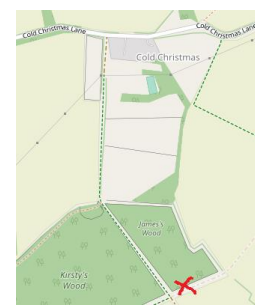




ATH 2021 Submission The PATHfinders



Overview and Theme

The main theme and title of this hunt is the Twelve Days of Christmas. Clues to the gifts for each day are spread across the pages of the hunt (although we have not identified them all!) as follows:

Pg	Puzzle	Gift	Pg	Puzzle	Gift
1	Wordsearch	A partridge in a peartree	8	Christmas party 1	None; box instructions?
2	Playfair / ADFGVX	9 ladies dancing?	9	French hens	3 French hens
3	Hexagonal crossword	5 gold rings	10	Cold war / Turtledove X&Y puzzle + pictures	2 Turtle doves
4	Maids	8 maids a-milking			7 Swans a-swimming
5	Pigpen Drummers	4 calling birds	11	Xmas cards + inners	None; box instructions?
		12 drummers drumming	12	Christmas airlines	10 lords a-leaping?
6	No. 1s / pipe smokers	11 pipers piping?	13	Celsius etc.	11... pipers piping?
7	Christmas party 1	None; box instructions?	14	Photo trail	None; macro trail to box?

A secondary theme is Cold Christmas, which appears on multiple, possibly all pages, and points to Cold Christmas in Herts as the likely treasure location (underlined by it being on the meridian, and the meridian marker with the highest degree figure on the last page.) Plus the connection to ATHs past (Christmas Common etc), and the Araucaria outside number 16 Cold Christmas Lane.

There is a place called James's Wood just to the south, which would be an attractive choice for the box location, and a fitting and poignant conclusion to this hunt. The box would likely be exactly on the meridian and - since the wood is not yet mature and has no rights of way across it - on its southern perimeter. X marks the spot on the map above.

Story of the Hunt

Not for the first time, we feel we have solved so much during this hunt, and yet still feel miles away from a complete solution, and understanding how it all fits together. The start was as usual full of promise, with the title pictures, crossword answers and photo trail locations done before midnight on the first day. The next steps though - fitting the answers into the hexagonal pattern, understanding what to do with the trail, and so on - was to prove much more difficult. There was plenty to work on over the next few days, with the wordsearch and its wonderful Partridge references largely complete, and the 12 days of Christmas themes becoming clear.

Then things began to slow, partly because of the usual demands of the Christmas period, but also because of a lack of inspiration. We chipped away at the Christmas cards and number ones and sensed they all fit into the number ones / pipe smokers year, but couldn't make it work - too much data! - not helped by the Official Charts website being down for large parts of the Christmas & New Year period. Was this some enterprising team scraping the site continuously to work out which track featuring T8 was track T4 on the number T1 album? Perhaps that's moving from apophenia to paranoia!

We couldn't make much use of the Xmas or New Year messages (other than things we think we already knew). But as per your final message, we did persevere, and while there was no vital breakthrough we did continue to solve right up to the deadline - the X&Y puzzle, the Turtledove questions, the calling bird pictures - and started to understand parts of the central puzzle of the Christmas Party with its alternate guests. Given another month, who knows, but it will be relief not to have to stare at the Playfair grid any more!

This was a very well thought out and executed hunt, with stacks of clever, enjoyable, original puzzles and codes. The advent calendar was a really nice touch - hard to believe no one thought of doing that before - and the 12 DoC worked well as a theme, and reminded us that it was Christmas. As you said in your intro, James obviously had a unique puzzling brain. Thanks also to you for letting those puzzles see the light of day, no doubt adding your own contributions too.

It's difficult to know what to expect from a new setter - but in this instance, we had an inkling we were in for a good one. Several years ago, as part of ATH 30, Dave Kee sought biographies from the teams. Ours was in the form of a mini-ATH, and James was one of only three teams to solve it (well, to be more accurate, to unearth it, and then to be bothered with it!) You can see him in the roll of honour on the right (as The Rookies.) I had the pleasure of sending him a modest prize of a Viewmaster, purchased as a job lot off eBay. It's so clear, perhaps most of all from the evidence in his wonderful Guardian obit, what a sad loss his untimely passing was.











Many thanks again for keeping us entertained over the winter holidays, and happy hunting,
The PATHfinders (Matt, Mitch, Richard et al), January 2021

Poster


Item	Description/Identification	Relevance	Links/Notes
JAMES' ADVENT CALENDAR	James Medhurst	Hunt title and tribute to its inventor, in festive Xmas colours	
12 Photos	Photos, all linked to dates between 1 and 25 December (fits with Advent theme).	Translating the day of the month to a letter gives: HAPPY HUNTING	
Photo: multi-coloured Moon	Taken by Galileo (perhaps a Logica reference) on December 8th 1992	H	https://www.nasa.gov/image-feature/retrospective-moon
Lady with glasses	Vinette Robinson as Rosa Parks in Doctor Who. She refused to give up her seat on December 1st 1955.	A	https://giphy.com/gifs/bbcamerica-television-doctor-who-bbc-america-OQruSA886Xxy70jE1
17th C men	Oliver Cromwell being sworn in as Lord Protector of England, Scotland and Ireland on 16th December 1653	P	
Ship unloading	Boston Tea Party by N Currier. Tea Party was on December 16th 1773.	P	
Bayeux tapestry	Coronation of William the Conqueror on Christmas Day 1066.	Y	
Earth clouds / Antarctica	Ross Ice Shelf. Taken by Galileo on December 8th 1990.	H	
Numbers in diamond shaped grid	Almanac of the day for 21st December 2016. 21st December 1913 is the date of the publication of the first crossword puzzle.	U	https://www.crosswordtournament.com/more/wynne.html
Amundsen	Reached the South Pole on 14th December 1911.	N	
Colin Powell & Dick Cheney	Colin Powell & Dick Cheney. General Powell is briefing reporters at the Pentagon on December 20 th 1989 about the operation to depose Manuel Noriega in Panama.	T	https://abcnews.go.com/US/photos/colin-powell-years-18673618/image-69291299
Old shop	Berry Alberge as Florrie Lindley in Coronation Street. First broadcast 9th December 1960. This still is from the first sequence in the first episode (1 minute in)	I	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSly8ZzOvaA
Lady voting	First women to vote in General Election 14th Dec 1918	N	
Satellite and Jupiter + moon	The satellite is Galileo. It arrived at Jupiter on 7th Dec 1995. The moon is Io.	G	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galileo_(spacecraft)
The first door etc.	Refers to Advent Calendar		
Photo of family at table	Breakfast Scene from "A Christmas Story". Discussion is about 'another of his silly puzzles' which "could be worth \$50,000". Also reference to a trivia question about the lone ranger's nephew's horse (Victor) and the kind of puzzle being to 'name the great characters in American literature'	Silly puzzle conversation could fit the kickoff of an ATH!	https://getyarn.io/yarn-clip/0f4dd320-b2d2-4be2-a850-db359ff00495
Santa Claus, what's that? Who's he?	From the musical Annie, about the orphan of the same name.	Clues Little Orphan Annie	
It is me who has the key.	Indicates that Annie has the key i.e. use the little orphan Annie secret decoder key.	Ralphie is a fan of the radio show, and sends off for the decoder.	
1935 superimposed on wall calendar	Indicates the year of decoder pin to use (though squarish font matches the 1936 pin, and the film used the 1940 model)		
11 22 15 21 5 12 25 4 1 14 19 18 20 7 24 23 ?	Using the 1935 Little Orphan Annie decoder pin, and setting B=2 as Ralphie does in the film, spells out DUE FOR MY NIGHTCAP?	A reference to the anticlimactic message in the film, from the show's sponsors: "Be Sure To Drink Your Ovaltine." This one cleverly manages not to repeat any letters!	I forced the family to watch this at Christmas (it was on iPlayer!) An entertaining if odd film; it probably lacks the cultural resonances for us Brits to enjoy it properly. I didn't tell them it was ATH research!

Advent Calendar

Day	Item	Identification	Relevance	Notes/links
	Background photo	Same as poster, from A Christmas Story	See poster	
1 Dec		Memory verse video helping kids learn bible verses, in this case 2 Chronicles 32.8. The bible is indicated by the book gesture.	This is charades. It's a book... in the video he also points up with one finger so that could be 'One word' or that could be taken from...	https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/407364728787130637/
		Simon Taufel. Five times umpire of the year, holding up 1 finger to give someone out.	1 word (or first word)	
		Laurence Fishburne holding his ear lobe	Sounds like...	
		Spitting Image Paul Gascoigne puppet crying.	Sounds like 'Muppet'? So this would be the first word of Muppet Christmas Carol . That's a film, though perhaps the clue is to the Dickens book. It is the ultimate Christmas Story as per background.	https://spittingimage.fandom.com/wiki/The_Gazza_Song
2 Dec		"Swampy, the World's Largest Gator" outside the Jungle Adventures attraction in a place called Christmas, Florida	Christmas , Florida	
3 Dec		Polling station at the Fox and Hounds pub, Christmas Common, Watlington	Christmas Common , which featured in the first hunt and again 20 years later.	
4 Dec		Map of Normandy Inverted picture of a Ford Flex SUV with a snow blower on top of it, from Christmas film "Daddy's Home 2" Google maps pin	These refer to places in Surrey. To the south of Normandy is Flexford (Ford Flex inverted). So the pin identifies the next place south of Flexford, which is Christmaspie . This is mentioned in the first hunt's answers (in the hunters' tales.)	
5 Dec		From the 2016 "Christmas with Steps" tour at the Manchester Apollo. The solitaire game is called Bristol, this is a screenshot from a YouTube video on how to play it.	The Christmas Steps in Bristol	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Steps_Christmas_Tour_2012_(cropped).jpg
6 Dec		Clues Christmas Tree Farm at Downe in Kent. Downe gives the Darwin connection ... and they have rheas! (We also tried to connect Rhea to Chris Rea)	Christmas Tree Farm , Downe, Kent	http://www.xmastreefarm.co.uk/animals/
7 Dec	$\frac{dT}{dt} = k(T - T_m) \Rightarrow$ <small>for HBTM</small>	Formula is Newton's law of cooling. The arrow indicates that this eventually leads to... Cold (for which the word is 'itor' in Newton's invented 'universal language') HBTM = Happy Birthday To Me. Newton was born on Christmas Day.	Cold Christmas , a hamlet in Herts. An early clue to the eventual treasure location.	
8 Dec	mx1cm0gh1us2jp0gr0it0uy1	These are World Cup football results, all of games played in Natal during the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. (E.g. Mexico 1-0 Cameroon)	Natal (Christmas in Portuguese).	












