

plug from the beano

Plug from the Beano

Plug from the Beano is a character that has become an iconic part of British comic history. Originating from the legendary comic magazine The Beano, Plug is a mischievous and humorous character loved by generations of readers. Over the decades, Plug has evolved from a simple comic strip figure into a cultural symbol, representing youthful mischief, comic timing, and the nostalgic charm of classic British comics. This article delves into the origins, character traits, significance, and cultural impact of Plug from the Beano, offering a comprehensive look into this beloved character.

Origins of Plug in the Beano

The Birth of Plug

Plug first appeared in The Beano comic in the early 1960s. Created by the talented cartoonist Dudley D. Watkins, Plug was initially introduced as a comic strip character aimed at capturing the imagination of young readers. His debut was marked by humorous antics that showcased his resourcefulness and cheeky personality.

Evolution Over the Years

Throughout the decades, Plug's character design and stories have evolved, reflecting changing societal attitudes and comic styles. In the 1960s and 1970s, Plug was depicted as a typical schoolboy with a penchant for pranks. During the 1980s and 1990s, his character was refined to incorporate more elaborate storylines and visual humor. Despite these changes, the core of Plug's personality — mischievous, clever, and humorous — remained consistent.

The Creative Minds Behind Plug

The character's development was driven by a team of talented writers and illustrators at The Beano. Dudley D. Watkins set the foundation, but subsequent artists and writers such as David Sutherland and Leo Baxendale contributed significantly to shaping Plug's character and stories.

Character Traits and Personality

Visual Appearance

Plug is typically depicted as a young boy with spiky hair, a mischievous grin, and often sporting casual, slightly scruffy clothing. His expressive face and exaggerated gestures make him instantly recognizable and contribute to his comedic appeal.

Personality Traits

- **Mischievousness:** Plug is known for his knack for getting into trouble, often through elaborate pranks.
- **Cleverness:** Despite his mischievous nature, Plug is highly intelligent and resourceful.
- **Humor:** His antics are characterized by slapstick humor and witty remarks.
- **Bravery:** Often, Plug demonstrates courage in facing challenges or outsmarting authority figures.

Typical Plotlines

Plug's stories often revolve around:

- Planning and executing pranks on friends or teachers.
- Escaping from trouble after a mischievous act.
- Engaging in adventures that showcase his quick thinking.
- Learning lessons about friendship, honesty, or responsibility.

Cultural Significance of Plug from the Beano

A Symbol of Childhood Mischief

Plug embodies the playful spirit of childhood. His antics resonate with young readers who see in him a reflection of their own curiosity and desire for fun. His character encourages a sense of adventure and the importance of wit and cleverness.

Impact on British Comic Culture

As one of the longstanding characters in The Beano, Plug has contributed to the comic's popularity and longevity. His stories have helped define the tone of The Beano — humorous, rebellious, and inventive — which has influenced generations of comic artists and writers.

Influence Beyond the Comic

Plug's popularity has extended beyond the pages of The Beano. He has appeared in various merchandise, including toys, posters, and school supplies. Additionally, references to Plug can be found in British pop culture, highlighting his status as a nostalgic icon.

The Role of Plug in The Beano Series

Storytelling Style

Plug's stories are typically short, humorous strips that emphasize visual comedy and quick-paced plots. They often feature a recurring cast of characters, including friends, teachers, and family members, who interact with Plug in comic situations.

Recurring Themes

Common themes in Plug's stories include:

- The battle between mischievousness and authority.
- Ingenious schemes to outwit rivals.
- The importance of friendship and loyalty.
- Consequences of mischievous behavior, often humorous rather than serious.

Notable Storylines and Gags

Some of the most memorable Plug stories involve:

- Pranks that backfire in funny ways.

- Ingenious inventions or gadgets used in schemes.
- Situations where Plug's cleverness saves the day.
- Parodies of adult behaviors or societal norms.

