

# VIEW FROM THE TRENCHES

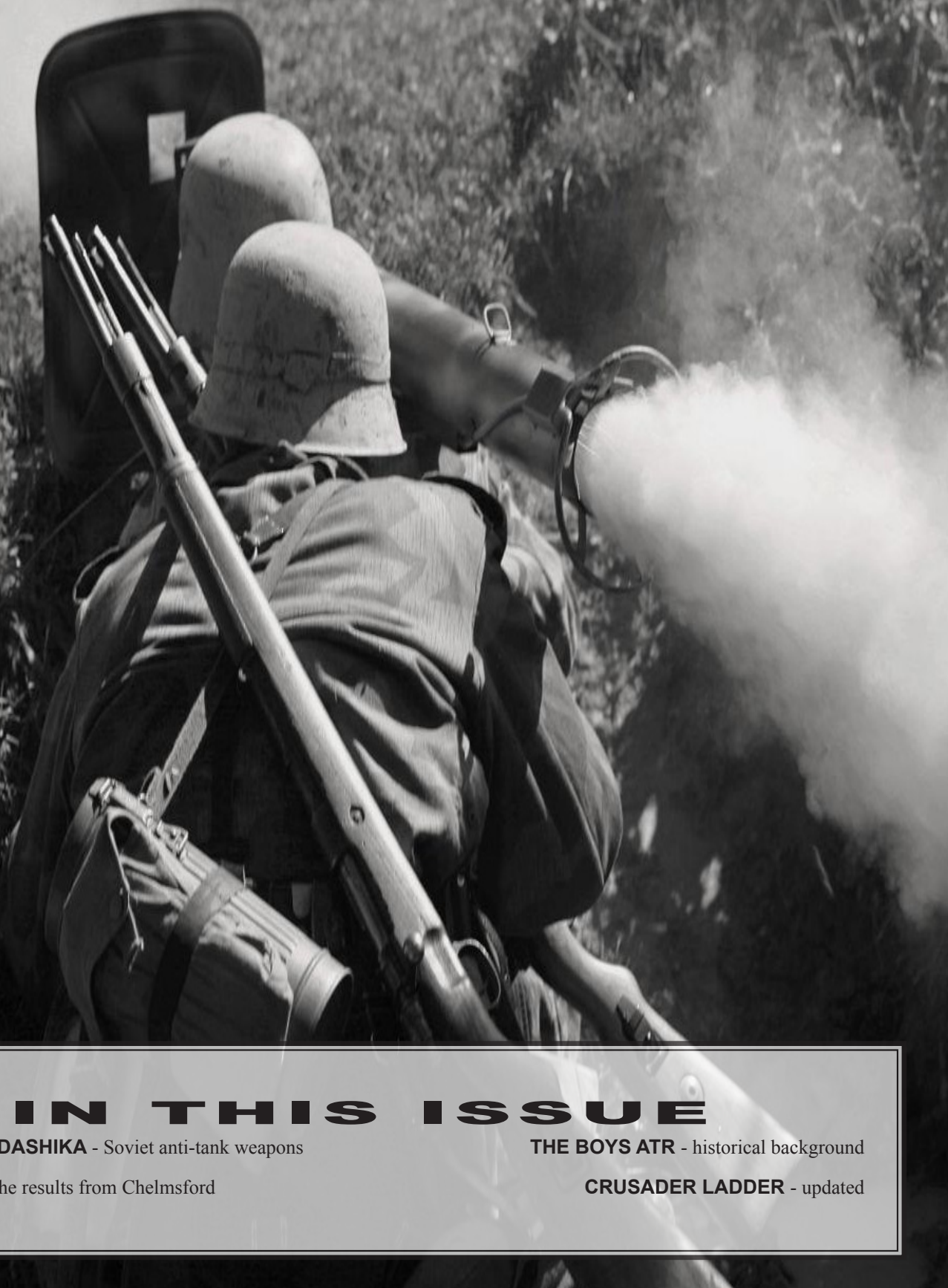
Britain's Premier ASL Journal

Issue 101 Sep - Dec 2017

Free from [www.vfft.co.uk](http://www.vfft.co.uk)

UK £2.00

US \$5.00



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**THE BOYS ATR** - historical background

**DOUBLE 1 2017** - the results from Chelmsford

**CRUSADER LADDER** - updated

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**COVER:** A German Panzerschreck team in action.

*VIEW FROM THE TRENCHES* is the quad-monthly British *ASL* journal. All comments are welcome. Even better, contribute. Write an article. Design a scenario. Share your *ASL* experiences with others. *VFTT* allows you to communicate with other *ASL*ers. Don't be a silent voice.

Issue 102 should be out at the beginning of January 2018.

*VFTT* costs £2.00 per issue (overseas £4.00), with a year's subscription costing £5.00 (overseas £10.00). Payment should be in pounds sterling, with cheques made out to PETE PHILLIPPS. Readers should check their address label to see when their subscription ends. You can also download *VFTT* free from the *VFTT* web site.

Back issue are now out of print but can be downloaded for free from:  
<http://www.vftt.co.uk/vfttpdfs.asp>

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## THE *ASL* MAILING LIST

The *ASL* Mailing List is devoted to discussion of *Advanced Squad Leader*, and is run by Paul Ferraro via a listserv program at the University of Pittsburgh. To subscribe go to:  
<http://lists.aslml.net/listinfo.cgi/aslml-aslml.net>

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# PREP FIRE

Well I had hoped to get this issue out early in September, but a combination of a full-time (albeit temporary) job contract and a dissertation proposal to put together for university meant I had little time to allocate to *ASL*. And while I'd like to see the next issue out at the start of January 2018 as scheduled, that really depends on you, the reader. Right now I've not really got any articles in a finished state to use in *VFTT*, and with several essays due by mid-December and a major (3,00+ word) section for my dissertation project to write before the end of the year, I don't reckon I'll have much time to spend on *VFTT* over the next few months :-)

'Til next issue, roll Low and Prosper.

Pete Phillipps



## UK STOCKISTS OF THIRD PARTY PRODUCTS

To purchase other third party products such as Critical Hit, Schwerpunkt, Bounding Fire Products, or Heat of Battle contact any of the following shops.

**LEISURE GAMES**, 100 Ballards Lane, Finchley, London, N3 2DN. Telephone (020) 8346 2327, e-mail them at [shop@leisuregames.com](mailto:shop@leisuregames.com) or go to [www.leisuregames.com](http://www.leisuregames.com).

**SECOND CHANCE GAMES**, 182 Borough Road, Seacombe, The Wirral, L44 6NJ. Telephone (0151) 638 3535, e-mail them at [sales@secondchancegames.com](mailto:sales@secondchancegames.com), or go to [www.secondchancegames.com](http://www.secondchancegames.com).

**PLAN 9**, 9 Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1NE. Telephone (01224) 624 467 or e-mail them at [plan9@ifb.co.uk](mailto:plan9@ifb.co.uk).

**BATTLEQUEST GAMES**, 29 Victory Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 2JF. Telephone 01403 242003 or go to [www.battlequestgames.com](http://www.battlequestgames.com).

If you know of other shops stocking third party *ASL* products let me know so I can include them here in future issues.



# INCOMING



## ACTION PACK TO KOREA

MMP will be releasing *Action Pack 13* at ASLOK. It will contain 11 scenarios and two new mapboards (78 and 79). It will be available for \$22.00.

They also expect to release *Forgotten War* before the end of the year.

## MORE FRIENDLY FIRE

Friendly Fire 11 will be released at ASLOK. As in previous years it will contain eight new scenarios. It should be available from several stockists, but can also be purchased direct from the Friendly Fire website at <http://www.friendlyfire.se/asl/ordering/> for 110 SEK.

## UP FROM THE CELLAR

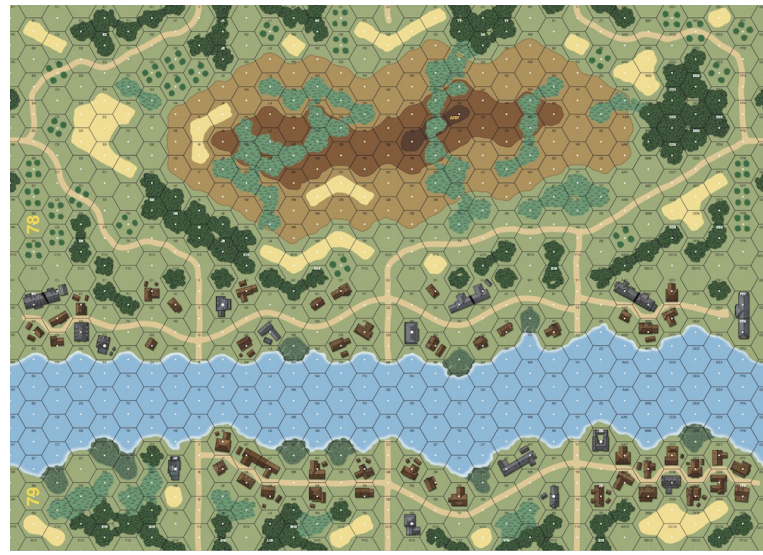
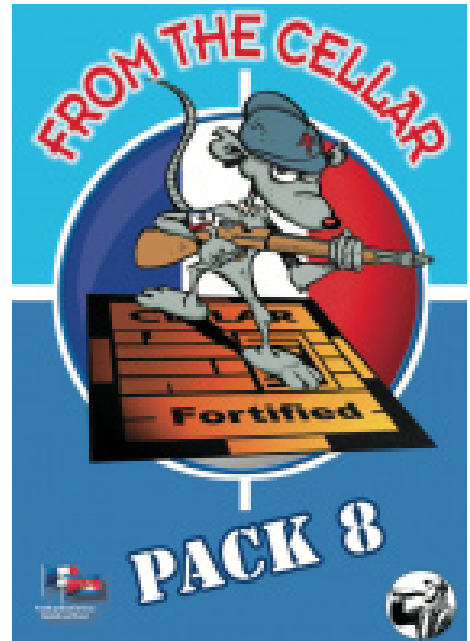
Le Franc Tireur plan on releasing *From The Cellar 8* in mid-November. It will contain 15 scenarios, with a focus on the Free French, and a 56 page magazine. Four of the scenarios can be linked to form a mini campaign. It will be available to order for €35 from the LFT website at <http://www.lefranc tireur.org/>, as well as the usual stockists.



| FRIENDLY FIRE PACK 11   |   |
|---|---|
| A Smörgåsbord of Scenarios  |   |
| <p><b>Junkers Junkyard</b></p> <p>Yperburg Airfield, Netherlands, 18 May 1940. The Germans had an ambitious plan to knock The Netherlands out of the war in a single day. Airborne troops would first capture three airfields near The Hague, then the Dutch cabinet and the queen. Yperburg airfield was defended by two grandiose companies, about two dozen AA guns and six Landwehr armored cars. An early morning bombing attack and Fallschirmjäger both failed to penetrate the AA defenses, and the slow Junkers carrying the airborne main force were a devastating fire as they came in for their approach.</p>   | <p><b>Belgian Tigers</b></p> <p>Kapelle op den Bos, Belgium, 17 May 1940. In 1915, the Belgian government agreed to purchase 25 French-built AMC 35 tanks, armed with a 47 mm gun and a Hotchkiss MG. Over the next years, for economic and political reasons, the order was reduced to only 10 vehicles. When Hitler's army invaded Belgium on 10 May 1940, the AMC 35 were the best armored vehicles in the Belgian arsenal. By 16 May, German forces had broken through Belgian lines along the entire front and two of these tanks were about to charge into battle for the first time.</p>   |
| <p><b>Mormal Forest</b></p> <p>Northwest of Louvain-la-Neuve, France, 20 May 1940. The bulk of France signed on The 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer-Division was tasked to seize Auboyers-Montfleur line and continue to secure the southwest side of the Mormal Forest. The division's reconnaissance battalions passed through the forest near Louvain-la-Neuve without enemy interference. Two hours later, the reinforced Schützen-Regiment 72 followed in the tracks. By then the road was closed by compact bands of French colonial troops supported by Renault R35 tanks of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division de chars de combat.</p>   | <p><b>Panzer Shield</b></p> <p>Ryckhovden, Belgium, 13 July 1941. On 12 July, Oberleutnant Panzergruppe 2 had two battalions across the Dommel, one east of Reys and Sillaux and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Belgian brigade west of Magliel. Magliel's defenses had been under construction since late June, and were by now deep and extensive, with minefields, anti-tank ditches, trenches and log barriers – all in an extension of World War I. 200<sup>th</sup> Armored was to attack one of the battalions to the south and destroy the entry southeast of Magliel and open the Doper crossing, but the 4<sup>th</sup> Panzer-Division was quickly forced on the defenses.</p> |
| <p><b>Red Tears Shed on Gray</b></p> <p>Kerpen, Ukraine, 18 August 1941. Under German-backed dictator Antonov-Romanenko joined his Nakhaly in the battle Operation Barbarossa. After two weeks of defense, the Soviet Army in the Ukraine was melting. Second line units, heavy militia and aging equipment were thrown into the path of the Axis invaders. On 17 August, the Romanian 11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division approached the town of Kerpen, a key railway junction 30 km northwest of Odessa. The factories and workshops near the railway station were defended by a gaging company of Soviet units.</p>   | <p><b>Speed is the Essence of War</b></p> <p>Sitiu River, Malaya, 7 January 1942. The British were in full retreat from northern Malaya. Two Indian brigades were arranged in depth back through Teluk to the Sitiu River bridge. In the early morning hours of 7 January, a Japanese tank company accompanied by truck-borne infantry charged down the road. The Japanese tanks quickly overran the bulk of the 12<sup>th</sup> Brigade, and next up the lighting fast defiler was the 28<sup>th</sup> Brigade. Because of very poor British communications, the brigade was unaware of the impending threat, and the Japanese caught them on the move.</p>                  |
| <p><b>Moonlight Drive</b></p> <p>North of Vign, Costa, 8 August 1944. Although the Japanese had been blunted out of Vign, they had enough strength remaining to enable the US 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. Encouraged by a recent command signal, which had weakened morale in the line of the 300<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, the Japanese decided to push the 300<sup>th</sup> to the attack line. Late in the evening, several enemy infantry patches fell out the American positions. At 0200 tanks were heard approaching from the north. The Americans coulded machine and flame-throwers, the only anti-tank weapons available in the moonlight night.</p> | <p><b>Arms Race</b></p> <p>Lanskerke bridge, Flanders Canal, the Netherlands, 17 April 1940. The British Guards Armoured Division were ordered to break through the German lines and reach Hamburg via Bremen. In other words, the Germans were in full retreat, but ahead of the British tanks was the superior and heavier, and well equipped, 7<sup>th</sup> Fallschirmjäger-Division. A step on the way was the Lanskerke bridge between the Dutch towns of Hengelo and Breda, and the radio-equipped Sherman of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Squadron, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion set to capture it in a surprise attack.</p>  |

## SCHWERPUNKT DELAYED

Due to the effects of Hurricane Irma on Florida, it is unlikely that there will be any new product from Sherry Enterprises at ASLOK. It is expected that they should be back on schedule by the end of the year.



# DOUBLE ONE 2017

In June, over 30 *ASL* players celebrated the 8th year of DOUBLE ONE being held at Writtle College, with four days of *ASL* (and other) gaming. The weather was good (sunny but not the tropical humidity that can make even the hardened grognard too weak to pick up a d6) and the college once again went over and above service levels to make sure that everyone had an enjoyable weekend.

First arrivals pitched up around midday on the Thursday, and by 5pm, the vast majority of attendees had arrived, with several games already started. Simon Church and Darren Orwin were attempting the *Action Pack* monster 'AP77 Texas Flood' whilst Gordon Jupp and Paco Maine looked to play the *CH Stonne 1940* campaign game. A short ceasefire was declared shortly before 7pm as the now annual college hosted curry night interrupted proceedings. An all you can eat buffet for just £10 per head and drinks at student bar prices? Well it would be rude not too.....

Friday morning and the main business of the weekend kicked off with the various one day themed minis. The China flavoured PTO mini was particularly popular, with Sam Prior eventually emerging victorious in the first mini after being pushed very hard by both Stuart Brant in round 1 and Will Binns in the final. The Hell of Stalingrad mini had an additional incentive, as Tim Hundsorfer had kindly made a rather stunning diorama as a prize. Tim's hopes of taking this diorama back home were cruelly dashed by Richard Dagnall in a laughter filled final.

As I had once again inadvertently booked DOUBLE ONE to coincide with the college's presentation day, the college again provided a free buffet lunch which, despite our best efforts, come 2.30pm, there was still some food left over!

The final results from the Friday minis were as follows:-

Hell of Stalingrad - Richard Dagnall  
China in your hands 1 - Sam Prior  
China in your hands 2 - Nigella Blair  
The Yanks decide to fight - Mick

Essex

Action! - Gerard Burton

Another blue sky greeted us on Saturday morning, and the main tournament kicked off. For those who have not attended, attendees are organized into groups of 4 (roughly based on ladder rating), and then play in a Swiss system over 3 rounds. Round 1 was loosely based around the theme of

bunkers (which proved to be quite prescient, given the article in the latest edition of the MMP Special Ops magazine.

