

# PASS



## The Quarterly Magazine Of The MASTERMIND CLUB

Autumn 1996

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# PASS

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## Autumn 1996

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**EDITOR: Christine Moorcroft**

**PRODUCTION: Craig Scott**

© 1996 by the Mastermind Club. Published quarterly: copy deadlines are the first of March (Spring), June (Summer), September (Autumn), and December (Winter) or by arrangement. Contributions are welcome but may be edited or held over owing to space limitations. While every effort is made to publish to a regular schedule, no responsibility can be accepted by the Club for the late appearance of any issue.

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## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

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*Peter Chitty*

### **Obituary**

**I**t is my sad task to inform members of the death of Francis J. Kirkham on 18th May 1996. He took part in the recordings at the Barony University of Strathclyde on 12 November 1992. I have extended the Club's condolences to his family.

370 Christopher J. Gibson  
760 Stephen Hatcher  
157 Robert Holl-Allen  
678 Chantal Thompson  
765 Glenys Davies  
522 Sarah Batchelor

### **New members**

**I** am very pleased to welcome new members, some of whom have joined us as a result of Magnus's researches for his 'Magnus' opus. I hope they will have a long and happy association with the Club.

859 Graham Bell  
862 Fred Housego  
857 Christopher J. Hughes  
861 Dr Francis Lambert  
858 Martin Leadbetter  
860 Ivan Limmer

### **New addresses**

467 William Bellingham  
620 Michael V. Clark

*I note that Michael has moved from Scott Street in Brechin, named for my forebears who were linen merchants in the town. Gordon Stuart is married to a Scott from the branch that stayed in Scotland when my lot went off to Oregon in 1883 – CES*

# PASS NOTES

*Christine Moorcroft*

**T**hank you for the enormous number of contributions for this issue of PASS. I have held over a number of quizzes, so that there is never more than one quiz in each issue, apart from the Master Quiz. There has been some confusion as to where contributions should be sent. Send them to me!

Craig has made a special journey from Maidenhead to the frozen North, specially to show me how to use Corel Ventura. We have managed to produce PASS, in between visiting sites of local interest, such as Albert Dock, the Philharmonic pub (and one or two others) and Pierre Victoire restaurant.

Ray Ward has kindly agreed to put his nitpicking talents to good use, as proof-reader of PASS. I would like to thank him for this.

This issue brings you the first round of the 1997 Master Quiz, the results and answers of last edition's Pop Music Quiz (page 9), and another quiz – this time on homes and gardens. We also have some feedback and thanks from Magnus regarding his book, and members' contributions on a range of subjects: childhood memories, the secret language of advertisements and the delights of local dialects. The Diary of Jack Clark recaptures the enjoyment of the 1996 Annual Meeting at Teesside. There is also a larger-than-usual collection of members' letters, for which I am grateful.

## *The new series*

**W**e are informed that the first recording of the new series will take place on 25 November 1996 at the Cambridge Union. If you would like tickets, or information about later tapings as it becomes known, contact Phillida.

## *Manchester gatherings?*

**T**he highly successful gatherings of Masterminders at the Grape Street Wine Bar, off Shaftesbury Avenue, London, on the third Wednesday of each month, have prompted me to attempt to start up something similar in Manchester, which, after all, is now the new home of *Mastermind*.

I have a problem – I don't know of a suitable venue! I'm relying on those of you who live in Manchester to help. Can anyone suggest a suitable venue in the city centre? The date which I am proposing is the second Wednesday of each month (so that really keen wine-drinkers can get to the London one too!) The earliest feasible starting date would have to be 13 November.

If you are interested, please contact me.

## *Annual Meeting 1997*



Please note that the date of the 1997 Annual Meeting has had to be changed to Friday to Sunday, 4–6 April, not the dates which appeared in the minutes of the 1996 Annual General Meeting (PASS Summer 1996). Further details and booking form will be provided in the next issue.

# CLUB SHOPPING

*Patricia Owen*

**W**e still have available a limited number of handsome Regent ballpoint pens. These 1950s-style pens, in smart black with gold Mastermind Club logo and trim, take a standard refill and come in individual soft pouches - just £2.50 (including p&p) for a single pen, or £2.00 if you order more than one at a time.

Jewellery, in gilt and black enamel, bears the chair and wreath, but no club name. Ties have the chair only (single or multi-logo). Sweatshirts have chair, wreath and name on the left breast. We also have a new line in key rings (£5.00).

Send your name, address, membership number and cheque payable to 'Mastermind Club' to:

Patricia Owen

TIES	£
Light navy or silver grey, single logo	6.00
SWEATSHIRTS (XL=48-50")	
<i>New</i> Natural (M, XL)	12.00
Navy (M, L, XL)	12.00
White (L, XL)	12.00
<i>To clear</i> Silver grey (S only)	6.00
T SHIRTS (XL=42")	
Royal (S)	6.50
Gold (S)	6.50
Heather grey (L)	6.50
JEWELLERY	
<i>New</i> Key rings	5.00
Brooches (improved pin)	5.00
<i>To clear</i> Pendants	5.00
Stick pins	5.00
PENS	
One only	2.50
Two or more (each)	2.00

**I**'m enjoying editing PASS because I get so many interesting letters. It has been wonderful to hear from so many members. Thank you and please keep writing!

## **Experiences with the Press from Margaret Thomas**

Following members' experiences with the press at Teesside, I thought my story may be of interest. The Press are really most extraordinary people. This year I took part in *Mastermind* for the second time and chose as my subject *Famous British Poisoners 1850 – 1950*. After the recording I had a message from the BBC publicity office, asking if I would give an interview to the *Daily Mail*. Apparently they were going to run a series on the show, interviewing various contestants to discuss their reasons for taking part.

I agreed and one Saturday afternoon a journalist and photographer arrived from London and spent three hours questioning me and taking photographs. The journalist seemed to know very little about the programme and was unaware of its format. The photographer spent ages trying to pose me against the flowers in the garden holding a copy of the *Mastermind Quiz Book*.

Eventually they left, promising to let me know when the article would appear. That was in May and I still haven't heard a thing. The article has not appeared and it all seems to me a waste of time and expense. Still, who knows? It may appear before Christmas!

*Did they interview anyone else out there?*

## **A comment from Michael Davison**

I congratulate you on your appointment as editor of PASS – but I am disappointed that your first effusion from the editorial chair had to be such a peevish reaction to the treatment of the Teesside reunion by the press.

