

### Armchair Treasure Hunt 1986

### Introduction

Welcome once again to our annual mixture of travelogue, quiz and treasure hunt - designed to ruin your Christmas. If you entered last year's competition, you will need no reminding about the structure or rules of the Hunt. However, for new readers, some explanation follows.

Our Armchair Treasure Hunt is in eight sections. The first seven each consist of part of an imaginary journey round the British Isles. As well as working out the location of each stopping-point, there are ten general-knowledge questions to be answered at each stage. Somehow, there is a way of using these answers to find the location of the buried treasure box. The final section is an elementary code which, when cracked, reveals the detailed directions to the box.

Yes, the box really is there - buried in the woods.

## Clues

The box is buried somewhere south of Northampton and east of Southampton. There is a confirming clue (of a Logica 'l') visible when you reach the correct spot. The box is buried just below the surface and there are some additional instructions inside.

It is no secret that the initial letters of each answer (not the 'stopping points') form a sentence which may or may not be useful. Similarly, there is a connection between all the 'stopping points'. Use surnames except where indicated, and do not write numeric answers as words. You should try to find answers to fit the 'pattern' (admittedly a chicken and egg operation). Answers that do not fit either are wrong or else I have made a mistake. In the latter case, you should try to find the answer I am after, if possible. Justification of alternatives will, however, be considered if attached to your entry.

There are some clues hidden in the pictures. For a start, it may amuse you, or a younger member of your family to find the cat (easy) or Brian's initials (not always easy) that he has secreted at least once in each one.

#### Notes

If you find the treasure box, please re-bury it and disguise the site again, having consideration for subsequent finders. There is a possibility that the box will be discovered by someone unconnected with the competition. If you are sure you have reached the site, and there is nothing there, contact one of the organisers immediately. It would be best to be fairly circumspect while digging up the box, as anyone seeing you do so might think there is something valuable inside (in fact there is not).

The burial site is fairly hard to reach by public transport. If you do not have access to a car, it might be possible to arrange a lift - contact one of the organisers. Such contacts will not constitute any sort of priority claim on the prize.

### Prizes

There are five prizes - each of a Fortnum and Mason gift voucher.

A prize of £30 will be awarded to the first finder of the treasure box.

Another £30 prize will be awarded to the sender of the best set of answers - and there are £20 and £10 prizes for the second and third best attempts. The marking scheme is complicated (details on request) but ensures most marks are given for those questions found to be the hardest. There are substantial bonus marks for finding the treasure box as early as possible.

Finally, there will be a new prize of £20 awarded to the sender of the best question suitable for inclusion in next year's quiz. You can have as many attempts as you like at this - attach them to your entry. The criteria to aim for are:

- a suitable level of difficulty
- brevity of question and answer
- an interesting or amusing answer

We may use any of the entries in this part of the competition for future quizzes - so at least you may get off to a good start next year! Please include the answers to your questions.

No person or team may win more than one prize, with the exception of the 'best question' prize which can be added to any one of the others. Prizes will only be awarded to Logica staff. The decision of the organisers in all matters is final.

## End Date

The end-date for the competition is earlier than last year (do I mean that?). Anyway, all entries must be received by Friday, 16 January 1987. Send them to Paul Coombs, Cobham.

# Results

It is suggested that you keep these question sheets along with a copy of your answers. Correct solutions will be provided, in early February, only to those people who have sent in some answers. The winners of the 'best answers' and 'best question' prizes will be announced then. The winner of the 'buried treasure' prize will also be announced then, if known. Otherwise, the prize will remain 'buried' until found. Further clues will be issued, to people who have entered the competition, if needed.

## Acknowl edgements

Many thanks to all the people who entered last year, especially those who responded to my appeal for feedback on the Hunt. Several of your suggestions have been adopted this year.

For this Hunt, thanks are due to Richard Monger (BAE), Rod Fine, Geoff Beeson and Steve Lee for suggestions and questions; to Rod Fine for the code; to the S&SC for the prizes and to all who have helped print and distribute the Hunt.

## Contact

Paul: Cobham ext. 4016.

Home: Weekdays - Walton-on-Thames Hols/Weekends - Stevenage

Brian: 23NS ext. 3108

Good Luck, and don't be afraid to enter (we are not expecting any completely correct solutions). Remember to beware of herrings in all colours...



















