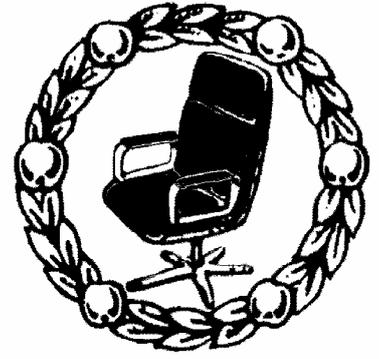


pass



The Quarterly Magazine of the Mastermind Club



The Mastermind Club modelling for Madame Tussaud's?

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Editor of pass Ken Emond

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Please note that prices quoted below no longer include postage and packing. If ordering insignia to be delivered by post, **please add £3 per item**. Send a cheque with your order, payable to the Mastermind Club, to:

Phillida Grantham

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Valedictory Editorial

Ken Emond

After six years as Editor of *pass*, I have to announce my decision to step down from the role with effect from the AGM in April. As the pressures of my work have increased over the past eighteen months, I have felt the strain growing all the time that I have been letting the Club down with erratic schedules and lack of attention to detail. It has been a great privilege to serve the Club as Editor, and my sincere thanks go to all of you who have helped to make the task so pleasurable and so straightforward by being so generous with your time and willingness to contribute articles, short notices, quizzes, poems and crosswords.

I must also say a very heartfelt word of thanks to Val Salway and her team at Spindrift Publishing, who have contributed so much behind the scenes to ensure that the magazine is converted from proof to finished, published and distributed article, with such consummate professionalism, over the past five years.

I am delighted to confirm that Ann Kelly will be taking up the Editor's chair from April, and I am sure you will want to give her the same unswerving support that I have enjoyed. Assuming we are both re-elected to the Committee, I look forward to continuing to serve the Club in other ways that might be of most use as an ordinary member of the Committee.

Finally, I look forward to seeing many of you in Exeter for this year's annual reunion. I hope that the results of the recent survey reported in *pass* have helped to give you reassurance that all who come along are certain of the very warmest of welcomes from all of us who are regulars, and that there will be plenty of opportunity for chat and fun with a group of like-minded people.

With all best wishes for the future to you all,

Ken

Membership matters

Peter Chitty, Membership Secretary

We have another new member from the current series. The Club welcomes Mrs Kim Howison of 114 Croydon Road, REIGATE, Surrey RH2 0NQ to the Club and we all hope that she will have a long and happy association with us.

Subs for 2010 have arrived, but some members who pay by Standing Order have still not updated theirs to £12 and thus only £7 has been received so far. The Treasurer has already sent out a letter with an updated S/O form and request for the balance. You will recall that, after being held at £7 for 25 years, the annual subscription was increased in January 2009 to £12. We hope to hear from you soon - the Club does not want to lose you!

And finally, it is with great regret that I have to inform members of the death of Peter Langan. Peter appeared on Mastermind on 10 October 2001 at the Manchester Studios. His specialist subject was French Wines. I am sure that members who took part in that heat will remember him. The condolences of the membership go to Peter's wife and family. I have just received my copy of the last issue of *pass* and have read of the death of Olga Kevelos who I did not have the pleasure of meeting but no doubt many of you will recall her.

Letters, news and views

The Long Road to Eggheads

From Anne Miller



SOME EIGHTEEN MONTHS AGO, not long after the 2008 Mastermind weekend, I had the idea of getting a team together to challenge the Eggheads. The obvious place to start was the PreRaphaelite Sisterhood team, in which Mary Andrews, Susan Leng and myself have done the Quiz at the annual do for some years now. As you have to have a team of six, one being a reserve, this meant I had to find a few more willing victims. Mary and I thought of Arfor Wyn Hughes, so we got him on side. I had recently taken part in a Quiz run by the Redhill Sinfonia, an amateur symphony orchestra in which I have played for many years. At my table was a young man, the husband of one of the violinists, who was a great asset to the team, so I recruited him. Tom Bratcher was just over 30 so just what we needed for things like Film and TV and Sport. Next I asked a friend of mine at Church, but he was not interested and recommended his son, so I got Steve Hunt. I had known him at Church before he moved away for work. He also was around 30, so we had completed our team. We decided the team should be PRS Plus (or+) this being much less of a mouthful than the full title.

Next, we submitted the application forms - this was great fun as I had to send forms all over the country - Mary in Liverpool, Arfor in Stockport, Susan in Colchester, Steve in Lewes and Tom and myself in Redhill. Finally they were done and we got a date for an audition in October 2008 in London. This meant a lot of travelling for some, and no expenses at this time.

