











というないからいくしているというというというというないない I staggered through the door of Santa's remote workshop, after my exhausting husky-drive from the airport — and goggled at the scene that met my eyes. Where were the peaceful pixie helpers I had imagined, lovingly putting together fairy dolls and tindrums? All I could see were great whirring machines and conveyor-belts, with overalled gnomes frantically trying to keep order. All in vain. An almighty crash resounded as 2000 video games were pitched from the assembly line onto a nearby heap of battery-driven Sherman tanks. A terrible bellow eached me of battery-driven Sherman tanks. A terrible bellow eached me of lottery-driven Sherman tanks. A terrible bellow eached me and fumes, I saw — Santal An oil-stained, red-trousered figure, down to his braces and shirtsleeves, stood gibbering at the sight of the wreckage. A further 3000 pre-moulded plastic dolls joined the pile of junk on the floor, and Santa, shrugging in resignation, came over to meet me. As he came closer, I saw dolls joined the pile of junk on the floor, and Santa, shrugging in resignation, came over to meet me. As he came closer, I saw that the troubles of recent years had taken their toil — the outbreak of foot-rot among the reindeer, and the complaints by anti-pollution groups about the little extra "spessies" they were depositing on rooftops . . . the difficulties in getting clearance from air traffic control for his marathon round-the-world flights . . the production losses when the gnomes had gone on strike rather than accept his new robot-controlled machines! It was no wonder the old fellow was a little crusty when I asked him my first question:

Father Christmas, you're ob-viously very busy at this time of the year. How do you manage to cope? Get off the rhubarb! Pardon? Get off the rhubarb!

You don't understand, Father Christmas. I was asking how

you cope . . . And you don't understand . you're stepping on my special plastic rhubarb . . . that's meant for little Arthur Puddleton, of plastic rhubarb at Christmas. Not many people know that. (For a moment, I thought it might be Michael Caine under the white

whiskers. I gave them a tug to see if they were real. If they weren't real, then the gentleman before me was using very strong glue. When he stopped screaming, I decided to

continue with my questioning.)
Obviously, Father Christmas, there are lots of presents given away at this time of the year. How many do you have to deal



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MERRY CHRISTMAS-BUT NOBODY'S MAKING A TURKEY OUT OF ME!

229,551,749,686,293,776,249, 821,541,771,659,221,809,999. That's incredible. How do you manage to deliver them all in one night? What is your greatest prob

ople like you, wasting my time, en I should be working.

I'm good at packing.
Are things more difficult today, than they were in the old days?
Of course they are. Will you get off that rhubarb! In the old days, I only had to make wooden tops and dolls' houses. Now it's all elec-tronic games. Do you know how long it takes to make a Space Iners game? Hours and hours and I've only got a few gnomes to

and I've only got a few gnomes to help me.

Talking of difficulties . . . now a lot of houses have central heating, you haven't got so many chimneys to climb down. How do you deliver presents to houses that haven't got chimhouse that haven't got chimhouse that haven't got chimhouse that faint way I can. Windows, doors, drains . . . sometimes it's horrible! It costs me a fortune in cleaning bills. Have you ever

in cleaning bills. Have you ever thought how much a Father Christmas outfit costs to be cleaned? I think it was my GreatGreat-Great Grandfather who chose red as the colour. It shows ery mark!

Have you ever had any em-barrassing experiences? Lots! People standing on my

plastic rhubarb . . . will you get off Chimneys too thin for me to get Chimneys too thin for me to get down . . . being arrested for breaking and entering . . . and one that will interest you . . . the time my sleigh was intercepted by the Mekon. I was just finishing my Christmas deliveries, when his percent company compand. sonal command craft swooped down and stopped me. I thought I was finished. This great, greenheaded thing came out and pointed a ray gun at me. Just as I thought a ray gun at me. Just as I thought he was going to shoot, he said he only wanted a Christmas present. So I gave him a cardboard Destroy-Dan-Dare-kit and he went away quite happy. For some reason there's a big demand for those kits from Treens

There's something I've always wanted to know. Does someone with size 12 socks get more presents than someone with size 7 feet?

Put a sock in it! That's the sort of corny question people are always

orry, Father Christmas. One st question. Have you any mbitions?

fes . . . to take a holiday on Christmas Eve . . . but that's ne going to happen. NOW WILL YOU GET OFF THAT RHUBARB!

Computer Ahigh-tech comes to Hornby!



Shopwato SHOPPINE B FEATURE FOR BOYS

MODEL railways sets — the Hornby systes in particular — heve long been fir favourites at Christmas time, so we though we'd bring you up-to-date with some of the more recent additions to the superb Hornb range, courtasy of the Beatties chain hobby stores.