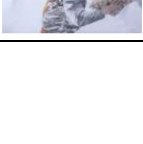
9 Dec		<p>This is about the presents in the Twelve Days of Christmas. More presents each day, triangular numbers (364 presents in toto)</p>	<p>The Twelve Days of Christmas. A clue to the theme, and to the card lyrics puzzles that will appear in the hunt. The date in the clue is Dec 25th, which is the first day of Christmas, so perhaps also a reference to the Partridge below.</p>	
10 Dec		<p>The gravestone refers to Richard Parker's gravestone in Jesus Chapel, Peartree Green near Southampton. His murder/cannibalisation was at the centre of R v Dudley and Stephens, and his name was used for the tiger in Life of Pi, hence the pi. The gravestone is green clueing the green. Not sure about the green signpost – chemical elements? Steve Coogan? Should clue Partridge. There is a Partridge Green near Horsham which would fit nicely.</p>	<p>First day of Christmas (and of the hunt)</p>	

News

Item	Interpretation	Significance
	<p>Christmas Airlines - clues the Christmas Theme 33.2475, -119.4997 - San Nicolas Island. Clues Santa. 23.5333, -75.7667 - Stocking Island. So presumably indicates the journey of a present from Santa to your stocking. Seat 44R - if you go right 44 degrees from longitude -119 you reach -75.</p>	<p>We assume this was to help with either the Airline code (which uses longitudes) or possibly the photo trail.</p>
<p>New Year's poem</p>	<p>Original poem</p>	<p>Riddle of Strider from The Hobbit. May have been chosen for its connection to Gold Rings hence 12DoC.</p>
<p><i>All that is cold is not coldest,</i></p>	<p><i>All that is gold does not glitter,</i></p>	<p>Suggests that Cold Christmas is warm, i.e. is the treasure location?</p>
<p><i>Not all cards that are shown have a twin;</i></p>	<p><i>Not all those who wander are lost;</i></p>	<p>Tell us that not all of the Xmas card inners/covers match up, confirming what we had begun to suspect.</p>
<p><i>The primes, Ptolemy's was the oldest,</i></p>	<p><i>The old that is strong does not wither,</i></p>	<p>Refers to Prime Meridians. Ptolemy was the first to define one, roughly 20 degrees west of Greenwich.</p>
<p><i>Answers can be found from within.</i></p>	<p><i>Deep roots are not reached by the frost.</i></p>	<p>Not understood</p>
<p><i>From the themes an idea shall be woken,</i></p>	<p><i>From the ashes a fire shall be woken,</i></p>	<p>Presumably refers to the 12DoC and Cold Christmas themes</p>
<p><i>And words from the puzzles shall spring;</i></p>	<p><i>A light from the shadows shall spring;</i></p>	<p>Could refer to many puzzles e.g. the Wordsearch, the Gold Rings etc</p>
<p><i>Renewed shall be spirits that were broken,</i></p>	<p><i>Renewed shall be blade that was broken,</i></p>	<p>Ours weren't!</p>
<p><i>A letter may look like a ring.</i></p>	<p><i>The crownless again shall be king.</i></p>	<p>Refers to the rings in the p3 crossword being letters (O). The one thing that we had already understood.</p>

Page 1 - Photos

Starting from Bogie and working clockwise, the photos clue each of the **12 Days of Christmas** (12DoC). This gives the title and main theme of the hunt.

Photo/Item	Description/Identification	Date	Links/Notes
	Jan III Sobieski by Daniel Schultz. A pun on January 3 rd .	January 3rd	
	Nancy Pelosi getting the Speaker's gavel on January 4th 2007	January 4th	https://fivethirtyeight.abcnews.go.com/video/embed/60140286?section=politics
	Golden Gate Bridge being built (construction started on 5th Jan 1933)	January 5th	
	Humphrey Bogart in The Maltese Falcon with party hat and party horn (celebrating his birthday. He was born on Xmas day, 1899.	December 25th	
	Australian postage stamp from Christmas 1973. Depicts Good King Wenceslas looking out on the Feast of Stephen (26 th December)	December 26th	
	Apollo 8 splashdown, December 27 th , 1968	December 27th	
	Reconquista - the surrender of Granada by the Moors January 2nd 1492	January 2nd	
	Daily Mail headline - January 1st 1973. How ironic.	January 1st	
	Donald Campbell's Bluebird being launched at Lake Dumbleyung (Project K7). He broke the world water speed record on 31st December 1964.	December 31st	
	Roy G. Biv - They Might Be Giants (Music Video). Richard of York Gave Battle in Vain on December 30th. The last photo we found on the first evening.	December 30th	
	Murder of St. Thomas Becket, December 29 th 1170	December 29th	
	Still from "Els Enfarinats" festival (eggs and flour throwing) which takes place every year on December 28 th in Ibi, Alicante, Spain	December 28th	https://www.dailymail.co.uk/video/spain/video-2077624/Video-Spanish-revellers-throw-eggs-flour-200-year-old-tradition.html

Page 1 – Wordsearch



Key and relevance (more details on next page where required)

Alan's programmes	Clues Alan Partridges terrible ideas/pitches for new shows, as seen in "I'm Alan Partridge"
DANs	15 Dans for Alan's 15 shouts of "Dan" to his new buddy in the "Bravealan" episode
Monkeys	All monkeys, clueing Alan's legendary Monkey Tennis pitch to Tony Hayers
More Monkeys	Further monkey tennis references
Youth Hostels	Youth hostels pronounced with Chrith Eubank'th Lithp, clueing "Youth Hostelling with Chris Eubank"
Prisons	Puts the cooking clues "in prison" clueing "Cooking in Prison", another of Alan's programme pitches
Cooking	Clues cooking terms for the cooking in prison ref, leaving a secret message shown in black on white
Diagonal message	The red letters on the original wordsearch are part of snaking diagonal messages, mostly magenta above...
BECKY	.. unless another colour has been used in which case a larger bold font is used
Christmas	Xmas terms for the Xmas theme. Some are cold (Lapland, Ice Skating) = Cold Christmas.
BIRDS	There are some anagrammed birds shown in blue
Unused Letters	The leftovers from the above spell out a rhyme from the setters

Alan's pitches

Knowing M.E., Knowing You (an ill-advised variation on his earlier Knowing Me, Knowing You chat show); A Partridge among the pigeons; Swallow; Arm Wrestling with Chas & Dave; Alan Attack; Inner City Sumo.

Note: Ice Skating is mis-coloured, we think that's actually just another (cold) Xmas word.

Monkeys & more monkeys

Most are just monkey species, as shown in the greed cells, but a few require further explanation

- CU29ZN30 = Copper + Zinc = Brass (Monkey)
- PlayPong: a reference to Elon Musk's Neuralink experiment, which involves a monkey playing Pong via a wireless brain implant. Hence Monkey Tennis.
- ChillyPine leads to 'Chile[an] Pine' AKA the Monkey Puzzle tree (Araucaria). Clues several things:
 - Monkey (Tennis)
 - The Araucaria outside number 16 Cold Christmas Lane, Thundridge (see diagonal message below)
 - Chilly = Cold, so another link to Cold Christmas
 - And, perhaps unintentionally, but fittingly for this puzzle, the legendary Guardian Xword setter John Graham

Youth Hostels

Loch Ossian; Black Sail; Pen y Pass; Slaidburn

Prisons

Ford; Sing Sing; Slade

Diagonal message

Two of the snaking diagonal sections spell: **THIS YEARS QUEST TAKES BECKY BETTS FROM FRETtenham TO FAKENHAM**

This refers to an [episode](#) of the Radio Norfolk treasure-hunting show [Treasure Quest](#). See 'Cooking' for the relevance.

The other diagonal message - **GAME MARMOSSET AND MATCH** - neatly combines monkeys and tennis.

Cooking

Molecular Gastronomy; Nouvelle Cuisine; Cordon Bleu; Vegan

This leaves the message: WHERE WAS CLUE TWO? Clue 2 of Becky's Quest was located at the pear tree in the Bishop's Garden in Norwich. Alan is from Norwich – and worked for "Radio Norwich" - so this all clues "A Partridge in a Pear Tree."

Birds

We found anagrammed birds in blue: Owl; Turkey; Blacktail Hen. There is also a Swan (not shown in blue text).

Unused Letters

The unused letters spell:

KNOWING ME AND KNOWING YOU AHA [Alan's catchphrase]

YOU HAVE FOUND A CLUE

BUT ALAS YOUR HOPES WE DASH

IT WONT HELP YOU FIND THE CACHE [This isn't going to help us find the treasure...]

YOUVE BEEN CLEVER SO WE WANT TO GIVE YOU A BONUS POINT [... but there are points at stake]

AFTER YOU HAVE FOUND THE TREASURE

ON THE WALK BACK AT YOUR LEISURE [From the box, along Cold Christmas Lane towards Thundridge]


MAKE A NOTE OF WHAT YOUVE SEEN

OUTSIDE OF NUMBER SIXTEEN [There's an Araucaria in the garden, linking with the monkey above]

Six geese a-laying


We also found 6 geese in the grid. They are not marked (as they would overwrite some of the other colours, and unused letters that make up the above message) but can be found by moving from square to square, starting from the indicated excel-style coordinates (also not marked!): (H17) ROMAN; (R22) CANADA; (N12) OLAND; (L21) TWENTE; (Z12) SNOW; (W10) CHINESE.

Page 2 – Playfair, ADFGVX, and that blasted grid

	<p>David Gower on the cover of the 1983 Playfair cricket annual. This is the 36th edition.</p>	<p>Clues that the message that follows is Playfair encoded. The 36th edition relates to this being the 36th edition of the ATH. And clues that 36 is key (literally) to this page.</p>
<p>SR86ZA187484YKBPYNWY UXK6X4IKW6TQYKBY</p>	<p>The Playfair message. Naturally it's 36 characters, as are all the strings on this page.</p>	<p>Our assumption is that we can decode this with the 6x6 grid below. Each square should clue a letter or a number from 0-9. The results will contain some numbers but they can be read as textspeak. But this is hampered by – presumably intentional – ambiguity in the letters to use. All our attempts yielded gobbledygook. We think it should clue the use of Vigenere (possibly as V1G3N3R3) with key VISQUARED.</p>

The 6x6 grid. Total = 36, and each cell relates to the number 36. Proposed letter/number in red.