Well, we all got to the audition safely, and found it was a game with another team, quite like the real thing, but shorter. All six of us had to play a round against one of the other teams, which was quite fun. There was also a General Knowledge test, and we left knowing that we would only hear if they wanted us. We all thought that not notifying teams who are not successful is very bad manners - how long does a phone call or an email take? But that seems to be the same in many walks of life these days.

To cut a long story short, we did hear, and had the same flurry of emails round the country to sort out a date that we could all manage. We ended up with a date in February 2009 with an early recording time on Saturday morning, so the BBC graciously put us all up in a Hotel for the Friday night. It was good to meet over dinner in the hotel and discuss tactics - which Egghead was weaker in which subject and which subjects might come up. In the morning we got to the BBC Television Centre by Tube and were soon being sorted out by production assistants, wardrobe people and makeup artists. We all took several blouses or shirts and the wardrobe people decided which colours looked best together, and took them away to be ironed!

It had been decided that Arfor should be the reserve, so I'm sorry if he had a rather boring time. We were not allowed to take anything into the Studio so the production assistants took our cameras in so that they could take pictures for us after the recording.

Soon we were sitting behind the familiar desk, and recording our names and details for the introduction bit. Then the Eggheads and Jeremy Vine came in and shook hands - some of us knew some of them, of course!

The recording went quite well - I didn't realise how much shifting of chairs went on every time someone went out to play a round. Three of us got knocked out, but Tom managed to beat his Egghead, so he and Susan were left to do the final General Knowledge round.

It was very exciting - all three multiple choice questions answered correctly by both sides, so into sudden death! Of course, the challenging team doesn't really have to win - just get their questions right and hope the Eggheads make a mistake - and they did! After mentioning the correct answer about a ball and hoop game in the north of England they plumped for the wrong one! We had won! As the prize fund was £6000 it was very easy to divide, as Arfor got his share too. They did tell us that not every team gives the reserve a sixth share, which we all thought was dreadful.

The most difficult thing was not telling anyone, apart from close family, for such a long time. After recording in February 2009 it was not shown until January 2010. My technique was just to say "I can't possibly tell you THAT!"

All in all, a very enjoyable experience, made all the more worthwhile by the financial outcome.



Up Helly Aa!

From Kevin Ashman

A trip to Shetland to see the annual fire festival (Europe's largest according to its official website) in January was an interesting and different experience – one that the cold and wet weather didn't dampen (well not too much)!

An organised tour is a good way to ensure you get wise advice on where to view the procession from, and the marchers (almost 1,000 strong) with their flaming torches make a spectacular sight. The highlight of the whole event is the burning of the Viking longship at the climax of the festival, followed by a short firework display finishing off the main activity. Like many supposed "traditions", this is, of course, a Victorian invention, but it is, nevertheless, worth seeing – once at least!

Annual General Meeting 2010

Notice is hereby given that the thirty-second Annual General Meeting of the Mastermind Club will be held at the Mercure Southgate Hotel, Exeter, on Sunday 11 April 2010 at 10.45am.

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 31st AGM, Blackpool, 5 April 2009 (published in PASS, 2009:2)
3. Matters arising
4. Annual Accounts and Treasurer's Report
5. PASS
6. Election of Club Charity for 2010-2011*
7. President's Report
8. Membership Secretary's Report
9. Insignia
10. Annual Functions 2010, 2011 & 2012
11. Election of Club Committee for 2010-2012**
12. Magnum Competition
13. Mugnum Competition
14. Any Other Business

* **Note to Item 6:** If you wish to propose a Club Charity please inform the Secretary by writing of your proposal by Monday 22nd March 2010.

***Note to Item 11:** All Committee posts fall due for re-election at this AGM. Committee members are elected to serve for a period of two years. Any Club member in good standing is welcome to nominate himself or herself, and may do so in writing to the Secretary. Proposers and seconders are not required. The last date for receipt of nominations is Monday 22nd March 2010.

Alan Blackburn, President

Gavin Fuller, Secretary

15 January 2010

MASTER QUIZ 2010

Gavin Fuller introduces the Round 2 questions.

Since last year's Magnum I've seen quite a lot of questions of mine go into print in one form or another (something like 3,000!) but fortunately I don't seem to have reached the bottom of the well just yet so here's my half of this year's Masterquiz. Particularly as Phillida's theme swiped one of my specialist subjects this year there's no overarching theme to this half as per usual, just a selection to challenge, torment and tease you I hope!