I don't know Robert Crampton, I have no links with *The Times* and I wasn't at Teesside. But as a veteran of some half dozen reunions I have to say that I found Robert Crampton's article an extremely entertaining and well-observed piece of reportage.

What are you so cross about? That Crampton pricked a few pomposities and showed us ourselves as others see us? A thoroughly healthy insight, as Robert Burns recognised. Let's not get above ourselves: heavens, we're just a group of ordinary people who happen to have appeared on the same TV quiz show – an achievement of minuscule insignificance in the eyes of 99.9% of the population. If we are becoming so pretentious and thin-skinned that we can't take a gentle bit of mickey-taking, it's time Magnus reminded us in his most minatory tone: "It's only a game."

Finally, Christine, may I say that if you manage to attract to PASS a series of contributions of such sustained interest and ease of style as Robert Crampton's article, then you'll have a great editorship!

*I'm not at all cross! I too, thought the article well-written and entertaining. My comments resulted from noticing how the journalists went about researching and presenting it. I was there!*

## **Dreams Come True from Gordon Stuart**

I was particularly pleased to see that the Club again chose as its charity Dreams Come True. Its title explains itself, but most people who do not encounter those with disabilities or handicaps probably do not realise the benefits deriving from the realisation of a dream. As I explained last year, my own blind and autistic daughter is among many who have benefited from this charity. The psychological lift can often, as it did in her case, actually lead to an improvement in physical condition. The charity has also enabled terminally ill children to visit Disneyland, to fly in Concorde, to meet Father Christmas in the Arctic Circle or to meet their heroes. It has provided special wheelchairs for the disabled to give them mobility and computers for children who would, because of their disabilities, not be able to communicate without them. These are only a few examples of the many dreams fulfilled. This relatively small charity operates throughout Britain but, unlike many of the large ones, it keeps administrative costs to the bare minimum, thereby making each donation a more effective contribution to bringing happiness to the less fortunate among us who suffer from disabilities.

*To find out more, write to: Dreams Come True, St Oswald's, Knockhundred Row, Midhurst, GU29 9DQ, (01730 815000).*

## **Nitpicking from Ray Ward**

**AGM** We are warm and generous people, but I doubt if the collection at the AGM raised £25907. I fear a decimal point has gone missing. I knew I'd find a home for my odd seven pence!

*Apologies. It should have said £259.07. Phillida had originally keyed it in correctly. At one stage of the publishing process I messed about with the hyphenation of the whole document – and lost it all! Imagine the chaos: two-part surnames merged, all the minus signs in Hazel Prowse's article disappeared and more! I obviously missed that one because I wasn't looking for it. However, Ray has agreed to put his nitpicking talents to good use – to proof read PASS. Thank you, Ray!*

**AGM Minutes** The view recorded that the *Times* reporters were pleasant and discreet will probably have undergone drastic revision after the publication of the article. I can't improve on your own excellent comments. The only thing I'd add is that while it's a shame this first-ever substantial article on us should have been so snide, we shouldn't really be surprised. Mensa has had to put up with this sort of knocking copy for decades. Organisations that dare to imply that (shock, horror!) some people are actually brighter than others are easy targets in these insane times.

**Ten times as cold (Summer 1996)** People don't realise that temperatures do not represent physical objects (Hazel Prowse's piece), hence the confusion. Four inches is twice two, six pounds is twice three, but '30° is twice 15° is nonsensical. General ignorance of scientific facts is noticeable in quizzes, in which people presumably chosen for better-than-average general knowledge can't answer questions such as: 'What is the commonest gas in the Earth's atmosphere?' (They nearly always answer 'oxygen').

# MORE LETTERS

## *... and some points from Lance Haward*

**Ten Times as Cold** Hazel Prowse's comments on a prevalent nonsense are interesting and timely (and erudite beyond my assimilating). The main problem demonstrated is surely not scientific but grammatical. The unfortunate journalist's ineptitude was in her inability (no doubt painfully inculcated in infancy by some slipshod teacher) to handle the distinct linguistic concepts of multiplication and comparison.

I refer to comparison, because the solecism that is widely committed, even by the supposedly educated, is in the confusion of these two, quite separate processes, thus: 'ten times *colder than* the North Pole'. It's probably a mercy that Hazel was spared the golden opportunity of unscrambling that one.

For the record, multiplication (ten times) can only operate (algebra apart) on a fixed quantity – at least Hazel's journalist got that right. Similarly, a comparative (colder than the North pole) demands the relation of two fixed quantities - the North Pole and Q (the quantity being measured). It is a process not of multiplication but of addition/subtraction. For example, my arm is two feet shorter than Mike Tyson's (as near as makes no effective difference): MT - LH = KO. What is being stated is: Q is by *this* much less cold than the NP. If it meant anything at all,

by reference to implicit quantities, 'ten times colder than' *could* only mean 'eleven times *as* cold as', the addition being of the two fixed values, NP and 10NP.

So – no, Hazel. Abysmal, certainly, but the young lady hadn't *yet* plumbed the 'nadir'. Thank Dionysius Thrax for small mercies!

*Why do people blame everything on teachers?*

**Istria** If Joseph Hand neglects to comment on the vegetation of the Istrian coast, that could well be something to do with the period of Venetian colonialism that he mentions as an aside. Venice is actually built on Istrian pine logs driven into the mud – roughly a hundred million of them!

## **Master Quiz from Michael Grosvenor Myer**

Question 42 in Round 2 was labelled 'difficult'. Not to me. I'm not sure when Albert Whelan started on the Halls. It may indeed have been 'Edwardian/Victorian', but he certainly lasted longer than that. I saw him at the New Theatre, Northampton in 1942 or 1943. He would enter in white tie and tails, with silver-topped cane, tall hat, evening cloak and white gloves, whistling *The Jolly Brothers* and timing it so that the removal of his last outer garment coincided exactly with the last note of the tune.

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## MULTIMEDIA MASTERMIND

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### **Craig Scott tries out the new computer game**

I was about to put PASS to bed when BBC Multimedia phoned to ask whether we would be interested in reviewing the forthcoming *Mastermind* CD-ROM game. But of course! Stop the presses!

It's really very well done. They've recreated much of the feel of the real thing – realistic beepers, visuals, and of course "Approaching Menace". Magnus has recorded all the 5000-plus questions and video link sequences.

You sign in (up to four players are accommodated) and select one of 50 specialist subjects. As each question is asked, three possible answers are 'wiped' onto the screen; you can click on one, or pass, or have the question repeated. The sooner you answer, the more questions you get.