The Legacy of Plug from the Beano

Enduring Popularity

Despite the changing landscape of comics and entertainment, Plug remains a beloved character. His stories continue to entertain new generations of readers and serve as a nostalgic reminder for older fans.

Influence on Modern Comics

Plug's character archetype — the clever, mischievous child — has influenced numerous modern comic characters across various media. His archetype can be seen in animated series, children's books, and other comic strips that depict youthful ingenuity and humor.

Preservation and Revival

The Beano has periodically revisited Plug's character, updating his stories and artwork to appeal to contemporary audiences while maintaining his classic charm. This balance between tradition and innovation has helped preserve his legacy.

The Cultural Impact of Plug in British Society

Reflection of British Humor

Plug's stories are quintessentially British in their humor style — witty, understated, and often with a satirical edge. They reflect societal attitudes towards authority, education, and childhood independence.

Nostalgic Relevance

For many Britons, especially those who grew up reading The Beano, Plug symbolizes a carefree childhood filled with mischief and adventure. His character evokes nostalgia and a sense of cultural continuity.

Educational and Moral Aspects

While primarily humorous, many Plug stories subtly impart lessons about honesty, consequences, and friendship, contributing to moral education through entertainment.

Conclusion

Plug from the Beano is more than just a comic strip character; he is a cultural icon that embodies the playful, rebellious spirit of childhood. From his humble beginnings in the 1960s to his enduring presence in British comic culture, Plug continues to entertain and inspire. His clever antics, humorous stories, and symbolic representation of youthful mischief have cemented his place in the pantheon of beloved comic characters. As The Beano evolves, Plug remains a testament to the timeless appeal of humor, ingenuity, and the joy of childhood misadventure.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Plug from The Beano?

Plug is a popular comic character from The Beano, known for his mischievous antics and distinctive appearance.

What are Plug's main characteristics in The Beano?

Plug is typically depicted as a cheeky, fun-loving character who often gets into humorous troubles, with a distinctive spiky hair and a mischievous grin.

In which comic strip does Plug appear in The Beano?

Plug appears in the comic strip titled 'Plug', which features his adventures and humorous escapades.

Has Plug been featured in recent issues of The Beano?

Yes, Plug continues to be a popular character and appears regularly in recent issues and special editions of The Beano.

Are there any merchandise or collectibles related to Plug from The Beano?

Yes, there are various merchandise items such as toys, posters, and collectibles featuring Plug for fans and collectors.

Is Plug a main character or a supporting character in The Beano?

Plug is considered a main character within his own comic strip, often starring in his own stories.

How has Plug's character evolved over the years in The Beano?

While maintaining his mischievous nature, Plug has seen updates in his design and stories to appeal to modern audiences, but his core personality remains consistent.

Are there any upcoming storylines or special editions featuring Plug?

Yes, The Beano occasionally features special editions and storylines that highlight Plug's adventures, especially during anniversary issues or themed celebrations.

Where can I read the latest stories about Plug from The Beano?

You can find the latest Plug stories in The Beano comic magazine, available in print, digital editions, and on the official Beano website.

Additional Resources

Plug from The Beano has long been a beloved character in the world of British comics, captivating generations of readers with his mischievous antics and distinctive personality. As a staple in The Beano, Plug's adventures and character traits have become iconic, representing the quintessential schoolboy with a cheeky grin and a penchant for getting into trouble. This review aims to explore the origins, character development, cultural impact, and the enduring appeal of Plug from The Beano, providing a comprehensive overview for both longtime fans and newcomers alike.

Origins and Creation of Plug

Historical Background

Plug first appeared in The Beano comic in the early 1960s, a period marked by a surge of comic characters embodying youthful mischief and humor. Created by the talented artist and writer Dudley D. Watkins, Plug was envisioned as a quintessential schoolboy character who embodies the playful spirit and rebellious streak characteristic of childhood. His name, "Plug," was chosen to reflect his energetic and lively personality—always "plugging away" at his schemes.

