

The open day has come and gone, and a bit of a disappointment this year, attendance was well below that of last year due mainly to the fact that it was a very hot day and that a similar "do" was on at Southend. Nevertheless a good selection of wargames and trade stands visible as well as the Vikings cutting each other to pieces outside, even if they did spend most of the time arguing with each other and drinking Tonbriges supply of Ale dry. One of the highlights of the show was a working (well nearly working) model of a Chieftan Tank made by a local chap in Southborough. Lets hope that next year its snowing or raining or both, that way we should be up on attendance. A small profit of £40 was made so it was not as bad as all that. Lastly the thanks of the whole club should go to Dennis Redhead who organised this years open day and thanks to all club members who helped out on the Saturday and Sunday.

Editor

NEXT CLUB MEETINGS

SUNDAY, September 7th (1st Sunday of each month) : 2.15 p.m.
at St Thomas's Hall, Vale Avenue, Southborough.

TUESDAY, September 16th (3rd Tuesday of each month) : 7 p.m.
at the Imperial, London Road, Southborough.

RECENT MEETINGS

APRIL 1980 : Only 30 this month and 7 games including a Renaissance, Seven Years War, Napoleonic, and a desert WW2, also a 1/300th WW2 and 2 boardgames.

COMP. WINNERS: Unit; , Figure, and Vehicle grouped together as lack of entries.

Luftwaffe Man: N. Davis

MAY 1980 : Good attendance with 46 present and 9 games. Prominent game was a massive Napoleonic between Allies (T.W.W.S) and French (S.E.L.W.G) with about 7 players aside. Other games were Napoleonic, A.W.I and E.C.W. A54mm Cowboys and Indians skirmish, 2 Renaissance games, a WW1 naval and Kingmaker were other games.

COMP. WINNERS: Unit; Knights; C. McLeod
Figure; French Marshal; P. Wilson
Vehicle; Corvette; T. Shoebridge

JUNE 1980 : Fair attendance with 41 present and 8 games. Games included 2 Medivals, a Napoleonic, 2 Renaissance games one being between Polish and French, the other a championship game between Parliamentarians and Swiss? AWW2 1/300th practice game for the Nationals and a time warp game between 17th century Polish and Ancient Macedonians (rather

unusual) rounded things off. Also boardgames of Imperium and Grenadier were visible.

COMP. WINNERS: Unit; Preiser unit; I. Foster.
Figure; Housecarl; A. Powell.
Vehicle; Water Wagon; D. Hopkin.

JULY 1980 : 45 members present this month and 10 games including a very impressive 1/300th Modern U.S.S.R verses N.A.T.O battle run by George Gush and Paul Colbrook. There was another 1/300th Modern, 2 Renaissance, 2 WW2 1/72nd games and a 15mm Ancients between Romans and Indians. 2 boardgames, one being a fantasy game called "DUNE".

COMP. WINNERS: Unit; Wurttembergers; A. Butler.
Figure; Sultan Mohammed; D. Hopkin.
Vehicle; L.R.D.G jeep; ?. Bernardi.

Not long ago the club had a special one day meeting and this featured a 1/72nd scale Campaign of the war in Tunisia during the second world war. Here follows accounts of both German and British sides of view and how they both won the war.

Firstly the German's.

MY CAMPAIGN IN TUNISIA BY JIMMY VANDERBILT.

Our problems in Tunisia, with the Americans and the French approaching from the North West and the British from the South was to halt and, if possible, defeat them as far away from their final objectives, Glaucoma and Hafsa, as possible. In view of the allied superiority in numbers of all arms and, particularly aircraft, we had to hold them in broken country where well dug in defenders would be at an advantage and prevent them from breaking out into the open desert in the north east where, in a campaign of movement, we could be out manoeuvred and would be sitting hens (1) for his airforce.

The two east-west highways in the north through the Polesterine pass and Blis were obvious thrust lines for the Americans and I asked Marshal Bombastico, in command of the Italian Division Napoli, to hold a good defensive line in the hills providing a continuous line from the extreme north to and including the Polesterine pass. Dug in with his tanks and guns in the pass itself, it should have been well within the capacity of the Marshal to offer prolonged resistance.

In the south I ordered the German Para Bn to dig in along the line of the Wadi El Ago to the sea to block the obvious British line of advance North up the coast road. They were allotted a Neb battery to cover the road itself and a 88 Bty on their extreme right, covering the track between the hills and the sand dunes. My German Tank Bn and heavy Tank Coy (GHQ reserve but under the command of the Tank Bn for fire orders) were dug in in the hills around Eiffe facing east. The German Motorised Infantry Bn held the back door to this position west of Krum.

