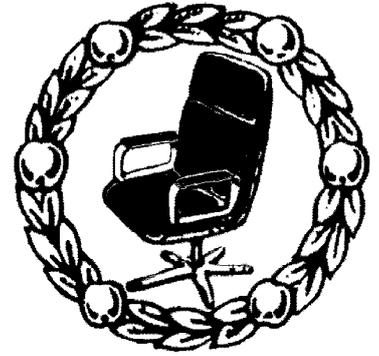


pass



The Quarterly Magazine of the Mastermind Club



The model for a new Toby Jug?

2004:3

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As I was walking on Brancaster Sands...

Ken Emond, Editor

First, I should issue a sincere apology to everyone for the additional delays in producing the last edition of **pass**, even beyond my original expectations. As Michael Davison has so wittily commented (Letters, p.2), the deadline – both for submission of copy and for Brian Bovington’s quiz – became almost impossibly tight as a result, with delivery to most addresses only happening on the last day of September. I am delighted to learn from Brian that he has, nevertheless, received quite a few entries, and I hope that the problem will not recur, but we will have to see.

Since my last editorial, I have had a very pleasant holiday in the Fenlands, and South Holland district of Lincolnshire. There is something rather enjoyable in visiting historic sites in the company of two Masterminds (Kevin Ashman, 1995 and Gavin Fuller, 1993) – not only through being able to take advantage of the combined knowledge on a vast range of subjects, but also in the tendency to get recognised in the least expected places. Of course, Kevin’s recent TV exposure as a member of the Eggheads is probably the primary cause, hence the conversation overheard on Brancaster Sands, in which two friends were clearly trying to jog each other’s memory (“Wasn’t that chap on the telly the other day, you know in that lunchtime quiz programme...”). Over a pub lunch at Castle Acre it was a bit more direct, (“Are you Masterminds...?”). What readers may or may not also have seen through reports in the national press is that Kevin has, this summer, added yet another jewel to the crown of his achievements, with his triumph in the World Quizzing Championship against a truly international field of competitors. I am sure we would all wish to congratulate him on another tremendous success. Congratulations are also due, of course, to Kathryn Johnson, one of the leading lights of the British Museum team who won this year’s series of *University Challenge: The Professionals*. I personally enjoyed the whole series very much, and the BM’s success in the final was very well deserved.

Note: At the risk of tempting lightning to strike twice... please take the deadline for submissions for the next issue to be 22nd November. As previously noted, I particularly welcome submission by e-mail (to kene@britac.ac.uk), but I am, of course, happy to hear from everyone in hard copy instead for those who don’t use e-mail.

Membership matters

Peter Chitty, Membership Secretary

It has been a quiet time on the membership front with just 2 new members, James Greenfield and John E Tallon. We hope that they will have a long and happy association with the club, and I hope that we shall see them at a future gathering.

I quite enjoyed the Junior Mastermind series and look forward to seeing them in the future in an adult series. As far as the Celebrity series is concerned only two, Edwina Currie and Richard Whiteley, expressed an interest in joining us and I await their application forms.

NEW MEMBERS

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Letters, news and views

From Michael Davison

WELCOME, MR NEW EDITOR OF **pass**! You are clearly intending to impose a stern regime upon your contributors. The deadline of 30th September which you set for next edition copy fell exactly 15 hours after your first **pass** dropped onto my doormat this morning.

However, never let it be said that a life-long journalist isn't capable of meeting the sternest challenges, so with the clock ticking away, here's my offering to help stave off the threatened history thesis. (It looks as though Lance Haward and Ray Ward can be relied on to do that between them – even if some readers may say, 'Let's have the thesis'.)

I was sorry to miss the Portsmouth reunion, even more so after reading Stewart Cross's graphic account of the revelries you all enjoyed. I was particularly sorry not to be there to congratulate Craig on his well-deserved elevation, and to add my personal thanks to Tony for all he's done for our club over the last 14 years.

As for the disputed Magnum answer, to indulge in a little Ward/Haward style pedantry of my own, I'd have thought by far the commonest type of creature called a Darter is the simple dragonfly. There are, in fact, several darters: the commonest of them, *Sympetrum striolatum*, is often to be seen when I lead parties of walkers around Richmond Park in summer.

Phew, I made it with an hour to spare. I may have missed the Portsmouth Reunion, but I haven't missed your first deadline...

From Helena Rogers

A Five-Time MM Challenger...

I AM WRITING IN RESPONSE to the letter from Anne Miller in the latest issue of **pass**. My first experience of Mastermind was in 1994 in the wonderful setting of Warwick Castle. In those days we had the luxury of a rehearsal and also a congenial after-show buffet with Magnus and his production team. I had the dubious pleasure of playing against Kevin Ashman, on his second appearance in the quiz, when he obtained his record-breaking score.

After that I went on the Radio Mastermind with Peter Snow, and Discovery Mastermind with Clive Anderson.

Last year, I went on the new run of Mastermind with John Humphrys which I found quite an ordeal. This year I was asked to be on standby and ended up going on the show with just a few days' notice. That experience I found quite enjoyable.