Instructions

Round 2, as usual, has two entries.

Head your first paper "U" for UNSEEN, and answer the questions in your own time. When you have finished please sign the entry as being your own work, but of course should you by chance come across any other answers feel free to add them.

Head another sheet "R" for REFERENCE and check, alter or expand your "U" entries should it be necessary, quoting your sources if you wish.

Put your name and membership number at the start of the U entry, and the R if that should be sent separately. 80% of the marks are awarded for the "U" entry and 20% on the "R", with the latter as ever not being obligatory. Please note again that all decisions made by Phillida and myself are final and no correspondence shall be entered into by either of us about the questions and answers.

Address for Round 2 Entries

Gavin Fuller
50 Dollis Park,
Finchley,
LONDON N3 1BS
Telephone: 020 8349 1087 (home), 07875 384778 (mobile)
Email: gavin_fuller@hotmail.com

Closing date: 31 March 2010

I look forward to your entries, and putting the top 9 to the test again at the Exeter reunion. Just you wait...

- 1 Which Ray Bradbury novel opens "It was a pleasure to burn"?
- 2 In which television programme was "I don't believe it" a catchphrase?
- 3 The chef Rick Stein has a restaurant, bistro, café, fish and chip shop, cookery school, pub and three shops in and around which town in Cornwall?
- 4 In which country do 100 Stotinki make a Lev?
- 5 Who is fifth in the British Order of Succession?
- 6 The Olympian Lord Burghley succeeded to which Marquessate in 1956?
- 7 Whilst living in Eastbourne in the 1950s, which notorious medical practitioner was Burghley's Doctor?
- 8 Which artistic movement was founded by Georges Braque and Pablo Picasso?
- 9 Who owned Devon Loch, which agonisingly failed to win the 1956 Grand National?

- 10 Which former cabinet minister was nicknamed Tarzan?
- 11 According to W H Auden, what was “bringing the cheque and the postal order”?
- 12 What was the forename of Mrs Beeton, of household management fame?
- 13 What term for a military chaplain comes from the Spanish, Italian and Portuguese for Father?
- 14 Which grain is used to make Polenta?
- 15 What was the name given to five boats owned by Edward Heath from 1969-79?
- 16 What instrument was played by the bandleader Ted Heath?
- 17 Of what is phobophobia an irrational fear?
- 18 Who famously told his audience in 1981 “go back to your constituencies and prepare for government”?
- 19 What title is shared by novels by Arthur Conan Doyle and Michael Crichton, both featuring dinosaurs?
- 20 What number is the European standard number for calling emergency services?
- 21 The Widener is the library of which American university?
- 22 Which sweet sparkling wine takes its name from the town in Piedmont around which it is made?
- 23 William III landed at which Devon port en route to deposing James VII and II in 1688?
- 24 Who is the Patron Saint of dancers?
- 25 Which philosopher wrote *Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding* published in 1748?
- 26 In the classification system of organisms, which level comes between Kingdom and Class?
- 27 Which athlete won a unique distance treble in the 1952 Olympic Games to add to a gold medal won at 10,000 metres 4 years earlier?
- 28 What did Sir Peter Viggers notoriously try to claim for using his Additional Costs Allowance, causing sales of them to subsequently collapse?
- 29 Who was the Bohemian religious reformer burned at the stake for heresy in 1415, leading to religious conflict in the country for several decades?
- 30 Which part of the human body is divided into the Duodenum, Jejunum and Ileum?
- 31 Which eponymous literary heroine had the surname Harlowe?
- 32 Fed up with her name being mispronounced, who told Jean Harlow “the t is silent, as in Harlow”?
- 33 Trio Juncta in Uno is the motto of which Order of Chivalry?
- 34 What is the largest desert in South America?
- 35 Which publisher founded Penguin Books in 1935?
- 36 Who is the former Home Office pathologist whose Crowner John series of novels were based in 12th century Exeter?
- 37 Edwin Jones was a driver on the Merioneth and Llantysilly Railway in which television series?
- 38 What distinguishes Sculls racing from other forms of rowing racing?
- 39 Which man of letters once observed “no man but a blockhead ever wrote, except for money”?
- 40 John Tomlinson in 1840 is the first man credited to partake of which hobby?
- 41 Which popular dance was denounced by the *Daily Mail* in 1922 as “reminiscent only of Negro orgies”?
- 42 In 2009, what were banned by Captain Wayne Keble of HMS Bulwark on the grounds they were “the devil’s vegetable”?
- 43 To what did Hilaire Belloc reputedly suggest should be appended “Candidates should not attempt more than six of these”?
- 44 In mathematics what does Σ stand for?
- 45 Mary de Bohun was the mother of which King of England?
- 46 Which Roman road ran from Exeter to Lincoln?
- 47 *The Swan of Tuonela* is part of which Sibelius composition?
- 48 If in music a piece is to be played very fast, what is the instruction?
- 49 What sport is overseen by the Fédération Internationale des Quilleurs?
- 50 Speedbird is the call sign used when contacting Air Traffic Control by aircraft from which airline?
- 51 The Anglo-Saxon poems *The Wanderer*, *The Seafarer*, *The Husband’s Message*, *The Wife’s Lament* and *Resignation* are to be found in which book?
- 52 On a map, what are joined by an isotach line?
- 53 Rod Evans, Ian Gillan, David Coverdale and Joe Lynn Turner have all been vocalists for which rock band over the last 42 years?

