

UPD *Academy* Date

Issue No 45

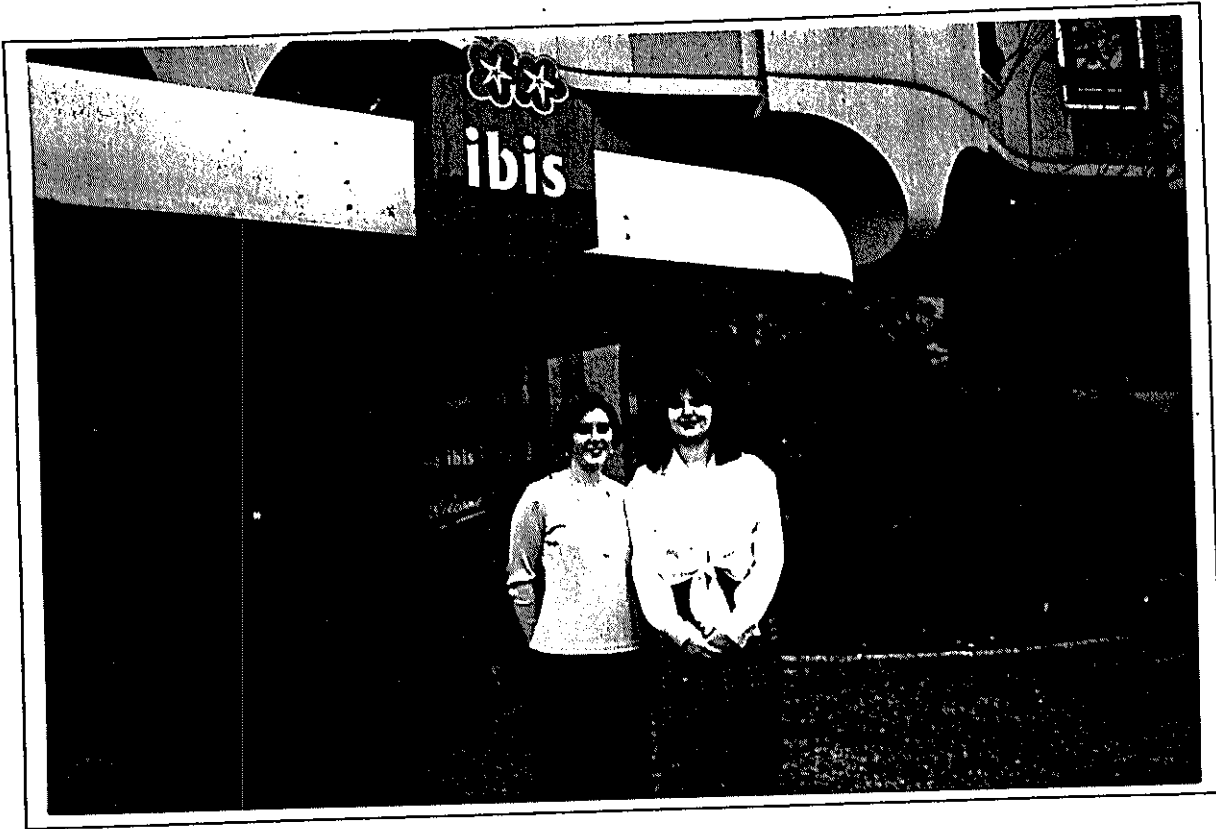
May 1995

RED NOSE DAY



A stunning £805.57 was raised for Comic Relief through a football and basketball tournament, sponsored silences, 24-hour famines and 'Splat the Teacher'. Many thanks to Asda who supplied prizes for the sports finalists. A flavour of the week is given in the photos overleaf.

EUROSCOLA '95



We were chosen to take part in a team which was to represent Grampian Region in the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

The journey began at 6.00 am when we left from Woodhill House to reach our destination - Hull. From there we caught the overnight ferry to Zeebrugge where we managed to pick up a few male German pen-pals!! We then had another long journey through several countries to reach Strasbourg and as we passed through Belgium, one girl paid almost £4 to go to the toilet in a service station - but that's another story!! When we reached Strasbourg we had 1½ days free to do what we wanted so we went shopping - surprise, surprise - and at night we went to the 'Kneipen'.

