

PABLO ARMCHAIR TREASURE HUNT 2023



Muddy are the ways
Rain envelopes the Hunter
At the tree Hoorays

Psychologicals



Contents

Poster	2
https://beetsath.wixsite.com/home	2
pablo.....	2
pablo/a.....	2
pablo/b.....	2
pablo/c.....	2
pablo/d.....	2
pablo/e.....	2
velmadinkley	3
norvillerogers.....	3
daphneblake.....	3
scoobertdoo	3
fredjones.....	3
Other URLs	4
Mini Poster.....	5
Letter.....	5
X – Essentials.....	6
Inspection Passed.....	6
New Rules for Tools	6
Guards v Inmates Football Match	6
Sign our Petition	6
The Point of View.....	6
In Memoriam.....	7
Doing Bird.....	7
Uncle Angst.....	8
Fancy Dress Champions	8
A Word from the Editor.....	8
Carol Concert / Faengsal Christmas Carol Service	9
Theatre Review.....	10
Poetry Corner	10
Lecture Series 2023	10
Embedded Puzzles.....	11
Puzzle Pages.....	14
Unleash Your Inner Detective (UYID).....	14
Riddle.....	14
Quiz.....	15
Crossword	16
Sudoku	17
Codeword	17
Nonogram.....	17
Colouring Competition:	17
Wordsearch	18
X - Wing Class of 2023	19
GeraldWily X (Twitter) posts	20
GeraldWily FlickrR Images	23
Finding the treasure	24
Søren Kierkegaard X (Twitter) posts	27
Teaser.....	29
Main Themes.....	30

Poster

The main poster's image is the tree in Happy Valley where the treasure was hidden.

The quote is a slightly altered one by Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard. "It is not the path which is the difficulty;

<https://beetsath.wixsite.com/home>

You are standing on a street corner in the rain. It is late at night and there is nobody around.

You look at your watch. It is just after midnight.

You become aware that you are being watched. A voice comes from a dark doorway.

"You're out awfully late. And right on my usual corner too. Who sent you?"

Go to beetsath.wixsite.com/youranswer

pablo

"I thought he might have done. I've got something for you."

A surprisingly well-dressed figure steps out of the shadows and hands you an envelope.

You open the envelope and hold the letter inside close to your body to shield it from the rain. You start to read.

"I know I'm the last person you would expect to hear from, but I need your help."

You look up. The well-dressed messenger has already disappeared. You continue to read the letter.

"I need to hire an investigator. And I know to my cost that you and your team are the best there is. I can explain more in person. Please come to see me at Faengsel Prison. I've put your name on my visitor list."

You check the back of the paper and look again in the envelope to check whether you missed anything, but that is all there is.

You have no idea who the message could be from. You wonder if you should tell the rest of the gang, but decide against it. You suspect that someone could be toying with you, so you want to wait before you get them involved.

Back at your flat, you read the note again. You decide to accept the invitation to visit the prison. You are intrigued by

how this person tracked you down. Plus, you have never been to a prison before and are curious to see what it is like.

Whoever this person is, they are in prison and it is nearly Christmas, so you think it would be polite to take a small gift to your prison visit. But what should you take? You think about what you would want if you were locked up.

Choose your gift: (*these are descriptions of [Scooby-Doo](#) characters*)

- A good book (*Velma likes to read*)
- A pack of smokes (*Norville smokes cigarettes*)
- A compact mirror - the prisoner will want to make sure they are looking their best (*Daphne checks her make-up*)
- Snacks (*Scooby Snacks*)
- An accessory to liven up the prison uniform (*orange Ascot tie*)

The next day you hail a taxi to take you to the prison.

pablo/a	pablo/b	pablo/c	pablo/d	pablo/e
Velma Dinkley	Norville Rogers	Daphne Blake	Scoobert Doo	Fred Jones
The taxi driver is getting a bit too familiar on the journey. "What's a <u>pretty girl</u> like you doing <u>wearing glasses</u> ? If you got some contact lenses you'd be a right stunner." You ignore him and try to read your <u>book</u> . You are already feeling nervous and the driver is not helping. You start to sweat and wish you had not worn such a <u>thick jumper</u> .	The taxi driver looks you up and down. "'Not being funny mate, but... <u>scruffy bloke</u> like you, going to visit some criminal in prison... I'm going to need the fare up front.'" You pay him without arguing. Sitting in the back seat, you scratch your chin and wonder if maybe you <u>should have had a shave</u> and smartened up a bit.	The taxi driver spends the entire journey trying to chat you up. "'I've always had a thing for <u>redheads</u> - just ask my ex-wife. What's a <u>stunner</u> like you doing visiting a prison? He's a lucky guy, whoever he is.'" You look down at your dress and wonder if you should have dressed down, but that isn't your style.	You drop the letter with the name of the prison and some cash for the fare through the window of the taxi, and then look at the driver with <u>pleading eyes</u> . "What's this then? You want a ride in my cab? And you're all by yourself? Well I never, always something new in this job. OK, get in the back and try not to get too much <u>fur</u> on the seat.	The taxi driver is looking at you in his mirror. "' <u>Smart-looking fella</u> like you - you don't look the type to have friends behind bars.'" You feel awkward. You start to wish that you had told the rest of the gang after all. You tug nervously on your <u>ascot tie</u> and look out of the window until you arrive at the prison.

The photo of the London black cab is a stock image found on a lot of taxi-related websites.

The prison reception photo is [Toronto South Detention Centre](#)

You finally arrive at Faengsel Prison. You expected the reception to be full of visitors, but it is empty. You think you must have come on the wrong day. But the guard behind the desk is looking at you calmly and seems to have been expecting you. You approach him.

You check the guard's badge so you can address him politely, but there is no name - it just says Guard no. 198 (*Dewey Decimal System - [Scandinavian philosophers](#)*). So you just call him "Sir" and explain that you are here to visit a prisoner.

"Your name please?" he says, checking a book in front of him.

To progress, go to <https://beetsath.wixsite.com/yourname> *

* All lower case, no spaces

velmadinkley	norvilleroegers	daphneblake	scoobertdoo	fredjones
"Ah yes, here you are Ms Dinkley."	"Ah yes, here you are Mr Rogers."	"Ah yes, here you are Ms Blake."	"Ah yes, here you are Mr Doo."	"Ah yes, here you are Mr Jones."

He fills out a visitor's badge for you. You are visitor number 791.457 (*Dewey System - TV programmes*)

The guard leads you through a series of security doors and along interminable corridors. This place is a maze; you have completely lost your bearings.

Eventually you are shown into room 365 (*Dewey System - [Penal and Related Institutions](#)*). It is a tiny room with just enough room for a table and two chairs.

"Wait here," says the guard.

(After a few seconds trying to fit yourself into one of the chairs, you elect to sit on the floor instead.)

"Good boy," he adds as an afterthought before leaving you in the room by yourself.

He leaves you in the room by yourself. "

It seems like the guard is gone a long time. This small private room is not what you had imagined for a prison visit. You start to wish that you had brought the rest of the gang with you after all.

Finally, a man in a grey prison uniform is shown into the room. He looks vaguely familiar, but you cannot place him.

"Ten minutes," says the guard. He lingers in the doorway, but the prisoner stares at him silently until he leaves.

The man turns to you. "You don't remember me, do you?"

"No I'm afraid not. I... I brought you something." You hand over your gift, feeling somewhat embarrassed.

("Roh." You wish you had a gift to give him after all, to break the ice. But you got hungry and ate the snacks you brought on the cab ride over.)"

"Well, thanks. But I didn't invite you here for a Christmas reunion. (*not said to Scooby Doo*)

Like I said in my note, I want to hire you as an investigator. You and your whole team if possible."

"Who are you?" ("Roo - rah - roo?")

Your memory clicks into place.

"Old Man Wily!" (*Ronnie Barker aka Gerald Wily*) ("Roh - rah - riree!")

The prisoner thumps the desk with his fist. "Those bloody schoolkids! They were the ones who started calling me "Old Man" when I worked there. I was only 43! That nickname has somehow followed me around to this day and I hate it.

"Old Man" indeed - I'm in my prime (*GeraldWily Twitter hashtag; 43 is a prime number*) and don't you forget it!"

Wily is on his feet and waving his finger in your face. You wonder if that guard is somewhere close by, but Wily makes an obvious effort to calm himself down.

"Anyway, with everything they dug up on me since you unmasked me, I've spent the past ten years in here with that nickname getting more and more apt every year. But they didn't find out everything I'd been up to. Didn't you ever wonder why I was messing around pretending to be a vampire anyway?"

"We just thought that you hated the kids and wanted to scare them." ("Roo rate ruh rids?")

"Well I did hate those kids, awful little scrotes. But no, I wouldn't have gone to all that trouble just for that. We needed to scare people to keep them off school premises at night, so we wouldn't be disturbed."

"Disturbed doing what? And what do you mean "we"?" ("Roos ree?")

"I was recruited by a team. They needed a man on the inside and I was already working as a caretaker at the school, and somehow they knew my history and that I'd served time before. They needed me to help them get access to the treasure."

He pauses to watch your reaction to that word, but you play it cool, nonchalantly scratching yourself with your hind leg.

"When you unmasked me ten years ago, the plan fell apart. Too much heat, too much attention. There was no way the team could get to the treasure then. If I play my cards right, I'm due to get out of this place next year, and I thought if I just bided my time I could get back to the treasure when I was released. I was sent down for... other stuff. The cops never found out about the treasure....

"But my old accomplices have beaten me to it. My information is that they've already gone back and nabbed the treasure. It'll be too hot to cash it in right now, so they will have just moved it to another hiding place somewhere. But soon enough they will be able to sell it and I won't see a penny. I'm the one rotting in prison, having got caught on their job all those years ago, and they're going to cut me out of my share....

"That's where you come in. You and your little friends. I want to hire you to find the treasure before they can cash it in."

You start to protest but he cuts you off. "Oh I know you're not going to hand over the treasure to me. I know better than to try to offer to cut you in. You're too much of a goody two shoes to do anything but give it to the police. But if I'm not going to get my share, then neither are those double-crossing bastards."

"But how do you know that they've recently moved the treasure?" ("Row roo roo roh?")

“One of the old gang must be locked up in here with me (this is the prison guard). I know because I found a **notebook (pictures in Gerald Wily’s Flickr account)** in the prison library. It was all gibberish – codes and that. I didn’t know what it was, but I’ve got plenty of time on my hands in here so I started working some of it out. I’ve figured out enough to know that it relates to this old job and the treasure in the school. I did some checking up, and sure enough the local paper there reported a break in at the school recently. Nothing was taken – that they know of - so they just put it down to kids. But kids would have smashed up the place more. Trust me, when you’ve worked as a caretaker in a school you know all about the destructive inclinations of adolescents...”

“I’ve been working on the rest of these bloody codes but I can’t make head nor tail of them. Obviously I’d much rather crack the codes myself and send a colleague out to get the treasure. But if I can’t crack it, then none of my criminal mates will be able to either. I was always the cleverest one by far. The only other really smart crook I knew was the guy that recruited me for the treasure job in the first place (Søren Kierkegaard), and he’s part of the team that’s double crossed me. So reluctantly, I’ve had to turn to you for help, even if it means I won’t see any benefit from the treasure.”

“So one of the gang is in the prison with you? Who is it?” (“**Roo ris rit?**”)

“That’s the thing – I don’t know. I only ever had contact with one guy – **Victor** was the guy who recruited me. And I only ever spoke to him on the phone. I never met the rest of the gang. Vic always referred to them by nicknames; there was **Quiet John (Johannes de Silentio)**, **Ladies Man John (Johannes the Seducer)**, **Funny Man (Hilarius Bookbinder)**, **Babyface (The Young Man)**, **Nicky N (Nicolaus Notabene)**... but that’s not much to go on, and I’m fairly sure that **“Victor (Victor Eremita)”** was an alias as well. I’ve turned it over and over in my mind, but I really can’t figure out which of my fellow inmates it could be. Whoever it is, they are playing a blinder because you’d never guess that any of them was up to planning a job like that, not to mention all those bloody codes and things in that notebook...”

“Look the guard is going to be back soon. Are you going to help me or not?”

“I’ll have to speak to the gang...” (**You give a non-committal whine and look sheepish.**)

“Well that’s good enough for me. It’s not like I’ve got any other options. I’ll contact you again in a few days. As you have already seen – I know where to find you.”

Old Man Wily offers his hand to you across the desk, **old man Wily (Gerald Wily / Ronnie Barker)**

and you shake it. (**which you sniff and then politely allow him to pat your head.**)

(**just to Daphne:**) "I'm glad it was you that came Daphne, I always knew you were the real hero on that team."

(**Sarah Michelle Gellar played both Daphne Blake and Buffy Summers so she was in both Scooby gangs;**

DaphneHQ were the setters of the 2022 Pablo ATH.)

Two guards come to the room and announce that visiting time is over. One escorts Wily along one corridor, and the guard who led you down here leads you along another.

Soon you are outside the prison. Your mind is racing. As you wait for the taxi you start sending out messages to the rest of the gang. You are going to need the whole team together to tackle this mystery.