- 54 Which Danish city is home to a Viking Ship Museum and a cathedral that has been the main burial site for their monarchs since the 15th century?
- 55 The Dartmoor Brewery in Princetown brews two beers. One is Dartmoor IPA (Inmate's Pale ale). What is the two word rhyming name of the other?
- 56 Which 1956 John Wayne film had the tagline "He had to find her... he had to find her...?"
- 57 The "Game, Set and Match" trilogy, comprising *Berlin Game*, *Mexico Set* and *London Match*, is amongst the works of which writer?
- 58 What name was given to chapels established with an endowment for the saying or singing of masses for certain of the dead, usually the donor, his family or friends?
- 59 Opening in June 2009, which Welsh racecourse is the first new National Hunt racecourse to open in Britain for over 80 years?
- 60 Which two cheeses are layered together to make a Huntsman cheese?
- 61 According to weather lore, what will happen if sheep turn their backs to the wind, rats are more restless than usual or moles throw up more earth than usual?
- 62 Which African mammal gets its name due to the fact Dutch settlers thought it looked like a deer?
- 63 Which famous rally was first held in January 1911 and won by Henri Rougier?
- 64 Of which republic are English, Malay, Mandarin Chinese and Tamil the four official languages?
- 65 Which was the first Mr Man book to be published, the character being an orange person with a small blue hat whose extraordinarily long arms were good for things such as making breakfast without getting out of bed, but he preferred another use for them?
- 66 Coming in various shades thereof, what colour is a Kumquat?
- 67 What theatrical malpractice is referred to by the term "papering the house"?
- 68 What is the televisual connection between Annette Crosbie, Dorothy Tutin, Anne Stallybrass, Elvi Hale, Angela Pleasance and Rosalie Crutchley?
- 69 The piano cycle *Iberia*, composed from 1906-9, was the work of whom?
- 70 Claire Clairmont, mother of Lord Byron's daughter Allegra, was the half-sister of which writer?
- 71 In which famous novel is Grimpen Mire to be found?
- 72 In which sport has the World Championships been held on eight occasions since 1978, the Netherlands beating Belgium in the final every time except 1991, when Belgium beat the Netherlands?
- 73 Which acclaimed Devon-based band is comprised of Steve Knightley and Phil Beer?
- 74 Abu Bakr in 632AD was the first man to hold which title?
- 75 75ft is the standard stopping distance for a car travelling at what speed?
- 76 What would you use VOIP for?
- 77 To which city did Sir Francis Younghusband lead an expedition in 1904?
- 78 In a building, what name is given to the holes in walls left behind when scaffolding is removed?
- 79 Bluebeard, Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood and Puss in Boots were tales first collated by which Frenchman?
- 80 What part of the human body is officially registered as being 2.5 on the Mohs scale?
- 81 Of which island were the Hauteville dynasty kings from 1130 to 1194?
- 82 Hartley Hare, Topov the Monkey and Octavia the Ostrich were characters in which children's television series of the 1970s?
- 83 In a Borodin opera, of whom is Jaroslavna the wife?
- 84 What are constructed using the science of gnomonics?
- 85 At approximately 20% of total Malt sales worldwide, what is the world's best-selling Malt Whisky?
- 86 *Valkyrie II & III*, *Shamrock I-V* and *Endeavour I-II* were nine successive losing British entries in which sporting competition?
- 87 What is the English name for the constellation Columba?
- 88 Tendai Shū was a 6th century academic school of which religion?
- 89 Which 1970s drama series was based around a haulage business owned by the Hammond family?
- 90 What was the outcome of the law case taken by Meletus Meletou of Putthus against Socrates Sophroniscou of Alopece?
- 91 The largest painting in The Louvre, measuring 22' by 32.5', is *The Wedding Feast at Cana*, painted in 1562-3 by whom?

