

# **THE CELESTIAL DRAGON #10**



Featuring:

**THE CELESTIAL STEAM LOCOMOTIVE #40**

**HERE BE DRAGONS #73**

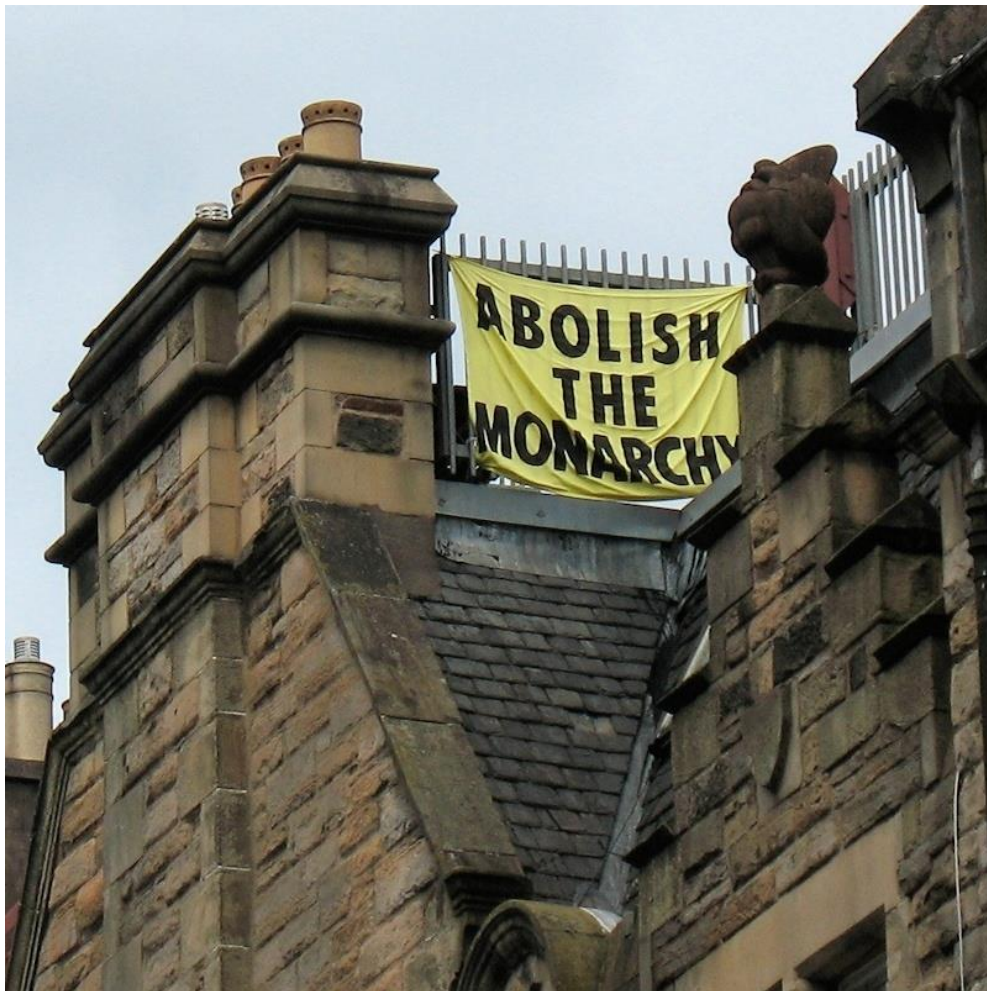
**SUBPAR #10**

**THE TANGERINE TERROR #80**

**I AM THE KURIOUS KUMQUAT #10**

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**DEADLINE: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025**



# THE CELESTIAL STEAM LOCOMOTIVE

Track no. 40

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3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025

This issue's dragon is a horse, silhouetted against the heavens. The picture was taken on the Crets holiday in Scotland, as was the picture above. Anti-monarchy protestors in Edinburgh unfurled the banner shown, and pooped off a small explosive device, which the police were dealing with as we walked past.

The monarchy is something I'm completely ambivalent about. I really don't give a stuff either way. Whist I'm no fanboy for the Royal Family, I think King Chuckie is OK and possibly better than a ceremonial president, depending on who it was (e.g. Boris Johnson).

Having looked at planes and trains, the Crets decided to go the whole way to Scotland by car, hiring an MPV and sharing the driving. Nine hours in total including stops for consuming overpriced food and drink from service stations, and expelling it.

To pass the time we talked plenty of bollocks, but also resorted to a game called "Cheese on Wheels". The rules for this game are as follows:

- When someone spots a yellow vehicle, they call "cheese on wheels"
- Whoever does this first gets a point
- However, the vehicle must be at least 75% yellow, and rivals may challenge the shade of paint as "not sufficiently yellow".

The rules issues led us to imagine some kind of world overseeing body for the game :-)

The weather was pretty good in the end, with very little rain, and no midges, though it was the east of Scotland (Fife) this time.

We stayed in a large house near a farm near a town called Cupar (do you say "*take me to Cupar*" to the taxi driver?) not far from St. Andrews. Donald Trump was a few miles north at Turnberry, so we didn't get to slag him off when we visited the famous golf course.

We also visited Dundee (home of The V&A, The Beano and various computer games) and Falkirk (Falkirk Wheel and Kelpies). Quite a bit of walking too: According to my cheapo Korean fitness watch I managed 75,000 steps over the week which to some extent offsets the alcohol and food consumption.



Games played included Power Grid, Scout, Noms, Dropolter, Dice Forge, Quacks of Quedlinberg, Der Aussreisser, Bluff, Shadow Hunters, Cockroach Poker, Just One (er, more than once) and Kubb. Alas I forgot to pack Bag of Dungeon due to me being halfway through preparations for the postal game.

We do seem to have an inexhaustible supply of questionable things to discuss over a sherbet or two, such as the average time to have a pee - believed to be around 23 seconds, though 41 was claimed by one of the Crets, but perhaps that doesn't count as it was timed using "elephants".

I wasn't going to say any more about dreams but I did remember a little bit of a weird one and wrote down the fading details in the morning. I think it was some kind of TV talent show and I was performing a song with other members of my family. I was on keyboards, my sister on acoustic guitar, my nephew on drums and my niece on bass.

My 95-year-old mum and three other oldies were doing the vocals: Dressed as 1960s hippies and sitting around a hubbly-bubbly they sung "*when we die, tell me can we still get high*" over and over. I had to resort to Googling to discover this was a rather good 90s-indiesque song by YungBlud (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AbqtpUHnXrc>) that I had recently been listening on my daily walk (a friend's compilation). Funeral song candidate?

Having got to the end of Outlander 7 (see review) I'm now watching Continuum (Canadian time-travel drama series from 2012-2015) on Amazon. I have also just been offered the movie Barbie, but I'm not sure that I actually want to watch it...

On the RR and BB map design front, Bob's [BB Anglesey map](#) is ready to go, whilst Jim's Togo & Benin RR map and my Durham 1826 RR map are expected to be launched next issue. Wheel of Time may take a bit longer to turn around.

*Richard*



# THE LETTERS BIT



## ANDY LISCHETT

Old associations die hard. When I see "TCD" my brain registers "The Canadian Diplomat" from Bob Acheson from long ago.

On a high shelf in my kitchen were four small plants which it was my responsibility to water every Monday because my wife couldn't reach them. It took me five years to realize that one of them was plastic.

*I'd not heard of it before, but issues of The Canadian Diplomat can still be viewed on The Internet Archive (sample URL [https://archive.org/details/The\\_Canadian\\_Diplomat\\_48-1995-05](https://archive.org/details/The_Canadian_Diplomat_48-1995-05)). As I mentioned in the editorial, I no longer see fake plants as evil, and I also have one garden ornament - although it's a dragon, not a gnome, they **are** evil!*

## STEVE HAM

Hope you are well and had an enjoyable holiday. And that the cats were pleased to see you when you returned. No news here but I did manage to see about 5 minutes of the new BBC reality show Destination X. The BBC have marketed it as somewhere between the Traitors and Race Across the World. I didn't see enough of it to make a judgement about it, these things tend to need entertaining contestants and I didn't think Rob Brydon was as good as he can be (used to be?) but the game appeared to be similar to Where in the World is Kendo Nagasaki. I wonder whether royalties might be due?

*I haven't checked out Destination X as yet, but if it is indeed a Kendo rip-off, Howard could sue and thus replenish his retirement fund after the expensive wedding. Update - you can "play along" on the BBC website, and the game isn't a Kendo rip-off (instead featuring a journey on a blacked-out bus to mystery locations, and various clues).*

## DANE MASLEN

My mugs have also been around for a long time, admittedly helped by the fact that for many years I rarely had hot drinks, so it was only when I had visitors that the mugs got used. It did make me wonder why I had about 20 mugs. I can rule out the possibility that 20 people had all thought that a mug was not such a bad thing to buy someone: I could remember buying a few of them myself, while others had been freebies from conferences that I had attended. The oldest mug ("Never trust a man who doesn't drink") was, however, definitely a present, given to me by university friends who disapproved of my teetotal approach to liquid refreshment. It gets used almost daily as these days both coffee and mocha are a regular part of my diet.

*I do have some mugs and other "swag" from training courses and conferences, but it just sits in a drawer, don't know why. I think the oldest mug in there is "I'm a Mug: I Worked on the 1991 Census".*

Quite early on in my working career I started to aim to be able to retire at 50. It clearly required a two-pronged approach: accelerate the rate at which I was accumulating my occupational pension and build up substantial savings to cover the ten years until I could take it. Both went sufficiently well that I started to wonder if retiring at 45 might be an option. Eventually I was made redundant on my 42nd birthday. I found my new job much less satisfying than the old one, so after a few months I took a close look at my finances. That led to the realisation that the redundancy package had meant that I hadn't needed a new job at all. I did, however, continue in it until three months before my next birthday so that I'd be available to help sort out any Y2K problems, not that any cropped up.

I know five other people, who were all in an at least vaguely IT-related job, that managed to retire in their mid to late 40s.

*I think I may have been able to do something similar had I decided to go for contracting (in my 20s, when I considered it) rather than remaining an underpaid public sector employee. The plan for many was to do contracting for (say) 10 years to "line the nest" then find a nice cushy permie job to do until maybe 55, then retire.*

## **CHRIS HIBBERT**

My main aspirational project is repairing our shed, which we built from a kit. The roof always leaked, so the floor is pretty rotten. Janet thinks we can move the shed temporarily off the platform, and replace the floor. I'm not sure it will work, but it's worth a try. Anyway, the first step was getting rid of the rats, which had taken up residence and left a mess everywhere. In this area mice carry hantavirus, which is pretty scary, but rats are supposed to not carry. We trapped the rats, and eventually, I think we got 8 of them before it stopped. So on Monday, I'm going to spray everything with bleach, and then clean out the rat shit. After that, I'll detach the shed from the platform, and start thinking about how we'll move it, and where to set it temporarily. All my other chores and tasks have been fairly simple. I dug out one tree, and cut another down to ground level with the chain saw. (it was too close to the house foundations to be worth digging out.)

*All sounds very energetic (and thus good for the heart) - are you turning into Tom Howell?*

Choosing new Medicare options took several weeks. Everyone gets Parts A and B. If you don't choose Part C, you should get Part G instead. If you don't sign up for Part D (drug coverage) your rates will be higher for the rest of your life if you ever do sign up. (I got the cheapest plan since I don't use any prescriptions yet.) If you do sign up for Part C, you have to choose one of the plans A through N, though F and G have been discontinued, and there are high-deductible versions of G and N. If you ever want to switch to a plan with more coverage, you'll have to go through underwriting (which means they can refuse you if you have any pre-existing conditions) so you better choose wisely the first time through. Each of the lettered plans may be offered by multiple insurers, who will have consistent coverage, but varying prices and differing rules for how prices might rise, and availability differs in every state. Anyway, I got lots of advice, and I'm all signed up now.