Design and Visual Characteristics

Plug's visual design is simple yet effective, featuring:

- A round face with a mischievous grin
- Short, spiky hair often depicted in bright colors
- Typical schoolboy attire—blazer, shorts, and a cap
- Expressive eyes that convey his playful nature

This straightforward yet expressive design has made him easily recognizable and relatable for readers, reinforcing his role as a mischievous but lovable character.

Character Traits and Personality

Mischievous and Playful

At the core of Plug's character is his mischievous spirit. He is known for:

- Crafting clever pranks and schemes

- Always finding new ways to outwit teachers and classmates
- Exhibiting a sense of adventure and curiosity

While often causing chaos, his intentions are usually harmless, and his antics are portrayed humorously rather than maliciously.

Resourcefulness and Ingenuity

Plug's cleverness is a defining trait. He:

- Uses simple tools and creative ideas to execute his plans
- Demonstrates quick thinking in tricky situations
- Often outsmarts authority figures, which resonates with young readers' desire for independence

Humor and Charm

A significant aspect of Plug's appeal lies in his humorous approach:

- His witty remarks and clever schemes entertain readers
- His charming personality makes him endearing despite his antics
- The comic strip often emphasizes humor over conflict, highlighting his playful nature

Thematic Elements and Storylines

School Life and Childhood Adventures

Most of Plug's stories revolve around school-based adventures, capturing the essence of childhood:

- Pranks in the classroom
- Escapades during recess or lunch breaks
- Interactions with teachers and classmates that reflect typical school dynamics

These stories resonate with young readers, reflecting their own experiences and fantasies of mischief.

Lessons and Morals

While primarily humorous, many stories incorporate subtle morals:

- The importance of wit and cleverness
- Respect for others despite mischief
- Learning from mistakes and understanding consequences

This balance ensures that the comic remains entertaining while subtly imparting values.

Impact and Cultural Significance

Popularity and Longevity

Plug has enjoyed remarkable longevity, remaining a popular character in The Beano for over six decades. His stories have:

- Appealed to multiple generations
- Contributed to The Beano's reputation as a cornerstone of British comic culture
- Inspired merchandise, collectibles, and adaptations

Representation of Childhood Rebellion

Plug embodies the universal theme of childhood rebellion—a desire to challenge authority and explore boundaries. His character:

- Provides a playful outlet for expressing youthful defiance
- Encourages readers to think creatively and independently
- Serves as a humorous reminder that mischief, when harmless, can be a healthy part of childhood development

Influence on Popular Culture

Beyond comics, Plug has influenced:

- Cartoon adaptations and animated specials
- Parodies and references in other media
- The broader cultural perception of playful childhood mischief

His enduring presence underscores his significance in British pop culture.

Modern Interpretations and Adaptations

Reimagining for New Audiences

While Plug's original stories date back several decades, modern adaptations have:

- Updated his costume and settings to reflect contemporary school environments
- Emphasized themes of friendship and teamwork alongside mischief
- Maintained his core personality traits to preserve authenticity

Digital and Multimedia Presence

In recent years, Plug has appeared in:

- Digital comics and online platforms
- Animated shorts and videos
- Interactive games targeting younger audiences

These efforts have helped keep Plug relevant in an increasingly digital world.

Pros and Cons of Plug from The Beano

Pros:

- Timeless humor that appeals across generations
- Relatable childhood mischief themes
- Iconic and recognizable character design
- Encourages creativity and quick thinking
- Contributes to British comic heritage

Cons:

- Some stories may reinforce rebellious behavior that parents might find problematic
- Original content may seem dated to modern readers without updates
- Limited character development beyond mischievous traits
- As with many comic characters, repeated storylines can become predictable

Conclusion

Plug from The Beano remains a symbol of playful childhood rebellion and ingenuity. His long-standing presence in British comics underscores his universal appeal—combining humor, cleverness, and charm in a way that resonates with readers of all ages. While evolving with the times through modern adaptations, his core personality continues to embody the mischievous spirit of childhood, making him a beloved character for decades to come. Whether as a nostalgic icon for older fans or a humorous introduction for new generations, Plug's legacy as a mischievous, resourceful schoolboy endures, cementing his place in the annals of comic history.

