

HOPKINS            Alright lads. Jesus, phwo! . . . Sid, what's this about the NUVB not signing off the new grades?

SID                    My boys have signed.

BILL                 It's the girls.

HOPKINS            Monty?

MONTY             Yeah, the girls are not happy about being downgraded.

HOPKINS            Who wouldn't be. It's your job, Monty, to persuade them of the bigger picture. Management and Union. It's a long game.

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ACT ONE

SID                 It's test match cricket.

HOPKINS            It's a game of give and take. You scratch my back.

BILL                 I scratch yours.

SID                 And what a beautiful back it is, Mr. Hopkins.

HOPKINS            Thank you, Sid. Monty, it's a done deal. The men are happy. The vote was overwhelming.

BILL                 Five thousand men. Two hundred women.

HOPKINS            You can't win.

BILL / SID            Oooh!

HOPKINS            Monty, your hands are tied and I've got your balls in a Kenwood Chef.

MONTY             But I represent these women. Look, can we do something procedural so things don't come to a head?

HOPKINS            Sid? Any ideas?

SID                 We could confuse the poor little darlings with some totally incomprehensible bollocks.

HOPKINS            The grievance procedure?!

BILL                 The grievance procedure was Connie's idea.

SID                 She'll have to comply.

HOPKINS            That is brilliant! Tomorrow morning, head office, Warley.