

# The Fool on the Hill

*Editor's Note: This whole solution document was written by Pablo.*

## Solution

Codes in square brackets (e.g. [INT4]) are indications that points can be scored for spotting the item indicated. These codes are cross-referenced in the master Excel scoring sheet. While the rest of the story is full of interest and allusion, these Answers concentrate mainly on the places where points can be scored.

### Themes

The major theme of this Hunt is Tarot, in particular the Rider-Waite design<sup>1</sup> that is the modern standard design for the Tarot pack. The Fool is one of the Major Arcana or trumps in the Tarot, and he meets all the other characters from the Major Arcana along the way.

The second theme is the Italian writer Italo Calvino<sup>2</sup>, especially his novel *The Castle of Crossed Destinies*<sup>3</sup>. In this book, a number of travellers, mysteriously struck dumb, meet in a castle with only a pack of Tarot cards for entertainment. They lay out the cards in different ways in order to tell stories. In a second part of the novel, a different group are brought together in a tavern and again recount a series of tales by using the cards. The fact that this book is set in two different locations is one of the hints that there are two treasure boxes to be found in this Hunt. There are also references to other works by Calvino, notably *Invisible Cities*<sup>4</sup>, which provides the key to solving one of the main codes, and his masterpiece *If On A Winter's Night A Traveller*<sup>5</sup>.

### Treasure

The two treasure locations are both at the top of hills, hence the title of the Hunt. The first is Leith Hill in Surrey<sup>6</sup>, the highest point in South-East England. At the top is Leith Hill Tower, a folly built by one Richard Hull in order to raise the height of the hill to over 1000 feet. The second treasure location is Coombe Hill in

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<sup>1</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rider-Waite>

<sup>2</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calvino>

<sup>3</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Castle\\_of\\_Crossed\\_Destinies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Castle_of_Crossed_Destinies)

<sup>4</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invisible\\_Cities](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invisible_Cities)

<sup>5</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/If\\_On\\_a\\_Winter%27s\\_Night\\_a\\_Traveler](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/If_On_a_Winter%27s_Night_a_Traveler)

<sup>6</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leith\\_Hill](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leith_Hill)

Buckinghamshire<sup>7</sup>, one of the highest points in the Chilterns. At the top of this is a monument to the men of Buckinghamshire who fell in the Boer War.

### **References**

In traditional ATH manner, the pages are littered with references to (a) the treasure sites (b) Tarot (c) Italo Calvino (d) fairground rides and (e) pentagrams. The dog Qfwfq draws particular attention to the references in group (a), as he reveals on the exit from the Dodgems.

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<sup>7</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coombe\\_Hill%2C\\_Buckinghamshire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coombe_Hill%2C_Buckinghamshire)

# The Start

## Introduction

The Fool is the first of the Tarot cards that we encounter. The description involving the precipice and the dog corresponds to the picture of the Fool in the Rider-Waite deck<sup>8</sup>. [INT1 – note there is only one scoring opportunity here, not one for each card].

The first paragraph is identical to the introduction to the ancient (1987!) computer game *The Fool's Errand*<sup>9</sup>, which has several puzzle elements similar to those in this Treasure Hunt [INT2].

The dog's (shortened) name Qfwfq is as the same as that of the narrator of Italo Calvino's *Cosmicomics*, where he seems to be some kind of sentient atom [INT3].

"The moon eclipsed the sun" is a line from the song *Shadow of the Hierophant* from the Steve Hackett album *Voyage of the Acolyte*<sup>10</sup>. Most of the titles on this album reference Tarot characters, such as the Hierophant [INT4].

The Fool then meets The Magician, who hints that there might be another task to solve once the treasure is found [INT5]. The dark corner of the tent where there might be an entrance to the fair arose because I read somewhere (spookily, I can no longer find the reference) that the whole of the Magician's table is never shown on the Tarot card.

The objects conjured up by the Magician correspond to the four suits in the Tarot pack: wands, cups, swords and coins. [INT6]. The coin bears a pentagram, as it does in the Rider-Waite deck.

The Tavern and the Castle are where the stories take place in *The Castle of Crossed Destinies*. [INT7]. The shapes of the grass on which the signposts are standing are rotated outlines of Surrey<sup>11</sup> and Buckinghamshire<sup>12</sup>, the two counties where the treasure boxes are located [INT8]. The positions of the signposts in this and subsequent appearances were not meant to be significant.

## Castle

The fool meets the Priestess. On her scroll, in writing far too small to read, it says:

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<sup>8</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:RWS-00-Fool.jpg>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.fools-errand.com/01-the-fools-errand/index.htm>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.stevhackett.com/cgi-bin/lyrics.cgi?ref=52>

<sup>11</sup> [http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pbc/review\\_areas/images/surrey\\_PR.gif](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pbc/review_areas/images/surrey_PR.gif)

<sup>12</sup> [http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pbc/review\\_areas/images/Bucks\\_MK\\_PR.gif](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/pbc/review_areas/images/Bucks_MK_PR.gif)

Congratulations! You have uncovered some very small text indeed. Unfortunately it contains nothing useful whatsoever. But keep trying. There must be a few more clues around here somewhere. [CAS1].

The Priestess says “Quien es esa niña?” or “Who’s that girl?”, a line from the eponymous song by Madonna;<sup>13</sup> in the video for this, the Priestess Tarot card is shown, which then transforms into Mrs Ritchie<sup>14</sup> [CAS2].

### **Tavern**

The pub sign contains several references to Leith Hill Place<sup>15</sup>, once the home of Richard Hull, who built Leith Hill Tower. After him, the house was occupied by Josiah Wedgwood, great-grandson of the famous potter, whose copy of the Portland Vase is shown [TAV1]. Charles Darwin was grandson of the potter and brother to Josiah’s wife – he was known to have visited Leith Hill Place and conducted experiments there – Darwin’s picture is on the ten pound note, hence the name of the tavern [TAV2]. Another resident of Leith Hill Place was Vaughn Williams<sup>16</sup> (VW), who was born in 1872 and died in 1958 [TAV3].

The Fool meets the Emperor, signified by having the name Augustus, as in the Roman emperor. The beer is described as “dour Workforce”, an anagram of Crooked Furrow, which is one of the home-brewed ales available at Plough Inn, Coldharbour<sup>17</sup>, which is the nearest pub to Leith Hill and home of the Leith Hill Brewery [TAV4].

### **Entrance**

The Fool meets the Empress, signified by having the name of Victoria (Queen Victoria was also Empress of India).

The entry ticket shows the numbers 51.526605 and -0.138980 which are the latitude and longitude of Stephenson House, headquarters of LogicaCMG. So that’s the “Logica question” out of the way nice and early [ENT1]. The ticket also says “Splendini’s Funfair” – the Great Splendini is the stage name of the magician character played by Woody Allen in the film *Scoop*<sup>18</sup>. The plot revolves around the “Tarot Card Killer” who always leaves a Tarot card beside his victims [ENT2].

There are two versions of the next page, according to whether you come from the tavern or the castle. The text in the paragraph next to the shield is slightly different for each (the different designs on the shield were meant as a hint to this). The words Mage’s, heading, verdant, stream, entrance, ornately and side have been replaced with

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<sup>13</sup> <http://www.azlyrics.com/lyrics/madonna/whosthatgirl.html>

<sup>14</sup> <http://talkingmoviezzz.blogspot.com/2007/03/forgotten-video-friday-whos-that-girl.html>

<sup>15</sup> [http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle\\_of\\_Fear/leith\\_hill.html](http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle_of_Fear/leith_hill.html)

<sup>16</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vaughn\\_williams](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vaughn_williams)

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.ploughinn.com/>

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0457513/>

Magician's, aiming, leafy, brook, opening, richly and knee. The first letters of the second set spell "Malbork", which is where some of *If on a Winter's Night a Traveller* is set [ENT3].

To glean the password, the answers to the four questions asked by the Emperor and the Empress must be placed in the grid shown on the ticket. The numbered letters then spell out the word "Solitaire" [ENT4]. Solitaire is the fortune-teller character in the James Bond film *Live and Let Die*<sup>19</sup> – you might recall how Bond fixes her Tarot pack so that it only contains the "Lovers" card. [ENT5].

On the next page, once the password has been given, there is a description of the fair beginning "the great roller coaster with its steep humps". This is a quotation from *Invisible Cities* about the town of Sophronia<sup>20</sup> [ENT6]. It might be noted that despite this description there is no roller-coaster shown on the map of the fair.

The explanation of the blackboard can be found under "Word List" below.

Should you choose to revisit the entrance to the fair, Victoria tells you that the only exit is "behind the mo...". The mo in question is the picture of the motorcycle in the Wall of Death page, which contains a hotspot link to the second part of the Hunt.