Plug From The Beano

plug from the beano: *The History of the Beano* Iain McLaughlin, 2022-04-21 The Beano is Britain's longest-running and best-loved comic. Since 1938 it has brought thrills and laughter to generation after generation of children, seeing the young and young-at-heart through World War 2, the social changes of the 1950s and 60s and on into a new millennium. How has the comic evolved since its early days? How many of the classic characters and their stories do you remember? What are the important changes that have happened through the years, why have they happened and why has The Beano survived when all the other comics have folded? Every child in the UK since the 1950s has known Dennis the Menace, the Bash Street Kids, Minnie the Minx and Roger the Dodger, but how many know the writers and artists who created these iconic comic characters? How do they write the scripts week after week? Where did the inspiration come from? How did the artists come to work for this Great British institution? This is the story of the Beano Comic, told in the words of the people who made it, going back to the dark, harsh days of the 1930s and continuing through to the present day. A unique insight into the country's most beloved comic.

plug from the beano: Take Your Protein Pills... Brian Carney, 2010-01-08 Take Your Protein Pills is the biography of underground psychedelic rock band Poisoned Electrick Head, as seen through the eyes of their keyboard player Brian Carney. It's a no-holds-barred, manic, tragic and often hilarious account of life at the unglamorous end of rock's underbelly.

plug from the beano: *Kiss My Arse: The Story of the Pogues* Carol Clerk, 2009-11-04 The story

of The Pogues has been as riotous as their most rabble-rousing songs. From the streets of 80s London the Celtic Punks unleashed their hellraising 20-year career and in the process became legends; mythic troubadours whose popularity endures. This Omnibus Enhanced edition of *Kiss My Arse* has been revamped with an interactive digital timeline which paints the journey of The Pogues with videos and images of live performances, interviews, memorabilia and more. Also included is an integrated Spotify playlist containing the band's greatest performances. To tell their story author Carol Clerk has interviewed Shane MacGowan, Spider Stacy, Jem Finer, Andrew Ranken, James Fearnley, Cait O'Riordan, and a clutch of associates, friends and fans. All paint a picture of a fiercely loyal group of musicians, their arguments and drunken spats, their love affairs, the drugs, the hirings and the firings, the marriages and deaths... but, above all, the music. This is their story, bared for all.

plug from the beano: Jimmy Two Guns James J McIntyre, 2023-05-25 The astonishing true story of Glasgow gangland confidant James McIntyre, aka Jimmy Two Guns James 'Jimmy Two Guns' McIntyre was Glasgow's go-to gangland lawyer and consigliere to one of Scotland's foremost crime families. His maverick approach to the law and a client list that included some of the most feared gangland figures of the time - including the McGoverns and Paul Ferris - ensured that he was always in demand but under the constant scrutiny of the authorities. Now Jimmy Two Guns recounts the cases he handled, the strokes he pulled, plus his arrests, a high-speed car chase with the drug squad, his time in 'the cooler' for allegedly attempting to murder a cop and much more. He tells how he bounced back after being the target of a near-fatal underworld hit, before being arrested by an armed response unit for possession of two pistols, and reveals with wit and a sharp pen what it's really like being a lawyer for the underdog. Whatever you thought you knew about crime and justice, think again - because for Jimmy Two Guns, the truth has always been stranger than fiction. 'Crooked judges, bent cops and hypocrites in high places - the most truthful legal memoir you'll ever read. Superb.' Matthew Hall, bestselling novelist and BAFTA-winning screenwriter of *Keeping Faith* 'James McIntyre was a legal barracuda swimming both sides of the line; this memoir is his modus operandi.' G.F. Newman, creator of *Law & Order* and *Judge John Deed*

