC?
- 0190 ... BNC?
- 0191 ... BNF?
- 0192 ... CDO?

0193 ... CGS?  
0194 ... DAA?  
0095 ... DVC?  
0196 ... FIAWOL?  
0197 ... FIJAGDH?  
0198 ... IDA?  
0199 ... LOC?  
0200 ... MNC?  
0201 ...MNCutC?  
0202 ... NYGB?  
0203 ... TDA?  
0204 ... WAHF?  
0205 ... WDC?  
0206 ... WRGP?

0207 Does your native Hobby have it's own BNC?  
0208 Can you recite the BNC line of succession for your country?

0209 Ever tried to fix the result of a Hobby Poll?  
0210 Were you succesful?  
0211 Ever tried to fix the result of a hobby Poll You were running?  
0212 Did you fail in this task?  
0213 Did you fail on more than occassion?  
0214 Have you ever won the Zine Poll?  
0215 ... the Pimley Award?  
0216 ... a Rusty Bolt?  
0217 ... more than one Rusty?  
0218 ... more than five?  
0219 ... A Gladys Award?  
0220 ... Any other Hobby Poll/Award?  
0221 ... A Hobby Award/Poll in another country?  
0222 ... More than 3 Hobby Awards/Polls in another country?  
0223 Have you ever been BNC?  
0224 Have you ever been MNC?  
0225 Have you ever held the posts of BNC and MNC simultaneously?  
0226 Have you ever produced a Novice Package?  
0227 Have you ever been a Variant Bank Custodian?  
0228 ... Did you manage to produce a catalogue?  
0229 ... Did you produce a catalog by ARDA number?  
0230 ... Did you produce a variant package?  
0231 Have you ever run the Zine Poll?  
0232 Have you ever run any other Hobby Poll?  
0233 Did you get more than 50 votes?  
0234 Have you ever run an established Hobby Service (not one mentioned above)?  
0235 Have you ever set up a Hobby Service?  
0236 Did anyone ever use?  
0237 More than 10 people?  
0238 Were you ever a memer of the IDA?  
0239 ... TDA?  
0240 ... IDA/UK ?

- 0241 ... NGC?
- 0242 Were you ever on the TDA committee?
- 0243 IDA?
- 0244 IDA/UK ?
- 0245 NGC?
- 0246 Do you know what the Larry Peery Pen Pal Club is?
- 0247 Are you a member?
  
- 0248 Have you met any Alan Calhamer?
- 0249 Have you ever bought RJW a drink?
- 0250 ... IDB?
- 0251 Has RJW ever bought you a drink?
- 0252 ... Richard Egan?
- 0253 ... Dave Thorby?
- 0254 ... Iain Bowen?
- 0255 On more than 3 seperate occassions?
  
- 0256 Have you ever made a phone-call about a "pressing hobby issue"?
- 0257 Outside the UK?
- 0258 To another continent?
- 0259 Have you ever received a phone-call about a "pressing hobby issue"?
- 0260 ... From another European country?
- 0261 ... From Canada?
- 0262 ... From the USA?
- 0263 ... From South Africa?
- 0264 ... From Australia?
- 0265 ... From New Zealand?
- 0266 ... from anywhere else?

Have you ever attended?

- 0267 ... ManorCon?
- 0268 ... More than 3 ManorCon's?
- 0269 ... More than 5 ManorCon's?
- 0270 ... Every ManorCon?
- 0271 ... MidCon
- 0272 ... More than 5 MidCon's?
- 0273 ... More than 10 MidCon's?
- 0274 ... every ManorCon?
- 0275 ... Gamesday when it was in London?
- 0276 ... More than 3 Gamesday's in London?
- 0277 ... EuroCon?
- 0278 ... 3, or more, EuroCons?
- 0279 ... CounterEuroCon?
- 0280 ... World DipCon?
- 0281 ... DipCon?
- 0282 ... CanCon (Canada)?
- 0283 ... a World DipCon outside your zone?
- 0284 ... a Yorkmeet?
- 0285 ... more than 10 Yorkmeets?
- 0286 ... the Londonmeet when it was at the Lamb?

0287 ... were you ever a regular attendee at the Lamb?  
0288 ... the London Hobbymeet (excluding the Lamb)?  
  
0289 Do you read fanzines with your lunch?  
0290 ... In bed?  
0291 ... In Bath?  
0292 ... In bath?  
0293 ... on the way to work?  
0294 ... Have you ever received 2, or more, fanzines on the same day?  
0295 ... 4?  
0296 ... 10?

\* Do you know...

0297 Any people?  
0298 More than 1?  
0299 More than 2?  
0300 Who designed Abstraction I ?  
0301 Who designed Chaos II ?  
0302 Who designed Downfall I ?  
0303 Which Hobby member stood For Parliment as the Cerebus The Aardvark  
Candidate?  
0304 Why Mad Policy was called Mad Policy?  
0305 Why Frigate was called Frigate?  
0306 What the original name of MOPSY was?  
0307 What the original name of Y DDRAIG GOCH was?  
0308 What the Great Feud was?  
0309 The name of the first Mark Nelson fanzine to be reviewed in another  
zine?  
0310 The name of the zine which wasn't the first dipzine in North  
America?  
0311 The name of the first dipzine in North America?  
0312 The name of the first dipzine in the UK?  
0313 The names of the two North American dipzines which have been  
pubbed in four different decades?  
  
0314 Has Joy Hibbert ever called you childish, a fascist or some other  
term of endearment?  
0315 Are you a BNF?  
0316 Does anyone else think that you are a BNF?  
0317 Does a widely known BNF agree?  
0318 Has Iain Bowen called you a BNF?  
0319 If your name Pete Birks?  
0320 ... Iain Bowen?  
0321 ... RJW ?  
0322 Ever tried to improve your score on this Hacking Test?  
0323 Are you mentioned in the diplomacy AZ?

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the HOBBY HACKERS TEST, please send them to: Mark Nelson, c/o 112 Huntley Avenue, Spondon, DERBY. DE2 7DU. email: amt5man@sun.leeds.ac.uk