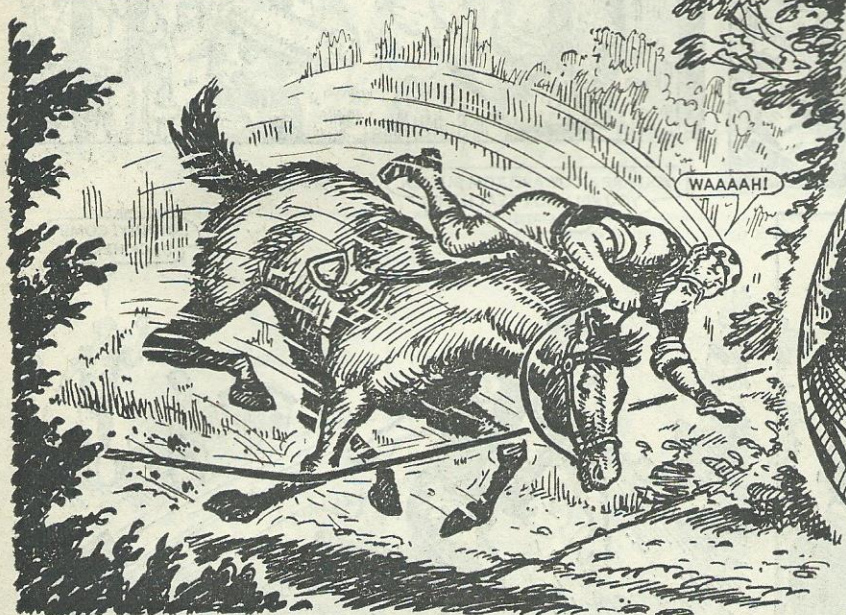


A man with a catapult could send Tom Smiley to his death on a wild horse!

The MARK OF ZAPHROM

In the early 19th century, Tom Smiley discovered that he was the son of a gypsy called Bucko and not the son of the local headmaster who had brought him up. As a result, he was forced to leave his teaching job at Hyckam St Mary. He temporarily joined the Bucko tribe and because he bore the mark of Zaphrom—the sign of a future gypsy leader—his presence there caused concern to a rival tribe who set a trap—



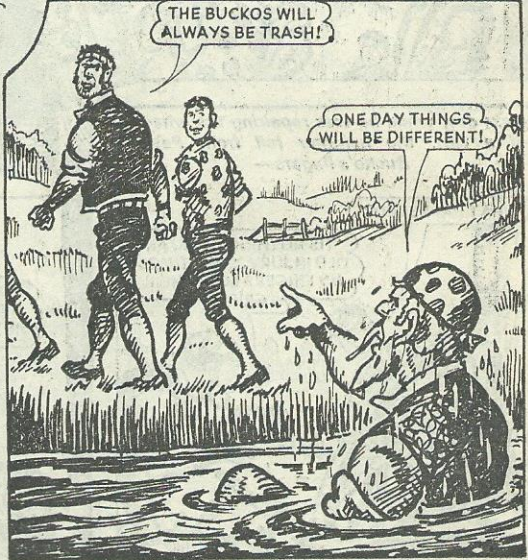
SPEAK, YOU OLD BUFFOON! WHO IS THIS TOM BUCKO WHO HAS JOINED THE TRIBE?

HE IS THE BABE YOU FAILED TO KILL, BLACK TOVARI! AN OLD SCHOOLMASTER REARED HIM, AND ONE DAY HE WILL LEAD OUR TRIBE TO GREATNESS!



THE BUCKOS WILL ALWAYS BE TRASH!

ONE DAY THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT!



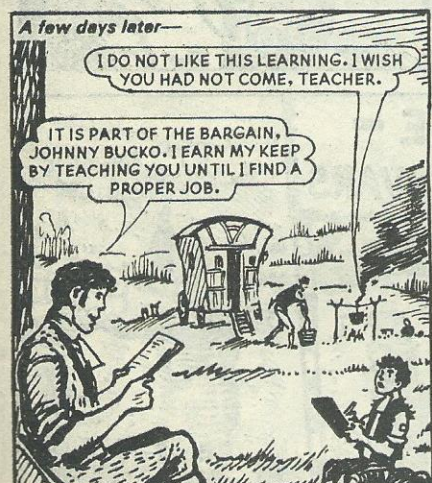
WRETCH! I SHOULD CUT OUT YOUR TONGUE! THROW HIM IN THE POND!



A few days later—

I DO NOT LIKE THIS LEARNING. I WISH YOU HAD NOT COME, TEACHER.

IT IS PART OF THE BARGAIN, JOHNNY BUCKO. I LEARN MY KEEP BY TEACHING YOU UNTIL I FIND A PROPER JOB.



WHAT THE—?



BOOKS AND FANCY WORDS! IDEAL FOR A STUPID TRIBE LIKE THE BUCKOS!

WHO ARE YOU?