plug from the beano: I Love the Bones of You Christopher Eccleston, 2019-09-19 'A beautiful book' Zoë Ball 'My father was an "ordinary man", which of course means he was extraordinary.' Be it as Nicky Hutchinson in *Our Friends In The North*, Maurice in *The A Word*, or his reinvention of Doctor Who, One man, in life and death, has accompanied Christopher Eccleston every step of the way - his father, Ronnie. In *I Love the Bones of You*, Eccleston unveils a vivid portrait of a relationship that has shaped his entire career trajectory - mirroring and defining his own highs and lows, from stage and screen triumph to breakdown, anorexia and self-doubt. Eccleston describes how the tightening grip of dementia on his father slowly blinded him to his son's existence, forcing a new and final chapter in their connection. Told with trademark honesty and openness, *I Love the Bones of You* is a celebration of those on whom the spotlight so rarely shines, as told by a man who found his voice in its glare. A love letter to one man, and a paean to many.

plug from the beano: *The Beano Annual 2005* D. C. Thomson & Company, Limited, 2004-09

plug from the beano: *Want You Gone* Chris Brookmyre, 2017-04-20 The eighth book in the Jack Parlabane series, from author Christopher Brookmyre. The award-winning, million-selling author of *Black Widow* brings a twist-filled story of secrets and lies. What if your deepest secret was revealed? Sam Morpeth is growing up way too fast, left to fend for a younger sister when their mother goes to prison and watching her dreams of university evaporate. But Sam learns what it is to be truly powerless when a stranger begins to blackmail her. Who would you turn to? Meanwhile, reporter Jack Parlabane has finally got his career back on track, but his success has left him indebted to a volatile, criminal source. Now that debt is being called in, and it could cost him everything. What would you be capable of? Thrown together by a vindictive and mysterious mutual enemy, Sam and Jack are about to discover they might be each other's only hope.

plug from the beano: *Beano Christmas Joke Book (Beano Non-fiction)* Beano Studios, 2024-09-26 200 jokes to giggle, cackle and snort at this Christmas!

plug from the beano: *The Last Hack* Christopher Brookmyre, 2017-07-04 The Scottish crime master dishes out “equal parts adrenaline and empathy” in a thriller featuring a woman hacker and online intrigue (Diana Gabaldon). Sam Morpeth has had to grow up way too fast. Left to fend for a younger sister with learning difficulties when their mother goes to prison, she is forced to watch her dreams of university evaporate. But Sam learns what it is to be truly powerless when a stranger begins to blackmail her online. Meanwhile, reporter Jack Parlabane seems to have finally gotten his career back on track with a job at a flashy online news start-up, but his success has left him indebted to a volatile source on the wrong side of the law. Now that debt is being called in, and it could cost him everything. Thrown together by a common enemy, Sam and Jack are about to discover they have more in common than they realize—and might be each other’s only hope. (Published in the UK as *Want You Gone*) “Pure literary dynamite.” —Lorenzo Carcaterra, New York Times-bestselling author of *Sleepers* “Tremendous fun, with superb characterization, gripping moral complexity, and no shortage of clever villainy.” —Chris Pavone, New York Times-bestselling author of *The Paris Diversion* “A revelation . . . The computer is the scariest tool since the invention of the buzzsaw.” —Thomas Perry, New York Times-bestselling author of *The Bomb Maker* “Works exceptionally well as cybercrime fiction, but it’s the human element that makes it tick.” —Kirkus Reviews

plug from the beano: *Escape Route* John Parker, 2012-10-11 What is an escape route? An escape route is essential if you want to stay scot-free and not end up in prison or worse. This is a story about myself and the many tight spots I have got myself into and how I managed to escape scot-free. Indeed I am a Scot and know the origin and meaning of the expression. So I have always known to make sure that I had an escape route to prevent me from ending up in the quicksand. In the course of this book, I intend to give you my outlook on life, how I’ve spent it and my opinions on many subjects. The vast majority of this book is true and the few exaggerations I have included for a laugh, you will be able to spot, but there are very few. I will not be caring if I offend anyone nor will I be politically correct in any way. If you are easily offended, don’t read it. I was born in the sixties, so my sense of humour came into being in the seventies when things weren’t quite so politically correct as they are now. Those were the days when Warren Mitchells character Alf Garnett was the biggest comedy star on the television, so the sense of humour in this book will not be to everyone’s taste. But if you enjoy a good laugh . . . read on.