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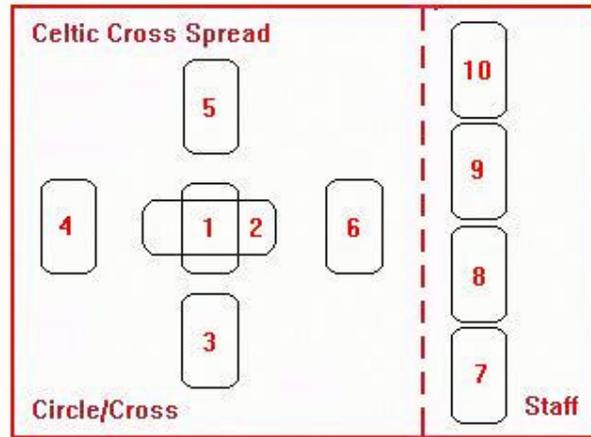
<sup>19</sup> <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0070328/>

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/~twh25/personal/calvino/cities.html>

# The Fair

## Map

The attractions at the fair are in the form of a “Celtic Cross”, which is the standard “spread”, or the way the cards are laid out for a Tarot reading<sup>21</sup>. [MAP1]. The order in which the cards are placed is important because this shows the sequence in which the tickets should be used (See “Tickets” below).



## Helter-Skelter

The words “Leaving there and proceeding for three days towards the East” are how the first description of a city in *Invisible Cities* begins [HEL1]. The words imply that the book describes a circular, or maybe endless, tour. In the Treasure Hunt the phrase indicates that the Tower is the first when ordering the ten tickets, in accordance with the Celtic Cross design.

The Fool meets the Hierophant, a religious figure whose role is “to bring the congregants into the presence of that which is deemed holy”. Nestorius<sup>22</sup> was such a person. [HEL2].

The keys show words that are indeed keys – to codes on other tickets (see the Refreshments Van and Wall of Death below). But they have relevance in their own right. Ethelwulf was king of Wessex and father of Alfred the Great. He fought a battle against the Danes at Leith Hill in 851, which prevented them from reaching Winchester<sup>23</sup> [HEL3]. A Marilyn is the name given to any hill in the British Isles over 150 metres high<sup>24</sup>. It is the equivalent of a Scottish Munro, which is a hill more than

<sup>21</sup> <http://www.learntarot.com/ccross.htm>

<sup>22</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hierophant>

<sup>23</sup> [http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle\\_of\\_Fear/leith\\_hill.html](http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle_of_Fear/leith_hill.html)

<sup>24</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marilyn\\_%28hill%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marilyn_%28hill%29)

3000 feet high – Marilyn Munro, geddit? Leith Hill is of course a Marilyn, being 294 metres high [HEL4].

The helter-skelter tower corresponds to Leith Hill Tower, which is also 65 feet high [HEL5]. The view shows a Google Earth view of Leith Hill<sup>25</sup> [HEL6]. In the shadow of the tower is a hotspot to a list of Calvino's *Invisible Cities*, which is useful in solving the location of the first treasure box – see the jigsaw under “Tickets” below.

“All-World” is a reference to the *Dark Tower* novels by Stephen King<sup>26</sup>. All-World, also known as Keystone Tower, is the one world among the many in the series from which it is possible to enter the Dark Tower itself. [HEL7]. This Tower is clearly influenced by the Tarot and indeed there is a Tarot reading in the very first novel.

“WRYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY” is a victory cry from the manga and anime *JoJo's Bizarre Adventure*<sup>27</sup>. The cry itself was something of an internet craze for a while, but the relevance here is that the “stands” in the story (which are some sort of manifestation of psychic power) are named after Tarot cards – for example The World and Hierophant Green [HEL8]. Fading 80's star Terence Trent D'Arby also makes an appearance – bizarre indeed.

The mat refers to Albus Dumbledore, headmaster of Hogwarts School in the *Harry Potter* series<sup>28</sup>. In *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* in the chapter called *The Lightning-Struck Tower*, Dumbledore is killed and falls from a tower – a clear reference to the Tarot card [HEL9]. Dumbledore has a scar in the shape of a map of the London Underground above his left knee [HEL10] – it is unclear if this also includes the Docklands Light Railway but I have assumed that it does. Avada Kedavra is the name of the spell that kills him [HEL11]. The “Dark Mark” mentioned in the description of the weather is another Harry Potter reference – it is the symbol of Lord Voldemort and the Death Eaters. One appears over the tower just before Dumbledore's death [HEL12].

## Acrobats

The Fool meets the Hanged Man who introduces himself as Richard Hull, who was the builder of Leith Hill Tower [ACR1]. Hull is buried under the tower, head downwards so he will be ready on the Day of Judgement when the world will be turned on its head<sup>29</sup> – this neatly fits with the Tarot picture of the Hanged Man [ACR2].

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<sup>25</sup> <http://wikimapia.org/1922826/>

<sup>26</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Dark\\_Tower\\_%28series%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Dark_Tower_%28series%29)

<sup>27</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JoJo%27s\\_Bizarre\\_Adventure](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/JoJo%27s_Bizarre_Adventure)

<sup>28</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dumbledore>

<sup>29</sup> [http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle\\_of\\_Fear/leith\\_hill.html](http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle_of_Fear/leith_hill.html)

On the clubs is the word “Dainer”. Michael Mackenzie, who played Tarot in the 1970’s children’s TV series *Ace of Wands* also played a character called Dainer in *Blake’s 7*<sup>30</sup> [ACR3]. The reference to Leybourne is to George Leybourne who wrote the song *The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze* in conjunction with Gaston Lyle in 1867<sup>31</sup> [ACR4].

### Big Wheel

The “wheel” picture does not show Hebrew letters but is a ‘pigpen’ cipher<sup>32</sup>. It reads “Tressants Hotel”. This opulent development in Ciutadella, Menorca has apartments named after some of the towns in *Invisible Cities*<sup>33</sup> [BIG1].

The ticket-seller for the wheel is the Hermit character from the Tarot. The song that he reminds you of is *Stairway to Heaven* – a figure very much like the Hermit appears on the inner sleeve of the *Led Zeppelin IV* album<sup>34</sup> [BIG2].

Issue number 182 of *The Amazing Spider Man* introduces the villain Big Wheel<sup>35</sup>, formerly crooked businessman Jackson Weele, who has transformed himself into a “large metal wheel that can climb up buildings, complete with guns and waldo-arms.” [BIG3]

### Gallopers

The Fool meets the character shown on the Sun card. Around the top of the roundabout it says “The Fairies Parliament”. This is the alternative title of *Little, Big or The Fairies’ Parliament*, a fantasy novel by John Crowley in which the Tarot plays a major role<sup>36</sup> [GAL1].

The phrase “tournicoti-tournicotton” was uttered in the French version of *The Magic Roundabout* by the Zebedee character (Zébulon in France) and is translated as “time for bed”<sup>37</sup> [GAL2]. Sometimes the first word is spelled tournicotti in articles on the web but I believe the version with one t is correct.

After enjoying the ride the Fool sees a bed of sunflowers. This hides two messages in Morse code. The first is in the leaves of the sunflowers, dots on the left and dashes on the right reading downwards, which spells “Scott Crane”. Crane is a central character

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<sup>30</sup> <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0533369/>

<sup>31</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Daring\\_Young\\_Man\\_on\\_the\\_Flying\\_Trapeze](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Daring_Young_Man_on_the_Flying_Trapeze)

<sup>32</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pigpen\\_cipher](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pigpen_cipher)

<sup>33</sup> <http://www.tressants.com/>

<sup>34</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Led\\_Zeppelin\\_IV](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Led_Zeppelin_IV)

<sup>35</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big\\_Wheel\\_\(comics\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_Wheel_(comics))

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.tarotpassages.com/littlebi.htm>

<sup>37</sup> <http://magicroundabout.com/General.asp>

in *Last Call* by Tim Powers, a novel set in Las Vegas which revolves around a supernatural poker game played with Tarot cards – The Fisher King and *The Waste Land* also seem to feature in a somewhat convoluted plot<sup>38</sup> [GAL3]. The other encoded message can be seen in the pattern of short and long bricks in the middle two courses, and reads “Marco Hietala”. He is the curiously bearded lead singer and bassist with Finnish heavy metal band Tarot<sup>39</sup> [GAL4].

### Refreshments Van

The van is named *Fillet of Soul*, which is the name of the chain of restaurants run by Mister Big in the film *Live and Let Die* (see “Solitaire” under “Entrance” above) [REF1].