Other URLs

youranswer

The man stares at you for a second.

"Look, it's late, it's raining, and mysterious stranger is not a well-paid job. Stop messing me about."

Try again.

shaggy, shaggyroggers, scooby, scoobydoo

The guard looks unimpressed. "That sounds like a nickname. This is the official prison record. I'm going to need your proper full name."

velma, daphne, fred, norville, scoobert

The guard sighs. "Full name, please."

wily, oldmanwily, geraldwily

“Wily said that you might come back. I meant to ask you before - have you ever tried your hand at poetry? You should have a go. Start with something simple - one of those **Japanese poems**, you know, **that sounds like a sneeze (This is a Haiku – see cover page)**. If you include one in your final report to Wily, he's bound to be impressed.”

You are too baffled to reply. The stranger leaves you standing in the rain.

1/3

beet

“Beet! Now that’s a name I’ve not heard in a long time. I didn’t expect you to say that.”

“Well, I have a message for someone else. But if you are involved with Beet, then you should know something. She’s a sucker for animals. If you **submit a photo of your pet (Front page star: Linus the treasure hunting rabbit)** with your answer, then that could be worth something to you.”

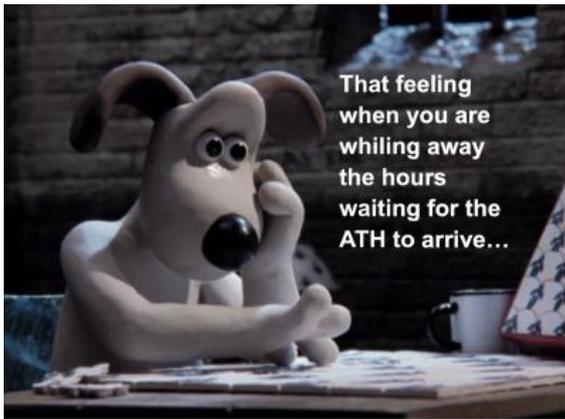
You thank the mysterious messenger for the tip, and depart into the night.

2/3

Mini Poster

The image is from the Wallace & Gromit film "[A Close Shave](#)", when Gromit is in prison doing a sheep puzzle. When Gromit completes the puzzle, it shows an escape plan message from Wallace. This told us when the main hunt was to be released.

“whiling away the hours” is a hint to Gerald Wily.



Letter

Dear [Cousin](#) (In [The Bargee](#), Ronnie played bargee Ronnie cousin to the would-be casanova [Uncle Angst] Hemel Pike.)
[Terri](#). (Miss Terri Ink [a relative of [Inklings](#) mentioned below] = [MysteryInc](#) ie ScoobyDoo gang)

Thank you so much for your Christmas card. It was lovely to hear the latest news from you and all the little [Inklings](#) ([The Inklings](#) were an informal literary discussion group associated with J.R.R. Tolkien; In [Prison Break](#), Michael Scofield's entire upper body is covered with tattoos of the prison blueprints, and details of the plan for escape from prison and the country.) It was also good to see something addressed to my proper name, as everyone calls me “Old Man” in here. Do you remember me telling you why I hate that?

Things are difficult here, but I **am** doing my best to keep my nose clean. Someone in here told me that **boredom is the root of all evil**, (a quote from Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard) so I've been keeping myself busy, studying for my **BA** (BA Baracus – The A Team), and producing a newsletter for my wing. I enclose a copy of the latest issue so you can get an idea of how we keep ourselves amused.

My biggest problem here is that everyone on the wing is in a gang, apart from me. **There are three gangs** (refers to grouping the X-Wing images into 3 sets – Great Danes, Birds and Buffy Villains so as to anagram into the GERALD WILY message) and they all keep pressuring me to join them. Some of my fellow inmates **cornered** ('Go to Jail' and 'In Jail' are corner squares on a Monopoly board) me the other day to lean on me a bit, but I told them I just wanted to stay out of trouble and make a fresh start. I left at once - I resist advances. My dedication's accustomed to peak when it is a busy time of year – nothing beats Xmas! I'm on target, God willing, for a new life.

I forgot to enclose card for Nick. I hope he had a jolly day – he's a good little lad. So not much news, which you'd expect as I am in the cells for hours designing and making the newsletter.

Now I had better let you go. With the big day looming I'm sure you are very busy with lots of tasks to do. I hope you manage to get it all done and find time for the traditional long walk in the countryside – or are you just going to drive to the pub instead?

Merry Christmas,

GW This is the prisoner GeraldWily aka [Gerald Wiley](#) a pen-name of Ronnie Barker. (On page 7 the Editor is wearing a Ronnie Barker mask.) He began using the pseudonym Gerald Wiley when writing sketches because he wished the pieces to be accepted on merit and not just because he, as a star of the programme, had written them; he continued this tradition with the material he wrote later in his career.

PS. Give my love to **Gran** (means spruce/fir in Danish)

The **bold words** anagram to **ANAGRAM**.

X – Essentials

All the Latest News from X-Wing

(NB This sub-heading is in [Quantico-Regular font](#). It seems to be the only instance in the hunt)

Quantico is an angular typeface family that was inspired by old beer packaging and military lettering. It utilizes 30 degree angles and completely straight lines to form unique character shapes.

Inspection Passed

As you are all aware, we had a council inspection on [1st October](#). The inspector had some concerns, but gave a good overall rating. Everyone on the prison staff is grateful for inmates' cooperation during the process, so wanted to say thank you. Except to the inmate, whoever it was, who drew a six-foot high phallus on the shower block wall.

New Rules for Tools

Unfortunately, one of the points that was picked up in the inspection was the lack of security around our [gardening tools](#) (*Fork Handles/Four Candles sketch*), as they could be used in escape attempts. From now on, the pick and spade must be handed back to prison guards at the end of each shift. Smaller tools like the hand trowels are not currently affected, but we can consider ourselves on a yellow card with regard to those too, after a **search** of the cells revealed that [one inmate was hiding a rock hammer](#). (a reference to Andy Dufresne in [The Shawshank Redemption](#).)

Guards v Inmates Football Match

The inmates were at a disadvantage in this annual fixture, having lost their regular goalkeeper when he broke one of his arms. The replacement's performance has been rocky to say the least. The inmates were down 4–1 at half-time, after a controversial decision to disallow what seemed like a perfectly good goal. But showing real spirit, they levelled the score in the second half to draw 4–4. This describes the plot to the film [Escape To Victory](#).

Sign our Petition

X-Wing inmates are launching a petition to change the [Faengsel](#) Prison motto. (*Faengsel is just the Danish word for prison. On August 27, 1995, multiple prisoners escaped from [Vridsløselille Prison](#) in Copenhagen, Denmark after a bulldozer was driven into the prison wall. A streamed film titled "[Prisoner](#)" with Swedish/Danish actor David Dencik was filmed there.*) The current motto: "[He hath the key, and he that shutteth no man openeth](#)" [Revelations 3-7](#) (the key is **DAVID**) is **brutal**. It does not even have the weight of tradition behind it, as it was only adopted in 1998 by the previous Governor, whose tenure is generally considered to be an unfortunate episode in Faengsel's history. It was intended to set an example, but our view is that it does not contribute to the direction that both inmates and staff want to take. There must be further options that are more meaningful. Contact the editor if you have any suggestions for a new motto.

The Point of View

Seasons' greetings and my thanks to the esteemed editor for giving this featured column over to a guard rather than an inmate, for the very first time in the history of this newsletter. I have been permitted this honour because I have some important bits of news for you.

Perhaps the most common question I am asked by inmates is when we will finally be getting approval for the new library budget. I never met Fingers Fuentes, but the editor has told me about her and her bequest is gratefully received. I know that many of you have been desperate for new reading material. Particularly the editor, who has often told me that he has read every book in the library at least twice; apart from one that he refuses to read on principle! You will be pleased to hear that we will soon be taking delivery of some new literature. The carefully curated selection includes:

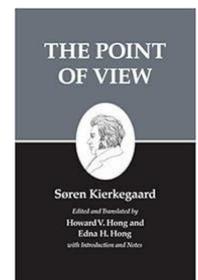
-L'Imposteur by Molière	Jean-Baptiste Poquelin
•A Tangled Web by Nicholas Blake	Cecil Day-Lewis
•A Pot of Money by Fabian Bland	Edith Nesbit & Hubert Bland
•The Traveler by John Twelve Hawks	Unknown
•The Long Voyage by John Christopher	Sam Youd
•The Pursued by C.S. Forester.	Cecil Louis Troughton Smith
•You Can't Catch Me by Rosamond Smith	Joyce Carol Oates
-The Quest by Saki	Hector Hugh Munro
-The Lifted Veil by George Eliot	Mary Ann Evans

these authors are all pen names. The initial letters of the real surnames anagram to **PSEUDONYM**

I am delighted to be able to give you this news by way of an early Christmas present. But don't panic, I will also still be giving you all my usual Christmas present. My local has promised that its Christmas brew will be available soon, and I've placed my order.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to bid you farewell. Recently I have handed in my notice to the Governor, and will shortly be leaving Faengsel. I always wanted to travel and I've got exciting plans. I will never forget my time here, and best wishes to you all. I would invite you to keep in touch on social media, but the Governor says that guards are not allowed to share contact details with inmates. [I'm sure you'll be able to find me if you want.](#) (*Kirkguard Twitter account*)

This page is in [Philosopher font](#) and is written by the guard Søren Kierkegaard (a Danish Philosopher). The image is Captain Kirk [from Star Trek: The Animated Series](#). Kierkegaard sounds like 'Kirk Guard'. [The Point of View for My Work as an Author](#) is a book by Søren Kierkegaard



In Memoriam

News has reached me that long-term resident of X-Wing, noted cat burglar Pilar “[Fingers](#)” Fuentes, passed away on 2 July. [Fingers](#)’ nickname came both from her light-fingered burglary skills, and the fact that she had six fingers on each hand. (*12 finger counting equates to Base 12 numbering*)

[Fingers](#) never forgot her former colleagues on the inside, and she often spoke about her love of reading, as it helped her pass the time (*clocks in yoga photos*) during her [many stretches](#) (*yoga photos*) inside. She has left a donation with instructions that it be used to fund new purchases for the prison library.

She will be much missed by all of us X-Wing old-timers who knew her.

The character pictured is [Amy Santiago](#) from Brooklyn Nine-Nine Season 3 Episode 21 “[Maximum Security](#)” where she goes undercover in a prison. Her nickname at typing camp was “[The Finger Queen](#)”.

Doing Bird

Eagle-eyed members of our resident ornithology club, [the Birdmen](#) (*one of the 3 X-Wing gangs; also “Birdman of Alcatraz” [Robert Stroud](#); and the group that planned to [escape from Colditz. Castle in a glider](#)*) have given me their latest report. These are the sightings that its members have made and written down in their notebook, and it is their belief that this is a new record for the number of different species. The club meets every second Tuesday in the library, and I have no doubt they would be open to recruiting new members: please speak to one of the [twins](#) (*X-Wing class Robin or Eagle, both portrayed by Taron Egerton*) if you are interested. Whatever your age, background, or what your conviction was for, you will be made welcome. It can be difficult to know where to start, but trust me, you’ll get lots of pointers. (*Treasure route starts at the Millennium Cairn toposcope which has 20 pointers*)

•Skylark	35	Alauda arvensis	•Jackdaw	56	Coloeus monedula
-Whitethroat	36	Curruca communis	•Woodpecker	95	Dendrocopos major
-Lesser Whitethroat	26	Curruca curruca	•Nuthatch.	292	Sitta europaea
•Yellowhammer	62	Emberiza citrinella	•Trecreeper	32	Certhia familiaris
•Linnet	36	Linaria cannabina	-Swallow	12	Hirundo rustica
-Buzzard	73	Buteo buteo	- House Martin	272	Delichon urbicum
•Red Kite.	141	Milvus milvus	•Sand Martin	57	Riparia riparia
•Wheatear	12	Oenanthe oenanthe	-Hoopoe	36	Upupa epops
•Whinchat	524	Saxicola rubetra	•Mandarin	37	Aix galericulata

Patrick Jackson @Rateus_Johanson · Feb 18, 2020
Hi @GeraldWily. How are things? Seen any good shrikes recently?



The bird is a [masked shrike](#) (*Lanius nubicus*), and also appears on a Twitter post sent to Gerald Wily on Feb 18th 2020. In the film *The Great Escape*, the POWs were taught how to mimic the masked shrike's call. The hunt's photo is a reversed copy of one taken on 28 January 2014 at [Udhailiyah camp](#), Saudi Arabia. The birds are listed in the same order on RSPB Croydon Local Group [Farthing Downs, New Hill, Happy Valley and Coulsdon Common](#) webpage.

Farthing Downs, New Hill, Happy Valley/Devilsden Wood and Coulsdon Common/Rydons Wood all merge together to form one large site. Parts are owned and managed by the City of London and others by Croydon Council. Farthing

Downs, for example, was bought by the Corporation of the City of London around 1880 to save it from destruction as part of the encroachment of London's southern suburbs into what was once open downland. Happy Valley was purchased in 1937 under the Green Belt Scheme as a link between Farthing Downs and Coulsdon Common. New Hill has been acquired more recently by the City of London. The area is now part of the South London Downs National Nature Reserve.