Assuming that the British would act in a rational Military manner I expected them to advance north to the Wadi El Ago and, finding it heavily defended, feel for our flank to the west and try to find a way round.

In doing so they would come up against our dug in armour and artillery who had orders to stand still and shoot, the exception of one Coy of tanks south of Eiffe who, when the enemy was sufficiently heavily committed would drive forward and strike them in the flank and rear (Operation Thor). I hoped by this means to destroy a significant proportion of the enemy armour which would then be too weak to break through our Para Bn. The English General Montgomery struck a similar blow against General Rommel at the battle of Alam Halfa. My plan was for the armour to move swiftly through the hills via Eiffe and Krum sweep north and then east to put a cork in the bottle formed by the Polesterine pass where I anticipated the Americans would be attacking the Italians, with one Coy of light tanks detached to raid the Allies only airfield at Setiy. (Operation Valkeiri). The Mech Bn was to come into reserve at the north east exit of south pass where they could assist either the Italians or the Para Bn as necessary.

In the event the British Armoured Brigade chose to rush blindly forward in the best British tradition of the Charge of the Fire brigade (2). First they attacked with part of their armour against the westward end of the Para Bn position on the wadi. I ordered forward the Heavy Tank Coy (Tiger Tanks) which fell on their flank and drove them back in headlong flight. It was then reported that a strong attack with armour was being made against the eastern end of the Para Bn position by the coast road (our strongest sector).

At last my eyes were opened - the British had actually exposed their flank and rear to the whole of my armour / Military chickencoops. (3) I immediately ordered the Tank Bn to move east to destroy the remnants of the British armour re-creating from their first repulse. The Bn Commander attacked with great spirit but, bearing in mind his orders for Valkeiri, he then withdrew. I realised that the enemy armour had been insufficiently weakened to justify Valkeiri and, I ordered the Tank Bn to re-engage the British armour, annihilate it and then continue eastward to strike their main body in the flank as it struggled to cross the wadi. I now had the opportunity to destroy the British Armoured Brigade. I sent the Heavy Tank Coy east under the command of the Para Bn and summoned the Mech Bn which moved through south pass and came up in support. Thus my entire German Battlegroup was concentrated against the British, their attack across the wadi was held and the attackers were taken in flank and rear. All our German commanders and their men carried out their orders in an exemplary fashion. It would be interesting to know what story the British General told at his subsequent Court Marshal.

The German victory was, alas, marred by the performance of the Italians. Whether by accident or design (there have been ugly rumours), Marshal Bombastico so arranged affairs that when the Americans attacked in the Polesterine Pass the Italian tanks were not there. I had asked Bombastico to perform a simple defensive task for which his troops were best suited, but even this as it turned out was expecting too much of the spaghetti (4) eaters. I was then kidnapped by the Italians and to my disgust, confined in a bunker with Bombastico. I suggested that, to the Italian Marshal, he might shoot himself (which any German General would have done), but even this honourable gesture was too much for him. I was then rescued by the Americans - the greatest people on earth. I understand that Bombastico has now become an organ grinder and one can only regret that he did not discover his vocation earlier.

Jimmy Vanderbilt - formerly Colonel - General Von der Klotz of the famous German Africa Korps. Upon his capture by the US Army he applied for American citizenship which was readily granted when he revealed that all along he had been leading the German resistance to Hitler and the Nazis. After the war he married the Coca-Cola heiress Alimony Vanderbilt, former wife of Franklyn Vanderbilt Junior and, changing

his name to hers campaigned for both the Republican and Democratic Presidential Candidates simultaneously (is this a record). Entering the fast food business he founded the famous chain of "Afrika" eating houses specialising in Afrikaburgers, Panzersteaks and real, old fashioned hand turned Texan Kampfungruppes. He now lives in retirement in California and can frequently be seen driving one of his collection of Vintage tanks towards a rival eating eating house.

Footnotes

- (1) Presumably he means 'sitting ducks'.
- (2) The 'Light Brigade' surely.
- (3) Nincompoops?
- (4) Spaghetti is banned at all Afrika eating houses.

By Russell Handson.

AND NOW THE ALLIES STORY.....

TUNISIA....(An eye witness account) By Graham Charles.