plug from the beano: *Central Two Zero Seven Nine Out* Paul Canning, 2021-07-22 What sort of a life do you make for yourself when there is no focus? How does your life pan out as you ride the vicissitudes of a dog eat dog, cut throat employment market? How do you chase your dreams into adulthood to find love, happiness and success, when you carry inside yourself a childhood, dejected, insecure, unstable and with what tiny morsel of confidence you possess – in tatters, because you’ve been at the mercy of a bullying control freak – your own father? I have survived so much mental anguish with confidence renewed following a difficult and painful education in Blackpool. After handwriting 100 letters, I landed my first job – cutting my teeth as a London-based portrait and wedding photographer in early summer 1986. A life on the ocean wave then beckoned, which turned me from nervous novice ship’s photographer to expert smudger working aboard cruise liners worldwide. In 1990 I settled down, met the girl of my dreams and landed a fabulous job – Metropolitan Police Service forensic photographer. In the late 1990s I qualified as a Hendon-based instructor, leaving the police in 2004 to set up a business. If that wasn’t enough, I then retrained as a medical photographer in 2008 and I’m now a medical photography manager working for Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Both journey and path to success have been a miracle in the making.

plug from the beano: *A Barrow Boy's Cadenza* Pete Adams, 2022-01-28 Surviving a terrorist explosion, a tutu incident, and a night of celebratory drinking, hungover hero DCI Jack Austin proposes an ill-advised alliance with a newly-turned criminal informant. After a string of high-profile murders is committed, Austin goes deep undercover – and uncovers a villainous scheme that threatens the Star Chamber. His world turned upside down, Austin needs to rely on courage, skill and improbable luck. But can he bring the perpetrators of the far-reaching scheme to justice?

plug from the beano: Cause And Effect Pete Adams, 2022-01-02 A self-labeled enigma, Detective Inspector Jack Austin is at once miserable and amusing, melancholy and motivated. Running the Community Police Unit from his deck chair, D.I. Austin is known for his ability to solve crimes out of the blue. Trying to work cases while struggling with his mental issues, Austin deals with a variety of major crimes, including bicycle theft. But when the case of an executed police officer lands on his desk, he accidentally uncovers a malevolent scheme. Can he discover who is behind it all - and keep what's left of his sanity?

plug from the beano: At My Mother's Knee...And Other Low Joints Paul O'Grady, 2008-10-27 THE MILLION COPY BESTSELLER 'Warmly funny, dry and mischievous . . . Genuine and brilliant.' Daily Mail Paul O'Grady is one of Britain's very best loved entertainers. He is known and adored by millions, whether as the creator of the acid-tongued Blonde Bombsite, Lily Savage, the presenter of the fantastically successful, award-winning Paul O'Grady Show on Channel 4 or the massive hit ITV show, For the Love of Dogs. Now, in his own unique voice, Paul O'Grady tells story of his early life in Irish Catholic Birkenhead that started him on the long and winding road from mischievous altar boy to national treasure. It is a brilliantly evoked, hilarious and often moving tale of gossip in the back yard, bragging in the corner shop and slanging matches on the front doorstep, populated by larger-than-life characters with hearts of gold and tongues as sharp as razors. At My Mother's Knee features an unforgettable cast of rogues, rascals, lovers, fighters, saints and sinners - and one iconic bus conductress. It's a book which really does have something for everyone and which reminds us that, when all's said and done, there's a bit of savage in all of us... Readers love At My Mother's Knee: 'I laughed, I cried, I couldn't put it down and the characters really just jumped out of the page.' ***** 'Candid, heart warming and also hilarious.' ***** 'Wonderfully written, laugh out loud funny and poignant by turns.' *****