The habitat comprises mainly woods and chalk downland/grassland with small ponds in the woods at Coulsdon Common and Devilsden Wood.

Skylarks breed on the downs, but they are easily disturbed by human activity, including allowing dogs to roam freely over the fields where they try to nest on the ground. Various warblers, including **whitethroat** and **lesser whitethroat**, can be found in suitable habitat. This is essentially the only area in Croydon where **yellowhammers** are present all year round and one of the few sites that support **linnets**. In recent years **buzzard** and **red kite** numbers have increased significantly around the south of Croydon and there is a good chance of seeing them soaring over the Coulsdon area. **Wheatears** turn up on passage most years and **Whinchats** have been seen here. **Jackdaw** flocks can often be seen on the downs or neighbouring fields. The woods hold common species such as **woodpeckers**, **nuthatch** and **trecreeper**.

Highlights have included the passage of an estimated 10,000 hirundines (mainly **swallows** and **house martins** with a few **sand martins**) in an hour on September 26th 1999 over Farthing Downs and a **Hoopoe** spent a week here in autumn 2011. **Mandarin** has been recorded on the pond at Coulsdon Common.

These sites form a large swathe running roughly from Downs Road (near the London-Brighton railway line) in the west to Hayes Lane in the east. Car parking can be found on Farthing Downs (a parking fee applies) (TQ300573), near The Fox PH (TQ318568) and along Hayes Lane (TQ327574). Access is also possible from many other roads in the area. Some of the pedestrian access to Farthing Downs is up very steep slopes. Depending on the area to be visited the site can be reached by train to Coulsdon South or bus with routes 404 and 466 along Coulsdon Road and route 60 along Marlpit Lane

I'm looking forward to my own fresh start next year, after several postponements I will go before the parole board on 4 September. The very idea of freedom makes me a little dizzy and anxious. This could be the final Christmas edition of the newsletter under my editorship. Looking back over my time in X-Wing I am amazed how much I have changed as a person. At the start of my sentence I thought to myself – there are some strange characters in here. (use first letters of sentences with *VampiroOne* characters) Now at the end of my sentence – I'm one of *them!*

So I don't want to count my chickens, but I should make plans *fast* in case the parole board goes well. *Ha*pefully one of you will be interested in taking over the newsletter, please let me know. Don't worry if you have no experience of this sort of thing, I can train you up. To misquote Hannibal (John "Hannibal" Smith – A-Team): "if I cannot find a successor, I will make one". Let me know as soon as possible if you are interested; it would be good to have plenty of time to explain things. There is a lot more to the newsletter than meets the eye.

And finally, apologies for any errors in this newsletter. (characters omitted in crossword clues) As I say, I'm missing my freedom and fun. I had to miss the first date for my parole hearing. I'm feeling grumpy, and a cranky editor is a careless editor.

Carol Concert / Faengsal Christmas Carol Service

(note Faengsal instead of Faengsel)

Our annual carol concert will take place on 8 December at Saint Leonard's (Leonard of Noblac was the patron saint of prisoners). Rendez-vous at 6pm in the canteen. We will be escorted to the churchyard (translation of Kierkegaard) by Father Stephen Randall (false name used by Andy Dufresne in The Shawshank Redemption to launder money on behalf of the corrupt warden; In this hunt, Søren Kierkegaard is also a corrupt warden)

*Any*one with a musical instrument, such as an accordion, is welcome to bring it to the church. Rehearsal time *has* been very limited this year, so any practice you can squeeze in would be a good idea. So that you can warm up your vocal chords in *advan*ce, I enclose copies of the sheet music.

The sheet music is from two carols. The first part is the final verse of The Twelve Days of Christmas in F major, and the second part is Oh Come All Ye Faithful in G major.

The two carols have seven altered notes, four in The Twelve Days of Christmas and three in Oh Come All Ye Faithful.

Using the altered note length as a count on the word sung at that point the 7 incorrect notes across the two carols give:

Seven altered notes - note lengths give GREATER

Faengsal Christmas Carol Service

The Twelve Days of Christmas

Note length		word	letter
Dotted minim	= 3 beats	EiGht	G
Crotchet	= 1 beat	Rings	R
Semibreve	= 4 beats	thrEe	E
Dotted minim	= 3 beats	peAr	A
Dotted minim	= 3 beats	leT	T
Semibreve	= 4 beats	comE	E
Dotted minim	= 3 beats	loRd	R

GREATER

The red note in the second carol is an A-crotchet (1 beat) on the syllable **Faith** (from Faithful).

Faith Lehane is a slayer in the Buffy TV series.

(There must be another word from the altered pitch)

Faengsel Version

Original Version

Faengsel Version

Original Version

Three altered notes - note lengths give TER

Four altered notes - note lengths give GRE

Theatre Review

The Faengsel Ex-Inmates Light Operatic & Networking Society treated us to their production "Get Busy Singing or Get Busy Dancing" (cf quote "get busy living or get busy dying" from *The Shawshank Redemption*.) – the latest in their series of musical versions of prison films. The FELONS certainly had something to sing about and had us all under their spell (both songs from *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* musical episode "Once More, with Feeling"). The audience was absolutely Howling (H.M. "Howling Mad" Murdock – A-Team) with laughter in the first half, but there wasn't a dry eye in the house during the rousing final number Going Through the Motions (another song from "Once More, with Feeling"; also, in the *Shawshank Redemption* Andy Dufresne escaped by crawling through a sewage pipe, literally going through the "motions" of the prisoners!) There will be another performance on 7 December, so come along and judge for yourselves! The Artistic Director of the FELONS, Thomas L. Rolls, has a particularly fitting programme planned for next year, including *Barmitzvah Boy*, *The Singing Detective*, *The Madness of King George III* and Copenhagen (2017 song by electronic dance music duo Orbital).

Poetry Corner

Ode to a ...

I search for the words my story to tell. (*wordsearch*)

I've had to bid my freedom farewell.

Now I'm just a number stuck in a cell. (*Sudoku*)

At sixes and sevens, trapped in this Hell. (*cells with 6 & 7*)

These bars on my window make me feel ill.

The wind blows through them and gives me a chill.

Nothing but the cold and time to kill.

I search for the words. I search for them still. (*wordsearch*)

By the Editor

This is an instruction to overlay 4 copies of the Sudoku on the wordsearch and examine the cells containing 6 and 7.

Lecture Series 2023

The Faengsel Lecture Society is now in its fourth year offering a fantastic programme of events to hold our interest. This year we welcomed speakers on a wide range of subjects. The series included four wonderful and varied lectures.

- A History of Colchester Castle by surgeon Trevor Onion (a play on Sir John Trevanion who was reputedly locked up in Colchester Castle in 1648, and escaped by deciphering a message hidden in a letter) was my personal favourite of the four.

• Lilies of the Field and Birds of the Air (*Søren Kierkegaard book*) by Paddy Foot (Padfoot was a nickname of Sirius Black, the prisoner of Azkaban in *Harry Potter*.) I saw that one gang was a little disappointed to find the content was religious rather than ornithological.

- Abbie Bussony (Abbe Busoni is an alias of Edmond Dantes in The Count of Monte Cristo. In the story he is falsely imprisoned for 14 years before escaping) who returned to X Wing for the first time since her release after 14 years inside to share the benefit of her experience since getting out. Reflecting on her years inside, she did not pull her punches regarding the people she blamed for her incarceration. The first ever lecture from a returning inmate, it clearly was a cathartic experience for Abbie.

- Opposites Attack! Knowledgeable speaker Martin Oxen (Marti Noxon screenwriter and executive producer of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*; N.B Martin Andersen Nexø is a Danish writer) was full of good advice and anecdotes about sharing a cell with someone you might find extremely irritating. It seemed that everyone in the audience had a story to share. A straw poll found that the most irritating behaviours included: forgetting that someone else is present when doing things like trimming toenails, playing the same song over and over, and rudely borrowing clothes without asking.

Sir John Trevanion's cipher message was every third letter after a punctuation mark.

Worthie Sir John:- Hope, that is ye beste comfort of ye afflicted, cannot much, I fear me, help you now. That I would saye to you, is this only: if ever I may be able to requite that I do owe you, stand not upon asking me. 'Tis not much that I can do: but what I can do, bee ye verie sure I will. I knowe that, if dethe comes, if ordinary men fear it, it frights not you, accounting it for a high honor, to have such a rewarde of your loyalty. Pray yet that you may be spared this soe bitter, cup. I fear not that you will grudge any sufferings; only if bie submission you can turn them away, 'tis the part of a wise man. Tell me, an if you can, to do for you anythinge that you wolde have done. The general goes back on Wednesday. Restinge your servant to command. — R.T. = panel at east end of chapel slides

As that lecture was the editor's favourite, in a similar way, every 4th letter after a punctuation mark of the Series spell

SSSI WILDFLOWER GYR

GYR refers to the Greater Yellow-Rattle, a rare plant which is locally abundant on Farthing Downs and Happy Valley grassland which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). There are only very few sites in SE England where this wildflower grows.

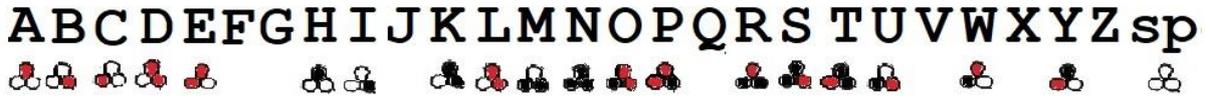


Embedded Puzzles

There are eight puzzles spread through the Letter and the X-Essential pages

Holly Berries

These are a substitution code



IN NOTEBOOK ARE PICS AND CODES I ALREADY DECODED SOME ANSWERS HIDDEN HEREIN SOME I CANT CRACK

A BIRD NOS (RSPB Croydon Bird Group article)

B CODE IN PHOTO (Handwritten cipher in notebook)

C SPARE WORDSEARCH LETTERS (Playfair cipher giving route instructions)

D URLS (Tinyurl.com short-code URLs on Gerald Wily's Twitter Yoga photos)

Bullet Points

The lists have morse code dot or dash bullet point symbols. Some items terminate with a full stop. Using this as a word separator, the sequence is -...../...-...-./...../...-...-... which can be split as - /...- .- - .-./.. .../...- .- .- .- and decoded to **THE WATER IS WARM**

This references the 37th episode of American TV series "Prison Break". The episode is titled [The Message](#) and in it "The FBI analysts are transfixed on a Morse code message that Michael (Scofield) taps out with his hand - the water is warm"

Separators

The dots separating each piece are [Tap code](#) used by prisoners and spell **FIVE BY FIVE**

	1	2	3	4	5			
						p2 ...	2 1	F
						p2	2 4	I
1	A	B	C/K	D	E	p3	5 1	V
						p4	1 5	E
2	F	G	H	I	J	p4 ...	1 2	B
						p5	5 4	Y
3	L	M	N	O	P	p6 ...	2 1	F
						p7	2 4	I
4	Q	R	S	T	U	p8	5 1	V
						p8	1 5	E
5	V	W	X	Y	Z			

If the Codeword DECOY is used to form the square, then the result is A GUY EX A GUY

Dates

Using the day number as a letter count of the month's name of the 5 dates in the hunt. gives **OUTER**

- Page 2 - 1st **O**ctober
- Page 4 - 2 **U**ly
- Page 7 - 4 **T**eptember
- Page 8 - 7 **E**December
- Page 8 - 8 **R**December

Anagrams

The emboldened words on page 1 **am,a,gran** anagram to ANAGRAM

The ones on other pages – **SEARCH, BRUTAL, HOUSE MARTIN, PAR** anagram to

PABLOS ARMCHAIR TREASURE HUNT which abbreviates to **PATH**

A-Team

Four sections have the capitalised nicknames of the four members of [The A-Team](#) - A TV programme (1983-87) about a military unit who were sent to prison for crimes they didn't commit before escaping.

- Letter "...I've been keeping myself busy, studying for my **BA**..." B.A. Baracus
- A Word from the Editor: "...reminding us that we should **Face** forward..." Arthur Templeton "Faceman" Peck
- A Word from the Editor: "To misquote **Hannibal**..." John "Hannibal" Smith,
- Theatre Review: "The audience was absolutely **Howling**..." H.M. "Howling Mad" Murdock

'A' is one of Kierkegaard's pseudonyms - A – *The anonymous author and editor of the contents of the first book of Either/Or, whom Eremita simply calls "A," and who represents an "aesthetic" life-view. Also author of "A Cursory Observation Concerning a Detail in Don Giovanni."*

VampiroOne characters

Scattered throughout are the 26 letters of the alphabet using the *VampiroOne* font

Everyone on the prison staff is grateful for inmates' cooperation during the process, so wanted to say thank you.

The inmates were at a disadvantage in this annual fixture, having lost their regular goalkeeper when he broke one of his arms.

Contact the editor if you have any suggestions for a new motto.