On the Tuesday we visited the European Parliament which was a very enjoyable experience. There were strict controls to get into the Parliament - but none of us was carrying any bombs! Once inside the Parliament we were split into groups and allocated our seats. There was a large discussion with everyone taking part; the countries represented were Scotland, France, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Austria and Greece. During lunch we had to form teams and take part in the 'Eurogame'. Each member of the team had to be

of a different nationality, which brought everyone together and we had a lot of fun.

After lunch we went into our groups and discussed how the youth of today feel about Europe - unemployment, barrier controls, drugs and alcohol abuse. Afterwards we went back into the Parliament and everyone discussed what we had spoken about in our smaller groups. At the end of the day, the four teams with the most points fought it out to see who was going to become the champions of the 'Eurogame'. We left the Parliament feeling proud to represent our school in Europe and we now had even more European pen-pals.

We had to be up early on the Wednesday morning and drove from Strasbourg to Zeebrugge. We caught the overnight ferry back to Hull and it was a really good evening although it was in the back of everyone's mind that it was our last night together. On the bus on Thursday everyone was exchanging addresses and telephone numbers, promising to keep in touch once we got back home. Once the bus reached Woodhill House there was a large hugging session with everyone saying their last goodbyes.

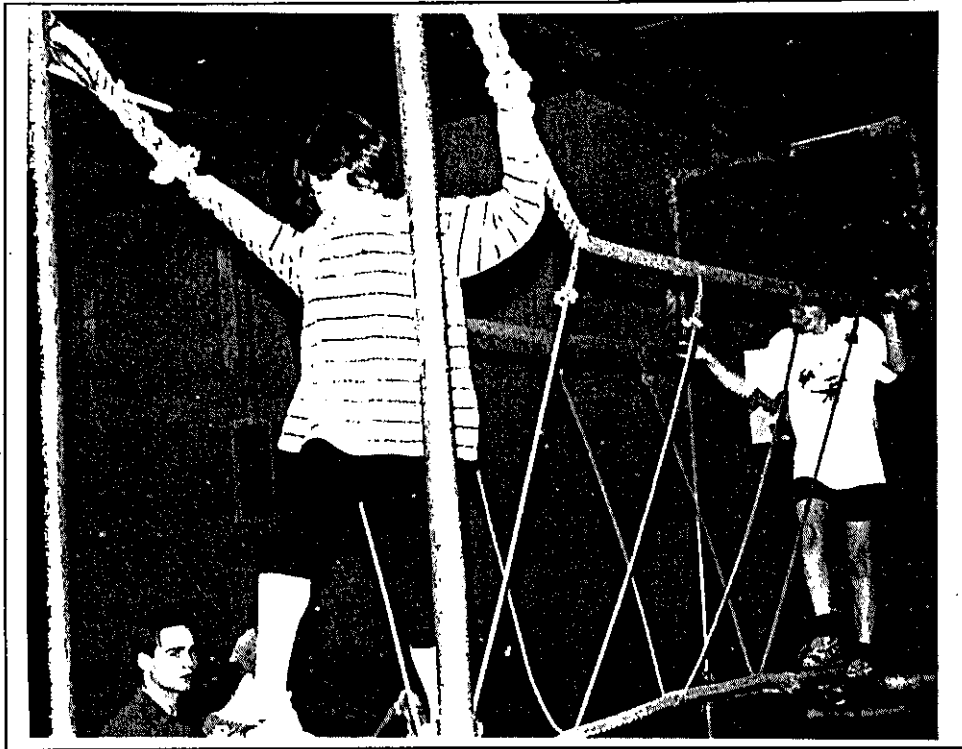
Since then we've written to and met up with a few people, we've been invited to stay in places all over

Europe, but most importantly we've realised how important friendships are!!

JOANNE C

ALISON C

ARMY ASSAULT COURSE



Every year the Army offers their assault course to schools in Grampian and Highland Regions over a period of time roughly from November - March. They visit one school per day and give pupils instruction in the obstacles and how to safely complete the assault course. Their visit to us was on 1 February. All classes at PE on that day had the opportunity to complete the course individually

and as a team. During lunchtime we opened the course to any pupils in the school (S1 - S6). There were 120 pupils who tried their luck at lunchtime.

By 4.00 pm all the apparatus was packed away and some pupils (mainly 2A/B girls) bid the Army lads a tearful farewell. Generally a good day was had by all.