Staffing the van is the character from the Temperance Tarot card. Her logo says “Cripple Mister Onion”, which is a game played by characters in Terry Pratchett’s *Discworld* novels<sup>40</sup>. The game is played with an ordinary pack shuffled together with a Caroc pack (Discworld’s equivalent of Tarot) [REF2]. Such is the popularity of these novels that the game has acquired its own rules, you can buy special Caroc and “Cripple Mister Onion” card decks and so on.

The Fool asks for a bottle of Bodger’s Barley Wine, which is one of the products of the Chiltern Brewery<sup>41</sup> near the second treasure site [REF3].

The napkin contains information that is usually contained in the tickets (see “Tickets” below) plus an additional code. This is a Playfair cipher with the keyword “Marilyn” (see the keys from the Helter-Skelter above). The decode is “The iron machines still exist, but they obey the orders of weightless bits” which is a quotation from Italo Calvino describing computers [REF4].

### Haunted House

The Fool encounters the Devil. Naturally, the book he consults is *The Devil’s Dictionary* by Ambrose Gwinnett Bierce [HH1] where in the missing volume (F) you will find the following definition<sup>42</sup>:

The **FOOL** is a person who pervades the domain of intellectual speculation and diffuses himself through the channels of moral activity. He is omnific, omniform, omnipercipient, omniscient, omnipotent. He it was who invented letters, printing, the railroad, the steamboat, the telegraph, the platitude, and the circle of the sciences. He created patriotism and taught the nations war. He founded theology, philosophy, law, medicine, and Chicago. He established monarchical and republican government. He is from everlasting to everlasting, such as creation’s dawn beheld he fooleth now. In

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<sup>38</sup> <http://www.strangewords.com/archive/lastcall.html>

<sup>39</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marco\\_Hietala](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marco_Hietala)

<sup>40</sup> <http://www.crimron.net/cmo.html>

<sup>41</sup> <http://www.chilternbrewery.co.uk/>

<sup>42</sup> <http://www.alcyone.com/max/lit/devils/f.html>

the morning of time he sang upon primitive hills, and in the noonday of existence headed the procession of being. His grandmotherly hand was warmly tucked-in the set sun of civilization, and in the twilight he prepares Man's evening meal of milk-and-morality and turns down the covers of the universal grave. And after the rest of us shall have retired for the night of eternal oblivion he will sit up to write a history of human civilization.

If you look at the letters written on the wall by the wand, then you can see that this definition contains all the letter-groups, in the words **person**, **intellectual**, **omnipercipient**, **omnipotent**, **platitude**, **patriotism**, **founded**, **medicine**, **Chicago**, **monarchical**, **republican**, **everlasting**, **beheld**, **primitive**, **procession**, **twilight**, **retired**, and **history of** (the last is a little untidy and arises from a lack of words with y in the middle). The missing letters spell "Section, Chapter, City" which is an indication of how you use the code on the tickets to obtain the treasure route (see under "Tickets" below) [HH2].

On the wand is a message in the International Marine Flag Code<sup>43</sup> which says "Tenacious D". The cover of the eponymous first album by this band is a loose interpretation of the Devil card from the Tarot<sup>44</sup> [HH3].

Inside the house the Fool encounters various creatures, i.e.: Invisible man, Demon, Inhuman shape, Ogre, Terrifying ghost, Spectre, Awful apparition, Revolting ghoul, Ravenous monster, Alarming phantom, Yellow banshee. Initial letters of these spell "Idiot's Array". This is a hand in the card game Sabacc<sup>45</sup> that is played in the *Star Wars* films – most notably by Han Solo who often staked and lost the *Millennium Falcon* during Sabacc tournaments. The suits in a Sabacc deck are staves, flasks, sabers, and coins, which are clearly influenced by the Tarot pack. An Idiot's Array (The Idiot, any 2, any 3) beats any other hand [HH4].

The questions the creatures ask each yield a letter, as follows:

What makes an insect crave? (W)ANT  
What makes the finest animal? BE(A)ST  
What makes humour wither? WI(L)T  
What makes a badge blush? PIN(K)  
What makes lard an achievement? F(E)AT  
What makes a feline farm vehicle? CA(R)T  
What makes a circuit light? LA(M)P  
What makes a truck big-headed? VA(I)N  
What makes a scamp hobble? (L)IMP  
What makes a pole naked? BAR(E)  
What makes a mesh into a bird's home? NE(S)T

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<sup>43</sup> [http://www.themeter.net/nautical\\_e.htm](http://www.themeter.net/nautical_e.htm)

<sup>44</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tenacious\\_D\\_%28album%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tenacious_D_%28album%29)

<sup>45</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sabacc>

The result is “Walker Miles”, the nickname of Edmund Seyfang Taylor<sup>46</sup>, a keen walker who founded the Ramblers’ Association. There is a memorial to him at the top of Leith Hill Tower<sup>47</sup> [HH5].

On the door are the words “Sunex Amures”, the name of a spirit associated with a real-life haunted house, Borley Rectory in Essex [HH6]. Sunex correctly predicted the destruction by fire of the rectory in 1939<sup>48</sup>.

### **Tunnel of Love**

The Fool meets the characters from the Lovers card. In the apples can be seen the letters IC – the initials of Italo Calvino [LOV1]. The letters on the card given to the Fool by the beautiful lady can be rearranged to make “A machine for telling stories”, which is how Italo Calvino described the Tarot pack [LOV2]<sup>49</sup>.

### **Dodgems**

This refers to the Chariot card from the Tarot. The shield says “Stare Super Vias Antiquas”, meaning “I stand in the track of my ancestors”. The phrase can be seen at the top of Leith Hill Tower, where it is part of the memorial to Edmund Seyfang Taylor (See the Haunted House above) [DOD1].

Nick O’Malley is the bassist with the group the Arctic Monkeys, before which he was with a band called the Dodgems<sup>50</sup> [DOD2].

On the advertising hoarding can (just) be seen “*The Tomorrow People*”. This was a 1970s TV series remade in the 1990s about a group of people with paranormal powers protecting Earth from various threats. By a strange coincidence, the original series occupied the slot vacated by *Ace of Wands* when it finished. One episode of *The Tomorrow People, Castle of Fear*, was set at Leith Hill Tower, which stood in for a Scottish castle<sup>51</sup> [DOD3]. I’m sure something could be read into the fact that the best information about Leith Hill Tower to be found on the web is on a fanzine site dedicated to this obscure programme.

### **Try Your Strength**

The Fool meets Strength from the Tarot. On the sword it says “Hellions” who are a group of characters from Marvel comic books. One of the original Hellions was Tarot,

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<sup>46</sup> <http://www.ashudson.co.uk/hudson%20pedigree/427.htm>

<sup>47</sup> [http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle\\_of\\_Fear/leith\\_hill.html](http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle_of_Fear/leith_hill.html)

<sup>48</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borley\\_Rectory](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Borley_Rectory)

<sup>49</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tarot\\_cards\\_in\\_popular\\_culture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tarot_cards_in_popular_culture)

<sup>50</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arctic\\_Monkeys\\_members](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arctic_Monkeys_members)

<sup>51</sup> [http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle\\_of\\_Fear/leith\\_hill.html](http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle_of_Fear/leith_hill.html)

also known as Marie-Ange Colbert<sup>52</sup> [TYS1]. She possesses “the ability to generate animated constructs composed of tangible psionic energy based on the two-dimensional figures on the Tarot cards she carries”. So there. Her pet lion is called Sosostris, which is the name of a Tarot reader from the TS Eliot poem *The Waste Land*<sup>53</sup> [TYS2].

Madame Sosostris, famous clairvoyante,  
Had a bad cold, nevertheless  
Is known to be the wisest woman in Europe,  
With a wicked pack of cards.

The equation  $(x^2+y^2)^2 = 2a^2(x^2-y^2)$  is known as the lemniscate of Bernouilli<sup>54</sup>, and is in the shape of the ‘infinity’ symbol, as can be seen on the Strength Tarot card [TYS3].

The Fool’s attempts at the Try Your Strength machine spell out “Aaron Lee”. He is one of the characters in Charles Williams’ novel *The Greater Trumps*, which revolves around what might be considered the ‘master’ Tarot pack<sup>55</sup>. [TYS4]

### Wall of Death

On the flag it says “Cimmeria” (reading anticlockwise and translating the Greek letters). This is the fictional country in which one of the novels within *If On A Winter’s Night A Traveller* takes place [WOD1]. It is also where Conan the Barbarian comes from and indeed an ancient country down Russia way, but that need not concern us here.

The pattern made by the motorcycle tyres is a Vigenere code with the key “Ethelwulf” (see Helter Skelter above). The decode is “*And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together*” from Revelations 6.14 [WOD2]. This and the continuation “*and every mountain and island were moved out of their places*” is believed to be the reason Richard Hull chose to be buried upside down at Leith Hill, hoping to be the right way up on the Day of Judgement<sup>56</sup> [WOD3].

