

pocket. Talking is fine, as long as it's to other geezers, but even this should be done in moderation. If you have to stop, for example when the police are stopping traffic and/or fans, use that time to light another fag. If the one you have is barely started, dump it and light another.

When walking, never, ever stop for zebra crossings. These are for people who have problems crossing roads on their own. Or anoraks. If you come to a road, just walk straight out there and make your way through the traffic. If you glare at the drivers, they won't even sound their horns at you but will slow down and let you pass. If a car actually hits you, do not go down. Merely give the driver tons of abuse and kick at least one of his headlights in. Hopefully, the other geezers will do the rest. If this happens, he will not get out of his car.

As you near the ground, you should always cross from one side to the other and then back at least twice. There is no real reason for this but everyone does it.

#### THE SIDEWAYS GLANCE

At some time or another as you walk along, you will come across another group of geezers you do not recognise. This is when you use 'the sideways glance'. As you approach this group, do not slow down. Merely cross the road to be on the opposite side and, keeping your head to the front, move your eyes to the extreme side and glare at them. The reason for this is that they may be supporters of your own club whom you have not seen before and glaring at them full on may well cause a little friction.

If you do not recognise them, the best advice I can give is not to show even a flicker of emotion and to keep walking. If there are more of them than you, increase speed and head discreetly towards the nearest policeman. After a few years, or if you get in with some serious geezers, you will be able to simply walk straight through them. You should not, however, do this when you are on your own (see 'Hooligans').

#### LOOKING BEHIND

I would always advise you to keep a wary eye on your back as you walk along anywhere. This is especially important if you have

just passed another group of geezers and used 'the sideways glance', as it is always best to keep an eye on what this other group do. The best way to do this is to be discreet. After all, caring about what others do can translate into being concerned and, as a geezer, you care not a toss about anyone else. However, the best way to look behind is through the dubious use of shop windows, or, if one is available, cast lustful eyes at young ladies who pass by you in the opposite direction. It never fails. If you do spot that you are being followed, again a discreet change of direction towards the nearest transit van full of Old Bill is always a good ploy.

#### COME ON, THEN!

This is similar in style to the 'arms wide' gesture used to signify a miss by an opposing player. However, in this context there is a subtle difference, as 'Come on, then' is used primarily to goad opposing fans and to invite them to come and have a go at you if they think they are hard enough.

Hold your arms out wide with the palms uppermost and the fingers outstretched. The fingers should then be folded into and out of the palms repeatedly. As you do this, you should bend your knees slightly so that you bob up and down, and you should also stretch your head forward a little. Occasionally, the shout 'Come on, then' can be used to accompany this movement.

This mannerism is best used outside grounds when there are far more of you than there are of them or when there is a large police presence between the two groups. It can also be used inside grounds and is particularly effective when standing on seats. If another group appears to be making this gesture towards you, if you are outside the ground you should merely give them the wanker sign. If you are inside, the usual response is to point at the individual making the gesture and then point in the vague direction of the streets outside. This is to signify that you will be seeing him when you get outside. Which, of course, you won't.

#### GIVING IT 'THE BIGGIE'

'The biggie' or 'the large one' is one of the classic geezer mannerisms and, like 'Come on, then!', is used to invite the

opposing fans to cross the road to indulge in violence with you and your friends. As this gesture is so popular, it is vital that you know how to do it. Although rarely seen inside grounds these days, 'the biggie' can frequently be observed outside pubs on match days or even on train stations when the travelling fans arrive. It will also be in frequent use at any local derby and, like the 'Come on, then!', is best used when there is a large police presence and you know that the chances of the opposing fans actually getting near you are zero.

To effect this, hold your arms out in front of you as if you were holding a barrel. Then, lean back from the waist as far as you can, move the fingers rapidly, as if tickling a salmon, and thrust your head in and out at great speed while screaming 'Come on, then, you wankers'. The legs should be slightly bent and you can either take repeated steps backwards and forwards or bob up and down slightly. Alternatively, you can bounce around like a boxer on heat and then every so often run towards the opposing fans, or the police, before stopping and walking backwards to where you started. If there are a lot of you, a variation of this is to strut around between the two groups, but if you do this you should not look at the opposing fans but should stare at the ground as you shout. This is supposed to show that you are winding yourself up for an attack, when in actual fact you should be working out a way to get out of there and still save face.

'The biggie' can also look especially convincing inside grounds but only if you can move around freely. The reason for this is that, to be effective, all the geezers should be as close to the opposing fans as possible. This means moving from their seats down to the barriers separating the two groups. Once there, 'the biggie' should be adopted before the police and stewards arrive because, once there, they will drive everyone back to their original seats. If this happens, always join in. If you don't, questions may well be asked.

#### LUNGING

Another old favourite, lunging has largely been consigned to the history books as it is used to show aggression inside grounds and is very difficult to achieve now that most grounds are all-seater.

However, like all gestures, it occasionally surfaces, and in the case of lunging it will be if an opposing geezer or hooligan suddenly appears in your section of the ground. If this happens, all the geezers from your club will move rapidly in his direction. They will then lunge towards him with their fists outstretched in the vain hope that they will hit him and enhance their credibility amongst the other geezers. You should not do this.

Another opportunity for lunging will be if an opposition fan is taken out of the ground and walked across in front of where the geezers are sitting. As he traverses the section, the geezers will lunge towards him, hurling abuse or even throwing objects such as coins in his direction. You should not do this either.

#### RUNNING

As a geezer, running should be avoided at all costs. You should know where you're going, how long the journey takes and exactly how long you've got to get there. There are, however, exceptions to this rule, and these will almost certainly involve the influence of the hooligans.

We have already discussed the subject of hooliganism and, as a result, you will know when it is safe for you to run. Be it after or away. If that time arrives and you have to run after someone, run only as fast as you need to to maintain a safe distance between you and your 'victim'. If they slow, you slow. After all, you may be chasing them, but you certainly do not want to catch them. The exception to this is if the police turn up. At this time, safe in the knowledge that you will not actually have to hit anyone, you should accelerate into the arms of the waiting policemen, who will simply tell you to go away in some form or another.

If someone is running after you, you must forget all the rules of style and confidence and get away. Simply sprint as fast as you can to get as much distance between you and any actual violence as is possible. Do not stop until you are in actual physical contact with a policeman or your pursuer has stopped and has been left well out of sight. You should also forget any thoughts of guilt as a result of either your cowardice or your desertion. There isn't a situation known to man that is worth getting a black eye for. Not even geezerdom. The chances are that any other geezer who was