From Margaret Thomas

I AM WRITING IN REPLY to the letter from Anne Miller about appearing four times on Mastermind. I have appeared on 3 different series, including the present one, and have had the dubious distinction of being turned down by the Discovery version and the Radio 4 programme. Although I enjoyed being quizzed by John Humphrys, I really missed the warmth and charm of Magnus. The contestants on this new series had no opportunity to meet John except when actually in the chair. Also there was no photograph taken. I was looking forward to placing it with the previous two I have of myself and Magnus. Overall I did not find it as enjoyable an experience as my previous two. [*I am sure everyone who took part in the original series would echo Margaret's sentiments about the warmth and charm of Magnus... ED.*]

From Lance Haward

WE HAD FUN IN **pass** a little while back discussing some of the burgeoning aberrations (I use the word scientifically and dispassionately) in current English usage, the verbalized noun (“*to trash*”, “*to fast-track*”) and nominalized verb (“*the spend*”) – v. 2001.1 & 2

I have been growing anxious of late (principal symptom, a hydrophobic tendency to bite things, if not actual postmen) at another of these practices (originally Transatlantic, I think), the passivication of the active verb, usually involving also a pseudo-personification of the inanimate; thus –

- a car or yacht that handles smoothly
- a horse that rides kindly
- pupils that teach willingly
- a victim that killed easy (!)
- a violin that plays with great clarity
- the new, larger ball that tends to hit long
- the course riding fast today
- food that cooks up a treat
- an apartment that sleeps six;
- and, with supreme irony, the literary world as prime offender with its best sellers and good reads.

Any other offers?

From Leo Stevenson

A Postscript to Professional Professionals — An Amateur’s Perspective

FURTHER TO MY PIECE about the abuse and over-use of the word ‘professional’, I just thought I’d draw your attention to two other pet-hate up-beat adjectives used in the promotion and advertising of commercial products – ‘designer’ and ‘premium’. My beef with ‘designer’ is simple, *everything* that is manufactured is designed, so to twist this word to mean that the product is somehow special is wrong. Anyway, if the designer is someone we should know about, why isn’t their name on the product?! As for ‘premium’, well this latest trendy word is all set to be applied to almost every product or service around, rendering the word almost meaningless. Finally, for a while now I’ve been waiting to see all three pet-hate words used for one product, and last month I saw it – a ‘professional designer lawnmower’ that also had a sticker on it declaring it to be a ‘premium product’! (This was a ‘Viking’ machine sold at B&Q.) Ouch.

From Gill Woon

AS A LONG-TIME STUDENT, and lover, of all things Spanish, I am increasingly intrigued by the hold the language seems to have on car designers of all nationalities. The temptation to delve into the rich treasury of Spanish for names of models of car has been in evidence for some time – anyone remember the Toledo, Cortina or Granada? (The choice of either Toledo or Granada, as fine cities redolent of art, culture and civilization, I have no quarrel with – but other students of Spanish will agree with me that Cortina, which translates as ‘curtain’, somehow does not have quite the same ring).

My mini-obsession with this subject, fuelled by visits to Spain, has harvested the following crop of names, some more appropriate than others. Almera (well, almost...), Espero, Fiesta, Frontera, Leon, Marea, Matiz, Sierra, Terrero, Viva (another blast from the past). Hispanophiles must bear with me while I expand briefly on these. Espero is Spanish for ‘I hope’, or ‘I wait’. This may or may not be a good name for a car (Hoping it doesn’t break down? Waiting for the AA man?). Fiesta speaks for itself. Frontera means ‘frontier’ and is therefore a suitable name for a four-wheel drive car, as is Terrero, meaning ‘terrain’. Leon is a beautiful town in Castile, and also the Spanish for ‘lion’. Matiz is the Spanish for a ‘hue’ or ‘shade’ of a colour, a lovely word in itself, though not quite so pretty when pronounced ‘Matt-izz’ (normal English pronunciation – Spanish would be something like ‘Mateeth’). Not sure why they picked this word for a car, but don’t have a quarrel with it.

Sierra, as readers I am sure will know, is actually the Spanish word for a saw, but is better known outside Spain for a mountain range – so again, a felicitous choice by association. But Marea! If I explain it means ‘It makes you sick’ in Spanish...! No comment.

I realise that I haven’t yet fully answered my original question – why Spanish? I believe that the answer is twofold – euphony (most Spanish words have a beautiful sound and are quite hard for anyone to mangle completely) and association, which I touched on above. To expand on this point, I believe that for most English-speaking people, Spanish has positive connotations – sun, seaside holidays, carefree times and/or if you happen to be from the States, the wild open range, the rugged action-packed lifestyle, an appeal to a simpler, ‘purer’ lifestyle, etc.

I’d love to know what other people think about this...

From Ray Ward

INSPIRED BY THE SOCRATES (philosopher or footballer) and Iceland (country of shop) brouhaha, and on a lighter note, I would like to offer further thoughts on the matter of the same name meaning different things to different people.

A long-ago colleague once mentioned William Morris. I assumed she meant the motor company founder who became Lord Nuffield, and when she said, rather testily, that she meant **the** William Morris, the artist, I replied that to me Nuffield was **the** William Morris, though I had, of course, heard of the other one.

A newspaper sub-editors’ manual gives as an example of the breadth of knowledge required that, if on a popular paper, Tom Jones should mean a singer first, a film second and the Henry Fielding novel a distant third. If on a more serious paper the order would be reversed – but a good sub should be aware of all three. It’s said that an executive of a media conglomerate was being shown round the premises of a publisher they had acquired and, when shown a number of copies of Fielding’s *Tom Jones* and told they weren’t selling and were going to be disposed of, said they shouldn’t do that; he might be slipping down the British charts but he was still popular in America.

In 1967 *The Hard Years* by the climber Joe Brown was published. I ordered it for the library where I worked, and my two female assistants seemed very interested in seeing it. When it arrived one of them looked at the cover picture of the author in his climbing gear with a mountain in the background and said: “That’s not Joe Brown” – and I suddenly realised they had been under the impression it was by the pop singer Joe Brown!