The picture of the motorcycle contains a hotspot link to the exit from the fair.

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<sup>52</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tarot\\_\(comics\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tarot_(comics))

<sup>53</sup> <http://www.bartleby.com/201/1.html>

<sup>54</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lemniscate\\_of\\_Bernoulli](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lemniscate_of_Bernoulli)

<sup>55</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles\\_W.\\_S.\\_Williams](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_W._S._Williams)

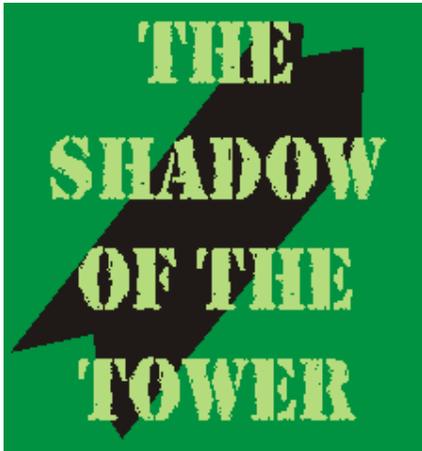
<sup>56</sup> [http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle\\_of\\_Fear/leith\\_hill.html](http://www.geocities.com/tiylaya/Castle_of_Fear/leith_hill.html)

# The Tickets

There are a number of elements hidden in the tickets to the different rides at the fair (including the napkin obtained from the refreshments van). These tickets should be taken in the order of the “Celtic Cross” spread of the Tarot Cards (see under “Map” above).

## Jigsaw

This assembles as follows:



It indicates where there is a tiny ‘hotspot’ link – in the shadow of the Leith Hill Tower in the view from the top of the helter-skelter. This link leads to an (invisible) list of Calvino’s *Invisible Cities*, which is useful in locating the first Treasure box [TIK1].

## Red Letters

The red letters spell “Anstiebury”. This Iron Age fort is on private land very near to Leith Hill [TIK2].

## Blue Letters

The blue letters spell “Cartomancy” – the art of divining the future by using cards [TIK3].

## Green Letters

The green letters spell “Merry Xmas” [TIK4].

## Quotations

The quotations in the middle of the ticket are the chapter headings from *If On A Winter’s Night A Traveller* [TIK5].

Se una notte d’inverno un viaggiatore  
Fuori dall’abitato di Malbork  
Sporgendosi dalla costa scoscesa

Senza temere il vento e la vertigine  
Guarda in basso dove l'ombra s'addensa  
In una rete di linee che s'allacciano  
In una rete di linee che s'intersecano  
Sul tappeto di foglie illuminate dalla luna  
Intorno a una fossa vuota  
Quale storia laggiù attende la fine?

They make a story in themselves – one that might bring to mind the search for a treasure box:

If on a winter's night a traveller, outside the town of Malbork, leaning from the steep slope, without fear of wind or vertigo, looks down in the gathering shadow, in a network of lines that enlase, in a network of lines that intersect, on the carpet of leaves illuminated by the moon, around an empty grave, what story down there awaits its end?

### Code

The Code on the tickets is decoded using the city names from Italo Calvino's *Invisible Cities* [TIK6]. The three numbers give the book's section, chapter and letter from the city name (see the hint from the Haunted House section above). There is a hotspot link to the list of cities in the shadow of the picture of Leith Hill tower (see the jigsaw above) and it can also be found on the web. Because of the rather eccentric chapter numbering of *Invisible Cities*, some of the three-number codes can be decoded to more than one letter. The correct decode is:

From the summit, avoid the amethyst and the amber but select the emerald. Progress past the pitch to post number six. There head to the right xc paces and look for fallen tree to the left. Notice the Logica signs. Under this tree is a rock displaying the sign. The thing you seek is inside.

The initial part refers to the marked trails that lead away from Leith Hill Tower – there is a map for sale there, but it is not really needed. The trails are waymarked with orange (amber), purple (amethyst) and green (emerald) posts. The “pitch” is a cricket ground, and if you are following the green trail then you will find post number six shortly after this. Under the fallen tree is a box containing a treasure ticket in the form of the Ace of Wands Tarot card.

There is an additional clue on the back of this card that reads: Dlr Owt Nem Egd Ujn Oom Rat Sec Its Uj? Reading this backwards gives Justice, Star, Moon, Judgement, World, which are the cards from the Major Arcana that we have not yet encountered [TIK7]. This is a clue that there is more to the Hunt.

# The Word List

The list of words that the Fool finds at the entrance to the fair provides a puzzle of the kind that also solves the “\$100,000 Challenge” puzzle in David Blaine’s book *Mysterious Stranger*<sup>57</sup>. The idea is to eliminate words from the list, until in this case you are left with the password that will let you out of the fair.

The clues as to which words to eliminate are uttered by the various characters that the Fool encounters at the fair – for example, at the helter-skelter Nestorius says “Eschew ten that start like winter” just before issuing a ticket. There is an order in which these operations should be performed, which is that of the Celtic Cross spread (see under “Map” above), although it’s quite possible that the same words are left even if the steps are followed in a different order.

This is the starting list

trees admirer shoe with dig receptacle pig nose wide replays grey life seventy risk magenta powder pipe thirty hunt asphalt green sighed beech listen meaningful rays seven wander hundred wall yellow spruce woodland side iron track northbound letter silent purple past roads deer maple watch red sky front sun hesitation path paddock boat enraged birch shade dear fingerpost sycamore sword check parsley treasurers orchestra married least nine evergreens pleasure leased will news quick overtaking background bath line box rocks where raise three passed pause chestnut window knows soared carthorse dreads poplar paws horse one gun sadder treasure angered weather blue pine squeeze bank

1. “Eschew ten that start like winter.” So we remove ten words that start with the letter w.

trees admirer shoe ~~with~~ dig receptacle pig nose ~~wide~~ replays grey life seventy risk magenta powder pipe thirty hunt asphalt green sighed beech listen meaningful rays seven ~~wander~~ hundred ~~wall~~ yellow spruce ~~woodland~~ side iron track northbound letter silent purple past roads deer maple ~~watch~~ red sky front sun hesitation path paddock boat enraged birch shade dear fingerpost sycamore sword check parsley treasurers orchestra married least nine evergreens pleasure leased ~~will~~ news quick overtaking background bath line box rocks ~~where~~ raise three passed pause chestnut ~~window~~ knows soared carthorse dreads poplar paws horse one gun sadder treasure angered ~~weather~~ blue pine squeeze bank

2. “Banish six that end like heartbreak.” So we take out all words ending in k.

trees admirer shoe dig receptacle pig nose replays grey life seventy ~~risk~~ magenta powder pipe thirty hunt asphalt green sighed beech listen meaningful rays seven hundred yellow spruce side iron ~~track~~ northbound letter silent purple past roads deer maple red sky front sun hesitation path ~~paddock~~ boat enraged birch shade dear fingerpost sycamore sword ~~check~~ parsley treasurers orchestra married least nine evergreens pleasure leased news ~~quick~~ overtaking background bath line box rocks raise three passed pause chestnut knows soared carthorse dreads poplar paws horse one gun sadder treasure angered blue pine squeeze ~~bank~~

3. “Eliminate seven of the colours.” This is fairly obvious.

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<sup>57</sup> <http://www.thefoolsparadise.com/db/solution.htm>.

trees admirer shoe dig receptacle pig nose replays ~~grey~~ life seventy ~~magenta~~ powder pipe  
thirty hunt asphalt ~~green~~ sighed beech listen meaningful rays seven hundred ~~yellow~~ spruce  
side iron northbound letter silent ~~purple~~ past roads deer maple ~~red~~ sky front sun hesitation  
path boat enraged birch shade dear fingerpost sycamore sword parsley treasurers orchestra  
married least nine evergreens pleasure leased news overtaking background bath line box  
rocks raise three passed pause chestnut knows soared carthorse dreads poplar paws horse  
one gun sadder treasure angered ~~blue~~ pine squeeze

4. “Eradicate eight pairs that sound like a hoarse horse.” These are homonyms –  
soared/sword, deer/dear, paws/raise, passed/past, side/sighed, nose/knows, raise/raise,  
leased/least.

trees admirer shoe dig receptacle pig ~~nose~~ replays life seventy powder pipe thirty hunt  
asphalt ~~sighed~~ beech listen meaningful ~~rays~~ seven hundred spruce ~~side~~ iron northbound letter  
silent ~~past~~ roads ~~deer~~ maple sky front sun hesitation path boat enraged birch shade ~~dear~~  
fingerpost sycamore ~~sword~~ parsley treasurers orchestra married ~~least~~ nine evergreens  
pleasure ~~leased~~ news overtaking background bath line box rocks ~~raise~~ three ~~passed~~ ~~pause~~  
chestnut ~~knows~~ ~~soared~~ carthorse dreads poplar ~~paws~~ horse one gun sadder treasure  
angered pine squeeze

5. “Do away with nine that last as long as rainstorms.” So remove all ten-letter words.

trees admirer shoe dig ~~receptacle~~ pig replays life seventy powder pipe thirty hunt asphalt  
beech listen ~~meaningful~~ seven hundred spruce iron ~~northbound~~ letter silent roads maple sky  
front sun ~~hesitation~~ path boat enraged birch shade ~~fingerpost~~ sycamore parsley ~~treasurers~~  
orchestra married nine ~~evergreens~~ pleasure news ~~overtaking~~ ~~background~~ bath line box rocks  
three chestnut carthorse dreads poplar horse one gun sadder treasure angered pine squeeze

6. “Abolish six couples that are as bright and light.” These are rhyming pairs –  
path/bath, box/rocks, trees/squeeze, treasure/pleasure, hunt/front, dig/pig.