Saturday afternoon saw the blind panic round, where everyone plays the same scenario. Previous years have seen snow, skis, swimming and airpower all make an appearance as the chosen scenario always has players scurrying to the outer reaches of the *ASLRB*. This year, Pete Phillipps impressed with his detective skills as he correctly guessed that my warped sense of humour would deliver 'FrF83 Phantom Army'. No real special rules per se, but a host of SSRs designed to reflect the Seydlitz troops as they infiltrated through the Russian lines. Those still standing at around

6pm were rewarded with copious amounts of free Dominos' pizza.

The scenarios for Sunday morning are always chosen to be quick and dirty infantry affairs, and one group had already been decided on the Saturday evening, there was still all to play for on the Sunday in the remaining three. With no scenario more than 5 turns long, the vast majority of games were over by lunchtime, leaving the final standings as follows:-

Pool A - Martin Mayers  
Pool B - Gerard Burton  
Pool C - Tim Hundsorfer  
Pool D - David Blackwood



There were also some special awards as follows:-

Further distance travelled - Indy Lagu  
 Services to PI detective work - Pete Phillipps  
 Sportsman award - Stuart Brant

Thank you to everyone for coming and making the tournament such a great success. Dates for next year are now booked for Thursday 21 June to Sunday 24 June 2018. For those concerned that they miss the usual England quarter final defeat in an international football tournament, scenarios will be selected accordingly!

Ω



### PLAYER RESULTS

| PLAYER           | P | W | L |
|------------------|---|---|---|
| Mick Allen       | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Joe Arthur       | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Martin Barker    | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| William Binns    | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| David Blackwood  | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Nigella Blair    | 7 | 4 | 3 |
| Stuart Brant     | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| Gerard Burton    | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Andrew Campen    | 5 | 1 | 4 |
| Richard Dagnall  | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Michael Essex    | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| Tim Hundsorfer   | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| John Johnson     | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| Indy Lagu        | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Martin Mayers    | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Dominic McGrath  | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Gary Norman      | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| Pete Phillipps   | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| Sam Prior        | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Nick Ranson      | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Simon Staniforth | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| Andrew Whinnett  | 4 | 2 | 2 |

### THE SCENARIOS

| SCENARIO                                | ALLIED    | AXIS      |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| A (ClassicASL) The Guards Counterattack | 1         | 0         |
| A60 Totsugeki!                          | 0         | 1         |
| AP38 Infiltrators                       | 1         | 0         |
| AP7 Directive Number Three              | 0         | 1         |
| ASL 200 Broich Bash                     | 1         | 2         |
| BC03 42nd Street                        | 2         | 2         |
| BFP-30 Melee Near the Coast             | 0         | 1         |
| DB108 Anchoring the Line                | 1         | 0         |
| DB133 A Deadly Landscape                | 1         | 0         |
| EP25 Under Fire                         | 0         | 1         |
| ESG40 Patton's Pride                    | 1         | 0         |
| ESG75 Chopped off at the Knees          | 0         | 1         |
| FrF83 Phantom Army                      | 3         | 5         |
| ITR-1 Debaacle At Sung Kiang            | 1         | 0         |
| J182 Belgian Blitzkrieg                 | 0         | 1         |
| J183 A Real Barn Burner                 | 1         | 0         |
| MM 28 Sonderkommando Benesch            | 1         | 0         |
| NOC SCENARIO NOT RECORDED ON            | 0         | 1         |
| RPT122 Let'er Buck!                     | 1         | 5         |
| SP118 Seizing the Sittang Bridge        | 1         | 2         |
| SP253 De Zwarte Duivels                 | 3         | 3         |
| SP257 Jerry By The Bushel               | 1         | 1         |
| VotG15 Perfected in Battle              | 0         | 1         |
| VotG19 Cellar Dwellers                  | 1         | 0         |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                           | <b>49</b> | <b>28</b> |

# The Crusaders

## Open ASL Tournament Ladder

### DOUBLE 1 2017 Update

| Rank | Player                | P   | (W-D-L)  | Pts  | Rank | Player                      | P   | (W-D-L)   | Pts  | Rank | Player                     | P   | (W-D-L)  | Pts  |
|------|-----------------------|-----|----------|------|------|-----------------------------|-----|-----------|------|------|----------------------------|-----|----------|------|
| 1    | Toby Pilling          | 79  | 72-2-5   | 4165 | 104= | Iain Mckay                  | 43  | 22-0-21   | 3090 | 210= | Tim Macaire                | 72  | 37-0-35  | 2900 |
| 2    | Derek Tocher          | 124 | 94-2-28  | 3935 | 104= | Kevin Beard                 | 13  | 9-1-3     | 3090 | 210= | Ivor Gardiner              | 19  | 10-0-9   | 2900 |
| 3    | Michael Hastrup-Leth  | 50  | 36-1-13  | 3820 | 104= | Martin Snow                 | 7   | 4-0-3     | 3090 | 210= | Josh Kalman                | 10  | 5-0-5    | 2900 |
| 4    | Steve Thomas          | 42  | 32-1-9   | 3755 | 104= | Jas Bal                     | 5   | 3-0-2     | 3090 | 213= | Martin Kristensen          | 6   | 2-0-4    | 2895 |
| 5    | Simon Strevens        | 86  | 60-1-25  | 3720 | 104= | Peter Michels               | 3   | 2-0-1     | 3090 | 213= | Mark Tomlinson             | 1   | 0-0-1    | 2895 |
| 6    | Craig Benn            | 117 | 91-0-26  | 3700 | 104= | Gary Lock                   | 2   | 2-0-0     | 3090 | 215= | Bernard Savage             | 21  | 9-1-11   | 2885 |
| 7    | Mike Rudd             | 38  | 32-1-5   | 3660 | 110= | Paulo Alessi                | 6   | 4-0-2     | 3085 | 215= | Jakob Norgaard             | 6   | 1-1-4    | 2885 |
| 8=   | Mark Blackmore        | 112 | 83-0-29  | 3650 | 110= | Rob Bywater                 | 1   | 1-0-0     | 3085 | 217= | Mat Haas                   | 19  | 9-0-10   | 2880 |
| 8=   | Fermin Retamero       | 13  | 11-0-2   | 3650 | 112  | Dirk Beijaar                | 5   | 3-0-2     | 3080 | 217= | Sam Belcher                | 8   | 3-0-5    | 2880 |
| 10   | Georges Tournemire    | 8   | 7-1-0    | 3640 | 113= | Billy Carslaw               | 11  | 4-0-7     | 3075 | 219  | Patrick Dale               | 38  | 15-1-22  | 2875 |
| 11   | Dave Schofield        | 153 | 111-0-42 | 3580 | 113= | Robin Langston              | 9   | 4-2-3     | 3075 | 220= | Indy Lagu                  | 33  | 11-0-22  | 2870 |
| 12   | Martin Mayers         | 142 | 82-0-60  | 3575 | 113= | Chris Milne                 | 5   | 3-0-2     | 3075 | 220= | David Kalman               | 5   | 2-0-3    | 2870 |
| 13   | Aaron Cleavin         | 6   | 6-0-0    | 3565 | 116= | Serge Bettenecourt          | 3   | 2-0-1     | 3070 | 222= | Wayne Bamber               | 97  | 43-0-54  | 2860 |
| 14=  | Bjarne Marcell        | 36  | 26-0-10  | 3560 | 116= | Jean-Luc Baas               | 3   | 2-0-1     | 3070 | 222= | Russell Gough              | 89  | 46-4-39  | 2860 |
| 14=  | Pete Bennett          | 17  | 12-1-1   | 3560 | 116= | Robert Schaff               | 3   | 2-0-1     | 3070 | 222= | Peter Ladwein              | 21  | 9-0-12   | 2860 |
| 16   | Steve Linton          | 14  | 14-0-3   | 3545 | 119= | Hakan Isaksson              | 49  | 23-0-26   | 3065 | 222= | Neil Piggot                | 4   | 1-0-3    | 2860 |
| 17   | Sam Prior             | 106 | 66-1-39  | 3540 | 119= | Tony Gibson                 | 36  | 19-0-17   | 3065 | 222= | Neil Piggot                | 4   | 1-0-3    | 2860 |
| 18   | Paul Hasesler         | 17  | 10-2-5   | 3530 | 119= | Alexander Rousse-Lacordaire | 4   | 2-1-1     | 3065 | 222= | Darren Orwin               | 2   | 0-0-2    | 2860 |
| 19   | Gerard Burton         | 120 | 71-1-48  | 3525 | 119= | Bob Rumlieske               | 3   | 2-0-1     | 3065 | 228  | Brian Hooper               | 186 | 69-2-115 | 2855 |
| 20   | Jes Touvdal           | 24  | 16-0-8   | 3475 | 123= | Ruarigh Dale                | 38  | 17-0-21   | 3060 | 229= | Nick Angelopoulos          | 5   | 1-0-4    | 2850 |
| 21   | Tim Bunce             | 82  | 55-0-27  | 3440 | 123= | Patrick Byrne               | 16  | 9-0-7     | 3060 | 229= | Paco Maine                 | 4   | 1-0-3    | 2850 |
| 22   | Alan Smeed            | 9   | 8-0-1    | 3435 | 123= | Scott Myring                | 12  | 7-0-5     | 3060 | 231= | Keith Bristow              | 69  | 39-1-29  | 2845 |
| 23   | Martin Vicca          | 54  | 37-1-16  | 3420 | 126= | Stefan Jacobi               | 11  | 5-0-6     | 3050 | 231= | Miles Wiahah               | 57  | 28-0-29  | 2845 |
| 24   | Lars Klynsen          | 11  | 8-0-3    | 3400 | 127= | Martin Barker               | 42  | 19-1-22   | 3045 | 231= | Gary Norman                | 37  | 13-1-23  | 2845 |
| 25=  | Ian Morris            | 72  | 40-1-31  | 3385 | 127= | Scott Greenman              | 8   | 3-1-4     | 3045 | 234  | Bill Eaton                 | 21  | 8-3-10   | 2840 |
| 25=  | Paul Jones            | 52  | 28-0-24  | 3385 | 129  | Steve Hunt                  | 7   | 4-0-3     | 3040 | 235= | Mark Furnell               | 13  | 5-1-7    | 2835 |
| 27   | Bo Siemsen            | 9   | 7-0-2    | 3380 | 130= | Steve Pleva                 | 6   | 3-0-3     | 3035 | 235= | David Otway                | 5   | 1-0-4    | 2835 |
| 28=  | Ran Shiloah           | 11  | 7-0-4    | 3370 | 130= | Kieron Potts                | 1   | 1-0-0     | 3035 | 237  | Daniel King                | 3   | 1-0-2    | 2830 |
| 28=  | Peter Struijf         | 10  | 8-0-2    | 3370 | 132= | Mark Warren                 | 20  | 11-0-9    | 3030 | 238= | Mike Daniel                | 5   | 2-0-3    | 2825 |
| 30=  | Andrew Dando          | 48  | 27-2-19  | 3365 | 132= | Andrew Cochran              | 3   | 2-0-1     | 3030 | 238= | Magnus Rimvall             | 4   | 1-0-3    | 2825 |
| 30=  | Carl Sizmur           | 21  | 13-0-8   | 3365 | 134= | Daniele Dal Bello           | 4   | 1-0-3     | 3025 | 240  | Mark Chapman               | 6   | 2-0-4    | 2820 |
| 32   | Trevor Edwards        | 155 | 90-1-64  | 3360 | 134= | Peter Hoffman               | 4   | 2-0-2     | 3025 | 241  | Michael Robertson          | 4   | 1-0-3    | 2810 |
| 33   | Bernt Ribom           | 5   | 5-0-0    | 3350 | 136  | Ian Daghish                 | 150 | 70-2-78   | 3020 | 242= | James Short                | 29  | 8-0-21   | 2800 |
| 34   | Dominic McGrath       | 193 | 118-3-72 | 3345 | 137  | Vincent Kamer               | 4   | 2-0-2     | 3015 | 242= | Clive Haden                | 5   | 2-0-3    | 2800 |
| 35=  | David Ramsey          | 87  | 49-0-38  | 3340 | 138= | Andrew Saunders             | 33  | 15-1-17   | 3010 | 244  | John Tait                  | 13  | 5-0-8    | 2795 |
| 35=  | Marc Hanna            | 20  | 13-0-7   | 3340 | 138= | Ian Willey                  | 24  | 14-0-10   | 3010 | 245= | Malcolm Hatfield           | 73  | 31-0-42  | 2790 |
| 37   | Phil Draper           | 78  | 49-2-27  | 3330 | 138= | Colin Graham                | 5   | 3-0-2     | 3010 | 245= | Kevin Crossky              | 16  | 6-0-10   | 2790 |
| 38=  | Ulric Schwela         | 52  | 26-1-25  | 3315 | 138= | Hans Brugge                 | 4   | 2-0-2     | 3010 | 245= | Nick Sionsky               | 8   | 3-0-5    | 2790 |
| 38=  | Tom Jackson           | 39  | 21-0-18  | 3315 | 142= | Lee Bray                    | 26  | 11-0-15   | 3005 | 245= | John Turpin                | 3   | 0-0-3    | 2790 |
| 40   | Richard Dagnall       | 19  | 9-0-10   | 3305 | 142= | Allard Koene                | 7   | 4-0-3     | 3005 | 245= | Alistair Fairbairn         | 3   | 0-0-3    | 2790 |
| 41=  | William Binns         | 88  | 46-0-42  | 3295 | 144= | Pete Philipps               | 239 | 104-0-135 | 3000 | 250  | Chris Littlejohn           | 14  | 3-2-9    | 2785 |
| 41=  | Frank Tinschert       | 15  | 10-0-5   | 3295 | 144= | Joe Arthur                  | 56  | 29-0-27   | 3000 | 251  | Graham Worstfold           | 3   | 0-0-3    | 2775 |
| 43   | Phillippe Leonard     | 9   | 7-1-1    | 3285 | 144= | Stephen Burleigh            | 37  | 15-2-20   | 3000 | 252  | Richard Kirby              | 7   | 2-0-5    | 2770 |
| 44=  | Ralf Krusat           | 6   | 5-0-1    | 3280 | 144= | Phil Nobo                   | 11  | 6-0-5     | 3000 | 253  | Bill Hensby                | 31  | 10-0-21  | 2765 |
| 44=  | Will Fleming          | 3   | 3-0-0    | 3280 | 144= | Steve Grainger              | 8   | 4-0-4     | 3000 | 254= | Ian Pollard                | 170 | 68-1-101 | 2760 |
| 46=  | Andy Smith            | 29  | 20-2-7   | 3270 | 144= | Martin Hubley               | 4   | 3-0-1     | 3000 | 254= | William Roberts            | 12  | 3-1-8    | 2760 |
| 46=  | Dave Booth            | 7   | 5-0-2    | 3270 | 144= | Duncan Spencer              | 4   | 2-0-2     | 3000 | 254= | Andrew Hershey             | 10  | 4-0-6    | 2760 |
| 48   | Michael Davies        | 114 | 65-1-48  | 3260 | 144= | Ian Kenney                  | 4   | 2-0-2     | 3000 | 254= | Flemming Scott-Christensen | 6   | 1-0-5    | 2760 |
| 49   | Simon Stanforth       | 113 | 64-0-49  | 3255 | 144= | Thomas Buettnet             | 3   | 2-0-1     | 3000 | 258  | Jonathan Townsend          | 4   | 1-0-3    | 2755 |
| 50   | Ketil Hogenhaug       | 4   | 3-0-1    | 3250 | 144= | Nick Brown                  | 3   | 1-1-1     | 3000 | 259= | David Blackwood            | 84  | 35-0-49  | 2750 |
| 51   | Daniel Kalman         | 11  | 8-0-3    | 3245 | 144= | Gerard Linehan              | 0   | 0-0-0     | 3000 | 259= | Peter Neale                | 3   | 0-0-3    | 2750 |
| 52   | Jackson Keddel        | 5   | 5-0-0    | 3240 | 144= | Alexis Seydoux              | 0   | 0-0-0     | 3000 | 261= | Andy McMaster              | 34  | 12-0-22  | 2745 |
| 53   | Daniel Batey          | 4   | 4-0-0    | 3235 | 144= | Jerry Broughton             | 0   | 0-0-0     | 3000 | 261= | Andy Waller                | 3   | 0-0-3    | 2745 |
| 54=  | Bob Eburne            | 57  | 33-0-24  | 3225 | 144= | Andrew Kassian              | 0   | 0-0-0     | 3000 | 263  | Burnham Fox                | 23  | 10-0-13  | 2740 |
| 54=  | Ray Woloszyn          | 31  | 18-1-12  | 3225 | 144= | Michael Parsons             | 0   | 0-0-0     | 3000 | 264= | Nick Quinn                 | 14  | 5-0-9    | 2735 |
| 56   | Christian Koppmeyer   | 15  | 8-0-7    | 3220 | 144= | Wes Hope                    | 0   | 0-0-0     | 3000 | 264= | Rupert Feathersby          | 3   | 0-0-3    | 2735 |
| 57=  | Ian Percy             | 12  | 8-1-3    | 3215 | 160= | Kris Pugh                   | 14  | 6-0-8     | 2995 | 266  | John Martin                | 13  | 4-0-9    | 2730 |
| 57=  | Tom Slizewski         | 5   | 4-0-1    | 3215 | 160= | Matthew Ellis               | 7   | 4-0-3     | 2995 | 267  | Hamish Hughson             | 4   | 0-0-4    | 2725 |
| 59=  | Nils-Gunner Nilsson   | 5   | 4-0-1    | 3210 | 160= | Gilles Hakim                | 5   | 2-0-3     | 2995 | 268= | Marc Horton                | 6   | 1-0-5    | 2720 |
| 59=  | Klaus Malmstrom       | 4   | 3-1-0    | 3210 | 163= | Paul Schaeffer              | 5   | 3-0-2     | 2985 | 268= | Steve Cook                 | 4   | 0-0-4    | 2720 |
| 59=  | David Turpin          | 3   | 3-0-0    | 3210 | 163= | Matt Blackman               | 2   | 1-0-1     | 2985 | 270  | Ray Jennings               | 11  | 3-0-8    | 2715 |
| 59=  | Yves Tielemans        | 3   | 3-0-0    | 3210 | 163= | Eric Baker                  | 2   | 1-0-1     | 2985 | 271  | Paul Treslove              | 3   | 1-0-3    | 2710 |
| 63=  | Simon Croome          | 63  | 34-0-29  | 3205 | 166= | David Farr                  | 4   | 2-0-2     | 2980 | 272  | Colin Bell                 | 5   | 1-0-4    | 2705 |
| 63=  | Francois Boudrenghien | 3   | 3-0-0    | 3205 | 166= | Malcolm Rutledge            | 8   | 2-0-2     | 2980 | 273  | Simon Hoare                | 4   | 0-0-4    | 2690 |
| 65=  | Gordon Jupp           | 17  | 12-0-5   | 3195 | 168= | Paul Kettlewell             | 89  | 42-0-47   | 2975 | 274  | Jeff Hawarden              | 7   | 2-0-5    | 2685 |
| 65=  | Jamie Westlake        | 4   | 3-0-1    | 3195 | 168= | Brendan Clark               | 24  | 10-1-13   | 2975 | 275  | Christian Speis            | 5   | 1-0-4    | 2680 |
| 67=  | Richard Domovic       | 11  | 7-0-4    | 3190 | 168= | Sergio Puzziello            | 5   | 1-0-4     | 2975 | 276  | James Crossfield           | 15  | 6-0-9    | 2670 |
| 67=  | Jean Devaux           | 3   | 3-0-0    | 3190 | 171= | Ian Ainsworth               | 5   | 3-0-2     | 2970 | 277  | Steve Cook                 | 34  | 15-0-19  | 2665 |
| 69   | Armin Deppe           | 13  | 7-1-5    | 3185 | 171= | John O'Reilly               | 5   | 2-1-2     | 2970 | 278  | Chris Walton               | 81  | 27-2-52  | 2660 |
| 70=  | Derek Cox             | 28  | 16-0-12  | 3180 | 173  | Mick Allen                  | 27  | 15-0-12   | 2965 | 279  | Pedro Barradas             | 7   | 1-0-6    | 2655 |
| 70=  | Bill Durrant          | 5   | 4-0-1    | 3180 | 174= | Ben Jones                   | 49  | 23-0-26   | 2960 | 280  | Nigel Ashcroft             | 53  | 19-1-33  | 2630 |
| 72=  | Steve Crowley         | 47  | 21-1-25  | 3175 | 174= | Tim Hundsdoerfer            | 17  | 9-0-8     | 2960 | 281= | Michael Essex              | 56  | 24-0-32  | 2625 |
| 72=  | Jonathan Pickles      | 5   | 5-0-3    | 3175 | 174= | Joss Attridge               | 5   | 2-0-3     | 2960 | 281= | Graham Smith               | 49  | 18-1-30  | 2625 |
| 74=  | David Tye             | 45  | 20-0-25  | 3170 | 174= | Elliot Cox                  | 2   | 0-1-1     | 2960 | 281= | Adrian Catchpole           | 11  | 2-0-9    | 2625 |
| 74=  | Eric Gerstenberg      | 32  | 18-1-13  | 3170 | 174= | Alan Hume                   | 1   | 0-0-1     | 2960 | 284= | Paul Case                  | 145 | 39-3-103 | 2620 |
| 74=  | Grant Pettit          | 7   | 4-1-2    | 3170 | 179  | Michael Maus                | 7   | 3-0-4     | 2955 | 284= | Adrian Maddocks            | 12  | 3-0-9    | 2620 |
| 74=  | Bruno Tielemans       | 3   | 3-0-0    | 3170 | 180= | Simon Church                | 6   | 2-0-4     | 2950 | 286  | Arthur Garlick             | 21  | 2-5-14   | 2615 |
| 78=  | Mel Falk              | 9   | 5-0-4    | 3160 | 180= | Gavin White                 | 5   | 2-0-3     | 2950 | 287  | Bryan Brinkman             | 9   | 1-0-8    | 2610 |
| 78=  | Rodney Callen         | 6   | 4-0-2    | 3160 | 182= | Shaun Carter                | 84  | 38-1-45   | 2945 | 288  | Ian Parkes                 | 3   | 3-1-6    | 2595 |
| 80   | Jeremy Copley         | 9   | 6-0-3    | 3150 | 182= | Pedro Ramos                 | 5   | 3-0-3     | 2945 | 289= | Paul Legg                  | 222 | 91-2-129 | 2590 |
| 81   | Nick Edelsten         | 22  | 14-1-7   | 3145 | 182= | David Murray                | 3   | 2-1-2     | 2945 | 289= | Ian Gaughan                | 5   | 0-0-5    | 2590 |
| 82   | Andrew Whinnett       | 20  | 11-0-9   | 3140 | 182= | Laurent Forest              | 2   | 0-0-1     | 2945 | 289= | Lee Hyde                   | 5   | 0-0-5    | 2590 |
| 83=  | Paul O'Donald         | 72  | 44-1-27  | 3135 | 182= | Alex Ganna                  | 2   | 1-0-1     | 2945 | 292  | John Fletcher              | 6   | 0-0-6    | 2585 |
| 83=  | Frenk Van Der Mey     | 4   | 3-0-1    | 3135 | 187= | Jon Williams                | 14  | 6-0-8     | 2940 | 293  | Oliver Gray                | 15  | 4-0-11   | 2580 |
| 85   | Chris Courter         | 13  | 7-2-4    | 3130 | 187= | Wayne Kelly                 | 11  | 4-1-6     | 2940 | 294= | Nick Ranson                | 109 | 20-1-88  | 2560 |
| 86=  | Bill Sherliker        | 51  | 24-2-25  | 3125 | 187= | Paulo Ferreira              | 9   | 4-0-5     | 2940 | 294= | Chris Netherton            | 30  | 10-2-18  | 2560 |
| 86=  | Paul Sanderson        | 41  | 21-2-20  | 3125 | 187= | Bob Nugent                  | 3   | 2-0-1     | 2940 | 296  | Mike Standbridge           | 47  | 13-1-33  | 2555 |
| 88=  | William Saunders      | 22  | 11-0-11  | 3120 | 191= | Martin Bryan                | 19  | 8-0-11    | 2935 | 297  | John Johnson               | 14  | 4-1-10   | 2550 |
| 88=  | Paul Chamberland      | 18  | 11-0-7   | 3120 | 191= | Derek Briscoe               | 1   | 0-0-1     | 2935 | 298  | Michael Rhodes             | 43  | 10-0-33  | 2545 |
| 88=  | Lec Brimmicombe-Wood  | 10  | 8-0-4    | 3120 | 193= | Nigelia Blair               | 268 | 97-1-170  | 2930 | 299  | Garrett Evans              | 12  | 2-0-10   | 2530 |
| 88=  | Paul Byde-Weller      | 5   | 5-1-4    | 3120 | 193= | Andy Price                  | 1   | 1-0-2     | 2930 | 300  | Simon Taylor               | 37  | 10-1-26  | 2525 |