- 92 Nicholas Liverpool is the president and Roosevelt Skerrit the Prime Minister of which Caribbean island, the second largest town of which is Portsmouth?
- 93 Chemical compounds that have the same molecular formulae but different arrangements of atoms in their molecules are known as what?
- 94 Monsieur Clergé in 1740 is held to be the first world champion in any sport. In which sport did he hold this title?
- 95 What are Cruls, first seen in 1882, De Chéseaux, first seen in 1744 and Lexell, first seen in 1770, amongst others?
- 96 What expanded from 10 digits to 13 digits in 2007?
- 97 The Sanson family were a notable family in France for performing what role?
- 98 White, Black, Lombardy and Balsam are types of which tree?
- 99 Which writer observed in a letter in 1940 “Old age is a tangle of Disappointment, Despair, Doubt, Dereliction, Drooping, Debt and Damnable Deficiency and anything else that begins with a D”?
- 100 Which Imperialist’s last words were “So little done, so much to do”?

Under an African Sky

Ann Kelly



I had long held an ambition to visit Namibia, a country that fascinated me with its wide-open spaces, huge desert and the Skeleton Coast. I decided to visit in August 2008 and rather than stay in lodges, I decided to camp as I wanted to be as close to nature as possible and sleep (almost) under the stars.

After flying into Windhoek I spent my first night in a hotel there and met up with my fellow campers in the morning; there was fifteen of us of various nationalities that included eight members of a walking group from Genoa. Off we went with our driver and guide, Bennie and Gabes, plus all our camping gear, heading north to Okonjima where we would camp for the night. The tents slept two and I was paired up with another lady on her own, Rosemary from Austria. Rosemary had never camped before and didn't have a clue about erecting tents etc. but I assured her I had been camping since a teenager and there was nothing to it..... after about twenty minutes of pulling canvas and poles about, our other companions, who had put their tents up, put all the chairs and tables up and made a pot of tea, came to our aid and put the tent up for us.

We then went to the Africat Foundation to see cheetahs and wild dogs that had been orphaned or injured and were being rehabilitated to return to the wild. It was then back to the campsite for dinner and getting to know each other around the campfire. The following morning it was time to strike camp and load up the bus; Rosemary couldn't get the hang of getting a tent down either, so it was more fun and games.



We spent the next days driving through the huge almost empty expanse of Namibia and being beguiled by it. The people so friendly and kind, the towns so clean and tidy (if there did happen to be a piece of litter on the street, it would be picked up by the nearest person and put in the bin). Shops had cleaners, petrol stations had cleaners, the lavatories we used might not have had roofs or doors but they always had a cleaner. Along the roads stalls with crystals for sale would be set up; there would be no seller with them, just a box for the customers to put their money in. At midday we would stop for lunch, sometimes parking by the side of a road in a town. As people went about their daily business, we sat there eating a full cooked meal on the pavement that had been prepared over a fire by Gabes and Bennie. (In Southern Africa, everyone cooks over an open fire, even in the cities.)

And then there were the animals.....we would stop at watering holes and look at the animals together: including numerous species of antelope, the stately ostrich, scampering warthogs and huge herds of zebra.



There were also herds of elephants, some with calves that were just hours old. We stayed two nights in the Etosha National Park and during dinner the first evening everyone was thrilled to see some friendly German shepherd looking animals come right up to the table and feed from my companions hands. Only of course they weren't German Shepard's, even I knew they were hyenas. Gabes and Bennie went mad "That's it! You have let them into the camp; everything will have to be packed away on the bus! We can't keep anything out during the night because they will chew it." I was the only one who hadn't fed them, I did feel smug. I wasn't so smug the next morning however when my alarm failed to go off at 5.00am ready for our 6.00am game drive. Rosemary didn't think to wake me, only doing so when everyone was sitting on the bus waiting for me at 6.15. I put my clothes on over my pyjamas and staggered out of the tent cursing Rosemary but my mood soon changed when out of the mist I saw the head of a giraffe, then another giraffe, and then another. Sometimes it's worth getting out of bed in the morning.