~~trees~~ admirer shoe ~~dig~~ ~~pig~~ replays life seventy powder pipe thirty ~~hunt~~ asphalt beech listen  
seven hundred spruce iron letter silent roads maple sky ~~front~~ sun ~~path~~ boat enraged birch  
shade sycamore parsley orchestra married nine pleasure news bath line box rocks three  
chestnut carthorse dreads poplar horse one gun sadder ~~treasure~~ angered pine ~~squeeze~~

7. “Remove six pairs that join as catch to phrase.” These are words that can be  
combined to make longer words – horse-shoe, gun-powder, sun-shade, news-letter,  
pipe-line, life-boat.

admirer ~~shoe~~ ~~replays~~ ~~life~~ ~~seventy~~ ~~powder~~ ~~pipe~~ thirty asphalt beech listen seven hundred  
spruce iron ~~letter~~ silent roads maple sky sun boat enraged birch shade ~~sycamore~~ parsley  
orchestra married nine ~~news~~ ~~line~~ three chestnut carthorse dreads poplar ~~horse~~ one ~~gun~~  
sadder angered pine

8. “Take out six couples that are each other in confusion.” These are anagrams –  
carthorse/orchestra, replays/parsley, admirer/married, listen/silent, angered/enraged,  
sadder/dreads.

~~admirer~~ ~~replays~~ seventy thirty asphalt beech listen seven hundred spruce iron silent roads  
maple sky ~~enraged~~ birch sycamore ~~parsley~~ ~~orchestra~~ ~~married~~ nine three chestnut ~~carthorse~~  
~~dreads~~ poplar one ~~sadder~~ ~~angered~~ ~~pine~~

9. “Subtract seven numbers.” Again fairly obvious.

~~seventy~~ ~~thirty~~ asphalt beech ~~seven~~ ~~hundred~~ spruce iron roads maple sky birch sycamore ~~nine~~  
~~three~~ chestnut poplar ~~one~~ pine

10. “Put an axe to the eight trees.” And another easy one to finish.

asphalt ~~beech~~ ~~spruce~~ iron roads ~~maple~~-sky ~~birch~~ sycamore ~~chestnut~~ poplar ~~pine~~

So we are left with

asphalt iron roads sky [WRD1]

# Beyond The Fair

There are several clues that the Hunt continues beyond Leith Hill.

1. The Fool has not yet met all the other characters from the Major Arcana in the Tarot pack
2. There is additional information on the card that you find at Leith Hill, hinting at the point above.
3. There is no use for the solution to the “Word List” puzzle.
4. At the Refreshments stall an unaccountable reference is made to Bodger’s Barley Wine from the Chiltern Brewery.
5. If you return to the Entrance to the fair then Victoria hints that there is an exit “behind the mo...”.

## The Exit

If you find the hotspot on the motorcycle at the Wall of Death then you reach the Exit from the Fair, which is guarded by the Justice character from the Tarot. His scales contain two clues. The first is the logo of Ordnance Survey<sup>58</sup> and the number 165, indicating that Landranger sheet 165 “Aylesbury and Leighton Buzzard” should be used [EXT1].

In the other scale is the logo of Holiday Inns. The Holiday Inn just outside Aylesbury is one of the five points that are used to indicate the start of the trail to the second box. These five points are to be arranged in the form of a pentagram, and there are various references to pentagrams in the pages that follow.

Justice tells you to “Take the four words you have left in order to introduce Michael Mackenzie”. Michael Mackenzie played Tarot in the 1970s children’s TV series *Ace of Wands*<sup>59</sup>. If you look at the words of the title song to the TV series you come to verse 4:

Iron roads  
Asphalt sky  
Windows made from water  
Son of secrets - mystery's child  
Ruler of eight quarters

So the order for the four words obtained from the “Word List” above, and hence the password out of the fair is “IronRoadsAsphaltSky” [EXT2]. Note that the card you find in the first treasure box is indeed the Ace of Wands, providing an additional hint.

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<sup>58</sup> <http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/>

<sup>59</sup> <http://www.aceofwands.net/>

The Tarot cards handed out by the Judge and subsequent characters form a code that uses the minor Arcana<sup>60</sup>. The suits are taken in the order Wands, Cups, Swords and Coins, which is given in the very first page when the Magician conjures the items from the Fool's pack. Letters are assigned from Ace to King, giving a possibility of two cards for each letter. In this and subsequent pages the Fool is given the 3 of Cups, Ace of Wands, 8 of Coins, Queen of Wands, 3 of Swords, 2 of Cups, 2 of Coins, King of Wands, 2 of Swords and 5 of Wands, which all decodes to "Paul Coombe". This shows the relationship between my name and that of the final treasure site as well as acting as my signature to the Hunt as a whole [EXT3].

## Star

At the next page, the Fool finds out that the beautiful blonde he has met at various places in the fairground is the one shown on the Star Tarot card. She says she is called Cymbeline – Cymbeline's Castle, a prehistoric fort, is the second point making up the Treasure Pentagram.

The flags of Morocco and Ethiopia both show pentagrams<sup>61</sup> [STA1].

The letters in the claws of the crayfish spell "Aston Hill", the third point in the Pentagram.

The signposts on this and subsequent pages name Magersfontein, Stormberg and Colenso, early engagements in the Second Boer War, in which the British came off rather badly and in which the men of Buckinghamshire commemorated in the monument on Coombe Hill may well have perished<sup>62</sup> [STA2].

"We are the priests of the temples of Syrinx. Our great computers fill the hallowed halls" is a quotation from the lyrics of the album *2112* by Rush<sup>63</sup>, which has a pentagram on the cover<sup>64</sup> [STA3].

The picture of the Microsoft paperclip, the black and white flag (of an independent Cornwall) and the "No Waiting" sign are clues to the answers to the questions – see below.

## Moon

The middle section on the city of Octavia is taken directly from *Invisible Cities* – I rather liked the thought of a world wholly dependent on a Net [MOO1]. The red

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<sup>60</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minor\\_arcana](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minor_arcana)

<sup>61</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pentagram>

<sup>62</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second\\_Boer\\_War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Boer_War)

<sup>63</sup> [http://www.lyricsfreak.com/r/rush/2112\\_20119899.html](http://www.lyricsfreak.com/r/rush/2112_20119899.html)

<sup>64</sup> <http://www.amazon.com/2112-Rush/dp/B000001ESE>

letters spelled backwards say “Shield of Sir Gawain”, a reference to the Arthurian hero, who had a pentagram on his shield<sup>65</sup> [MOO2].

### **Judgement**

Now we enter the territory of the Judgement card of the Tarot. On the trumpet are the words “Standals Farm”, the fourth point on the Treasure Pentagram.

*Sweet Child* is the name of an album by folk-jazz band Pentangle – a pentangle is another name for a pentagram, and one is shown on the cover of *Sweet Child*<sup>66</sup> [JUD1].

The picture of Peter Pan is a clue to the answer to the question – see below.

### **World**

The final card from the Tarot is The World. The fish is a mullet, which in heraldry is another name for a pentagram<sup>67</sup> [WOR1].

Taking the initial letters of the sentence “Some meetings are lucky” yields Smalldene Farm, the final point in the pentagram that locates the start of the treasure trail [WOR2].

The atom, Sherlock Holmes and the calculator are clues to the answers to the questions – see below.

### **Treasure Trail**

Firstly we have to draw the pentagram between the appropriate sites on OS Landranger sheet 165 [WOR3].

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<sup>65</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pentagram>

<sup>66</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sweet\\_Child](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sweet_Child)

<sup>67</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pentagram>



In the middle is World's End, named after what looks to once have been a nice pub but which is now an antiques shop.