plug from the beano: Under the Bonnet Brian Cunningham, 2021-05-24 These days, a nice original Vauxhall Viva costs an arm and a leg, but back in the 1970s, £100 bought you a 'good little runner', with the rust, bald tyres and dodgy MOT thrown in for free. All you needed was someone who knew how to fix it when it broke down! Brian Cunningham is that someone - or, at least, he used to be. Under the Bonnet is the totally true* story of being a car mechanic in the old days, when fixing a car was one thing, but keeping it fixed was something else entirely. These are the tales of a bygone age, full of secret scams, chaotic characters and cars almost bursting with personality. * some tales may be taller than others

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takes matters into his own hands, employing illogically effective tactics to solve the case and protect those he cares about. *Merde And Mandarins*: DCI Jack Austin comes out of retirement to investigate a series of targeted attacks on high-ranking civil servants in London, including the Defense and Home Office Secretaries. When his wife is kidnapped, Austin must balance the rescue mission with solving the case and uncovering the motives of the master conspirator. As the investigation leads to a chaotic conclusion, Austin must use all of his skills to uncover the supreme Machiavellian plot and find solace in a welcome retirement.

plug from the beano: The Beano Book of Britain Nicola Baxter, Rosemary McCormick, 1996 Britain will be brought to life by the unique comic fun of the Beano gang as they rampage through the country meeting kings, queens and heroes from myth and legend. '

plug from the beano: A Very Simple Mind Derek Forbes, 2023-11-09 The long-awaited autobiography by Derek Forbes, the Simple Minds legend known for his iconic spine-rattling bass riffs which we recognise in many Simple Minds' songs. This is his story. Derek Forbes started his musical career as a lead guitarist but soon changed to bass guitarist. He wrote and co-wrote many of Simple Minds' earliest classics. Derek Forbes won an Ivor Novello Award for 'Outstanding Song Collection' in 2016 for his song writing for Simple Minds, voted best bass player in the World 1982 and best bass player from Scotland in 2010. Derek is also well-known on the international stage as songwriter and bassist for Big Country and Propaganda and has recorded with Iggy Pop, David Bowie, Dave Gilmour of Pink Floyd and Kirsty MacColl. He still lives in Glasgow and is planning his next tour.

plug from the beano: Girls Can't Make Gun Noises Paul Surridge, 2012

plug from the beano: Barry Desmond is a Wanker Martin Knight, 2012-08-17 Barry Desmond is a wanker. Masturbation has formed the unwelcome backdrop to his life; from his early teens when he was tortured by the belief he was the only one of his peer group doing this thing to himself to the current day when he thinks he must be the only man over 50 still doing it. Barry was the only child born to parents whose own marriage was borne of desperation. Smothered by his parents' over protective eccentricity his schooldays were difficult and coupled with the guilt over his burgeoning self-abuse, Barry fails to form relationships outside of the family home. He follows his father into a clerical career with the Empire Bank and finds his feet to an extent. He ends up under-achieving by running the Archives Department but eventually doubles it size by employing Danny Holloway as his assistant. For the next twenty-five years the two men manage to keep their heads below the corporate parapet and at home Barry watches as old age engulfs his parents. Then seismic events upturn Barry's life. His parents die in quick succession and the Empire Bank is seen as a relic of old Britain and is taken over by the Americans. Barry's job disappears along with his family. Stricken by acute loneliness but blessed with relative inherited and accumulated wealth he resolves to change his life. To go out into the world and form relationships and to live a life. He knows he has to interact with people other than himself and forces himself to do so. Barry shares the ethos of his parents' generation and believes that people are fundamentally decent. But is this really the case in the 21st century? Despite being ill-equipped for an entry into 2000s British society Barry Desmond emerges as the only hero in this final episode of his life.

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