*I had no idea Medicare was so complex. Here is the UK everyone is entitled to free-at-the-point-of-delivery treatment via the NHS, and if they want to jump the queue and / or get deluxe service they have to pay for a private health care plan such as BUPA. In the last couple of days I received a bowel cancer screening poop test kit through the post, this being my second such check.*

## **MICHAEL PARGMAN**

We've had an extremely hot summer with temperatures around 30 degrees, and it's been hard sleeping through the nights. On the other hand the summer started cold and wet. We went a few days to Riga, Latvia and had hard rain almost every day. But we did manage to walk around the old city and also see the fantastic art nouveau houses built around 1900.

*Scorchio again here in the UK with wildfires and hosepipe bans. I blame Carol Kirkwood. And my grape vine is still only producing teeny-weeny grapes!*

## **JIM READER**

I have Windows 11 on my new PC, but so far I haven't noticed too many issues, probably as I've been trying to make the number of photos stored more manageable. My Surface Pro can't be upgraded to Windows 11, so I won't have to worry about it on my little laptop.

*Shame about the Surface Pro - I guess it is quite old now but when it came out it was the bee's knees of laptops! I haven't decided what to do about my old desktops yet - looks like I missed my chance to do a "back door" upgrade on my more powerful machine (using a downloaded image). Will hackers target people with W10 machines that are no longer getting security updates? We shall see.*

## ALBUM REVIEWS

### Deafheaven - Lonely People With Power (2025)

These days there are many sub-genres and crossovers. Deafheaven's combination of black metal, shoegaze and post-rock was dubbed "blackgaze" with perhaps only French outfit *Alcest* doing it before them. Their second and third albums, *Sunbather* and *New Bermuda* won them a lot of fans, though the next two were not so popular. 2021's *Infinite Granite* controversially dropped the "scream" vocals that were part of their trademark sound, which to me made them sound rather like *Mogwai*. However, for the latest release *Lonely People With Power*, the screams are back along with some seriously headbanging riffs.



We are told that the lyrics are very dark, mostly about abusive relationships. However, one of the drawbacks of the scream vocals is they could be reciting the back of a cereal packet and you wouldn't know the difference, at least not without resorting to reading the CD insert with a magnifying glass.

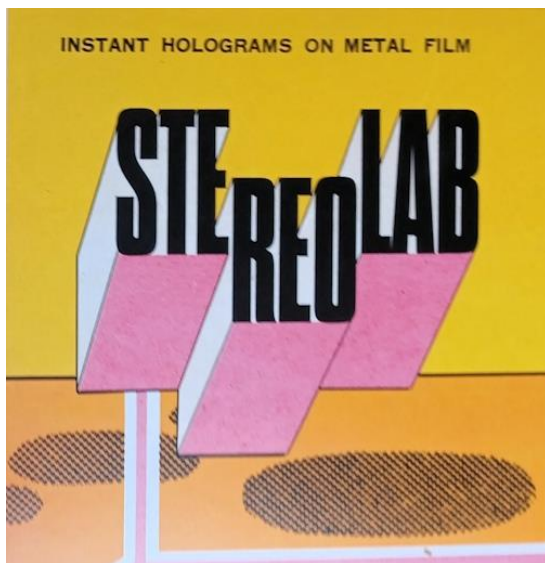
Nevertheless, it is a really great album. Standout tracks for me:

Magnolia [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2h\\_WVPSoMwU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2h_WVPSoMwU) (really heavy) &

Amethyst <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=maFOH6m7EPs> (beautiful 3/4 piece with some heavy bits).

The final track, The Marvelous Orange Tree is very good too, but the video (mostly a still) is a bit icky so I'm not linking it.

### Stereolab - Instant Holograms on Metal Film (2025)



So how did I get "into" Stereolab? It was for a long time a favourite of David Oya, the former editor of WIMM?

As a result of his praise, I listened to *Peng!* and thought it was rubbish. I also saw the band play on TV in the early 90s and they were dreadful. Out of tune vocals, sloppy playing and pretentious posing.

However, some years later I happened to listen to *Cobra and Phases Group Play Voltage in the Milky Night* - a 1999 release not loved by the critics. I thought it was great for perhaps the same reason the critics didn't - it veered away for loungey art-pop to atmospheric prog rock, including the 11-minute masterpiece *Blue Milk*, with its incredibly long "tension hold", reminiscent of *Starless* by King Crimson.

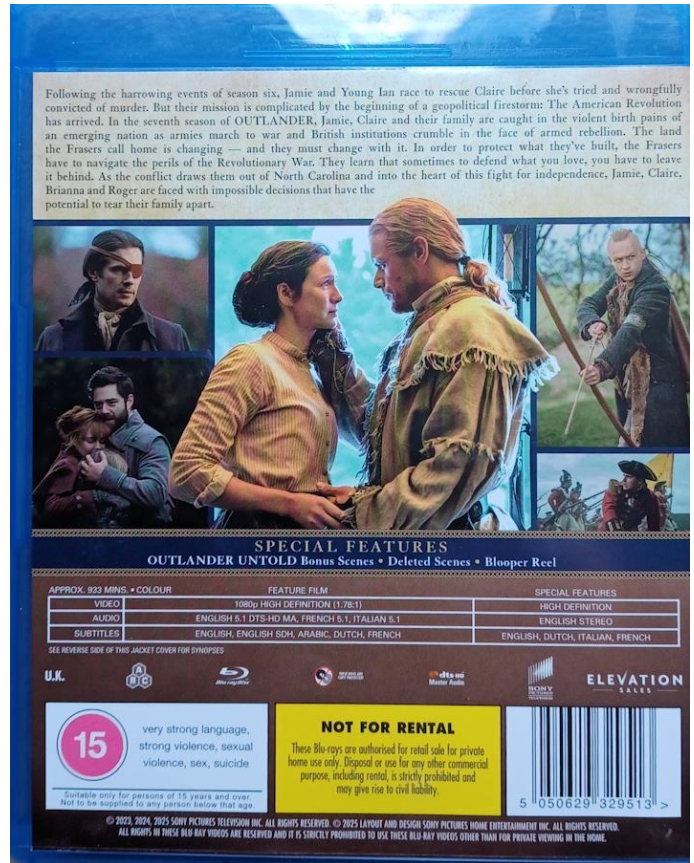
Despite boasting a new producer and some new members (after the 15-year hiatus) the new record sounds unmistakably Stereolab with reassuringly silly song titles such as *Esemplastic Creeping Eruption* (live rendition [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v-ekAZt\\_D2g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v-ekAZt_D2g) with long Hawkwindy outro).



# VIDEO REVIEWS

## Outlander Season 7 (Blu-ray) (2025)

Quite a wait to get a "proper" copy of this on Blu-ray. There were some dodgy DVDs around previously which were poor quality and / or not region 2 and / or just the first half of the series (which was broadcast in two chunks with a large time gap between them). I had pretty much given up on getting it when I saw it for sale in Asda!



Season 7 is the last-but-one, though there is a new Prequel called *Blood of my Blood* about Claire's parents in the 1910s, filmed in Scotland (Doune Castle visited by Crets!).

Season 7 was set in the USA and Scotland (different times) though it was all filmed in Scotland. The full series is 16 episodes, with the first part being mainly the Frasers and the Civil War in the USA and the second mostly the Mackenzies in Scotland, in the 1980s with some trips back in time, dealing with a plot to steal the gold hidden by Jamie in the first part, and the (related) abduction of their son.

Both stories are much more gripping and engaging than those in series 5 and 6, which I enjoyed but now seem a little tame in comparison. Talking of tame, with Jamie and Claire both getting on a bit (late 50s?) there's very few steamy scenes with them, though Jamie's bastard son (a captain in the British Army) gets involved with a prostitute who turns out to have links with the Mackenzie family.

Romance also for "young" Ian (the Mohawk) and a spot of bother when he unwittingly kills an old lady (who was stealing the aforementioned gold). Her husband then refused Ian's offer of his life for her life. Meanwhile, Claire does briefly marry (the gay) Lord John to save her from execution for working with the rebels as a field doctor and more egregiously passing secrets. This was after Jamie was lost at sea, assumed dead. This not being Game of Thrones, the viewer assumes he isn't really dead, and boy, is he mad when he returns to the USA!

Season 8 is scheduled for release in February 2026, but probably won't be available on disc until 2027.

## BY MODERATELY POPULAR DEMAND - ROUND 3 OF 5



**Rules:** In this variant the highest scoring answer(s) AND the lowest scoring answer(s) all score no points, so you want to be somewhere in the middle with your choice. To complicate matters each player has four tokens to play on each round. The tokens can be distributed however the player sees fit, even all four on the same category.

- Double Token - double the score of one (named) answer (in one category)
- Half Token - halve the score of one (named) answer (in one category), rounding up
- Destroy Token - eliminate one (named) answer (in one category)
- Shield Token - prevent the elimination of one (named) answer (in one category)

Conflicting Double and Half tokens cancel, so two Doubles and a Half on the same answer equates to one Double. However, a single Shield token protects an answer from elimination by any number of Destroys. See TCD7 for examples.

I am still thinking about some rule changes, but will be completing the current 5-round game as is, then get comments / suggestions about improvements.

John maintains his lead with a healthy 6 points, with his closest Rival Roger top scoring with 8 and Brad zooming up the scoreboard with 7.

The programming language and job both yielded *nul points* with a lot to choose from. Note I decided Software Developer and Programmer are same job, but Data Administrator / Database Administrator are not (the former is more business-oriented and the latter more technical). No love for Windows for the OS and old-timer Facebook was a surprise scoring answer for the social media app.

**Categories for Round 3:** The theme is "Computers". There is no start letter.

1) An operating system (not a particular version)

Before Tokens: *Android (4); Unix, Linux (3), iOS, MacOS (1)*

Tokens Played: Double Linux; Double Windows; Half Windows; Destroy Windows; Shield Linux

After Tokens: *Linux (6), **Android (4); Unix (3); iOS, MacOS (1)***

2) A programming language (again not a particular version)

Before Tokens: *Java, BASIC (2); Cecil, Pascal, Fortran, Algol, Go, Python, SQL, Cobol (1)*

Tokens Played: Double Pascal, Cecil; Destroy Javascript

After Tokens: *Java, BASIC, Cecil, Pascal (2), Fortran, Algol, Go, Python, SQL, Cobol (1) **No scoring answers***

3) A famous person associated with computers (live or dead)

Before Tokens: *Ada Lovelace, Alan Turing (3); Tim Berners-Lee (2); Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, Steve Wozniak, Charles Babbage*

Tokens Played: Double Ada Lovelace, Alan Turing, Steve Jobs; Half Steve Jobs, Clive Sinclair; Destroy Ada Lovelace; Shield Bill Gates, Alan Turing

After Tokens: *Alan Turing (6); **Tim Berners-Lee (2)**; Steve Jobs, Bill Gates, Steve Wozniak, Charles Babbage*

4) A 1980s home computer

Before Tokens: *ZX Spectrum (3); Commodore 64, Amstrad CPC64 (2); ZX-81, Atari, Dragon 32, TRS-80, BBC*

Tokens Played: Double Commodore 64 x2, Dragon 32; Half Commodore 64, Apple II, ZX Spectrum; Destroy Vic-20, Atari; Shield Commodore 64, Amstrad CPC64, ZX Spectrum

After Tokens: *Commodore 64 (4), **ZX Spectrum, Amstrad CPC64, Dragon 32 (2)**; ZX-81, TRS-80, BBC*



### 5) A computer-related job

Before Tokens: *Tech Support, Systems Analyst, Programmer, Data Analyst, UX Designer, Computer Operator, Solutions Architect, Game Developer, Sales Person, Database Administrator, Data Analyst, Data Administrator (1)*

Tokens Played: *Double Sales; Half Software Developer; Destroy Software Developer, Systems Analyst*

After Tokens: *Sales Person (2); Tech Support, Data Analyst, UX Designer, Computer Operator, Solutions Architect, Game Developer, Database Administrator, Data Analyst, Data Administrator (1)* **no scoring answers**

### 6) A popular social media service

Before Tokens: *WhatsApp (3); Facebook, Bluesky, TikTok (2); Linkedin, Instagram, Twitter/X (1)*