You will be able to enter your high scores in the National Mastermind Challenge, though please note that the faster your computer, the better you're likely to do. Sarah and I have now tested the game on both our machines, and our 133MHz Pentium machine got through maybe half a dozen more questions than our 66MHz 486 (though this may be a teething problem with the beta-test version). You'll need at least a 50MHz 486 PC with 8Mb of memory, 10Mb of hard disk space, CD-ROM drive and soundcard.

If you're feeling really ambitious, you should be able to assign some of the sound files to regular Windows functions. Imagine having "Approaching Menace" greet you every time you boot up, or replacing the Windows beeper with the *Mastermind* one.

It should be out in the next month, price £29.99; phone BBC Multimedia on 0181 576 2112 or Pinnacle Software on 01322 665652.

### **On the Net**

Email messages for the Club can now be sent to this address: ... Peter Chitty is the man on the other end. My own email address is .... Please feel free to use this channel for updating address details, sending articles for PASS, or just staying in touch. We could even have a Web site if someone wants to put it together.

If you would like your own email address included in the upcoming membership list, email one of us ASAP.

### **And finally**

All credit to Sarah for conceiving the presentation of Jack Clark's diary, finding the typeface and designing the extra antique characters.

# HISTORY OF *MASTERMIND*

## *Magnus files a progress report on his book*

I want to thank all those members of the Mastermind Club who responded so enthusiastically to my plea for help for the forthcoming history of *Mastermind* to celebrate the 25th anniversary next year.

The research has meant four months of pure delight, nostalgia and renewed acquaintanceships. I have now looked at all the videos the BBC still has (from 1977 onwards). I have built up biographies of 136 Masterminders plus 23 Champions. I have talked with all our past and present producers and directors and chief researchers. I have built up dossiers on Questions and Question-setters, on Disasters (*Per Ardua ad Disastra*), on MM bloomers, on Funnies, on Memorable Locations, on Bizarre Events, on the Black Chair, on the Origins of the Programme, and so on.

I have also built up, to my own satisfaction and the satisfaction of present and former Club officers, an authentic account of the origins of the Club itself and its development since 1978; and I am developing a much clearer picture of the Masterminders themselves: this

extraordinary, diverse, unique band of individuals who have made the programme what it is – a broadcasting legend.

I have managed to track down most of the people who made a mark on the programme in the early days, but not all. There is one in particular whom I am still anxious to trace. Does anyone know the present whereabouts of *Mrs Sally Copeland* ('73), 'a housewife in Stoke-on-Trent'? Her claim to fame is that she was the lowest scorer ever – 9 points. (Eat your heart out, Arfor Wyn Hughes!!)

All I have to do now is to write the darned book! I cannot tell you yet when it will be published; what I *do* know is that, thanks to you all, I have the makings of a great book on my hands.

If anyone else wants to send me material, especially videos or sound cassettes from any programmes from 1972-1976 inclusive (except for the Finals), there is still time. My address is:

...

This is the *correct* telephone number, not the wrong number I put in my last Plea to PASS, being numerically somewhat dyslexic! The fault was mine, not the Editor's.

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## A ROSE . . .

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### *Lance Haward laments the demise of manufacturers' information*

Right up to a time within living memory (that is, mine!) products told you what they were, in no uncertain terms. There on the box in black and white. 'Doctor Bilge's Stomach Wash', 'Footo – the Wonder Boot Exploder'. No problems. When you found a boot that had to go, there was the appropriate tool for the job, gawping at you from behind the grocer's counter. (Grocers? Counters? Ah, yes...)

Today, particularly in the pharmaceutical field, this engaging frankness on the manufacturers' part has ceased to be the case. Manipulated by advertising wizards, they ensure that nothing on the bottle actually tells you what 'Formula 97' does, let alone 'Kwikkex Safe 'n' Easy (with the handy disposable applicator)'. And you have either to be part of a vast international freemasonry of subscriber-circulated information or, as with sex, to be privately instructed by someone more adult (if more junior), if you're to know whether PZ Jelly softens your toe nails or goes on toasted crumpets. Not a nod or a wink from

the packaging. Just some Zodiacal symbol with a vague allusion to the curative benefits of the Great Pyramid.

Even the supporting commercials are now part of this conspiracy of the covert. It began with all those tobacco advertisements which weren't allowed to say that they were tobacco advertisements but appeared to be purveying anything from armchairs to Sheffield cutlery; and the posters that invited ordinary citizens to get involved with 'aggregates'(?). Suddenly, all the others cottoned on to the fact that this market-for-initiates was powerful stuff. It plugged into a deeper vanity than Grecian 2000.

Its exclusivity was its attraction. To buy the thing, you had to have cracked the code – or been specially admitted to the Confidence, probably at a nude, midnight ceremony on Hampstead Heath. Heady seduction, that. Motor manufacturers took it up, promising you psychedelic experiences of Crete or parascending or Naomi Campbell without once letting on about so vulgar a thing as a car.>>>

# MASTER QUIZ 1997: ROUND 1

*Phillida Grantham*

Once again I present you with the Master Quiz, hoping for even more entries (of the usual high standard) in this, the Silver Jubilee Year of *Mastermind*. There is a transatlantic flavor to Round 1 with the emphasis on Canada, a wonderful country where I spent several happy weeks this summer. There will be a prize for the person scoring highest on the Canadian questions and the customary prize for the best 'in absentia' entry (the highest scorer in the top 12 who is unable to attend the Final).

In the Master Quiz there are two preliminary written rounds from which the best nine contestants on aggregate score will proceed to the Final rounds, with Magnus as Question Master, to be held after dinner on Saturday 5 April 1997 at the Annual Function in Imperial College, London SW7. The winner will hold two trophies: the Magnum, a Toby jug in the likeness of Magnus, and an engraved crystal bowl generously donated by Teesside International Airport Limited who will also give a small prize to the runner-up.

Round 2, set by Gerald MacKenzie, will appear with his instructions in the next issue of *PASS*.

## **Instructions**

Please read these instructions before turning the page and tackling the questions. In each preliminary round there are two entries:

**1** Head your paper 'U', and please answer the questions UNSEEN in your own time. When you have finished sign the entry as being your own unaided work. This need not be the final version – if you subsequently come on any answers by chance, please include them.