RAYMOND LITTLEJOHN

BT SCHOOL LINK SCHEME



For the last five years Dyce Academy and twelve other secondary schools in Scotland have been involved in the BT School Link Scheme. The scheme involves BT drawing up a contract with schools which have a broad spectrum of pupils and a varied curriculum to develop a good relationship.

Most of the senior pupils in the school will know Bob McPherson. Bob has helped in running a number of courses such as Understanding Industry, Work Experience placements and has assisted with the mock interview schemes but Bob's main priority as the BT Education Liaison Manager is to maintain a regular liaison with the school.

One of the benefits of being a link school is that BT provides teachers and pupils with the use of Campus 2000 and E-Mail. This links us to hundreds of schools in the UK Campus 2000 which has proved useful in many departments within the school. For example any English pupil can access virtually any newspaper on the system and select articles within the last year for free which may be of use for a school project. BT also provides the school with a curriculum grant of £1500. This year the money will be used to help provide each of the four members of the senior management team with a PC and to have these networked together with two PCs for the school office/administrative staff which will improve efficiency throughout the school. Previous grants

had been used to buy a weather satellite receiver and a library of CD Roms and CD Rom hardware.

Last year BT provided £5000 towards the Caretakers of the Environment Conference. This was an international conference which BT were happy to fund as they believed that Dyce Academy and other schools from around the world benefited from the experience.

Technical assistance as well as the financial help is always on hand for departments within the school who require assistance in the area which BT have experience in. BT also use the schools as a sounding board for new products which they believe can enhance the education of pupils.

Bob McPherson believes that from what he has seen in the school over the past five years all departments have benefited from the grant being wisely spent. Dyce Academy hopes to continue its good relationship with BT as both parties benefit from the link.

