

Captain Caned to the rescue...

There's a brilliant scene in Jim Morris's graphic novel *Captain Caned* when Nicely and his gang of drugged up reprobates are all in the pub and we get to see all of the different cliques that frequent the establishment.

It's exquisitely done and very funny. Much like the whole book.

Captain Caned is a self-published graphic novel by Malmesbury resident, Jim Morris. It follows the antics of Nicely and his group of friends as they have a reality-warping drug induced adventure. To call it trippy would be an understatement as it makes Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas look like *On Golden Pond*.

According to Jim, it's only partly autobiographical. He said: "Well I've never driven an invisible car, or had a friend turn into a dog as happens in the book; but the setting and characters are inspired by where I lived at the time and many friends.

"I studied fine art at Coventry University and ended up living there after graduating. Broke and unable to pay for a studio I realised that drawing a graphic novel

could be done at home cheaply!

"I'd always loved comics, but wanted mine to have scant regard to traditional narrative or the arrow of time; whilst also ensuring that each page drew the reader in visually. Essentially though, it's a fond memoir of a place and the people I met there."

Jim was first inspired to illustrate by Marvel Comics, which made him want to draw as a child. Other inspirations included Asterix artist Uderzo, political cartoonist David Law and painter Diego Velquez.

He said: "I hope my book makes the reader laugh. I think being silly is highly underrated, it certainly never did Les Dawson or Morecambe and Wise any harm."

You can buy *Captain Caned* from any bookshop for £16.95 or online for around £22 including delivery at www.captain-caned.co.uk. Or just go into your local library and ask them to get a copy. You can also contact Jim on four.bananas@Gmail.com, he'd love to hear people's opinion! Follow Jim on Twitter @CaptainCaned.