<p>German Destroyer Z36 Z</p>	<p>Tom Brady winning his first Super Bowl (Superbowl 36) B or S</p>	<p>1,3,10</p>	<p>Rachel Walters' Etsy shop was formerly called Undecillion, which is 10 to the power 36. U or P.</p>	<p>Ushibori, one of Hokusai's 36 views of Mount Fuji V</p>	<p>1,4,9</p>
<p>Three feet = Yard = 36 inches. I or Y</p>	<p>Huyton Parish Church in postcode L36 L or H</p>	<p>Liu Xiu aka Gwangwu or Wenshu - painted by Yan Liben - he reunited china on Xmas day AD36 L,X,G or W</p>	<p>Nevada, 36th state admitted to the union N or S</p>	<p>Two dice, 36 combinations, One in 36 chance of a double 6 C</p>	<p>WW2 36th Infantry Division I</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>5,7</p>	<p>Murray the magpie, Adelaide 36ers mascot M or A</p>	<p>1,2,3,4,6,9</p>	<p>Boris Karloff blue plaque at 36 Forest Hill Rd (a few yards from Mitch's house) - F</p>	<p>5,7</p>
<p>1,2,3,4,6,9</p>	<p>Irish Peace Park Messines. 36th Ulster Div U, M, I or P</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Enter the Wu-Tang Clan. (36 Chambers album.) E, W or C</p>	<p>The Krypton Factor. Atomic number 36 K</p>	<p>Hungarian phone kiosk. International dialling code 36. H or M(agyar)</p>
<p>Lyndon Johnson after being elected 36th President, with VP Humphrey J or P</p>	<p>Gary Sobers. Hit 6 sixes in an over = 36 runs S or R</p>	<p>Taekwondo 360 kick T, O or 0</p>	<p>These clue some of the 36 questions to fall in love Q</p>	<p>Video for 36D by the beautiful south D</p>	<p>1,3,10</p>
<p>Nasa/ Boeing X-36 X</p>	<p>Roulette has 36 numbered pockets excluding the zeroes. R, P or N</p>	<p>1,4,9</p>	<p>Hip hop group Three 6 mafia, from their Late Night Tip video T or M</p>	<p>Beer barrel/keg. Holds 36 gallons. G</p>	<p>Princess Alexandra of Kent. Born on Christmas day in 1936. A or P</p>

	<p>The Ophel treasure - a 1400 years old collection of 36 gold coins and a large gold medallion discovered in 2013 on the foot of Jerusalem's Temple Mount.</p>	<p>Again clues 36, though in a 9x4 configuration. Vigenère ciphers have been implemented using brass disks - but these are gold not brass. So may just be another clue to use VISQUARED as the key (if so, it's harder than the code itself!)</p>
<p>HM3S8MVXREPWJQTYEW 22AUCA31JCQVQ7D111</p>	<p>36 character Vigenere code. Using VISQUARED (36) as the key yields: WELCOME TO THE 36TH ATH. USE SAME GRID AND KEY</p>	<p>Confirming the link to the 36th ATH. We assume this is a clue to use the same grid as the Playfair to decode the ADFGVX code below, with a transposition key of VISQUARED.</p>
<p>VVVVDXFXGVVXGDGXVD AGDDFAGDFXAVDGGVFF etc</p>	<p>4 ADFGVX codes of 36 characters each.</p>	<p>Tried technique above, but same lack of results as playfair. Should be fairly easy to crack as we know the key, so it's a substitution – but complicated by not knowing whether to take each string singly or in groups, and in what order. Not solved</p>
<p>4124 735718 24766941 32794 1364339510020</p>	<p>Set of decimal numbers (total 36 digits). Converted into Base 36 reads: 36K FROM EQUAL PAY HEROINES</p>	<p>Not understood. Possibly this page will get us to 9 ladies dancing, based on the 9x4 coin layout, 9 being a factor of 36 (though that doesn't narrow it down much) and the mention of heroines.</p>

Page 3 – Olympians and Crossword answers

There are 5 rings in the layout of the Olympic symbol. Each Olympian is wearing the colour appropriate to that ring. They all won Olympic gold in the disciplines/years shown below – hence this is a clue to **5 Gold Rings**. They are:

- Blue: James Guy, UK, Swimmer, 2020
- Black: James Cracknell, UK, Rower, 2000 & 2004
- Red: James (Jim) Hartung, US, Gymnast, 1984
- Yellow: James DeGale, UK, Boxer, 2008
- Green: Kirani James, Grenada, Sprinter, 2012

All their names incorporate James, so with the 'In Memoriam' above, this reads "In Memoriam - James [Medhurst]" – a nice, and very clever, tribute to the hunt's deviser.

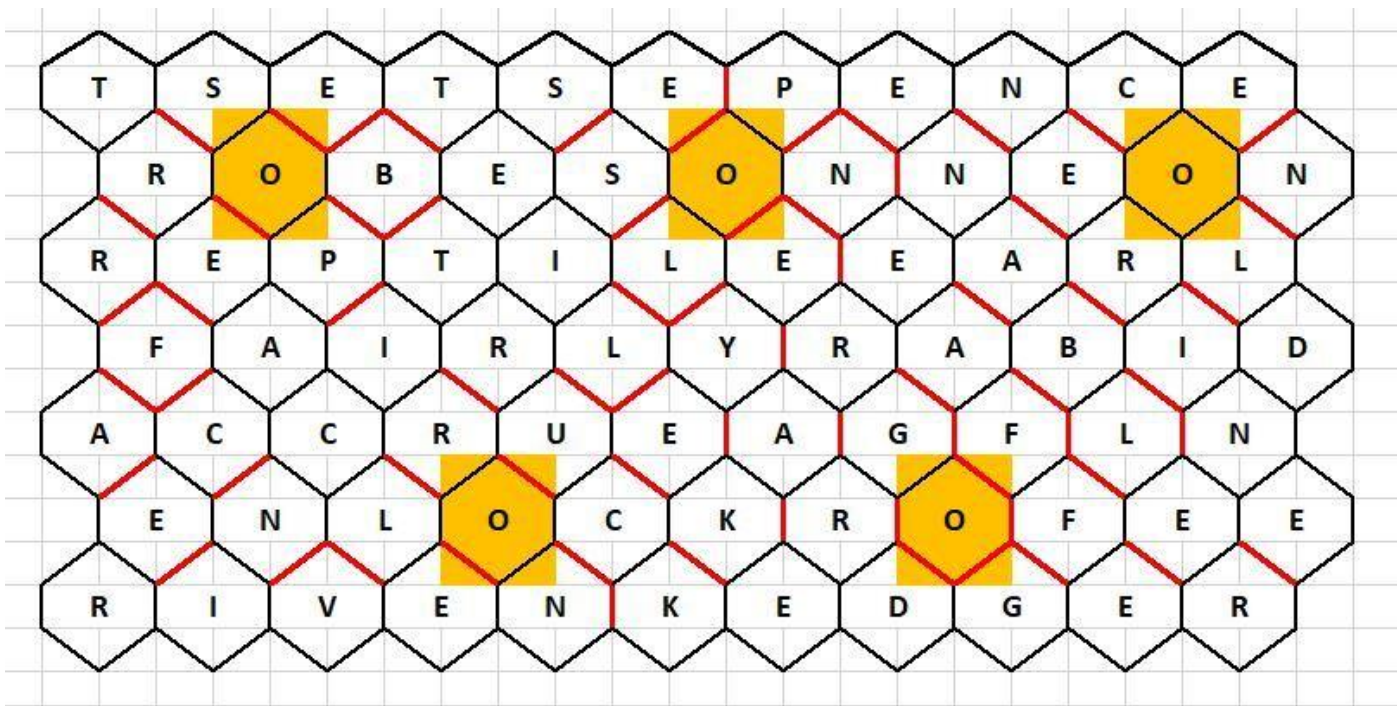
The cryptic crossword answers are as follows (the later ones are harder as they contain a misprinted letter):

Clue	Answer	Misprint	Correct letter	Wrong letter
Nobleman mostly ahead of schedule	EARL	-	-	-
Seafood is line caught	ROE	-	-	-
The last portion of Pernod oddly ditched	END	-	-	-
One repeatedly has trapped gas	NEON	-	-	-
Three feet of animal's home lying around	YARD	-	-	-
Regard entrance of mine	EYE	-	-	-
Lengthen boring weekend	EKE	-	-	-
Cut away or remove borders of incline	LOP	-	-	-
Overtaken English teacher's pay increase	RISE	-	-	-
One who facilitates destruction from the south east by the French rector [ENAB is BANE read from the south east of the grid, so this word must run in a northwest to south east direction in the grid]	ENABLER	-	-	-
Caught familiar chill	COLD	-	-	-
Mixing claret wine ultimately leads to unbearable sentimentality	TREACLE	-	-	-
Provokes one to fly in London and Accra possibly	INCITES	-	-	-
Rees-Mogg and pals' work unit	ERG	-	-	-
Fry battered testes	TSETSE	Fry should read Fly	L	R
Charming creature tours lake in Quito	FAIRLY	Quito should read Quite	E	O
Secure 2012 mascot with stent	ENLOCK	Stent should read Spent	P	T
Cast liberated without resistance	FEE	Cast should read Cost	O	A
Summary: someone who talks slowly is backwards	RECAP	Talks should read Walks	W	T
Tern in stream shortly before noon	RIVEN	Tern should read Torn	O	E
Fanatical Scotsman beginning to interpret death	RABID	Death should read Depth	P	A
Steal from bouquet rack for singer and activist [ESON is NOSE backwards, so this word must run west to east in the grid]	ROBESON	Rack should read Back	B	R
Collected waste left out in wet broad	SOP	Broad should read Bread	E	O
American female following dons born in Uist years ago	NEAFFE	Uist should read Fist	F	U
Last 25% of nice dish discarded - it steadies the ship	KEDGER	Nice should read Rice	R	N
Dress? Me neither, on reflection	IRON	Dress should read Press	P	D
Time to block trite illustrations	TEIL	Time should read Lime	L	T
Come into possessions of a shop's workers reportedly	ACCRUE	Shop's should read ship's	I	O
Carpenter perhaps providing tripe in Myanmar	KAREN	Tripe should read Tribe	B	P
Therefore, Grant returns	ERGO	Grant should read Giant	I	R
A revolutionary hit crocodile perhaps	REPTILE	Hit should read Hat	A	I
Lorry banter	TRUCK	Banter should read Barter	R	N
Trump's GP found in enclosure next to church	PENCE	GP should read VP	V	G
Plant with lily like flowers and unusual inner ears	NERINE	Ears should read Earl	L	S

The misprinted letters spell out ROTATE AROUND TOP RINGS. This is a clue that:

- 5 gold rings at the top of the page correspond to the 5 gold hexagons in the grid
- These are Os (and not the letters of the Olympians or their sports as we tried for a long time)
- We rotate the other words to fit around these
- [we also thought that we might be able to garner additional words by taking the letters around the Os but couldn't make that work, and presumably just devising this grid was hard enough!]