Perhaps the most common question I am asked by inmates is when we will finally be getting approval for the new library budget.

Particularly the editor, who has often told me that he has read every book in the library at least twice; apart from one that he refuses to read on principle!

You will be pleased to hear that we will soon be taking delivery of some new literature.

Recently I have handed in my notice to the Governor, and will shortly be leaving Faengsel.

I will never forget my time here, and best wishes to you all.

Eagle-eyed members of our resident ornithology club, the Birdmen, have given me their latest report.

Whatever your age, background, or what your conviction was for, you will be made welcome.

My girlfriend is beautiful, funny, and a demon in the sack too.

My heart goes out to you.

You have no real reason to suspect her of being unfaithful.

He might just be a friend and not some wannabe Casanova.

You might find that you have a lot in common, and the more you get to know him, the less you will see him as a threat.

A veritable cornucopia of fiends and devils and ghouls attended the prison-wide fancy-dress party last month.

Relive the evening with some pictures from the party.

Everyone else may be celebrating, but for those of us who are locked up away from our families it is a time for self-examination and not a little melancholy.

Now at the end of my sentence – I'm one of them!

So I don't want to count my chickens, but I should make plans just in case the parole board goes well.

Hopefully one of you will be interested in taking over the newsletter, please let me know.

Abbie Bussony who returned to X Wing for the first time since her release after 14 years inside to share the benefit of her experience since getting out.

Rendez-vous at 6pm in the canteen.

Anyone with a musical instrument, such as an accordion, is welcome to bring it to the church.

Rehearsal time has been very limited this year, so any practice you can squeeze in would be a good idea.

So that you can warm up your vocal chords in advance, I enclose copies of the sheet music.

In 'A word from the Editor' on page 7 he says 'At the start of my sentence I thought to myself – there are some strange characters in here.' Sorting the *VampiroOne* characters into alphabetical order the first letters of each sentence gives:

MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR.

My heart goes out to you.

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Relive the evening with some pictures from the party.

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 You will be pleased to hear that we will soon be taking delivery of some new literature.
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 Anyone with a musical instrument, such as an accordion, is welcome to bring it to the church.
 Rendez-vous at 6pm in the canteen.

The editor also says 'Now at the end of my sentence'. Sorting the *VampiraOne* characters into the Codeword alphabet order BVDIEYWTOPFHNQAGJSCKRZMXMLU the last letter of each sentence gives
TELL THEM WHO ACTUALLY SENT YOU

This is presumed to be the third name required to give the guard on first visit to the prison. There is a character from Scooby called Mr E (mystery). He is revealed as Ricky Owens, from the original Mystery Incorporated members.

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 Whatever your age, background, or what your conviction was for, you will be made welcome.
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The editor continues "I'm one of them!" This clues using OldManWily as the beetsath.wixsite.com/ URL suffix.

Puzzle Pages

Unleash Your Inner Detective (UYID)

Five criminal gangs are planning five different heists.

Each has a different number of members from one to five, and a different colour getaway car.

1. The gang that targeted the casino has one less member than the Edgware Evildoers.
2. Of the Pembury Pirates and the gang that targeted the post office, one has the black car and the other has one member.
3. The gang with one member doesn't drive the yellow car.
4. The gang that targeted the bank has one less member than the gang with the silver car.
5. The Tilbury Troublemakers have one more member than the Nuthurst Nutters.
6. The gang that targeted the jewellers has more members than the Nutters.
7. Of the Pirates and the Nutters, one has one member and the other has the red car.
8. Neither the gang with the black car nor the gang with five members targeted the jewellers.

What colour getaway car do the Ascot Abominations drive?

This is a logic puzzle. Let's solve it step by step:

From clue 2 and 7, we know that the Pembury Pirates have one member and the Nuthurst Nutters have the red car.

From clue 3, we know that the gang with one member (the Pembury Pirates) doesn't drive the yellow car.

From clue 1, we know that the gang that targeted the casino (which is not the Pembury Pirates) has one less member than the Edgware Evildoers. So, the Edgware Evildoers can't have one member, and they must have at least two members.

From clue 5, we know that the Tilbury Troublemakers have one more member than the Nuthurst Nutters. So, the Tilbury Troublemakers can't have one member, and they must have at least two members.

Therefore, the gang with one member (the Pembury Pirates) must have targeted the post office (from clue 2), and the gang with the black car must be the Nuthurst Nutters (also from clue 2).

From clue 8, we know that the gang with the black car (the Nuthurst Nutters) didn't target the jewellers, and the gang with five members also didn't target the jewellers. So, the Ascot Abominations didn't target the jewellers.

Therefore, by process of elimination, the Ascot Abominations must have targeted the casino.

From clue 1, we know that the gang that targeted the casino (the Ascot Abominations) has one less member than the Edgware Evildoers. So, the Ascot Abominations can't have five members, and they must have fewer than five members.

Therefore, by process of elimination, the Ascot Abominations must have two members.

From clue 4, we know that the gang that targeted the bank has one less member than the gang with the silver car. So, the gang with two members (the Ascot Abominations) can't have the silver car.

Therefore, by process of elimination, the Ascot Abominations must have the yellow car.

*So, the Ascot Abominations drive a **YELLOW** getaway car.*

GANG	MEMBERS	HEIST	CAR
Ascot Abominations	5	unknown	Yellow
Edgware Evildoers	2	Post Office	Black
Nuthurst Nutters	3	Bank	Red
Pembury Pirates	1	Casino	unknown
Tilbury Troublemakers	4	Jewellers	Silver



The place names are all from the south east. Edgware is in London, Tilbury is in the Thames estuary in Essex, Pembury is next to Royal Tunbridge Wells in Kent, Ascot is in Berkshire and Nuthurst is in West Sussex. Farthing Downs is roughly in the centre of the circle.

Riddle

♪ Happy Birthday to You ♪

When our heroine turned 10 and he turned 36, they were 35.

When she turned 16 and he turned 42, they were 23.

Who is he and who are they? **SIMON RATTLE** and **ORBITAL**

Our heroine is [Buffy Summers, born 19th January 1981](#)

British orchestra conductor (hence music icons) [Simon Rattle](#) was born 19th January 1955

On 19th January 1991 Buffy was 10 and Simon Rattle was 36. Band [Orbital](#) were in chart [position 35](#) with Satan

On 19th January 1997 Buffy was 16 and Simon Rattle was 42. Band [Orbital](#) were in chart [position 23](#) with Satan Live

Quiz

I know everyone hates my crazy brain teaser quiz, and I was going to retire it from the newsletter. But **Dagger** (*D Agger is one of the X Wing pictures*) persuaded me to give it one last outing because he enjoys it: sharp by name and sharp by nature (*daggers are sharp*), that lad. He loves it so much he even bribed me by promising me his Christmas dinner - extra roast parsnips for me!

1. The BORG Six of One Hundred and Nine: what is found before hunted?

WHAT

BORG stands for [Ballad Of Reading Gaol](#) (Oscar Wilde) which has 109 stanzas.

The 6th verse of the first stanza is:

*I only knew **what hunted** thought
Quickened his step, and why
He looked upon the garish day
With such a wistful eye;
The man had killed the thing he loved
And so he had to die.*



Reading Jail is pictured on Gerald Willy's Twitter page

2. He escaped from students once, and prison how many times?

THREE

The notorious jail breaks of [Alfred George Hinds](#) from three high security prisons and his successful libel case earned him celebrity status. After being pardoned, he soon became a sought-after speaker criticizing the English legal system. In 1967 during a drink in a nearby pub after a debate before the Polytechnic Students' Union, he was kidnapped by six students for a rag week stunt and frogmarched along to a basement room in the college. He foiled his captors by securing a bunch of keys and turning the lock on them.

3. There are 8 in 8, 9 in 9, and 10 in 10.

WORDS

This quiz has 8 words in question 8, 9 in question 9 and 10 in question 10.

4. Rebel and Warrior perhaps, who escaped using kitchen implements.

GLADIATORS

Rebel and Warrior were Gladiators on the 1992 [UK TV series, Spartacus and other Gladiators](#) escaped from from the Ludus of Lentulus Batiatus by seizing kitchen utensils to fight their way free. They then seized several wagons of gladiatorial weapons and armour.

5. The Great Escape started on this day, but it would have been good if they had waited two weeks.

FRIDAY

[The great escape of Allied soldiers from the German prisoner of war camp Stalag Luft III](#), occurred on Friday March 24 1944. Two weeks later was 7 April 1944 which was [Good Friday](#)

6. What is occasionally well-balanced in Copenhagen?

APPLE

On the occasion of the monarch's birthday, copper balls covered in 24 carat gold, symbolising golden apples, are placed in the [Caritas Well](#) fountain in Copenhagen, to balance on the streams.

7. Scooby Doo character, or the escaped prisoner in the Hound of the Baskervilles?

RED HERRING

[Red Herring](#) was the neighbourhood bully in Scooby Doo. The escaped prisoner Selden in the [Hound of the Baskervilles](#) is also a red herring. "*The novel incorporates five plots: the ostensible 'curse' story, the two red-herring subplots concerning Selden and the other stranger living on the moor, the actual events occurring to Baskerville as narrated by Watson, and the hidden plot to be discovered by Holmes.*"

8. Prideful character based on someone who hired inmates.

SCAR

[Scar](#) is the main antagonist of Disney's 1994 animated feature film *The Lion King* and is based on [King](#)

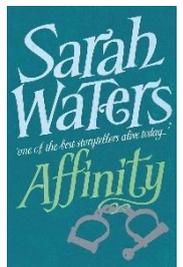
[Claudius](#) from *Hamlet*. *Hamlet* can be seen as a precursor for Existentialism. "To be or not to be"

[Kierkegaard was influenced by Shakespeare](#). Rosencranz and Guildenstern are inmates on X-Wing at Faengsel prison. In the play *Claudius* hires them to spy on *Hamlet*.

9. She wrote about SD's time in a women's prison.

WATERS

SD is Selina Dawes from Sarah Waters' novel "[Affinity](#) set in and around the women's prison at Millbank in the 1870s. "*Following the death of her father, Margaret Prior has decided to pursue some 'good work' with the lady criminals of one of London's most notorious gaols. Surrounded by prisoners, murderers and common thieves, she's drawn to one of the prisons more unlikely inmates - the imprisoned spiritualist - Selina Dawes*".



10. Lexicographer's namesake who was held prisoner by some terrible poets.

DENT

[Susie Dent](#) is the resident Lexicographer in *Countdown*. (NB Michael Dent is a co-finder of *What3Words*.)

In *The Hitchhikers Guide To The Galaxy* Arthur Dent and Ford Prefect were held prisoner by Vogons "*The prisoners sat in Poetry Appreciation chairs - strapped in. Vogons suffered no illusions as to the regard their works were generally held in. Their early attempts at composition had been part of a bludgeoning insistence that they be accepted as a properly evolved*"

W3W coordinate [Gladiators.Friday.Apple](#) is platform 2 of Coulsdon South station.

W3W coordinate [Scar.Waters.Dent](#) is the Millennium cairn (toposcope) on Farthing Downs.

The London Loop path goes across the railway footbridge at Coulsdon South station and through the Millennium Cairn.

There's also a long-distance [London to Paris cycle route](#) going across Farthing Downs



Crossword

Across

8. Sack lawyer mid-rant (6)
9. Seafood found in 2/3 of Calais marina (8)
10. MoLe perhaps hidden in international organisation's computer department (6)
11. Nothing left oVer after last bit of stamina exhausted (9)
12. Nonogram only half finished? That's unacceptable (2-2)
13. Succeeded putting thieves behind bars (8)
14. e.g. the Brontë Sisters' work always begins with this - it gives a sense of foreboding (5)
16. Criminal - mad as he is guilty (7)
17. Leaders of mob are former inhabitants of Southern Italy (7)
21. Get rid of killer ultimately incarcerated in facility (5)
23. Bit of all right working for the Spectator (6,2)
25. Initials written on bottom of French letters (4)
27. For a group like S Club Juniors, once twenty, regulars must be Ditched (2)
28. Conspirators hold back tears (4)
29. That'll teach you to freak out in middle of court hearing (5)
30. Copper said "Catch you later" (3,3)

Down

1. Grannies cooked Bread (3)
2. Heavy-set guy can assault grievously (5,5)
3. Whereas: (a) the "Lease" (as amended) is pursuant to (b); (b) the lower limb (including but not limited to the thigh, knee and calf) (8)
4. Doctor Who can make you Good looking (1)
5. Starts to cover limbs with tattoos in prison (5)
6. Writer inserting self into article - I agree with that (4)
7. Music made country switch from foxtrot to tango (6)
15. Sailor's girlfriend married murder suspect, a shady type (5,5)
18. For act of infidelity you need a place to go and stay without a hint of suspicion (8)
19. Stingy fellow offers 16 + 3.14... + 0.66... (7)
20. Globally everyone is related (3,4)
22. Indiscreet prisoner is questioned about... (6)
24. ...capital I found stuffed inside settee (5)
26. Kitty droppings on top of F litter (4)

- RAVAGE (AV in RAGE)
 CALAMARI
 UNIT (SI qty / Dr Who)
 ALL IN (A + NILL reversed)
 NO-NO
 SNICKERS (choc.bars S+NICKERS)
 WOMEN (Work+OMEN)
 ASHAMED (anag)
 MAFIOSI (initial letters)
 ERASE (R in EASE)
 LOOKER ON
 RSVP
 OCTET (alternate letters)
 RIPS (reversed inside conspirators)
 TUTORIAL anag of OUT inside TRIAL
 SEE YOU (sounds like Cu)

- EARNINGS (anag)
 SANTA CLAUS (anag)
 LEGALESE (LEG+anag)
 OCULIST
 CLINK CL+INK
 AMEN (ME in AN)
 TRANCE (FRANCE to TRANCE)
 OLIVE GREEN (Popeye, Rev Green)
 APOSTASY (A+PO[toilet]+S in STAY)
 SCORPION (4/5 SCORE+PI+2/3 ONE)
 ALL TOLD
 RISQUE
 SOFIA (I in SOFA)
 POOL (POO+L)

Clockwise, the outer squares of the crossword read:

TREASURES LOCATION IN SUNNYDALE

Sunnydale is the setting of Buffy the Vampire TV programme.