# PTRD Anti-Tank Rifle, PTRS and Dashika HMG

Tim Hundsdorfer

Even in *ASL*, the PTRD anti-tank rifle is an exceptional weapon. It's 6 "To Kill" is significantly higher than the vanilla 5 for most ATR. It is portable as well, being only 1PP. But is it given its due?

Designed after the original WWI German anti-tank rifle, the Soviets waited nearly until the outbreak of the war to begin production, allowing them to incorporate various improvements, the most important of which was the metallurgical improvements in the 14.5mm projectile. In addition to hardening, the projectile was also incendiary, increasing its lethality vs. soft targets and things like external fuel tanks.

The PTRD was a single shot weapon, and one of the two-man crew was responsible for loading and the other for firing. While under non-combat conditions, the effective rate of fire was 10 rpm, the practice was to fire five rounds and then reposition. The PTRS was, theoretically, semi-automatic, but in practice the heavy recoil really prevented this feature from being useful.

One thing I think is important to understand is that the anti tank rifle isn't designed to destroy German tanks as much as disable or damage them. There are many firsthand accounts (both German

and Russian) that describe how ATR teams aimed at vision portals, causing enough damage to recall the tank. Running gear was also a favourite target – a target that never became invulnerable even as the tank armour became progressively greater. In fact, the very reason the Germans deployed Schuertzen was not because of shape-charged weapons, but as protection from ATR. Schuertzen prevented the deliberate targeting of running gear and changed the trajectory of the hardened shell to prevent penetration. (Wow, did that sound dirty.) So it isn't necessarily about killing the tank. This is pretty well represented in *ASL* by the opportunity to deliberately immobilize and, generally, the way the TK table increases the opportunity for immobilization, shock and possible shock (because of the bell curved shape of 2D6 outcomes.)

However, let's look at the effectiveness of the PTRD, compared with the Lahti ATR and the German 37L anti-tank gun. Penetration is highly dependent on distance and the slope of the armour. It is also variable based on the quality of the ammunition. This is not so very important because in *ASL*, because it is built in to the To Kill process.

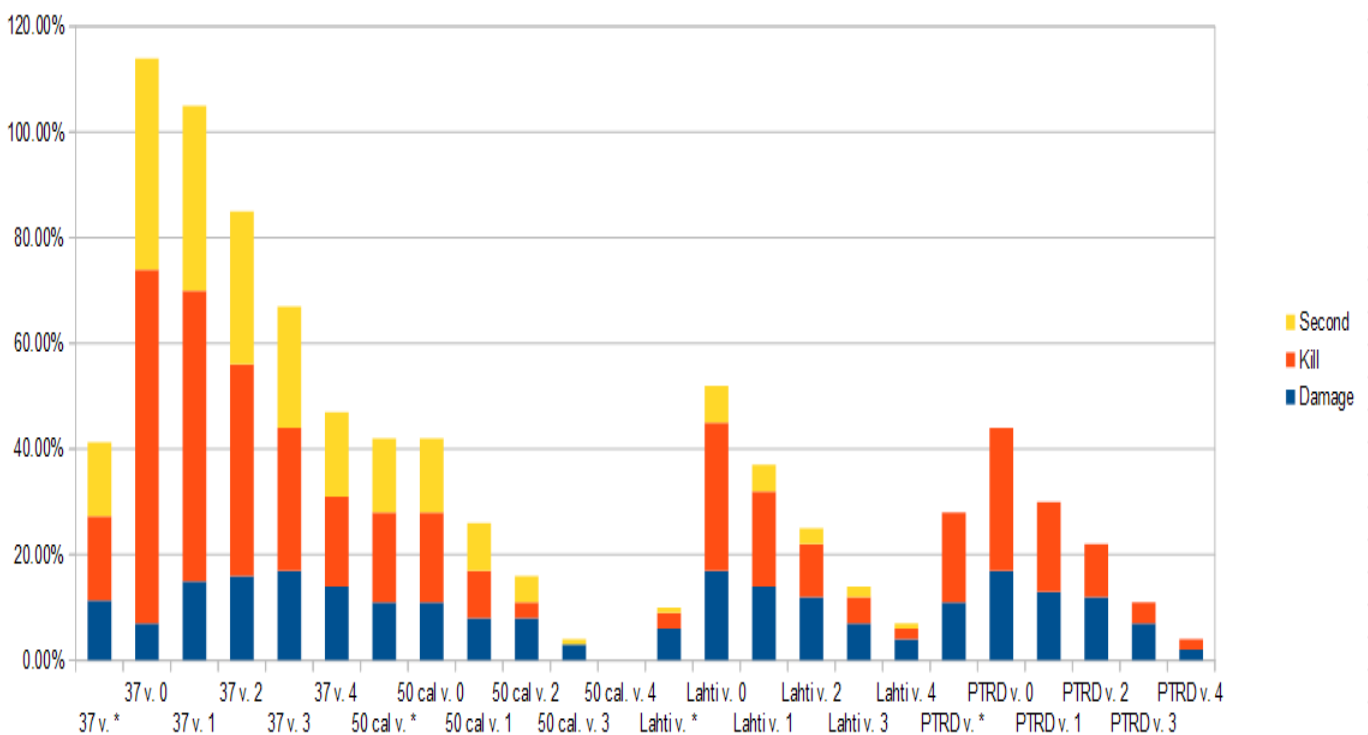
So, I decided to test this by firing 10,000 shots with each weapon and testing what the outcomes would be. Obviously, I

used computer generated dice rolls. Each weapon used the same dice rolls and the mean (average) dice roll was, predictably, a 7. This was produced by generating two rolls between one and six and adding the results. In this way, we could recreate Rate of Fire. I also accounted for Critical Hits and Possible Shock (using an 8ML common to Eastern Front foes.) I did not keep track of improbable kills because this involves some subjective choices and is quite complicated to model for a very, very tiny probability of outcomes.

It's pretty cluttered, and you can see it below in graph form.

The first thing we note is that despite the fact that the PTRD has a combat-observable penetration which is about 25% higher than the Lahti and about 70% of the 37L, its To Kill number is equal to the Lahti and 60% of the 37L. While at first blush, this is not a major difference, once we throw in the second chance damage provided by the Lahti's ROF, the actual chances of damage are lower for the PTRD, about 20% lower, though this drops off quickly vs. higher armour factors.

So, you say, well, yes, but the Lahti was semi-automatic and should have a higher rate of fire. It must be remembered, however, that in practice, ATR crews usually





would fire no more than ten shots before moving out. Also keep in mind that the Red Army ATR counter also represents the PTRS, a semi-automatic version. Finally, the PTRD had, no doubt, a better rate of fire than the 37L.

Rate of fire becomes an important factor as MTK numbers go up, because the rate number (which is a component of the To Hit number) is multiplied by the To Kill probability. Technically, these are independent, because the To Hit and To Kill number are generated independently (although in the case of a Critical Hit one gets Rate of Fire if available and the To Kill number is doubled.) However, the second chance shot means that a weapon with Rate of Fire has that increases its benefit as the To Kill number gets higher – independent of Critical Hits.

You can see this from the comparison of the Lahti To Kill number vs. the PTRD. Against a 0 armour factor vehicle, the chances of a kill are 6% better for the Lahti, but when you go up to a 4AF vehicle, rate of fire only gives the Lahti a 1% advantage.

A slightly more compelling argument is that it requires multiple hits from an ATR to find a sweet spot to damage a vehicle. The book of A, chapter 13, verse 2:

ATR: Most ATR are not given a Multiple ROF



because it is assumed that several such "hits" are necessary to generate a substantial chance of eliminating an AFV by striking it in a vital area. In essence, the extra "shots" have been traded for a higher likelihood of meaningful hits with one To Hit DR.

Actually, it's in the footnotes, but you get the idea. But this is hogwash or does more to prove my point. If Rate of Fire is irrelevant for ATRs, why give the Lahti one simply because of its magazine? Penetration is penetration (at least that's what my prom date said.) If the penetration for a PTRD is 80% of that of the 37L, it should have a BTK# that is 80% of the 37L's. In reality, with only a 5mm difference in penetration (less than a quarter of an inch), the 37L should not enjoy a 300% greater chance of a kill – plus a rate of fire of 3, plus an opportunity to set up HIP and enjoy the advantages of emplacement. And the Lahti is even more ridiculous. With less penetration it is arbitrarily given a greater chance to kill. What's more, it was a HUGE weapon that was towed around and only pushed for short distances – essentially, it had to be manhandled.

Two things: First, I will agree that the extreme weight and size of the Lahti carriage made its semi-automatic feature a little more useful. Second, the Lahti was very frequently used in an anti-aircraft role

(although I have no evidence describing its effectiveness.) I wouldn't necessarily argue that the Lahti is a bad weapon, but that the PTRD is a better one and there is little doubt which I would rather have carried into combat.

Finally, it should be recognized that incendiary or tracer rounds would have given ATRs an advantage over the 37L by setting fire to un-armoured vehicles and applique fuel tanks and soft storage on the outside of tanks. The PTRD was loaded with incendiary rounds and they were also available for the Lahti and Red Army 12.7mm machine guns. There are also many first hand accounts of using the PTRD against infantry in buildings and bunkers, making it seem likely that they should be allowed to pay TEM on a to-hit roll and ignore it on the results table.

It is well demonstrated that the PTRD is, in *ASL*, a drastically unappreciated weapon. Most *ASL*ers think of it as worthless PP or a way to round out FP for Luddites who still cling to the fiction of the IFT. If they had outlived their usefulness, the Red Army wouldn't have been carrying them as they brawled into Berlin and I think the evidence clearly shows that it is a better weapon than the Lahti and much closer to the 37L than the game designers gave it credit for.