Now it's just the small matter of fitting all of these answers into the grid!



The other items on page 3 are used as follows:

- The 3 small arrows on the left of the grid indicate that the words can only read from left to right (horizontally or diagonally)
- The bold lines sprinkled around the grid are word separators to be placed in the grid. They are shown in red above. The number of each type matches those on page 3.







This solution confirms that the gold cells are Os, and so the 5 gold rings.

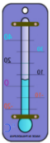

Page 4 – the Maids

Item	Identification	Relevance
	<p>Clues the nursery rhyme Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary, which features...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Silver bells (Silver is Ag, atomic number 47) * Cockle shells, and * Pretty maids all in a row (the 'Four Maries' - companions of MQoS - with their year of death according to the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography website - hence ODNB) 	<p>Clues 4 maids.</p> <p>This whole row refers to a total of 8 maids, clueing the 8 Maids-a-milking from the Twelve Days of Christmas.</p>
	<p>Yum-Yum from the Mikado.</p> <p>The picture is of a yum yum, surrounded by its synonym MMM-MMM!</p>	<p>Yum-Yum, Peep-Bo and Pitti-Sing are all wards of Ko-Ko in the Mikado. Their famous song is "Three little maids from school are we".</p>
	<p>Peep-Bo from the Mikado. Bo-Peep from Toy Story has been inverted (to Peep-Bo). The arrows also clue that inversion, and indicate the direction to read the letters, spelling Mikado.</p>	<p>See above</p>
	<p>Pitti-Sing from the Mikado.</p> <p>Anagram of SIP, (Blue) TIT and GIN.</p>	<p>See above</p>
	<p>Queen of Spades</p>	<p>Often used as the Old Maid in the eponymous game.</p>
	<p>Mary Queen of Scots (clued above) used this cipher to communicate with others including Babington. It yields a couplet:</p> <p>Part of this gift has gone astray Find the culprits if you may</p>	<p>This may refer to the fact that three of the maids got married, so were not maids - what's missing is their virginity. The exception was Mary Seton. The culprits were therefore the husbands of the other three: Jon Sempill, Alexander Ogilvy and William Maitland.</p>

Page 5 – Calling Birds

The first half of this page clues the 4th DoC – 4 Calling Birds.

Pic	ID	Relevance	Pigpen	Pigpen decode
	Mel Gibson & Goldie Hawn in Bird on a Wire	Bird on a Wire = Calling Bird		Not decoded
	Ningbo Bird, Chinese mobile manufacturer	Bird phone = Calling Bird		Not decoded
	Tina Humphrey and Chandi, from BGT	Chandi is a Collie. Colly is an alternative spelling of Collie. Colly bird is an older version of a calling bird in the 12DoC.		Decodes to "OLD LINE" using standard Pigpen. The "old line" in the carol was "4 Colly birds".
	Allosaurus, from Walking with Dinosaurs	See right.		This decodes to "TOO EARLY" in standard pigpen. Allosaurus was one of the theropod group of dinosaurs, which evolved to become birds. So it's too early to be 'calling' this a bird.
	Neal Foulds (nicknamed Buzby on account of his constant phone use)	Buzby = Calling Bird		Not decoded
	Grumpy Gertie, Sandon's sadly despatched Goose	Gertie in Phone Box = Calling Bird		Not decoded

Item	Identification	Relevance
	Thermometer showing 6 degrees, made in Philadelphia.	Clue that we need to play the "six degrees of Kevin Bacon" game to get from Pigpen to Kevin Bacon below. Kevin Bacon was born in Philly.
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pigpen from Peanuts Movie 2. Snoopy and Fifi in Peanuts Movie (with voices including AJ Tecce as Pigpen... and Kristin Chenowith as Fifi) 3. Deck the Halls movie (with Kristin Chenowith... and Danny DeVito) 4. LA Confidential (starred Danny Devito... and Kevin Spacey) 5. Fred Claus (with Kevin Spacey... and Elizabeth Banks) 6. Rebel Wilson in Pitch Perfect 3 (with Elizabeth Banks... and John Lithgow) 7. Footloose (with John Lithgow... and Kevin Bacon) 	Assume this should help us to solve the Pigpen codes above, possibly using the intermediate movies/stars as keywords? But not understood.

Page 5 – Drummers

Turkey legs (for all but two) Turkey legs are drumsticks. So the guys that follow clue drummers. There are 14 but we need to find a way to exclude two, leaving the **12 Drummers Drumming**. We think the exclusions are fictional drummers – Animal and one other. And presumably there's meaning in the answer letters too – most likely from the band names.






Clue	Interpretation	Drummer	Band
1. That guy whose wife looked downwards when making a greeting. I did not know if she was talking to us or to something else.	May be a reference to Elvin Jones, who had a Japanese wife. (Bowing being a Japanese greeting.)	Elvin Jones	
2. That guy who was in a hurry. That other guy Charlie's namesake said he was fourth best.	Neil Peart of Rush appears in 4th place in the Best Drummers list I googled. List comes from Rolling Stone, so Charlie is Watts.	Neil Peart	Rush
3. That guy who put on a show at the Christmas dance, along with his strange relatives.	Refers to Dennis Wilson. Dennis was close to Charles Manson, whose weird group was known as the "family".	Dennis Wilson	Beach Boys
4. That guy who used his voice training in an animated way.	Ringo Starr. He was the voiceover of the Thomas the Tank Engine animated series (hence 'training')	Ringo Starr	Beatles
5. That haymaker guy who sounds like he is related to Erica. I could tell from his eyes that he was a dreamer.	Baker was referred to by a critic as a "combine harvester" because of his style. Erica Baker is a long-missing child. Clapton once said "I could see from looking in his eyes that he was back on it". Dreamer is morphine.	Ginger Baker	Cream etc
6. That topless guy who might bite. He previously worked with McFly.	Kenny Aronoff. He is bald (topless). He was in the Johnny Cougar (bite) band. He has worked on benefits for the Michael J Fox (McFly) Parkinson's Foundation.	Kenny Aronoff	Johnny Cougar's band
7. That guy who is easy to mistake for that other guy who reared two tigers.	Roger Taylor of Queen has two children called Tiger, so this isn't him - it's Roger Taylor of Duran Duran.	Roger Taylor	Duran Duran
8. That redheaded guy with Daisy's daughter and possibly a dentist.	Animal. A red-headed muppet who drums in Dr Teeth [Dentist] and the Electric Mayhem, with singer Janice – a flower child whose mother is called Daisy	Animal	Electric Mayhem
9. That guy who once worked as a doorman and had a boss exactly like David Brent.	Will Champion (Coldplay Drummer) - worked as doorman for Ricky Gervais	Will Champion	Coldplay
10. That guy who claimed his version of events of his time at the watering hole was entirely accurate.	Tony McCarroll, ex-Oasis (watering hole) drummer. Autobiography was "the truth" (so claiming to be correct)	Tony McCarroll	Oasis
11. That fully dexterous guy who is said to be like Thor.	Fully dexterous = Alright. So this is Supergrass's drummer Danny Goffey (sounds like Gothy, which could describe Thor)	Danny Goffey	Supergrass
12. That guy who is the ex of the ex of that other guy who embarrassed himself with a fox. No, not that guy: the guy who sounds like he plays with a London football club.	The Fox is Samantha Fox. She co-hosted the Brits very badly with Mick Fleetwood. Fleetwood was twice married to Jenny Boyd, who was also married to Ian Wallace of King Crimson. She obviously had a thing about drummers, because she also had a relationship with Don Henley. (Eagles=Crystal Palace)	Don Henley	Eagles
13. That guy Buster with the fan club, who also worked with that guy who Robert Davis supposedly said was not the best.	Robert Davis is Jasper Carrott. He said Ringo Starr was "not even the best drummer in the Beatles". Keltner worked with Starr, and also appeared as Buster Sidebury in The Travelling Wilburys. And the fan bit In 1973 Paul McC, the only Beatle not to have worked with Keltner, included a note on the back cover of his Red Rose Speedway album, encouraging fans to join the "Wings Fun Club" by sending a "stamped addressed envelope" to an address in London. Both Harrison's Living in the Material World and Starr's Ringo contained a similar note encouraging fans to join the "Jim Keltner Fan Club" by sending a "stamped undressed elephant" to an address in Hollywood.	Buster Sidebury (Jim Keltner)	Travelling Wilburys
14. That guy who needed a manicure. He won awards for his Soul music.	Nine Inch Nails. They had a no 1 with Dead Souls, but the clue actually refers to their music for Pixar's Soul, which won the 2021 Golden Globe. Drummer is Ilan Rubin.	Ilan Rubin	Nine Inch Nails




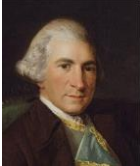

Page 6 – Years


The page features a 3 column table with the following headings:

- A calendar, which appears to be the December of the hunt, with 21st December circled. (There will be certain other years matching that pattern too, not known if this is significant.) By solving other clues on this page, it becomes clear that this column holds the years from 1968-2009 inclusive.
- A number 1. This column holds the Christmas number 1s for that year. Those clued in Xmas cards are shown in bold.
- A pipe. This column holds the Pipe Smoker of the Year. It's greyed out from 2004 because this award was discontinued, as the organisers feared it fell foul of the smoking laws. These people are used to represent Pipers (as in 11 Pipers Piping in the 12DoC).
- Also in that column is a bracketed rose. This links the name Rose to Piper, through Billie Piper who played Rose in Doctor Who. The brackets also signify that the 3 smokers associated with the 3 Billie Piper songs (also in brackets) should attend the party on Pages 7 & 8 as alternates, replacing people also called Rose and a connection by profession etc – see those pages for details. These bracketed clues are shown in red below.
- Also in the grid are grid references which clue various number 1s or pipe smokers. Shown in green below.
- Around the grid are photographs which again clue various number 1s or pipe smokers. Descriptions in blue below.
- Around the edge of the page are 10 clues to years. Five bulleted, and five numbered with 1 – the distinction is not understood, should be to do with #1s. These clues are shown in orange in the grid, with explanations below the grid.

What do we do with all of this? Presumably we can use this information to filter/order the list in some way to extract meaning. But we haven't done that.