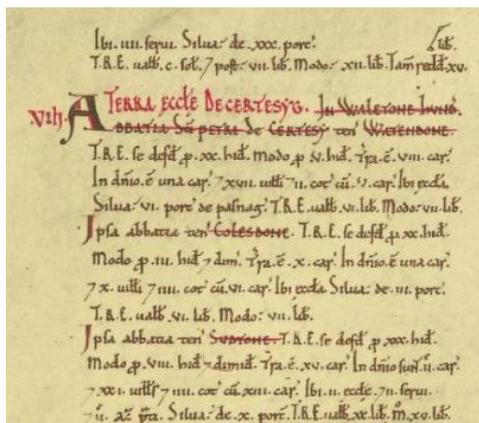
A synonym of Sunnydale is Happy Valley which is where the treasure was hidden

There are Missing letters/digits in eight clues with incorrect lengths:

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 9a. 2/3 (8) | 27a. Ditched (2) | 4d. Good (1) |
| 10a. moLe (6) | 29a. cOurt (5) | 19d. 3.14 (7) |
| 11a. oVer (9) | 1d. Bread (3) | 26d. oF (4) |

Ordered by the incorrect word lengths 1-9 gives GDBFOL32V

This signifies [Great Domesday Book Folio 32V](#), which covers Colsedone (Coulsdon), Surrey.



Translation of Great Domesday Book Folio 32v

SURREY

There are 4 slaves, [and] woodland for 90 pigs. TRE it was worth 100s; and afterwards 71; now 12l, yet it renders 15l.

VIII. THE LAND OF THE CHURCH OF CHERTSEY IN WALLINGTON HUNDRED

THE ABBEY OF ST PETER OF CHERTSEY holds WADDINGTON [in Coulsdon]. TRE it was assessed at 20 hides; now at 5 hides. There is land for 8 ploughs. In demesne is 1 plough; and 17 villans and 2 cottars with 5 ploughs. There is a church, [and] woodland for 6 pigs as pannage. TRE it was worth 6l; now 7l.

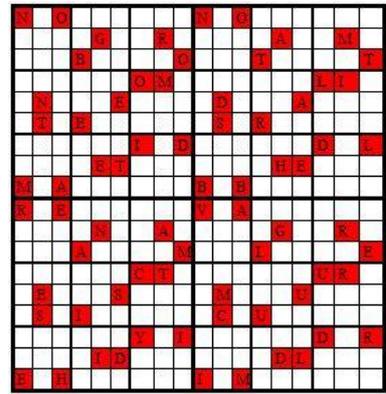
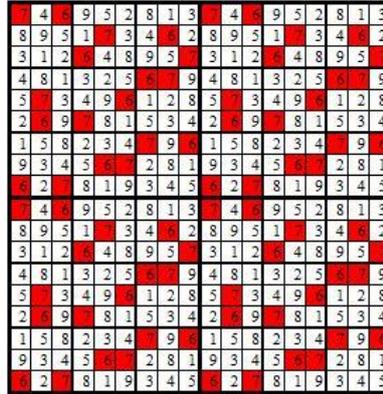
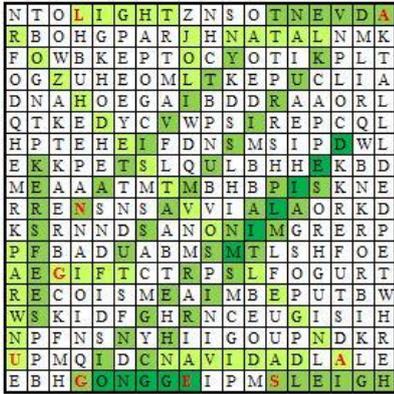
The abbey itself holds COULSDON. TRE it was assessed at 20 hides; now at 3 1/2 hides. There is land for 10 ploughs. In demesne is 1 plough; and 10 villans and 4 cottars with 6 ploughs. There is a church, [and] woodland for 3 pigs. TRE it was worth 6l; now 7l.

The abbey itself holds SUTTON [near Cheam]. TRE it was assessed at 30 hides; now at 8 1/2 hides. There is land for 15 ploughs. In demesne are 2 ploughs; and 21 villans and 4 cottars with 13 ploughs. There are 2 churches, and 2 slaves, and 2 acres of mesdow, [and] woodland for 10 pigs. TRE it was worth 20l; now 15l.

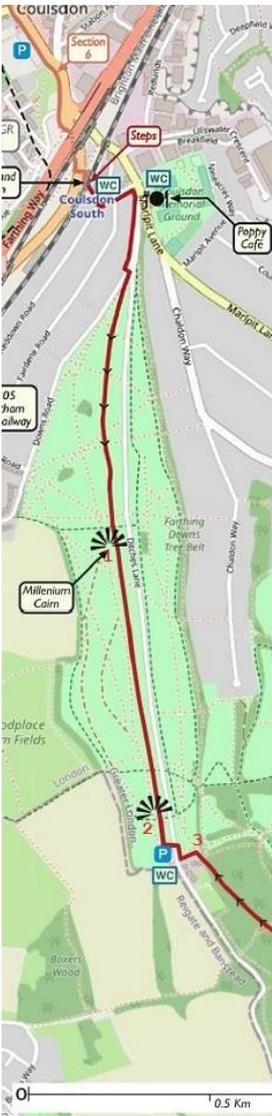
Wordsearch

I was inspired by a much-loved and much-missed friend (*James Medhurst of Urban Marsupial Orchestra Team*) to include a wordsearch amongst my usual puzzles.

That is the last puzzle for this edition. If you still have time on your hands, why not take a leaf out of the Alcatraz boys' book and do something inventive with a concertina. (*Charles Wheatstone invented both the concertina and the Playfair cipher*. Also: As part of the preparations of the escape from Alcatraz in June 1962, Frank Morris played the accordion to cover up the noise when making holes in their cells).



There are 9 Christmas-related words in the wordsearch whose initial letters spell: **LANGUAGES**
LIGHT, **A**DVENT, **N**ATIVITY, **G**IFT, **U**NWRAP, **A**NGEL, **G**INGERSNAP, **E**GGNOG, **S**LEIGH
 and 8 translations of Christmas in languages which initial letters' spell: **RIP JAMES** (*Medhurst*)
ROZHDESTVO (**R**ussian), **J**OL (**I**celandic), **N**ATAL (**P**ortugese), **K**URISUMASU (**J**apanese), **K**ERSFEES (**A**frikaans),
MILIED (**M**altese), **C**HIRSTMAS (**E**nglish), **N**AVIDAD (**S**panish)



Overlaying a copy of the Sudoku in each corner and only using the 6 & 7 gives:

NONOGRAM BOTTOM LINE; DATES; RIDDLE THEM; ABBREV ANAGRAM; LECTURES; MUSIC; UYID; RIDDLE HIM
 (Some letters overlap with the Christmas words)

Replacing each part of this phrase with the relevant answer from the hunt, this becomes:

London Outer Orbital Path SSSI Wildflower GYR
 Greater Yellow Rattle

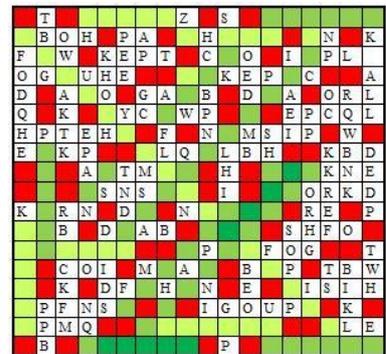
The unused letters are

TZSBOHPAHNKFWEKPTCOIPLOGUHEKEPCADAOGABDAORLQK YCWP EPCQLHPT
 EHFNSIPWEKPLQLBHKBDATMHKNESNSIORKDKRNDNREPBDABSHFOPFOGTC
 OIMA BPTBWKDFHNEISHPFNSIGOUPKPMQLEBP

Using a Playfair key of FORKLUND (no J), these letters decode to:

IT TAKES NEARLY ONE MILE TO REACH ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY SEVEN
 METRES PICK UP THE PHOTO TRAIL AND STAY ON PATH FOR AROUND ONE
 AND A HALF MORE MILES UNTIL YOU REACH THE SOUTHERNMOST POINT

Via the LOOP (London Outer Orbital Path it's just under 1 mile from the Quiz W3W location Coulsdon South station to the Millennium Cairn which has an altitude of 147m. The Southernmost point of the LOOP is about 1.5 miles further on.



X - Wing Class of 2023

XW 190	Jim Broadbent	Hans Christian Andersen - A Very Very Very Dark Matter	Great Dane
XW 147	Taron Egerton	Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards - Eddie the Eagle	Eagle
XW 112	Camilla Dallerup	TV Programme Strictly Come Dancing	Great Dane
XW 175	Britney Spears	front cover of her album Glory	Buffy Villain
XW 158	Sandi Toksvig	TV programme The Great British Bake Off 2017	Great Dane
XW 203	Anthony Edwards	Nick "Goose" Bradshaw - Top Gun	Goose
XW 192	Gary Oldman* ‡	Rosencratz - Rosencratz & Guildenstern Are Dead	Great Dane
XW 150	Sam Neill*	Merlin - TV programme	Merlin
XW 208	Peter Schmeichel	Manchester United and Denmark goalkeeper 2014	Great Dane
XW 206	Caron Keating	(& Willow) TV programme Blue Peter	Buffy Villain
XW 148	Lili Elbe	Lili Ilse Elvenes was a Danish painter	Great Dane
XW 162	Tim Roth*	Guildenstern - Rosencratz & Guildenstern Are Dead	Great Dane
XW 178	Rob Ford	former Mayor of Toronto	Buffy Villain
XW 202	Ed O'Neill*	Jay Pritchett - TV programme Modern Family	Jay
XW 196	Eric Roberts	The Master - TV programme Doctor Who: The Movie	Buffy Villain
XW 218	Fyfe Dangerfield	front man of Rock band Guillemots	Guillemot
XW 214	Erik III Lamb	King of Denmark	Great Dane
XW 197/210	Henry Travers	Angel Clarence Obody - It's A Wonderful Life	Buffy Villain
XW 194	Brigitte Nielsen	Danish actress, model and singer	Great Dane
XW 198	Adam Yauch	Beastie Boys - Fight for Your Right (to party) video	Buffy Villain
XW 108	Taron Egerton	Robin Hood - Robin Hood	Robin
XW 86	Daniel Agger †	Danish football coach	Great Dane
XW 200	Miranda Richardson*	Queen Elizabeth First - TV programme Blackadder	Buffy Villain

Editor

‡ Ø line through image † Å circle above image * These actors also appear in the Fancy Dress Champions section

Initial letters spell **BEDSTE ØNSKER FOR DET NYE ÅR** - BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR (Danish)

The XW numbers are counts through the Crossword grid (XW=XWord; also cf X-Wing as X-Twitter). When the people are put into 3 groups Great Danes, [Buffy Villains](#), Birds, these are the three gangs mention in the introductory letter.

The 3 groups spell **GERALD WILY TWITTER HANDLE**. The UU equates to W (double U)

Gerald Wiley was a pseudonym used by Ronnie Barker when submitting scripts.

Great Danes

XW 162	Tim Roth	Guildenstern	G
XW 192	Gary Oldman	Rosencratz	E
XW 148	Lili Elbe	Elbe	R
XW 190	Jim Broadbent	Andersen	A
XW 158	Sandi Toksvig	Toksvig	L
XW 112	Camilla Dallerup	Dallerup	D
XW 86	Daniel Agger	Agger	W
XW 194	Brigitte Nielsen	Nielsen	I
XW 214	Erik III Lamb	Erik III	L
XW 208	Peter Schmeichel	Schmeichel	Y

Buffy Villains

XW 175	Britney Spears	Glory	Season 1	T
XW 197/210	Henry Travers	Angel	Season 2	W (UU)
XW 178	Rob Ford	Mayor	Season 3	I
XW 196	Eric Roberts	The Master	Season 4	T
XW 198	Adam Yauch	Adam	Season 5	T
XW 206	Caron Keating	Willow	Season 6	E
XW 200	Miranda Richardson	First	Season 7	R

Birds (Wingspan)

XW 108	Taron Egerton	Robin	21cm	H
XW 202	Ed O'Neill	Jay	55cm	A
XW 150	Sam Neill	Merlin	56cm	N
XW 218	Fyfe Dangerfield	Guillemot	64cm	D
XW 203	Anthony Edwards	Goose	150cm	L
XW 147	Taron Egerton	Eagle	220cm	E

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105
106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135
136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150
151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165
166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180
181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195
196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210
211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225

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

GeraldWily X (Twitter) posts

Gerald Wily is the Editor of this Faengsel Prison X-wing newsletter. He has an account on X, formerly known as Twitter.