That evening we went to the campsite's water hole to see the animals at dusk; There were a reeds in the water which had frogs or toads croaking; there would be silence, then one croak, then a few more until there was a crescendo of croaking follow by the process in reverse and after a short break the croaking would start again.

Rosemary and myself were still having trouble getting our tent up and down and we were last on the bus every day. She wasn't an outdoors type at all and would sit in the tent putting on her make up and brushing her long thick hair while I sat there looking like an unmade bed. When we stopped in towns, my companions would buy beer and wine and drink it around the fire in the evening, they would offer it to me and I always refused. They assumed I abstained and eventually stopped offering: the real reason I wouldn't drink in the evening was because I didn't want to use the "facilities" with baboons roaming around the campsites. It was nice to lie in my sleeping bag and hear them moving about outside the tent though.

On the fifth day we drove into Damaraland, one of the most beautiful desert regions in Namibia. We drove to the Petrified Forest and to see the ancient Bushmen rock engravings at Twyfelfontien: most of these engravings were high up in the rocks and being frightened of heights I would not climb them. From here we headed deeper into the desert to The Brandberg, Namibia's highest mountain. After a lovely walk in the foothills, it was time to climb higher and this time I was not going to be allowed to stay behind. With a lot of yelling and screaming on my part, I was pushed and pulled up and received a round of applause when I reached the top then I was pushed and pulled, yelling and screaming to the bottom again.

We were coming to the end of our African adventure. English was the "official" language of the minibus but one of the Italians, Pino did not speak it. Rosemary could also speak Italian and would interpret for him.....After putting up our tent (with help) on the penultimate evening, Rosemary and myself put our bags in the tent and I went off for a shower. When I came back Rosemary's bags were gone and so was she.....I caught up with her later: she took me to one side to say that as Pino had a tent to himself we would be sharing with him from now on. How romantic!! She was a bit worried about leaving me on my own but I assured her I would be fine and anyway Pino felt it his duty to put my tent up and down while I sat around drinking tea.

Our last stop after crossing the gravel plains was the Skeleton Coast and the lovely seaside town of Swakopmund. We visited the huge seal colony at Cape Cross and although the shipwrecked sailors have long gone the hyenas made sure there was plenty of skeletons and bones lying around, the remains of their meals of baby seals.

So then it was goodbye to my companions and Namibia with it's wonderful animals and people. I hope to be back soon, this time to explore the south and recommend anyone to do the same., you won't be disappointed.

Prize Crossword (2009:4) Solution

by *Gadfan*

P	O	M	A	D	E		W	E	E	P	I	E	S	T	
O		I		O				T		A		N		U	
S	A	S	Q	U	A	T	C	H		S	I	T	A	R	
T		E		B		O		A		T		R		K	
P	A	R	S	L	E	Y	A	N	D	T	H	Y	M	E	
A				E		E		O		H		W		Y	
I	N	F	I	E	L	D		L	O	R	C	A			
D		O		N						E		Y		P	
		R	A	T	E	D		U	T	E	N	S	I	L	
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R		M		D		I		E		L		E		W	
T	H	E	I	R		V	I	D	E	O	T	A	P	E	
I		A		E		E				C		N		A	
A	R	T	I	S	T	R	Y			S	K	A	T	E	R

A confession: one of the annoyances of my penultimate job was to be expected to religiously submit the minutes of our regular Science Department meetings in quadruplicate to our Senior Management Team, while suspecting that they were **never** read. To test the suspicion, I submitted my final set of minutes before moving on to pastures new in rhyming couplets – accurate in every respect, but assuming the literary style which more mature readers might well associate with Rupert Bear Annuals of yore. True to form, only one of the document's elevated recipients noticed sufficiently to pass comment. Gotcha! I have always had a soft spot for doggerel. It was therefore with some delight that I found one of the tie-breaker clues for Crossword 2009:4 written in the form a rhyming couplet:

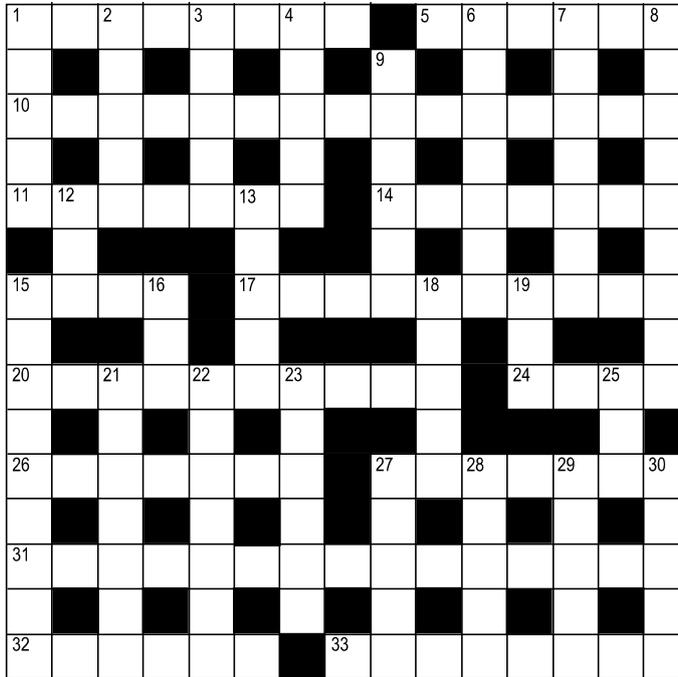
*Wise man, flower, William's queen
In a Yorkshire refrain fit in between,*

eliciting the solution: PARSLEY AND THYME. Veerrry clever, and the clever entrant? ... Margery Elliott, who wins the £10 book token. The majority of the other entrants, including, I'm pleased to report, some new names, were drawn also to clues with a *Scarborough Fair* theme.

Submit entries for Crossword 2010:1 as usual to David Edwards at 26 Lady Meadow Close, Denstone, Uttoxeter, ST14 5EY, or at gadfan@btinternet.com by 30 April, the deadline for copy for the next edition of *pass*, complete with a suggested clue for 20 across. Courage, mes braves!

Prize Crossword (2010:1)

by Gadfan



ACROSS

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| <p>1 Swing from left to right makes what was quite sad distasteful (8)</p> <p>5 Light by four, before The Beatles get home (6)</p> <p>10 Lingering glow as in Porsche he ponces about (15)</p> <p>11 Trail wagon or buggy (7)</p> <p>14 East German lush gets the bird (7)</p> <p>15 Reportedly posted a foreign coin (4)</p> <p>17 Smashing harp, George becomes person concerned with the World (10)</p> <p>20 He has no regard for women and is toying with Miss Askew (10)</p> <p>24 See 19</p> <p>26 Land (i.e. <i>terra</i> translated) (7)</p> <p>27 Thus treated 29 may strike a high note (7)</p> <p>31 Plant food essence for a gourd (9,6)</p> <p>32 Messy drains are the pits (6)</p> <p>33 Screen extender (8)</p> | <p>4 Diversion, taking second on left (5)</p> <p>6 Rita eats a little cottage cheese (7)</p> <p>7 Perfect pronunciation of language (7)</p> <p>8 Fragment of wood - sounds like a strand on ultimately pointless wooden object (5,4)</p> <p>9 Take a while to fit in (6)</p> <p>12,16 A couple of punches and so count starts (3,3)</p> <p>13 4's school (5)</p> <p>15 Vehicle more affected on front (6,3)</p> <p>16 See 12</p> <p>18 Fraction of Nelson's first half hour lost (5)</p> <p>19,24 Possibly Parker's alias (3,4)</p> <p>21 Drunk from first of Scotches topped with syrup (7)</p> <p>22 Device for rotary motion, rotary motion under gravity (7)</p> <p>23 Not far from Barney's development (6)</p> <p>25,30 Rebuilt from a new craft (3-2-3)</p> <p>27 Detected stench from fish (5)</p> <p>28 Square hazard - not hard after climbing mountain (5)</p> <p>29 Stage where strings may be attached? (5)</p> <p>30 See 25</p> |
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DOWN

- 1 Of the limb I pedal with I have two (5)
- 2 Surrounded by mango purée (5)
- 3 In map, Pakistan has raised feature of Greek type (5)

Gadfan

A Scottish History A-Z Quiz Answers and Result

Ken Emond

Thanks to all who took part in the Scottish History Quiz. It seems to have been a particular hit with many members of the Club as I received 23 entries and many very complimentary remarks about its interest. Jonathan Shaw struck a chord when writing “remarkable, considering I’ve got an MA in History, how little Scottish History I was actually exposed to in the four years I was studying – any ‘British’ history seemed to centre mainly on England, and in the 19th/20th century, Ireland. The Scots and the Welsh were left on the fringes, appearing only when they crossed the English narrative, rather than in their own right...” I found the same when I was a student, and actually found myself learning about the period 1100-1488 for the first time in detail only when teaching the subject to first year undergraduates for a term in the final year of my PhD. Reading up one day what you are attempting to teach to others the next is not always a recipe for imparting useful knowledge...