**2** On another sheet of paper headed 'R' for Reference and using any reference you care to consult, please check, alter or expand your 'U' answers if desired, quoting your source, or stating 'Second Thoughts'. Use your friends if you wish but be warned – they are not so accurate as reference books! Put your name and Club membership number on each sheet of paper and your address on the first sheet. 80% of the possible marks are awarded on the 'U' entry and 20% on the 'R' entry. It should be stressed that the 'R' entry is not obligatory and some of the most successful entrants prefer to submit only the unseen.

## **Address for Round 1 entries** **Phillida Grantham**

The closing date is **Saturday 14 December 1996** (any new members joining after this date may apply to me for extra time/penalty shoot-outs if necessary). Good luck!

NB: the question-setters have mutually agreed that their decisions are final and, regrettably, they can enter into no correspondence about the questions and answers.

*Now turn the page for the questions >>>>>*

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## **. . . BY ANY NAME AT ALL**

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Now, between the adverts and the neo-Beckett drama, you'll be lucky if there's anything on television, apart from the Nine o'Clock News, that actually *tells* you something a tolerably well-educated achiever of Key Stage 4 can assimilate. That is, absorbed into the information banks in regurgitable and re-usable form. Hence the unlabelled *subjects* of all this mood-massaging arrive on the shelves unattended by any informative vestige of guidance about their contents and abilities. Let alone recommended cooking time, if any.

I know where it's at, of course. The Knowledge. That indispensable Equipment-for-Living in the understated, fast-track, *virtual*-reality world of the Twenty First Century. No question: the in-religion of the Nineties is Esotericism. It's one of those competencies that mystically descends upon you at puberty, or doesn't as the case may be, along with the ability to dismantle carburettors or understand the speech of gorillas, rock singers and Lester Piggott. There is an implanted knowledge of things untaught, an extra receptor tuned to frequencies subliminal to overt language, that can draw in messages out of pure ether, the way a manatee ingests plankton. Believe it or not, every jar of Sung Ying Poo Preparation, rather like a goat

with pheromones coming to the boil, is sending out beguiling emanations of its purpose twenty four hours a day. To the chosen objects of its own desire, that is. Those in need of having their green corpuscles painlessly extracted or hydrangeas kick-started back into vitality and flower can pick up this offer of salvation from three quarters of a mile away. Home in unerringly on its cover design of the rings of Saturn amid all those decoy Greek marble heads and vacancies of sunlit mountain range and bottles shaped like chess pieces.

I'm convinced of it. This is telepathy for the New Age.

That's it, then. The end of this line is inevitably going to be a return to the land for all the non-initiates among us. On the day Rose's Lime Juice Cordial appears on the shelf in a cube-shaped container with a picture of Chac Mool on the front, I give up using shops altogether and sign up with the nearest home-produce co-op.

*I feel a great sense of achievement. I understand exactly how Clarins' Exfoliating Cream works and what to do with it – and I've only ever been to Hampstead Heath in broad daylight, fully clothed! – CM*