(Commander 14th Armoured Brigade)

Having robbed the enemy back to Tunisia where they had taken up defensive positions it was decided in London that with the assistance of the Americans a two pronged assault should be made by us. A period of inactivity in Africa again had the Russians complaining about their shouldering the entire Allied burden and it appeared to Winston that a quick 'Mop up' operation in Tunisia would clear the Mediterranean and enable a landing in south France, Sicily or Greece to be planned.

The date was set for 24th Feb 1943, when Allied strength build up would give us the greatest material advantage over the enemy.

My plan was to take the most direct route up the coast road and capture at least Glavcona. The Americans I thought would be hard put to force the east-west road on the north coast or one of the more southerly passes and I felt that the British should take the greater weight of the fighting if possible. As events were to show this is what ultimately happened through faulty German positions aggravated by their seeming mania to wipe us out and allowed the Americans to almost walk through the weakly held positions further north.

I concentrated my forces in the Edgeware Road area. My plans were made but I was eager for information: Our airforce was inoperative until the airfield at Setiv was captured by the French and Americans. My best (and almost only) source of information came from Grahams Private Army - a creation of my own - which ably led by Colonel Vladimir Cook (late of the King's Own Royal Bedpan Regt) dashing moved his jeeps up towards Borsa Airfield. Hoping to locate a gap through the German lines it was his intention to assist my main assault by ravaging the enemy lines of communication and I hoped knock out any enemy artillery that might be found inadequately protected miles behind the enemy front line. Colonel Cook found that he had walked into an enemy Panzer squadron. Both myself and General Ian Foster (Acting American C.O in 'Fightin' Tim Freeman enforced Absence - a result of earlier over indulgence in the notorious Cafe de Delices Extreme back in Oran) expected to find the German Heavy Tank Coy together with Infantry back in a central reserve position and it therefore came as something of a surprise to find it located so far forwards. However this was something of a bonus for us. The new Tiger Tank with which this Heavy Coy was equipped was reputed to outgun anything we had at the time and was impervious to any of our guns except at close range. If I could force the enemy to commit these tanks at an early stage I need not worry

about running into them as the battle progressed.

Sending Acting Corporal Peter England and a squadron of Crusader tanks into a position west of where my main assault would go I hoped he could cover my left flank and hold off any enemy (including these Tigers) that would otherwise blunt my attack. To convince the enemy that this was the main assault General Taylor also advanced with a squadron of Stuarts. Finding the enemy position frontally fairly weak both squadrons (together with a company of infantry) were able to make good progress and would have broken right through the Germans line but for the Germans committing these Tigers which proceeded to do great damage to our crusaders.

By this time I had put in my main assault and ordered General Taylor to swing east to assist it. I hoped that Corporal England could hold on in his sector and keep the enemy tanks at bay. This proved not to be the case and our Crusader squadron (much reduced) was forced to fall back. German rashness had however cost them dear. Their Tigers pursuing our tanks through our own infantry lines had cost them 3 Tigers damaged by A/T rifle fire (These tanks were later repaired as we were forced to retire and later proved a further nuisance.- In fact throughout the days conflict the Germans were able to repair most of their damaged tanks whereas we, always retiring, had to abandon ours).

Information was received by my H.Q. of German armour moving south east and appearing to come around behind our general Leager position. I was loathe to blunt our main assault by diverting tanks to hold up the enemy but our chaps in front did not appear to be confronting much and obviously any enemy flanking movement had to be stopped. I gathered up my remaining reserve of tanks being in the main H.Q. troops and various uncommitted troops and sent them off to the left where they were able to link up with Acting General England (newly promoted for his exploits against the Tigers).

I got a shock. The Germans had disposed of their armour in a dispersed manner and my information led me to believe that this flanking movement consisted of a squadron - which my tanks could easily handle. I still believed to this point that the Germans had a reserve of tanks somewhere behind their own positions. What we found was the entire German Panzer force consisting of about 16 tanks. Nevertheless, I had confidence in that General England and General Taylor (having driven hard to take command of part of this force) could cope and I diverted my attention back to our main assault.

The time had come for me to move forward to see the situation for myself. I joined General Brian Simmonds and his combined force of infantry and Grant tanks and requested him to speed up his assault on Wadi el Agro. I would like to admit to being concerned that if our assault was delayed the German tanks might have time to intervene. Faced only by German infantry though well dug in and fronted by the Wadi I thought a rapid forward thrust regardless of loss would overwhelm the defences and open the road to Glaucoma. All allied artillery opened up on the German position aided by a large aerial attack. The German positions were damaged but casualties appeared light.