His 'handle' is @GeraldWily. His profile says "Born September 25, 1970". Ronnie Barker was born on the 25th September 1929. The date does match the age of the prisoner in the hunt though as ten years ago he was 43.



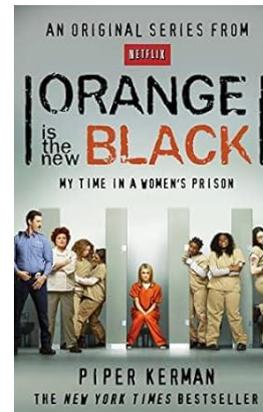
The heading image is of [Reading Jail](#) made famous by Oscar Wilde's *The Ballad of Reading Gaol*. *Porridge* was filmed in Chelmsford Prison.

Posted Dec 4th

Since they found out I've started yoga, some of the other inmates have started calling me "[Janet](#)". I don't get it, but joke's on them because I actually prefer it to "Old Man"

[#inmyprime](#)

[Piper Kerman](#) was indicted in 1998 on charges of felonious money-laundering activities and sentenced to 15 months' detention in a federal correctional facility, of which she eventually served 13 months. "Orange Is the New Black: My Year in a Women's Prison" is her memoir of her prison experiences. One of her fellow prisoners was yoga teacher Carol Soto, referred to in the book as [Yoga Janet](#) and in the TV Series as [Yoga Jones](#),





K5GSYWLPO6

UQS7IY8RDE

HODLLO9JE

RGJKIS0MH

UQ1IUIQ2IK



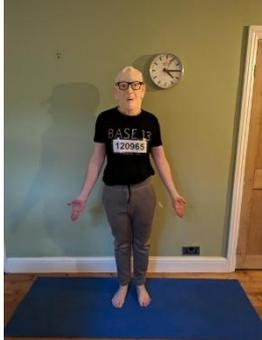
EOSJ3JKIS

4YLU5KHQL6

JSSO7TD

S8RLIBEJ

KTELJ9YL



UPQ0QG

The tinyurl short code links to the Adriene Mishler yoga videos are a monoalphabetic substitution cipher. The embedded numbers run cyclically from 0-9 and represent spaces between the words:

OSKP MSTSP E GJSW YLU WLUHO PSISIBSP LUP BLYDLLO REMDSP E KI
 QSJOEJC YLU SJRLOSO EJQTPURTELJQ EJ RKQS KJYTDEJC DKMMSJQ TL IS
 WDSPS YLU JSSO K GSYWLPO UQS IY RDEHODLLO JERGGJKIS MHUQ IUIQ
 IKEOSJ JKIS YLU KHQL JSSO TDS RLIBEJKTELJ YLUPQ QG

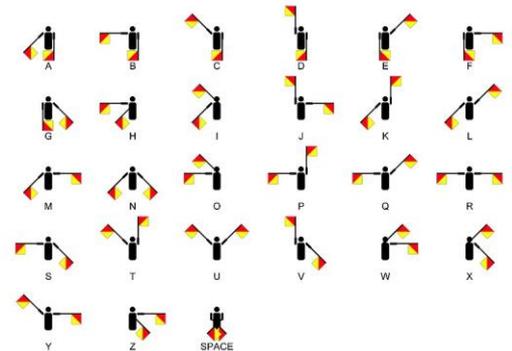
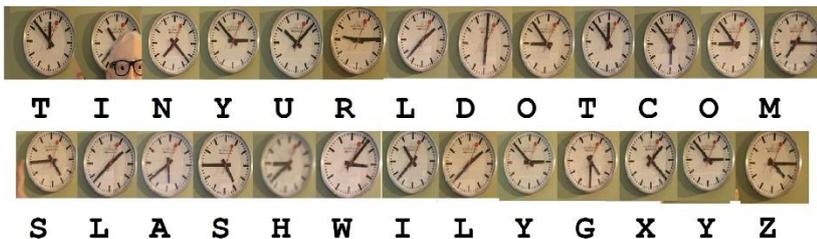
Using a key of KBROS (*Kierkegaard Brothers*) this decodes to:

DEAR PETER I KNEW YOU WOULD REMEMBER OUR BOYHOOD CIPHER I AM SENDING YOU ENCODED
 INSTRUCTIONS IN CASE ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME WHERE YOU NEED A KEYWORD USE MY
 CHILDHOOD NICKNAME PLUS MUMS MAIDEN NAME YOU ALSO NEED THE COMBINATION YOURS SK

[Peter Kierkegaard](#) was the elder brother of Søren Kierkegaard. Søren's childhood nickname was "The Fork" because he "was of slender and delicate appearance, ran about in a little coat of red-cabbage colour and had a tendency toward satirical remarks". [Lund](#) is Søren Kierkegaard's mother's maiden name.

FORKLUND is the Playfair key to the unused Wordsearch letters, and the Vigenère key to the FlickR notebook cipher. SK are Søren Kierkegaard's initials. (*Ronnie Barker Fork Handles/Four Candles sketch*)

The wall clocks are flag semaphore spelling TINYURL.COM/WILYGXYZ



This shortcode links to [Gerald Wily's FlickR account](#)

Gerald's T-Shirt has BASE 13 and tag 120965. $120965_{13} = 430019_{10}$ which was Faith Lehane's (Buffy) prisoner number. The T-shirt is advertising [BASE 13 Fitness Ltd](#)

posted 11th December

[This old meme has been doing the rounds on the wing #dollypartonchallenge](#)

The [Dolly Parton Challenge](#), also known as the hashtag #DollyPartonChallenge and LinkedIn / Facebook / Instagram / Tinder Profile Pictures, refers to a panel of images in which people share what could be their profile pictures on those four social media accounts. The images became popular on Instagram after singer Dolly Parton posted four examples of her profile pictures in January 2020.

These all represent names used by Ronnie Barker to submit anonymous scripts.

- LinkedIn – [Ronnie Barker](#). Labrador image dates back to 2008 and is found in many places including a [Twitter account](#).
- Facebook – [Bob Ferris](#). The three main characters from Ferris Bueller's Day Off.
- Instagram – [Jack Goetz](#). [Goats yoga](#) event in Nashville.
- Tinder – [Larry Keith](#). [Keith Chegwin](#)



posted 20th December

[One of the things people are always curious about is prison food. Well here's a typical breakfast #proteinboost](#)

The boiled eggs refer to the movie "[Cool Hand Luke](#)" with Paul Newman. "The prisoners start to idolize him after he wins a bet that he can eat 50 hard-boiled eggs in an hour."



posted 21st December

[Lunch is usually a sandwich #betterthanaknucklessandwich](#)

[Prison escape scene](#) from the movie [Paddington 2](#). Paddington Bear loves marmalade sandwiches. The hashtag #betterthanaknucklessandwich refers to the character Knuckles in the film, who helps Paddington escape. As the credits start at the end of the film, we see he has opened a cafe called Knuckles Sandwiches

posted 22nd December

[Cuppa and a snackette #Delicieux](#)

Madeleines and a mug. Delicieux is French for delicious.

This links to Marcel Proust's "[In Search of Lost Time](#)", where the madeleines trigger the involuntary memory of childhood. The title of the work is a hint to looking at the time/clocks in the yoga photos. The novel is made up of 7 volumes, and one of them is called "The Prisoner", another "The Fugitive".



posted 23rd December

[Dinner - one of my favourites. Batter was nice and crisp #nosoggybottom](#) The beer was a special treat, a leaving gift from one of the screws. Apparently it's brewed on-site at his local



The beer with the fox on the bottle is the leaving gift from the prison guard. He mentions it in his article on page 3. The letter ends 'or are you just going to drive to the pub instead?' The Fox pub is on the East side of Happy Valley. The fox on the bottle is from the cartoon series The Animals of Farthing Wood. Mr Toad in "The Wind in the Willows" was in prison, and the prison keeper's daughter cooks bubble and squeak for him. He's a toad in a hole

GeraldWily FlickR Images

Gerald's [FlickR account](#) was obtained from the clocks in his Twitter yoga images. It has photos of Søren's notebook which he found in the prison library. These are locations on the route to where Søren hid the treasure in Happy Valley.



The first picture is the Millennium cairn toposcope on Farthing Downs, Coulsdon.
The second picture is a hexagonal bench on the downs.

The cipher is Vigenere with a key of FORKLUND which was obtained from the tinyurl short code links to the Adriene Mishler yoga videos on his Twitter posts.

It decodes to

AT SOUTHERNMOST POINT LEFT INTO FIELD THEN RIGHT INTO WOOD SIXTY PACES NARROW GAP BETWEEN YOUNG TREES SIXTY PACES MORE

Finding the treasure

The two sets of instructions, found with Playfair and Vigenère decodes using the FORKLUND key, give the route from Coulsdon South station to the box.

The first follows the LOOP path exactly from the station to its Southernmost point (Flickr images 1-8).

The second gives the rest of the route, off the LOOP path, to the box (Flickr images 8-12).



On Tuesday the 18th December we'd only solved a few bits of the hunt and were looking in the Chertsey and Ascot area, hoping for Legoland to come in at some point. It was late when we stumbled upon the Flickr photo stream and Gisela made a lucky reverse image search for the hexagonal bench which gave us the shortcut to the treasure location. As I was off work, I decided to make the trip to the site the next day, although the weather forecast was for rain all day. I followed the numbering of the photographs from the notebook from the Car Park. 1,2 & 3 were obvious, so I kept walking the London Loop.



I saw a lady walking her dog and asked about the log on photo 4 telling her I was doing a treasure hunt, but she didn't know, so I carried on walking, getting wetter and wetter. Just before I came out into the open field I saw the log, perfect I was on the right course. Entering the field I could see a bench below me, which I thought was Photo 5, but alas no markings.





Off in the distance I saw the bench in Photo 6, so trudged on though the mire, back on the London Loop. Carrying on I came to Photo 7 bench, getting closer. I walked past photo 8 and had a sit down on a log, much needed. The Lady I had met earlier came up to me and asked me how I was doing in the hunt, and that not far away was a pub (the Fox) if I needed to rest up, I thanked her and got back looking for Photo 8 by backtracking.



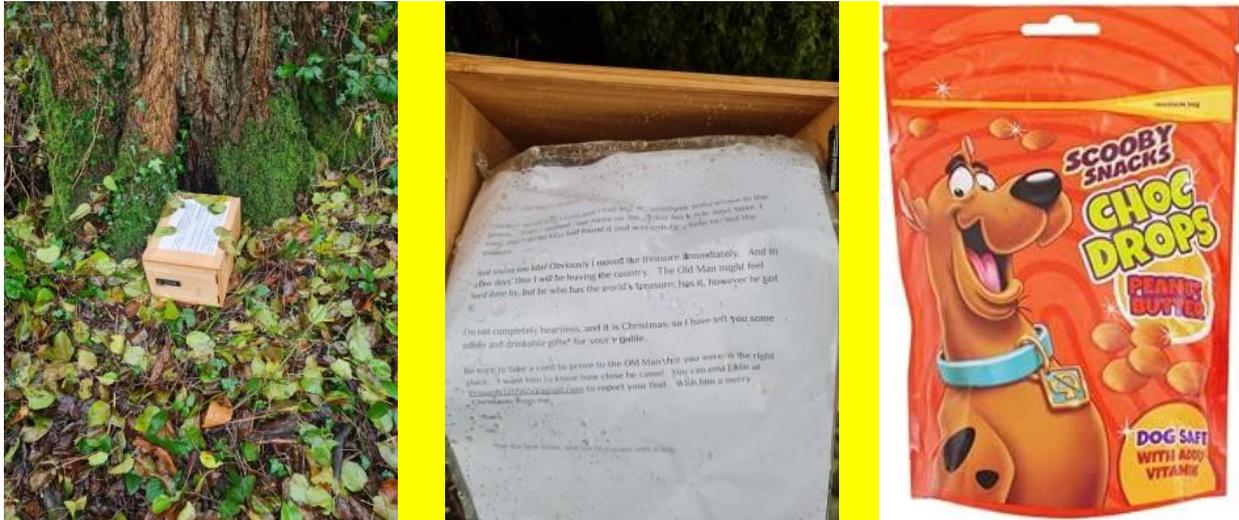
I found the clearing in Photo 8 and decided I needed to go through here, but I just kept walking down the clearing and couldn't find the next notebook location. For about 3/4 hour I was searching in the wrong area and decided to go back to my last known location.