Tokens Played: *Double Facebook, WhatsApp; Half Facebook, WhatsApp, Linkedin; Destroy TikTok, YouTube; Shield Instagram, WhatsApp*

After Tokens: *WhatsApp (3); **Facebook, Bluesky (2)**; Linkedin, Instagram, Twitter/X (1)*

### Scoreboard:

Player	OS	Language	Person	80s Home	Job	Media	Score	Total
John Walker	Android	Cecil	Ada Lovelace	ZX Spectrum	Tech Support	Linkedin	6	21
Roger Trethewey	Android	Java	Steve Jobs	Amstrad CPC 464	Systems Analyst	Facebook	8	17
Bob Pitman	Unix	Fortran	Bill Gates	ZX Spectrum	Computer Operator	Twitter / X	5	13
Brendan Whyte	Unix	BASIC	Alan Turing	ZX-81	Programmer	Facebook	5	13
Martin Walker	Android	BASIC	Steve Wozniak	Dragon 32	Game Developer	WhatsApp	6	12
Jim Reader	Linux	Algol	Alan Turing	ZX Spectrum	Solutions Architect	Bluesky	4	10
Brad Martin	Unix	Cobol	Tim Berners-Lee	Amstrad CPC 464	Data Administrator	TikTok	7	9
Bob Gingell	Android	Go	Charles Babbage	Atari	Sales Person	WhatsApp	4	9
Mike Pollard	iOS	Java	Ada Lovelace	Commodore 64	Data Analyst	Bluesky	-	8
Michael Pargman	Linux	Pascal	Ada Lovelace	Commodore 64	UX Designer	WhatsApp	-	8
Chris Hibbert	Linux	Python	Alan Turing	TRS-80	Database Administrator	TikTok	-	4
Steve Ham	MacOS	SQL	Tim Berners-Lee	BBC "B"	Data Analyst	Instagram	2	4
GM picks (non-scoring)	MS-DOS	Scala	Ada Lovelace	ZX Spectrum	Prompt Engineer	YouTube	-	-

**Categories for Round 4:** The theme is "Thingy". There is no start letter.

- 1) A method of contraception
- 2) A dating app or service (past or present)
- 3) A pornographic magazine (past or present)
- 4) A sex position name\*
- 5) A sexually transmitted disease
- 6) A notorious sex offender

*\* whilst there are no wrong answers, I'm expecting names such as "cowgirl" rather than (say) "woman on top"*

## FRAGMENTS: BOOTIFUL BOOKS - GAME END COMMENTS

**Howard Bishop:** Really enjoyed the game. I got a little lucky in that I was reasonably familiar with most of the books you included. Getting the year of publication for Gormenghast was key too. The word structure clue is very powerful. Possibly a bit more useful than year of publication. Not sure how useful asking for specific letters is because everyone benefits. Would definitely play this again.

**GM Response:** In one of the variants you get a number of special points (SPs) and the word breakdown costs 2, the others 1. Specific letters might indeed help other readers but if you ask for a less common letter to be revealed on a clue, and nothing appears, then (only) you have learned that that letter is not in the clue (or the GM has missed it!). Revealing a letter by position may be more helpful to you than others because you have spotted something they haven't, albeit the revelation of that letter might mean that others *do* now spot that thing.

**Bob Gingell:** Although I guessed one book early, I struggled to decipher the clues. I am in awe of Howard's run of all 8s and 9s! I deciphered Gary Gyax but did not regard a set of games rules as a book which is why I went for a novel linked to D&D instead of the Players' Handbook. Good thinking for those who did get it right.

**Andy Lischett:** Despite finishing second to last I enjoyed Bootiful Books. Mark me down as liking War and Peace. After I realized that every woman seems to be a princess and every character has three names, it is a great book. Long, but I didn't want it to end. One of my 9 or 10 favorites.

**Bob Pitman:** A bit of a disappointing points haul for me! Congrats to Howard on a stonking win. There must be a method I am not seeing, perhaps I shall try some statistical letter groupings next time. Fun game, lots of staring in hope at letter strings, some success... but maybe I need to guess earlier!

**John Walker:** A great little game, let's hope I don't ruin the next one.

## WHERE IN THE WORLD IS KENDO NAGASAKI - ROUND 7



This time it's the Three Wishes variant, with one of the wishes changed from last time - see <https://variablepig.org/rules/kendo.html>.

You can ask the *Kendo Genie* to help you three times in the game. Each wish can only be used once, and only one wish can be granted per round. Anyone using a wish is emailed the result promptly so it can be used for the current orders (so you need to do it *before* the deadline!)

You can ask the genie for the "bonus clue" for the round, who was the closest person in the previous round, or how close you were last time (e.g. 3rd nearest). When a wish is used, the turn report will mention that player x used a wish, but not which one.

Any number can play, just send in a guess for the name and location of Kendo. As before, both the person and the place must have a Wikipedia entry. The person can be alive or dead but must not be fictitious or non-human.

Five people agree on Kendo's identity and two on the hiding place. Either or both could be wrong.



### Round 7:

Player	Who	Where	Lat	Lon
Bob Gingell	Michel de Nostredame (1503-1566)	Bristol, England	51.453611	-2.5975
Steve Guest*	Michel de Nostredame (1503-1566)	Beaulieu, Hampshire	50.818333	-1.451944
Chris Hibbert	Michel de Nostredame (1503-1566)	Wellington, Somerset	50.9755	-3.2243
Tom Howell*	Michel de Nostredame (1503-1566)	Newport, Isle of Wight	50.701	-1.2883
Dane Maslen*	Michel de Nostredame (1503-1566)	Newport, Isle of Wight	50.701	-1.2883
Jim Reader	René Descartes (1596-1650)	Denmead, Hampshire	50.905	-1.0648
Martin Walker	Gerardus Mercator (1512-1594)	Salisbury, Wiltshire	51.069722	-1.795
Brendan Whyte	Giovanni Boccaccio (1313-1375)	Christchurch, Dorset	50.73	-1.78

Public response to the player with the closest guess: *We were born in the same country, albeit quite a way apart, a sizeable car or train journey would be required to travel from one to the other. However, someone could walk from your transmitter to my hiding place, post a letter, and return in less than a day.*

### Round 6:

Player	Who	Where	Lat	Lon
Bob Gingell	Michel de Nostredame (1503-1566)	Pudding Lane, City of London	51.5102	-0.0853
Steve Guest*	Geoffrey of Monmouth (1095-1155)	Winchester Cathedral, England	51.060556	-1.313056
Chris Hibbert	Cyrano de Bergerac (1619-1655)	Torquay, England	50.47	-3.53
Dane Maslen	John Lennon (1940-1980)	Salisbury, England	51.069722	-1.795
Jim Reader	Marquis de Sade (1740-1814)	Didben Purlieu, England	50.852	-1.415
Martin Walker	Richard Osman (1970-)	Padstow, Cornwall, England	50.538	-4.938
Brendan Whyte	HG Wells (1866-1946)	Wells, England	51.209444	-2.645

Public response to the player with the closest guess: *I died before you were born. Your transmitter is located at a place with a globally unique name, my hiding spot is not.*

### Round 5:

Player	Who	Where	Lat	Lon
Bob Gingell*	King George III (1738-1820)	Rennes, France	48.1147	-1.6794
Steve Guest	Michael Collins (Irish PM) (1890-1922)	Berwick-upon-Tweed, England	55.769167	-2.0025
Chris Hibbert*	Karl Koch (hacker) (1965-1989)	Isle of Man	54.235	-4.525
Tom Howell	Sebastián de Aparicio (1502-1600)	Santiago de Compostela, Spain	42.877778	-8.544444
Dane Maslen*	Catherine de' Medici (1519-1589)	St Helier, Jersey	49.185833	-2.11
Jim Reader*	Jules Verne (1828-1905)	Sark	49.433056	-2.360833
Martin Walker*	Robert Burns (1759-1796)	Kirkwall, Orkney	58.981	-2.96
Brendan Whyte	John Snow (physician) (1813-1858)	The Angel, Islington, England	51.532	-0.106

Public response to the player with the closest guess: *Your main occupation is something I also did but not what I am most famous for.*

### Round 4:

Player	Who	Where	Lat	Lon
Bob Gingell	Queen Victoria (1819-1901)	Cowes, Isle of Wight	50.7595	-1.3002
Steve Guest	Gustave Eiffel (1832-1923)	Paris, France	48.856667	2.352222
Chris Hibbert	Maximilian III of Austria (1558-1618)	Hamburg, Germany	53.55	10.00
Tom Howell	Ferdinand Porsche (1875-1951)	Stuttgart, Germany	48.7775	9.18
Dane Maslen	Jean-Baptiste Jourdan (1762-1833)	Limoges, France	45.8353	1.2625
Jim Reader	Pierluigi Collina (1960- )	Bologna, Italy	44.493889	11.342778
Martin Walker	Franz Beckenbauer (1945-2024)	Plzen, Czechia	49.7475	13.3775
Brendan Whyte	Kanye West (1977- )	Luxembourg City	49.611667	6.131944



Public response to the player with the closest guess: *We were both the subject of 1990s movies but yours was much more popular than mine. We were both associated with an illness ending in "a".*

### Round 3:

Player	Who	Where	Lat	Lon
Bob Gingell	Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)	Copenhagen, Denmark	55.676111	12.568333
Steve Guest	Johannes Kepler (1571-1630)	ESOC, Darmstadt, Germany	49.871111	8.622778
Chris Hibbert*	Marcel Marceau (1923-2007)	Mediterranean Sea+	35.0	18.0
Tom Howell	Albert Einstein (1879-1955)	Berlin, Germany	52.52	13.405
Dane Maslen	André Michelin (1853–1931)	Clermont-Ferrand, France	45.7831	3.0824
Jim Reader	Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)	Jyväskylä, Finland	62.241667	25.741667
Martin Walker	Benito Mussolini (1883-1945)	Rome, Italy	41.9	12.483333

+ Wikipedia does give a lat lon for what appears to be the centroid

Public response to the player with the closest guess: *We share a nationality but have different occupations, and our lifetimes do not overlap.*

### Round 2:

Player	Who	Where	Lat	Lon
Bob Gingell	Simón Bolívar (1783-1830)	Medellín, Columbia	6.230833	-75.590556
Steve Guest*	Alexei Sayle (1952- )	Barnsley, UK	53.5547	-1.4791
Chris Hibbert	Pol Pot (1925-1998)	Phnom Penh	11.569444	104.921111
Tom Howell	Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777-1855)	Dakhla, Western Sahara	23.708056	-15.945556
Dane Maslen	Edward Jenner (1749-1823)	Stockholm, Sweden	59.329444	18.068611
Jim Reader	Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821)	Ulsan, South Korea	35.55	129.316667
Martin Walker	Adam Smith (economist) (1723-1790)	Darwin, Australia	-12.438056	130.841111
Brendan Whyte	Empress Dowager Cixi (1835-1908)	Kinshasa, Congo	-4.321944	15.311944

Public response to the player with the closest guess: *We were born more than 500 but less than 1000 miles apart (as the crow flies).*

### Round 1:

Player	Who	Where	Lat	Lon
Bob Gingell	Lewis Carroll (1832-1898)	Alice Springs, Australia	-23.7	133.87
Steve Guest	Hanna Diyab (1688-1763)*	Ottoman, Syria	34.0	37.0
Chris Hibbert	Karch Kiraly (1960-)	Sevastopol, Ukraine	44.605	33.5225
Tom Howell	Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (1954-)	Cape Cod, USA	41.68	-70.2
Dane Maslen	Donald Trump (1946-)	Hell, Norway	63.4444	10.9227
Jim Reader	Lee Harvey Oswald (1939-1963)	Tristan da Cunha	-37.115	-12.285
Martin Walker	Lindsay Buckingham (1949-)	Athens, Greece	37.984167	23.728056
Brendan Whyte	Diana Rigg (1938-2020)	Nagasaki, Japan	32.744722	129.873611

\* Exact birth and death dates are not known, for game purposes I'm using DOB=1<sup>st</sup> January 1688 and DOD=31<sup>st</sup> December 1763

Public response to the player with the closest guess: *We were born on different continents and in different centuries.*

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**Note:** \* Used a wish this round on the name applies to all rounds.