	1	
1968	The Scaffold - Lily The Pink ● Frank, James and William returned home	Peter Cushing
1969	Rolf Harris - Two Little Boys 57.91° N 6.83° W – Isle of Harris ● Man who sounds cold started chattering	Jack Hargreaves
1970	Dave Edmunds - I Hear You Knocking	Eric Morecambe 54.07° N 2.87° W - Morecambe
1971	Benny Hill - Ernie	Manny Shinwell
1972	Jimmy Osmond - Long-Haired Lover from Liverpool 1. James (Black) born	Manny Shinwell
1973	Slade - Merry Christmas Everybody	Frank Muir
1974	Mud - Lonely This Christmas ● Famous victory in Brighton, recalling famous victory in the Netherlands	Fred Trueman  Yorkshire country cricket club logo. Clues Fiery Fred
1975	Queen - Bohemian Rhapsody  Coronation portrait of Elizabeth I, 1559 - Clues Queen	Campbell Adamson (honey → bee) = Billie Piper "Honey to the Bee"
1976	Johnny Mathis - When A Child Is Born	Harold Wilson  Cold Wilson from the Tweenies. Clues Harold.
1977	Wings - Mull of Kintyre	Brian Barnes
1978	Boney M - Mary's Boy Child	Magnus Magnusson
1979	Pink Floyd - Another Brick in the Wall (Part 2)	J B Priestley
1980	St Winifred's School Choir - There's No One Quite Like Grandma	Edward Fox
1981	The Human League - Don't You Want Me?	James Galway 53.27° N 9.05° W - Galway

1982	Renée and Renato - Save Your Love 1. Partygoer stood in the same place twice	Dave Lee Travis
1983	Flying Pickets - Only You	Patrick Moore
1984	Band Aid - Do They Know It's Christmas	Henry Cooper (∴ we want to) = Billie Piper "Because We Want To"
1985	Shakin' Stevens - Merry Christmas Everyone	Jimmy Greaves
1986	Jackie Wilson - Reet Petite	David Bryant
1987	Pet Shop Boys. - Always On My Mind  Nigel Hawthorne - imaginary conversation with Joss Ackland. He bought a house from Chris Lowe of the Pet Shop Boys (this year's number 1) ● 400th anniversary of the death of four maids' mistress	Barry Norman
1988	Cliff Richard - Mistletoe and Wine	Ian Botham
1989	Band Aid II - Do They Know It's Christmas?	Jeremy Brett
1990	Cliff Richard - Saviour's Day	Lawrence Marks
1991	Queen - Bohemian Rhapsody  Again clues Queen. The two identical images also clue that this is the only song to make Christmas #1 twice.	John Harvey-Jones
1992	Whitney Houston - I Will Always Love You 29.76° N 95.38° W - Houston	Tony Benn
1993	Mr Blobby - Mr Blobby	Rod Hull 53.74° N 0.33° W - Hull
1994	East 17 - Stay Another Day 1. First time GOD Ordered to take a Bath	Ranulph Fiennes
1995	Michael Jackson - Earth Song	Jethro  Jethro Tull, to clue Jethro.
1996	Spice Girls - 2 Become 1	Colin Davis
1997	Spice Girls - Too Much	Malcolm Bradbury
1998	Spice Girls - Goodbye	Willie-John McBride
1999	West Life - I Have A Dream	Trevor Baylis
2000	Bob the Builder - Can we Fix it?  Robert Adam (neoclassical architect) AKA Bob the Builder. 1. Song featuring T8 was track T4 on #T1 xmas album	Joss Ackland (some deep thing)  Really? I was in their video Joss Ackland "replying" to Nigel Hawthorne's comment about the Pet Shop Boys. He appeared in their "Always on my mind" video (number 1 in "Hawthorne's year") (Some deep thing) = Billie Piper "Something deep inside"
2001	Robbie Williams and Nicole Kidman - Something Stupid	Russ Abbott
2002	Girls Aloud - Sound of the Underground ● P in S opened	Richard Dunhill

2003	Michael Andrews and Gary Jules - Mad World	Stephen Fry
2004	Band Aid 20 - Do They Know It's Christmas?	
2005	Shayne Ward - That's My Goal	
2006	Leona Lewis. - A Moment Like This 58.20° N 6.60° W – Isle of Lewis	SI 3368 The Smoke-Free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006 (hence end of award)
2007	Leon Jackson - When You Believe	
2008	Alexandra Burke - Hallelujah	
2009	Rage against the machine - Killing In the Name  Rage against the machine (this was notable for being the first download-only single to become Christmas no 1)	

Border clue explanations




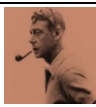



The link to a Day of Christmas on another page is also shown in case it is relevant.

Item (clockwise from top)	Identification	Year	Day of Xmas
• Man who sounds cold started chattering	David Frost started US chat show	1969	?
1. Band gave spellbinding performance at Christmas party	Not Solved. This should be a band on page 7 or 8 of the hunt.		?
• Frank, James and William returned home	Apollo 8 Astronauts	1968	1 (p1)
1. James (Black) born	James Cracknell (black Olympic ring) born 1972	1972	5 (p3)
• 400th anniversary of the death of four maids' mistress	Death of Mary Queen of Scots in 1587	1987	8 (p2)
• P in S opened	Baltic Art Gallery opened in Gateshead - P and S used as on page 10	1992	7 (p10)
• Famous victory in Brighton, recalling famous victory in the Netherlands	Waterloo. Abba won the Eurovision song contest in Brighton in 1974. Waterloo is in Belgium, but I guess it was the Spanish Netherlands at the time.	1984	?
1. Partygoer stood in the same place twice	This should be a politician on p7 or 8 of the hunt. It may be a politician who switched parties, resigned and sought re-election in the same year. The only example of this in our period is when Bruce Douglas-Mann switched to the SDP and stood for re-election in 1982.	1982	?
1. First time GOD Ordered to take a Bath	As per page 9, Gus O'Donnell was known as GOD and has been appointed to the Order of the Bath 3 times.	1994	3 (p9)
1. Song featuring T8 was track T4 on #T1 xmas album	This must refer to numbers that are terms in a series. OK, here's a complicated explanation that might just be right. The Beatles had the 2000 No 1 album. It was called "1" (t1). Its 27th track is of interest (27 is T4 because it's the 4th number in the series beginning 0 to the power 0, 1 to the power 1 ...). The 27th track is "The Long and Winding Road", and that is probably (not yet able to confirm, but it looks likely) the main version, known as "Take 19". T8 is 19 because 19 is the 8th prime number. The Will Young version of the song was a number 1 and in the charts at Xmas 2002.	2000	p11?





















Pages 7 and 8 – The Christmas Party


We sense that this is the pivotal section of the hunt (underlined by it being the central 2 pages). We have to build sentences using clues in the rooms, and by substituting alternative guests from the surrounding pages (6,9 and 10)

Item	Relevance
If you are busy attending another puzzle, please send an alternate to take your place	For some answers we need an alternate answer taken from another puzzle. See below.
3 cracker icons	Need alternates for 3 codebreakers ("crackers") We should substitute Kinnock, Geller and O'Donnell in order from the crackers on p9. They must fit the orientation of the original.
5 map icons	5 alternates answers are needed for cartographers /map makers. We use the 'invited guests' from the p10 oilfields, again they must 'fit' e.g. room, orientation.
3 hen icons	3 alternate answers are from the three French hens puzzle of the corresponding colour.
Smoking rules strictly enforced	This means that the smokers on pages 7 and 8 must be moved to the smoking area on p8. There are 11 smokers (11 pipers) corresponding to 11 missing letters in the smoking area (4,1,4,4 = 13 minus the 2 places already taken. Though there are 2 missing squares in the last word which scuppered us.)
Some are seated, others allow mingling.	This seems to indicated whether the original guests must stay put (seated) or can be substituted with alternates (mingling.) May also have something to do with anagramming?
Three rose icons	More alternates - replace 3 people called Rose with the "Rose" pipers identified on the previous page.
RSVP	R and P = Rose Piper?
Pictures	They can be grouped into French Hens, Geese, Pipers, Ladies and Lords, of the same number as the song. There are also 3 cryptographers, 5 cartographers, plus some uninvited guests (and a couple of gatecrashers.)
Angle / content of pictures	Help to assign them to groups to help with identification ie. 90 degrees = Geese 45 degrees = Ladies (possibly the angle of the pictures suggests dancing) Raised = Lords (suggesting their elevated status) Not-raised, pictured with a pipe = Pipers
Several uninvited guests have arrived in fancy dress... move to their own room.	Assume we take people from other pages and fit them into the bottom of page 8. Who is wearing fancy dress? Only Bogie is obvious. We also toyed with "un-invited" i.e. remove people from rooms.
Two gatecrashes... may be required elsewhere	Pictures on p7 and p8 that don't fit and need to be used on another page maybe? What are we missing on other pages?



Clue	Identification	Letter	Group	Links/Notes
(Seated) Number of layers (3) – SIX				As in geese a laying
	Donald Sutherland (Coriolanus S now)	S	Geese	Snow Goose
	Jeremy Irons	I	Pipers	
	Merle Oberon in "The Divorce of Lady X"	X	Ladies	About 18:38 into the film, here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZEWmcfSbOU
(Mingling Allowed) Happening (5) - EVENT				
	Edward VIII, later Duke of Windsor	E	Pipers	Or perhaps this is part of a string containing SEVEN, or SEVENTEEN, with mingling meaning concatenation
	Vincent van Gogh	V	Pipers	
	Baroness Evans of Bowes Park	E	Ladies	https://www.euronews.com/2019/09/10/british-parliament-shut-down-involves-rob-black-rod-flamingos-11051936
	Toby Stephens as Captain Flint (James McGraw) in Black Sails series 3. His treasure map qualifies him as a cartographer. His raised photo means he needs to be substituted with an oilfield Lord i.e Nelson.	N	Cartographers / Lords	