I once saw a game show contestant who, offered a prize of a day out in Stratford, said, “What, east London?”. Do visitors to London ever head east and wonder why they can’t find Shakespeare’s birthplace? Or people go to the city of Leeds in search of Leeds Castle? Then there’s Bond Street. You won’t find **the** Bond Street, in W1, in any London street atlas, because it’s actually New Bond Street and Old Bond Street, but there are other Bond Streets in London. Does anyone ever go to them and wonder where the posh shops are?

Even worse confusions have been reported. When the anniversary of the famous Woodstock pop festival was marked in New York State some years ago, the AA and RAC received calls from motorists anxious about possible traffic congestion near – Woodstock, Oxfordshire!

And recently, when I heard a newspaper had a large feature on Jordan, I at first assumed it was about the country, only later realising it was about the model with the large features...

A plea from Trevor Montague

IF ANYONE HAS A PARTICULAR INTEREST in any British-related subject, however quaint or esoteric, however great or small, and feel it might be of general interest to a discerning public, please contact me, if you are so disposed, with a view to having it included in my next work, *The A to Z of Britain*.

Master Quiz 2004

Gavin Fuller provides the answers to Round 2 of this year's Master Quiz.

- 1) Ewan MacColl
- 2) London
- 3) Invincible, Illustrious and Ark Royal
- 4) Murray
- 5) Joshua
- 6) Jason Robinson
- 7) Fawley
- 8) William
- 9) Eight
- 10) John Hurt
- 11) Tungsten
- 12) Hungary
- 13) Dorothy L Sayers
- 14) Coningsby
- 15) The Netherlands
- 16) Kiss Me Kate
- 17) He became Britain's first black Chief Constable (of Kent)
- 18) Aston Villa
- 19) Maldon
- 20) Play games on it (Microsoft's games console)
- 21) 1902
- 22) William Cremer
- 23) Humphrey Bogart
- 24) The Appalachians
- 25) Angelica Kaufmann
- 26) Bagpipes from Galicia in Spain
- 27) V (Vanguard, Victorious, Vigilant and Vengeance)
- 28) Sir John Franklin
- 29) Willow
- 30) Kyrgyzstan
- 31) The Rose Bowl
- 32) Wacky Races
- 33) Peter Grimes
- 34) James Madison (in office 1809-17)
- 35) George
- 36) Greenland
- 37) Homeopathy
- 38) Royal Fleet Auxiliary
- 39) Terence Rattigan
- 40) A species of bird
- 41) Mike Oldfield
- 42) Pascal
- 43) Horus
- 44) St Mark
- 45) First, Walt Whitman
- 46) Henrik Ibsen
- 47) Henri II
- 48) Newmarket
- 49) Harry Redknapp
- 50) Dukes
- 51) Pineau (des Charentes)
- 52) 1260°
- 53) Prince Rupert of the Rhine
- 54) Llareggub
- 55) Village People
- 56) Robinson Crusoe
- 57) Ronnie O'Sullivan (17 years 11 months, Royal Liver Assurance UK Championship 1993)
- 58) Igor Stravinsky
- 59) St Bernard of Clairvaux
- 60) Sir Alexander Fleming
- 61) Westland
- 62) The names of the seven hills of Rome (Capitoline, Quirinal, Viminal, Esquiline, Caelian, Aventine and Palatine)
- 63) 32
- 64) Admiral Lord Cuthbert Collingwood
- 65) Play very slowly
- 66) Henry Cavendish
- 67) The Witham
- 68) Eight (four couples)
- 69) Thomas Bodley
- 70) Ballooning
- 71) The Norwegian Sea
- 72) Jackie Stewart
- 73) Ireland
- 74) Sea Fever
- 75) Nephew
- 76) Rutland
- 77) Judith
- 78) Fife

- 79) Prozac
- 80) The Réaumur
- 81) HMS Bronington
- 82) Lincoln and Salisbury
- 83) Slovakia
- 84) Benjamin Britten (in 1976)
- 85) The Diggers
- 86) A hoe
- 87) Symphony No. 1 in D Major
- 88) Patrick Troughton
- 89) Jim (J O) Troughton
- 90) Christopher Marlowe (in Doctor Faustus)
- 91) Genghis Khan (Temüjin)
- 92) A windsurfer
- 93) Dr Rudie Van Vuuren, Namibia
- 94) Stonyhurst
- 95) William Wordsworth
- 96) Admiral David Beatty
- 97) David Bedford
- 98) Captain Britain
- 99) Jude
- 100) They are all buried in Winchester Cathedral

MUGNUM 2004

Answers to the 2004 Mugnum Questions (printed in 2004:2)