I reckon someone will win next time, but it's not a gimme.

## DILEMMAS - ROUND 5



Dilemmas is back! But this time with two changes to the rules, see <https://variablepig.org/rules/dilemmas.html>

Answers will not be anonymous for this game, you will know who supplied which answer (yes this may result in some tactical voting towards the end).

So the game is all over bar the final likes. Game end statements welcome.

I think I would prefer the play to the meal, and the super-alien question could have been worded differently to make a "yes" more of a realistic option. If the alien performed a demonstration of his power, that doesn't prove he's divine, just equipped with more advanced tech than us.

**Likes for Q7 Answers:** Bob P 0 Bob G 0 Chris H 2 Steve H 0

Bob G: No-one else supported my view of Edmonds being the least offensive (as they thought he was boring) so I cannot award Like points to anyone. I have not seen the recent documentary on Edmonds but reviews seem to say he is bonkers.

**Likes for Q8 Answers:** Bob P 1 Bob G 1 Chris H 1 Steve H 1

Bob G: Like Bob P on this. Brief and adds yet another reason to avoid Musk.

Chris H: I'll give Steve a vote for pioneering on Mars.

### Scoreboard:

Player	Pre	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	TOTAL
Steve Ham	2	6	4	4	5	3	2	5	5	3	3	42
Bob Gingell	2	5	5	5	3	3	4	4	5	3	3	42
Bob Pitman	2	3	3	5	6	4	2	3	6	3	3	40
Chris Hibbert	2	5	3	5	4	1	2	4	5	5	3	39

**Q9.** Would you prefer a meal at restaurant with a Michelin star, or to see a Tony or Olivier award-winning play (Chris H)

**VOTES:** Meal 0 Play 4

**Bob G:** I like a good meal but being a bit miserly I jib at the high cost of a Michelin ranked restaurant. Lots of good restaurants without stars. And I love going to the theatre. I think the others will go for a play too.

**Steve H:** I'd rather go to see the Play and I think the majority will agree. Fine dining is a bit wasted on me. In thinking about this question I discovered that I had not dined at Nobu in Copenhagen in, or around, 1999 or 2000. For the past 25 years I've had a fond memory of dining in this 3 star Michelin restaurant but have just discovered that Nobu didn't open until 2003. Thank you very much! I thought my life had included a visit to possibly the best restaurant in the world but I was obviously mistaken. It was a nice meal, but I now no longer have an idea of what restaurant it was. Plays are far more memorable.

**Chris H:** I'd rather see a good play. That seems like it would be more memorable. The reason I posed this question is that they're both appealing to me. I like a good and unusual meal, but a good play on the stage sticks with you for a while.

**Bob P:** I'm going to assume that both options are gratis for me, if not I would probably skip both. I Googled both the awards and what the stars indicate so my decision is an Olivier award winning prize play. I quite like posh food and have had the "designer" meals but half the time they just don't satisfy the appetite so a play would be a safer bet

**Q10.** A spaceship lands on Earth, and a being emerges who claims to be God. He tells all humans that they must perform a task in order to be accepted into Heaven and avoid eternal damnation. You are asked to sacrifice one of your children (or other loved one if you have no children). Do you obey? (GM)

**VOTES:** Obey 0 Risk Eternal Damnation 4

**Bob G:** I think other players will also say No even if in practice they are frightened of eternal damnation. I am just too secular to believe in all that fire and brimstone stuff, however powerful a being shows itself to be.

**Steve H:** No I do not obey (and I don't think anybody else does either). God would not do this. There isn't a sequel to the Bible which completely changes the story arc of everything that has gone before.

**Chris H:** Absolutely not. It would take absolutely incredible evidence to convince me, and even incredible evidence combined with a demand for a sacrifice would be more likely to convince me that it was a devil rather than a benevolent god. I don't think anyone will accept the offer.

**Bob P:** Absolutely no obeying! If they'd turned up just as advanced tech aliens then no problem, we can treat them in whatever way they appear to deserve. But turning up claiming to be a deity would make me very suspicious of intentions and I have a basic mistrust of anything claiming a religious authority, much better to turn up claiming to be Technomages (for B5 fans)!

### ORDERS:

You have up to 2 "likes" to assign (can be 0) +1pt for liker and likee. If 2, you can like two answers to the same question or one like for each question. You cannot like your own answer. Anyone who is actually trying to win may want to vote tactically. Of course the GM may have missed the odd point here and there...

## CHOICE - SUPPENKASPER VARIANT - ROUNDS 19-20



<https://variablepig.org/rules/choice.html>

As per the standard game, except that only **7 Würfels** are allowed, and each player has 6 special cards that can be played once per game:

- FdH: Remove any two numbers from the five, leaving one pair plus 1 possible Würfel
- Null: Do not take a Würfel this round
- KUR: Take a Würfel but no numbers this round
- -1: Refuse all the numbers this round
- -2: Refuse all the numbers and decrement the count of one of your Würfels
- Suppen-Kasper: Create an extra round from your leftovers plate



Player	Round 20	Round 21	Round 21.5
Bob Gingell	(2+3)=5, (3+4)=7 null	-2 (decrement 2)	
Chris Hibbert	(1+4)=5, (3+3)=6 w2	(1+2)=3, (5+5)=10 w3	SK: (1+2)=3, (1+4)=5 d4
Kevin Lee	(1+4)=5, (2+3)=6 w3	(1+5)=6, (3+5)=8 w2	
Michael Pargman	Kur w4	(1+5)=6, (3+5)=8 w2	
John Walker	(1+2)=3, (4+3)=7 w3	(1+2)=3, (3+5)=8 null	SK: (1+2)=3, (1+2)=3 w1

Player	Score	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Würfel	Würfel	Würfel
Bob Gingell	500				<u>9</u>		4	<u>11</u>		<u>11</u>			111111-	22222--	333333-
Steve Ham	450					<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>					11111-	2-----	6666666
Chris Hibbert	720		<u>6</u>		<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>				<u>13</u>			22222--	33333--	66666--
Kevin Lee	650				<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>		<u>5</u>			222222-	333333-	66666--
Dane Maslen	700				<u>10</u>	<u>12</u>				<u>11</u>			2222222	333----	4444---
Michael Pargman	330				<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>12</u>			222222-	33333--	44444--
Roger Trethewey	660				<u>12</u>		<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>		<u>7</u>			222222-	33333--	6666666
John Walker	130		4	4		<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>		<u>10</u>			111111-	333333-	555555-

Player	FdH	Null	Kur	-1	-2	Sup	Leftovers Plate
Bob Gingell	x	x	x	x	x	enabled	1,5,5,5,5,6,2,2,3,3,6
Steve Ham	x	x	x	x	x	x	{eaten}
Chris Hibbert	x	x	x	x	x	x	{eaten}
Kevin Lee	x	x					6,4,5
Dane Maslen	x	x		x	x	x	
Michael Pargman	x	x	x	x	x	enabled	1,1,1,4,5,4,5,2,3,3,4,4,5,1,2,3,3
Roger Trethewey	x		x			x	{eaten}
John Walker	x		x		x	enabled	1,4,1,1,1,4, 2,2,3,3,6

Nobody finished this round, and Chris nudges into the lead, but with no specials remaining is vulnerable to an unfavourable roll (or two) forcing him to open a new number before completion. Kevin is in a stronger position with his -1 and -2 available to guard against bad rolls, though he still needs to use another special to enable his Suppen-Kasper. Michael needs to bag some 8s, and John is perhaps a little optimistic with his 3s and 4s (I think I would have gone for all 4s).

**New Roll: R22:** 1,2,3,5,6

**Note on Suppen-Kasper card:** Unlike the previous game, you only make one round of 5, the rest of the numbers on the plate are fed to the dog. The round can be placed before or after any of the rounds, so this time it could be before R22 or after R22. You cannot use another special card on this round but you can engineer a finish. You can also choose not to play the card at all during the game.

## CRYSTAL BALL 2025 - POG-A-CAR



Just the Tour De France to report on this time, with Pogacar winning ahead of Vingegaard. Everyone scored points except runaway leader Jim, who doesn't have it in the bag just yet. I could still win but it requires a shock victory for Europe in the Ryder Cup - perhaps USA will include DJT in their team?

No	Sport	Event	Date	Richard Smith	Jim Reader	John Walker	Martin Walker	Steve Ham
1L	Tennis	Australian Open - Men's	Jan	Alcaraz	Sinner [2]	Alcaraz	Alcaraz	Sinner [2]
2L	American Football	Super Bowl	Feb	San Francisco	Kansas City [1]	San Francisco	Detroit Lions	Kansas City [1]
3L	Rugby	6 Nations	Mar	England [1]	France [2]	Ireland	Scotland	Ireland
4L	Athletics	World Indoor US medals	Mar	22	25	20	20	24
5L	Athletics	World Indoor GB medals	Mar	6 [1]	8	4 [2]	10	7
6L	Golf	US Masters	April	Scheffler	Schuauffele	Scheffler	McIlroy [2]	Kepka
7L	Snooker	World Champion	May	Trump	Williams [1]	Trump	O'Sullivan	Allen
8L	Football	English Premier League	May	Arsenal [1]	Liverpool [2]	Man City	Liverpool [2]	Man City
9L	Football	Southampton EPL final position	May	20 <sup>th</sup> * [2]	15 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup> * [2]	20 <sup>th</sup> [2]	19 <sup>th</sup> [1]
10L	Basketball	NBA Champs	June	Boston Celtics	Philadelphia	Boston Celtics	Boston Celtics	Denver Nuggets
11L	Cycling	Tour De France	July	Pogacar [2]	Hirschi	Pogacar [2]	Pogacar [2]	Vingegaard [1]
12L	Golf	Ryder Cup	Sept	Europe	USA	USA	USA	USA
13L	Baseball	World Series	Oct	LA Dodgers	Cleveland	LA Dodgers	NY Yankees	NY Yankees
14L	Formula 1	Winning Constructor	Nov	McLaren	McLaren	McLaren	McLaren	McLaren *
TB	UK economy	Base Interest Rate	Dec	2.5%	2.25%	4%	3.5%	3.75%
SCORE				7	10	6	8	5

\* free change

## RAILWAY RIVALS - SENEGAL & THE GAMBIA (RR2557SG) - ROUND 0



Our three African adventurers are Brad Martin, Jim Reader and Kevin Lee.

The map is available at <https://variablepig.org/maps/rr/senegalgambiarr.html>

I probably should have included the R1 rolls last time to save a turn. Oh well.

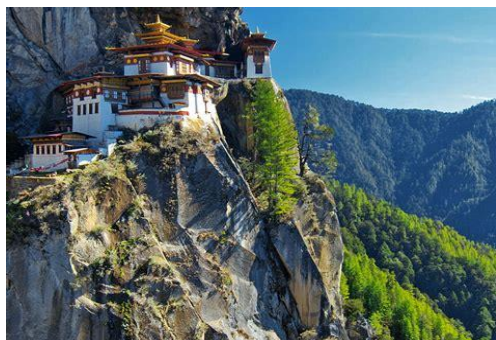
Player Name: Kevin Lee  
Company Name: Bakel Expressways Are Rampant (BEAR)  
Colour: Black  
Start: Dakar

Player Name: Brad Martin  
Company Name: French African Railways (FAR)  
Colour: Blue  
Start: Dakar

Player Name: Jim Reader  
Company Name: Living In Original Native Slums (LIONS)  
Colour: Yellow  
Start: Dakar

**Rolls for Round 1:** 1a) 5 1b) 5 1c) 6

## RAILWAY RIVALS BHUTAN (RR2550BT) ROUND 3



YETI manages another round without contact with a rival, whilst ROGER and BUTT end up sharing the (strategically important?) Nubding to Trongsa pass, with BUTT getting a painful payment. However as this game is not using Leapfrog, there may need to be a few of those.