We now accompany the travellers on a trail from the World's End to the treasure site at the top of Coombe Hill. This trail has largely been included for aesthetic purposes – it is far easier to drive closer to Coombe Hill than to face this long, muddy and not particularly scenic walk.

At the treasure site you find another box containing a card in the form of the Ace of Coins from the Tarot pack. And that's all there is to it!

# The Questions

These are listed under the various locations where they are set. Note that where answers have to be concatenated to make passwords, there are still marks available for each individual question. There is a full list of passwords later in these Answers.

## Castle

1. What was playing at 6am on February 2nd?

***I Got You Babe***. It's the song that woke Bill Murray every morning in the film *Groundhog Day*<sup>68</sup>[Q1].

2. What is unavailable at the fruiterers run by a Greek man who never says 'no'?

**Bananas**. From the song *Yes! We Have No Bananas*<sup>69</sup>[Q2]

There's a fruit store on our street  
It's run by a Greek.  
And he keeps good things to eat  
But you should hear him speak!  
When you ask him anything, he never answers "no".  
He just "yes"es you to death,  
And as he takes your dough, he tells you...  
"Yes! We have no bananas  
We have no bananas today! (Frank Silver and Irving Cohn)

3. What was the best film of 1944?

***Airport***. Critic Judith Crist gave this view of the 1970 epic<sup>70</sup>[Q3].

## Tavern

1. Whose impression of a moped became an annoying thing?

**Daniel Malmédahl**. This Swedish man was responsible for a sound effect that was later used by Erik Wernquist in his 3D animation *The Annoying Thing*. This in turn was picked up by German company Jamba! as a ringtone and marketed under the name of Crazy Frog. The rest is history<sup>71</sup>[Q4].

4. What is like a pyrrole with thirty-three instead of seven?

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<sup>68</sup> <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0107048/>

<sup>69</sup> <http://www.geocities.com/Cag03/NovYesBanana.html>

<sup>70</sup> <http://www.rovers.net/~ozus/airport.htm>

<sup>71</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crazy\\_Frog](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crazy_Frog)

**Arsole** or C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>5</sub>As which is described as like pyrrole except that an arsenic atom (atomic number 33) is substituted for the nitrogen atom (atomic number 7). Reportedly, arsole is only mildly aromatic<sup>72</sup>[Q5].

5. Who began a speech with the words “Friends, Romans and countrymen, lend me your ears.”?

The **Bellman** in Lewis Carroll’s *The Hunting of the Snark*. Shakespeare did not place the word ‘and’ into Mark Anthony’s speech<sup>73</sup>[Q6].

Friends, Romans and countrymen, lend me your ears!”  
(They were all of them fond of quotations:  
So they drank to his health, and they gave him three cheers,  
While he served out additional rations).

Answers 2, 3, 4 and 5 should be entered onto the ticket to give the password to the entrance to the fair, **Solitaire**.

### Helter-Skelter

1. Which team wears something originally lent to them by the South Bank that could be described as a product of Hunt’s Bay alternating with the alleged siblings behind *De Stijl*?

**Sunderland** Football Club. Hunt’s Bay (Jamaica) is the site of the Red Stripe brewery<sup>74</sup> and *De Stijl* was the second album by US duo The White Stripes, who once claimed to be brother and sister until their divorce papers were reproduced on a website<sup>75</sup>. “Sunderland began playing in an all-blue kit, but changed to red-and-white stripes in 1887. This is because they had run into financial difficulty and asked for help from their neighbours, fellow North-East side South Bank FC, who donated some red-and-white striped kits, complete with black shorts, and Sunderland have been wearing those colours ever since”<sup>76</sup>[Q7].

2. Which group of stars prevents you from printing money?

The **EURion** constellation. This a pattern of symbols found on a number of banknote designs since about 1996. Software can then block photocopier users from reproducing such notes and so prevent counterfeiting<sup>77</sup> [Q27].

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<sup>72</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arsole>

<sup>73</sup> <http://www.literature.org/authors/carroll-lewis/the-hunting-of-the-snark/chapter-02.html>

<sup>74</sup> [http://everything2.com/index.pl?node\\_id=29646&lastnode\\_id=0](http://everything2.com/index.pl?node_id=29646&lastnode_id=0)

<sup>75</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White\\_stripes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_stripes)

<sup>76</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunderland\\_A.F.C.](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunderland_A.F.C.)

<sup>77</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eurion>

3. Which albino reigned for the same number of days as the steps leading to the church at St. Vincent College, Latrobe?

Cardinal Albino **Luciani**, better known as Pope John Paul I, was elected on August 26, 1978 but died on September 28, a total reign of 33 days<sup>78</sup>. There are 33 steps to the church at Latrobe, home of the Rolling Rock brewery; some say this is why the number 33 is printed on each bottle<sup>79</sup> [Q9].

### Acrobats

1. A chat linked two sisters named after Naples and where?

**Florence.** Florence Nightingale's sister Parthenope was named after a Greek settlement, itself the name of a mythological siren and now part of the city of Naples<sup>80</sup>. The nightingale is a member of the chat family of birds<sup>81</sup> [Q10].

2. What do these animals have in common: blackbird, walrus, pony, racoon, octopus?

The **Beatles**. They all appear in Beatles song titles – *Blackbird*, *I Am The Walrus*, *Dig a Pony*, *Rocky Racoon* and *Octopus's Garden*. I could also have added *Piggies* and, more obscurely, monkeys (*Everybody's Got Something To Hide Except Me and My Monkey* and *Too Much Monkey Business*)<sup>82</sup> [Q11].

3. For whom did IPO =  $\$e \cdot 10^9$ ?

**Google.** They claimed they intended to raise \$2,718,281,828 with their Initial Public Offer in 2004. This was a joke, the number being a billion times the value of the irrational constant  $e$ <sup>83</sup> [Q12].

### Big Wheel

1. If there is a connection between Sir Andrew Ffoulkes, Leo Baxendale, Hal Jordan, Zbigniew Zamachowski and Roy Wood then which bird is missing?

Mrs **Peacock**. Sir Andrew Ffoulkes is second-in-command to Sir Percy Blakeney, the SCARLET Pimpernel<sup>84</sup>; Leo Baxendale created Little PLUM

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<sup>78</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope\\_John\\_Paul\\_I](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope_John_Paul_I)

<sup>79</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolling\\_Rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rolling_Rock)

<sup>80</sup> <http://www.florence-nightingale.co.uk/flo2.htm>

<sup>81</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nightingale>

<sup>82</sup> <http://www.iamthebeatles.com/article1314.html>

<sup>83</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Google](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Google)

<sup>84</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Scarlet\\_Pimpernel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Scarlet_Pimpernel)

“your redskin chum” in *The Beano*<sup>85</sup>; Hal Jordan is the real name of one incarnation of the comic superhero GREEN Lantern<sup>86</sup>; Zbigniew Zamachowski plays the lead role of Karol Karol in the Krzysztof Kieślowski film *Three Colours: WHITE*<sup>87</sup>; and *MUSTARD* is a solo album by Roy Wood of the Move, ELO and Wizzard fame<sup>88</sup>. The connection is the suspects in the game of *Cluedo*: Miss Scarlet, Professor Plum, Reverend Green, Mrs White, and Colonel Mustard, the missing one being Mrs Peacock [Q13].

2. What is the colour of the line used by Mr Grey, Mr Blue, Mr Brown and Mr Green?

**Green.** The reference is to *The Taking of Pelham One Two Three*<sup>89</sup> in which some villains hijack a subway train, and from which Quentin Tarantino evidently got an idea for *Reservoir Dogs*. The number 6 (Lexington Avenue Local) line was used in the film and is coloured green on New York Subway maps<sup>90</sup> [Q14].

3. Which of Shakespeare’s words starts with an x?

**Xanthippe.** Wife of Socrates, she is mentioned in *The Taming of the Shrew*. This is the only word beginning with X in all of Shakespeare’s poetry and plays,<sup>91</sup> despite the US website that lists xi, as in King Louis XI [Q15].

## Gallopers

1. A cruel man had an arrogant mother, a pretty sister, a saintly brother (who was a good king), and a blind grandson. How would you describe his son?