PAUL

STEPHEN

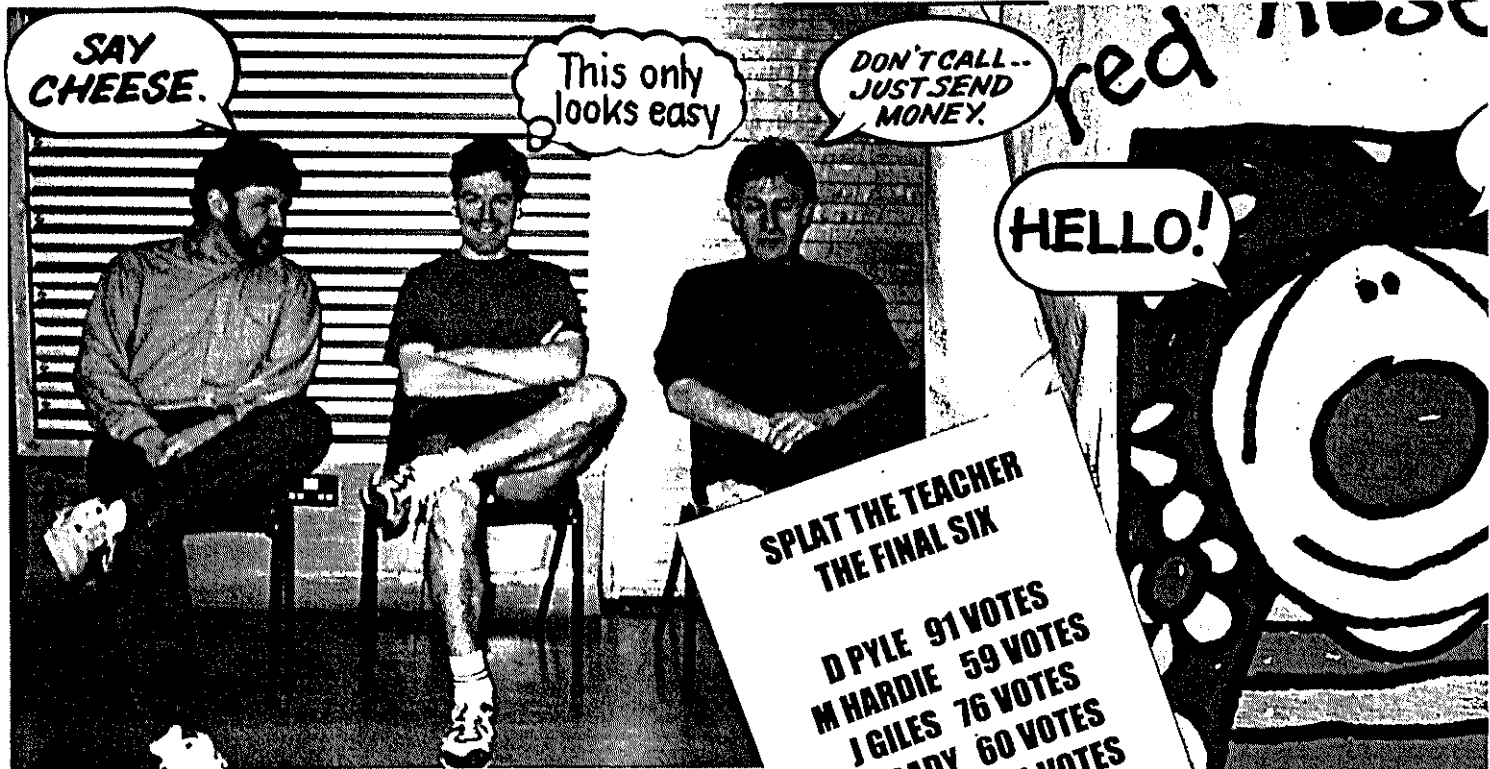


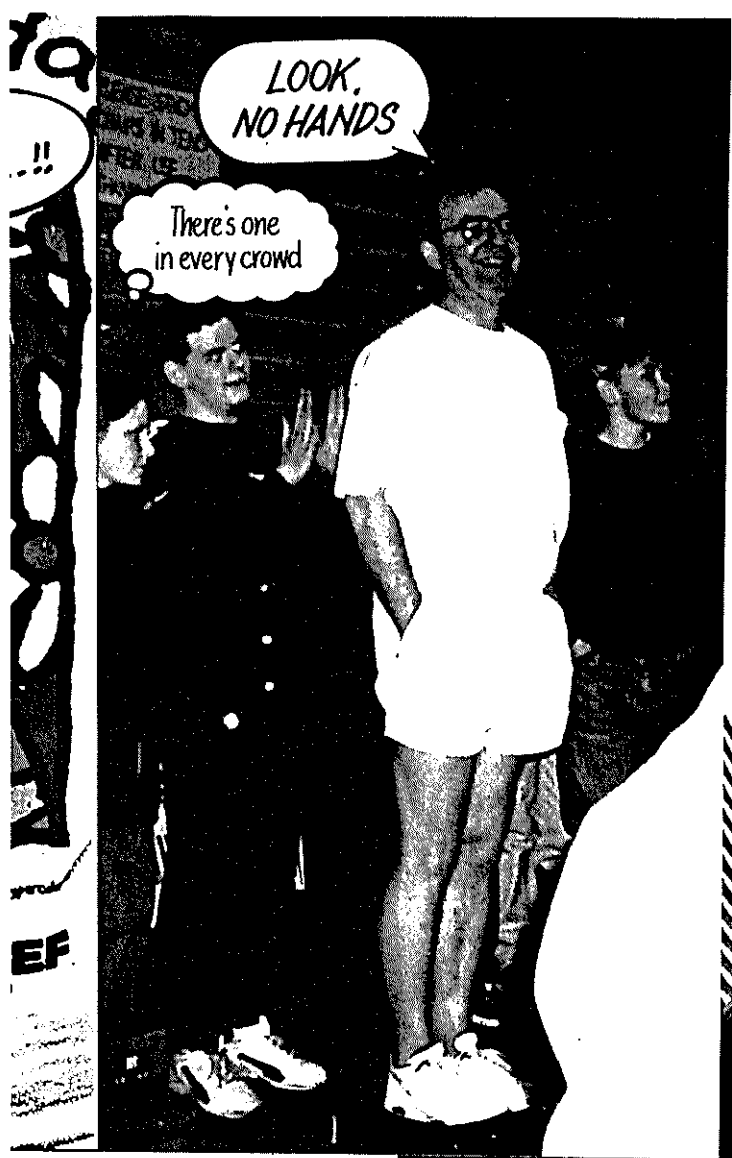
COMIC CAPERS



Picture left - shows (on extreme right standing) the oldest pupil in Britain still playing football.