Ω



John Martin struggling against his devious opponent - my cat Taz :-)



# INTENSIVE FIRE 2017

15 - 19 NOVEMBER 2017



INTENSIVE FIRE is the UK's longest running tournament dedicated to the play of Advanced Squad Leader. 2017 sees us enter our 23rd year and players of all standards are invited to attend.

## FORMAT

Depending on the numbers taking part, there will either be the well-established Fire Team Tournament on the Saturday and Sunday, or a simple knock-out tournament. In addition, the Friday mini-tourneys offer the chance for glory in more specialised fields of warfare. There will also be a Training Camp for inexperienced players.

For those not interested in tournament play, or not able to make it for the whole weekend, there is always room for pick-up games and friendly play.

## VENUE

Centrally located in Bournemouth, the Travel Rest offers both excellent gaming facilities and reduced accommodation rates (£39 per night for a single room or £69 per night for two people sharing a double room). The hotel is within a short taxi-ride of Bournemouth rail station and ample parking is available. To book contact the hotel on (01202) 555 889 (+44 1202 555 889 from outside the UK). You can also book online at <http://www.travelrest.co.uk/Default.aspx?pagename=Bournemouth-Travelrest-hotel>.

For foreign visitors, lifts can often be pre-arranged to and from major airports. For those contemplating an extended stay, Bournemouth offers an excellent base for the military historian, being within easy reach of important military museums at Bovington Camp, Winchester, Portsmouth and Aldershot.

## COST

Weekend registration for the tournament is just £20, or just £15 if you register before 1st November. The tournament program listing the weekend's scenarios and events is available from mid-October to anyone registering in advance.

## FURTHER DETAILS / REGISTRATION

Contact Pete Phillipps, 19 Main Street, Kirkliston, Midlothian, EH29 9AE. Telephone (0131) 629 1260 (+44 131 629 1260 from outside the UK) or email [if@vftt.co.uk](mailto:if@vftt.co.uk).

# The Boys Anti-Tank Rifle

Michael Davies

In Europe in the 1920s and 30s a number there was a fairly optimistic belief that the bulk of any enemy armoured force would be neutralised by friendly armour, supported by guns, but the possibility that armour might actually avoid these to attack small Infantry units was also appreciated.

For platoon level defence two weapons were considered, the 0.5 inch Browning Heavy Machine Gun, and various 20mm Oerlikon Designs. Both weapons packed enough punch to destroy most 1930s vintage armour and could also be used against soft targets. Some countries adapted one or both weapons systems. Elsewhere the cost and transportation issues argued for another solution, a redesign of German Anti Tank rifles from WWI.

In Britain Design work started in 1934. Incorporating ideas from the Lee Enfield Rifle, Bren gun, and large calibre Machine Gun rounds. During Trials in 1936 the weapon was called the Stanchion, but late in the testing the untimely death of the Assistant Superintendent of Design, Captain H.C. Boys led to the weapon being renamed in his honour. Production started in 1937 and it was issued to British Troops from November 1937 onwards.

Over 50,000 were produced in Britain and close to 10,000 in Canada before production stopped in autumn 1943.

During the War Rifles were supplied to British and Commonwealth troops, a small number were sent or sold to the Finns during the Winter War, some were exchanged for French 25mm Guns & additional weapons supplied to Free French Forces. Weapons were also supplied to American and Pilipino forces. About 3,200 were sent to Soviet Russia in 1941, prior to the development of their own ATR. Some Boys ATR were supplied to the Nationalist Chinese.

Germany captured a number of Boys ATR in France and the Low Countries, and subsequently issued them to their own troops and allies.

Post War some Boys ATR were sold to Ireland & Luxemburg, a small number ended up in the hands of Congolese Rebels, others turned up in Korea.

Although Obsolete in 1943, the

weapon remained in front line service till 1945. My Dad recounted firing the weapon in 1950 whilst serving with the Royal Signals; they had a number of ATR & crates of ammunition at Catterick Camp used to supplement small arms training and to alleviate the tedium of National Service. Some were taken by Commonwealth troops to Korea, and were used to take optimistic Pot-shots at enemy troops.

The Boys ATR is very robust and surviving examples are still much sought after by collectors, and adventurous shooters. Often the weapon if fired from a prone position, usually against not very distant static targets.

## Ammunition

The Boys ammunition was based on the .50 BMG round used by the Browning. Initial testing with the .50 (12.7 mm) round was disappointing so the casing was necked out to 0.55 hold more propellant and fire a larger bullet. The bullet was actually a little larger 0.565 (14.3 mm), and the casing 0.606 (15.39 mm). The improved casing was tested and proved satisfactory.

Most ammunition was produced by a Birmingham based company called Kynoch which was part of ICI at the time. Kynoch has considerable experience in designing and manufacturing some extremely powerful military and sporting rounds, some of which were could penetrate the skull of a charging Elephant, Water Buffalo or Rhinoceros.

The Mk I round was a steel cored lead bullet sheathed in steel. It generated a Muzzle Velocity of about 2,495 fps. A lower velocity ball version (1729 fps) was also available, and some tracer ammunition, both of which had lower armour penetration. It is likely most of the Boys ATR used by the Finns would have used Mk I ammunition.

A practice round with an Aluminium core was issued to allow slightly safer test firing, even so the practice round was lethal and during training were fired out to sea or towards the enemy. Parker Hale, another Birmingham based Company designed a .22 round that fitted within a .55 casing for training purposes.

The lower velocity ball ammunition was intended for use against soft targets, and

had slightly less recoil making it easier to fire repeatedly. Despite the lower velocity even Ball ammunition was difficult to use safely on ranges.

There are instances of practice rounds being issued to front line troops, and being used in combat for lack of standard AP rounds. Although fairly useless against even the lightest armour, practice round would cause damage to personnel or soft targets.

The Mk II Round used more propellant to increase the muzzle velocity to 2,900 fps, and was capable of penetrating 23.2 mm of armour at 100 yards. Both AP bullets struggled against sloped armour, a feature emphasized in training.

In 1942 an experimental APCR round with a Tungsten core was tested. It never went into mass production, and probably wasn't issued to front line troops. Its muzzle Velocity was 3,100 fps, it could penetrate 25 or 26mm of armour at 100 yards. By 1942 the ATR was usually being used against armoured cars, halftracks and targets of opportunity so there wasn't much impetus to fully develop or issue the round. The slight improvement in penetration still wasn't enough to make it effective against up armoured light and medium tanks.

In action the Mk II round was the most common. The extreme range of a round was close to 7,000 yards, at short range it could easily smash through 14 inches of brick, or 10 inches of sandbags. Firing repeatedly at a wall could create a decent sized hole, and it could blow a door off it's hinges. The troops did use it against bunkers and pillboxes, fired through apertures round would bounce around inside, non penetrating hits could damage even concrete emplacements.

The magazine held five rounds, a rifle would have a ready ammunition supply of forty rounds in eight magazines, and a large ammunition box that held all eight magazines was sometimes used, with additional loose ammunition on the Platoon Truck. Loading magazines was fairly easy to do, and could be done faster than the Boys could fire. The original design was to load using a five round stripper clip, but the design changed to a top loading magazine. Stripper clips were still manufactured and distributed; they did allow ammunition to be carried in large canvas bandoliers, with less noise and potential for damage to the rounds.

## British & Commonwealth Vehicular Mounts Rolls-Royce Armoured Cars (H 47)

In the 1930s the British and Commonwealth Armies still operated some



Rolls-Royce Armoured Cars, mostly dating to the 1920s but still running. Most mounted Vickers, Lewis or Antique French Hotchkiss machine guns. In Egypt the 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars (The Cherry Pickers), removed the Turrets to build a fighting compartment to mount a Bren Gun, 4in smoke bomb discharger and a boys Anti Tank Rifle, virtually all the original engines were replaced with Fordson (Ford Tractor engines). By 1940 about 34 Vehicles were still available and they did fairly well against the Italians', initially conducting a series of small aggressive raids, and later in a scouting role during Operation Compass. Against light armour and soft skin transport they proved surprisingly effective. Part of that success was down to the crews, part the freedom of action they were given, but the thin armour on Italian Armour, and it's riveted construction also helped.

A similar number of Rolls-Royces were used in Iraq, as part of Iraqforce, but in all probability these would have been unmodified machine gun equipped Rolls-Royce Armoured Cars from the 1920s/30s.

Very small number of Rolls-Royces were used by Home Guard Units, again these would mostly be MG armed, and a handful were hand built from Standard Rolls-Royce Cars and either armour plate, or scrap.

### **Humber/Otter Light Reconnaissance Car (H 45)**

Simple design made by putting light armour on a reinforced truck bed, but it was good enough for its role. Mks II & III was armed with a Bren gun and a Boys Anti Tank Rifle. First used in Tunisia and later Italy and Western Europe. Mainly it was for liaison, checking communications between units, guarding lines of communication and moving important people about. The nickname Ironside was a reference to General Ironside the Commander in Chief of Home forces; two other Nicknames were use Humberette, & Super Snipe Light Armoured Car. It carried a smoke discharger.

The Boys ATR was hull mounted, though could be removed by the crew. Later Marks produced in the final production runs the Mk IIIa didn't mount the Boys.

The Otter was a similar vehicle produced in Canada, but heavier due to being bigger with slightly thicker armour. Despite a more powerful engine it was slightly slower due to the additional weight. In the Field the factory fitted armament was sometimes replaced with a Browning, .303 MG, or a 20 mm gun.

For scouting and Liaison these were popular vehicles, capable of covering ground quickly, and providing minimal protection for their crews.

### **Standard Beaverette**

The Beaverette was named after Lord Beaverbrook & not rabbit fur treated to look

like beaver. It was simple a Standard Car protected by 9-11mm Steel backed by 3 inches of Oak. Most were armed with a single bren gun, but some mounted Boys ATR, and a few had a fully rotating turret for a bren or Twin Vickers Machine guns. About 2800 were produced as well as another 200 made in New Zealand.

British Beaverette was used for driver training, patrolling the UK Airfields and Coastline, and provided the Home Guard with a marginally effective vehicle for training and patrolling.

It certainly boosted morale, but was barely bullet proof and difficult to drive. It's doubtful any were sent overseas to fight during WW II, but they freed up better vehicles so contributed to the war effort.

### **Carrier B (H64)**

Over 113,000 Universal or Bren Carriers were produced between 1934 and 1960. Around 57,000 were produced by 1945 in Britain, with another 29,000 made in Canada, 5000 in Australia, & 1,300 in New Zealand, the rest produced post WWII.

Carriers were used in Reconnaissance Corps and Cavalry Regiments, & in the Carrier Platoon of Infantry Regiments Headquarters. Some were used to tow light guns. Ideally carriers were used as Infantry transport within the Infantry Battalion, with the unit most often used as either a mobile reserve or for flank security. In the Cavalry and Recce units the carrier was intended to be a fighting vehicle. In practice crews tended to respond intelligently to the level of threat they faced and fight in or out of their vehicle as the situation suggested.

Infantry Carriers tended to have one Boys ATR per three vehicle section, Scout Carriers in Recce or Cavalry units usually had one Boys ATR per vehicle. In both cases the Boys was bow mounted. Unusually other carriers designated as Machine Gun carriers or Mortar carrier might also carry a Boys. From 1943 the number of Boys ATR in Carriers decreased dramatically as the weapon was largely replaced by the PIAT.

### **Morris CS9 Armoured Reconnaissance Car (H46)**

A very small number, 99-120, Morris CS9 were produced by armouring a four wheeled truck, and fitting a small turret. They equipped the 12<sup>th</sup> Lancers in France, and the 11<sup>th</sup> Hussars in North Africa playing their part in Operation Compass. A Boys ATR was mounted in the turret, with a smoke discharger and a Bren LMG. In France the MG was fitted coaxially, in North



Africa a pintel mounted AA fitting was more typical. Some Cars may have substituted a Vickers MMG for the Bren but this was not common. They were slightly more effective than the Rolls Royce Armoured cars, and tended to be issued to troop Leaders.

In the Desert they proved effective at moving across sandy terrain, but their thin armour and light armament was out matched by German Armoured Cars leading to them being replaced as heavier and better armed vehicles became available.

### **Marmon-Herrington Armoured Cars (H48)**

The Marmon-Herrington Armoured Car was designed in South Africa using a 3 Ton Ford truck and Marmon-Herrington 4 wheeled drive, fitted with light armour and carrying light armament. It was built by the South African Railway, & South African Steel work from 1938 and proved popular with their crews, mainly for their mechanical reliability and performance. About 5,746 were produced, Mk II & Mk III were armed with a turret Boys ATR and coaxial Bren, and a pintel mounted Vickers machine gun. Some crews removed the Bren from the turret, and either stowed it within the vehicle or returned it to stores, and used the Vickers for Anti Personnel work.

Captured Axis weapons were fitted to some Armoured Cars. As you might expect the Italian Breda & Oerlikon 20mm gun were popular, crews also managed to squeeze in German 28mm & 37mm Guns, French 25mm, and British 2 pounder guns before a later MK was officially developed to carry it.

With a top speed of 50 MPH crews loved it for patrolling and liaison.

Most were used by South African Forces, with small numbers serving with the Free French, Greeks, and some used in India, Burma, Malaya, the Dutch East Indies, and several parts of Africa where South African Troops served. Captured

vehicles were used by the Japanese and Germans.

### India Pattern Carriers (H70)

The India Pattern carrier was designed to make use of Industrial Resources in India along with some components supplied by Canada and Great Britain to make light armoured vehicles.

Canada supplied Ford & GMC Canadian Military Pattern (CMP) trucks with V-8 Engines, Marmon-Herrington All-Wheel Drive Conversion Kits, Armaments, and a number 19 wireless set. Tata Iron and Steel manufactured 14mm Plate, and the whole lot was assembled by the East Indian Railway Workshops. About 4,655 were produced, and they were used in North Africa, Syria, Malaya, Italy, India, Burma, & Singapore (some Mk II were used there by both the British 18<sup>th</sup> Infantry and Australian 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions).

About seven different Marks were manufactured most were armed with a bow mounted Boys ATR, and either a Bren gun or an Indian Manufactured Vickers-Berthier LMG which was pretty similar to the Bren though heavier. Some later models had a turret, which may have had all weapons firing from it. Keep in view any armament could be fired from the bow aperture or outside of the cockpit as the crew felt necessary.

Although lightly armoured and armed the IP carriers were useful for scouting, liaison and transportation.

The vehicles picked up the nickname Tatanagar after the Indian Railway Junction where the manufacturing works were located.

After WWII some Vehicles remained in service with Commonwealth Armies and a few even made it to Korea.

### 30 cwt ATR (LRDG)

Initially the LRDG (Long Range Desert Group) was organised into Patrols of one or two 15 cwt Trucks, and ten 30 cwt Trucks. Initially the Patrol had 11 Lewis Guns, 4 Boys ATR, and a 37mm Bofors, as well as small arms, explosives and mines. Additional weapons were acquired. Pretty much any machine gun or small calibre gun might be used by a Patrol. Gradually the Boys ATR was replaced by the Browning .50 Machine gun and by captured Italian Breda 20mm Cannon which has similar capabilities against Armour but were much more useful against Aircraft.



Early in the war the Patrols used Chevrolet WB (30 CWT), these worked pretty well but it was decided to try the Ford F30 Canadian Military Pattern (CMP) four wheeled drive 30 cwt trucks. Four wheel drive was useful but range was limited by fuel consumption and after further thought the LRDG switched to Chevrolet 1533X2 30 CWT. This increased the range on a single tank of fuel from 150 to 240 miles, a dramatic improvement as it's tank held 20 gallons compared to the F30s 25.

Most LRDG trucks had multiple weapons mounts, the Boys was usually mounted on a 360 degree Pintel mount on the back of a truck.

The LRDG had a generally low opinion of the Boys, and were often pleased to replace it with .5 Calibre Browning or Vickers Machine guns. The Boys' was criticised for its low rate of fire, fierce recoil and limited effect. Further the LRDG tried to evade enemy Armour and attack softer targets.

### Training

Several Training manuals were issued. The main difference between them is a dramatic reduction in suggested engagement Range from 500 to 300 and finally under 100 yards in 1942. The basic drills to clean and maintain the weapon did not change, but the increasing thickness of Armour forced combat at shorter range.

As the lethal range of a .55 Bullet was extreme, up to 7000 yards, most standard rifle ranges were not big enough for trainees to fire it safely. Training with live ammunition had to be practiced in woods, or on beaches firing out to sea. Sub calibre .22 ammunition was issued for training which could be used on standard rifle ranges. It was also possible to fix a .22 Lee-Enfield rifle fixed alongside the Boys, for short range target shooting against moving targets. This allowed very realistic training against moving targets, with lower cost ammunition. At some point in the training firing live rounds would be performed to prepare shooters for the tremendous recoil of the weapon. Troops had very little difficulty firing the Boys other than the recoil. Practice engaging moving targets were helpful as swinging the Boys on the monopod and remaining braced for recoil was difficult.