# MASTER QUIZ ROUND 1 QUESTIONS

- 1 Which make of car is advertised on TV by Nicole and Papa?
- 2 Which make of car is advertised on TV by Emma and Rosie?
- 3 What is the normal temperature of the human body?
- 4 What is the largest lake entirely within Canada?
- 5 Name the British writer of nonsense who was also a fine water colourist, especially of the Middle East.
- 6 Who allegedly said, "Abroad is bloody – I know, I've been there"?
- 7 Irish Peach is a variety of which fruit?
- 8 By what name do we better know Steveland Judkins?
- 9 What bird is on the Canadian \$1 bill?
- 10 Why are monitor lizards so named?
- 11 In the 1956 FA Cup Final, when Manchester City beat Birmingham 3-1, Bert Trautmann continued to play with a broken neck. What was another unique feature of the game?
- 12 In which Shakespeare play is there a clown called Costard?
- 13 In hydroelectricity, what is the hydraulic jump?
- 14 In 1824 Sir William Hillary founded which charity?
- 15 What is 'bit' short for in computing?
- 16 Who plays Major Sharpe in the Bernard Cornwell series on TV?
- 17 What does PG stand for after the title of a film?
- 18 Which war, as he would later claim, started in Mr. McLean's backyard and ended, after he had moved to escape the fighting, in his own front parlour?
- 19 *The Scream* is the most famous work of which artist?
- 20 Who was responsible for introducing the daily topless Page 3 girls into the *Sun* newspaper?
- 21 Who wrote *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*?
- 22 Who is MP for the Hampstead and Highgate constituency?
- 23 Where in the human body is the aqueous humour?
- 24 'Charm-free' or, alternatively, 'differently interesting' are politically correct terms for what description of a person?
- 25 Who is the Secretary General of NATO?
- 26 Which Canadian Premier only decided on policies after allegedly communing with the spirits of his late wife and dead dog?
- 27 *Die verkaufte Braut* is the widely used German name for which opera?
- 28 The Bio Bio wine-producing region is in: (a) Brazil, (b) Chile, or (c) Argentina?
- 29 What is the name of the Chief Rabbi?
- 30 Which actor drove Miss Daisy?
- 31 In Scotland they are 'champit-tatties' but what are they in England?
- 32 On which island is Fingal's Cave: (a) Rhum or (b) Staffa or (c) Eigg?
- 33 What is a *métis*?
- 34 What is the popular name for the antirrhinum?
- 35 Where does the statue known to Londoners as 'The arse on stilts' normally stand? (This Henry Moore statue is at present away for restoration).
- 36 When it was first unveiled, which London statue scandalised the ladies of England, who had paid for it, because it depicted a nude man?
- 37 How is the letter written as 'B' in the Cyrillic alphabet pronounced?
- 38 Why was André Dallyaire in the news in June 1996?
- 39 What is the name of Sarah Armstrong-Jones's husband?
- 40 In which biennial world championships (est. 1949) do competitors chase titles in slalom, tricks, jumps and overall individual?
- 41 Which was the first National Park, designated in 1872?
- 42 What did Clough Williams Ellis create near Porthmadog?
- 43 Can you name the nerve gas released on the Tokyo Underground?
- 44 What did Brian Gamlin of Bury devise in 1896?
- 45 Who were the parents of Helen of Troy?
- 46 What is the name of the OFGAS regulator?
- 47 Who said, "A man who has no feeling for history is like a man who is deaf and blind"?
- 48 To which country do the Anik series of geostationary communications satellites belong?
- 49 Which of the following once tried out for the part of Desdemona in an amateur production of *Othello*: (a) Franklin D. Roosevelt or (b) John F. Kennedy or (c) Ulysses S. Grant?
- 50 What is the better known name for 'bummalo'?
- 51 Who narrated the TV version of *Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends*?
- 52 'Novercal' is an adjective describing which family member?
- 53 Who directed the film *The Piano*?
- 54 Who had an illicit printing press at Stonor Park, near Henley on Thames?
- 55 Which molecule groups combine to form proteins?
- 56 Who is known – unofficially – as 'The Patron Saint of all Outsiders'?
- 57 What does S.F.O. stand for in a legal context?
- 58 *Anne of Green Gables* is set in which Canadian Province?
- 59 Which animal appears on the Warwickshire County Cricket Club badge?
- 60 A barrister is known as an advocate in Scotland, except in Aberdeen. What is s/he called there?
- 61 Which singer/entertainer is President of the British Diabetic Association?
- 62 *Domine, dirige nos* is the motto of what?
- 63 Who or what was the original 'Humpty Dumpty'?
- 64 Name the Canadian singer who writes her entire name in lower case letters.
- 65 What, ironically enough, did Oliver Cromwell die of?
- 66 What is the Queen's name in *Private Eye*?
- 67 What was the origin – not obscene – of the 2-fingered gesture of derision?
- 68 Which frequently heard song was composed by Clayton F. Summy?
- 69 What is 'ambulance chasing'?
- 70 Name one – or more – British Eurovision Song Contest winners (singers and song).
- 71 What is a 'pickerel'?
- 72 Which was the first public building in London to be lit by electricity?
- 73 Under which President was slavery finally abolished in the USA?
- 74 Why are tanks (as in Chieftain, Tiger etc) so named?
- 75 H.G. Wells was the son of (a) the head gardener at a stately home or (b) a draper or (c) a professional cricketer?
- 76 Whose first scoring shot in Test Match cricket yielded 5 runs?
- 77 What is a 'growler' at sea?
- 78 What is the common name for the tropical flower *Impatiens*?
- 79 Which Irish writer refused to let an admirer kiss the hand which had written such great novels saying, "No, it did lots of other things too"?
- 80 In which Victorian novel does Lady Isabel Vane run off with a married man and then return unrecognised to her remarried husband to care for her own children?
- 81 Who composed the song *I did it my way* for Frank Sinatra?
- 82 How much does it cost to renew a 10 year British passport?
- 83 What does the f-number on a camera lens measure?
- 84 The much publicised Tate Gallery exhibition in early 1996 featured which artist's work?
- 85 Why was the Dutch flag changed from the original orange, white and blue to the present red, white and blue?
- 86 Caper-spurge is a plant which allegedly repels which animal?
- 87 Who is Bob Dole's Vice-presidential running mate?
- 88 Who was hanged for treason, but in a complete about-turn is now esteemed as the founder of Manitoba?
- 89 Who was receiving an honorary degree in Cambridge when pranksters let a teddy bear down from the ceiling on top of his head?
- 90 Complete this clerihew:  
George the Third  
Ought never to have occurred.  
One can only wonder  
.....'
- 91 The town of Gimli on Lake Winnipeg has an unusual distinction, with a tenuous Mastermind connection – what is it?
- 92 Which country did 'The Dream Team' defeat in the final of the 1996 Olympic basketball tournament?
- 93 A dish 'à la Montmorency' includes which fruit in its preparation?
- 94 Which Premiership club is now managed by Ruud Gullit?
- 95 Who is the charismatic English director of the National Gallery of Scotland?
- 96 Which ballet company is recognised world-wide as the best in Canada?
- 97 What connection did Eleanor Thorlton have with Rolls Royce?
- 98 About whom was the Elton John song *Philadelphia Freedom* written?
- 99 Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogoch is the longest place name in Britain. What is its other claim to fame – a first?
- 100 Which well-known Victorian novel ends thus: 'Who can tell!'

# TONSILS

## Paul Slater's memories

The hospital had a distinctive smell, not exactly unpleasant but unfamiliar, with a strange chemical sweetness. To a young child it was a little frightening.

I was put into a small ward with two other children, a boy and a girl. I remember talking to them. I had brought a book with me and paper and pencils. While waiting for my operation I drew a crane and a big mechanical digger, which I had watched, fascinated as they worked busily among piles of rubble in the town park a day or two earlier. The machines had been removing the remains of a wartime military camp but I did not know that until years later.

In my little ward I had a bedside lamp, a great novelty. That evening I switched it on and looked at my book after lights out. A nurse looked in through the open door of the ward and told me to put out the light at once and go to sleep. She spoke sternly and I immediately obeyed.

In my mind I can still see the doors through which I was wheeled into the operating theatre the next morning.

Beyond the doors were shiny pipes and strange-looking pieces of equipment. I felt wonder, mixed with fear. A nurse looked down at me, then something was pressed lightly over my face. There was that sweet chemical smell again, overpowering me and taking away my consciousness before I had time to be really afraid. I awoke, sick and dizzy and without my tonsils. Years later, in the laboratories at the grammar school, I recognised that smell again. It was the ether that we sometimes used in experiments.

The removal of my tonsils is one of my earliest memories. The operation is carried out less frequently now on small children, but many other people may have similar memories from the days when it was commonplace.

*Adenoids too! I remember not being allowed to eat for twenty four hours. I had a red dressing gown. The little girl in the next bed had one too, but hers had a pale yellow rabbit on the pocket. Everyone commented on it. I wanted a pale yellow rabbit so that they would talk to me! – CM*

## POP MUSIC QUIZ

### Answers and commentary from Howard Pizzey

There were eight entries to the pop quiz (PASS Summer 1996); thanks for your interest. The impressive winner was Steve Law, also the only one to get Q5 right. Your feedback was very favourable, and I certainly enjoyed writing the quiz, though I still think of other questions I could have asked. Look out for Pop Quiz II!