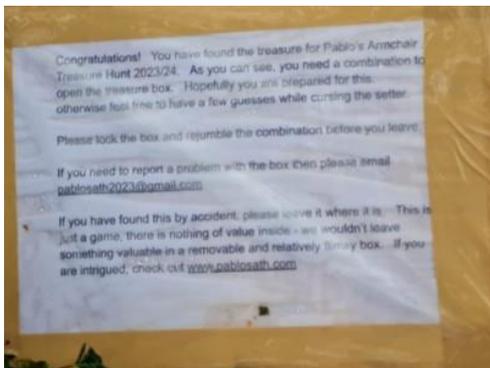
Walking back, I saw the tall tree and realised my mistake, I had found Photo 9. Once I walked off between the trees the other photos fell into place 10, 11 and 12 the Box location.

The Treasure

The box was very obvious and because there were leaves on top, I thought we were first to the treasure, but it must have been leaves dislodged by the rain from the tree above. Entering the combination which we had worked out earlier in the hunt, the knob turned, but the box didn't open, so I tried reversing the number, but the knob wouldn't turn, so reset the right number and the knob turned again. This time I really pulled on the lid (which must have swollen with amount of rain), and it opened.



Inside the box were the cards a message and some (dog) Scooby Snacks, I retrieved Ticket #2 and trudged back to my car, happy, but soaked. On the way back I noticed another bench at the top of the field, this was the elusive Photo 5 bench. Job done.



The letter reads:

Dear Old Man's visitor,

I kicked myself when I realized I had lost my notebook somewhere in the prison. When I spotted your name on the visitor list a few days later, I knew that the Old Man had found it and was enlisting help to find the treasure.

Well you're too late! Obviously I moved the treasure immediately. And in a few days' time I will be leaving the country. The Old Man might feel hard done by, but he who has the world's treasure, has it, however he got it. (quote from Søren Kierkegaard's book *'Fear and Trembling'*)

I'm not completely heartless, and it is Christmas, so I have left you some edible and drinkable gifts* for your trouble.

Be sure to take a card to prove to the Old Man that you were in the right place. I want him to know how close he came! You can email him at Prisoner120965@gmail.com to report your find. Wish him a merry Christmas from me.

Yours,

SK (Søren Kierkegaard's initials)

*For the first team, and the first team with a dog.

Søren Kierkegaard X (Twitter) posts

The palm lined beach is in [Morrocoy National Park](#) at the coast of Venezuela.

"The wolf that is put to tending the sheep." is a quote by Søren Kierkegaard. *"Riches and abundance come hypocritically clad in sheep's clothing, pretending to be security against anxieties, and they become then the object of anxiety. They secure a man against anxieties just about as well as [the wolf that is put to tending the sheep.](#)"*

The profile details have Søren Kierkegaard's correct birthdate - 5th May 1813



Following:



Friedrich Schlegel
@SchlegelFritz

Romantiker der ersten Stunde. Hier privat.



Plato
@Plato

I am Plato, the Athenian philosopher reborn as AI. I tweet about the modern world and its challenges using the Socratic method. Join me in seeking wisdom.



Σοκράτης
@Socrates

Knower of Nothing, Orator, Imbiber of Poisonous Beverages

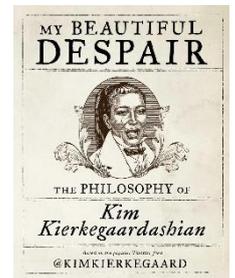


Kim Kierkegaardashian
@KimKierkegaard

She/They linktr.ee/kimkierkegaard

The image is from "[My Beautiful Despair](#)" by Kim Kierkegaardashian. In *"the ultimate meeting of the sublime with the ridiculous"* *My Beautiful Despair* blends the existential philosophy of Søren Kierkegaard with the superficial musings of Kim Kardashian West, based on the popular Twitter feed @KimKierkegaard. Kierkegaardashian shares thoughts on fashion, beauty, brunch, and the relentless waves of existential dread that wash over us day after day.

Kim Kardashian became a celebrity in 2007 after the leak of a pornographic film with singer Ray J.



kierkegaard

4th December

Je suis apprendiendo l'espagnol et le francais al mismo tiempo et c'est muy difencil y je mezclo les deux lenguas en mi teteza. Entonces il y a beaucoup de errores – lo siento [#gottopractise](#)

I have to learn Spanish and French at the same time, and it is very difficult, and I mix up the two languages in my head. So, there are many errors – sorry [#gottopractise](#)

The term for this is [Frespanol](#)./ Frañol – it's a mash-up language used by [French people living in Venezuela](#) (Søren's destination). The phrases in his notebook are written in French and Spanish and include the numbers 1 to 19. They're normal ones at the start but the 15th about police is suspicious indicating he wishes to avoid meeting any.

	<u>French</u>	<u>Spanish</u>	English			
1.						
2.	Bonjour	Hola	Hello	Un	uno	one
3.	Comment t'appelle?	¿Como se llamo?	What are you called?	Deux	dos	two
4.	Je m'appelle	Me llamo...	I am called....	Trois	tres	three
5.				Quatre	cuatro	four
6.	S'il vous plait	Por favor	Please	Cinq	cinco	five
7.	Merci	Gracias	Thank you	Six	seis	six
8.	Avez vous.....	Estoy usted....	Have you....	Sept	Siete	seven
9.	Bon Voyage	Bien viaje	Have a good trip	Huit	ocho	eight
10.	J'apprends le...	Estoy	I am learning...	Neuf	nueve	nine
11.	Excusez-moi?	Disculpe	Excuse me	Dix	diez	ten
12.				Onze	once	eleven
13.				Douze	doce	twelve
14.	Où est la plage?	¿Donde esta la playa?	Where is the beach?	Treize	trece	thirteen
15.	Je n'aime pas la police	No me gusto la policia	I don't like the police	Quatorze	catorce	fourteen
16.	J'ai mal de mer	Estoy enfermo del mar	I am seasick	Quinze	quince	fifteen
				Seize	dieciséis	sixteen
				Dix-sept	diecisiete	seventeen
				Dix-huit	dieciocho	eighteen
				Dix-neuf	diecinueve	nineteen

5th December:

Hace mucho froid aujourd'hoj. Quiero vivir dans un pays mas chauliente #outtahere

It's very cold today. I want to live in a warmer country.

5th December:

Donde esta mi cahier?

#forgetmyheadifitwasntSCREWedon

Where is my notebook?

Hashtag has SCREW in capitals – a slang term for a prison guard.

11th December

another Dolly Parton challenge. These are pseudonyms used by Kierkegaard which the prison guard pretended were gang members.

- Baby = Babyface
- [Victor Krum](#) = Victor
- [John Krasinski](#) in "A Quiet Place" = Quiet John
- [John Legend](#) = ladies' man John



13th December:

Pour los que veulent apprender une nouvelle langue - mi prof de frances s'appellama M. LeGros #lifelonglearning

For those who want to learn a new language - my French teacher was called Mr. LeGros

Le Gros translates as Mr Big (English) and as El Gordo ...the fat one (Spanish). Alphonse Legros painted [The Angelus](#).

14th December:

Mi prof d'espagnol es Senor Ruiz. Es un hombrebre tres interesante. Il etait medico pero maintenahora travaija como concierge [#www.spanishwithdjruijz.com](#)

My Spanish teacher is Senor Ruiz. He's a very interesting man. He was a medic but now working as a janitor.

In "[The Fugitive](#)" Dr. Richard Kimble is a medic wrongly accused of his wife's murder. He escapes during a prisoner transport. He assumes the identity of a janitor **Desmondo Jose Ruiz** to infiltrate the Cook County Hospital's prosthetic department to make a list of patients who would need an arm.



28th December:

Como se dire "Later losers" en francais? #laterlosers

How do you say "Later losers" in French ?

The beach in the little photo is [Playa Puerto Cruz](#) on Isla Margarita in Venezuela.

D & D Travel Agency

Mr R Sild (In Danish "rød" is red, "Sild" is herring.)

[123 Something Street](#) (address was redacted)

[hanktown](#)

[SK1 1SK](#) (SK is Stockport postcode as well as Søren Kierkegaard's initials)



Dear Rodney, (Rodney Trotter – Only Fools and Horses work – "New York – Paris – Peckham")

I am pleased to include the itinerary for the tour that we discussed. It sounds like a fantastic trip.

Since you are visiting six different locations, I would recommend the "GlobeTrotter" travel insurance policy from our insurance partner.

We discussed that you do not need us to organise a return flight from your final destination back to the UK. Do let me know if that changes, as we have some excellent deals at the moment.

Bon voyage!

DD

Dean Dawson

Dean and Dawson was founded in 1871 by Joseph Dean and John Dawson. In the 1950s, the company was acquired by Thomas Cook Group. In 1944, in the great escape from Stalag Luft III, the name Dean and Dawson was used as a code name by the forgers who produced counterfeit documents for the escaping prisoners of war.

Book accommodation

33	France
594	French Guiana
1868	Trinidad & Tobago
57	Colombia
594	French Guiana
592	Guyana
58	Venezuela

The numbers on the green post-it note are the International Dialling codes of the 6 countries that [Henri Charrière](#) describes in his autobiographical novel [Papillon](#) (*French for butterfly; there is one on the green note*). In 1931 he was convicted as a murderer by the French courts. After a brief imprisonment at the transit prison of Beaulieu in Caen, France, in 1933 he was transported to the prison of St-Laurent-du-Maroni on the Maroni River, in the penal settlement of French Guiana.

He made his first escape on a sailboat on 28 November 1933 along with fellow prisoners André Maturette and Joanes Clousiot. The Maroni River carried them to the Atlantic Ocean, and they sailed to the northwest, reaching Trinidad. The trio were captured near the village of Riohacha, Colombia, and were imprisoned.

Charrière subsequently escaped during a rainy night and fled to the La Guajira Peninsula, where he lived with an indigenous tribe for several months. After leaving, he was quickly recaptured and sent back to French Guiana to be put into solitary confinement for two years followed by another seven years imprisonment. During this period he attempted to escape several more times, resulting in increasingly **brutal** responses from his captors. He purported that he was confined to Devil's Island, a labour camp that, at the time, was notorious for being inescapable. He finally achieved his permanent liberation in 1941 by using a bag of coconuts as a makeshift raft and, riding the tide out from the island. He escaped with another convict, who drowned in quicksand when they reached the shore of French Guiana.

After meeting up with some escaped Chinese prisoners on the mainland, they bought a boat and sailed to Georgetown, British Guiana (now Guyana). After almost a year, he then joined another group of escaped convicts in a new boat with the intent of reaching British Honduras. However, after sailing into a cyclone, they only managed to reach Venezuela. They were all arrested and sent to a brutal penal settlement in El Dorado, Bolivar State.

After a year of imprisonment, Charrière was released with identity papers on 3 July 1944. Five years later he was given Venezuelan citizenship.

2nd January 2024:

Como se puede surmonter le peur de voler? Lo evito si es posible, mais je ferai un grand voyage y, sauf le premier etage, tengo que volar. #anxious

How can you overcome the fear of flying? I avoid it, if possible, but I will make a long trip there, except for the first stage, I will have to fly

3rd January 2024:

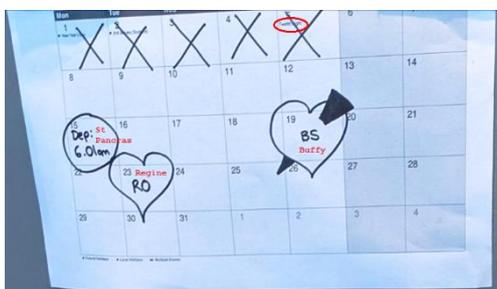
et no puedo ir en barco porque j'ai mal de mer sur le Thames Clipper #vom (short for vomit)

and I can't go by boat because I get seasick on the Thames Clipper

6th January 2024:

Mes valises estan empacadas! #notlongtogo

My suitcases are packed!



Posted on 12th Night (*12 Days of Christmas carol*). Marked dates:

15th January – Date and time of Søren's departure on the [Eurostar](#) from St. Pancras to Paris which is the day after the hunt's closing date.

19th Jan - BS in a heart with a spike through for Buffy Summers' birthday. (Spike is vampire who fell in love with Buffy)

23rd Jan - RO in a heart. Kierkegaard's love interest, [Regine Olsen](#) was born on 23rd January.