At this point two Italian light bombers flew over my H.Q. position. Bofors opened up and one was shot down. Unnerved by this the other plane opened up in error on the Germans positions wiping out a German machine gun position. Our Grants rushed forwards and although one got bogged in the Wadi another got through this and the enemy minefield and infiltrated the enemy positions. Enemy minefield (casualties, sorry Ed.) had now built up and their position looked tenuous. At this

very moment the enemy tanks showed up having almost wiped out acting unpaid chief latrine orderly England's forces(he having been rapidly demoted).

At this point however let me switch to other more successful events. Colonel Cook having broken clean through the German lines had captured Bolsa airfield and moved to Baliz ran into a pair of Italian field guns which had been supporting Italian troops in the Polesterine pass. Rushing into their rear he shot up one and the other rapidly limbered up and escaped. Decoying the enemy by then heading due east the GPA then switched north where they suddenly came to Finak airfield. Catching planes refueling or landing the entire German/Italian airforce was either destroyed or forced to crashland.

At this same time I had ordered my armoured car unit to speed up to Glaucoma passing along the very cliff top past the German front line positions. Destroying a Nebelwerfer battery on the way this force reached Glaucoma where it attacked the German H.Q. In the ensuing fight the town caught fire and the Desert Fox was able to slip away though pursued hotly by our two remaining armoured cars. Thus it came about that at Ha'isa both Italian and German Commanders met with the GPA attacking from the west and our armoured cars attacking from the south. From henceforth no orders could be issued by either commander to their troops.

Whilst the British position in the south looked grave the movement of all German tanks against us had allowed the Americans and French in the north a very easy time indeed. The Italians almost without tank support had at almost all points been outnumbered and outflanked and it was only a matter of time before they would be in full retreat everywhere. Whatever now happened in the south the battle was won. As the British at Wadi El Agro were forced to go over to the defensive and face the German tanks, the Americans broke through and headed to Ha'isa. As air attacks broke up the German tank attacks the Axis commanders huddled together in a dugout in Ha'isa. The Fox's spirit was broken and apparently only prevented from surrendering by General Hurstissimo threatening him. As an American flamethrower was pointed in the rifle slit of the dug out both commanders finally surrendered.

The German sword was broken. As all Axis forces on the African continent laid down their arms I was already making plans for a landing on Sicily.

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

Some information about Kits etc supposedly being made by Matchbox, Airfix and the rest.

Airfix

According to TWWS member Ian Foster, Italian Infantry are to be produced in the Airfix range of OO scale figures. If true, this is wonderful news for those interested in the western desert campaigns of WW2. Hitherto, we have had endless Africa Korps but no Italians even from Italian firms, when of course a large majority of Axis troops in the desert were Italian and not German. In addition, Airfix are bringing out a Staghound armoured car(US built used by the British in 1944-5, famous mainly for unhandiness compared with the Pan Daimler). Odd choice but welcome all the same. Anyone interested in, as I am, in WW1 air battles, will welcome Airfix's

re-issue of their discontinued WWI aircraft kits- the Bristol Fighter and Hannoveraner and RE8 having all appeared recently, and I imagine the Albatros and Roland CII will not be long delayed. The Camel has been reissued too, but in altered form, the home-defence version with one Vickers and one wing-mounted Lewis instead of the normal twin Vickers. The unarmed Avro 504 has also re-appeared, and Airfix already make the Fokker Triplane, Sopwith Pup and Spad VII. Newest at the time of writing is an OO scale "Desert Strongpoint" with plastic base, ruined north-africa -style building, and the VW and "222 armoured car from the Airfix Recce set.

Matchbox

Are becoming increasingly the firm the wargamer must turn to for new models. They are bringing out an OO scale Leyland Caravan (command vehicle), a Somau and a H39 (two very welcome French tanks: Heller make a Somau and R35 in this scale but for some stupid reason they are'n't imported into England). A Churchill bridgelaye(r)sorry Tim) follows, and coming up in later times should be Ford and Humber utilities and Karrier and Chevrolet 3 tonners. Thankgoodness (at LAST kits for the ubiquitous British/Canadian 3 tonners, unaccountably ignored in 1/76th scale by kit manufacturer(s) so far!) A humber scout car and Daimler armoured car (already available from Hasegawa) are also contemplated.

Matchbox's figures in OO scale are soon to be joined by Japanese infantry of WW2 (including heavy machine guns etc) and an ANZAC (Australia and New Zealand) set.