5. 5 7



Only by dreaming of our future will we shape tomorrow.

The Design Council
PROJECT 2045

Time capsule of the future

On show are ideas, visions and predictions for the year 2045. What our world will be like what new products will be around and how we will live our lives.

To celebrate the Design Council's 50th anniversary, 2,045 organisations, schools, colleges and companies around the country have taken part in Project 2045.



These ideas will be sealed in a time capsule to be opened 50 years from now.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY CONCERT AND SUPPER

One could be forgiven for thinking that an invitation to an April Fool's Day Concert and Supper sounded like a prank. Thankfully, it wasn't. Dyce Community Music Groups held their Concert and Supper on Saturday 1 April 1995 at the Airport Club.

A sense of high anxiety quickly disappeared as June Smith deftly led the orchestra through 'Rock Around the Clock', popularised by Bill Haley and the Comets. From Mr Young's encyclopaedic knowledge everyone learned that 'Rock Around the Clock' was first recorded on 12 April 1954 at Pythian Temple on Manhattan's West Side.

He lacked a Tardis but had a vivid dramatic sense. Who moved the audience to the outer limits of 1977? While momentarily there, the orchestra expressively recreated the magic of Star Wars.

For some, those were the days back in 1967 when Glasgow Celtic became the first British soccer club to win the European Cup. For music lovers though, 1967 is memorable because Procul Harem reached the number one spot in the UK charts with 'A Whiter Shade of Pale'. It stayed there for six weeks even though it sounded a little like a Bach cantata, which the orchestra movingly recreated.

Specially written for young people, 'Tamarind Blues' was a colourful contrast.

The first half closed with John Lennon's 'Imagine', written in 1971, shortly after the break-up of the Beatles. Not many people know this, but the concept and lyrics came from Yoko Ono!

The second half enthralled everyone with a selection from the musical Les Miserables by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schonberg. They produced a powerful and dramatic story and told it entirely through song and music. Herbert Kretzner's English lyrics, inspired the choir's powerful projection of 'Do You Hear the People Sing'.

A tasty treat of stovies and beetroot fortified everyone for an exciting raffle, excellently managed by Bill Gibson. Luckily for some, June Smith activated the random number selector. Mr Young handed out the prizes.

The convivial evening ended with a lively disco of interesting new music and some 'golden oldies'. Many seemed relieved that it had not been an April Fool's day.

The following week many teachers complained they couldn't get any tickets! Whispers of praise even came from an unexpected quarter, but she wishes to remain anonymous.

ANDREW TRYBALSKA

REMINDERS :

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| <u>Car Boot Sale</u> | - | Saturday 10 June and Saturday 24 June 1995
Dyce Academy Car Park (10.00 - 2.00)
Cars £5 |
| <u>Step Aerobics</u> | - | Thursday evenings (7.00 - 8.00)
Dyce Academy
£2 per session |

S4 MOCK INTERVIEW PROJECT (FEBRUARY - MARCH 1995)

The preparation work for the project starts in December of each year when the school contacts about 25 local companies and colleges to see if they are willing to participate. By the end of January I had prepared a booklet for pupils which contained 29 'Job Adverts' from 20 different companies and colleges.

In Social Education during mid-February, pupils prioritise three 'Job Adverts' and by the end of February I had matched these choices with the number of interviews that each company could deal with. Again in Social Education pupils were told which interview they had been allocated and issued with appropriate application forms or given details of how to complete their curriculum vitae (CV). Then, the week before the interviews were due to start, Bob McPherson, a Personnel

Manager from BT in Glasgow, spoke to pupils about what an employer would be looking for during an interview and supplied useful tips about attitude and dress.

By the time the interviews started on Monday 13 March, the companies had been sent all application forms, letters and CVs. Most of the interviews took place outside school, adding to the authenticity of the exercise. By the Easter holidays nearly 85 S4 pupils, about 80% of the year, had had an interview plus feedback session.

Finally, as an indication of the success of the project I want to finish with several quotes I have received from companies as part of the debriefing process.