The winner drawn at random from the nine all-correct entries is Ray Driscoll. Congratulations, and a £15 book token, are sent to him.

The scores were as follows:

26 (all correct): Sonia Anderson; Roy Bailey; Stewart Cross; Ray Driscoll; Gavin Fuller; Richard Humphry; Raymond Kahn; Rod Lipscombe; Ray Ward

25: Jean Burke; Paul Emerson; Phillida Grantham; Mel Kinsey; David Porch; Jonathan Shaw; Roger Smith

24: Mike Formby; Norman Izzett; Sandy Macpherson; Timothy Robey

21 Mr J Hand

19 R A Gordon Stuart

14 Brent Peeling

Answers:

A Duke of Albany
B Berwick-upon-Tweed
C Culloden
D Darien
E Erskine
F Adam Ferguson
G Gordon
H David Hume
I Iona
J James II
K Kelvin
L Langside
M Andrew Melville
N John Napier

O Robert Owen
P Mungo Park
Q Queen’s Park
R David Riccio (or Rizzio)
S Sauchieburn
T Thomas Telford
U Andrew Ure
V Veere (which caught out a few)
W Robert Watson-Watt
X Xavier
Y York
Z Yogh (yes I know it doesn’t begin with a z!)

Stewart Cross thanked me for leaving the stinker to the end and asked if it was a trick? As he explained “Z was substituted for Yogh by early Scots printers as it was not available in their fonts. It was originally a middle English letter, long since obsolete, that sort of resembled a sigma, only a bit curlier... Its original use was not dissimilar to that of ‘g’.

PS A comment from one of our newer members, David Porch – welcome to the fold, David! – prompts a word or two of more general explanation. All potential entrants to quizzes published in **pass** should keep in mind that there is no restriction on entrants finding answers to the questions from any source you care to consult. For the back page quizzes, there is never any restriction, but for the Magnum (Master Quiz) and Mugnum competitions, entrants are required to declare where they have used reference sources. Otherwise you are free to check whatever you like – remember your sources may not always be accurate!

Connections Quiz

Geoff Thomas

Members are invited to find the specific connection involved in each of the following. Some are straightforward, some a little more circuitous, but credit will be given for ingenious suggestions which do not necessarily tally with the correct one (i.e. mine). A book token will be the prize for the first correct solution drawn (or the highest-scoring one) sent to me at 17 The Pavilions, Davenham, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 8LB. The deadline for entries is 30 April 2010.

1. Aristophanes and George Meredith
2. A Mexican seaport and the Emperor Constantine's mother
3. Winston Churchill, Nelson Mandela, Abraham Lincoln and Jan Smuts
4. Lee Marvin, Cher and Nicole Kidman
5. England cricket captains Douglas Jardine, Colin Cowdrey and Nasser Hussain
6. The steam locomotive "Mallard" and Martin Luther King
7. A Labour Party leader and the TV cartoon series "Yogi Bear" (1960-64)
8. The composer Mozart and the 1835 novel "Mademoiselle de Maupin"
9. Lord (Sebastian) Coe and Edith Wharton
10. George Best, John Lennon, Kemal Ataturk and Ronald Reagan
11. The 1973 Nobel Literature prize and a Roman festival of merry-making
12. Agatha Christie and the memorial to Nelson in Birmingham's Bull Ring
13. Margaret Mitchell and "Doc" Holliday, of gunfight fame
14. Voltaire, Michelangelo and Simon Bolivar
15. Cornettist Bix Beiderbecke, Vincent van Gogh and "Doc" Holliday
16. The US version of TV's "The Apprentice" and William Hogarth
17. The film "Alien" (and sequels) and F Scott Fitzgerald
18. Woody Allen and the 1781 philosophical work "Kritik der reinen Vernunft"
19. The north Manchester brewery J W Lees and a legendary Wiltshire dodger of customs and excise officials
20. Christabel Leighton-Porter and Edgar Rice Burroughs?
21. "Much Ado About Nothing", Virgil's "Aeneid" and "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage" (Byron)
22. A town in southern Sweden and a song-writer played on screen by Fred Astaire
23. The fictional criminals Raffles and Professor Moriarty
24. "Look Homeward, Angel" by Thomas Wolfe and the Philip Pullman trilogy "His Dark Materials"
25. The city of Edinburgh and two sons of George III, the Duke of Rothesay and the Duke of York