Clue	Identification	Letter	Group	Links/Notes
	Lady Campanula Tottington in Wallace and Gromit, voiced by Helena Bonham Carter	T	Ladies	
(Seated) What Surrey is but a Christmas tree is not (8) - LEAFIEST				Leafiest county in England
	CS Lewis	L	Pipers	
	Lady Elliot Island, Australia	E	Ladies	
	Anser - means goose	A	Geese	
	Cyril Fletcher as a pantomime dame.	F	Ladies	
	Cover of Da Unbreakables by Three 6 Mafia. The person is Lord Infamous.	I	Lords	
	Albert Einstein	E	Pipers	
 priest	Benedict Cumberbatch as Sherlock Holmes. In A Scandal in Bohemia. Holmes departs 221B Baker Street dressed as a priest to follow Irene Adler. He refers to her as "The Woman"	S	Ladies	
	David Triesman with David Beckham (I think - can't find exact photo)	T	Lords	
(Mingling allowed) - Something you might ask for at Christmas (7,3) – ANOTHER RUM				
	Batwoman Ruby Rose. Sub for a smoker actor, Joss Ackland, (also clued by the Billie Piper song in brackets)	A	Pipers	
	Rushden & Diamonds Football Club, Nene Park	N	Geese	Nene is a breed of goose
	Delpit's Chicken Shack sign in Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge. Rouge = Red, so we use the Red chicken as the alternate ie Orpington.	O	French Hens	
	Trees. Clues Lord Trees who is a vet	T	Lords	
	Lin-Manuel Miranda as Alexander Hamilton	H	Ladies	From the angle. Why? Lady Hamilton?
	Debbie Peterson of the Bangles, walking like an Egyptian	E	Geese	Egyptian Goose
	Alexis Denisof as Lord John Rossendale in Sharpe's Waterloo	R	Lords	
	"Lord" Hugh Rodley, fraudster	R	Lords	
	At the sign of the Umber Chicken. Clues Lord Umber from Game of Thrones. We initially thought this was the red French hen, but Baton Rouge covers that, so this is a red hen herring.	U	Lords	
	René Magritte	M	Pipers	

Clue	Identification	Letter	Group	Links/Notes
(Mingling allowed) Garland production (5,4) – BEACH BOOK? BEACH SHOW?				Alex Garland's The Beach?
	Dame Floella Benjamin playing basketball	B	Ladies	https://youtu.be/ETq-hednIBY
	Emperor Penguin from National Geographic video	E	Geese	Emperor Goose
	Chicken Cordon Bleu. The blue chicken is Australorp, so use an A as the alternate here,	A	French Hens	
	Brian Rose. After winning WBO intercontinental I think. His alternate is Henry Cooper (pipe smoker who is a boxer, clued by the Billie Piper song in brackets)	C	Pipers	
	Custom minifigure Hugh Hefner	H	Pipers	
	Map reference of Miltonhead, birthplace of Maj-Gen William Roy, founder of Ordnance Survey. Given the orientation of the picture, his alternate must be a goose from the p10 oilfields i.e. Brent.	B	Cartographer / Geese	Brent Goose
	Gerardus Mercator, real name Geert de Kremer. Portrait by Frans Hogenburg, in Mercator's Atlas. As this photo is not raised or rotated, sup in the Piper oilfield 'O'	O	Cartographer / Pipers	
	Orinoco	O	Geese	Orinoco Goose
	John Wallis. Was chief cryptographer. Given the raised picture, need to replace him with a Lord. And since Wallace means 'Welshman' we choose Lord Kinnock.	K	Cryptographer / Lords	
(Seated) Second rate country like Turkey (5) - BLAND				
	Yul Brynner	B	Pipers	
	Ada Lovelace (from The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage)	L	Pipers	
	The sieve of Eratosthenes for calculating primes. Orientation is a Lord, so we need a substitute who is a Lord related to Primes. Prime Minister Lord Aberdeen.	A	Cartographer / Lords	
	Laurent Blanc's France shirt from game against England in Le Tournoi in 1997. With the French cockerel, this signifies the white chicken, so the answer is Naked Neck.	N	French Hens	
	Alf Dubs	D	Lords	
(Mingling allowed) Dead letters (6) – THORNS An Old English Character				Anagram: NORTH S?
	Baroness Trumpington at the Queen's visit to Bletchley Park in 2011. That she worked there raises the possibility she is to be subbed by a cracker, but as this gives us the T of THORNS we'll leave her be.	T	Ladies	
	Sandford Fleming on a Tonga stamp featuring the International Date Line. See also his links to the Meridian. Replace with fellow Scot Hutton from oilfields.	H	Cartographer	
	Onna Joushu Dry Junmaishu Sake. Onna Joushu is a lady warlord owing to the lack of any male successors in her family. She is a female samurai hence the clue. Only found with an image search coupled with the top Japanese character on the label: 女(On'na = Female)	O	Ladies	https://craviton.com/eng/products/detail/2831
	Alan Turing. Cryptographer, and oriented as the Geese pictures. So replace him with a "cracker" with a link to Geese i.e. Ross	R	Cryptographer / Geese	Ross's Goose
	Boston Tea Party or the Intolerable Acts	N	Lords	The Intolerable Acts were passed by Lord North

Clue	Identification	Letter	Group	Links/Notes
	Screaming Lord Sutch. The album is by Deep Purple.	S	Lords	

(Smoking area) No clue provided (4,1,4,4) – HAVE A NEAR MISS? Doesn't fit all the smokers we have though.







Space	Heffner?	H?		
	Cindy Rose - links to Piper as Billie Piper played Rose, see p6. Her alternate is Campbell Anderson, a pipe smoker of the year who was DG of the CBI	A		
Painter	Van Gogh?	V?		
Space	Einstein?	E?		
Actor	Ackland?	A?		
Space	?			
Space	?			
	Mark Dexter as Charles Babbage in Doctor Who Spyfall episodes. As a cryptographer, replace him with a cracker. Must be a Lord owing to raised photo. Since his associate was Augusta Ada Lovelace, choose Lord Augustine (O'Donnell)	A?	Crypto-grapher / Lords.	
Space	?			
Actor	Brynner?	B?		
Math-ematician	Lovelace?	L?		
Gate-crasher	?			
Gate-crasher	?			

(Uninvited guests) No clue provided (2,7) - ??, ????????




Space	?			
Actor	?			
Painter	?			
Musician	?			
Musician	?			
Space	?			
Space	?			
Math-ematician	?			
Space	?			



Page 9 – French Hens







At the top of the page are 3 pulled crackers containing trivia. Cracker is a pun on cryptographer – so these people are alternates for the cryptographers at the party. They have characteristics which help link them to the appropriate party goer, as shown below.

 <div data-bbox="244 221 671 353" style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px;"> <p>His domestic career ended in major disappointment. Then he went to work for Father Christmas (perhaps I misheard). There's no arguments at Christmas dinner because he and his wife both like Brussels.</p> </div> 	<p>Neil Kinnock. Lost election to Major, then worked for Jacques Santer/Santa as EU commissioner. His wife was also an MEP hence they both like Brussels. Link: Welsh Lord</p>
 <div data-bbox="244 378 671 510" style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px;"> <p>In his guise as a holiday animal, he was friends with Santa Claus. His smallest friend is hiding on page 1. He took a break with another friend. Or did he? It was the subject of some debate.</p> </div> 	<p>Ross Geller from friends. Couldn't get his preferred fancy dress outfit, so had to attend as a holiday armadillo which he tried to pass off as a Jewish custom. His smallest friend was Maurice the capuchin monkey (appears in p1 wordsearch.) He took a disputed break from his relationship with Rachel. Link: Ross's Goose (breed of North American goose)</p>
 <div data-bbox="244 524 671 656" style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px;"> <p>Named after a saint but actually a GOD, he embodied a trinity that was divided when he retired ten years ago. He and his colleagues listen to the Queen's Speech in their House every year.</p> </div> 	<p>Gus O'Donnell. He is really called Augustine, but was nicknamed GOD. When he retired in 2011 the roles of Cabinet Secretary, Head of the Civil Service and Permanent Secretary at the Cabinet Office were split. The Queen's speech is held in the House of Lords. Link: Lord Augustine O'Donnell</p>

The remainder of the page clues **3 French Hens**. As well as the 12DoC, these are used as alternates at the party.

Item	Identification	Relevance
Pas Françaises - mais Anglaise, Australienne, et Roumaine.	Not French Hens - but English, Australian & Romanian	Indicates that, despite being in the colour of the French flag, the hens below are not French breeds, but English, Australian & Romanian.
Hen photos and text	In the colour of the French Flag. The text below should be read in columns below each picture (the colour of the word 'poule' in each column matches the picture, to clue this)	Clues 3 French Hens.
	Hahn/Cock Sculpture on Trafalgar Square fourth plinth from 2013-15.	Clues a blue chicken breed.
Non, un oeuf ne suffit pas cette poule a battu tous les records il y a cent ans	No, one egg is not enough, this hen broke all records a hundred years ago	A blue Australorp hen (Australia Orpington) There is mention of them breaking egg laying records in the 1920s.
	White 'milk glass' nesting hen dish.	Clues a white chicken breed.
il vaudrait mieux se couvrir pour eviter les morsures dans la region d'origine de cette poule	It would be better to cover up to avoid bites in the region of origin of this hen	Refers to a white Naked Neck chicken, otherwise known as a Transylvanian Naked Neck, somewhere you might want to cover up your neck as protection from vampires.
	Chicken mascot costume widely available on internet.	Clues a red chicken breed.
un voyage en Eurostar passe par la region d'origine de cette poule	A Eurostar trip goes through the region of origin of this hen	A Red Orpington (Orpington is in Kent, through which the Eurostar passes.) It has to be a English breed as Australian & Romanian breeds are used above, and specifically Kentish to fit with the Eurostar route.