The Walt Disney Corporation famously prepared some unit Insignias and Plane Nose Art for Units during WWII. It also produced some training films. One in 1942 was for the Canadian Army, and starts with a cartoon of Adolf Hitler leading about 20 Panzer I/II in an attack on a village defended by Canadian Soldiers. The film details penetration and accepts that against medium and heavy tanks the firer should aim for the tracks, turret ring, or gun mantlet to try and get a mobility or gun kill. The film did emphasize concealment and

surprise. Some of the animations are just beautiful, well worth a look if you get the time. I guess it would be possible to develop an ASL scenario based on the Cartoon, but I lack the skills to get it off the ground, good luck to anyone who wants to try though.

### Infantry Use

In 1940 Britain watched the Winter War with interest, and decided to offer some limited support to Finland in its fight against the Soviet Union. Some sources suggest a large number of "obsolete" Boys ATR were sent to Finland. The first shipment of 100 arrived in January 1940. About 30 were issued to Swedish Volunteers the rest were used by the Finnish Army. Another 100 were sent by the British not long after the fighting with the Soviets ended. After Dunkirk the Finns bought another 200 Boys ATR from the Germans, these arrived in December 1940. The Finns called the weapon the 14 mm pst kiv/37.

The Finns tended to use the Boys from very short range, from a tree at the side of a road or even closer. Against T26 & BT Tanks with thin armour the Boys worked, fire could also be direct against vision slits or open crew positions on account of the range and the accuracy of what was really just a big rifle. Effectiveness was limited by the use of Mk I ammunition, there's been some debate about the armour penetration of the round estimates range from 12mm to 18mm at 100 metres, and we could expect higher figures for the range at which fighting was taken place. With the thickest armour on a T26 being 13-15mm even Mk I rounds were adequate. It's doubtful Mk II rounds were available to the Finns till purchased Boys from the Germans, and even then Finnish writers tend to believe Mk I ammunition was supplied with the purchased guns. The Finns were aware of the limited armour penetration and the effect of rounds on penetrating the target. Another feature was the considerable muzzle flash, and it was noted the Bolt had to be worked fully or the weapon wouldn't fire. To their credit the Finns just got on with it, attacking individual tanks from several directions with every available weapon.

Without the Boys ATR the Finns would have struggled against Soviet Armour in the Winter War. Although the Lahti L-39 (20mm) was a much better ATR only a handful, perhaps only two are known to have served in the front line.

It is almost certain the Boys ATR was used against personnel targets, both in fire fights and as a sniping weapon. It was accurate enough for both combat roles and lethal.

Eventually the Finns withdrew the Boys from front line service in 1944 roughly 336 of the original 400 were still serviceable. Some were limited to Coastal Garrisons for use against Patrol Boats, the rest were Warehoused. In 1956 the

remaining stocks were either scrapped or sold to American Collectors and Gun Enthusiast.

Boys ATR were issued to British Troops from November 1937 onwards. In Infantry Platoons the ATR was attached to the Headquarters section. It was not seen as a specialist weapon and in some units was called for by anyone who fancied firing it at the enemy. It was seen as a platoon asset. It's doubtful the weapon was used against German Armour before the Invasion of France and the Low Countries, it's highly likely units fired rounds at German positions and equipment.

The first documented use of the Boys ATR by British Troops was on St George's Day (23<sup>rd</sup> April) 1940 in Norway. PSM Jon Sheppard of the Leicestershire Regiment noticed two German Tanks moving towards a Platoon of the Sherwood Foresters'. He picked up the platoon ATR and engaged both Vehicles from about 300 yards. There was a lively fire fight, the Germans sprayed the British Positions with Machine Gun fire suggesting they were in Panzer I tanks. Both tanks were silenced with three rounds each. Sheppard was awarded the DSM for the action. Sheppard engaged two more tanks later the same day but his first shot was met with more accurate machine gun and shell fire and was forced to take cover. The regimental Colonel Guy German immobilised one of the Tanks with a lucky shot that damaged the Tracks. The Action became known as the Battle of Tretten, despite the Leicester's destroying two tanks and disabling a third the Germans did drive them out of the Village. Pretty much the Boys worked, but were overwhelmed by the scale and ferocity of the German attack. The Boys could defeat isolated German Armour but couldn't defeat a ferocious attack.

After that Regimental Histories record the Boys being used with limited success against German and Italian Armour, and being used with more success against personnel, transport and equipment. There are accounts of the Boys being used against a wide variety of targets, including planes (in flight and on the ground), gliders, gas tanks, bunkers, a midget submarine, and by the Australian 106th Tank Attack Regiment in New Guinea, to kill crocodiles.

Boys ATR were issued to Commonwealth troops. There are limited accounts of their combat use, one report is of two Japanese Tanks being knocked out by the 1/14<sup>th</sup> Punjabis at a road block in Malaya but details are vague and some are reluctant to believe it happened. Other claims for the weapon being used for mouse holing in the PTO are also dismissed and are almost certainly confused war stories, perhaps based on the use of a 20mm or larger Anti Aircraft cannon to breach buildings.

US Marines and Raiders were equipped with a small number of Boys ATR manufactured in Canada. At most

one Rifle was issued per Company. The guns received a mixed reception. The nickname Elephant Gun was a reference to large game Rifles. The Raiders liked the weapon. It was portable and hard hitting. It was fired at personnel, light fortifications, and boats. Two Sea planes were attacked and destroyed by Boys fire, something that would have been difficult to achieve with just small arms, the planes were static and numerous hits were required to destroy them. The Raiders found the large Boys rounds could be carried in Thompson ammunition pouches. Though the Raiders liked the weapon the Marine Corps didn't. Considering it obsolete and only of use against fortifications. Generally the Raiders would only carry the weapon going into Action, fighting ferociously for a relatively short period then reforming for the next mission. Marine Corp units spent much more time moving through Jungle and felt the use of the Boys in combat was offset by its weight. The Regular US Army wasn't issued with Boys ATR instead using .50 Browning against light armoured vehicles.

The Philippine Army and later Filipino Guerrillas used a small number of Boys, probably of Canadian Manufacture against the Japanese, and post WWII as late as Korea.

Post WWII some Boys found their way into Civilian Hands. To comply with Federal law and reduce the cost of purchasing a Boys ATR had their .55 Barrels replaced with heavy duty .50 Browning MG Barrels. This reduced the Tax liability of the purchaser and reduced some restrictions on ownership. Some U tube Videos of people firing Boys are firing adapted .50 calibre weapons. Keep in view some will be self loaded round with less propellant than the original wartime .55. Just maybe public ownership of Boys ATR and some field experiments led to the Modern Heavy Calibre Sniper Rifles.

SOE discussed plans to recruit and infiltrate Ethiopians to fight against the Italians. Their equipment included a small number of Boys. The project fizzled out as the recruits did not respond well to training. Their Instructors were mostly Australian or British. In between training and operations some Instructors managed to shoot a Giraffe with a Bren and an Elephant with a Boys ATR. I doubt either animal survived, and in both cases the personnel involved were disciplined.

The Germans captured some Boys ATR in Norway and considerably more, together with stocks of Ammunition in France and the Low Countries. The weapon was known as the Panzerbüchse Boyes 782(e), described as using Mk I ammunition, and listing Penetration as 12mm at 100 Metres. Some were issued to German troops; some were sold to Axis Allies notably the Finns.

The Soviet Union was sent 3,200



Boys, it is unlikely any were issued to frontline troops.

China used some during the war and may have passed some on to Congolese Rebels fighting in the Democratic Republic of Congo 1964-65.

Luxembourg also had a few, but I've not been able to determine how these were obtained.

Most Boys ATR were used by British & Commonwealth troops, it is interesting that so many other Nations were still suing the weapon over twenty years after it was declared obsolete, and that Collectors and Gun enthusiasts appear genuinely excited after firing the weapon. It is loud, has tremendous recoil and on impact send up a plume of metal fragments from the bullet and pieces of whatever it has impacted.

## Conclusion

In addition to being the standard British and Commonwealth Platoon Anti Tank weapon the Boys ATR was in a fair few vehicles, Bren Carrier, Rolls Royce Armoured Car, Morris CS, Beaverette, Morris Trucks used by the LRDG, India Pattern Carrier and others. Performance was modest, at best 23 mm of Armour at 100 Yards, 20 mm at 300 and 18 mm at 500. Any sort of slope would trash penetration. It was good enough to take out Panzer I, most scout cars, Halftracks, and early Italian & Japanese Armour. It struggled against anything else, maybe defeating the odd Panzer II and early Panzer III armour but beyond that it wasn't really capable of doing much more than fracturing a vision slit, busting a light or splintering a tool box. It was hard to fire repeatedly, and after five rounds it was generally thought you deserved a medal. The main problem was few had any confidence in the weapon. Whereas the Finns used some and did fairly well by firing repeatedly at ranges under twenty yards, and supporting the attack with other weapons. The US Rangers also used the weapon aggressively and acknowledged it was useful.

The Boys would have been more kindly remembered if the tactics for its use had been refined, and effectiveness against soft targets given wider publicity. It was replaced by much better weapons, even the PIAT was much better. It is easy to forget that without the Boys British & Commonwealth Infantry would be fighting enemy armour using grenades, axes and short lengths of railway track.

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# Setting up VASL scenarios

Taka Muraoka

This tutorial explains how to add extra information to a VASL scenario, over and above just the Order of Battle. It takes a bit of time and effort, but it makes game play easier and more enjoyable, so for me, it's worth it.

The screenshot in example 1 shows my setup for the classic "Urban Guerrillas", with all the information needed to play it:

- Victory Conditions
- ELR and SAN for both sides (because I'm constantly forgetting to check for these....)
- Special Scenario Rules
- Notes for each Gun and AFV

You can get this information by right-clicking on a piece and choosing "Show info", but it's often hard to even find your pieces when the counter density is high, and SSRs sometimes change how a piece works (I'll put the updated details in the scenario setup). It's also useful to have an overview of what your

pieces do EG if you're looking for something that can lay down some smoke.

- Information about Panzerfaust and ATMM checks, if applicable (something I also always forget about), complete with a counter for the number of shots left
- The Order Of Battle for both sides, with instructions on where, or how, they should set up
- Victory hexes are highlighted, just in case I forget where I'm supposed to be going
- Setup areas are also highlighted

I like to do these in green, since it's fairly unobtrusive – they're only needed during setup, and after that, they don't uglify the board too much.

And with a bit of practice, you'll be able to create monster setups like the one in example 2....

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you set up scenarios like this, you should be mindful about distributing them. The scenarios themselves are copyrighted by their respective publishers, and it's considered bad form to distribute information that would let people play them without having first purchased them.

**Scenario Special Rules**

- Building 23Y7 is a Factory (B23.74).
- Crews may not voluntarily Abandon their vehicles.
- A Russian sniper attack dr of 3 or 4 generates Partisans (see SSR 5 for placement):
  - 1-3: 1-2-7 HS
  - 4-5: Hero
  - 6: 7-0 leader
- Partisans may not form FG with Russian units, and are Allied Troops (A10.7).
- Partisans have PF capability.

**Victory conditions**

**Urban Guerrillas (J1) (April 1945)**

**Victory Conditions:** The Russians win at Game End if they Control 2 of the 3 marked buildings.

**ELR and SAN**

**Russian:** ELR: 3 SAN: 6  
**German:** ELR: 5 SAN: 4

**Modr EC: 0**  
**No Wind**

**AFV/Gun information**

**Russian Vehicle Notes**

T34/85 CS 6  
SD6 (unlimited, by SSR)  
A6

IS-2m CS 6  
No IF

**German Vehicle Notes**

PzKw VG CS 6  
sN8  
12: Stall

PzKw IVJ CS 6  
sN9  
S8  
A3

SPW 251/1 CS 5

**German Ordnance Notes**

88L AA Flak 18 o.36 A3  
LF

**Panzerfausts 21**

PF check: dr <= 4 (21)  
+1 HS/crew  
+2 SMC  
+1 CX  
+1 non-AFV target  
original 6 = pinned

**Anti-Tank Magnetic Mines**

ATMM check: dr <= 3  
+1 HS/crew  
+2 SMC  
+1 CX  
+1 non-armored vehicle  
original 6 = pinned

**Setup on Board 23**

Flak 18  
88L  
2-2-8

**Setup on Board 22 in hexes >= 7 and/or on Board 23 south of the canal**

6-5-8  
6-5-8  
8-1  
8-1  
8-0  
8-0  
MMG 6-12  
LMG 2-6  
PSK 3-8  
PzKw VG 4-5  
PzKw IVJ 7-5  
SPW 251/1 1-1  
75LL 2-2  
8-2  
9-2

**Russian OB and setup instructions**

**Setup on Board 22 in hexes <= 6**

4-5-8  
4-5-8  
4-5-8  
2-4-8  
8-1  
8-1  
8-0  
8-0  
DC 30-1  
HMG 7-6-12  
LMG 2-6  
F1 2-4  
T34/85 (a) 16  
IS-2m (a) 13  
8-1  
8-1  
LMG 2-6  
DC 30-1  
IS-2m (a) 13

**Enter on Turn 3 along any one edge (east, west or south), south of the canal**

IS-2m (a) 13  
8-1  
8-1  
LMG 2-6  
DC 30-1  
IS-2m (a) 13

**Russian OB and setup instructions**

**Setup region highlighted**

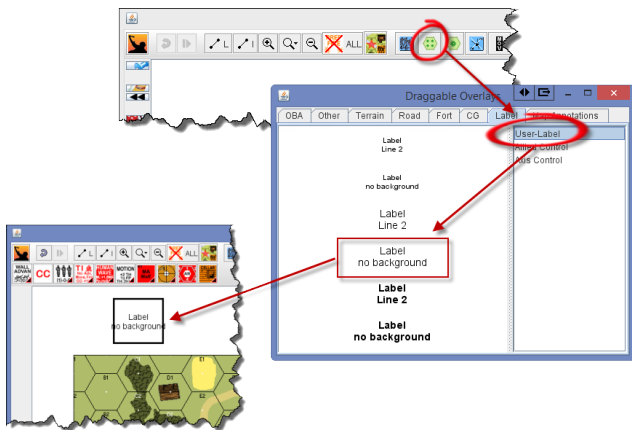
**Victory hexes highlighted**

**Panzerfausts and ATMM's**

**German OB and setup instructions**

## Adding labels to the scenario

Adding information to a scenario is done using labels. Open the **Draggable Overlays** window, and drag a label onto the main window.



Labels come in two parts, which are accessible via the right-click menu, or press **Ctrl-L** and **Ctrl-2** to access each one. I always just use the first line, so I delete everything in line 2.

The thick black box indicates that the label is selected. If you click elsewhere on the main window, it goes away, and the label will remain in place even if you click on it, or try to drag it. To select it again, Shift-click somewhere in the box, and you will be able to move it around, or edit it. This can sometimes be difficult to find, since it's not visible on-screen, but it will be in the middle (vertically and horizontally) of the label.

Type something into one of the label lines, and it will appear on-screen.

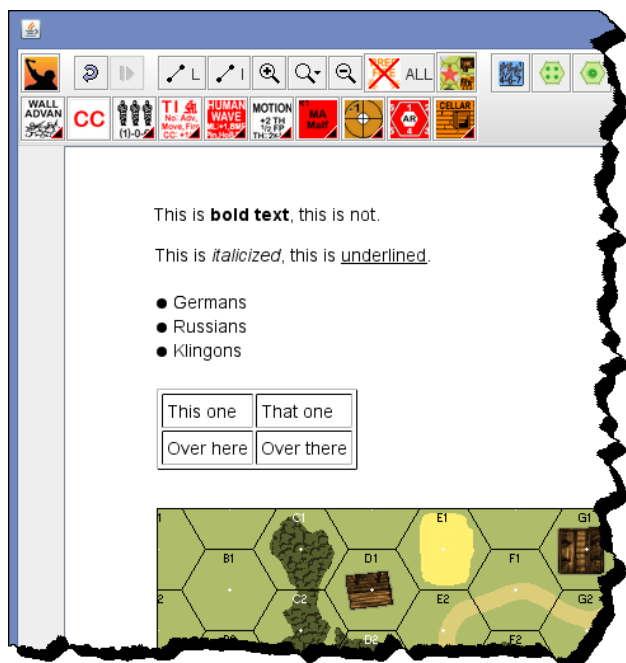
So far, so good, but things get much more interesting when we start using HTML.

## Using HTML in labels

If a label line starts with `<html>`, *VASL* will interpret the label as HTML, which uses special codes to change the appearance of the text.

For example, the HTML code for bolding text is to wrap it with `<b>` and `</b>`. Setting a label to this:

```
<html> This is <b>bold text</b>,
this is not.
```



shows a label with bold text.

Similarly, use `<i>` and `</i>` to italicize text, and `<u>` and `</u>` to underline it.

```
<html> This is <i>italicized</i>,
this is <u>underlined</u>.
```

To set up a bullet list, use `<ul>` and `</ul>`, and then `<li>` for each bullet point.

```
<html>
<ul>
  <li> Germans
  <li> Russians
  <li> Klingons
</ul>
```

Finally, use `<table>` and `</table>` to present stuff in a table i.e. rows and columns. `<tr>` starts a new row, while `<td>` starts a new cell within the current row.

```
<html>
<table border=1>
  <tr> <td> This one <td> That one
  <tr> <td> Over here <td> Over
there
</table>
```

I added `border=1` to the `<table>` tag, which is the HTML code for “show the table borders”. If you remove this, the information will still be lined up in a tabular format, but the border lines will not be shown.