NOVO

As many will know, the old FROG range, now produced in the USSR. No military models, but for the WWI air battler the range includes a Bieriot (The cross channel aircraft, but can be used as an early-war Bieriot "Militaire"). A Vickers "Vimy" is also useful, especially as Unlike the original Frog model, which was of the demilitarised Alcock and Brown Trans-Atlantic aircraft, the Novo one is fully equipped with gun positions and gunners. Actually the Vimy was just too late for the war, but it does provide a "typical" heavy bomber at incredibly low cost.

All in all a promising future, especially considering recent doom-laden prophesies about "no more 1/76th military kits" etc.

By George Gush

KENTS MAGINOT LINE (?)

by Mike Kirk

No doubt we've all seen examples of concrete blockhouses throughout the length of Britain. Usually the largest concentrations are on the coast, with only ones or twos scattered, at strategic points, inland. Therefore, when I recently travelled on the Paddock Wood to Maidstone rail line, I was amazed to see just how many there are along the north bank of the river Medway between East Peckham and Maidstone. Presumably they were to form a major defence line in the event of a German invasion.

There are 8 (probably more) covering about 7 miles of the river bank. There appear to be two main types; one being a brick built pentagonal/hexagonal structure, perhaps 15 feet across, which allows rifles to be fired from a few slits. It would provide shelter from near misses, but presumably could not withstand a direct hit. The other type is a massive rectangular concrete structure, about 20-30 feet long. Each has a large opening (presumably) for a machine gun, as well as rifle slits. These would have been much tougher opposition.

Unfortunately all of these defense positions, although covering the river well, are completely exposed and easily visible from the south side - perhaps the vegetation was very different in those days! Whether this line could have held is debatable - the Medway, although wide in places only has deep water by virtue of the numerous lock gates, which could have been destroyed. Although I have not studied the British defences in the south east, I presume most of the main rivers e.g the Stour and the Romney Marsh canal, were similarly defended. There is probably a body of opinion that considers these structures to be ugly monstrosities that should be demolished. Perhaps in a hundred years they may be as well thought of as any ancient hill fort or castle.

PRINCE AUGUST MOULDS

by George Gush

Many readers will have seen advertisements for these moulds, from which you can cast your own model soldiers, in magazines such as 'Military Modelling'. There is a large range of moulds for 18th century soldiers, which are 40 mm semi-flat figures, and recently Prince August have begun to produce a range of moulds for full - rounded 25 mm figures specially intended for wargames. A fair number of Napoleonic infantry and cavalry, plus horses, are available, with a French Napoleonic gun and artillerymen. Wisely, the figures are all rankers not officers (of which the few needed can easily be brought). Ancients are the next moulds to be added to the range.

Largely out of curiosity, I bought two of the wargames moulds, one for a French Napoleonic Grenadier (he can also be painted as a Voltigeur, or with his epaulettes filed down, as a fusilier, and can be used for many other troops in French style uniforms). The other is a light cavalry horse, moulded complete with saddlecloth and suitable for most Lancers, Hussars etc.

The moulds, which cost £1-85p each, are two-part, of a very hard black vulcanized rubber, which I would imagine would be capable of turning out several hundred figures without damage. Each mould is accompanied by two squares of hardboard, between which it is placed to be clamped together. For this job, Prince August sell a strong wire clip for 35p.

The figures are solid and well proportioned, a genuine 25mm fitting well with Miniature Figurines and of rather Minifig general style. The horse would take Minifig riders. Provided the mould is properly assembled and clamped they are practically free of flash, except where the pouring channel joins the figure. They are acceptably detailed, but detail and definition are not quite up to the standard of commercially produced figures. I doubt that this would be noticeable once painted though.

Generally they came out fairly well, provided the mould was dusted, as recommended, with talc, or French chalk, but I did experience a fair number of failures, particularly with the horse, which only cast flawlessly about once in two or three attempts. Of course, you can melt down three-legged failures and start again, but this does waste time. Prince August sell ingots of casting metal, but the one I got, at 79p, proved to be only enough to cast about 2½ horses, making them MORE expensive than the commercial article, so I certainly wouldn't recommend using this material. Melted down bits and pieces of flash and broken figures etc can be a source of material, or a mixture of Tinsmith's solder and plumbers solder, obtainable in sticks from ironmongers, though not cheap. Tinsmith's solder mixed with ordinary sheet lead from a builder's merchant is probably the cheapest, though not the best, alloy to use.