At the heart of the layout they supplied was a Zero 1 computer system. This unique unit transmits messages through the rails (which also carry the power) to the locomotives themselves. A special module must be fitted into every loce to translate these messages, but we found these very easy to install.

gh you'll have to devote quite a bit of

e Zero 1 computer system can be built upough three distinct phases, depending of ur budget. Phase 1 allows you to control locos, and Phase 2 permits the harmious control of items such as signals and ints — no fewer than 98 of them if you s

nase 3 enables you to create a miningram of your layout on a special di moole. The Zero 1 can control up to si composites at a time, each loco having ferent speed levels.

wick green livery, w constrated the ability of some Hornby is to pulf smoke like a real steam train. so locos come equipped with a supply the oil and a special syrings which you to get the oil down the loco's chimney.

























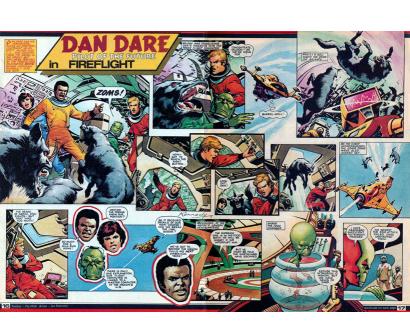
I'M TALBOT WAS HELPING A RUINAWAY FRENCH BOYPIERE DIPONT—TO FIND
HIS PATENT HELE WAS A RUINAWAY FRENCH BOYRAGED HIM TO SILVESTONE,
BUT AS MONSIEUR DUPONT
TOOK HIS CAR FOR A FAST
PRACTICE LAP ON A WET
CIRCUIT...

## TIMES TELE













# the house of daemon























### THE HOUSE OF DAEMON

























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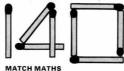
Address Hobbies

Full Nam









PART P



Arrange eight matches as illustrated, to form the number 140. Your problem is to alter the position of two matches and thereby make a sum that equals 25. You must not use Roman numerals to help you find the answer.

**BREAK OUT OF JAIL!** Here is a prison with 36 cells in it. You are imprisoned in cell 'X' and you want to get out for Christmas. Not only that, but you want to

se every other



Ernie's little cousin has got out of his cage. Can you get him back into the cage without cutting, tearing or folding the page?

PRISON

X

### PENCIL **PRANKS**

Ask any of your friends to draw a circle with a dot in the centre WITHOUT TAKING THE PENCIL FROM THE PAPER. In possible? Well, let them have a try then paper and make your dot. Now, without taking your pencil from the paper, begin drawing your incite over the fold. Continue the line on the rest of the paper then you let the comer go.

Filling



### CHALLENGE

Now try drawing the design on the right without taking your pencil off the paper or going over any line twice. No folded corner to help you this



How many triangles can you find in the sketch



Some one-liners to try out on your friends at your party . . .

- Q. If you have referees in football, and umpires in cricket, then what do you have in
- A. Goldfish, usually
- Q. What can you hold without touching it? A. Your breath
- Q. What was the Prime ster's name in 1962? A. Margaret Thatche
- she hasn't changed it! Q. What goes tick-woof,

tick-woof? A. A watch-dog

## SUM PROBLEMS WORTH SOLVING

1. Are you good at arithmetic? All right then write down in numbers eleven thousand, eleven hundred and eleven, thousand, eleven numbered and eleven, placing the comma in the right place. Try it piacing the comma in the hynt pia first before looking at the answer.

Υ

2. Kevin is three times as old as David. But, in four years' time, he'll only be twice

3. Ask a friend to think of a number, ask 3. Ask a friend to think of a number, ask him to double it, then add ten. Now tell think and sale away the him to double it, then add ten. New ten him to divide it by two and take away the him to divide it by two and take away the number he first thought of. When he has number ne first thought of, when he has secretly done this you can tell him the safety you are bound to be right, for whatever the number your friend first thanks of the number your friend first thanks of the number your safety will absorbe he she for whatever the number your menu mist thought of, the answer will always be the

ERNIE'S DILEMMA

nd his copy of EAGLE has blow across the road. Can you help him reach it withou stepping in one of the black. muddy pudd No solution

old sheet, four eggs, four paper cake cases, some cornflakes and thing to use as a blindfold. Four players are asked to leave the room something to use as a bindfeld. Four players are asked to leave the room and return one at a time. They are shown four eggs spaced evenly on the sheet. Explain that the players are to be libited dole and will be guided to the edge of the sheet. Then they will have to walk screes it evident breaking the edge. Once they are bindfelded, quickly remove the eggs and greater than the players and the second of the edge of o replace with the cake cases filled with

cornflakes. Now wait for the crunch



























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# LOOK FORTHE NEW YEAR

In the next issue of **EAGLE**Starting next week, we've three

new photo-story adventures, featuring two old favourites — MANIX and JOE SOAP — plus an all-new war story called



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SUM PROBLEMS

2. Kevin is twelve

TH SOLVING