The last two examples highlight a limitation *VASL* has when editing labels. It's nice to write your HTML over multiple lines, so that you can see how it's structured, but once you enter it into *VASL*, if you later want to change it, when you copy it out, *VASL* will have munged everything into one long line. To workaround this, I keep all my HTML in a separate text file and edit it there, and copy it into *VASL*, label by label.

All this was a really quick intro to HTML, but there are loads of tutorials online that go into more detail. We'll be using some more advanced features below, but I'll explain them as we go along.

## Adding Victory Conditions

This is the HTML template I use for adding Victory Conditions:

```
<html>
<b><u>SCENARIO NAME</u></b>
(SCENARIO ID) <i>(SCENARIO DATE)</i><br>
<b>Victory Conditions:</b> Blah
blah
```

Just replace the placeholders with the correct information. The only new tag used here is `<br>`, which starts a new line.



## Adding ELR and SAN

Adding a label for ELR and SAN is also straight-forward:

```
<html>
<table style="border:1px dotted #808080;background:#f0f0f0;">
  <tr>
    <td <b> Russian: <br> German:
  </b>
    <td> ELR: 1 <br> ELR: 2
    <td> SAN: 3 <br> SAN: 4
  </td>
</table>
```

The <table> tag has a "style" CSS attribute, which tells *VASL* to draw the table with a dotted border, with the color #808080 (light grey), and a background color of #f0f0f0 (a lighter shade of grey).



## Adding Special Scenario Rules

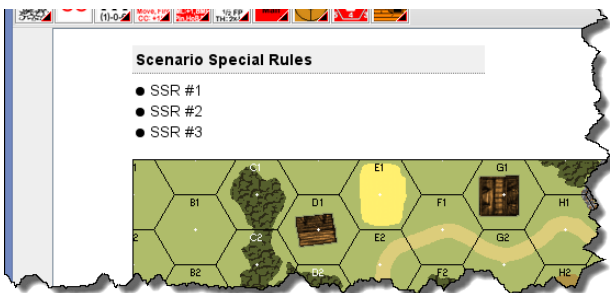
This is the template I use for adding SSRs:

```
<html>
<table style="width:250px;">
  <tr>
    <td style="border-bottom:1px dotted #808080;background:#f0f0f0;">
      <b>Scenario Special Rules</b>
    </td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td>
      <ul style="margin:0 0 0 10px;">
        <li> SSR #1
        <li> SSR #2
        <li> SSR #3
      </ul>
    </td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

The <table> tag has a CSS style that sets its width to 250 pixels.

The first row uses the techniques we've seen above to create a shaded header with bold text.

The second row creates a bullet list, with one item for each SSR. The style on the <ul> tag tightens up the spacing around the bullet list, which is quite large, by default.



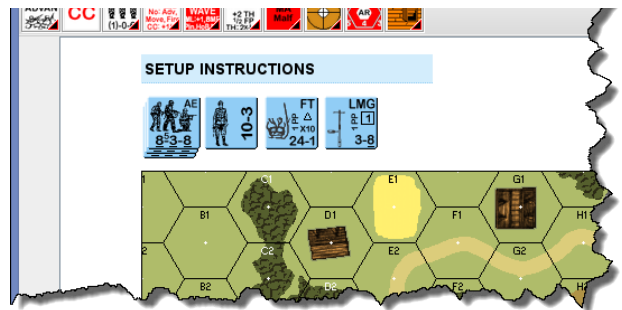
## Adding Order Of Battle labels

This is the template I use for adding Order Of Battle setup instructions:

```
<html>
<table>
  <tr>
    <td style="width:200px;border-bottom:1px dotted #91cdf5;background:#d3edfc;">
      <b> SETUP INSTRUCTIONS </b>
    </td>
  </tr>
</table>
```

These are the color codes I use for each nationality:

|            | border  | background |
|------------|---------|------------|
| German     | #91cdf5 | #d3edfc    |
| Russian    | #d68d1a | #eabe51    |
| American   | #cdf000 | #e5f700    |
| British    | #e5cea0 | #f6edda    |
| Italian    | #a6adb2 | #dde0e2    |
| French     | #41a5ff | #a2ddff    |
| Axis Minor | #1de256 | #7cf5b1    |



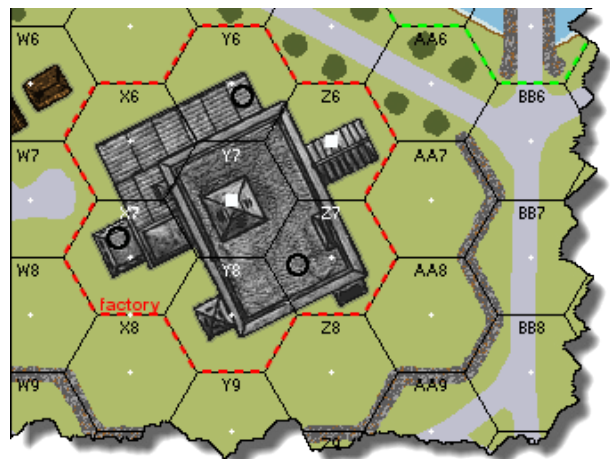
## Highlighting hexes

To highlight hexes, perimeter lines can be added from the **Map Annotations** tab in the **Draggable Overlays** window. Right-click on them to see the options for rotating them, and adjusting their length.

If you want add a lot of these, it's often easier to add just a few of them to the board, Shift-click them so that they're all selected, then clone them (**Ctrl-K**). It won't be visible on-screen, but *VASL* will have made a copy of them, which can you then drag into their new position.

The "factory" marker in the screenshot is just a simple label, using red text:

```
<html> <font color=red>factory</font>
```





# Adding Vehicle and Gun notes

This is the template I use for adding Vehicle and Gun notes.