So BUTT's build team can now see Thimphu on the horizon and ROGER's team breaks into the east where the unclaimed towns lie. ROGER and YETI could share the spoils of Sarpang next time.

**BUTT**  
Bob Gingell  
Black

3a. [6] (Trongsa) - W13; (Y12) - - JAKAR; (W13) - - - Nubding  
3b. [3] (Nubding) - - R12 - Wangdue Phodrang  
3c. [5] (Wangdue Phodrang) - P11 - Punakha; (Panbang) - - - G42  
BANK: 44 +6 -13[ROGER, W13-U12] = 37

**YETI**  
Jim Reader  
Yellow

3a. [6] (Gedo) - --- - - O22  
3b. [3] (O22) - - Q21; (Thimphu) - N11  
3c. [5] (Q21) - S22 - T21  
BANK: 56

**ROGER**  
Roger Trethewey  
Green

3a. [6] (N8) - - GASA - - N4 - LAYA; (W13) - Trongsa  
3b. [3] (Trongsa) - X11 - - Z12  
3c. [5] (Z12) - D37; (U19) - U20  
BANK: 44 +6 +6 -1[BUTT, W13] -1[BUTT, Y12] = 54

**Rolls for Round 4:** 4a) 4 4b) 4 4c) 6

The in-game map is available at: <https://variablepig.org/maps/rr/ingame/RR2550BT.jpg>

## RAILWAY RIVALS BHUTAN (RR2551BT) ROUND 3

**GM Bob Gingell**

HAPPY and HEART head East while BOTI builds South. HAPPY crosses the Sankosh river to break into the Western area but BOTI keeps ahead to the cities there.

Build allowance for Round 3: 4, 4, 6

BOTI, red (Richard Smith): 50 +12 -1 +2 = 63.  
3a. (Punakha) - Q11 - Wangdue Phodrang - - Q14  
3b. (Thimphu) - L11 - - PARO; (G21) - SAMTSE  
3c. (Q14) - Q15 - R15 - R16 - - - U18 [-1ht]

HEART, purple (Steve Ham): 54 +6 +1 = 61.  
3a. (Damphu) - R17 --- Q18;  
3b. (Q18) - DAGA; (Jakar) - - C35 - D34;  
3c. (D34) --- E35 --- F35.

HAPPY, blue (Brad Martin): 34 +6 -2 = 38.  
3a. (Wangdue Phadrang) - P11 --- O12  
3b. (E43) - - G42; (O12) - N12 - Thimphu  
3c. (G42) --- H41 - - MONGAR; (Thimphu) - L11 [-2b]



The in-game map is available at: <https://variablepig.org/maps/rr/ingame/RR2551BT.jpg>

## BUS BOSS - DENMEAD AND WATERLOOVILLE (BB416DEN) GES

**Bob Gingell:** In Round 1 I started first and grabbed the routes between Cosham and Waterloooville which included two single links, but that meant that I missed out on the direct Denmead to Waterloooville route. I can't say that was what won it for me, but it helped to have that good direct line between the Northern and Southern towns that was also close to the Eastern towns. The map has only two central N-S connections with the major roads running along three of the map edges, which lengthens routes using those. Most scores were close so the map is fairly balanced unless a player gets locked out of the Denmead - Waterloooville axis. The towns in the south west are all diamonds which makes a link to them essential, and the Eastern side of the map is more profitable than the Western which is why players strong in the East did better than those strong in the West. Thanks to all for a hard fought game and to Richard for designing the map and running it.

**Michael Pargman:** Congratulations to Bob for winning. He has an interesting network going through all the small towns in the East. I didn't have any hopes of running for victory after being cut off from the East and South-East. Instead I just built to try to get some extra points from payments. Thanks everyone for the game and a big thank you to Richard for GM-ing.

## BUS BOSS - DENMEAD AND WATERLOOVILLE (BB417DEN) GES

**GM: Bob Gingell**

Final Round scores:

WHCW, Bungo Blue (Brendan Whyte):  $337.5 + 72 = 409.5$ .

B2150, Green (Richard Smith):  $337 + 55 = 392$ .

ROGER, Orange (Roger Trethewey):  $315.5 + 60 = 375.5$ .

CARTOON, Purple (Steve Ham):  $296 + 53 = 349$ .

The map is available at <https://variablepig.org/maps/bb/ingame/BB417DEN.jpg>

### Game End Statements:

Brendan Whyte 1<sup>st</sup>, WHCW blue: I was worried in the early rounds that Richard's near-monopoly in the NW would run away with the game, and I was annoyed to miss out on connecting anything east of Farlington, so I'm somewhat surprised at the win, but it was a fun game. Thanks Richard for the map and Bob for the management.

Richard Smith 2<sup>nd</sup>, B2150 green: Looking at the R12 races, I think Brendan is the most likely winner but it will be close. As designer of the map I have to admit that despite being nice-looking and having an interesting mix of major and (very) minor routes, it suffers from *too many draws* syndrome. Multiple ways of connecting the same towns is good for avoiding players getting cut off, but if the total number of stops is roughly the same, draws are inevitable. Perhaps it would work better with RR-style *most past the post* race results?

Roger Trethewey 3<sup>rd</sup>, ROGER orange: Congratulations to Brendan for a good win. It is a good map, and enjoyable to play. The last two rounds proved good for the blues. Thanks go to Bob as gm.

Steve Ham 4<sup>th</sup>, CARTOON purple: Congratulations to Brendan for the win. The temptation to head to the non-places Hundred Acres and North Boarhunt in the first round didn't pay off. Richard's network looks similar but the motorway investment didn't appear to pay off at all, to either of us. This might need to be looked at. Thanks for running the game.

**Bob (GM):** Brendan's WHCW had a better set of races in the final Round which allowed him to pull away from Richard's B2150. At the end of Round 9 ROGER was in the lead, but Roger could not maintain that in the last three Rounds. The map worked well although Steve's gamble on remoter locations to the West failed to work out and he was blocked from the important connections Eastwards from Denmead.

*Notes on the map:* The direct route between Waterlooville and Cosham was owned by both the winning companies in the two games in this zine and does seem to be particularly useful, with minor roads across the centre being more important than the major roads around the edges of the map. My policy as GM of rolling 4 races within each card suit saw players owning routes between the closely linked southern diamonds benefitting from this. However, there were many ties, and it did not seem to be a game-breaker overall since all players were able to build routes there.

## RAILWAY RIVALS AZERBAIDJAN (RR2535AZ) ROUND 10



All four companies had an equally efficient inter-city line for race 22, with GANJA victorious and ROGER only making one Manat profit. Race 24 also had four entrants (comfortably won by BOB) and the others 1 or 2, including a tie in race 25, and a total gimme for GANJA in race 26.

Good rounds for ROGER and GANJA see them catch up a bit. OILS once again didn't get the rub of the dice, allowing BOB to establish a healthy lead going into the last two rounds.

	<b>BOB</b> Bob Gingell Black	<b>ROGER</b> Roger Trethewey Green	<b>GANJA</b> Kevin Lee Red	<b>OILS</b> Brad Martin Blue
22. Sumgait (14) - Shirvan (46)	5 [10] +1 +2	5 [10] -3 -1	20 [10] +3 -2	0 [10]
23. Quba (22) - Baku (11)	10 [19] +2			20 [14] -2
24. Caspian Sea (S6) - Shaki (25)	20 [21]	10 [28]	0 [31]	0 [35]
25. Barda (61) - Russia (S5)	15 [31] -2	+2	15 [30]	
26. Imishli (51) - Sabirabad (44)			20 [4]	
27. Aghjabadi (62) - Qazax (31)		20 [17]		
28. Mingachevir (36) - Lankaran (54)		20 [25]		10 [25]

Last Turn	206	128	133	195
Points from Races	49	53	56	28
Builds	-6 -2 -2 +1	-2 -1 +2	+2 +1 +1	-6 -1 -1
Points Total	246	180	193	215

### Builds:

BOB: (Salyan) - - F54 [-1 GANJA]; (G54) - - G56 - F56 [-2 ROGER, -1 GANJA]; (H26) - Nakhchivan.

ROGER: (S19) - - Q20 [-1 GANJA]

GANJA: No build

OILS: (S19) - - Q20 [-1 GANJA]; (R9) - - - O8 - O7 [-1 BOB]

The in-game map is available at: <https://variablepig.org/maps/rr/ingame/RR2535AZ.jpg>

### Races for Round 11:

29. Alat (16) - Astara (56)    30. Shamkir (32) - Baku (13)    31. Armenia (S3) - Salyan (52)  
32. Khachmaz (21) - Ganja (33)    33. Yevlakh (41) - Iran (S1)    34.  
Goychay (42) - Ordurabad (66)    35. Aghdam (63) - Siyazan (23)

Enter up to 4 new races and build up to 4 points of track.

## RAILWAY RIVALS AZERBAIDJAN (RR2536AZ) - ROUND 9

### GM: Bob Gingell

The in-game map is available at <https://variablepig.org/maps/rr/ingame/RR2536AZ.jpg>

A poor round for MARS which only enters 4 of the possible 5 races, leaving Race 20 as a solo entry for BAD. BAD is now a clear leader while AZERI moves into second place. MARS takes the long route through Armenia while BAD cannot yet reach over the Turkish border and AZERI joins MARS in Russia. No entries in Race 13 means BAD should be able to enter that race in Round 10.

GM correction to Round 8 report: BAD ordered a build into Iran at C56 but I had mistakenly already drawn this build because of an earlier order that was later amended. As a result I wrongly disallowed the build and allowed a continuation of the build to E26. The correction, notified to all players so that orders could be adjusted for this Round, is that BAD (green) should have the build (C55) - C56 added but (F26) - E26 is deleted. The in-game map was updated.

### Races for Round 9 (max 5 entries, which is standard in this game):

- R13. 65 (Nakhchivan) – #4 (Georgia) [*No entries: reoffer*]  
R14. #2 (Turkey) – 34 (Ganja) [*Not possible: reoffer*]  
15. (16–#1): BAD [12 to C56]  $20 - 4m - 1a = 15$ ; AZERI [19 to H64]  $10 - 1m + 1 = 10$ ;  
MARS [21 to H64]  $0 + 5 = 5$ .  
16. (26–53): MARS [18]  $20 - 6a = 14$ ; AZERI [20]  $10 + 6 = 16$ .  
17. (33–24): AZERI [16]  $20 + 2 = 22$ ; BAD [15]  $10 - 2a = 8$ .  
18. (44–14): AZERI [10]  $20 - 3m = 17$ ; MARS [11]  $10 + 3 = 13$ .  
19. (54–64): BAD [26]  $20 - 1a = 19$ ; MARS [30] 10; AZERI +1.  
20. (61–35): BAD 20.  
21. (#6 all Sumgait –41); BAD [20]  $20 - 1a + 2 = 21$ ; AZERI [21]  $10 - 2b + 1 = 9$ .

### Scores and builds (max 8 points):

BAD, green (Michael Pargman):  $163 + 83 - 7 + 1 = 240$ .  
(F26) - - D25 - D24 - C24 - C23 - B22; (S18) - - U17. [ $-8 + 1 = -7$ ]  
MARS, orange (John Marsden):  $162.5 + 42 - 15.5 = 189$ .  
(K23) - - - H21 - G22 - F21 - - - C23 [ $-6.5$  to Armenia, -1b]. [ $-8 - 1 - 6.5 = -15.5$ ]  
AZERI, indigo (Jim Reader):  $157 + 75 - 4 = 228$ .  
(Quba) - B37 - - - B34 [Russia]. [ $-4$ ]  
Armenia:  $6.5 + 6.5 = 13$ .