**Pious.** Boleslaus I the Cruel<sup>92</sup>, was duke of Bohemia. His mother was Drahomíra the Arrogant<sup>93</sup>, his sister Strezislava the Pretty<sup>94</sup>, his brother Saint

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<sup>85</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leo\\_Baxendale](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leo_Baxendale)

<sup>86</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green\\_Lantern](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_Lantern)

<sup>87</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three\\_Colors:\\_White\\_%28movie%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three_Colors:_White_%28movie%29)

<sup>88</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roy\\_Wood](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roy_Wood)

<sup>89</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Taking\\_of\\_Pelham\\_One\\_Two\\_Three\\_%28film%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Taking_of_Pelham_One_Two_Three_%28film%29)

<sup>90</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IRT\\_Lexington\\_Avenue\\_Line](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IRT_Lexington_Avenue_Line)

<sup>91</sup> <http://www.opensourceshakespeare.org/concordance/wordformlist.php?Letter=X>

<sup>92</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boleslav\\_I\\_of\\_Bohemia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boleslav_I_of_Bohemia)

<sup>93</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drahomira>

<sup>94</sup> <http://www.drobrock.com/genealogy/4147.html>

Wenceslaus<sup>95</sup> of Christmas carol fame, his son Boleslaus II the Pious<sup>96</sup>, and his grandson Boleslaus III the Blind (or the Red)<sup>97</sup> [Q16].

2. Where might Ismail Merchant, Thelonus Monk, Christopher Reeve, Gladys Knight, Peter Cook, Aretha Franklin and Sienna Miller have been heading?

**Canterbury.** The people in the question all have medieval professions as surnames, and someone from each of these professions had a tale to tell in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*<sup>98</sup> [Q17].

3. A 17th-century Armenian alchemist's failed attempts to find the philosophers stone resulted in the establishment of a company patronised by the subject of a song by Apollo 440. What do they make?

**Cymbals.** "The first Zildjian cymbals were created in 1618 in Istanbul by an Armenian man named Avedis, who, while looking for a way to turn base metal into gold, created an alloy combining tin, copper, and silver into a sheet of metal that could make musical sounds without shattering. Avedis took the surname of *Zildjian*, from Turkish "zil+ci" (cymbal-maker/seller) and the Armenian suffix "yan" (son of), and began an industry in 1623 whose main product remained secretive for generations.<sup>99</sup>" "*Krupa* is a 1997 song by the British techno/rock band Apollo 440. The song is a homage to the Polish-American drummer Gene Krupa. The main focus is on the drumming rhythms, which pay homage to Gene Krupa's improvised style of drumming. The only lyrics are "yeah yeah" and "back to Gene Krupa's syncopated style" (a sample from dialogue in the film *Taxi Driver*)<sup>100</sup>. "Krupa ... developed and popularised many of the cymbal techniques that became standards. His collaboration with Armand Zildjian of the Avedis Zildjian Company developed the hi-hat stand and standardized the names and uses of the ride cymbal, the crash cymbal, the splash cymbal, the pang cymbal and the swish cymbal."<sup>101</sup> [Q18]

## Refreshments Van

1. What is a wand-shaped rod used as a measure of around thirty acres<sup>102</sup>?

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<sup>95</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint\\_Wenceslaus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Wenceslaus)

<sup>96</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boleslaus\\_II\\_of\\_Bohemia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boleslaus_II_of_Bohemia)

<sup>97</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boleslaus\\_III\\_of\\_Bohemia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boleslaus_III_of_Bohemia)

<sup>98</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canterbury\\_Tales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canterbury_Tales)

<sup>99</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zildjian>

<sup>100</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Krupa\\_%28song%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Krupa_%28song%29)

<sup>101</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gene\\_Krupa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gene_Krupa)

<sup>102</sup> <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/virgate>

**Virgate.** The word means a measure of land of around 30 acres, a rod or pole used as a measure, and wand-shaped when describing a stem or branch<sup>103</sup> [Q19].

2. What is the first of the three words that will allow access to the Necronomicon and stop the giant robot?

**Klaatu.** The first reference is to the film *Army of Darkness*, in which the lead character unfortunately forgets the correct words, “Klaatu Barada Nikto”, and releases the evil dead. The other reference is to the source of these magical words, *The Day the World Stood Still*, in which a humanoid alien comes to Earth in order to warn its leaders not to take their conflicts into space. Wikipedia lists countless other places where this meaningless phrase has been used<sup>104</sup> [Q20].

3. In Greek they are inactive, new, sun, stranger and hidden – so which one is missing?

**Radon.** The names of the “noble gases” – Argon, Neon, Helium, Xenon and Krypton respectively are derived from Greek words while Radon is derived from the Latin for ray.<sup>105</sup> [Q21].

### Haunted House

1. Who tore himself in half shortly after denying that he was called Conrad or Harry?

**Rumpelstiltskin** in the Grimm fairy tale<sup>106</sup> [Q22].

2. Which number concludes this series? 1110, 27, 11, 6, 3, 5.

**4** - each is the number of letters required to spell out the number before [Q23].

3. What name is given to a lift in a pawnshop?

**Spout.** The lift is used to take articles upstairs for storage. Hence the term ‘up the spout’ which originally applied to articles that were useless unless redeemed<sup>107</sup> [Q24].

### Tunnel of Love

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<sup>103</sup> <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/virgate>

<sup>104</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Klaatu\\_barada\\_nikto](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Klaatu_barada_nikto)

<sup>105</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_chemical\\_element\\_name\\_etymologies](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_chemical_element_name_etymologies)

<sup>106</sup> <http://www.umich.edu/~umfandsf/other/ebooks/Grimm/044.txt>

<sup>107</sup> <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/spout>

1. I own something which features some wickerwork, an audible warning, and many other pleasing adornments. Much as I'd like donate this thing to you, I only have it on loan myself. What is it?

A **bike**. Pink Floyd's song *Bike*, composed by the late Syd Barratt<sup>108</sup> [Q25].

I've got a bike  
You can ride it if you like  
It's got a basket, a bell that rings,  
And things that make it look good.  
I'd give it to you if I could,  
But I borrowed it.

2. If there is a connection between Daphne (a.k.a. Jerry), a pink ear, Korova, a Japanese dreadnought, Riesenrad, and Yoko Ono then what size were her shoes?

**9.** The connection is citrus fruit. Jerry is the character played by Jack LEMMON in *Some Like It Hot*, who later dresses as a woman called Daphne<sup>109</sup>. Early albums by the German electronic music group TANGERINE Dream were released on the Ohr (Ear) label, whose logo was a pink ear<sup>110</sup>. The Korova Milk Bar is where Alex and his gang hang out in *A Clockwork ORANGE*<sup>111</sup>. The Japanese dreadnought *SATSUMA* was launched in 1905 and was the largest battleship in the world at that time<sup>112</sup>. Riesenrad is the name of the Ferris Wheel in the Prater Gardens, Vienna<sup>113</sup> where Harry LIME rides with Rollo Martins in *The Third Man*<sup>114</sup>. Yoko Ono produced a book of poems called *GRAPEFRUIT: A Book of Instructions and Drawings* in 1970<sup>115</sup>. And according to the song *My Darling CLEMENTINE*, "her shoes were number nine"<sup>116</sup> [Q26].

3. On what day of the year would you talk like Robert Newton at 826 Valencia?

**September 19.** 826 Valencia is the location of "San Francisco's only independent pirate store", selling pirate clothing, eyepatches, compasses, spyglasses, pirate dice, skull flags, secret treasures and the like<sup>117</sup>. 19 September

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<sup>108</sup> <http://www.lyrics007.com/Pink%20Floyd%20Lyrics/Bike%20Lyrics.html>

<sup>109</sup> <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0053291/>

<sup>110</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tangerine\\_Dream](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tangerine_Dream)

<sup>111</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Korova\\_Milk\\_Bar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Korova_Milk_Bar)

<sup>112</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese\\_battleship\\_Satsuma](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_battleship_Satsuma)

<sup>113</sup> <http://www.wien.info/prater/index-e.html>

<sup>114</sup> <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0041959/>

<sup>115</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yoko\\_Ono](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yoko_Ono)

<sup>116</sup> <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/kids/lyrics/clementine.htm>

<sup>117</sup> <http://www.826valencia.org/store/>

is “International Talk Like A Pirate Day” on which timbers are shivered worldwide<sup>118</sup>. Robert Newton (who played Long John Silver in the 1950 Disney version of *Treasure Island*) is its patron [Q8].

### Dodgems

1. If you can colour Vienna, Ottawa, Ankara, Tokyo, Bern, Jakarta, Tunis, Warsaw and Monte Carlo in the same way then which European capital can be added to the list?

**Copenhagen.** They are all capitals of countries whose flags consist solely of red and white – Austria, Canada, Turkey, Japan, Switzerland, Indonesia, Tunisia, Poland and Monaco<sup>119</sup>. I could also have added the capitals of Bahrain, Singapore and Tonga [Q28].

2. If the same thing can be added to opera, divide, be, via, and fie then which butterfly can be added to the list?

**Comma.** All these words can have ‘nd’ appended in order to form other words [Q29]. A comma is a species of butterfly common in the UK<sup>120</sup>.