```

<html>
<table>
  <tr>
    <td colspan=2 style="border-bottom:1px dotted #d68d1a;background-color:#eabe51;">
      <b>Russian Vehicles</b>
    </td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td colspan=2><b>VEHICLE 1</b></td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td colspan=2>info 1a <br> info 1b</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td colspan=2><b>VEHICLE 2</b></td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td colspan=2>info 2</td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td colspan=2><b>VEHICLE 3</b></td>
  </tr>
  <tr>
    <td colspan=2>info 3a <br> info 3b <br> info 3c</td>
  </tr>
</table>
  
```

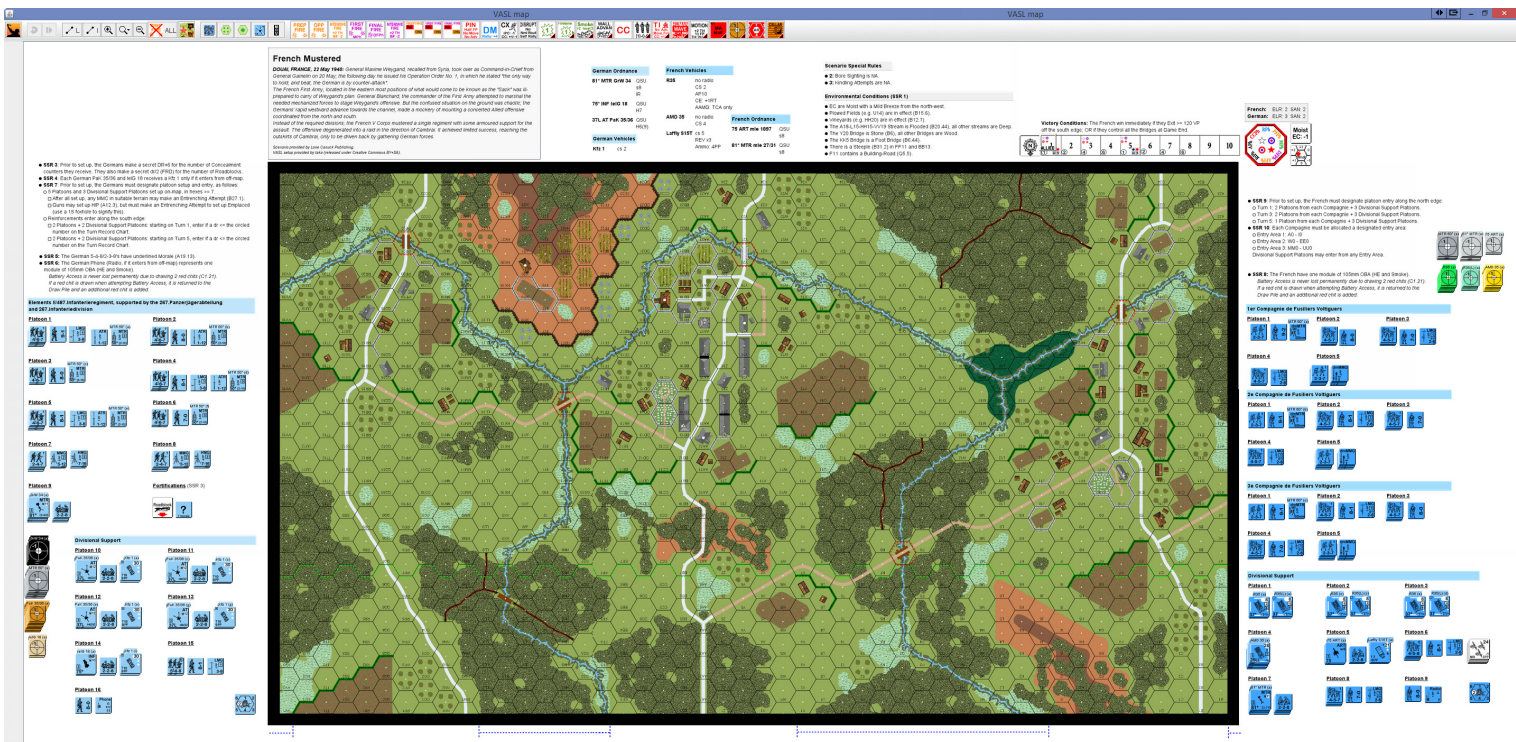


This should be easy, by now. The colors can be obtained from the table above, and note the use of the <br> tag to present each piece of vehicle info (e.g. sD7 or CS 6) on separate lines.

The colspan=2 attribute in the first <td> tag creates a table cell that spreads over 2 columns, while the valign=top attribute in the <td> tags vertically aligns text at the top of those table cells, instead of in the middle.

This is just a few examples of what you can achieve using HTML and labels in VASL. You can see even more (and download the templates for the examples in this article) on my website at <http://muraoka.info/vasl/setup-tutorial>.

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# "THIS IS THE CALL TO ARMS!"

This is the latest edition of the *ASL Players Directory*. It is broken down by country and then by postal code region. Where a date (in dd mm yyyy format) is shown at the end of each entry this indicates when it was last confirmed.

## England

David Turpin, 24 Chestnut Rise, Bar Hill, Cambs (21 Mar 2016)  
F. B. Dickens, 62 Yarnfield Road, Tyseley, Birmingham, W. Mids., B11 3PG (31 Dec 1995)  
Billy Carslaw, 52 Spring Lane, Birmingham, B24 9BZ (19 Mar 2005)  
Ian Morris, 18 Quarry Walk, Rednal, Birmingham, West Midlands, B45 9BQ (12 Nov 2017)  
Garry Cramp, 25 Ferndale Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, W. Mids, B92 8HP (31 Oct 1996)  
Gary Cook, 7 Dover Place, Bath, BA1 6DX (25 Mar 2004)  
Jeff Hawarden, 9 Laburnum Road, Helmsshore, Rossendale, Lancs., B84 4LF (07 Apr 2000)  
Craig Ambler, 5 Ambleton Way, Queensbury, Bradford, W. Yorks., BD13 2DZ (10 May 2017)  
Phil Ward, 7 Burnsall Mews, Silsden, Keighley, W. Yorks., BD20 9NY (06 Mar 2000)  
Wes Hope, 16 Wakely Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH11 9EE (15 Jul 2017)  
Mat Haas, 8A Farcroft Road, Poole, Dorset, BH12 3BQ (26 Oct 2012)  
Dave Schofield, 11 Longfield Way, West Parley, Ferndown, Dorset, BH22 8TY (31 Oct 2014)  
Stuart Holmes, 1 Milne Street, Irwell Vale, Ramsbottom, Lancs., BL0 0QP (08 Mar 2002)  
Shaun Carter, 3 Arnside Grove, Brightwell, Bolton, Lancs., BL2 6PL (25 Oct 2011)  
Paul Jones, 111 Kildare Street, Farnworth, Bolton, BL4 9NX (19 Mar 2012)  
Mike Standbridge, 31 Hunstanton Drive, Bury, Lancs., BL8 1EG (15 Sep 2012)  
Pete Nurbury, 13, Argyle Street, Bury, B9 5DX (29 Jul 2014)  
Ian Kenney, 53 Withdean Crescent, Brighton, W. Sussex, BN1 6WG (03 Nov 1995)  
Lee Hyde, Sompting, West Sussex, BN15 0LD (14 Oct 2015)  
Marc Hanna, 17 The Lawns, St. Marys Close, Eastbourne, Sussex, BN20 8HB (21 Jun 2017)  
Graham Smith, 56 Durham Road, Bromley, Kent, BR2 0SW (20 Jan 2012)  
Andy Tucker, 78 Constance Crescent, Hayes, Bromley, Kent, BR2 7QQ (11 Nov 1999)  
Neil Piggot, 2 Beechmount Grove, Hengrove, Bristol, Avon, BS14 9DN (03 Nov 1995)  
Mark Warren, 5 Gazzard Road, Winterbourne, Bristol, BS36 1NR (26 Oct 2006)  
Rasmus Jensen, 17 Berkeley Road, Bishopston, Bristol, Avon, BS7 8HF (29 Oct 1997)  
Gaute Strokkenes, Girton College, Cambridge, CB3 0IG (23 Oct 1998)  
Paul O'Donald, 13 Archway Court, Barton Road, Cambridge, Cambs., CB3 9LW (07 Aug 2002)  
Martin Barker, Tradewinds, Wrating Rd, Haverrhill, Suffolk, CB9 0DA (02 Mar 2015)  
Ken Watson, 18 Arrendene Road, Haverrhill, Suffolk, CB9 9JQ (18 Apr 2011)  
Andrew Eynon, 36 Greenbank Drive, Pensby, Wirral, CH61 5UF (08 Jul 2005)  
Gareth Evans, 29 Hillfield Road, Little Sutton, West Cheshire, Cheshire, CH66 1JA (05 Feb 2017)  
Ian Ainsworth, 23 Lyneal Avenue, Great Sutton, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, CH66 2HX (07 Mar 2017)  
Paco Mainez, 89 Millfields, Writtle, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 3LJ (18 Sep 2016)  
Brendan Clark, 5 Borda Close, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 4JY (21 Nov 2011)  
Miles Wiehahn, 37 Nursery Rise, Great Dunmow, Essex, CM6 1XW (19 Mar 2014)  
Derek Cox, Whiteways, 77a St Nicholas Road, Witham, Essex, CM8 2JE (01 Nov 2017)  
Alistair Fairbairn, 3 School Lane, Brantham, Manningtree, Essex, CO11 1QE (03 Nov 1995)  
Martin Johnson, 16 Wick Lane, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex, CO12 3TA (31 Dec 1995)  
Matthew Leach, 12 Lodge Road, Little Oakley, Dovercourt, Essex, CO12 5ED (19 Aug 2002)  
Rob Gallagher, 153 Halstead Rd, Stanway, Colchester, Essex, CO3 5JT (31 Jul 2001)  
Nick Ranson, 31 Ashlong Grove, Halstead, Essex, CO9 2QH (21 May 2017)  
Derek Tocher, 19 Tyrell Square, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 3SD (25 Oct 2007)  
Derek Briscoe, 129b Melfort Road, Thornton Heath, Croydon, Surrey, CR7 7RX (18 Jan 1999)  
Joe Arthur, 33 Cedar Close, St Peters, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 3BU (01 Nov 2017)  
Paul Osborne, deliberately missing, Littlebourne, Canterbury, Kent, CT3 (30 Aug 2014)  
Neil Martin, 63a Harbour Street, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 1AG (16 Apr 2012)  
Paul Trestlove, 10 Kings Ave, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 1RZ (24 Apr 2017)  
Adam Carter, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 4HN (20 Feb 2015)  
Peter Wenman, 12 Clementine Close, Belting, Herne Bay, Kent, CT6 6SN (26 Jul 1998)  
Aaron Sibley, 79 Dane Road, Margate, Kent, CT9 2AE (04 Oct 2014)  
Andy Back, 21 Elmwood Court, St Nicholas Street, Coventry, W. Mids., CV1 4BS (31 Dec 1995)  
Hubert Noar, 39 Rugby Road, Clifton, Rugby, Warks., CV23 0DE (06 Jan 2004)  
Tim Collier, 71 Kinross Road, Leamington Spa, Warks., CV32 7EN (09 May 2005)  
Tony Wardlow, 6 Beech Tree Avenue, Coventry, W. Mids., CV4 9FG (31 Dec 1995)  
Ian Pollard, 19 Doria Drive, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4HS (07 Mar 2014)  
Kris Pugh, 22 Norfolk Place, Welling, Kent, DA16 3HR (25 Oct 2007)  
Carl Sizmur, 81 Millfield, New Ash Green, Longfield, Kent, DA3 8HN (25 Oct 2007)  
Sean Pratt, Bankside Cottage, Duffield Bank, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 4BG (28 Jan 2014)  
Neil Brunger, 72 Penhill Close, Ouston, Chester Le Street, Co. Durham, DH2 1SG (04 Oct 2017)  
M. W. Jones, 1 Chevot View, Front St, Dipton, Stanley, Co. Durham, DH9 9DQ (31 Dec 1995)  
Brian Hooper, 38 Ridsdale Street, Darlington, County Durham, DL1 4EG (25 Jan 2016)  
Gavin White, 28 Elton Rd, Darlington, Co Durham, DL3 8HS (11 Feb 2012)  
Chris Bunyan, 89 Hallcroft Road, Retford, Notts., DN22 7PY (17 Oct 1998)  
Roy Quarton, 8 Bassey Road, Branton, Doncaster, S. Yorks., DN3 3NS (01 Nov 2000)  
Kevin Horner, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN8 (17 Mar 2013)  
David Farr, First Floor Flat, 259 High Road Leyton, Leyton, London, E10 5QE (25 Apr 1999)  
Georgios Kioqpasoglou, 51 Chesterford Road, Manor Park, London, E12 6LD (09 Mar 2015)  
Larry Devis, 104 The Mission, 747 Commercial Road, London, E14 7LE (21 Jul 2001)  
Michael Chantler, Flat 7, Pickwick House, 100-102 Goswell Road, London, EC1V 7DH (04 May 2004)  
Lee Bray, 16 Admiral Way, Exeter, Devon, EX2 7GA (11 Nov 2015)  
Mike Elan, 26 King Edward Street, St. Davids, Exeter, Devon, EX4 4NY (01 Jun 2000)  
Chawn Harlow, Exeter, EX5 1DF (11 Jul 2015)  
Andrew Saunders, 3 Torbay Court, 221 Devonshire Road, Blackpool, Lancs., FY2 0TJ (29 Dec 2000)  
Nigel Brown, 3 Chestow Road, Blackpool, Lancs., FY3 7NN (31 Oct 1996)  
Ulric Schwela, 18 Stuart Road, Thornton, Lancashire, FY5 4EE (27 Mar 2017)  
Arthur Garlick, 23 St. Annes Road East, Lytham St Annes, Lancs., FY8 1TA (04 May 1998)  
Michael Davies, 36 Heyhouses Court, Heyhouses Lane, Lytham St Annes, Lancs., FY8 3RF (07 Mar 2017)  
Paul Currie, 18 Rogerley Close, Lytham, Lancs., FY8 4PL (13 Jun 2017)  
Russell Gough, 'Bellare', New Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL52 3NX (06 Oct 2016)  
Tim Bunce, 33 Ryde Court, Newport Road, Aldershot, Hants., GU12 4LL (19 Dec 2011)  
Jeff Cansell, 24a Upper Queen Street, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1DQ (17 Mar 1997)  
Giulo Manganoni, 111 Kings Road, Godalming, Farncombe, Surrey, GU7 3EU (30 Apr 1996)  
Simon Croomie, 1 Dowling Parade, Bridgewater Road, Wembley, Middx., HA0 1AJ (25 Oct 2007)  
Jackie Eves, 1 Dowling Parade, Bridgewater Road, Wembley, Middx., HA0 1AJ (25 Oct 2007)  
Malcolm Hatfield, 336B Alexandra Ave, South Harrow, Middlesex, HA2 9DB (07 Apr 2014)  
Chris Littlejohn, 214A Field End Road, Eastcote, Pinner, Middx., HA5 1RD (30 Oct 1998)  
Ben Kellington, 12 Clayton Fields, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD2 2BA (21 Apr 2007)  
Fish Flowers, Church Farm, Westerns Lane, Markington, HG3 3PB (27 Nov 2004)  
Paul Kettlewell, 1 Puffin Way, Watermead, Aylesbury, Bucks., HP20 2UG (06 Mar 2008)  
Chris Walton, nb Burgan Pod, Aylesbury Canal Society, Canal Basin, Walton Street, Aylesbury, HP21 7QG (12 Feb 2016)  
Neil Andrews, 38 Summers House, Coxhill Way, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP21 8FN (27 Aug 2017)  
Nick Edelstein, 139 Hivings Hill, Chesham, Bucks., HP5 2PN (05 Sep 2001)  
Malcolm Holland, 57 Westfield Rise, Barrow Lane, Hesse, Humberstone, HU13 0NA (31 Dec 1995)  
Ruairigh Dale, 77 Riverview Avenue, North Ferry, HU14 3DT (27 Oct 2005)  
Steve Balcam, 1 Cornwall Street, Cottingham, N. Humberstone, HU16 4NB (01 Jan 1996)  
Mark Furnell, 123 Roycraft Avenue, Thames View, Barking, Essex, IG1 0NS (03 Apr 2013)  
Tony Maryou, 41 Bentons Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 4AU (15 Aug 2000)  
Kevin Gookey, 95 Willingdale Road, Loughton, Essex, IG10 2DD (17 Feb 2001)  
Malcolm Harlock, House, High Street, Laxfield, Suffolk, IP13 8DU (17 Jun 2015)  
David Austin, 86 Lindsey Way, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 2PD (04 Jan 2000)  
Paul Legg, 21 Grimsey Road, Leiston, Suffolk, IP16 4BW (08 Mar 2017)  
Denis Read, 21 Clench Rd, Holbrook, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP29 2PP (30 Jun 2016)  
Tom Le Claire, JE2 3ZP (04 Jun 2017)  
Gerry Crowe, 1 Abbey Meadows, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 8RA (18 Jan 2013)  
Sam Prior, 19 Beresford Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT2 6LP (09 Aug 2017)  
Andy Smith, 31 Egerton Road, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4AP (29 Oct 2013)  
Ray Porter, 38 Bishopgate Street, Waverley, Liverpool, Merseyside, L15 1EW (16 Feb 2017)  
Mark Blackmore, 39 Southdale Road, Liverpool, Merseyside, L15 4HX (22 Aug 2017)  
Craig Benn, 122 Larkfield Road, Aigburth, Liverpool, L17 9PU (22 Jan 2017)

Damien Maher, 4 Woolton Court, Quarry Street, Liverpool, L25 6HF (05 Jul 2010)  
Andy Ashton, 62 Earliston Drive, Wallasey, The Wirral, Merseyside, L45 5DZ (31 Dec 1995)  
Wayne Kelly, 72 Grassmere Road, Lancaster, Lancs., LA1 3HB (19 Mar 2005)  
Mark Wickens, Haven Lea, Queens Drive, Windermere, Cumbria, LA23 2EL (29 Sep 2015)  
Adrian Bland, 15 Blankney Road, Cottesmore, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 7AG (10 Dec 2004)  
Patrick Dale, 28 Bancroft Road, Cottingham, Market Harborough, Leics., LE16 8XA (25 Oct 2007)  
Richard Hartland, 38 Cunningham Drive, Lutterworth, Leicestershire, LE17 4YR (03 Jun 2012)  
Brett Lynes, 2 Church Row, Little Stretton, Leicestershire, LE2 2FT (03 Apr 2016)  
Nick Brown, 53 Henley Crescent, Braunstone, Leicestershire, Leics., LE3 2SA (15 Nov 1996)  
Joss Attridge, Newtown Linford, Leicestershire, Leics., LE6 0AA (02 Jul 2014)  
John Overton, 68 Brantingham Road, Whalley Range, Manchester, M18 8QH (18 Sep 2002)  
Bernard Savage, 73 Penrhyn Avenue, Middleton, Manchester, M24 1FP (10 Mar 1998)  
Rob Bywater, 66 Firs Road, Sale, Cheshire, M33 5EJ (19 Sep 2016)  
Simon Sayers, 21 Barlea Avenue, New Moston, Manchester, M30 3WL (21 Nov 2008)  
Bob Eburne, 33 Whitton Way, Newport Pagnell, Bucks., MK16 0PR (28 Oct 2004)  
Daniel Ryan, 110 Maidstone Road, Bounds Green, Enfield, London, N21 2JP (28 Aug 2015)  
Greg Stroud, 96 Mercers Road, Flat A, London, N19 4PU (01 Feb 2015)  
Stuart Brant, Flat 37, Penrose House, 16 Newsholme Drive, Winchmore Hill, London, N21 1TW (17 Jul 2017)  
Jamie Sewell, 115 Crescent Road, Alexandra Palace, London, N22 4RU (31 Dec 1995)  
Andrew Cochrane, 20 Scott Avenue, Cramlington, Northumberland, NE23 1HE (18 Sep 2016)  
Jas Bal, 63 Gardner Park, North Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE29 0EA (09 Mar 2006)  
Philip Jones, 10 hazeldene, Jarrow, Tyne and Wear, NE32 4RB (09 Mar 2006)  
Steve Jones, 90 Biddick Lane, Fairfield Village, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE38 8AA (04 Apr 2005)  
Martin Sabais, 36 Chalfont Road, Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne & Wear, NE6 3ES (17 Sep 2008)  
Andy McMaster, 29 Kingsley Place, Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 5AN (06 Mar 2008)  
Mike Rudd, 2 Blaeberry Hill, Rothbury, Northumberland, NE65 7YY (12 Mar 2002)  
Geoff Widdes, 30 Sheepwalk Lane, Ravenshead, Nottingham, Notts., NG15 9FD (31 Dec 1995)  
Ian Jelley, 17 Strawberry Bank, Huthwaite, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts., NG17 2QG (12 Mar 2014)  
George Jaycock, 51 Burlleigh Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, Notts., NG2 6FQ (31 Dec 1995)  
Chris Gower, 7 North Road, Nottingham, Notts., NG2 7GQ (28 Sep 1998)  
Colin Bell, RAF Cranwell, Sleaford, Lincs., NG34 8Bb (24 Jan 2017)  
L. Othacae, 17 Russel Drive, Willaston, Notts., NG8 2BA (31 Dec 1995)  
Duncan Spencer, 33 St Anthonys Road, Kettering, Northants, NN15 5HT (03 Nov 1995)  
A. Kendall, 12 Hunsbury Close, West Hunsbury, Northampton, NN4 9UE (13 Dec 1998)  
Nigel Ashcroft, 5 Grassmere Way, Thornwell, Chesham, Gwent, NP16 5SS (11 Nov 2015)  
Paul Williams, The Cottage, Robins Lane, Devauden, Chesham, Monmouthshire, NP16 6PB (14 Aug 2010)  
Clive Haden, Holly House, The Street, Swanton Abbott, Norfolk, NR10 5DU (09 May 2005)  
Pedro Santos, 4 Park Avenue, London, NW11 7SJ (25 Mar 2017)  
Tom Jackson, 40 Keyes Rd, London, NW2 3XA (09 Feb 2015)  
Steve Joyce, 23 South Essex Close, London, NW3 2RB (31 Jan 2001)  
Peter Fraser, 66 Salcombe Gardens, Millhill, London, NW7 2NT (31 Dec 1995)  
Nick Hughes, 15 Layfield Road, Hendon, London, NW9 3UH (31 Dec 1995)  
Martin Mayers, 41 Frank Fold, Heywood, Lancs., OL10 4FF (07 Nov 2017)  
Stephen Ashworth, 1 Nelson Street, Walsden, Manchester, Lancashire, OL14 7SP (12 Dec 2006)  
Toby Pilling, 51 Wensum Drive, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 7RJ (25 Feb 2014)  
John Sharp, 3 Union Street, Oxford, Oxon, OX4 1JP (23 Oct 1998)  
John Turpin, 18 Mallard Way, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 9HT (21 Mar 2016)  
Simon Stevenson, East Dairy Cottage, Wellon Le Marsh, Spilsby, Lincolnshire, PE23 5TA (28 May 2005)  
Jason Johns, 70 Newton Road, Sawtry, CAMBS, PE28 5UT (22 Aug 2013)  
Simon Horspool, Osborne House, High Street, Stoke Ferry, Kings Lynn, Norfolk, PE33 9SF (03 Dec 2016)  
Alan Anderson, Penmaree, Maddever Crescent, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 3PT (11 Dec 1998)  
Nigelella Blair, 105 Stanborough Road, Plymstock, Plymouth, PL9 8RG (11 Nov 2017)  
Paul Ridoout, 5 Fisher Close, Stubbington, Fareham, Hants., PO14 3RA (31 Dec 1995)  
Keith Bristow, 39 Carrouane Walk, Portsmouth, Hampshire, PO3 5LX (12 Oct 2017)  
Simon Treves, 14 Teddington Road, Southsea, Hampshire, PO4 8DB (25 Oct 2007)  
Simon Prior, 29 Burgoyne Road, Southsea, Hampshire, PO5 2JJ (23 Jan 2014)  
Justin Kay, 25 Hilary Avenue, Portsmouth, Hants., PO6 2PZ (07 Mar 2017)  
Simon Hunt, 26 Inhurst Avenue, Waterlooville, Portsmouth, PO7 7QR (31 Dec 2000)  
Steve Thomas, 19 Derwent House, Samuel Street, Preston, Lancs., PR1 4YL (23 Oct 1998)  
Jeremy Howison-Haworth, 15 Balcarres Road, Leyland, Preston, Lancashire, PR25 2EL (20 Jul 2017)  
Phil Sheriker, 16 The Heathers, Bamber Bridge, Preston, Lancs., PR5 8JJ (06 Mar 2014)  
Phil Draper, 8 Chesterman Street, Reading, Berks., RG1 2PR (25 Oct 2007)  
Paul Sanderson, Flat 4, Russell Street, Reading, Berks., RG1 7XD (26 Mar 2000)  
Michael Strefford, 3 Walton Way, Shaw, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 2LL (05 Jun 1998)  
Chris Netherton, 36 Eungar Road, Whitechurch, Hants, RG28 7TE (26 Oct 2006)  
Inuka Jayasekera, Flaxman Close, Reading, RG6 5TH (13 Apr 2015)  
Kevin Crocker, 4 Beechey Way, Cophorne, W. Sussex, RH10 3LT (07 Sep 2011)  
Richard Webb, 14 Kismetend, Cophorne, West Sussex, RH10 3PW (14 Aug 2010)  
Bill Hensby, 32 The Vineries, Burgess Hill, W. Sussex, RH15 0NF (18 Jan 1999)  
John Barton, 194 Chanetonbury Road, Burgess Hill, W. Sussex, RH15 9HN (08 May 2007)  
Gerard Burton, Flat 7 The Beacons, Beaconsfield Road, Chelwood Gate, East Sussex, RH17 7LH (01 Nov 2017)  
John Ayres, 8 Wordsworth Rise, East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 1TW (09 Sep 2015)  
Wayne Baumber, 39 Station Road, Lingfield, Surrey, RH7 6DZ (05 Nov 2017)  