Item	Identification	Relevance
Red & white striped scarf	SCARF	Key for Beaufort cipher. And clues Cold Christmas?
Map pins	Isle of Rum Bishop Auckland? Robin Hood's Bay? Snowdon? Rochester	Poets? The village on Rum is called Kinloch. Kinloch, Bishop, Hood and the Earl of Rochester are all poets, as is the Bard of Snowdon. Doesn't fit though.
Symbol over Wales	The Beaufort wind scale symbol for force 5. It points to Beaufort in Wales.	Clues the use of Beaufort for both codes on this page. 5=E so also provides the key for the code at the bottom of the page.
	From Wikipedia map of North Sea oilfields. The L indicates that L = Norway in the X & Y puzzle. The green areas are the oilfields. The one nearer the coast is Brent, the other one North West Hutton.	Brent named after the Goose. Hutton named after geologist James Hutton.
	The place at pm is Aberdeen (as in the prime minister) The lower oilfield is Nelson. The upper one is Piper.	pm Aberdeen clues Prime Minister Lord Aberdeen. Nelson named after Lord Nelson. o Piper clues Pipers (and the oilfield)
NUNOMLYVJKOUNWXZYXLLLOKHZ	Using SCARF as key with Beaufort, decodes to FIND THE FIVE INVITED GUESTS.	The 5 question marks on this map clue the 5 guests to be substituted for cartographers on p7 and 8: Brent (for Goose), Aberdeen (for Lord), Nelson (for Lord), O (for Piper oilfield), Hutton (for scots counterpart Fleming).
Arrows by maps	These show that the lower rectangle aligns with the Scottish coast around Aberdeen, and the upper rectangle is actually further north and to the east. The dashed line indicates the Greenwich meridian.	
Blue and Red questions	7 Blue questions refer to The Cold War. All relate to Christmas dates or places. 2 red questions relate to The Hot War, Harry Turtledove's alternative history trilogy	Blue clues Cold Christmas (treasure location) and Red clues Two Turtle Doves (2 nd day of Christmas.)
1. This operation was organised by a nut; it was a miracle it worked.	The Christmas Miracle evacuation from Hungnam ended on 24th December 1950. It was by General Edward Almond.	Date - 24th December 1950
2. But what if there was no miracle?	Refers to WWII being triggered by the failed evacuation in books by Harry Turtledove ("The Hot War" trilogy)	Bird - Turtle dove – 1 of 2
3. A capital city was destroyed, as was a small town visited by a treasure hunter.	Washington DC was destroyed in "The Hot War", as was Fakenham (visited by the Radio Norwich treasure hunter clued in the wordsearch)	Bird - Turtle dove – 2 of 2
4. This British Bikini had a particularly devastating effect.	The most powerful British test was in 1958 , launched from Christmas Island. Christmas Island was discovered on Christmas Eve in 1777	Place – Christmas Island (though could also have been the discovery date - 24th December 1777)
5. A test concerning particle physics marked F for the last time, before having to move underground.	F is Novaya Zemlya from the X & Y puzzle. So this is the last Soviet Union test (221) before tests were moved underground as a result of 1963 nuclear test ban treaty. It would certainly have marked Novaya Zemlya.	Date - 24 th /25 th December 1962 (3am on the 25 th Moscow time, which is midnight on the 24 th /25 th boundary using the guidance on the ATH website to use GMT)
6. 51 years after an England v Germany football match, the President tried to play fair, but it didn't last long.	51 years after the Christmas truce football game of 1914, President Johnson declared a Christmas truce in Vietnam. It began on 24th December 1965 and ended on Boxing day.	Date - 24th December 1965
7. They chose a target with three consecutive letters, so others refused to join in with their games.	Refers to the widespread boycott of the 1980 Moscow Olympic games because of the Soviet Union's invasion of AFGH anistan, in which case the answer is the Soviet Union. The invasion was on 24th December 1979.	Date - 24th December 1979







Item	Identification	Relevance
8. Octavian was one of three who dispensed with a chemist and her husband.	Elena Ceausescu was cited by the Romanian Govt as a world famous chemist, though that appears not to have been true. She and her husband were executed on Christmas Day 1989 . Sergeant-Major Georghin Octavian was one of the three executioners	Date - 25th December 1989. The execution was at 16:00 local time, which was 14:00 GMT.
9. Boris led the country into a new era as it left the Union.	This is Yeltsin. Gorbachev resigned and the Soviet Union collapsed on Christmas Eve 1991 . Yeltsin announced that he was taking control of the Soviet Union's nuclear weapons.	Date - 24th December 1991
2, 5, 10, 26, 16, 4, 1, 16, 4, 1, 9, 23, 16, 5, 25, 8, 5, 10, 7, 15, 5, 10, 16, 4, 1, 13, 17, 1, 15, 16, 5, 11, 10, 15, 15, 5, 20, 26, 23, 16, 1, 15, 11, 10, 1, 12, 8, 23, 25, 1, 16, 19, 11, 24, 5, 14, 26, 15	Decodes with Beaufort (or Vigenere) to FIND THE THEMATIC LINKS IN THE QUESTIONS SIX DATES ONE PLACE TWO BIRDS	See above. 6 Christmas dates, 1 Christmas place – together clueing Cold (War) Christmas. 2 Turtle doves – clueing 2 nd DoC
The 6 Photos (shown below)	Each of the 6 photos clues a swan, and also provides hints to the X&Y puzzle. Then the puzzle letters associated with each pic spell out a 7 th swan: TUNDRA	6 swan pictures + Tundra swan = 7 swans. Another clue to 7 swans a-swimming. (The letters for each picture are shown below in red.)
	Counter seal of Humphrey de Bohun, 4th Earl of Hereford, showing the so-called " Bohun swan "	Bohun Swan . With other pictures, clues the 7 Swans swimming in the 7 Swans a-Swimming (though there are only actually 5 pictured here.) Swan = T
	Humphrey Lyttleton (comedian and trumpeter) hosting I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue in November 2006.	Trumpeter Swan . The imaginary scorer in the show (aside from Samantha) who sat on Humph's left hand, was called Sven (= U)
	Caricature of Jason Statham in Expendables 2; his character is Lee Christmas.	Just a 7 th Day of Christmas Swan . Or... Statham was an international diver before becoming (allegedly) an actor, so this could clue "Swan dive" Christmas = N
	Bear after honey from beehives. The Bear and the Bee Hives from "The Fables of Aesop" by Thomas Bewick .	Bewick's Swan . Bewick = D
	John Travolta as Edna Turnblad in Hairspray. Swan Turnblad was a newspaper publisher.	Swan Turnblad. Turnblad = R
	As above with added 'A'	The A above the bear is a clue to A = Bear in the 'Find X & Y' puzzle (it helped). Plus clues another Bewick's Swan . Bear = A

Find X&Y









L ⊃ AB	Norway includes Bear Island
AB was named by E after GA	Bear Island was named by Barents after a Swimming (Polar) Bear
the J of H ⊃ AB and the B of I	The Archipelago of Svalbard includes Bear Island and the Island of Spitsbergen
L ⊃ the J of H ∴ the treaty of I	Norway includes the Archipelago of Svalbard because of the treaty of Spitsbergen
the J of F is M of EC, which is M of the J of H	The Archipelago of Novaya Zemlya is East of Barents Sea Which is East of the Archipelago of Svalbard
PC is M of Q which is M of L	Baltic Sea is East of Sweden which is East of Norway
S ⊃ P art gallery	Gateshead includes the Baltic Art Gallery
ch 2 of V ⊃ S	Chapter 2 of Jane Eyre includes Gateshead. (A house, not the town.)
ch 1 of V ⊃ D, F, I and W	Chapter 1 of Jane Eyre includes Thomas Bewick (D), Spitzbergen (I), Nova Zembla [i.e. Novaya Zemlya] (F), and Siberia (W)
D d in S	Thomas Bewick died in Gateshead (the town). Thomas Bewick's A History of British Birds plays a recurrent role in Jane Eyre.
T -x- S	Joseph Swan installed the first working light bulbs at his house in Gateshead
F ⊃ DT and W ⊃ DT	Novaya Zemlya includes Bewick Swans and Siberia includes Bewick Swans
Z ≡ P ≡ (W & n) ≠ G	Cold is equivalent to Baltic (meaning cold) and to Siberia+n = Siberian (meaning cold) but not to a-swimming.
if t (DT → uk) < late oct then ZN	If the time when Bewick Swans arrive in the UK is earlier than late October then Cold Christmas
X = ZN	X = Cold Christmas . Our suspected treasure location.
U became TR ∴ Q → usa	Sven became Swan Turnblad because he moved from Sweden to the USA. Also links to the pictures below. Swan was originally called Sven.
K = (U & M)	Seven = Sven + E
Y = K x TG	Y = Seven Swans A-Swimming . Clues the 7 th Day of Christmas.

Page 11 – Christmas Cards

70 YEARS OF CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGNS 1952-2021: We're into the 70th year of the official UK singles chart (first published by NME on 14 Nov 1952). There are 16 designs (possibly 15 without the textual one). Some but not all link up to the card inners spread across the pages. These are the ones we couldn't match up. We may have to link them up to years the artist was in the Xmas charts, as with the inners?

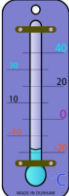
Item	Description	Artist
	A Kylie - non-returning boomerang	Kylie Minogue
	Roy Lichtenstein's Whaam! from a Tate video about preserving the painting (see tinyurl.com/athwhaam)	Wham
	Justine Chase from Marvel X-Factor comics. Her mother is Destiny.	Destiny's Child
	Cambridge women rowers second eight, known as Blondie.	Blondie
	Initially we thought the right path leads to Nirvana – but the Death of Buddha is a better match. So this may be some message we have not understood. Swedes = Celsius? ABBA? The rhyme sounds a bit like Greg Lake's Christmas song. Or maybe We wish you a merry Christmas.	
	Kenneth Branagh & Judi Dench in a Winter's Tale.	David Essex - A Winter's Tale. (Or possibly Bohemian Rhapsody as set in Bohemia.)

These are the card inners, from across most pages of the hunt. With matching covers where found. The dates on the cards are the Sunday on/immediately before Christmas, which would be when most people would be listening to and or taping the Christmas Top 40 countdown on a Sunday evening. The chart position is given in case it is relevant. The Xmas number 1 is also shown – these must somehow link to the full list on page 6.

P	Inner	Identification	Cover	Cover description	Date	Year	Pos	Number 1
2		'Boy Named Sue' Johnny Cash	NO MATCH	NO MATCH	21/12/1969	1969	36	Rolf Harris - Two Little Boys
2		? The best fit for this song is Stan by Eminem but wrong date and we already used it!	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	?	?	?	?
4		Jennifer Lopez stars in "Jack" and "Selena". She appeared with Jim Carrey in "In Living Color". Her song "Jenny from the Block" references films in general and "In Living Color" specifically. Noel means to exclude el from Jello.		Jello. Minus el = J-Lo. The rocks may refer to the rocks she's got in the song.	22/12/2002	2002	24	Girls Aloud - Sound of the Underground
4		"It's Gonna be a Cold Cold Christmas Without You" by Dana. Includes "The log fire's burning bright, oh darling If only you were here, to make it right". The match is Garth - he & Wayne have the catchphrase "we're not worthy!"		Dana Carvey as Garth Algar from Wayne's World	21/12/1975	1975	4	Queen - Bohemian Rhapsody
4		"Stan" by Eminem. Dido (Christmas Day birthday) features as his girlfriend. Bonnie (Clyde) features in the lyrics. He sends his address in letters	NO MATCH	NO MATCH	24/12/2000	2000	3	Bob The Builder - Can We Fix It?
4		"Stop The Cavalry" by Jona Lewie (really called John Lewis). Refers to Churchill (Clementine's other half). John Lennon had just been killed so had three entries in the chart.	NO MATCH	NO MATCH	21/12/1980	1980	3	St Winifred's School Choir - There's No-one Quite Like Grandma