#### Answers

- 1 *Please Please Me*. The BBC chart listed it at number 1, but it only got to number 2 in the Record Retailer chart used by the *Guinness Book of British Hit Singles*, which therefore gives *From Me to You* (everyone's choice) as the Beatles' first number 1.
- 2 *Romeo and Juliet*. The people were the Four Pennies, who had a number 1 hit with *Juliet* in 1964. The British group Mr. Big had a hit with *Romeo* in 1977; a totally different American group with the same name was popular in the 1990s. The Four Pennies' drummer was Alan Buck, though one reference book gives his surname as Bush.
- 3 Seventeen – 'I was a mere lad of sixteen, I've aged a year since then' (open to dispute; Craig Douglas was 17 when *Only Sixteen* entered the chart but apparently just 18 when it reached number 1).
- 4 All were deleted while still in the charts. *Je T'Aime* was withdrawn amid furore by Philips; re-licensed to the Major Minor label, it reached number 1. *Anarchy in the UK* was withdrawn by EMI after the Sex Pistols' infamous appearance on *Today*. The Hawkwind withdrew their own disc, as it coincided with an IRA bombing campaign. Most answered that the records were banned as well as deleted; two certainly were, but I know of no official ban on *Urban Guerrilla* – then again, I don't recall hearing it on the radio either!
- 5 The Mike Sammes Singers. They provided the actual whistling on Smith's hit *I Was Kaiser Bill's Batman*, and they had a hit with *Somewhere My Love*, the theme to *Doctor Zhivago*.
- 6 *Poppa Piccolino* by Diana Decker, in the days when only a Top 12 was published – it did, however, re-enter the chart the next week (the

most popular answer was *Raving I'm Raving* by Shut Up And Dance, but it dropped from 2 to 15 and then out).

7. The Dubliners and the Pogues.
- 8 Don McLean's (Carole King's *Tapestry*, 1971, was not her first album).
- 9 Keith West's minor hit *Sam*, about a redundant engine driver, was the second song purporting to come from a forthcoming *Teenage Opera*, but the project was abandoned shortly afterwards.
- 10 The Contours had their only British chart success with *Just a Little Misunderstanding* after they had split up. Their American hit *Do You Love Me?* was a British number 1 for Brian Poole and the Tremeloes.
- 11 They all understated their personnel. There were three Thompson Twins, six members of the Quiet Five, and the Temperance Seven sometimes numbered eight or nine.
12. Apparently because no video of Jackson's performance was available! This led one disgruntled viewer to ask whether *Top of the Pops* should be re-named *Top of the Videos* (no one got this completely right – Ann Kelly came closest with, "It could not be played live,").
13. Tony Mansfield, the drummer with Billy J. Kramer's backing group, the Dakotas. Some reference books incorrectly claim that Kramer himself is her brother.
14. The B-side, *Never Learn Not to Love*, co-written by Charles Manson, responsible for the 1969 murders of Sharon Tate and six others.
- 15 *Annie's Song* by John Denver and James Galway (not *Amazing Grace*: Judy Collins' version only got to number 5).
- 16 Dooley Wilson, who died in 1953 and first charted with the song from *Casablanca*, *As Time Goes By*, in 1977.
- 17 *You Belong To Me* by Jo Stafford and *Limelight* by Frank Chacksfield. Stafford went on to number 1, but Chacksfield did not (Michael Formby pointed out that I missed *Such a Night* by Johnnie Ray).
- 18 The song was used as a jingle on a TV advert for *Babe* perfume and the BBC objected that the record advertised this product. A revised version, *(You're) Fabulous Girl*, was deemed acceptable by the BBC.
19. Peter and Gordon complete the list of performers of the first ten records by British artists to top the American chart.
20. *Heartbeat* – not *It Doesn't Matter Anymore*, his first posthumous single.

# HOMES QUIZ

*Alison Kelly tests your knowledge inside and out*

Send your answers to Alison Kelly by 14 November. The answers and results will be in the next issue of PASS.

## Houses

- 1 Why did the multi-paned window go out of fashion in the 19th century?
- 2 Pilkington's invented what refinement of plate glass after the last war?
- 3 How does a pitched roof differ from a hipped roof?
- 4 Why are dormer windows so-called?
- 5 What are quoins?
- 6 When did the verandah come into use?
- 7 How did the bungalow get its name?
- 8 Why do the British call the bottom storey of their houses the ground floor while the Americans call it the first floor?
- 9 What was a boudoir?
- 10 When did the door-knob come into use?
- 11 What is a portière?
- 12 What is a Diocletian or Thermal window?
- 13 What is a Venetian window?

## Household arrangements

- 1 Which house was first lit by electric light?
- 2 When was the vacuum cleaner invented?
- 3 When were the first gas cookers used?
- 4 Who developed the electric light bulb?
- 5 Who invented the sewing machine?
- 6 When did electric cookers come into general use?
- 7 Who was a Tweeney?
- 8 What was the significance of Kay's Flying Shuttle?
- 9 Where would you find a mouse mat?

## Domestic oddities

- 1 Which well-known author lived in the Epsom racecourse grandstand?
- 2 Why was the Victorian butler said to have ironed the newspaper on its arrival?
- 3 Americans sometimes name their daughters after places, for example Chelsea Clinton. Who were the first Englishwomen to be named specifically after their birthplaces?
- 4 What were Prince Rupert's Drops, and what safety principle do they embody?
- 5 What medical practice did Lady May Wortley Montagu bring back to England, from her Middle Eastern travels?

## Furniture and decoration

- 1 When household fuel changed from wood to coal what new piece of household equipment was needed?
- 2 Gillows was a famous Georgian firm of cabinet-makers which later changed its name to Waring and Gillow. How did Waring join Gillows?
- 3 Who made the first English long-case (grandfather) clock?
- 4 Where would you find a Ho-ho bird?
- 5 Why were there so many Huguenot craftsmen in England in the 17th and 18th centuries?
- 6 Silverware made in England between 1697 and 1720 was called Britannia silver. What was it and why was it made?
- 7 What was a Jacobite glass and how was it used?
- 8 Why did an Act of Parliament popularise cut glass?
- 9 Why did the same Act lead to a glass industry in Ireland?
- 10 Chintz was an Indian cotton material imported in the eighteenth century. What was its appeal?
- 11 What type of curtain has made a fashionable comeback after 200yrs?
- 12 What was a Klismos chair?
- 13 What was a porter's chair?
- 14 Why were brass and iron bedsteads thought to be particularly hygienic when introduced in the nineteenth century?

## Nursery

- 1 Who wrote *The Golliwogs' Cake Walk*?
- 2 What was a Golliwog?
- 3 What was the origin of the teddy bear?
- 4 What was a doll's pretty face made of in 1850, 1900 and 1990?
- 5 Distinguish between Pooh Bear and Paddington Bear.
- 6 Which children had a Newfoundland dog as a nanny?
- 7 Why did a concerned mother (or anyone *in loco parentis*) give a small child beer as late as the nineteenth century?
- 8 Why is a pram so called?
- 9 Distinguish between a basinet and a bassinette.
- 10 Why were many girls christened Wendy early this century?
- 11 Why were the Two Bad Mice in Beatrix Potter's tale deeply disappointed when they got inside the dolls' house?
- 12 Where is there a dolls' house with furniture said to have been made by Chippendale?
- 13 What was a hobby horse?
- 14 What, absent-mindedly, was deposited in a perambulator?