3. What is 3½” less wide than Wordsworth’s pond, and around 1408 Legonian feet long?

**Wallpaper.** Wordsworth’s pond is the one he refers to in *The Thorn*<sup>121</sup>:

And to the left, three yards beyond,  
You see a little muddy pond  
Of water, never dry,  
I've measured it from side to side:  
'Tis three feet long, and two feet wide.

Legonia is the country occupied by the figures included in Lego sets. Three English feet correspond to 128 Legonian feet<sup>122</sup>. A standard roll of wallpaper is around 20.5 inches wide and 32.8 feet long<sup>123</sup> [Q30].

### Try Your Strength

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<sup>118</sup> <http://www.talklikeapirate.com/>

<sup>119</sup> <http://www.flags.net/>

<sup>120</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comma\\_%28butterfly%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comma_%28butterfly%29)

<sup>121</sup> <http://homepages.wmich.edu/~cooneys/poems/bad/Wordsworth.thorn.html>

<sup>122</sup> <http://www.integrity.com/homes/tomandkaren/LegonianMeasurement/>

<sup>123</sup> <http://www.suite101.com/lesson.cfm/17453/723/2>

1. What single word means 16.00?

**Brillig.** See Lewis Carroll’s poem *Jabberwocky*<sup>124</sup> in *Through the Looking Glass* [Q31].

2. What is .. -. - .-. .-. .-. .... .. --- .-. .-. .-. ...?

A **palindrome**. “Intransigence” is the longest word that is a palindrome in Morse Code, if the spaces between letters are not taken into account. If they are then the longest word is “footstool” (..-. --- --- - ... - --- --- .-.)<sup>125</sup> [Q32].

3. Which musician caught toxoplasmosis after giving the kiss of life to a sheep?

Roy **Harper**<sup>126</sup>, the folky seventies singer/songwriter. The case was even mentioned in the House of Lords<sup>127</sup> [Q33].

### Wall of Death

1. On whom would you find the figure 9 in an imaginary language opposite a commitment to Sheffield United?

Sean **Bean**. They are his tattoos, one on each shoulder. All of the nine cast members forming the ‘fellowship’ in the film of *Lord of the Rings* were decorated with the same tattoo of number 9 in Elvish. Mr Bean’s other shoulder is inscribed “100% Blade”<sup>128</sup> [Q34].

2. On 29 February 1940 the New York Times announced that which slave of duty had finally completed his apprenticeship?

**Frederic**. This is a character in the *Pirates of Penzance* (subtitle *The Slave of Duty*) who signs up to be a pirate until his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Unfortunately the Pirate King points out that because he was born on 29 February he will not be able to leave the gang and marry his beloved Mabel until 1940, when he will be in his eighties. This date was announced in The New York Times<sup>129</sup>. Isaac Asimov wrote a short story which revolves around whether the action in *The Pirates of Penzance* takes place on March 1, 1873, or March 1, 1877 depending on whether WS Gilbert did or did not know that 1900 was not to be a leap year [Q35].

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<sup>124</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jabberwocky>

<sup>125</sup> <http://www.a-z-dictionaries.com/blog/a-collection-of-word-oddities-and-trivia-page-2/>

<sup>126</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roy\\_Harper](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roy_Harper)

<sup>127</sup> <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld199495/ldhansrd/vo941213/text/41213-23.htm>

<sup>128</sup> <http://www.compleatseanbean.com/sean-bio.html>

<sup>129</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pirates\\_of\\_penzance](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pirates_of_penzance)

3. What is Jeffrey T Spaulding’s middle name?

**Edgar.** In the Marx Brothers film *Animal Crackers* is this piece of dialogue<sup>130</sup> [Q36].

Spaulding: Well, now that I've got you in hysterics, let's get down to business. My name is Spaulding, Captain Spaulding.  
Chandler: I am Roscoe W. Chandler.  
Spaulding: And I am Jeffrey T. Spaulding. I betcha don't know what the 'T' stands for.  
Chandler: Uh, Thomas?  
Spaulding: Edgar. You were close though. You were close, though, and you still are, I'll bet. Now this is what I want to talk to you about, Mr. Chandler. How would you like to finance a scientific expedition?

### Moon

1. If the Office cat is called Links and the dog is called Rocky then what is the name of the robot?

**F1.** It is not widely known that “Clippie”, the annoying paperclip that pops up when using Microsoft applications, has a number of other incarnations including a dot, a robot called F1 (“first of the 300/M series”), a dog called Rocky, Merlin, Mother Nature and a cat called Links. You can see them by selecting Help in Word and checking “Show the Office Assistant” (don’t worry, you can always turn it off again). Right click on the paperclip and select “Options” then “Gallery”. The list possibly varies according to which version of Office you are using [Q37].

2. In which language does Paul remember Dolly?

**Cornish.** Paul is a village in Cornwall where there is a memorial to Dolly Pentreath, reputedly the last native Cornish speaker. This memorial was placed there by Louis Lucien Bonaparte, a relative of Napoleon Bonaparte, in the 19th Century<sup>131</sup> [Q38].

3. What was the surname of Meta, who became more famous as Rita?

**Davis.** According to legend, parking warden Meta Davis ticketed Paul McCartney, who was then inspired to write the song *Lovely Rita*<sup>132</sup> [Q39].

### Judgement

1. Phoebe and Valentine met on stage in 1901 and became sweethearts in 1936, remaining as Major and Miss until 2000. Where?

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<sup>130</sup> <http://www.filmsite.org/anim2.html>

<sup>131</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dolly\\_Pentreath](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dolly_Pentreath)

<sup>132</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lovely\\_Rita](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lovely_Rita)

**Quality Street.** The confectionery brand was launched following the popularity of JM Barrie’s play *Quality Street*. The packaging originally featured the two principal characters, Phoebe Throssel and Valentine Brown, but they were removed to give the boxes and tins a more modern look in 2000<sup>133</sup> [Q40].

## World

1. I am Glen, a small and sticky member of a model family of four brothers. Phil will live the longest. However, I’m stronger than the twins, Walter and Zachary. Although many are looking for other members of my family, none have yet been seen. So what am I?

A **Gluon**, one of the standard model of gauge bosons. Walter and Zachary are twins because they correspond to the W and Z bosons - mediating the weak force. Phil corresponds to a photon – with a greater half-life than W and Z – about  $3 \times 10^{-25}$  seconds. I am stronger than Walter and Zachary, so must correspond to a gluon, which mediates the strong force<sup>134</sup> [Q41].

2. If THOTB is D, TFP is O, TGI is Y and TSN is L then what is E?

**TRS**, standing for *The Reigate Squire*. The reference is to the set of UK stamps issued in 1993, illustrating various Sherlock Holmes stories, including *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *The Final Problem*, *The Greek Interpreter*, *The Six Napoleons* and *The Reigate Squire*. Each stamp had a letter from the word DOYLE hidden in it, visible Holmes-style only by using a magnifying glass [Q42]<sup>135</sup>.

3. Which word is pluralised by adding 330 to 35006?

**Goose.** 35006 looks like gOOSE if you enter it into a calculator and turn it upside down. Add 330 and you get 35336 or gEESE [Q43].

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<sup>133</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quality\\_Street\\_%28confection%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quality_Street_%28confection%29)

<sup>134</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gauge\\_boson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gauge_boson)

<sup>135</sup> <http://www.trussel.com/detfic/sherlock.htm>

## Passwords

The following table shows all the passwords needed to enter the encoded pages:

Encoded Page	Password Page	Password
Castle Exit	Castle Entry	IGotYouBabe
Tavern Exit	Tavern Entry	Malmedahl
Entrance Exit	Entrance Entry	Solitaire
Acrobats Exit	Acrobats Entry	FlorenceBeatlesGoogle
Big Wheel Exit	Big Wheel Entry	PeacockGreenXanthippe
Death Exit	Death Entry	BeanFredericEdgar
Dodgems Exit	Dodgems Entry	CopenhagenCommaWallpaper
Gallopers Exit	Gallopers Entry	PiousCanterburyCymbals
Helter Skelter Exit	Helter Skelter Entry	SunderlandEurionLuciani
House Exit	House Entry	Rumpelstiltskin4Spout
Love Exit	Love Entry	Bike9September19
Refreshments Exit	Refreshments Entry	VirgateKlaatuRadon
Strength Exit	Strength Entry	BrilligPalindromeHarper
Star Exit	Star Entry	IronRoadsAsphaltSky
Moon Exit	Moon Entry	F1CornishDavis
Judgement Exit	Judgement Entry	QualityStreet
World Exit	World Entry	GluonTRSGoose

## Red Herrings

I inserted a few files with tempting names, containing misleading text, maps and instructions. I hope no one fell for these.