### Races for Round 10 (enter any 5):

- R13. 65 (Nakhchivan) – #4 (Georgia)  
R14. #2 (Turkey) – 34 (Ganja) [*Not possible*]  
22. 12 (Baku) – 65 (Nakhchivan)  
23. 21 (Khachmaz) – 15 (Sumgait)  
24. 32 (Shamkir) – 25 (Shaki)  
25. 46 (Shirvan) – 31 (Qazax)  
26. 52 (Salyan) – #1 (Iran)



27. 66 (Ordubad) – 51 (Imishli)  
 28. #3 (Armenia) – 42 (Goychay)

Round 10 build allowance: up to 6 points (excluding payments to others).

## RAILWAY RIVALS ZAMBIA (RR2540ZM) ROUND 7



Four uncontested races this time, mainly due to me only finding out recently it should be 5 races with only 3 players, so it will be 5 from now on.

The first race was a close 3-wayer with MOSI missing out on the money. A tie in race 3 was the only blot on BEMBA's otherwise perfect round with two races ideal for their line rather than BAMBI's.

	<b>BAMBI</b> Bob Gingell Black	<b>MOSI OA TUNYA</b> Steve Ham Red	<b>BEMBA</b> Jim Reader Blue
1. Kitwe (34) - Monze (62)	10 [14] -4	0 [13] +4 +1	20 [12] -1
2. Mbala (12) - Mumbwa (55)			20 [29]
3. Kabwe (56) - Choma (61)		15 [10] +3	15 [10] -3
4. Mwinilunga or Zambezi (41) - Ndola (35)	20 [14]	10 [25] -1	+1
5. Chipata (26) - Kasempa (45)	20 [28]		
6. Botswana or Zimbabwe (Sp3) - Mpika (23)		+2	20 [28] -2
7. Kasama (15) - Angola or Namibia (Sp2)		20 [38] -3	+3
Last Turn	91	80	44
Points from Races	46	51	73
Builds	-12 -1 -1	-12 +1 -9 +1	-12 +1 +9 -1
Points Total	123	112	114

### Builds:

BAMBI: (L20) - - Kaoma - L23 - M24 - - - Kataba - - - M30 [-1 BEMBA, -1 MOSI]; (Luwingu) - - F41  
 MOSI OA TUNYA: (H45) - I45 - I44 - - - L42; (R29) - - - O28; (X17) - Ndola; (Y26) - Z25 [-9 BEMBA]  
 BEMBA: (K26) - - - - - D22 - Kalabo - - A21 / Angola [-1 MOSI]

### Races for Round 8:

8. Lusaka (64) - Kaoma (46)      9. Mongu (43) - Nakonde (13)      10. Lusaka (66) - Airports (Sp6)  
 11. Luwingu or Isoka (14) - Mansa (21)      12. Kataba (52) - Kitwe (33)  
 13. Livingstone (54) - DR Congo (Sp1)      14. Chingola (31) - Samfya or Lundazi (22)

Enter up to 5 races and build up to 10 points of track.

The in-game map is available at <https://variablepig.org/maps/rr/ingame/RR2540ZM.jpg>

# RAILWAY RIVALS ZAMBIA (RR2541ZM) ROUND 7

**GM: Bob Gingell**

The in-game map is available at <https://variablepig.org/maps/rr/ingame/RR2541ZM.jpg>

A disaster for ZITS with two races delivering minus points, but the company holds onto second place while WILBURSMITH shoots into the lead. TOZ and ROGER pay tolls but are faster than ZITS in a race from SW to NE. In the rush to build to Serenje ROGER is too slow.

Races for Round 7 (max 4 entries, ties = \*):

1. (15–25): ZITS 20.
2. (22–34): ROGER [7]  $15^* -3d +1 = 13$ ; TOZ [7]  $15^* -1r -3d = 11$ ; DRC +6.
3. (33–45): ROGER [8]  $20 +6 = 26$ ; WILBURSMITH [12]  $10 -6z = 4$ .
4. (46–56): TOZ [17]  $20 -3w = 17$ ; WILBURSMITH [20]  $10 +3 = 13$ .
5. (51–62): WILBURSMITH [11]  $20 +2 = 22$ ; ROGER [12]  $10 -1w +2 = 11$ ;  
ZITS [14]  $0 -1w -2r -3t = -6$ ; TOZ +3.
6. (65–#1): ZITS [11 to Mufulira]  $20 -2r = 18$ ; WILBURSMITH [11 to Mufulira]  $10 -2t = 8$ ;  
TOZ [17 to Chingola]  $0 +2 = 2$ ; ROGER +2.
7. (#2 all from Sesheke –13): TOZ [41]  $20 -3w -3d +3 = 17$ ; ROGER [44]  $10 -1w -3d +2 = 8$ ;  
ZITS [46]  $0 -1w -2r -3t = -6$ ; WILBURSMITH +5; DRC +6.

Scores and builds (max 12 points):

WILBURSMITH (Brendan Whyte), black:  $89 +52 -2 = 139$ .

(E57) --- - - - - Serenje - F51 - F50 - G50 - - G48 [-2z]. [-12 -2 +12 = -2]

ZITS (Richard Smith), blue:  $70 +26 -5 = 91$ .

(Choma) - R29 - R28 - - - - N26 - Kataba [-1w-1r]; (N13) --- M14 - - MWINILUNGA.  
[-12 +3 -2 +6 = -5]

ROGER (Roger Trethewey), green:  $45 +60 -20 = 85$ .

(Y21) - --- A54 - B54 - - - - E53 - Serenje - F51 - - F49 [-2z-7w]. [-12 -9 +1 = -20]

ToZ (Michael Pargman), orange:  $27 +50 -18 = 59$ .

(Kaoma) - L21 - - J20 - I21 [-4w]; (A48) - - - - - E50 [-1z]; (Chingola) - U15 - T15 [-1z].  
[-12 -6 = -18]

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC):  $0 +12 = 12$ .

Races for Round 8 (enter any 4):

8. 14 (Luwingu/Isoka) – 35 (Ndola)
9. 21 (Mansa) – 42 (Kabompo)
10. 36 (Ndola) – 55 (Mumbwa)
11. 44 (Solwezi) – 64 (Lusaka)
12. 52 (Kataba) – #6 (Airport)
13. 63 (Mazabuka) – 12 (Mbala)
14. #5 (Tanzania) – 23 (Mpika)

Build allowance for Round 8: 10 points

# RAILWAY RIVALS SYRIA (RR2566SY) GAMESTART

**GM:** Richard Smith.

**Players:** Roger Trethewey, Bob Gingell, Brad Martin, Jim Reader and Michael Pargman.

As usual it's start preferences, colour preferences and company names / acronyms to Richard by the deadline. Note that establishing the starts was tricky on this map, and it's probably better with 3 or 4 than 5, but what the hey, we've all played before!

## RAILWAY RIVALS SOUTH TYROL (RR2565ST) GAMESTART

**GM:** Richard Smith. **Players:** Roger Trethewey, Bob Pitman, Bob Gingell and Michael Pargman.  
As usual it's start preferences, colour preferences and company names / acronyms to Richard by the deadline. Gerhard was adamant it won't take 5 and I suspect 3 may be best, but 4 should be fine too.

## RAILWAY RIVALS SOUTH TYROL (RR25XXST) GAMESTART

**GM:** Bob Gingell. **Players:** Richard Smith, Steve Ham and Brad Martin.  
Start preferences, colour preferences and company names / acronyms to Bob by the deadline.

## BAG OF DUNGEON - GAMESTART PART2



Our intrepid dungeoneers are Jim Reader, Chris Hibbert, and Bob Gingell.

Game rules were printed in TCD8 and are available at <https://variablepig.org/rules/bagofdungeon.html>

I have made a tweak to the rules such that only 2 squares are revealed at the start, and APs reduced by 2 as per later rounds.

The dungeon has been created, almost entirely randomly with the exception of 3 extra tiles to make it all fit together with the extra starts.

For the early rounds only, the dungeon fragments that can be seen are shown next to the character card. Heroes do not know the monster they will face until they land on the square and the GM (who also doesn't know) draws a monster card. This means conditional orders are required for combat. It takes 2APs to reach the monster square, the remaining 1 (Barbarian & Fighter) can be used to escape back to the known tile, or with 2APs (Elf) going forward to the unknown tile is an option.

**Player:** Jim Reader

**Character:** Torvok the Barbarian

### Barbarian

Your barbarian is a savage, mighty-thewed, and masterless warrior.

**Actions:** 5  
**Combat:** 3 D6

**Special:** +1 to combat roll for every 3 points below maximum health (+1 at 7, +2 at 4, +3 at 1).

1	2	3
---	---	---

**Lives**

6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5

**Monster health**

Dead!	1	2	3	4	5	6*	7	8	9	10**	11	12	13
-------	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	------	----	----	----

### Torvok

aps

5	20
4	19
3	18
2	17
1	16
	15
	14

Cannot use OR

\*Take one item on kill \*\*Take two items on kill



Player: Chris Hibbert

Character: Alendra the Elf

### Alendra the Elf

Alendra is fleet-footed and a skilled archer. She is a former Calen Gaur watch commander.

**COMBAT: 2 Dice +1**

**Special: Dead-eye.** Inflict an instant kill when you roll a 6 on a bow attack.

1	2	3
Solo		Lives

6	7	8	9	
1	2	3	4	5

health

dead!	1	2	3	4	5	6*	7	8	9	10**	11	12	13
-------	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	------	----	----	----

Monster health

\*Take one item on kill \*\*Take two items on kill

6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
	20	19	18	17	16	15	14

aps

Safe zone. No fighting

Player: Bob Gingell

Character: Sirrus the Fighter

### SIRRUS the fighter

Sirrus is a skilled warrior and renowned blademaker, brave and capable in battle.

**COMBAT: 2 Dice +2**

**Special: Lethal Blow.** Once per game you may double your combat roll result.

1	2	3
Solo		Lives

6	7	8	9	10
1	2	3	4	5

health

dead!	1	2	3	4	5	6*	7	8	9	10**	11	12	13
-------	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	------	----	----	----

Monster health

\*Take one item on kill \*\*Take two items on kill

5	4	3	2	1	0		
	20	19	18	17	16	15	14

aps

Safe zone. No fighting

## GAMES CROSSWORD ANSWERS

A mixture of easy and hard clues this time. Roger Trethewey scored 7, Chris Hibbert 15, Bob Gingell got a couple as a start but went no further, and Steve Guest was going to have a go but ran out of time. My favourite clue is actually quite a tricky one: *Meeting floor painfully* (12) - it's what they call an *&lit* because the entire clue is both the definition and the wordplay at the same time: "Painfully" is the *anagrind* and the game is one where you might well meet the floor painfully if your balloon is scuppered.

## Across

- 3. T: Comfy spot to sit, we hear, whilst detecting space aliens (4) **SETI**
- 7. T: Bad review for Paul McCartney's group? Get the bird! (8) **WINGSPAN**
- 8. T: Eleven threes? Naaah! (5) **BLUFF**
- 9. In the open, innings over! (3) **OUT**
- 11. Returning omen for undersea captain (4) **NEMO**
- 13. T: Small Fiat (3) **UNO**
- 14. A short time with Salah or Farah (2) **MO**
- 16. Early, naughty version of Spotify (7) **NAPSTER**
- 18 & 19. T: Slippery oil man back in Judge Dredd's neighbourhood (5,5) **BLOCK MANIA**
- 20. T: High court judge, perhaps? (4,3) **JUST ONE**
- 22. T: Choir, amok, runs city (5,4) **MACHI KORO**
- 25. Ballet skirt sounds like 19D degree (4) **TUTU**
- 27. T: Fierce dog made hero before gods (4,5) **DICE FORGE**
- 28. Wear away battered reed with nothing inside (5) **ERODE**
- 30. T: Spanish wine losing German yes in Brazil (3) **RIO**
- 31. Something designed by Smith, Gelling and Reader (for a railway game) (3) **MAP**
- 32. Latin music mag? (3) **VOX**
- 33. T: Haematite, perhaps, found in dingo remains (3) **ORE**
- 35. T: Warn a gay bike racer (8,4) **BREAKING AWAY**
- 36. T: Her veal eaten in French port (2,5) **LE HAVRE**
- 37. City manager or spunk (3) **PEP**
- 40. T: Idle cats played in game of roles (8) **CITADELS**
- 41. T: Battle Royale, not railways (6) **RIVALS**
- 43. T: Evil god part of tennis game? (3) **SET**
- 44. T: Drunk if ale duty paid to taxing King (8) **FEUDALITY**
- 45. T: Amoebas made from pure pus (7) **URSUPPE**

## Down

- 1. T: Ancient town in Guatemala twinned with Slap? (5) **TIKAL**
- 2. T: Farmers' favourite soft drink? (8) **AGRICOLA**
- 3 & 5. T: Capital of 21 built from 110 cards (3,4) **SAN JUAN**
- 4. Frank Zappa's Illinois \_\_\_\_ Bandit (5) **ENEMA**
- 6. T: Dangerously nude in the desert (4) **DUNE**
- 9. T: Remote base or declaration of sexuality on social media? (7) **OUTPOST**
- 10. T: Castles actor restored inside (6) **TORRES**
- 12. T: Meeting floor painfully (12) **MONTGOLFIERE**
- 15. T: Roleplay goal crashing into pond (6,6) **GALLOP ROYALE**
- 17. T: Overtake police cars? (4,3,4) **PASS THE PIGS**
- 21. T: Uproot rice madly on island (6,4) **PUERTO RICO**
- 23. T: Fish heads former love book (5) **CODEX**
- 24. T: Vladimir Putin is really Viktor Wasolin, and Rachel Reeves is Natasha Nogoodnik! (7) **KREMLIN**
- 26. T: Dear Princess, gis a kiss! (4,6) **LOVE LETTER**
- 29. T: Adult teams furiously compete for jewels (3,7) **DAS AMULETT**
- 34. T: Cap mule worn in race (5,2) **CAMEL UP**
- 35. T: Small following supporters in Lancashire (5) **BRASS**
- 37. T: Trading game played by miners? (3) **PIT**
- 38 & 39. T: Will Sizewell C make a profit? (5,4) **POWER GRID**
- 42. T: Robots compete in gymnastic event, we hear (4) **VOLT**

Maybe a Sudoku next time, or something completed different!





## Issue 73

**Lyrics 4 of 5** – Nobody got the theme, so I've highlighted the clues as an extra little game.

1 - We've come too far / To give up who we are / So let's raise the bar / And our cups to the stars (2013) Get Lucky – Daft Punk featuring **Nile** Rodgers (Jim Reader)

2 - So we sailed up to the sun / 'Til we found the sea of green / And we lived beneath the waves (1966)

**Yellow** Submarine - The Beatles (Jim Reader, Brendan Whyte, John Hopkins, Dane Maslen, Richard Smith, Tom Howell, Bob Pitman, Chris Hibbert, Steve Guest)

3 - From Bissau to Palau, in the shade of Avalon / From Fiji to Tyree and the Isles of Ebony / From Peru to Cebu, hear the power of Babylon / From Bali to Cali, far beneath the Coral Sea (1988) **Orinoco** Flow - Enya (Jim Reader, Brendan Whyte, Bob Pitman, Martin Walker)

4 - In the streets of Xxx XXXXXXXXXX / Gentle people with flowers in their hair (1967) San Francisco – Scott **Mckenzie** (Jim Reader (song only), Brendan Whyte (song only), John Hopkins, Dane Maslen (song only), Richard Smith (song only), Tom Howell (song only), Bob Pitman, Chris Hibbert (song only), Martin Walker (song only), Steve Guest)

5 - Shadows on the hills / Sketch the trees and the daffodils / Catch the breeze and the winter chills / In colors on the snowy linen land (1971) Vincent – **Don** McLean (Jim Reader, Brendan Whyte, John Hopkins, Dane Maslen, Richard Smith, Martin Walker, Steve Guest)

6 - But the city don't know what the city is getting / The crème de la crème of the chess world / In a show with everything but Yul Brynner (1984) One Night in Bangkok – **Murray** Head (Jim Reader, Brendan Whyte, Bob Pitman, Martin Walker (song only))

7 - I've got my spine, I've got my xxxxxx xxxxx / (Collar me, don't collar me) / I've got my spine, I've got my xxxxxx xxxxx / (We are agents of the free) (1988) **Orange** Crush - REM (Jim Reader, Brendan Whyte, Richard Smith, Bob Pitman, Martin Walker, Steve Guest)

8 - I see you walking real slow and you're smilin' at everyone / I can tell you my love for you will still be strong / After xxx xxxx xx xxxxxx have gone (1984) The Boys of Summer – **Don** Henley (Jim Reader, Brendan Whyte (song only), Dane Maslen (song only), Richard Smith (song only), Bob Pitman, Martin Walker)

9 - Life goes on day after day / Hearts torn in every way / So xxxxx 'xxxxx xxx XXXXXX / 'Cause this land's the place I love / And here I'll stay (1965) Ferry Cross the **Mersey** – Gerry and the Pacemakers (Brendan Whyte, John Hopkins, Dane Maslen, Martin Walker, Steve Guest)

10 - Have you heard about the new dance craze? / Listen to us, I'm sure you'll be amazed / Big fun to be had by everyone / It's up to you, it surely can be done (1978) Le Freak – Chic containing **Nile** Rodgers (Jim Reader, Richard Smith, Bob Pitman)

**Theme** – See highlighted words, I may even give a point for any correct answers.

Jim Reader 39+17=56

Steve Guest 34+10=44

Martin Walker 31+12=43

Richard Smith 28+10=38

Brendan Whyte 20+14=34

Bob Pitman 17+14=31

John Hopkins 17+8=25

Dane Maslen 17+8=25

Paul Evans 14

Tom Howell 4+3=7

Chris Hibbert 2+3=5

Brendan - 4 - San Francisco – Peter Paul and Mary

6 - Murray Head, One night in Krungthepmahanakhon (i.e Bangkok) *GM Nice*

7 - The xxx's at first suggested crude words.

8 - The boys of summer -- John cougar Mellancamp

10 - Carwash -- Earth wind and fire.

Dane – 4 - Well, I strongly suspect the blanked out words are 'San Francisco', so this could well be the song that also contains the lyrics "If you are going to San Francisco, be sure to wear some flowers in your hair." Was its title IF YOU ARE GOING TO SAN FRANCISCO? Even if it was, who sang it? Let's say PETER, PAUL AND MARY even though I'm pretty sure it wasn't.

5 - This is one that's ringing a bell without getting me anywhere. For no particularly good reason I'm currently leaning towards the singer being DON MCLEAN. Aha! It's VINCENT, isn't it? Or was the title something different even though the song was about Vincent Van Gogh? It's subsequently occurred to me that the title might be "Starry, starry night", but I'm not convinced enough to change my mind.

8 - Well, let's have a stab in the dark at THE DAYS OF SUMMER, not that I can remember there ever being such a song *A generous GM That's about as close to not getting a point as you can get.*

Richard - Theme - hmm, I got Yellow Submarine and Orange Crush quickly so at first thought it might be colours (of the rainbow, perhaps), but the rest I recognised don't fit that, so I'll have a punt at movies of the same name as the song.

Tom - Ok. some songs I recognize. After last time's complete white out...

4 is from the first Monterey Music Festival. You Xed out 'San Francisco', which I think is the name of the song. I want to say Mamas and Papas, but I'm not positive on that... Grace Slick sounds more reasonable. What was that band? They also did White Rabbit.

9 I recognize the last two stanzas. But, ... Country Roads? two or three out of ten? Above my average for this stuff...

Bob P - Is the theme "travelling"?

Murray's Bangkok isn't half as good as his "Say it ain't so Joe"!

Chris - 4 - In the streets of Xxx Xxxxxxxx / Gentle people with flowers in their hair (1967) Mommas and the Poppas. You Xed out San Francisco. was it called San Francisco? It looks like distant locations but that seems an unlikely theme.

Martin - 2. Puff the magic dragon - Peter Paul and Mary?

4. Let's go to San Francisco - Woodentops?

Is the theme Children's tv programmes? Annoyed I can't remember the singer on 6 as he did a pretty good song called 'say it ain't so Joe' *GM I'll have to check this song out, as you are the second person to mention it.*

Steve - Got very confused about the theme, probably because the first two I got were Yellow Submarine and Orange Crush. But could they all be film titles?

**Lyrics 5 of 5 – 1 point will be added to your singer and song points should you get the theme.**

1 - Look into my eyes / You will see / What you mean to me

Search your heart / Search your soul (1991)

2 - Oh, come on, angel / Come on, come on, darlin' / Let's exchange the experience (yo), oh, ooh, ooh (1985)

3 - Now in the street, there is violence / And, and a lots of work to be done / No place to hang out our washing / And, and I can't blame all on the sun (1982)

4 - It's gonna take time / Whole lot of precious time / It's gonna take patience and time, mmm (1987) (original artist 1960)

5 - Can you dig it / Who's the cat that won't cop out when there's danger all about? (1971)

6 - Pretty women out walking with gorillas down my street / From my window I'm staring while my coffee goes cold (1979)

7 - Xxx, most people would turn you away (turn you away) / I don't listen to a word they say (a word they say) (1972)

8 - And the saddest fear / Comes creepin' in / That you never loved me / Or her / Or anyone / Or anything / Yeah (2012)

9 - It's a fool's game / Nothing but a fool's game / Standing in the cold rain / Feeling like a clown (1977)

10 - When there's no one else around / I'm gonna take you, girl, and hold you / And do all the things I told you (1965)



**Fragments – Prominent People** – Only one special can be played each turn. The specials for this game are: Word breakdown, quarter century of year of birth or what they are famous for e.g. if it was David Beckham, you would get the reply, footballer. It is an all-reader game, so you can make a play at any time. There are no restrictions on any research you wish to undertake.

Person 1 \*\*\*a\* \*\*\*\*o m\*\*\*\*\* \*\*d\*\* 20 \*\*\*\*\* to\*\*\* \*\*\*o\* \*\*\*\*\* 40 \*e\*s\* \*\*\*\*i \*\*\*\*n \*\*\*\*h 60 \*\*\*\*t \*e\*\*\*\* \*\*w\* \*k\*\*\* 80 \*\*m\*\*\* \* (86 letters, 9 points) (not Charlie Chaplin)

Person 2 \*\*\*\*\* t\*\*\*\*\* o\*\*\*\*\* y \*\*\*\*\* 20 o\*\*\*\*\* m \*\*\*\*\* a\*\*\*\*\* e \*\*\*\*\* 40 i\*\*E\* q \*\*\*s \*\*\*\*\* a\*e\* (59 letters, 9 points)

Person 3 \*\*\*\*\* \*s\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*M\*\*\* 20 \*\*\*\*\* it\*\*h \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* 40 \*\*\*\*\* \*(46 letters 10 points)

Person 4 \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* 20 \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*a \*\*s\*\* 40 \*a\*\*\*\* \*s\*n t\*\*\*\*\* \*\*d\*\* 60 \*\*\*\*\* \*(67 letters 10 points)

**6 Nimmit!** Hands A and B contain the standard 104 cards. Hand C each player receives 1 card for each 10-digit set i.e. 1 from 1 to 10, 1 from 11 to 20 and so on. Hand D only 54 cards are in play, so there are no unused cards.