P	Inner	Identification	Cover	Cover description	Date	Year	Pos	Number 1
4		Disco 2000 by Pulp. Written for Deborah Bone, her 'house was very small'. 'Oh so quiet' by Bjork was at number 4 that Christmas.		Pulp Fiction.	24/12/1995	1995	15	Michael Jackson - Earth Song
4		Smells Like Teen Spirit by Nirvana. "Hello, hello, hello... Here we are now, entertain us"		Death of Buddha. He attained Nirvana.	22/12/1991	1991	25	Queen - Bohemian Rhapsody
9		Walking in the Air by Aled Jones. "Suddenly swooping low on an ocean deep, rising up a mighty monster from its sleep". The backwards R is the Russian letter Я which can be transliterated as JA, Aled Jones' initials backwards. The satsuma is the Snowman's nose.		Denise Richards. Played Christmas Jones in The World is Not Enough.	22/12/1985	1985	4	Shakin' Stevens - Merry Christmas Everyone
9		Merry Christmas from (Uncle) Bulgaria - clue to a Wombing Merry Christmas by the Wombles		Wombles anarchist group	22/12/1974	1974	5	Mud - Lonely this Christmas
9		Ice Ice Baby by Vanilla Ice. In the video he drives a white 5 litre (!) Mustang, and sings about "Rollin' in my [Mustang] 5.0 With my ragtop down [no roof above me] so my hair can blow [he referred to his pointy hairstyle as his beak]" And that's the most I ever want to know about Vanilla Ice. The "high of being at the top" helps with finding the track, as he has just dropped from being number 1 the previous week. Thank God for Cliff.	NO MATCH	NO MATCH	23/12/1990	1990	2	Cliff Richard - Saviour's Day
12		I Lost My Heart to a Starship Trooper by Sara Brightman. The lyrics include: Encounters one [sightings - "to see the vessel"] and two [effects - "to see the results"- perhaps the clue is missing an 'or'?] What my body ["anatomically speaking"] needs is close encounter three ["to see it" i.e the ship's occupant]		Bright Man from Mega Man 4	24/12/1978	1978	7	Boney M - Mary's Boy Child
12		All I want for Christmas Mariah Carey. Line is "I won't even stay awake to hear those magic reindeer click". Reindeer knees click in winter as a signal to the herd.		DEC Mariah Floating Point Unit	25/12/1994	1994	2	East 17 - Stay another day
12		Fairytale of New York by the Pogues ft Kirsty McColl (and Pablo's favourite song) The line is "Came in eighteen to one" (often misheard as "came in at ten to one") These odds are 1/19 or 5.26%. Christmas & birthday presents... a clue to Shane McGowan, born on Xmas day This has been in the 20th December Xmas charts twice for the date range on p6 - in 1987 (behind Always on my mind) and 2009 (behind Killing in the name). Perhaps we use both?		William (Bill) Pogue, astronaut	20/12/1987 20/12/2009	1987 2009	Multi ple	Pet Shop Boys Rage against the Machine - Always on my mind Killing in the name
13		This is the "The Good, The Bad and The Ugly" theme by Morricone. It clues the single by Hugh Montenegro and his Orchestra. This card is the first letter of many in the next few decades - this is because this is the earliest card in the chronology (1968)		Our Lady of Remedy, Kotor, Montenegro	25/12/1968	1968	8	The Scaffold - Lily the Pink
13		The Power of Love, by Frankie Goes to Hollywood. Starts with the lines: * I'll protect you from the Hooded Claw (the Ant Hill Mob protected Penelope Pitstop from him.) * Keep the vampires from your door (Harmony and Spike are characters in "Buffy the Vampire Slayer". Vampires can't cross a threshold unless invited.)	NO MATCH	NO MATCH	23/12/1984	1984	6	Band Aid - Do they know it's Christmas?

Item	Identification	Relevance
<p><u>AC's Weather Briefs for the Year 1741</u> 72° 74° 77° 80° 89° 90° 91° 92° 90° 76° 75° 79° 80° 90° 79° 86° 91° 72° 85° 75° 99° 111° 108° 100° 90° 74° 72° 83° 76° 86° 85° 99° 104° 114° 105° 115° 116° 109° 97° 115° 75° 72° 95°</p>	<p>Probably refers to Anders Celsius. He proposed the scale named after him. It was first used on Christmas Day in 1741 at the observatory he had commissioned in Uppsala. His version was the other way about - boiling point was 0 deg and freezing point was 100 deg. The list should therefore read 28, 26, 23, 20, 11, 9, 8, 10, 24, 25, 21, 20, 10, 21, 14, 9, 28, 15, 25, 1, (11), (8), 0, 10, 26, 28, 17, 24, 15, 15,1 , (4), (14), (5), (15), (16), (9), 3, (15), 25, 28, 5.</p>	<p>?</p>
	<p>Michael Parkinson</p>	<p>These pictures spell PRIME – just a reference to 11 being the 'day' of this page? Why choose these pictures?</p>
	<p>Rihanna with nose piercing</p>	<p>As above</p>
	<p>Luis Suarez biting Branislav Ivanovic</p>	<p>As above</p>
	<p>Arctic Monkeys My Propeller</p>	<p>As above</p>
	<p>Elsa The Snow Queen (early draft of Frozen)</p>	<p>As above</p>
	<p>De Ranke - beer from Belgium. Ranke means 'hops'. "XXX Bitter" has been removed from the label. (This appears to be a beer brewed especially for a festival in Portland Maine.)</p>	<p>XXX = 30. So this row would read PRIME 30. 30th Prime Number is 113? Or 30th Prime Meridian (which Michael Palin used for Pole to Pole). Looking up XXX on the internet is not advisable.</p>
<p>SANTA'S WORKSHOP</p>	<p>Presumably just to tie into Xmas theme</p>	
<p>ACHTUNG! ELF WARNING!</p>	<p>Achtung is German for Warning, and Elf is German for 11.</p>	<p>Clue to the day.</p>
<p>LOOK UP ONCE. GRACIAS.</p>	<p>Thanking us for looking up Once in Spanish, which is 11.</p>	<p>Clue to the day.</p>
<p>MUEEHTSTBWMSSEDCESIOEIY BLOOVTOPLTTAONUEHNROER SVTNRESOW</p>	<p>Take every 11th letter (wrapping at end) to give: MY TRUE LOVE COUNTS THE TOP ROW ITEMS BASED ON THE VERSIONS BELOW</p>	<p>My True Love = gift giver in 12DoC. This tells us that the bottom row of pictures clues a version of 12DoC, featuring the item above. See below for the counts.</p>
	<p>See below for pairs of items, from left to right</p>	<p>Letter - spells out GLACIAL - so with 12DoC, another Cold Christmas reference?</p>
<p>Humphrey J Monster clues Sesame Street. Their 1975 12DoC features 7 rusty trash cans.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>G</p>
<p>The Christmas Bush shrub in Sydney Botanic Gardens clues the Australian 12DoC which features 12 parrots prattling. (The bird is a Rainbow Lorikeet, a species of parrot.)</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>L</p>

Item	Identification	Relevance
Terzogenito (youngest son) with candlestick from ghost hunt scene in La Dolce Vita. Clues Joe Dolce, whose 12DoC includes 1 bowl of parmesan cheese.	1	A
The Nun from the eponymous horror movie... she could be described as a Twisted Sister, whose 12DoC includes 3 studded belts.	3	C
The truck clues Eddie Stobart, whose drivers recorded a version for Help for Heroes, featuring 9 knitted jumpers.	9	I
Stimpy is looking up at his "nose goblins" in "Son of Stimpy". 'The 12 Days of Yaksmas' featured 1 nose goblin.	1	A
Redneck Island on Country Music Television (CMT is in the same style as the Redneck Island logo). Clues Jeff Foxworthy's Redneck 12DoC, with its 'twelve pack a Bud(weiser beers)'	12	L
= 116365000 4660076	This should link to the pictures above, given its position.	Maybe have to solve the AC code to understand it?
	The coldest Christmas in the UK was -18.3 C in Gainford in Durham in 1878	Another cold Christmas clue. Is the fact that it's coldest relevant? As per new year poem
311852395.3 409283849.3 20357.3 449541275.3 237935.3 = ?	Not clear if this is a decimal (like 18.3) or a dot multiplication. If the latter, the answer is 1170935811.3	?

Page 14 – Photo Trail

All locations are on the Greenwich (Prime) Meridian. They can be found on <http://www.thegreenwichmeridian.org>, often with the same photo.

The words, from top to bottom then right to left, read "OFF RAN CEDRIC THE IDEAL GERIATRIC TO GO & PLOUGH AN ACRE BUT HIS PAIN & ASTHMA LIMITED HIM".

This conceals FRANCE, ALGERIA, TOGO, GHANA, SPAIN, MALI - the countries on the prime meridian. UK, Burkina Faso and Antarctica are missing. These were possibly excluded as too obvious/difficult to conceal. This may just be a clue to the meridian and the need to look wider.

The degrees each point to a picture. Their use not understood. One theory is that you add/subtract to the Lat Long to find another place (similar to the Christmas Eve hint.) But it doesn't work for either e.g. -14 Long is off Ireland, and 136 Lat doesn't exist.

We think all of this is a clue to the treasure location being at Cold Christmas (not far from the 136 degrees marker.)






Photo	Degrees	Identification	Lat	Long
	-3	Gilwell Park, Essex Scout Association International Camp Site	51.648574	-0.001908
	-18	Meridian Monument at Peacehaven, Sussex. Where meridian crosses English south coast	50.789694	-0.00161
	11	Paydens Chemist - Station Road, Oxted	51.257401	-0.00156
	10	A21 road, Bromley - Dry-cleaners / "Lezz- Et Mangal" Restaurant	51.42106	- 0.0014277
	4	Ware (Easneye Estate), Easneye Wood Hertfordshire	51.80391	-0.001487







Photo	Degrees	Identification	Lat	Long
	-6	Flamsteed House, Greenwich Observatory	51.478051	-0.001593
	39	Brownie Mosaic @ Hither Green Station	51.4519	-0.00127
	136	South side of Cold Christmas Lane, Hertfordshire	51.8362	-0.00159
	31	Bus Stop in Leytonstone - Bulwer Road (towards Bakers Arms) - W16 bus	51.5689	- 0.0015316
	9	Abbey Mill on the Road to Westham, Essex. Engraved by R. Laurie, 1783 (This was on Channelsea Island - burnt down in 1862.)	51.528736	0.000043
	29	Chailey Lane End Common, Newick Hill East Sussex	50.98309	-0.001523

Photo	Degrees	Identification	Lat	Long
	30	South Eastern Railway O1-class No.65 @ Sheffield Park Station on the Bluebell Railway	50.995748	-0.001279
	-43	Meridian High School, New Addington	51.334291	-0.001592
	10	Waltham Abbey Gardens, Essex	51.688855	-0.001596
	12	"Here" artwork on Greenwich Peninsula. Travelling 24,859 miles leads you here!	51.50316	-0.00146
	-16	Forest Row, At junction, between Plaw Hatch Lane & Legsheath Lane	51.075792	-0.001457