Keith Graves, 51 Humbar Avenue, South Ockendon, Essex, RM15 5JL (31 Dec 1995)  
David Higginbotham, 18 Westfield Garden, Brampton, Cheshire, S40 3SN (03 Jul 2000)  
Mark Tomlinson, 12 Briar Road, Sheffield, S7 1SA (30 Jan 2014)  
Andy Osborne, 42 Atlantis Close, Lee, London, SE12 8RE (31 Dec 1995)  
Martin Edwards, 127 Pepps Road, London, SE14 5SE (02 Sep 1999)  
Michael Essex, 18 Wrottesley Road, London, SE18 3BW (03 Apr 2013)  
David Ramsey, 25 Grenville Way, Stevenage, Herts, SG2 8XZ (15 Jul 2013)  
Chris Milne, 19 Redoubt Close, Hitchin, Herts., SG4 0FP (25 Mar 2004)  
Andrew Dando, 26 Constable Drive, Marple Bridge, Stockport, Cheshire, SK6 5BG (17 Sep 2002)  
Andrew Daglish, 7 The Spinney, Cheadle, Cheshire, SK8 1JA (31 Dec 1995)  
Pete Bennett, 84 Littlebrook Avenue, Burnham, Slough, Bucks., SL2 2NN (16 Sep 2002)  
Steve Crowley, 2 Mossy Vale, Maidenhead, Berks., SL6 7RX (23 Oct 2003)  
William Binns, 20 The Warren, Carshalton, Surrey, SM5 4EH (12 Mar 2017)  
Gordon Watson, Bantstead, Surrey, SM7 3JJ (09 Apr 2012)  
Adrian Catchpole, Flat 1, 19 Bank Street, Melksham, Wilts., SN12 6LE (13 Mar 2017)  
Jon Williams, 17 Larch Road, Colerne, Chippenham, Wilts., SN14 8QG (06 Dec 1998)  
William Roberts, 20 Clayhill Copse, Peatmoor, Swindon, Wilts., SN5 5AL (10 Sep 2011)  
Bill Gunning, 14 Eagles, Faringdon, Oxon, SN7 7TD (14 Sep 1997)  
Roger Cook, The Brick Farmhouse, Cleuch Common, Marlborough, Wilts, SN8 4DS (26 Oct 2006)  
Martin Lane, 52 Oaktree Road, Southampton, SO18 1PH (08 Apr 2016)  
Dominic McGrath, 129 Archers Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 9BE (02 Jan 2016)  
James Crossfield, Lower Langham Farm, Langham Lane, Gillingham, Dorset, SP8 5NT (15 Feb 2009)  
Jonathan Smith, 3 Lingdale Avenue, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, SR6 8AZ (18 Sep 2016)  
Michael Parsons, Rochford, Essex, SS4 2BS (21 Jan 2017)  
John Fletcher, 191 Trent Valley Road, Stoke-On-Trent, Staffordshire, ST4 5LE (23 Oct 1998)  
Robert Seacey, 43 Priory Road, Newcastle Under Lyme, Staffs., ST5 2EN (19 Mar 2005)  
Ronnie Tan, 250 Hydeathorpe Road, Balham, London, SW15 0JH (21 Jul 2001)  
Simon Church, 7 Beaulieu Terrace, Putney, London, SW16 1BW (15 Oct 2015)  
Julian Blakely-Valley Road, London, SW16 2XL (30 Sep 2014)  
Simon Blakely-Edwards, 1 Elmbourne Road, London, SW17 8JS (21 Oct 1998)  
Lee Brimmicombe-Wood, 49 Edgcombe House, Whitlock Drive, Southfields, London, SW19 6SL (03 Aug 2009)  
Christopher Chen, Flat 11, 14 Sloane Gardens, London, SW1W 8DL (25 Feb 1999)  
Jonathan Pickles, 115 Waverley Road, Streatham Hill, London, SW2 3SN (26 Mar 1999)  
David Tye, 35 Redburn Street, London, SW3 4DA (25 Jun 2010)  
Chris Courtier, 177 Hargrave Street, London, SW9 9RQ (23 Oct 1998)  
John Sparks, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 8QG (29 Jan 2012)  
Paul Case, 4 Brymas House, Rockwell Green, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9BZ (25 Jan 2015)  
Frazier Greenshields, Coxland House, Huntworth, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 0AJ (23 Sep 2013)  
Nick Carter, Burnette, New Works Lane, New Works, Telford, Shropshire, TF6 5BS (19 Sep 2016)

# ON THE CONVENTION TRAIL

There are more and more *ASL* tournaments cropping up all over the world. In fact, it is possible to be involved in an *ASL* tournament at least once a month, often more, if you were so inclined (and had the financial means to live such a life - I wish!).

If you plan on holding an *ASL* tournament, please let me know and I'll include the details here, space permitting.

If you contact anyone regarding these tournaments, please tell them that I sent you!

## OCTOBER ASLOK XXXII

**When:** 1 – 8 October.

**Where:** Four Points by Sheraton, 4181 W. 150th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44135, phone 216-252-7700, fax 216-252-3850 or visit <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/ACP>. Room rates are \$85 until the start of September. Note that this is the same hotel as in previous years but with a new name.

**Fee:** \$30.00 before 28 September, \$40.00 thereafter and on the door.

**Format:** Same as always. Weekend tournament plus numerous mini-tournaments. There is also an informal USA vs. World Cup where everyone keeps track of their games and a plaque is presented to the winning side.

**Notes:** T-shirts are \$10.00 ea (XXL \$13.00, XXXL \$15.00, 4XL \$18.00)

**Contact:** Bret Hildebran, 17810 Geauga Lake Rd, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023-2208 or by email [dama@alltel.net](mailto:dama@alltel.net). Check out the web site at [www.aslok.org](http://www.aslok.org) for the latest details.

Mike Batley, 2 The Gables, Argos Hill, East Sussex, TN6 3QJ (29 Apr 2001)  
Bill Eaton, Dart House, 20 Bridgetown, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 5BA (02 Sep 2008)  
Gerard Linehan, 8 Gander Green Crescent, Hampton, TW12 2FA (06 Oct 2017)  
Mick Allen, 107 Gresham Road, Staines, TW18 2FB (02 Jul 2014)  
Richard Dagnall, 480 Chertsey Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW2 6PS (08 Aug 2017)  
Ivor Gardiner, 19 Gibson Road, Ickenham, London, Middlesex, UB10 6EW (03 Sep 2008)  
christopher bourne, 52 horsenden lane north, greenford, middlesex, ub6 0pa (04 Dec 2014)  
Aaron Patrick, 9 Arundel Gardens, London, W11 2LN (31 Dec 2004)  
Nick Quinn, 7 Woodgrange Avenue, Ealing, London, W5 3NY (04 Mar 2002)  
Alan Lynott, 34 Ollerbarrow Rd, Hale, Cheshire, WA15 9PP (18 Sep 2016)  
John Kennedy, 2 Hawthorn Road, Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA15 9RG (22 Oct 2013)  
Dave Booth, 47 Duncock Grove, Oakwood, Warrington, Cheshire, WA3 6NW (07 Oct 1996)  
Paul Ryde-Weller, 44 Farm Way, Watford, Herts., WD2 3SY (30 Oct 1998)  
Matt Blackman, 10 Alfred St, Wigan, Lancs., WN1 2HL (14 Mar 2008)  
Ian Parkes, 45 School Lane, Standish, Wigan, Lancs., WN6 0TG (23 Sep 2008)  
Michael Murray, 34 Bell Road, Walsall, West Mids., WS5 3JW (30 Mar 1999)  
Andy Evans, 232 Bushbury Road, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV10 0NT (27 Apr 2010)  
Ian Price, 19 Upper Green, Yettenhall, Wolverhampton, W. Mids., WV6 8QN (31 Dec 1995)  
Michael Clark, Wold View, East Heslerton, Malton, N. Yorks, YO17 8RN (12 Feb 2002)  
David Murray, 29 Middle Street, Nafferton, Driffield, S. Yorks, YO25 4JS (02 Sep 2008)

## Scotland

Steven Trease, 2 Charlestown Circle, Cove, Aberdeen, AB12 3EY (17 Jun 1999)  
Paul Saunders, 2 Devenick Way, Portlethen, Aberdeen, AB12 4PP (07 Jan 2014)  
Tony Gibson, 107 Queen's Drive, Hazelhead, Aberdeen, AB15 8BN (24 Jan 2012)  
Steve Cook, 159 Lee Crescent, Aberdeen, AB22 8FH (16 Feb 2013)  
Martin Vicca, 14 Leslie Crescent, Westhill, Aberdeen, AB32 6UZ (09 Mar 2016)  
Michael Green, 27 Rotchell Park, Dumfries, DG2 7RH (12 Sep 2002)  
Alan Hume, 62/2 Bryson Road, Edinburgh, Midlothian, EH11 1DR (10 Feb 2017)  
Mark Chapman, Flat 7, 265 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh, EH11 1TX (01 Dec 2005)  
Garry Ferguson, 30E Forrester Park Avenue, Edinburgh, EH12 9AW (07 Dec 1998)  
Pete Phillipps, 19 Main Street, Kirkliston, Midlothian, EH29 9AE (11 Nov 2017)  
Darren Kilfara, 68 Wilson Place, Dunbar, East Lothian, EH42 1GG (09 May 2017)  
Alan Sheffield, 1 Barns Ness Terrace, Innerwick, Dunbar, East Lothian, EH42 1SF (09 Sep 2011)  
Lauchlan Brown, 20 Union Road, Broxburn, West Lothian, EH52 6hr (03 Feb 2013)  
John Martin, 85 Pyothall Road, Broxburn, West Lothian, EH52 6HW (17 Feb 2017)  
Stewart Thain, 77 Birrell Gardens, Murrieston, Livingston, West Lothian, EH54 9LF (25 Oct 2007)  
Bill Finlayson, 19 Taymouth Road, Polmont, Falkirk, Stirlingshire, FK2 0PF (16 Jun 2001)  
John McLintock, B25 434 St Georges Rd, Woodside, Glasgow, G3 6JW (30 May 2012)  
Andrew Kassian, 7 Burnbrae Road, Auchinloch, Glasgow, G66 5DQ (06 Oct 2016)  
Hamish Hughson, 15 Esmond Gardens, Elgin, Moray, IV30 4LB (21 Mar 2010)  
Steve Mackintosh, 54 Firthview Drive, Inverness, IV38QE (27 Jan 2013)  
Oliver Gray, 117 Upper Dalgairn, Cupar, Fife, KY15 4JQ (04 Feb 2009)  
Garry Marshall, 24 Allardice Crescent, Kirkcaldy, Fife, KY2 5TY (21 May 2001)  
Hugh O'Donnell, 11 Rossbank Road, PORT GLASGOW, Renfrewshire, PA14 5AD (28 Dec 2016)  
Neil Stevens, Linton Mill Farmhouse, Morebattle, Kelso, Roxburghshire, TD5 8AE (08 Jan 2015)  
Jonathan Williamson, Da Croft, Bridge End, Burra, Shetland Islands, ZE2 9LE (01 May 1998)

## Wales

Andrew Whinnett, 6 Aquilla Court, Conway Road, Cardiff, CF11 9PA (03 Sep 2008)  
Paul Jones, 9 Cwm Nofydd, Rhiwbina, Cardiff, CF14 6JX (22 Nov 2002)  
Chris Dalgety, 4 Library Street, Canton, Cardiff, Cardiff, CF5 1QD (30 Dec 2014)  
Martin Castrey, 1, Thomas Cottages, The Highway, Hawarden, Flintshire, CH5 3DY (03 Sep 2008)  
Kev Sutton, 1 Gorphwysfa, Windsor Road, New Broughton, Wrexham, LL11 6SP (25 Feb 1999)  
Nick Rijke, Aneddfa, Cellan, Lampeter, Ceredigion, SA48 8HY (06 Sep 2010)  
C. Jones, Deer Park Lodge, Stepaside, Narbeth, Pembrokeshire, SA67 8JL (31 Dec 1995)  
Emyr Phillips, 2 Cysgod Y Bryn, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 4LR (27 Aug 2002)

If there are any mistakes, please let me know so I can correct them for the next edition. If you have Internet access you can also correct your details on the *VFTT* web site at [www.vfft.co.uk/my-account.asp](http://www.vfft.co.uk/my-account.asp).

## NOVEMBER INTENSIVE FIRE 2017

**When:** 15 – 19 November.

**Where:** The Travel Rest Hotel, West Hill Road, Bournemouth, England, BH2 5EG. Telephone (01202) 555 889 or fax (01202) 789 567 to arrange accommodation. Room rates are £47 per night for a single room, and £37 per night per person for a double room.

**Fee:** £15.00 if registering with the organisers before 1 November, £20.00 thereafter and on the door (entry is free for those only able to attend for one day). In addition to a discount on the entry fee, players pre-registering will receive a tournament program in October.

**Format:** To be confirmed. Depending on the numbers taking part there may be a three round Fire Team tournament (two rounds on Saturday, one on Sunday) or a knock-out tournament. There will also be some single day mini-tournaments on the Friday. Open gaming is available for those who do not wish to take part in the tournament.

**Contact:** For more details or to register contact Pete Phillipps, 19 Main Street, Kirkliston, Scotland, EH29 9AE. Phone (1031) 629 1260 (evenings only) or email [if@vfft.co.uk](mailto:if@vfft.co.uk). For up to date information check out the UK *ASL* tournament web site at [www.vfft.co.uk](http://www.vfft.co.uk).

## NEW YORK STATE ASL CHAMPIONSHIP

**When:** 30 November – 3 December.

**Where:** Best Western Sovereign, 1228 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12202, phone 518-489-2981. Room rates are \$80 per night including breakfast.

**Fee:** \$50 for the weekend or \$30 for a single day.

**Format:** Six round tournament beginning Thursday morning, with three scenarios to choose from in each round. All scenarios will make use of the Pleva Bidding System. There will also be a three player mini tournament on Saturday and Sunday.

**Contact:** For more details or to register contact Joe Leoce, 39 Ashton Drive, Staten Island, NY 10312 or email [asl726@aol.com](mailto:asl726@aol.com). For up to date information check out the web site at <http://nys-asl.com/>.

## 2018

### MARCH

#### HEROES 2018

**When:** 1 – 4 March.

**Where:** Colwyn Hotel, 569 New South Promenade, Blackpool, England, FY4 1NG. Tel 01253 341 024. Room rates start at £30.00 for a shared room or £42.50 for a single room and include breakfast. Bar meals and good beer are also available at the hotel.

**Fee:** £15.00 if registering with the organisers prior to 20 February, £20.00 thereafter and on the door (entry is free for those only able to attend for one day). In addition to a discount on the entry fee, players pre-registering will receive a tournament program in January.

**Format:** Four round tournament beginning Friday morning, with three scenarios to choose from in each round. There will be an additional round on Friday after if the number of participants warrants it. Players will be expected to have knowledge of the first half of the Chapter G rules to play in the tournament. CG and friendly games can also be found throughout the weekend. There will also be opportunities for new players to learn the game and friendly games available.

**Contact:** For more details or to register contact Pete Phillipps, 19 Main Street, Kirkliston, Scotland, EH29 9AE. Phone (1031) 629 1260 (evenings only) or email [if@vfft.co.uk](mailto:if@vfft.co.uk). For up to date information check out the UK *ASL* tournament web site at [www.vfft.co.uk](http://www.vfft.co.uk).

### SCANDANAVIAN ASL OPEN

**When:** 1 – 4 March.

**Where:** Danhostel Copenhagen Amager, Vejlands Allé 200, 2300København S, Denmark. Accommodation is available at a cost of 1500 Danish Kroner (about €200) per person sharing a four person bedroom including breakfast, lunch and dinner. Other room options are available – contact the organisers for a price.

**Fee:** Similar to 2017, which was 200 Danish Kroner (about €27).

**Format:** The tournament will be a five round Swiss style affair.

**Contact:** Michael Hastrup-Leth, Favrholmvangen 15, 3400 Hillerød, Denmark, or email at [hastrupleth@gmail.com](mailto:hastrupleth@gmail.com). For the latest information visit the website at <http://www.asl-so.dk/>.

## JUNE

### DOUBLE ONE 2018

**When:** 21 – 24 June.

**Where:** Writtle College, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 3RR. On-site facilities include en-suite and standard bedrooms, free car parking on application, mini market, cash points, a self-service cafeteria and licensed bars. Bedroom rates start at £39.60 for a single room and breakfast.

**Fee:** £15.00 if paid before 30 April, £20.00 thereafter.

**Format:** A two day tournament with two rounds on Saturday and one on Sunday offering a choice of scenarios. A number of mini-tournaments will be run on Friday, and friendly games will also be available throughout the weekend.

**Contact:** For a booking form contact Derek Cox, Whiteways, 77a St Nicholas Road, Witham, Essex, CM8 2JE or by email at [derek@doubleone-online.net](mailto:derek@doubleone-online.net). Check out the web site at <http://www.doubleone-online.net/f.html> for the latest details.

# HEROES 2018

## ADVANCED SQUAD LEADER TOURNAMENT

1<sup>ST</sup> - 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH (THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY) 2018

COLWYN HOTEL, NEW SOUTH PROMENADE, BLACKPOOL, ENGLAND

### THE EVENT

Following its success in previous years HEROES continues in 2018 to fill the gap for UK ASL action in the first half of the year. As normal the action starts on Thursday and continues through to Sunday so you can play in an ASL tournament and/or play friendly games (or even try your hand at a campaign game if you can find an opponent). The focus of the weekend will be the main tournament, in which players of like record are paired off to allow us to determine the winners - depending on numbers attending there will be four or five rounds. The first round will start on Friday morning and each round sees players choose from three carefully selected scenarios. Main tournament entrants are to be familiar with the rules through to the first half of Chapter G.

### BOOT CAMP

Don't worry if you are a new player (someone who has only ever played five or fewer games against a live opponent), as there are plenty of chances to learn the game with an experienced player nearby to offer advice on rules. There will never be a better time to try your hand at ASL!

Remember, you can also drop in just for part of a day if you can't make it for the full weekend.

### THE VENUE

The Colwyn Hotel is familiar to those who have attended in the past and offers plenty of gaming room for the whole weekend, Meals and good beer are also available in the hotel, and numerous alternative food outlets are close by. The hotel is easily accessible from the M55 and the train station is a 5 minute walk away. Bed and breakfast is available from just £30 per person for a shared room or £42.50 for a single room.

### THE COST

The weekend, whether you enter a tournament or just play games with the people you will meet, is fantastic value at only £15.00 if you register before the beginning of 20 February 2018 (entry is £20.00 after that date).

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## HEROES 2018 HOTEL BOOKING FORM

To book your room simply fill in this form and send it with a cheque for £10.00 to cover your deposit (payable to COLWYN HOTEL) to Colwyn Hotel, 569 New South Promenade, Blackpool, England, FY4 1NG. You can also telephone them on 01253 341 024 to book your room.

|  |  |     |  |             |  |     |  |
|--|--|-----|--|-------------|--|-----|--|
| NAME                                     |  |     |  |             |  |     |  |
| ADDRESS                                  |  |     |  |             |  |     |  |
| NIGHTS ROOM REQUIRED FOR (tick each one) |  |     |  |             |  |     |  |
| THURS                                    |  | FRI |  | SAT         |  | SUN |  |
| SINGLE ROOM                              |  |     |  | DOUBLE ROOM |  |     |  |
| NAME OF PERSON SHARING WITH              |  |     |  |             |  |     |  |