- 13: Because it was a Czech-speaking settlement
- 21: Libel is written defamation, whilst slander is oral defamation
- 22: The award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Henry Kissinger
- 54: The nails are driven through the hands but in reality they would have been driven through the wrist
- 89: He was a major contributor to the Oxford English Dictionary (whilst in Broadmoor)
- 145: Twixt Nose and Upper Lip
- 275: His name is Dai Young
- 280: Half Past Four
- 286: Andrew Bonar Law
- 287: He delivered the blessed Margaret Thatcher
- 295: Snoopy
- 307: Trams would change over from the sub-surface conduit system of current collection to the conventional overhead wire method, or vice versa
- 337: Gibraltar
- 349: She was part of the HMS Vernon Torpedo School
- 412: He was the only non-Norwegian (being Swedish), and the only member who spoke Spanish
- 443: Minghella (Anthony directed the films and his father makes ice cream)
- 455: The Russo-Japanese War
- 457: Sudden Oak Death
- 475: Both had the surname Zimmerman before adopting their professional names
- 477: Die Walküre
- 526: Omaha
- 532: Parvati
- 549: She was abducted by aliens
- 579: Tin
- 629: Bardsey (Ynys Enlli)
- 642: Bob Holness (in a BBC Radio production of Moonraker, 1957)
- 672: The diagrammatic London Underground Map
- 693: Tristan und Isolde & Die Meistersinger Von Nürnberg
- 696: Taunton
- 697: Victor Emmanuel of Savoy, descendent of Amadeus VIII who became Pope Felix V in 1439
- 729: Portsmouth is nicknamed Pompey which is the Anglicisation of the name of the Roman General Gnaeus Pompeius Maximus
- 731: The Master
- 766: The Initials J. U. (John Updike, Jørn Utzon, James Ussher)
- 823: Alternative 3
- 824: Paul Scofield
- 825: Mars

830: Jeoffr(e)y

875: Bat

849: Saint Piran

877: Ujiji

866: Nicolas Poussin (1594-1665)

899: Both were born in Portsmouth

869: Jack and Emily

955: A postage stamp

Results

Individual

| | |
|------------------|------|
| David Edwards | 25.6 |
| Kevin Ashman | 24.5 |
| Geoff Thomas | 22.5 |
| Ann Kelly | 18.1 |
| Sonia Anderson | 17.2 |
| Andy Curtis | 17 |
| Elizabeth Chase | 15.9 |
| Patricia Cowley | 14 |
| Wendy Forrester | 14 |
| Patricia Owen | 13 |
| Peter Richardson | 11 |
| Ray Ward | 11 |
| Eleanor Macnair | 10.5 |
| Norman Izzett | 9.7 |
| Leslie Grout | 9.5 |
| Margery Elliott | 7.2 |

Team

| | |
|---|------|
| Somesorts (Phillida Grantham, Ken Emond, Paul Henderson) | 28.5 |
| Suzanne (Susan Leng & Anne Miller) | 22.5 |
| Bob & Irene | 22.5 |
| Craig & Sarah Scott | 17.7 |

World Bowls Championship

Ann Kelly reveals what goes on behind the scenes at a major sporting event

Here is a quiz question for you: nineteen-year-old Ryan Bestor is a World Champion in which sport? Those of you who have to hazard a guess will probably go for one of the sports that favour the very youthful, such as swimming or gymnastics. You would be wrong. Ryan is a World Champion in Lawn Bowls.

Members of the club back in 2002 may remember the article I wrote about my experiences working at the Lawn Bowls venue at the Commonwealth Games. While I was there, I learned about the Lawn Bowls World Championships coming to Ayr in 2004 and of course I was determined to work there as well. Two years down the line did indeed find me working at the World Championships in Ayr and the Commonwealth Games it certainly wasn't!!

Here is my World Bowls diary. Names have not been changed to protect the innocent.

Friday 23rd July

I arrive in Ayr and settle in my lovely Bed and Breakfast, "Deepdale" with Margaret and Rob, it's a real home from home. They are both Preston North End fans and the B&B is decorated with Lilywhites memorabilia. Also staying at "Deepdale" are two other volunteers and Sybil and Harry, ex-pats from Spain visiting the bowls. After unpacking, and discovering I have left all my casual clothes at home, I explore Ayr and soon find it is a very interesting place. However I get hopelessly lost and being a holiday resort, everyone I ask for directions is lost too. Arrive back at Deepdale eventually!

Saturday 24th July

The proper start to WB2004 after the opening ceremony yesterday. My duties are to look after the officials in the Corporate Hospitality lounge and meet and greet guests for lunch. Nothing too onerous and I have a lovely lady from the catering company to work with me, Sylvia. WONDERFUL to meet so many old friends from the Commonwealth Games, people I thought I would never see again. And I soon made many new ones from the Council of the Scottish Bowls Association, who have spent six years organising the event and are now running it. Like all these type of events, lots of little teething troubles and settling in to be done but all is sorted by the end of the day.

In the evening I go for a walk in Ayr and discover Wetherspoons. More ominously I discover that a double gin and tonic is £2.00. Oh blimey. At the bar I meet John, one of the volunteers, we sit down together and I very soon get very drunk. I think we stayed until closing time but I was compos mentis enough to realise a lift home from Jim was not a good idea. I set off for "Deepdale" and get completely lost.

Monday 26th July

Have settled into my post in the lounge and Sylvia is great to work with. Tunnocks Tea Cakes are supplied and I introduce them to the Australia Team Manager Robbie Dobbins and the Israeli Team, who are soon munching away approvingly. Needless to say I have been stuffing myself since Saturday. The Provost hosts a lunch for local bowlers and is very nice.

Go to Wetherspoons in the evening and drink six gins. The England team are also there and the manager, John Bell, comes to my table and asks me do I want to join them at McCabes pub for a quiz later on after their dinner? Yes I would and went along with them to the restaurant, otherwise I would have never found them later. Half a bottle of red wine later (I don't even drink red wine!) we are at McCabes for the quiz. One of the team members Andy

Thomson and I attempt to answer the questions: we manage to answer four and two of them are wrong. Then it is anagrams. I can't even do those sober, so it is time to give up and we all trot off to our respective beds. Surprisingly, given the state I was in, I find Deepdale without any trouble.

Tuesday 27th July

The hangover from hell. I now remember why I gave up drinking red wine in 1977. I'm then invited to join the sponsors for lunch and sit through four courses like a complete zombie. If I don't pull myself together I will never last until 7th August. Andy Thomson comes into the lounge and is mobbed by the officials' wives clutching their programmes and pens; this is when I discover that Andy is the David Beckham of bowls.

Thursday 29th July

Rest Day. I had planned to go on a coach tour of the three lochs (With a lunch stop in Helensburgh! I was going to casually wander into Bookworms). However, it is cancelled so I go to Arran instead. Absolutely beautiful, one day just cannot do it justice at all. And I meet the sponsors who I lunched with on Tuesday, also enjoying their day off. With them are Robbie Dobbins and one of the team members, Steve Glasson. There is a lot of very interesting shells on the beaches, which I collect for the garden: I wash them in the ladies on the ferry and hide them in my room.

On my way home I visit Wetherspoons and meet John in there with some other volunteers. "What are you wearing to the reception tomorrow night?" He says "A black silk dress." "Is it very low cut?" "Of course, I wouldn't wear anything else". Oh what a little tease I am!!

Friday 30th July

The bowls are to be televised live on Saturday and the television studio is rigged up on the balcony in my lounge. As I have the facilities, I make tea and coffee for the crew. The Pairs Final is held this afternoon, between Canada and Ireland. Everyone thinks it will be a foregone conclusion that Ireland will win as Canada are surprise finalists. However the sentimentalists in us all would like to see Ryan skip the Canada pair to victory.

Roy Garden of Zimbabwe, who lost to Canada the day before, watches the game from my lounge. He is very down about it "I misjudged the kid, he done me over, that kid is something else" I think it rather admirable that Roy is able to watch the game at all. And he is right, The Kid really is something else, Canada win!!

The camera crew are working late into the night and ask if they can continue using the tea and coffee facilities, I won't even know they have been there. Oh yeah, right. I leave them foam cups, a rubbish bag and written instructions about turning off the urn.

In the evening we all go to a wonderful reception held by the Provost at the Town Hall. Ryan receives a standing ovation when he arrives and is rather overwhelmed by the attention. We are entertained by the Ayrshire Youth Fiddle Orchestra and invited to try out some Scottish country dancing which the Japanese are very enthusiastic about. The overseas visitors love the music and the orchestra are asked to extend their programme. Roy Garden is very magnanimous about the Canadian victory making Ryan such a young champion. Needless to say I hit the alcohol like a thing possessed and when it is time to go I throw my arms around the Provost and say "Thank you for such a lovely time, I hope you will be coming to see us again next week." He assures me he will. Please will someone save me from myself?

Then it's clubbing with the Zimbabweans. The young people in the club are just as chatty and friendly as the rest of Ayr and a young girl speaks at length to a very baffled Roy and myself about her boy problems.

Saturday 31st July

Arrive in my lounge to find all the china cups used and strewn everywhere, rubbish all around and the urn still on but empty. Am I mad! Give the camera crew a stern telling off and tell them china cups and teacakes are now off. Later on a young man from the TV company comes in for the first time and attempts to take a tea cake, "Oh no you don't, they're not for TV people" and take them away from his outstretched hand. I later find out from the teenagers working for the caterers who are hanging round the door he is Dougie Vipon, a Scottish heartthrob, former drummer with Deacon Blue and now a sports presenter.

Sunday 1st August

My birthday. Margaret, Sybil and Harry sing "Happy Birthday" at breakfast. (The two other gents had returned home the day before). The Zimbabwean team give me a card, as did other people I work with. It's a very hot day with everyone just sprawled about, all energy gone. In the afternoon I sit drinking in the bar with John, who had something to tell me. "My wife is coming tonight for the rest of the week, don't let on to her we've been together, alone." I assure him of my discretion. In the evening, as I walk through the trade stands on my way home the traders all sing "Happy Birthday" Such thoughtfulness brings tears to my eyes.

In the evening the England team take me out to dinner for my birthday; after Andy is prised from the clutches of a couple of elderly female fans. I have a fabulous time, they are so kind. A real birthday to remember!

Wednesday 4th August

My friend the Provost comes for lunch accompanied by other members of South Ayrshire Council. The haggis has something done to it and everyone is dressed up, except a group of media people in denim shorts and flip-flops. Really....

Friday 6th August

England beat New Zealand which makes Scotland winners of the Leonard Trophy. Don't ask me how this works, I haven't the faintest idea: Ireland have also beaten Australia making Ireland World Champions but that doesn't seem to be as important as winning the Leonard Trophy... In the evening players and officials sit in the bar of the Ramada Hotel exhausted. Two members of the Swaziland team have been to the joke shop and wire up the bar with various electrical items. Robbie Dobbins is there with two of his players, Brett Duprez and Steve Glasson. Poor Brett is very upset as he feels a blunder by him lost Australia their match. We all try very hard to console him but he is adamant he will never bowl again.

Tomorrow Steve is up against Alex Marshall of Scotland for the Big One, the Singles World Championship. Alex is the favourite and, as a hero of Scotland, will have a partisan crowd behind him. Alex comes into the bar later in

the evening and it is very interesting to see him and Steve casually chatting away to each other about the following day's game and things in general when they will be facing each other in such a stressful situation in a few hours.

Saturday 7th August

My last day at the World Championships and in Ayr. The morning in my coffee lounge is very hectic with the television people rushing around and a general air of "Lets get finished and get home" from everyone. I have to leave just after lunch, which means missing the game. Tried to say my goodbyes without too many tears (From me that is, not anyone else). Back to Deepdale, change into my travelling clothes and make my way up to the station. It seems months ago since I had done the same journey although it's only two weeks. In that short time I have experienced to many positive (and some negative) experiences and met so many wonderful people.

Back in Ayr Steve Glasson beats Alex Marshall, upsets right to the end.

Sunday 8th August

Round to Charly's to collect the video he made of the previous day's game. "There's a surprise for you on this tape" he says, turning it on, and there was Andy being interviewed by Dougie on my balcony! And I just know that behind the camera is a horrible mess and china cups everywhere. The tape is a lovely souvenir: as well as Andy, there is the Northfield Complex, many of my new friends and the Closing Ceremony I was unable to attend.

The next World Bowls Championships will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand in January 2008. Will I be there? Just try stopping me; my name is already in the list!!

Postscript

Since writing this article, Steve Glasson has informed me that Brett Duprez had a complete rest for two weeks and is now back to his happy self and bowling again.

Read Steve's world Bowls diary at www.bowls-aust.com.au

10 Things to See at: The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, Co. Durham

Stewart Cross highlights some of the treasures on display

The Bowes Museum is the only important art museum in Britain to be situated outside a major centre of population, built by John and Josephine Bowes to house their collection amassed in the 19th century. Housed in a splendid chateau, designed no doubt to remind the French-born Josephine of home, it contains a remarkable collection of decorative arts, porcelain and textiles. This includes the astonishing and beautiful silver swan; an automaton that gobbles little silver fish a couple of times a day when it is wound up reverentially. But as usual I will concentrate on the paintings, for they are my first love and my passion.

Sassetta – A Miracle of the Blessed Sacrament

A delicious little pedella panel, this lively picture is a salutary lesson to all heretics that presume to take the consecrated host. It depicts a Carmelite novice expiring at the altar, his miniaturised soul emerging from his mouth and being claimed by the devil. Not a cheerful theme, nor one that has obvious appeal to a modern viewer, it is nevertheless exquisitely painted and an important Sienese work.

Master of the Virgo Inter Virgines – Triptych (The Crucifixion)

An Early Flemish painting of some power, the Crucifixion is the central panel of this rare and powerful work. Golgotha is a busy place in this version, packed with contemporary figures in courtly dress. Particularly impressive is the group of grieving women surrounding an impassive Mary and the twisted bodies of the two thieves. The head of Christ shows clear similarities to the same artist's *Deposition* which is in Liverpool.

El Greco – The Tears of Saint Peter

A famous image, which many consider to be the finest El Greco in Britain. It shows the repentant Peter clasping his hands together as he grieves for his betrayal of Christ. Over his right shoulder an angel guards the tomb radiating bright light and contrasting sharply with the brooding rocks over his left. The sky is angry and stormy creating an atmosphere of foreboding. Unexpectedly and curiously, the Bowes has the largest collection of Spanish art in Britain.

Primaticcio – The Rape of Helen

Recent opinion has suggested this may be a studio piece, but if by the master himself, it is the only work by Primaticcio in Britain. It is a Mannerist painting that is typical, creating an elegant and slightly contrived image so beloved by the French court and so neglected by English collectors. Helen is being carried through a milling crowd towards a waiting, almost Disneyesque boat. One feels almost anyone could have tripped up her abductor and prevented the Trojan Wars, and that for a woman in such a state of peril, her expression is anticipatory rather than fearful. The colours are muted and subdued, sitting strangely with the violent subject matter.

Cornelis de Heem – A Garland of Fruit

Among a select group of Dutch works is this lovely still life. Still lifes are, of course, ten a penny and although very decorative, rarely stir you. This, however, is a particularly sensuous work, with fruit washed and just begging to be eaten. Grapes, cherries, peaches, plums, raspberries and a single over-ripe pomegranate feature in this mouth-watering extravaganza.

Giovanni Battista Tiepolo – The Harnessing of the Horses of the Sun

Tiepolo painted many sketches, of which this is one, because much of his finest works are frescoed ceilings and staircases. This work was a preparatory sketch for the ceiling of the Archinti Palace in Milan, which was destroyed by fire in 1943, so is especially important. It is a touching work, showing Apollo caressing the cheek of his half-mortal son Phaeton, as Time leads the youth to the chariot of the sun and his impending fate. It has a freshness and vitality that can be so often lost in more finished pieces.

Canaletto – A Regatta on the Grand Canal

Two colossal works from a set of six (the others are in Milan and Moscow) are on long-term loan to the gallery, and have certainly been there as long as I can remember. Equally splendid, I chose this one for its sheer decorative qualities and the memories it stirs. I was present at a regatta on the Grand Canal in the 1970s and it is remarkable how little changes in 'La Serenissima'. Every vantage point is bedecked with banners and awnings as the barges and gondolas parade in front of the packed balconies and palaces.

Hubert Robert – A Classical Capriccio

Like the Italian Panini, the French artist Robert specialised in elaborate architectural caprices. He painted a great many and though sometimes formulaic, at their best they are impressive and imposing. This fine work contains Trajan's Column and the statue of the 'Horse Tamers' from the Quirinal Palace, set in a semi-circular colonnade based on Bernini's Vatican one. Of course nowadays such visual trickery is standard fare for computer-produced graphic design – much quicker, but not so timelessly elegant.

Boucher – Landscape with a Water Mill

Rococo painting is not a favourite of mine, but in this landscape Boucher has presented us with something of great beauty. It is unusual on two counts; first in the strange contrast between the classical buildings to the left and the charming rustic mill to the right, and secondly in the dominant greenish-blue pigments used, which make the picture very cool. None of the frothiness and cherubic pinks here that blight so much art of that period (I allow myself the odd subjective comment!).

Goya – Juan Antonio Melendez Valdes

What a wonderfully sympathetic portrait this is. The sitter was both a poet and a judge, an unusual combination that perhaps explains an expression that can best be described as startled world-weariness. Goya was one of the supreme portrait painters, but could be brutal to the point of caricature if he disliked his sitters. I guess he must have liked Juan Antonio. The collection boasts another fine Goya, a typically searing view of a Spanish prison.

If you're in County Durham, do go and visit the Museum. It remains an outstanding example of one couple's taste, and in describing only pictures, I do the rest of the formidable collection a serious disservice.

Philip

Timothy Robey

Sailing round the north of Scotland
So they might regroup in Spain,
Philip's decimated sailors
Felt that they had lived in vain.

Precedence, though of some import,
Does not always run to plan:
Though Elizabeth wed Philip,
This was pluralized by Anne.

Son of Daniel and of Doris,
Philip, and his helpmate Jill,
Think of Kenton and of Shula
As they stroll around Lakey Hill.

On the stopping train to London,
With the views that Whitsun lends,
Philip saw confettied couples
Seen off by their nuptial friends.

Once his constellation glittered
With a Marshal's seven stars,
But disgraced, alone, unwanted
Philippe viewed the world through bars.

Wharmby, Wilson and McDonald,
Atkinson and Clayton-Gore* —
Mindful of that Caithness glory,
And what Magnus has in store.

Glass and Alexander's father;
Sidney, Roth and Wilson Steer
And that famous atlas-maker;
— Some have been forgot, I fear.

**et al.*

If Wordsworth had a mobile

Gill Woon

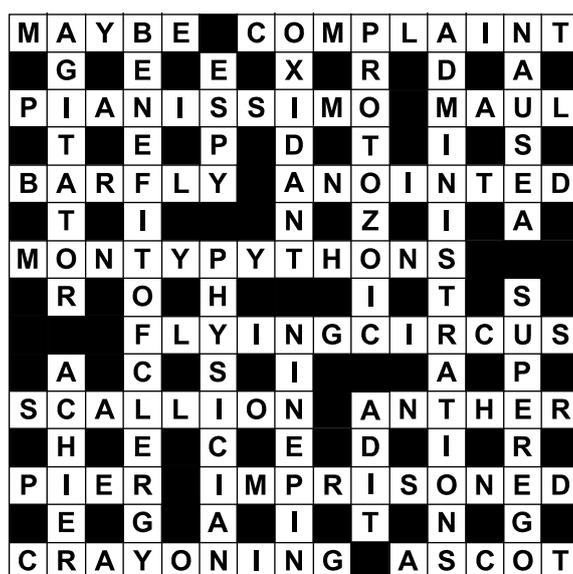
It's our right to emote right now!
Stuff this emotion recollected in tranquillity!
We do not really feel unless
We've shared it all with Friends and Family.

And how much better is it if,
They see us spill our guts, live, on TV
We're famous for ten minutes, and
We think we've made our date with destiny.

Not for us insights, born of watching clouds,
The hillside's been declared 'unsafe locality'
Dorothy's website's edited by clowns,
Emotion recollected in banality.

Crossword (2004:2) Solution

by *Gadfan*

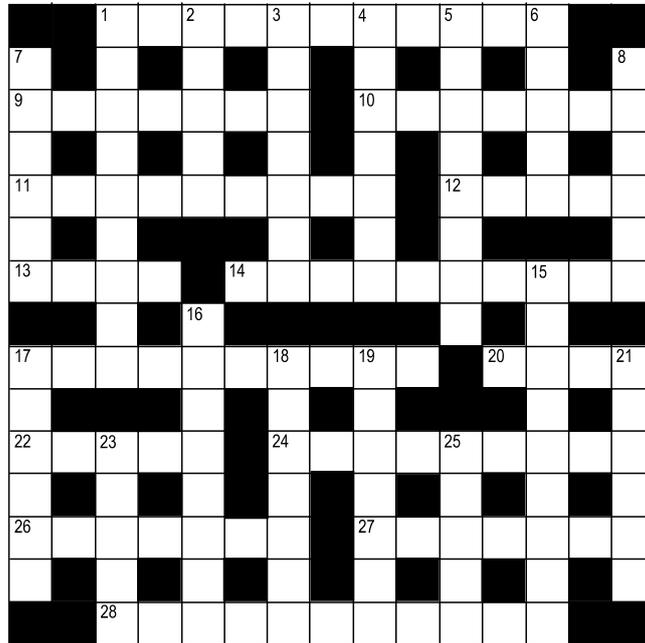


For those who didn't work it out, *Gadfan* is better known to all of us as David Edwards...

His latest brainteaser is on page 16.

Crossword

by Gadfan



ACROSS

- 1 “Easily influenced and gutless” gibe disputed (11)
 9 Unfortunately unable to start expedition in the mists (7)
 10 Pardon me! Nasty mess! (7)
 11 Third person to be uneasy about describing current cutback mechanism (9)
 12 A number in training fail to last (5)
 13 Fancy that man going after women! (4)
 14 Upsetting chat ends in disillusion (10)
 17 Picks up wrinkles following divine player of pipe organs (10)
 20 17d,23 of doctors’ indifference and lack of warmth (4)
 22 Judgment of second place in art exhibition (5)
 24 Those who would swap a card (the Queen) with a bridge player (9)
 26 No wing in view (7)
 27 I dissipated my rage at the pictures (7)
 28 They can be seen performing on air guitars (11)

DOWN

- 1 B-bubbly drunk by Sean in *The Archers*’ 17d,23 (9)

- 2 Farmer’s disabled 17d,23 (5)
 3 Old professors’ value retained (in retiring, that is) (7)
 4 Swing to something catchy! ... Easy-listening from America and Europe (7)
 5 17d,23 in 6 makes correction to Fibonacci series, replacing 101 by a number less rational (8)
 6 Poles’ initial pronunciation of German address (5)
 7 Away up in New Caledonia’s 17d,23 (6)
 8 Heard through keyhole (6)
 15 Making a clever point with intensity (9)
 16 Voluntary release with support of 7’s nephew (4-4)
 17,23 Patriotic focus when nation’s part-divided (6,5)
 18 As enlarged upon in scare about toxic material (7)
 19 Elsewhere in TV body repair centre, vetting 17d,23 (7)
 21 Easy as separating partially joined-up writing (6)
 23 See 17
 25 17d,23 for 28’s college (5)

2004 David Edwards (Gadfan)

19th Century Famous People Quiz Solution

1800, Macaulay
1801, Bellini
1802, Hugo
1803, Berlioz
1804, Feuerbach
1805, Smith
1806, Juarez
1807, Brambilla
1808, Davis
1809, Mendelssohn
1810, Schumann
1811, Bunsen
1812, Rousseau
1813, Verdi
1814, Butterfield
1815, Cameron
1816, Remington
1817, Thoreau
1818, Petipa
1819, Offenbach
1820, Engels
1821, Burton
1822, Hughes
1823, Tweed
1824, Blondin
1825, Kruger
1826, Wisden
1827, Cabel
1828, Ibsen
1829, Gottschalk
1830, Pissaro
1831, Maxwell
1832, Carroll
1833, Nobel
1834, Whistler
1835, Wieniawski
1836, Beeton
1837, Dewey
1838, Bizet
1839, Cadbury
1840, Monet
1841, Clemenceau
1842, Flammarion
1843, McKinley
1844, Hare
1845, Fauré
1846, Parnell
1847, Besant
1848, Gauguin
1849, Hoover

1850, Gompers
1851, Reed
1852, Woolworth
1853, Van Gogh
1854, Carson
1855, Pinero
1856, Peary
1857, McClure
1858, Diesel
1859, Gilbert
1860, Poincaré
1861, Burrell
1862, Debussy
1863, Santayana
1864, Casement
1865, Nielsen
1866, Agnelli
1867, Galsworthy
1868, Rostand
1869, Gide
1870, Barlach
1871, Whitehill
1872, Amundsen
1873, Moore
1874, Hoover
1875, Wallace
1876, London
1877, Rolls
1878, Duncan
1879, Picabia
1880, Epstein
1881, Bevin
1882, Franck
1883, Fairbanks
1884, Walpole
1885, Lewis
1886, Nicolson
1887, Muir
1888, Chandler
1889, Cripps
1890, Gigli
1891, Lagerkvist
1892, Sitwell
1893, Howard
1894, Hess
1895, Langer
1896, Burns
1897, Capra
1898, Ferrari
1899, Hitchcock

Results of 19th Century Famous People Quiz:

- 100: Gery Bramall
Paul Emerson
Raymond L Kahn (WINNER)
Rachel Leonard
Jim Prendergast
- 99: Jean Burke
Timothy Robey
- 96: Terry McDonald
- 94: Mike Formby
- 72: Patricia Owen
- 65: Margery Elliott

As usual, Brian would like to thank all who took part, especially in the unexpectedly difficult circumstances. Raymond Kahn, one of 5 entrants with a perfect 100, wins the Book Token.

Brian Bovington's latest challenge is an A–Z Palindrome Quiz

The object of this shortish quiz is to find the palindrome in each case given the respective middle letter or letters, plus a meaning. The palindromes vary in length from 3 to 7 letters.

An example:

Clue: F – to direct a candidate to resit an examination.

Answer: reFer

As usual, I will award a £10 book token to the sender of the best entry. If two or more entries tie for first place, then the earliest checked after the closing date of **22 November 2004** will be the winner.

Send entries to Brian Bovington, 63 Lake Road, Stalybridge, Cheshire, SK15 1JE.

- A: Daniel Kahikina ____, American politician
- BB: Ulvaeus, Faltskog, Lyngstad and Andersson
- CC: expressed juice
- D: Disability and rehabilitation association
- E: the smallest linguistically analysable units
- F: made a god of
- G: a Turkish title
- H: an expression of surprise
- I: alias Deena Payne
- J: a Spanish sierra
- K: also, in addition
- L: a raft used on Turkey in Asia rivers
- M: from Dutch, uncle
- N: South Australia was proclaimed a British colony here, 1836
- O: a tropical genus, including custard-apple and sweet-sop
- PP: a companion or even one's wife
- RR: a seaside grass, binder of sand-dunes
- S: a polypeptide mixture produced by *Streptococcus lacti*
- TT: German inventor of the 4-stroke internal combustion engine
- U: the bastard wing
- V: the degree of progress
- W: a woolly female
- X: two classes into which animals and plants are divided
- Y: an Inuit canoe
- Z: a member of a Turko-Tatar people of Central Asia