## Clothes

- 1 Which eminent lady said that she would wear no more cloth stockings, when shown a pair of knitted silk ones?
- 2 Where can you see one of her pairs of silk stockings, together with her straw hat?
- 3 *The Man in the White Suit* was an Alec Guinness film in which the hero caused a disaster through his invention. What was it and how was the problem solved?
- 4 What was an opera hat?
- 5 How did a frock coat differ from a tailcoat?
- 6 In the immediate post-war period why was a woman delighted to get hold of a parachute?
- 7 What invention allowed late sixteenth and seventeenth century people to wear large ruffs?
- 8 Why was the crinoline, on its introduction, considered to be a liberating garment?
- 9 How did a crinoline differ from an eighteenth century hoop?
- 10 As well as cotton, which plant, essential for some clothing, was grown in the Southern US states when they were British colonies?
- 11 Who wrote and why: "Odious! In woollen! T'would a saint provoke!" were the last words that poor Narcissa spoke'?
- 12 Who popularised the paper dress pattern?
- 13 What raised the Courtauld family, from being well-off to super rich in the 1920s-1930s?
- 14 Which seventeenth century poet preferred his beloved to be untidy?

## Gardens

- 1 What was Gertrude Jekyll noted for?
- 2 Which imported garden flower became very fashionable in the late seventeenth century?
- 3 Who apologised to an Irish peer for not coming to Ireland, and why?
- 4 What is a ha-ha?
- 5 What garden experience, in the seventeenth century, was shared by Andrew Marvell and Isaac Newton, and with what results?
- 6 Who wrote, 'God Almighty first planted a garden'?
- 7 Who (God forgive him) wrote 'A garden is a lovesome thing, God wot'?
- 8 Which organisation in recent times hijacked the flower emblem of another?
- 9 Who said, in French, "You must cultivate your garden"?
- 10 Why is there a pagoda in Kew Gardens?
- 11 Which rose was picked by both Yorkists and Lancastrians?
- 12 Who gave his name to the Banksia rose?
- 13 What was wrong with the roses in Through the Looking Glass?
- 14 Who was Lancelot (Capability) Brown, and why was he so called?

# HOMES QUIZ (cont.)

## Food

- 1 What, for Robert Burns, was 'great chieftain of the pudding race'?
- 2 Service à la Russe became fashionable during the nineteenth century. What was it?
- 3 On which side of the diner should the food be offered?
- 4 On which side should the drink be offered?
- 5 What were the following called when first introduced into Britain?  
(a) grapefruit (b) kiwi fruit (c) aubergine
- 6 What milk product has become almost obsolete and what replaced it?
- 7 What was Jonathan Swift's 'Modest Proposal'?
- 8 Who wrote: 'Here now, Great Anna, whom three realms obey/  
Doth sometimes council take and sometimes tea.'?
- 9 How did Isabella Beeton obtain all the recipes for her *Household Management*?
- 10 Who introduced an essential culinary vegetable into England?
- 11 If you were offered a dish described as à la Florentine, Parmentier or Vichy, what accompaniments would you expect?
- 12 If a dish was described as à l'anglaise, how would you expect it to have been cooked?
- 13 Why was dessert so called and what is it?
- 14 In Victorian and Edwardian times, what we simply call tea was always referred to as afternoon tea. Why?
- 15 Who, when told that Life consisted of the Four Elements, replied, "Faith, so they say, but I rather think it consists of eating and drinking."?

## WHATEVER HAPPENED TO WADDLEGATES AND STARBOBS?

### *Margaret Sillwood reminisces on the dialect of Romney Marsh*

A cup of tea and half an hour's chat took me back to my childhood – between the ages of about two and ten. I was listening to the accents and dialect I'd heard then.

Len had called round. He's 87 now, though I still think of him as 'young Len' because that's what my grandfather (who would now be 102) always called him. He'd looked in on the way home from an afternoon visit to his 90 year-old wife in her nursing home. He and my grandfather, two old Romney Marsh sheep-farmers, had learned to talk before TV mid-Atlantic or sloppy East End swamped all but the most persistent local dialects.

The standard joke about 'correct' speech was that one was 'brung up proper' – but I grew up with some equally strange past participles, such as *splut*: "Splut them chestnut spiles yet, have you?", "Like that bun splut and buttered?"

My joking childhood invention, 'I thunk', was accepted without comment. Others include: *cotched* (caught), *jowned* (joined) and some where vowel sounds changed: *gooin* (going) and *rooshing* (rushing).

Marsh dialect was mostly farmers' talk. What the rest of the world called a hurdle, we called a *waddlegate* (wattlegate?); a shepherd was, and often still is a *looker*, which yielded the verb *lookering*; a marsh dyke on a field boundary was a *wet-fence*. To *brish* a hedge was to cut it and the cuttings were *brishings*; a road junction was a *three wents* and left-handed was *cack-handed*.

Quite a lot of these have hung on into today's usage, but *going cluck* (being poorly), *cluck hen* (broody hen), *spadgers* (sparrows) and *starbobs* (starlings) have all but vanished, as has the Romney Marsh grammar trick of saying, "I are" or

"I aren't". Also gone, it seems to me, has *gipper* (gravy or savoury juice with meat). "Game sauce?" I politely offer guests with venison or pheasant: once things have become less formal and we're into seconds the offer is likely to be, "More gipper?"

It wasn't until Len was well into conversation that I realised how long it had been since I had heard anyone talking about *sharping* (sharpening) a blade, or a *hop-peeler* (heavy hammer – from Lord knows what derivation), or *glim* (light). "Shall I douse the glim, Margaret?" asked Len, wanting to know whether to put out the kitchen light as he was going.

When American friends laugh at my saying *fortnight*, I always try to remember to say *twelvemonth* and *sennight*, which both Len and my grandfather always used.

Accents are catching and the voice of childhood comes back to the tongue very quickly. I found myself asking, "How come that about, Len?"

