

# Story Notes and Behind the Scenes at



No's 77 & 78 A Story Can Be Told One Way... or ...In A Different Way.

I had the idea of writing and illustrating a Guard story as a television episode. So far so good. Unfortunately, my satirical side of me hi-jacked the idea and wanted me to write a story poking fun at TV series heroes. The hero is put into a life and death situation which if it happened in real life would leave someone if not dead, would leave them permanently mentally scarred for life. But the TV hero just shrugs off this minor irritant and carry's boldly on.

What to do? Well, have my cake and eat it of course! And just to make it a bit more interesting, try to use the same images in both stories as much as possible. And issues seventy-seven and seventy-eight are the result. If there had been more time both stories could have been longer and other ideas explored. But alas time is my main constraint in creating these stories.

As I was using the same images for both stories, I developed both scripts on the same page, by using a different colour for each script.

There was only one main build for these two stories, the television set and screen. A bit of an unusual TV to be sure, but hopefully readers will recognise it as that. All other sets were already built.

As regular readers know I like to try and have something else going on the background of my stories, if possible. In the case of the first and last pages, I had the idea of using the Lego creative young cat / kitten lounging on top of the television stretching and on the last page asleep. This was only partially successful as the cat couldn't be easily shaped into the positions I was looking for. But still happy with the result.

A. J. Rapper and Ardal Branflakes are both names my work colleagues have thought up for me over the years.