- John Lewis** "It was a delight to meet such well-presented and well-prepared young people. They had all given some thought to the interviews, asked relevant questions and displayed a polite, confident manner."
- Arjo Wiggins** "Once again a shift manager and myself spent two enjoyable and informative afternoons with your five pupils. It was very heartening to see the effort they all went to, even although they knew it was a mock-up."
- McIntosh of Dyce** "All four candidates presented themselves well at the interviews and on the responses given would be given a job offer if there was a suitable vacancy."
- Royal Bank** "Both of your pupils came over exceedingly well and there was absolutely no hesitation in the coherent answers to questions that were asked during both interviews."

GRANT BRUCE
Assistant Head Teacher

BOOKS !

At this time of year (spring cleaning, exam leave) maybe stray copies of school textbooks are found under beds, down the back of radiators, in drawers, etc. Could we have them back please?

No names, no excuses, no repercussions - just hand them in to any teacher or into the box in the library - anonymity guaranteed.

Departments in the school would be very grateful.

FOOTBALL STARDOM



Martyn in fourth year, is heading for footballing stardom. Having played in Dyce Primary football team, Dyce Boys' Club, then on to Stonewood Boys' Club, he now has a great deal

of local success under his belt. This, of course, means a roomful of medals and cups for Martyn.

All this success culminated in offers to join Aberdeen, Celtic or Dundee United football clubs. By the age of 14 he had joined up with Celtic as his family felt that this club had the best system of youth training.

However, this means every Saturday he and his father have to set off at 9.00 am for Glasgow.

Fortunately, at the moment Martyn, who plays left back, and his team are top of their league. (Wish Roy Aitken could say the same!). They are about to play the semi-final of the Scottish Cup - against St Johnstone.

Like anyone else who takes sport seriously, success demands hard work, including training with other young Grampian hopefuls every Monday evening.

His best moment so far? The first time he played against Rangers - and beat them 2-0 ! If all goes well Martyn will be offered a YTS placement with Celtic next year. Then we wait and see.

"GEORGE'S MARVELLOUS MEDICINE" - A REAL TONIC!

On Tuesday 28 March 1995, seventy-two S1 pupils and four members of staff attended a matinee performance of Roald Dahl's "George's Marvellous Medicine". As an end-of-term tonic this amusing production was just what the doctor ordered.

George's Medicine turned out to be not so marvellous in the end as it had the effect of making his tyrannical granny grow to a height of about 20 ft. When his Mum and Dad came home from a shopping trip they discovered a giant Granny had burst through the roof of their house!

However, all ends happily as George invents an antidote and 'shrinks' Granny back to her usual size.

This treatment of Roald Dahl's novel had the S1 pupils in stitches. This was a thoroughly enjoyable performance, with some very good special effects - in particular the growth and shrinkage of Granny - which was highly effective.

* A word of warning to parents - in future, keep your medicine cupboard locked and never leave your Granny unattended!

RHONA SMITH

COURT REPORT - MAY 1995

The basketball season is all but over - all that remains is a challenge match for S1 pupils versus Oldmachar at the end of the month. This will be important as this team will form the basis of the Under 14 squad for next season.

The Under 18 team's final game away to Banff Academy was postponed due to bad weather and we were three important players short for the rearranged date. Regular readers will know that we already have a very small squad at this level and it was necessary to draft in some younger players to the extent that most of the starting five players were under 16. The makeshift team put up a very good attacking performance but conceded too many points too readily, going down by a score of 81 - 54. Given the difficulties faced in getting a team together, the players should take a lot of encouragement from this match. With most of this year's Under 16 and Under 18 teams staying on, we should not encounter the same problems next season at this level.

The season ended up with a couple of tournaments for the older teams. The Under 18 team played extremely well in their matches, defeating Ellon and Banff before narrowly going down to a very impressive Bridge of Don side which contained three national league players. Sadly the same could not be said for the Under 16s who took too long to get motivated in their tournament and failed to record a single victory in their three games.

As this is the final report for the season, I would like to thank all players for their enthusiasm and commitment. This has been a very busy year for basketball and a lot of encouragement has to be taken from it. As always, we have to say goodbye to some of our longer serving players and this year we are losing Scott Flippence - to the Chicago Bulls - so I've been told. Good Luck, Scott, I'm sure Michael Jordan will enjoy teaming up with you!

TOM FERGUSON

Lucky Numbers

As nobody has come forward with the lucky number Update for the last two editions the prize now stands at £30.

Your Lucky Number is: