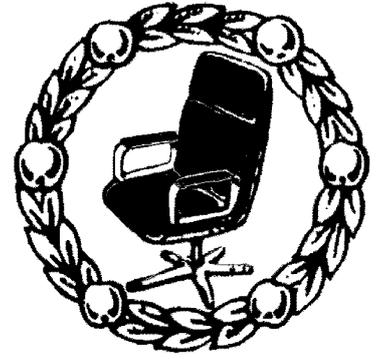
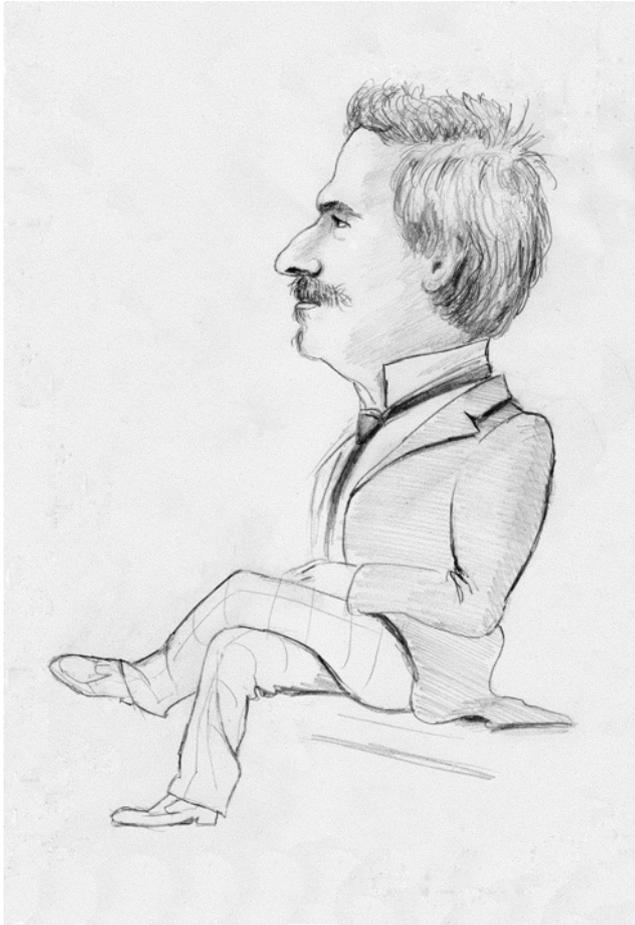


pass



The Quarterly Magazine of the Mastermind Club



Self-caricature drawn by Leo Stevenson for Monet.
see Making Money Out of Monet, page 11

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Phillida Grantham

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A Merry Christmas to you all!

Ken Emond, Editor

Not much of a connected theme to my editorial ramblings in this issue, but I thought I should start by offering congratulations to Pat Gibson on becoming Mastermind 2005. I was delighted to see he managed to sneak a mention of **pass** into a special Independent on Sunday quiz (published on 13 November) celebrating his victory and challenging readers to test themselves against the champion, which I thought was rather a nice touch.

Recently I was lucky enough to be given an invitation to a reception at the House of St Barnabas-in-Soho, the Club's charity for 2005. The occasion was a celebration of the first anniversary of the Centre for Longitudinal Studies of the Institute of Education as an ESRC Resource Centre (Longitudinal Studies in this instance referring to the following of cohorts of people from birth through their life experiences, not to notional lines on the earth!), and the venue was purely fortuitous. But it is a beautiful house, and decorated with lights in the winter gloom, it was a good location for a celebration. As Patricia Owen reports, in an update in this issue, the charity continues to face difficult times in maintaining its support for homeless women, and its residential programme is going to have to be abandoned. But the continuation of training and skills development does seem an appropriate way to move forward in the future, and I am sure it deserves our continued support.

Also in this issue of **pass**, we begin the forward look to Norwich next year. The first round of the Master Quiz will get all our brains working furiously, while Gavin Fuller and Mary Gibson draw our attention to some of the delights to come when we actually arrive.

It only remains for me to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and enjoyable New Year in 2006.

Note: The deadline for copy for the first issue of 2006 will have to be taken as 13 January 2006 (quiz deadlines will be 31 January), as the Master Quiz will be pressing. My standard refrain remains that 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 is with regret that I have to report the death of the Film Critic, Tom Hutchinson, who joined the Club in 1982 as a Question Setter on films. I am sorry that I know very little about his life. Perhaps other members might know more about him. The Club offers its condolences to his family.

On a happier note, I have great pleasure in welcoming two more new members to the Club, Dannielle Monnier and Hadrian Jeffs. We wish them a very happy association with us, and I look forward to meeting them at the next annual gathering in Norwich next year.

As this is the last edition of **pass** for this year, I should like to remind all those members who pay their subscription by cheque that I will be sending out reminders at the end of the year.

I wish all members a very Happy Christmas, and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

983 Miss Dannielle Monnier, 4 Glenacre Close, CAMBRIDGE CB1 8DX Tel: 01223 247249

984 Mr Hadrian Jeffs, 12 Gainsborough Road, Long Stratton, NORWICH Norfolk NR15 2RH Tel: 07751 329159 (mobile)

Change of address:

868 Mr A.M.T. (Tony) Bell, Meadow View, 56 Acton Avenue, Appleton, WARRINGTON, Cheshire WA4 5PT

Letters, news and views

From Jenny Keaveney

“Open Your Mind” quiz

I ATTACH A COUPLE OF ITEMS that I hope you will be able to include in the forthcoming issue of Pass.

The photo was taken in Austria last year but I have no idea why giant prawns grilled in garlic should be called Masterminds and I couldn't bring myself to sample them!



I also hope that you will be able to find room to let Club members know about a quiz that I am running. This is a quiz of 100 questions in 10 themed sections, which I have devised to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society and Cancer Research UK. A number of the questions depend on creative and lateral thinking as much as on general knowledge, which I hope makes the quiz a test of brainpower rather than just Googling skills! As an additional incentive there will be a prize of £20 for the winning entry.

I have a very personal interest in these two charities. My mother is suffering from dementia and my father, Bernard Downing, (who also appeared on Mastermind, in 1992) died of cancer two years ago. I was treated myself for breast cancer in 2001 but am happily now fit and well.

You can obtain the quiz questions online through my website, www.keave.net or by post. To enter by post, please send the £3.00 entry fee (cheque made payable to **either** Alzheimer's Society **or** Cancer Research UK – whichever you prefer to support) and a large stamped addressed envelope with 35p postage to me at:

12 Salisbury Road, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7HH

The deadline is the end of January. I do hope that a number of Masterminders will enter and that you will enjoy the quiz.

Thank you

From Joan Bridgman

Church Notices – American Style

MY SISTER, who now lives in America, has recently sent me a copy of the following notices which have appeared in church bulletins or were announced during services in the USA. They made me laugh, and I thought they might entertain the readers of **pass**.

1. The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.
2. The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on Water'. The sermon this evening: 'Searching for Jesus'.
3. Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.
4. Miss Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
5. For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
6. Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
7. Barbara remains in hospital. She is having trouble sleeping, and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.
8. Irving and Jessie were married on 24th October in the Church. So ends a friendship that began in their schooldays.
9. At the service tonight, the topic will be 'What is Hell?'. Come early and listen to our choir practice.
10. Please place your donation in the envelope, along with the deceased person you want remembered.
11. Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm. Prayer and medication to follow.
12. The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoons.
13. This evening at 7pm there will be hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and be prepared to sin.
14. Low Self-Esteem Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.
15. The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's *Hamlet* in the Church basement Friday at 7pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
16. Weight Watchers will meet at 7pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double doors at the side entrance.
17. The Associate Minister unveiled the Church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped my Pledge – Now – Up Yours'.

From Gordon Stuart

MICHAEL SCHWARTZ is not the first Mastermind Club member to have stood for Parliament, unless he means the first person to do so who was a member of the Club at the time.

I was the Unionist (i.e. Scottish Conservative) candidate for West Lothian in the 1964 general election. I doubled the Tory vote and was asked to stand again, but for family and business reasons, I was unable to do so.

I became a member of the Club in 1993 when I was on Mastermind, my specialist subject being Slavonic Languages since 1700.

From Timothy Robey and his wife

Circle of Names

TIMOTHY ROBEY'S LATEST VOLUME OF VERSE *CIRCLE OF NAMES* has been published recently, and here his wife (no doubt biased, as Timothy confesses) recommends it to the Club.

Circle of Names is a stimulating successor to *Nameverse* and *Not Quite a Circle*. Members may be familiar with Timothy's Name Poems, printed in **pass**. *Circle of Names* contains more of these (Trevor, Humphrey, George, Alec, Donald, Herbert, Simon). It also introduces several Quiz poems, very wide-ranging in their subjects. For instance:

If $x + x^2 = 2$

What values can x be?

Which novelist was author of

The Jacaranda Tree?

Whose Law of Octaves was disproved

When argon gas was found?

To where did Stephen Joseph bring

His theatre in the round?

Refreshingly unusual are the frequent references to science and mathematics, with equations neatly fitting the metre. The story of buckminsterfullerene, a newly discovered allotrope of carbon (illustrated on the cover), is told in the form of a ballad, including this verse:

From atomic bits and pieces

From the chaos of the storm,

Eden's symmetry emerges

With its purity of form.

The writer's scientific background is reflected also in hard-hitting poems on ecological themes, such as the effectively terse

We'll bustle down the dead-end motorway.

The man in green must wait to have his say.

Verses showing a comical slant on Shakespeare include:

“Hamlet,” said the cross Ophelia,
“Are those clothes to be your norm?
Once you were the glass of fashion;
Now you are the mould of scorn!”

“William,” moaned the angry Hamlet,
“Have you been entirely fair?
Am I quite so indecisive?
Do I always spout hot air?”

The collection ends on a hilarious note, with a short story that parodies the classic detective fiction of Agatha Christie *et al.*

Copies of *Circle of Names* are available post-free from

Timothy Robey, 26, Cornwall Way, Southport, PR8 3SQ

The price is £3 and the proceeds will go to the Club’s charity chosen at the next AGM.

Circle of Names, by Timothy Robey, Exile Books 2005. ISBN: 0-9500605-4-2

[Ed. Another of Timothy’s Name-Poems, *Gordon*, is on page 14.]

From Patricia Owen

The House of St Barnabas-in-Soho

RECENTLY A LETTER ARRIVED FROM THE HOUSE OF ST BARNABAS-IN-SOHO with news of important developments, part of which is quoted below:

“Thanks to generous help and support from you and other friends, the House of St Barnabas has been extremely successful in helping homeless women change their lives. However, the House has struggled financially to carry on providing its excellent care and support to residents as costs have increased.

Raising sufficient funds has become increasingly difficult, and our Grade I listed building has demanded major and costly refurbishment. Accommodation here is necessarily restricted to large dormitories and small cubicles – not best suited to today’s standards and increasingly unacceptable to the local authorities we serve... It is for these reasons that we will no longer be able to provide accommodation services.

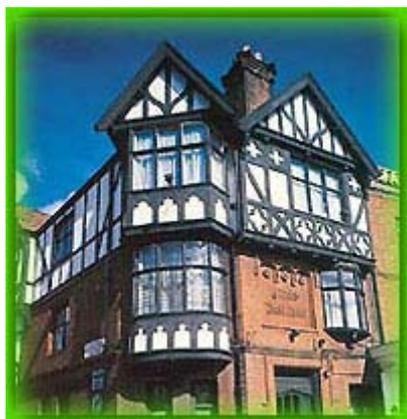
...The charity is at an important crossroads in adapting its services for homeless people by moving from residential care to lifeskills training. We are currently exploring ways to develop a ‘state of the art’ Lifeskills Centre at the House to provide training, courses, advice and advocacy, job opportunities and move-on accommodation support.

We are determined to maintain the high standards of service for our last residents during the coming months. I very much hope you will continue with your generous support for the charity.”

The Annual Function 2006

From Gavin Fuller

For 2006 we're again heading in an Easterly direction for the location of our Annual get-together, but this time to East Anglia, and Norwich in particular. One of England's most historic cities, with an impressive Cathedral, Castle, Churches galore and well as other places of interests and a wide range of shops, there truly should be something for everybody there, although I'll let the experts give you more information about the city in their articles about it.



Base for the weekend is the Maid's Head Hotel, a historic site dating back to the 13th Century which is reputedly haunted by the ghost of a chambermaid. By dining there we'll be following in the footsteps of Elizabeth I, who attended a banquet there in 1578 hosted by the landlord, who was a Dutch refugee, and also a group of royalists who in 1644 escaped an attack by Cromwell during their meal by fleeing down a secret tunnel. Whether we'll have anything similar next year you'll have to wait and see! The hotel is in the city centre, just a stone's throw from the Cathedral, so it is ideally based to explore Norwich.

Due to availability I had to bring the function a week forward from my preferred date, and the reunion will be from Friday 31st March to Sunday April 2nd, which is the equivalent weekend to this year funnily enough. A

discounted price has been negotiated for the weekend with the hotel for rooms, which is £50 for a single and £80 for a twin or double. All meals, plus the Magnum Quiz on Saturday night will be in the hotel. Booking forms for rooms and meals should be enclosed with this issue, and if you wish to attend (which I hope many of you do) then please return both of them to me **no later than Monday 13th March** as I cannot guarantee that any bookings received after that can be honoured. When sending your booking please enclose **only** the money for the meal, **not** the hotel booking which is to be paid on checkout.



Should you want to know about other accommodation or tourist attractions in Norwich, the address to write to is Norwich Tourist Information Centre, The Forum, Millennium Plain, NORWICH, NR2 1TF Telephone 01603 727927 email tourism@norwich.gov.uk.

I look forward to seeing you there next year.



Norwich Castle

What to look for in Norwich

From Mary Gibson

When I heard that the Mastermind Club was coming to Norwich I thought of the attractions that Norwich has to offer. In medieval times it vied with Bristol for the title of second city in the kingdom.

There are the Castle Museum with its superlative collection of Norwich School paintings; Strangers' Hall, a museum of domestic life, with its medieval undercroft and gracious 16th century and 17th century upper rooms, hidden away in a courtyard behind Charing Cross; the Bridewell, a museum of local skills; and the Dragon Hall, a 14th century merchant's house in King Street, the old main street of Norwich.

Of course, there is also the cathedral with its graceful spire and roof with the greatest number of medieval bosses of any building in the world. How they missed being damaged when the cathedral was given a make-over by Cromwell's men in the 1650s is a source of amazement. The best method of seeing them used to be to lie on the floor of the nave with binoculars. That is no longer necessary as there is a CD-ROM available, so that they can be viewed in comfort and close-up virtual reality. The Diocese of Norwich has the largest number of medieval churches in the country and within the city there is the imposing bulk of St Peter Mancroft beside the market place. Mancroft has a splendid east window of 15th century Norwich stained glass and, moving on a couple of centuries, it is the resting place of the physician and philosopher, Sir Thomas Browne (see one of the Mugnum questions for 2005). His statue is in the Haymarket next door. Nearby there is a pub called the Sir Garnet Wolseley (see another Mugnum question for 2005).

If one raises one's eyes above the modern shop fronts in Gentlemen's Walk and London Street the old pointed gables are still there and for those uninterested in so many medieval buildings, there are the 18th century Assembly House and the 'Forum' – Norwich's contribution to the millennium which has a permanent exhibition on the origins of Norfolk as well as housing the central library and the studios of 'BBC Look East'.

There are also the eclectic creations of the Norwich architect, George Skipper, whose most notable designs are the Royal Arcade linking Gentlemen's Walk at one side of the market place, and Castle Street, and the 'Marble Hall' in the headquarters of the Norwich Union Insurance Company. It was said of Skipper that you could tell where he had been for his holidays by looking at his latest design.

At the University of East Anglia, which is reachable by bus from the city centre, there is the Sainsbury Centre for Modern Art.

There are three live theatres and a puppet theatre as well as various galleries and two vast modern shopping malls. Parking in Norwich is a nightmare, but the centre is compact enough to walk round and most of the medieval street plan remains. As many of the old streets are pedestrianised one is not likely to be mown down by speeding traffic.

[*Ed.* Fortunately, Gavin tells me that the hotel has car parking, so it sounds like it might be best to leave cars there for the weekend, once arrived...]

MASTER QUIZ 2006

Phillida Grantham introduces the Round I questions

Welcome to Part I of Master Quiz 2006. The theme for this year's Quiz is **Rivers of the World**, a theme broad in scope incorporating history, geography, literature and much more. I shall give a prize to the person best informed on the theme and also a prize to the best *in absentia* entry (the highest scorer in the top 12 who is unable to attend the Final).

The best nine contestants on aggregate score from the two preliminary written rounds will proceed to the final rounds which form the after-dinner entertainment (!) on Saturday 1st April 2006, at the Maid's Head Hotel, Norwich.

Round II, set by Gavin Fuller, will appear in the next issue of **pass**.

Instructions

Please read these instructions carefully before tackling the questions. Each preliminary round has two entries:

Unseen: Head the paper 'U', answer the questions 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 or send them on to me later.

Reference: On another sheet of paper headed 'R' using any reference you care to consult (internet, books, friends), please check, alter or expand your 'U' answers if desired, quoting source or stating '**Second Thoughts**'. Don't forget to include your name and address.

80% of the possible marks are awarded on the 'U' entry and 20% on the 'R' entry. The 'R' entry is not obligatory and some of the most successful entrants prefer to submit only the unseen.

N.B. The question-setters may not be infallible, but they have mutually agreed that their decision is final and, regretfully, they can enter into no correspondence about the questions and answers.

Address for Round 1 entries:

Phillida Grantham

35 Barkston Gardens

LONDON, SW5 OER. Closing date: 31 January 2006

1. On what river does Brussels stand?
2. On what river does Moscow stand?
3. Which organisation has a magazine called 'PAWS'?
4. Where is the M2 motorway?
5. The expression 'knuckle down' comes from which sport/game?
6. In literature, St. John Rivers was the cousin of whom?
7. Which town is known as 'the UK Capital' of the Brussels sprout?
8. Which politician said, "Never apologise, never explain"?
9. What colour are Rhine wine bottles?
10. Which famous porcelain factory had an anchor as its sign?
11. In computing, from what is the word FORTRAN derived?
12. What would you do with *Lebkuchen*, eat them or wear them?
13. What is Jools Holland's real first name?
14. What does CH stand for on a Swiss car?
15. What was called the '8th Wonder of the World' when opened in London in 1837?

16. What city is home to Colman's mustard?
17. What is the Italian for *river*?
18. The bitter *mistral* wind blows down which river valley?
19. Who play at the Riverside?
20. What was Twiggy's only top 20 single?
21. Who were the parents of Helen of Troy?
22. What happens when you touch a mimosa?
23. Which Scottish architect designed St Martin's in the Fields?
24. What is the second largest planet in the solar system?
25. What is the 'Genre' school of painting?
26. What did the 'person from Porlock' interrupt?
27. Where did Royal Ascot go in 2005?
28. Which group of people were known by the medieval church as "servants of the devil"?
29. Which insurance company does Lucky the dog advertise?
30. Which country won the UEFA Women's Football Championship in 2005?
31. What do we call the river known to the Romans as Sabrina?
32. What innovation was introduced in a match between Nottingham Forest and Sheffield in 1878?
33. Who directed the film *A River Runs Through It*?
34. What is the origin of the word Maundy (as in Maundy Money)?
35. What shape is a *staddle* stone?
36. The writer Salvatore Lombino was better known by what name?
37. What is the nationality of Jacques Rogge, President of the IOC?
38. Alcoholics Anonymous abstain from drink, but what do OE's Anonymous abstain from?
39. What is the third longest river in the world?
40. The Pitt-Rivers Museum is in which city?
41. Who said, of what, "In honour I gained them, and in honour I will die with them"?
42. Why do spiral staircases in castles tend to run clockwise from the bottom?
43. "I was Snow White, but I....". Complete and give the speaker.
44. What was Strawberry Fields, as in the Beatles' song?
45. HMS Amethyst escaped down which river?
46. What was the name of Lady Chatterley's husband?
47. Where are the Ashes kept when Australia win a Test series?
48. Where in London is the United States embassy?
49. In which county town is Squeeze Guts Alley?
50. Between the mouths of which two rivers does Aberdeen lie?
51. Where do the Blue and White Niles meet?
52. Who painted the portrait of Winston Churchill subsequently destroyed by his wife?
53. In which make of car was Albert Camus killed?
54. Who founded the organisation Friends of the Earth?
55. On the continent in the 18th century, what were known as 'English overcoats' or 'umbrellas'?
56. Give the exact date of the Battle of the Boyne.
57. Give the exact source of the River Thames.
58. Where is the 2nd largest building, in area, in the world, (after the Pentagon)?
59. Which Premiership Club celebrated its centenary in September 2005?
60. What did Phyllis Pearsall create in 1936?
61. What do the French say for *Coals to Newcastle*? (English version will do.)
62. What do Harold Pinter, Chris Tarrant, Willard White and Matthew Pinsent have in common?
63. Who was the BBC Sports Personality of the Year for 2004?

64. What is the origin of the word *Carnival*?
65. What does the acronym TARDIS (Dr Who) stand for?
66. Who played Patton in the film of that name?
67. Who wrote *Quiet Flows the Don*?
68. Who wrote the Rhenish Symphony?
69. Which English scientist discovered benzene in 1825?
70. What did Andrew Wiles prove in 1995?
71. Which is the hottest and driest biome in the Eden Project?
72. Name the Liverpool railway station built in 1867.
73. Which solo singer had a 1999 Top 10 single with 'Living in the Light'?
74. Give the English translation of *foie gras*.
75. At an auction sale, what does it mean if an item is said to 'wipe its face'?
76. What is the largest lake in Italy?
77. Who was Dolly the cloned sheep named after?
78. What animal did Parson Hawker (writer of the Cornish National Anthem) take with him on pastoral visits?
79. Who wrote 'Way Down Upon the Swanee River'?
80. Who said, "I love any discourse of rivers, and fish and fishing"?
81. "The River Weser deep and wide,
Washes its walls on the southern side..." Whose walls?
82. To within 5 years, when was 'The Great Stink' (of London)?
83. Where in Britain is the World Parrot Trust?
84. What kind of market is the A.I.M.?
85. Which river of Hades induces forgetfulness when tasted by the souls of the dead?
86. What in Scotland is a *hoast*?
87. Why are Jerry cans so called?
88. Which actor features as Uncle James in the bad haircut advert?
89. 'Ol' Man River' comes from which musical?
90. "Up to heaven and down to hell" is a mnemonic for what?
91. What item of clothing appears on the flag of Lesotho?
92. Who was Brain of Britain for 2005?
93. Which two countries played in the first representative cricket match?
94. Which 19th century celebrity devised a grandiose and health-promoting scheme to divert the Tiber from Rome?
95. What instrument did Pee Wee Russell play?
96. Who, in the 1966 World Cup winning team, was the keen fisherman who later appeared in a TV series on angling?
97. Where is the famous opera house situated way up the Amazon?
98. MAVIS is the acronym for which section of a Government department?
99. Which company now owns the car division of Rolls Royce?
100. Whose last words were: "Let us cross over the river and sit in the shade of the trees"?

Making Money Out of Monet

Leo Stevenson

“Life is like a box of chocolates [etc]” as the fictitious Forrest Gump said; very true. I’ve just finished 14 ½ weeks working on a BBC1 series on the French Impressionists. The series is going to be a landmark piece of TV, and I feel very privileged to have been a part of it. It’s not a ‘docu-drama’, but entirely drama based, all solidly founded on known facts and documentation. The script, the casting, the cast, and all the crew from the Director of Photography (Chris King) to the Directors (Tim Dunn and Mary Downes) have all made it look fantastic. The cream on the cake is the acting, which is first class; all the actors produced stunningly good performances, particularly Richard Armitage as young Monet, Julian Glover as old Monet, and Will Keen as Cézanne.



Will Keen as Cézanne, with Leo

Unfortunately the naff working title of it is ‘*The World of the Impressionists*’ which the BBC thinks is safely clear of any associations with Mike Yarwood and Rory Bremner (maybe, maybe not!). The series centres on the interweaving lives of the artists Manet, Monet, Bazille, Renoir, Degas and Cézanne. Unfortunately, other important Impressionist painters such as Pissarro and Sisley don’t appear because they would have ‘over egged the pudding’.

It was largely filmed in a number of locations in France, quite often in the actual places where the original artists worked, for example Monet’s garden in Giverny, or in various places in Provence associated with Cézanne. By the way, we also passed through two places that were close together and that tickled my sense of humour - Villainville and Angerville (!).

This has been one of the most fascinating but exhausting jobs I’ve ever done; for week upon week I was up at 5.00 or 5.30 am, and we rarely wrapped before about 7.30pm, often much later, all without any time off. Nevertheless it’s been an incredibly interesting roller-coaster of an experience, and I’ve learned so much about how film and

TV drama is made in the process. Given the breadth and effort that have gone into its making, it was like being involved in the making of a feature film. All I’ve learned is going to be incredibly useful because it looks like TV is going to be my working life, at least for the short to medium term. Apart from anything else, there’s just so much jargon that I now understand, e.g. flags, nets, snoots, honey-wagon, 12K’s, NDs, half-silks, POVs, reverses, singles, doubles, pee-wees, jimmy-gibs, wild tracks, buzz tracks, and intriguing techniques such as ramping, cable-bashing and dingling. The script, which is treated with a kind of irreverent reverence, is commonly called ‘the lyrics’!



Leo teaches Julian Glover to paint as Monet

My job was multifarious and almost overwhelming; firstly, I was a consultant to the series (along with Prof. John House of the Courtauld Institute), advising the script writers on all sorts of historical and technical matters. I also advised the actors on the practical and psychological approaches to oil painting that each artist had, which was so essential for them to perform convincingly. I had to

teach them a lot of painterly stuff e.g. how to hold and use a traditional artist's oil palette (not as easy as it looks), how to hold their brushes, and how to stand etc so that they really looked like they knew what they were doing. Secondly, I was also a stand-in for the actors when difficult painterly close-ups were filmed. This meant I had to wear their clothes, which varied from the smart and infinitely dapper clothes worn by Degas to the tatty smocks worn by Cézanne which made him look like he'd just survived an explosion!

The most time-consuming thing I had to do was generate a large number of paintings and drawings for the series, both copies and pastiches, and with a few exceptions all the art you'll see in the series will be by yours truly.



Leo draws a dead soldier for Manet's close-ups

Finally, just so that you get maximum value from your TV license, I also have three little cameo roles in this series, ala Alfred Hitchcock's fleeting appearances in his own films. I'm a member of Equity, so I might as well get some use out of this. My first scene is right at the beginning of programme one, where I am 'the man on the train' who's caricature is being drawn by the young Claude Monet (I also pre-prepared the drawing that Monet appears to be drawing). In another scene I am 'a working man', actually a letch chatting up a young woman, in the background of the Café Guerbois. My third role is as an inebriate toff attending the annual painting exhibition in the Salon.



...as an inebriate toff!

In this last role I even have a line to say; I'm in a crowd of people admiring a painting by Monet, and I say to Manet (played by Andrew Havill) "Manet, congratulations, it's a masterpiece!", to which Manet storms off threatening to do evil things to this "upstart" whose name is so similar to his. For this role I was transformed from my usual appearance with the help of both the make-up department, who gave me a mad wig and a bizarre rouged-up face, and the costume department, who supplied me with an extravagant cape. The net result was that the entire cast and crew instantly dubbed me 'the gay vampire'. Well I have to make a living somehow!

The series consists of three one-hour programmes, probably to be broadcast around March 2006 in the prime BBC1 slot of early Sunday evenings. The series has been made as a human drama first and foremost, not an arts programme for art lovers, so there has to be some slightly clunky sign-posting for those who don't know anything about art; nevertheless, I think that it will be very well received by the viewers and the critics who appreciate the necessity for that and who'll enjoy the beautiful script, photography, acting and the whole sweep of it all. I hope you enjoy it!

Text and photographs, including the self-caricature on the front cover © Leo Stevenson 2005

10 Things to See at: Southampton Art Gallery

Stewart Cross presents another set of gallery highlights

When I told our esteemed secretary, Gavin Fuller, that I was visiting Southampton City Art Gallery, he, as a good Pompey lad, muttered that it was the only thing worth seeing in Southampton. Well compared with the huge array of attractions in Portsmouth he may be right, but the gallery is definitely worth seeing. An eclectic collection, strong on British art, but with a surprising number of great paintings from a variety of foreign schools. Here are 10 of the best.

Bellini – Virgin and Child

Although he painted dozens of Virgins and Child, outside of the more elaborate and well-peopled altarpieces, this is the only one I recall that depicts a full-length figure of Mary with the infant Jesus. Dressed in red rather than the more traditional blue, this is a lovely picture, shorn of its usual attributes of saints or donors and arresting in its simplicity. There are clear similarities with a delightful Giorgione ‘Madonna and Child’ in St Petersburg, the Madonna there also being in red.

Jordaens – The Holy Family

This forms an interesting contrast with the Bellini. Joseph is pensive and slightly detached, looking away to the left, the Madonna serene and contemplative. On her lap the infant Jesus raises his right hand in benediction and is wearing a necklace of coral, a clever highlight that, sitting centrally as it does, unifies the composition wonderfully, linking the otherwise disconnected figures. Jordaens suffers a little by comparison with his more illustrious Flemish contemporaries, Rubens and Van Dyck, but this is often unfair, certainly when he was painting at his best.

Jacob van Ruisdael – Dunes near Haarlem

Van Ruisdael breaks the rules somewhat by painting an almost square landscape, with a heavy sky and surprisingly lush vegetation edging the dunes. A blasted tree dominates the right hand side of the canvas, adding drama to the scene. As you will know by now, I have a high regard for Dutch landscape painting when at its best, and the gallery also owns a superb ‘Extensive Landscape’ by Koninck, an artist who specialised in such panoramic views.

Gainsborough – George Venables, 2nd Lord Vernon

In many ways a typical full-length portrait by Gainsborough of a man of property and influence. For me,

the presence of a pet, a liver and white spaniel leaping up affectionately at his master’s side is a masterstroke. I had one myself once, which may explain why I like it so much. It reveals his humanity and diffuses any feeling of pomposity that may otherwise have been lurking. Gainsborough has used this trick in many paintings, probably most memorably in the National Gallery’s ‘Morning Walk’.

Wright of Derby – A Derbyshire Landscape

Just as Gavin is a true son of Portsmouth, then I, despite not having lived there since I was 18, am a good Derbyshire one. I selected this work out of affection. At his best Wright of Derby stands comparison with anyone, but it doesn’t help that a disproportionate number of his paintings hang relatively unseen in Derby itself. This intimate landscape, set among hills with a reddening sky and a foreground group of a cart with figures, may well lack the originality of his great industrial pictures (‘Experiment with an Air Pump’ for instance) but it is a picture you could happily live with.

John Martin – Sadek in Search of the Waters of Oblivion

I first saw this picture reproduced as a boy and it caught my attention instantly. Martin is famous for his images of Apocalyptic destruction, which clearly he revelled in. His ‘Plains of Heaven’ is far less convincing – his heart didn’t seem to be in it! This is one of his best compositions, focusing as it does on the single tortured figure of Sadek, labouring painfully across a huge, barren landscape, drenched in blood red light and fiery tones. There appears to be no hope here and yet he struggles on desperately, relentlessly and piteously. Man against nature and nature usually wins. Peter Jackson, when choreographing Frodo and Sam’s climb up Mount Doom in *The Return of the King* must surely have been aware of this picture.

Holman Hunt – The Afterglow of Egypt

I always feel that Holman Hunt is most responsible for the depths to which the reputation of the Pre-Raphaelites sank (His ‘Triumph of the Innocents’ in Liverpool alone would send most people away screaming in horror), but this is not entirely fair. He produced many memorable images, the best painted as a result of his love affair with the Middle East – ‘The Scapegoat’ for instance. He loved the strong, pure light and his often lurid colours seem more appropriate in that context. This imposing figure, with her sheaf of corn and surrounded by pigeons is beautifully rendered, the whole image having a powerful sense of place. He cannot resist the strident apple green he uses for her vase, but perhaps on this occasion we can forgive him.

Burne-Jones – The Escape of Perseus

One of a series of paintings done concerning the legend of Perseus, this is clearly an excuse to paint the female nude. The dominant figures are the stricken, prone body of Medusa with her rampant and powerful sisters rising above her. All are surprisingly masculine in build, but given the story, perhaps it is unreasonable to expect femininity. Perseus is leaping away to the right, tucking the severed head in his satchel. One second more and he would be gone. It’s an astonishing tour-de-force of a composition from an artist seriously underrated in my opinion. When on form like this he seems closer in spirit to the French Symbolists than the Pre-Raphaelites to whom many wrongly believe he belonged. That there is an important and splendid Burne-Jones in the Louvre’s meagre British collection is no coincidence.

Monet – The Church at Vetheuil

One of the many images of Vetheuil he painted while living in Normandy, this stands comparison with the best of the Normandy canvases with which it shared a stage at 2003’s Monet exhibition in Edinburgh. The church sits prominently against a sunny, blue sky, and beneath it the river is busy with people enjoying themselves boating. It’s a typical Impressionist’s evocation of the joy of outdoor life and as such is a lovely work.

Delvaux – Siren in Full Moonlight

The siren is in fact a mermaid, reclining on her plinth with a typical Delvaux colonnade behind her, under a moonlit sky. He is a highly rated Belgian Surrealist, although he is apt to be formulaic, lacking the tremendous imagination of his fellow Belgian, Magritte. But at his best his canvases are mysterious and enigmatic, with a disturbing edge that to me is the epitome of successful Surrealism.

When in the area, drag yourself away from Portsmouth for half a day. Van Dyck, Sisley, Blake, Turner, Sutherland and Spencer are amongst the other goodies that await.

Gordon

Timothy Robey

Mounted on the speedy Pinza,
Overcoming Tattenham fear,
Gordon won the Epsom Derby
In the Coronation Year.

If you seek financial calming
Gordon is the man to trust,
Since his rate-of-interest methods
Stifle random boom or bust.

As James Robertson did Justice
To Sir Lancelot’s esprit,
Richard gave us Simon Sparrow
In the House, and then *At Sea*.

As the force that never reached him
Slowly moved along the Nile
Charles, the engineer and soldier,
Fortified in Woolwich style.

Life was only froth and bubble
To the wild and thoughtless youth
But his later smoke-drift ballads
Furnished lasting homespun truth.

Gordonstoun and Lord George Gordon,
Highlander and Gordon’s gin,
Christie, Benningfield and *Stuart*,
— Other Gordons won’t fit in.

How I Got Wound Up: a warning to all

Ray Ward

I am always on the lookout for new quizzes and get regular e-mails from a service called beonscreen. Most are of no interest whatsoever, being for "reality television" programmes of the "Are you from a crazy family?" and "Are you living proof that soap stories come true?" variety (one truly weird one was: "Do you want to live with a member of the Jackson family?" – shudder!), but the occasional quiz gets in, and early in 2005 I saw an announcement that Objective Productions were planning new quizzes. So I contacted them and was invited to an interview in strange, cavernous, deserted offices by the river in Hammersmith, where the researcher, Adam McLean, gave me a general knowledge test in which I did well. I said I might apply to do *The Life and Works of Anne Frank* on *Mastermind*, and I'd done lots of quiz pilots and was always happy to help with such things.

Soon Adam asked if I would help with a pilot for a quiz consisting of questions about recent events and a specialised subject. I thought I'd narrow my *Mastermind* subject, Manned Space Flight, down to the Apollo Moon Programme, but Adam said they'd prefer Anne Frank. Like a lamb to the slaughter I headed for the Channel 4 studios in Horseferry Road.

I should have smelled a rat when the release form gave the title as *Balls of Steel*. It was changed to *Alex Zane's Knowledge Game*, and into the studio I went, where Alex first asked some unremarkable questions about recent events: famous actress who died recently? (Anne Bancroft); sick game show presenter due to be replaced by guests while he recovered? (Richard Whiteley, who, of course, sadly didn't recover).

The softening-up continued with the first two specialised questions, also all right: I remember only one, the name Anne gave to her diary (Kitty). Then things went wrong. The dried vegetables scattered when a bag burst, a famous incident in the diary? (beans; Alex said lentils). Where Anne was born? (Frankfurt; he said Nuremberg). Her sister's name? (Margot; he said Margaret). Her mother's name? (Edith; he said Edna). What her father's business produced? (pectin, the stuff used to set jam; he said rubber goods). The colour of the original diary? (orange-red crisscrossing stripes; he said blue stripes - I protested that I had seen the actual diary). A question on the diary's dates gave the final year as 1946; I pointed out Anne was dead by then.

Alex said the questions had been verified by some Jewish body I had never heard of, and asked if I really thought they were wrong. I snarled "I don't think so, I KNOW so. GOT IT?" (Adam says that should become my catchphrase!) and stormed off. I was intercepted and taken to a hospitality room where it became clear it was a wind-up. I was told it

was for a comedy programme and I would be welcome to attend the recording. I said I would expect a fat fee for permission to show the recording and left, comforting myself with a good haul of the fruit and sandwiches provided for the victims.

The next day I e-mailed Adam saying I thought the questions were excellent and could have served for a proper, serious quiz about Anne Frank, that it all seemed a sad waste of effort for a wind-up, and I was withdrawing my permission. But the (fairly) fat fee materialised: they crossed my palm with silver at an assignation at a Soho pub (with me suspecting another trap and looking for a hidden camera), where an envelope (white, alas; they couldn't find a brown one) was handed over and I signed a new release form. So eventually I found myself at the South Bank Television Centre, still glancing around paranoidly (if there is such a word) for hidden cameras.

Balls of Steel, I found, consisted of comedians doing supposedly daring things, with the one considered the most daring winning a trophy looking like - well, I'm sure you can guess. The Bunny Boiler (from the film *Fatal Attraction*, when the Glenn Close character boils her ex-lover's family's pet rabbit) chatted up men on Brighton beach, heedless of their accompanying girlfriends. Another woman (yes, they too, it seems, can have balls of steel!) interviewed "celebrities" with a microphone looking like a penis (tasteful, huh?) to see how long it took them to notice. A black man tricked people into using what he pretended to interpret as racist language (asking for a digging implement and, offered a spade, saying "You called me a spade?", or, at a zoo, asking what some animals were and, told they were raccoons, saying "You called me a coon?"), and giving them a lengthy, rap-style tirade on oppression, prejudice, etc. An elaborate kitchen set with checkered floor, fridge, cooker

etc. was built in the studio for the Pain Men, a sad pair of masochists whose act consisted of shutting their head in the fridge door, toasting cheese on their bare hands, applying an electric whisk to – shall we say? – a part of their person, and other hilarities. And there was the Naked Man, who was just that: he went around so attired – or unattired – and appeared in the same state in the studio.

Alex Zane showed two other victims of his spoof, doing Agatha Christie and the Eurovision Song Contest. Both protested vigorously, but neither blew his top and stormed off like me. He also had another spoof in which two contestants played a buzzer game, with one in on the spoof. First the victim's buzzer didn't work so that, although he was obviously pressing first, the other's buzzer went off first, and when he protested and it was tested it, of course, worked; then his buzzer went off when he hadn't pressed it.

The presenter introduced me in the audience and spent most of the time criticising my flame-pattern T-shirt, which Adam asked me to wear because I wore it for the original recording. Afterwards Adam kept his promise to buy me a drink.



Ray with the 'famous' T-shirt

I thought it all desperately unfunny and an appalling waste of effort – and, of course, it couldn't be less original. The idea of recording people's reactions to baffling and/or embarrassing situations goes back at least to the 1940s and the American radio programme *Candid Microphone*, devised by Allen Funt, which developed into the famous *Candid Camera*, whose British version ran from 1960-7 with Jonathan Routh, who usually had his hand raised in a strange, unnatural position because the microphone was up his sleeve. Garage mechanics told that a car wasn't running properly found it had no engine; a big notice went up on a house saying a strip club was opening there, and neighbours were asked for their reactions; £5 notes were sold for £4.10s. (£4.50); etc. – ending with: "Smile! You're on *Candid Camera*!" Even the Naked Man, which you might think would only be possible in this anything-goes era, isn't original: the same Allen Funt made a film called *What Do You Say to a Naked Lady?*, released as long ago as 1970, which was (I gather – I haven't seen it) much the same idea: recording people's reactions to sudden, unexpected nudity, like a naked woman emerging from a lift.

When the programme was shown I found it so appalling that, though I taped it, I wiped the tape rather than risk anyone persuading me to show it. Mercifully, few people who know me seem to have seen it, but it's been repeated (where's my repeat fee?) and I feature in the trailers.

My suspicions should perhaps have arisen sooner; they were hardly likely to get wrong such utterly elementary details as where Anne was born or her mother's or sister's names. But hindsight always has 20-20 vision, and one doesn't tend to suspect anything until it's too late. It was a salutary lesson in how you can't be too careful – and also, I think, a somewhat offensive misuse of one of the most moving stories of the 20th century.

I am still in touch with Adam (a very nice chap, but freelance television researchers presumably have to take any work they can get), and he says he'll send me details of what he claims are proper quizzes. If any come up that look interesting I'll certainly have a go, but obviously I'll be very wary – and so should you be if you are asked to do a pilot!

The Editor's Film Quiz Answers and Result

Solution:

A Amadeus	a Hedda
B Buster	b Cobb
C Claudine	c Picnic
D Dangerous	d Hud
E Elizabeth	e Fame
F Fury	f If...
G Gypsy	g Missing
H Harvey	h Sleuth
I Iris	i Lili
J Julia	j Raj
K Kismet	k Maverick
L Libel	l Collateral
M Moonraker	m Them!
N Nixon	n Cimarron
O Obsession	o Fargo
P Psycho	p RoboCop
Q Quills	q Qivitoq
R Ran	r Arthur
S Shane	s Equus
T Traffic	t Airport
U Unforgiven	u Tabu
V Vertigo	v Sakharov
W Willow	w Afterglow
X X-men	x The Matrix
Y Yentl	y Bugsy
Z Z	z Suez

Result:

Ken Barr	52
Tony Bell	52
Paul Emerson	52
Anne Hegerty	52
Michael Grosvenor-Myers	52
Isabelle Heward	52
Raymond L. Kahn	52
Ann Leaney	52
Stuart Lyon	52
Marga Scott	52
Ian Sutton	52
Geoff Thomas	52
Ray Ward	52
Martin Wyatt	52
Andy Burrows	51
Patricia Cowley	51
Stewart Cross	51
Janet French	51
Chris Gonet	51
Barbara Anne Eddy	50
Tony Kelly	50
Mike Formby	49
Brent Peeling	22

Many thanks to all of you who submitted entries – it was great to get such a positive response. I was delighted that 14 out of the 23 entries submitted correctly identified all 52 films. The perils of setting a 'connection' question, even as a tie-breaker, were amply demonstrated by the range of answers to the additional teaser, and the ingenuity of the Masterminders is clearly not to be underestimated! The connection that I had in mind was that all of the films received at least one Oscar nomination, except for X-men; Cobb; If...; Raj and Sakharov. Eight of the entries correctly identified this as the link, although two of these only managed to get two of the 'rogue' films that didn't fit in. The winner of the prize, submitting the first all-correct entry to be checked which identified the link and the 'rogues' correctly, is Tony Bell, so its congratulations to him.

The other links suggested were fascinating to check. Quite a number of people thought the pattern was the English Language, with Ran (Japanese); Z (French); Raj (Serbo-Croat); Qivitoq (Danish) and Tabu (silent) as the five that were not in English. This is almost certainly a valid link, but depends on the interpretation of *Tabu*, a film I must admit to not having seen. If the intertiting of the silent scenes was in English, as presumably it must have been, does this make it an English language film? Patricia Cowley came up with the indisputable connection that 5 of the films were made before 1940, but since I had given the date as a clue to each film, this was hardly a 'hidden' connection! And Geoff Thomas, who submitted several theories, elaborated on the Oscar nomination/award theme more than I had intended. Possibly there might be connections along the lines of the type of nomination involved, but none of them would overcome the fact that since five films were not nominated at all, they wouldn't fit any such pattern. Mike Formby suggested that some of the films may have been made for TV – but only two fitted this, Raj and Sakharov, so it didn't meet the 5 'rogue' films criterion. It was great fun receiving the entries and seeing the results. So watch out, there may be another Editor's quiz in a future issue.

In the meantime, however, I hope you will be equally generous to Patricia Cowley, whose Ballet Quiz is on the Back Cover.

A Ballet Quiz

Patricia Cowley

Not for nothing are those enthusiasts who go to the ballet described as Balletomane(iacs) or fan(atic)s; there is something about this art form, based as it is mostly on lovely music, glorious dancing and brilliant décor and costumes, that brings out a frenzied reaction and partisanship not to be found in anything like the same degree in any other art form. Even the riotous Promenaders only keep it up for six weeks in the summer, while opera-goers are far more pejorative in their attitude. So, in the hope that there just a few lovers of ballet out there in the Club, I have devised a ballet quiz slightly on the lines of the late-lamented Brian Bovington. In column A, I am looking for surnames; column B calls for Christian (*sic*) names – sorry, but it's the word I was brought up to use, and I've had just a little too much of political correctness!

A £10 book token is offered to the first solution, opened at random on 31 January 2006, with the highest number of correct answers. Please mark the envelope BALLETT QUIZ, and send to Patricia Cowley, Chestnut Cottage, 17 Mount Pleasant, DISS, Norfolk IP22 4DT.

Column A

- A Antoinette, Royal Ballet ballerina
- B Bronislava, choreographer
- C Celia, founder of Royal Canadian Ballet
- D David, created Colas in Ashton's *Fille Mal Gardée*
- E Erik, Danish classical dancer
- F Frank, South African dancer with Ballet Rambert
- G Giacomo, composer of *Les Patineurs*
- H Henry, in original cast of *Symphonic Variations*
- I Ivan, principal dancer in the Royal Ballet
- J Judith, dancer in Edwardian music-halls
- K Katherine, director of Caribbean-based company
- L Lupe, star of 1960s American Ballet Theatre
- M Marius, classical choreographer
- N Nicolas, teacher of Nijinsky
- O Olga, great Russian teacher who taught in Paris
- P Pearl, beautiful ballerina in early Sadler's Wells Company
- Q has defeated me!
- R Robert, created P.J. Arnold in *Engima Variations*
- S Sonia, founded Netherlands Dance Theatre
- T Ted, director of Jacob's Pillow summer school
- U Ursula, assistant to NINETTE DE VALOIS
- V Vladimir, director of Stanislavsky Ballet School
- W Walter, created Rake in *Rake's Progress*
- X Xenia, awarded first René Blum prize in 1952
- Y Yuri, Bolshoi choreographer
- Z Zizi, real name Renée

Column B

- A Adams, star of New York City Ballet
- B Barnes, ballet critic
- C Clarke, ballet critic and journalist
- D Dandré, husband of Pavlova
- E Elvin, Bolshoi ballerina who joined Sadler's Wells Ballet
- F Fuller, danced with scarves and lightning effects
- G Gould, dancer who married Yehudi Menuhin
- H Hall, ballet critic and writer
- I Ivanov, classical choreographer
- J Judson, first male dancer in Sadler's Wells Ballet
- K Kidd, American dance choreographer in films
- L Lander, ballerina with Festival Ballet
- M Mosaval, character dancer with Sadler's Wells Theatre Ballet
- N Newman, dancer in early Sadler's Wells days
- O Orloff, created role of Drummer in *Graduation Ball*
- P Pantz, spoof dancer created by Nicholas Bentley
- Q Quirey, author of *May I Have the Pleasure* (1976)
- R Rodrigues, choreographer
- S St Denis, American dance pioneer
- T Trecu, danced in *Lady & The Fool*, *Prince of the Pagodas* etc.
- U Usher, often partnered Antoinette Sibley
- V Vyroubova, daughter of Trefilova
- W Webster, died when her costume caught fire
- X Ximenez, took over from José Greco
- Y Young, minor dancer with 1970s Royal Ballet
- Z Zanfretta, famous mime