When casting, the instructions should be carefully ~~followed~~ followed and I would add one of my own:- leave the casting to cool for some time in the mould before opening or trying to remove it- (a) otherwise you will burn yourself (b) lead stays soft and breakable for sometime, after it has apparently solidified, and at this stage it is very easy to break the figure when trying to remove it. Prince August moulds can be bought from Supercast Ltd, Blanket Row, Hull, HU1 1SQ. by mail order, or directly from Hamleys of Regent st, (their separate kit shop is now closed by the way). Welling Model World, 113 Bellgrave rd, Welling. Wool and Craft Centre, 319 Station Rd, Burgess Hill. or Medway Craft Centre, 319 High Street, Chatham. I am quite willing to lend the moulds I have, and my clip and casting spoon, to any club member who wants to try them and perhaps cast himself a unit or two, but borrowers will need (a) a gas stove (b) if a junior, written permission from parents- ~~xx~~ I don't want to be held responsible for little Johnny covering himself with molten lead! At any age, in fact, molten metal is to be handled with extreme care and caution.

THE EMPERORS NAPOLEON'S OWN ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE ON 5th JANUARY

By Russell Hanson.

Upon the news of the assembly of a Prussian army, treacherously bought by English gold, the Emperor, detained by reasons of state in Paris, instructed the Chief of Staff, General Berthier, to concentrate the available Corps and march against them. Berthier marched with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Divisions commanded respectively by General Ney, Nansauty and Poniatowski, summoning General de Beauharnais, with two regiments of Cavalry and a battery of Horse Artillery, to join him at the likely point of contact of the two armies.

General Berthier encountered the Prussian army, commanded by the sinister black bearded General Wrangles, in a desolate region of low hills and wood (see sketch map). Deploying the 1st Division on the left, the 3rd Division on the right and the 2nd Division in the centre, General Berthier immediately opened fire with his artillery, silencing part of a great battery the Prussians had deployed in their centre. For this deed the gunners were awarded the Legion d'honneur, the first of many such awards earned on this day.

General Ney, impetuous as ever and anxious to strike the first blow, began a general advance on the left preceded by two regiments of cavalry who advanced towards a mass of Prussian infantry, forcing them to form square. This was too soon and the regiments were forced back by the enemy fire. The 1st Division was soon heavily engaged along most of its front, repulsing repeated Prussian attacks by both infantry and cavalry. The impetuosity of the French, fired with the ardour of Ney and determined to punish the Prussians for their treachery, was nearly their undoing. General Berthier managed to restrain them before it was too late and General Ney began to concentrate his Division on and behind a low hill.

On the right the 2nd Division started forward but, on seeing a mass of enemy cavalry breasting the low hill to his front, General Nansauty prudently adopted a strong defensive position, severely punishing those enemy cavalry foolish enough to approach. The strange manoeuvres of the enemy cavalry demonstrated their lack of training and the confusion that existed in the enemy high command.

In the centre, General Poniatowski advanced the light infantry of the 2nd Division which harassed the advancing Prussian columns, forestall-

ing a heavy attack by the main weight of the enemy, Firing now became general along the whole front, the Prussians, who considerably outnumbered the French, falling in heaps.

General Beacharnais's force, marching to the sound of the guns, now surprised the enemy cavalry on their flank but, against overwhelming odds was forced to withdraw, the horse artillery galloping to join the main army. His division was a timely distraction to the enemy cavalry and threw his left wing into disarray.

The Emperor, on receiving information from General Berthier that he had located the main body of the enemy, marched straight as an arrow to the battlefield and arrived with the Reserve Division at the crisis of the battle. The enemy, recognising the imminence of their defeat began to give way before the IInd and IIIrd Divisions which, inspired by the presence of their Emperor began a general advance. The battered Ist Division was given new heart and began to counterattack while the reserve Division, directed personally by the Emperor, began an advance led by the Voltigeurs of the New Guard against the enemy's left centre.

At 7 o'clock the battle was won. Everywhere the enemy was in disarray, his artillery hurriedly limbering up and retiring. If it had not been for the untimely fall of night he would have been utterly destroyed. That he escaped was due to General Berthier beginning the battle too late in the day. As it was the French badly singed General Wranglers beard and showed that again the moral superiority of the French, inspired by inflexible ideals and love for their Emperor over the mercenary, money grabbing Prussians, the lackeys of the English.

Lastly just a couple of important notices.

Most of the senior members will already know that George Gush is moving from Tun Wells to Hawkhurst, but for those of you who don't here is George's new address.

Also it has been proposed that because George's wargames room is further to get to now, an additional evening meeting be arranged. This would probably be on the 4th Tuesday of each month and would be used for championships games and the like. More details at the next meeting.