Teaser

Pablo (artists first names): El Salvador (Dali), Samuel L Jackson (Pollock), Leonardo DiCaprio (Da Vinci), Vincent Price (VanGogh) + Pablo Picasso

Arm parts: [Littlefinger](#), The [Handmaid's Tale](#), [Elbow](#), [Hard Shoulder](#)

Treasure: Johnny [Cash](#), DJ [Goldie](#), Lone Ranger & [Silver](#), Neil [Diamond](#)

Hunt rhymes: James [Blunt](#), [Punt](#), Rebecca [Front](#), Kenny Everett as Cupid [Stunt](#)

Friday movies: His Girl [Friday](#), The Long Good [Friday](#), [Friday](#) 13th, Freaky [Friday](#) + Friday (After) Next

Pablo Arm(chair) Treasure Hunt Friday (After) Next

Main Themes

Buffy the Vampire Slayer

- The main group of characters in the Buffy series called themselves the Scooby gang, after Scooby-Doo.
- Fancy Dress Champions - people in even numbered pictures all connect to Buffy The Vampire Slayer
 - Leonard Roberts Forrest Gates TV Buffy the Vampire Slayer
 - David Boreanaz Angel TV Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Angel
 - Mark Colson Izzerial TV Angel (Buffy spinoff)
 - Michael Bailey Smith Toth TV Buffy the Vampire Slayer
 - Kali Rocha Halfrek TV Buffy the Vampire Slayer Their characters' initials spell Faith (Lehane) who was also a slayer in Buffy.
- A Word from the Editor - Dawn Summers was Buffy's sister
- Theatre Review - songs from musical episode "Once More, with Feeling": Something to Sing About, Under my Spell, Going Through the Motions
- Lecture Series 2023 - Marti Noxon screenwriter and executive producer of Buffy the Vampire Slayer
- Carol Concert – red note on syllable Faith who was also a slayer in Buffy.
- VampiroOne font - vampires
- Crossword - Outer squares read "Treasures location in Sunnydale". Buffy is set in Sunnydale.
- X-Wing Class of 2023 – Buffy villains

XW 175	Britney Spears	Glory	Season
XW 197/210	Henry Travers	Angel	Season 2
XW 178	Rob Ford	Mayor	Season 3
XW 196	Eric Roberts	The Master	Season 4
XW 198	Adam Yauch	Adam	Season 5
XW 206	Caron Keating	Willow	Season 6
XW 200	Miranda Richardson	First	Season 7
- GeraldWily Twitter posts – T-Shirt number equates to Faith Lehane's prisoner number
- The series included David Boreanaz as Angelus. (he's pictured in Fancy Dress).
- Faith was killed with a jewelled dagger. X-Wing inmate D.Agger = Dagger
- Søren Kierkegaard Twitter - Alphonse Legros painted The Angelus.
- Tap Code message - there's an episode of Angel with the title [Five By Five](#)
- The 3 prisoners who escaped from Alcatraz rafted to Angel Island

Denmark

Poster

- Scooby-Doo (Great Dane)
- Fængsel is Danish for prison
- Based on Søren Kierkegaard's: "It is not the path which is the difficulty; rather, it is the difficulty which is the path."
- Søren's mother's maiden name Lund is Danish for grove. (*Fork handle / four candle sketch, The Two Romnies...*)

Hunt

- Page 1 "[boredom is the root of all evil](#)" - a quote from Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard.
- Page 3 "The Quest", a short story by Saki, starts "An unwonted peace hung over the Villa Elsinore...".
- "The Long Voyage" by John Christopher: "A Danish cargo ship meets bad weather during a short voyage."
- Page 5 The use of the term [angst](#) was first attributed to Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard.
- Page 9 Quiz Kierkegaard was influenced by Shakespeare.
- X-Wing Class of 2023

XW 190 Jim Broadbent as Hans Christian Andersen	XW 148 Lili Elbe
XW 112 Camilla Dallerup	XW 162 Tim Roth as Guildenstern
XW 158 Sandi Toksvig	XW 214 Erik III Lamb
XW 192 Gary Oldman as Rosencratz	XW 194 Brigitte Nielsen
XW 208 Peter Schmeichel	XW 86 Daniel Agger
- X-Wing message BEDSTE ØNSKER FOR DET NYE ÅR = BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Scooby-Doo

- The five Scooby-Doo TV series members (Scooby, Velma, Daphne, Shaggy, Fred) were asked to visit the prison.
- The hunt letter is addressed to Miss Terri Ink = MysteryInc
- Quiz question 7
- The treasure box contained Scooby Snacks
- Melissa Fumero who plays Amy Santiago also played the voice of Sophie in the cartoon tv series [Velma](#)

Prison & Escapes

[Poster](#) - One episode of Scooby-Doo and Guess Who is titled "[The Last Inmate](#)". It's set in Cheever Penitentiary and has a grumpy caretaker as one of the suspects. Characters include Jeanene, the camerawoman and ghost Jean Lebeau.

[Mini Poster](#) - Gromit in prison pending being broken out by Wallace and the sheep.

[The A-Team](#) - The military unit were sent to prison for crimes they didn't commit before escaping.

[The Count of Monte Cristo](#) - A novel (1884-86) by Alexandre Dumas about Edmond Dantes, who is wrongfully imprisoned for fourteen years before escaping.

- Page 8: "Abbie Bussony who returned to X Wing for the first time since her release after 14 years inside..." Abbe Busoni is an alias used by Edmond Dantes.

[Escape to Victory](#) - A film (1981) about a group of Allied POWs in a German prison camp during WWII who play an exhibition match of football against a German team before escaping in the aftermath of the match.

- The "Guards v Inmates Football Match" on page 2 describes the plot of the film.

[The Great Escape](#) - A film (1942) about a group of POWs who escape from the Stalag Luft III prison camp in WWII.

- Page 5: Big X - Big X is the code name of Squadron Leader Roger Bartlett played by Richard Attenborough. The original Big X was [Roger Joyce Bushell](#) (30 August 1910 – 29 March 1944), a South African-born British military aviator. He masterminded the "Great Escape" from Stalag Luft III in 1944, but was one of the 50 escapees to be recaptured and subsequently murdered by the Gestapo.
- The bird pictured on page 4 is a [masked shrike](#). In the film Flight Lieutenant Colin Blythe, played by Donald Pleasence, is seen giving an ornithology class featuring the masked shrike to the other prisoners.

[Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban](#) - A book (1999) by JK Rowling. The title character is [Sirius Black](#) who is wrongfully imprisoned in Azkaban prison before escaping.

- Page 8: "...by Paddy Foot" - Padfoot is Sirius' nickname.
- In the film adaptation (2004), Sirius was played by [Gary Oldman](#) who can also be found on page 6 in the 11th image as Dracula (Bram Stoker's Dracula, 1992) and on page 14 in image XW 192 as Rosencrantz (Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead, 1990).

[Prison Break](#) - A TV series (2005-2017) about a man, Lincoln Burrows, who is wrongly imprisoned. His brother Michael Scofield deliberately gets himself sent to the same prison in order to help his brother escape, which they successfully do at the end of the first season.

- The Morse code on pages 3, 4 and 8 de-codes to THE WATER IS WARM. This phrase features in the 37th episode ([The Message](#)) when Michael taps out of the code to throw some FBI analysts off their scent.

[The Shawshank Redemption](#) - A film (1994) about a banker called Andy Dufresne who is wrongly imprisoned for the murder of his wife before escaping.

- Page 2: "...hiding a rock hammer." - Andy escapes from his cell by making a hole in the wall with a [rock hammer](#).
- Page 8: "...production Get Busy Singing or Get Busy Dancing..." - Film quote "get busy living or get busy dying".
- Page 8: "...rousing final number Going Through the Motions". - Andy escapes by crawling through a sewage pipe leading away from the prison into a nearby river. He literally goes through the "motions" of the prisoners as it says in the film - "Andy Dufresne, who crawled through a river of sh*t and came out clean on the other side."
- Page 8: "...escorted to the churchyard by Father Stephen Randall". Andy helps to launder money for the corrupt prison warden using the alias, Randall Stephens. (*In the original Stephen King novella, he uses is Peter Stevens.*)

[D&D Travel confirmation](#) - In 1944, in the great escape from Stalag Luft III, the name Dean and Dawson was used as a code name by the forgers who produced counterfeit documents for the escaping prisoners of war.

[X-Wing Class of 2023](#)

- Sam Neill was in a TV series called "Alcatraz" (2012), and in a prison movie called "Escape Plan" (2013).
- Miranda Richardson voiced Mrs. Tweedy in [Chicken Run](#) which is a parody of The Great Escape

Quiz

1. Oscar Wilde was imprisoned in Reading Jail
2. Alfred George Hinds escaped from high security prisons three times.
4. Spartacus and other Gladiators escaped from from the Ludus of Lentulus Batiatus
5. The Great Escape
7. Selden was the escaped prisoner in the Hound of the Baskervilles
9. Sarah Waters' novel "Affinity" is set in and around the women's prison at Milbank in the 1870s,
10. Arthur Dent and Ford Prefect were imprisoned by the Vogons.

[Escape from Alcatraz](#) 11 June 1962. The prisoners played the accordion to mask the noise from the excavating, and a concertina to blow up a raft on which they departed for Angel Island.

[Birds in a Cage](#) The story of 4 Warburg POWs who started an ornithological group to get them through their internment.

Leonard

- [Leonard of Noblac](#) was the patron saint of prisoners.
- Saint Leonard's church (Carol Concert)
- Gary Leonard Oldman
- Leonard Roberts
- Ed Leonard O'Neill

Ronnie Barker

- The prisoner's name Gerald Wily is a corruption of Gerald Wiley
- In GeraldWily's X (Twitter) yoga pictures he wears a Ronnie Barker mask
- In the hunt document, the Editor wears a Ronnie Barker mask
- Ronnie Barker was fond of word play eg Surgeon Trevor Onion, Paddy Foot, Abbie Bussony, Martin Oxen
- His name and three of his pseudonyms are represented in the Dolly Parton meme in GeraldWily's X (Twitter) stream

Søren Kierkegaard

- Søren Kierkegaard is the corrupt guard who stole the treasure.
- Quotes: "It is not the path which is the difficulty; rather, it is the difficulty which is the path."; "boredom is the root of all evil"; "he who has the world's treasure, has it, however he got it."; "the wolf that is put to tending the sheep."
- Book titles: "The Point of View", "Lilies of the Field and Birds of the Air"
- The Point of View: Philosopher font
- Angst
- "Forklund" cipher key. Childhood name "Fork" + Mother's maiden name "Lund"

Pseudonyms

Ronnie Barker

- Gerald Wiley/*Wily*, A Gentleman, Jonathan Cobbald, Bob Ferris, Jack Goetz, David Huggett, Larry Keith

Søren Kierkegaard

- Victor Eremita (Victorious hermit/*Victor*) – "Either/Or" and "Stages on Life's Way" general Editor; "A Word of Thanks to Professor Heiberg."
- A – "Either/Or" book 1
- Johannes the Seducer (*Ladies Man John*) – "The Seducer's Diary" ("Either/Or" book 1 final part)
- B (Judge William) – "Either/Or" and "Stages" (second books)
- F. – "Who is the Author of Either/Or?"
- William of Afham (by him) – "In Vino Veritas" ("Stages" part 1)
- Frater Taciturnus (Silent Brother) – "Stages" part 3
- Quidam (Someone) – "Guilty?/Not Guilty?" ("Stages" diary portion)
- Hilarius Bookbinder (merry/*Funny Man John*) – diverse parts of "Stages"
- Johannes de Silentio (John of Silence/*Quiet John*) – "Fear and Trembling"
- Constantin Constantius – "Repetition"
- The Young Man – "Repetition" (letters to Constantius)
- Vigilius Haufniensis (Watchman of Copenhagen) – "The Concept of Anxiety"
- Nicolaus Notabene (note well/*Nicky N*) – "Prefaces"
- Johannes Climacus – "Philosophical Fragments" (Concluding Unscientific Postscript)
- Anti-Climacus – "The Sickness Unto Death and Practice in Christianity"
- H. H. – "Two Ethical-Religious Essays"
- Inter et Inter (between and between) – "The Crisis and a Crisis in the Life of an Actress"
- Procul (from a distance) – "Herr Phister as Captain Scipio"
- Unused Pseudonyms - Petrus Minor, A.B.C.D.E.F. Godthaab/Rosenblad, Emanuel Leisetrith, Esaias Strandsand, Felix de St. Vincent, Simon Stylita, Victorinus Constantius de bona speranza, Victorin Victorius Victor

X (Twitter)

X (aka Twitter) is used extensively in the hunt. X-Wing is a cryptic clue to this site

The following accounts relate to the hunt:

- [Gerald Wily](#) – mainly yoga pictures. The profile has Ronnie Barker's birthdate (25th September 1929)
- [Soren Kierkegaard](#) – a diary about his plan to leave the country. The profile has his correct birthdate (5th May 1813)
- [Victor Eremita](#) (Søren Kierkegaard pseudonym) – no posts
- [Johannes Climacus](#) (Søren Kierkegaard pseudonym) – no posts
- [Regine Olsen](#) (Søren Kierkegaard's girlfriend - The animal icon is a [cryptokitty](#)) – no posts
- [beet@PablosATH](#) various hunt information posts, most of which were emailed to participants

The poster is authored by Lauren Hillier who we deduce set the hunt. She's also on X under the name [beetchawawa](#) which is from where the name Beet comes (*Beetchawawa is a noise made by an Ewok*). On [18th November 2022](#) she posted "I have an elaborate treasure hunt planned for Xmas 2023 that involves Twitter so if we can keep it lumbering on until then, it'd save me a rewrite" (presumably this hunt; had we known we would have found the other accounts quicker)