*Language fascinates me too. I make a point of noting dialect words and turns of phrase wherever I go. Having spent time with my in-laws in Aberdare, I'm quite used to sennight and twelvemonth! My sister-in-law told me that we could get "a tidy meal in the Afon Dar", which was "over by there". They wash dishes in the bosh (sink) and eat jibbons (spring onions).*

*Liverpool dialect gives us 'Coom ed, la' (Come here, my friend), 'yous' (you [plural]), 'Yer wah?' (What did you say?) and many others, including 'under the doctor', which sounds as if it could be rather uncomfortable, depending on the doctor, but means 'receiving medical treatment'! One of my favourites is, 'He couldn't knock the skin off a rice pudd'n.' (He is somewhat weak.)*

*Perhaps other members have 'dialect' tales to tell? – CM*

# Jack Clark's Diary

in which divers *WONDERS* and *APPARITIONS* are related

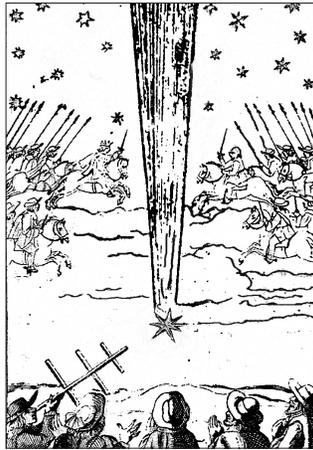
MARCH 30. I depart in good order and mayke all speed to the town of *Darlington* where I take my morning draught, then hire a carriage to bring me to the *Fylde* of *St George*, where I am received with joy at the fyne and spacious inn. But lo! I find I have been soundly cozened by the promise that we should behold the mystical *flying engines* made to the pattern of *Leonardo of Florence*. In vayne do they protest that these machines did fly of old, their names being memorified in the apartments of the inn, as *Hurricane Suite*, *Spitfire*, *Halifax* and more such cunning riddles. In truth I could see nought upon the greenward, nay, neither clever devices nor devious fellows to propel them, so that I shall be forced to admit my error and appear shamed before *Sir I. Newton* and the *Fellowes* of our *Royal Society*, aye, and *His Majesty* himself when next we doe meet, for it was *Sir Isaac* who did prove by his Law of Gravitie that men shall never levitate above the *Earth*.

Yet I am in fine humour when I meet *My Lady Phillida*; with my genial Welsh friend *Arfor* with *Pall Welles* and the young gentleman of Durham whose learned discourse upon *St Cuthbert* hath made him famous. But I do not jaunt with them to discover the fights of *St George's Field*; rather would I indulge in the pleasures of sloth and idleness.

When they do return I find that they have been to study a *Schole* devoted to the *Preventing of Fyres*, a useful art to cultivate, as I doe greatly fear that those in *London* shall find their houses set to the torch, should the perfidious *French* or purse-proud *Dutch* sail up the *Thames* with the fell intent of ravaging our city. Moreover, such study would profitably ward off some *Great Plague* that may be poised to strike us, for I learn from my coulin's country estate that in the rural pastures the cattle do rave in the meadows, the cows doe bark like dogges and none of their flesh is to be eaten.

Ere long cometh my old companioun, young *Mr C. Gifford* and together we drink a toast before we repair to our *Great Supper*, at which I am put into an ill-humour by the serving of a piece of roasted *lamb* that would defy the cutting power of a furgeon's saw, so that I think to ask the servant to wrap it in a napkin that I may take it home for *Pufs*. Yet sober counsel persuadeth me that *Pufs*, thieving wretch though he be, deserveth not to have his teeth broken by such hard fare. But my good humour is restored by a fine pye of apples, cream and rayfens, with soothing wyne and delicate sweetmeats.

Sir Magnus then requires our finest scholars to submit to the inquisition into their wisdom, a merrye tournament at which our Master Ashman is again proven our parfait champion. Now Mr Gifford and I having taken much wine in good fellowship, we agree to part until the morrow. Summer starting by Royal Decree this night, I shall sleep late in the morn; and so to bed in good heart.



MARCH 31 (Lord's Day). I break my fast in fyne style with cooked eggs, but late, so I must mayke all haste to the Annual meeting of our *Companye*. *My Lady Owen*, our Mistris of the *Wardrobe*, conveyeth me in her own coach across the fylde, a mark of favour to me, by which I arrive at the *Fyre Schole* an instant before the doors close upon us. Here a fine sermon by *Mr A. Darte*, who thereafter revealeth that the strangers who came to observe our proceedings yestere'en were but honest scriveners, there at Mr Darte's invitation to report a description of our *Society* and to mayke pictures, all to be published in a broadsheet that will be sold in bookshops up and down the land. To those among us who cry out that such fauky fellows desire to intrude upon our counsels,

I would reply that as we preach no treason nor provoke scandal, we have nought to dread from the bringing to publick notice our innocent quest for *Knowledge*.

Hereafter *Mistris Cowley* doth reveal answers to many erudite questions, viz: the true identities of *Nathan Birnbaum*, *Willy Delight* and *Co*. Then when *Mr Daught* doth bring our deliberation to an early close at noone, we repair to a fyne banquet of roasted meates and wyne, where I rejoice to sit with *My Lady Phillida*, *Mr Gifford* and others. We know not as yet where we shall meet the next year, as it is determined by a *Higher Authority* than ourselves whether we must go to *London* or to *Mann Chester* in wild *Lancaster*. Aye, if the *Lord* do decree we must be obedient to *God's* will and forswear the fleshpots of *London*. *Mr Gifford* and I so take leave of *My Lady*, *Mr Darrt*, *Mr Cadden* of *Erin*, *Mr Chitty* and all our friends, hiring a hackney to bear us to *Darlington*, where we take refreshment before going our separate ways, and I meet with *Mr Albert Bertin* of *London*, who hath long to wait for his conveyance home, but I with good fortune reach my house in daylight, where *Pufs* doth eye me with suspicion lest I bring him remains of any hard mutton from the feast.

AYRILL 4. This night after darke did occur a full eclipsing of the *Moone*, to the consternation of many who did behold the smok'd and burned aspect of the disc.

APRILLE 5. Another apparition this night, viz a great *Comett* plainly visible lyke unto a great and bryte lampe below *Stella Polaris*. I am well pleased with these observations for now I shall be spared the mockery of the *Royal Society*, for *Sir Isaac* might yet persuade the *King*, by my faithfull report of the heavenly courses, to overlook my gullibility in the matter of the suppos'd engines of flight.

And so to bed in greater ease of mynde.