Hand A						Score	
A	31					1	Dane takes 30 33 38 79 81 for 11
B	22	45	47	52	59	9	
C	84	87	95			3	Bob takes 21 50 54 60 for 15
D	9	37	44			7	

Cards played 1 2 7 9 10 15 21 22 26 30 31 33 34 36 37 38 40 43 44 45 47 50 52 54 55 59 60 62 64 66 69 70 72 75 79 81 84 87 95 96 99 100 102 104

Hand B						Score	
A	46	57	58			3	Bob takes 5 14 27 32 34 for 6
B	3	12	35	63	76	6	
C	67	71	91	94	95	6	
D	68	77	79	80		10	

Cards played 3 5 6 8 11 12 13 14 15 17 18 19 22 23 27 30 32 33 34 35 37 39 42 46 57 58 63 65 67 68 71 76 77 79 80 82 83 84 86 87 91 94 95 104

Hand C						Score	
A	78					1	Kev takes 25 35 40 46 71 for 9
B	28	41	44	49		7	
C	18	51	52	53	55	11	
D	33	34	38			7	Bob takes 72 98 99 for 7

Cards played 1 2 4 6 11 13 18 25 28 33 34 35 38 40 41 44 46 47 48 49 51 52 53 55 56 62 68 69 70 71 72 78 87 89 90 91 94 98 99

Hand D						Score	
A	21	24	43	45	46	6	
B	49	52				2	
C	38	41	42	44		8	Richard takes 1 8 11 12 22 for 13
D	54					1	

Cards played 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 24 25 26 29 31 33 35 38 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

Points taken: Kev 61 Bob 49 Dane 38 Richard 22 Jim 21

**Postscript** – I'll probably start another Parkrun game next issue to get you in the mood for running a world record.

# THE TANGERINE TERROR #80/I AM THE KURIOUS KUMQUAT #10

## The "Things Have Stopped Working" Issue

### Idiotorial

Oranges are not the only fruit.

## DEAD LETTER OFFICE

### Jim (on Wembley celebrations)

Glad you enjoyed Oldham's trip to Wembley and very glad they were promoted. Aldershot's first ever trip to Wembley in their 99 year history was also a success as we won the FA Trophy - I'll gloss over their lousy league season and hope for better fortune next year.

### Auntie Tangerine

Given that you hammered us last season, it just shows that luck plays a part in getting to the playoffs. Hopefully you'll be celebrating one year after us.

### Jim (on annual celebrations)

I can also calculate that you were married roughly 2 months before we were, so happy 37th anniversary

### Auntie Tangerine

Cheers Jim. Congratulations to you too.

## JO Lochhead

## JUST ONE

## ROUND 5 RESULTS

3 out of 5 points this time. Small hairy Tolkienesque races are the Achilles heel. Team has 14 points from 25. A quick point of order on eligible words. For sausage, Richard and Bob were planning to go with DACHSHUND and BRATWURST respectively. I would have allowed DACHSHUND because it isn't German for sausage, but BRATWURST is (or close enough). Arbitrary and inconsistent. Yep, that's me.

	Category	Richard	Allan	Brendan	Bob	John	Guess	Score
Richard Smith	DWARF		BASHFUL	HALFLING	GLOIN	BASHFUL	HOBBIT	-1
Allan Stagg	THEATRE	CRUCIBLE		WARZONE	KABUKI	OPERATING	THEATRE	1
Brendan Whyte	CREPE	SUZETTE	SUZETTE		GEORGETTE	FRENCH	CREPE	1
Bob Gingell	MANUAL	HAYNES	GEARBOX	GUIDEBOOK		GUIDE	MANUAL	1
John Walker	ALIEN	FOREIGNER	CHESTBURSTER	MEXICAN	GIGER		ALIEN	1
							Total	3

## NG Mvoto

## THE NAME OF THE GAME

## ROUND 7

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Total
Paul Evans	2	3	3	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	0	2	3	0							24
Allan Stagg	0	0	3	1	2	1	2	3	2	1	3	2	3	0							23
Richard Smith	0	2	2	0	2	0	3	2	3	2	0	0	3	3							22
Brendan Whyte	3	2	1	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0							15
Brad Martin	0	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							6
Tom Howell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
Steve Guest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0							0

Tight at the top. Pevans looking nervously over his shoulder. Inspired choice by Richard for #14.

#9 : Was Letters From Whitechapel

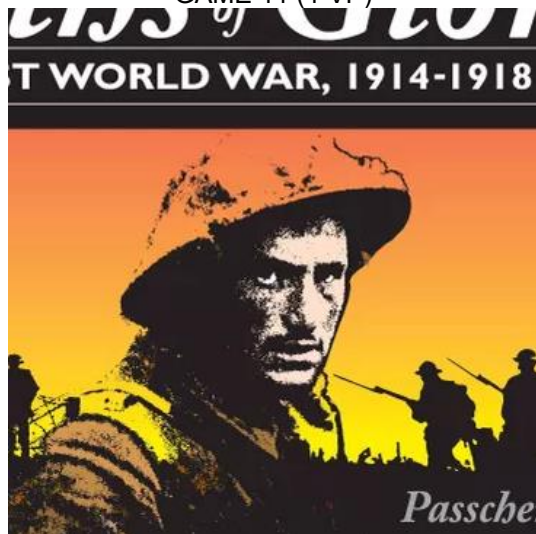
#10 : Was Boot Hill

#11 : Not The Grizzled, Origins Of WW1, Guns Of August, A&A 1914, Fields Of Glory, WW1

#12 : Not In The Footsteps Of Marie Curie, Quacks, The Manhattan Project, Nuclear War

#14 : Not Great Western Trail, Bounty Hunter, Cowboys

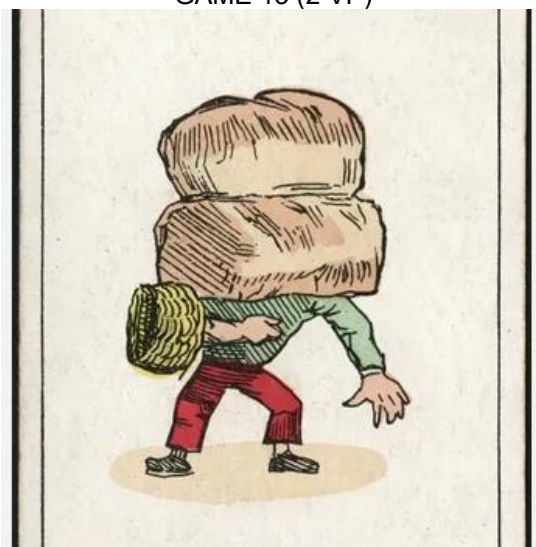
GAME 11 (1 VP)



GAME 12 (1 VP)



GAME 13 (2 VP)



GAME 14 (2 VP)



GAME 15 (3 VP)



GAME 16 (3 VP)



The penultimate round. Some Talking Heads punts, but sadly not the right ones. Good joker from Allan. All to play for in the last round especially at 10 points a pop!

Round	Player	Artist	Album	Joker	Owned	Score
5	Allan Stagg	Runrig	Amazing Things	No	No	0
5	Allan Stagg	Mark Knopfler	Screenplaying	No	No	0
5	Allan Stagg	James Taylor	Sweet Baby James	No	No	0
5	Allan Stagg	Neil Innes	How Sweet To Be An Idiot	No	No	0
5	Allan Stagg	Joni Mitchell	For The Roses	No	Yes	8
5	Allan Stagg	Arctic Monkeys	Whatever People Say I Am	Yes	Yes	16
5	Jim Reader	Stop Making Sense	Talking Heads	No	No	0
5	Jim Reader	War Of The Worlds	Jeff Wayne	No	No	0
5	Jim Reader	No Sleep 'Til Hammersmith	Motorhead	No	No	0
5	Jim Reader	Rio	Duran Duran	No	Yes	8
5	Jim Reader	Operation Mindcrime	Queensryche	No	Yes	8
5	Jim Reader	Colour By Numbers	Culture Club	No	No	0
5	Richard Smith	Camel	The Snow Goose	No	No	0
5	Richard Smith	Chumbawumba	Anarchy	No	No	0
5	Richard Smith	Clannad	Magical Ring	Yes	No	0
5	Richard Smith	Elbow	Asleep In The Back	No	Yes	8
5	Richard Smith	Gomez	Bring It On	No	Yes	8
5	Richard Smith	Talking Heads	Remain In Light	No	No	0

### Scores

	Round	Total
Richard Smith	16	97
Allan Stagg	24	87
Jim Reader	16	103
Brendan Whyte	0	15

### Dead artists

Abba	Clannad	Ian Dury	Nirvana	The Clash
Al Stewart	Culture Club	Incredible String Band	Patti Smith	The Coral
Alanis Morissette	David Bowie	Jackson Browne	Pentangle	The Damned
Albion Band	David Byrne	James Taylor	Peter Gabriel	The Jam
Aqua	Deep Purple	Jean Michel Jarre	Plastic Bertrand	The Levellers
Arctic Monkeys	Devo	Jeff Wayne	Queen	The Men They Couldn't Hang
Belle & Sebastian	Dire Straits	Jethro Tull	Queensryche	The Pogues
Bellowhead	Duran Duran	Joe Satriani	Radiohead	The Rolling Stones
Billy Bragg	ELO	Joni Mitchell	Richard & Linda Thompson	The Smiths
Black Sabbath	ELP	Joy Division	Robert Plant	The Verve
Blue Oyster Cult	Elbow	Kasabian	Runrig	The Who
Bob Dylan	Fairport Convention	Led Zeppelin	Scott Walker	The Zutons
Bon Jovi	Frank Zappa	Lindisfarne	Sex Pistols	Thomas Dolby
Boney M	Garbage	Mark Knopfler	Steeleye Span	UFO
Bruniford	Genesis	Metallica	Steely Dan	Uriah Heep
Camel	Gomez	Mike Oldfield	TV Personalities	X-Ray Spex
Caravan	Harry Chapin	Motorhead	Talking Heads	XTC
Carole King	Hawkwind	Neil Innes	Telex	k.d. lang
Chumbawumba	Here And Now	Neil Young	The Beatles	



## FUTURE SHOCK

Another possibility for **Don't Wordle**.

Players score nothing if they Wordle.

On a turn players can choose to submit a word or bail out scoring points equal to the round.

Maybe the number of points is equal to the round number divided by the number of players who also bail out that round.

You can still join **The Name Of The Game**.

### DW Kitching

### COMMUNAL DON'T WORDLE

### ROUND 8

#### Round 8 Word 5

Bob WORDLED! (scores 8 points and out). Word is finished

#### Round 8 Word 6

Mike and Chris WORDLED! (score 8 points and out). Allan is still going.

#### Round 8 Word 7

Brendan and Mike WORDLED! (score 8 points and out). Chris selects an illegible word (7 points). Allan and Bob battling on.

Word 6

Round 1	B	R	A	V	E
Round 2	Q	U	I	C	K
Round 3	G	L	O	O	M
Round 4	H	O	W	L	S
Round 5	D	O	Y	L	Y
Round 6	F	O	L	L	Y
Round 7	L	O	L	L	Y
Round 8	T	O	L	L	Y

Word 7

Round 1	P	O	P	P	Y
Round 2	F	L	U	F	F
Round 3	M	A	M	M	A
Round 4	B	A	T	C	H
Round 5	S	A	R	I	N
Round 6	R	A	D	A	R
Round 7	G	A	Z	E	R
Round 8	W	A	K	E	R

Mike, Chris and Bob are Wordled to death.

Bob and Allan hanging on by their findernails.

	Word 1	Word 2	Word 3	Word 4	Word 5	Word 6	Word 7	Word 8	Total	Alive
Mike	7	2	1	6	7	8	8	5	44	0
Richard	5	5	4	6	3	7	1	5	36	0
Brendan	5	2	1	5	7	2	8	6	36	0
Chris	6	5	4	2	2	8	7	1	35	0
Bob	6	2	3	5	8	5		5	34	1
Allan	5	4	2	3	7			3	24	2
Roger	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	6	24	0

# SubPAR 10

## Pennsylvania Ramblings



### **Hooray, Hooray, It's A Holi-Holiday**

We just came back from a lovely, much needed, 3-week holiday in England and Scotland. This included the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Cret's bash in a surprisingly warm and dry Fife, a lovely long weekend in Edinburgh taking in the fringe and the Tattoo and the Cropredy festival. The weather was perfect almost the whole trip, except for when Storm Floris blew into Edinburgh forcing us to take shelter at various fringe shows.

### **Ramble On**

It was a much smaller Cropredy this year, in terms of crowd numbers as tickets were restricted, but in practice it didn't seem that different. There was more space to spread out, which was nice, and it was easier moving through the crowds, but much was familiar. The weather was great, so our old tent (not used since pre-Covid for various reasons) wasn't tested. Musically, we enjoyed it, especially the Friday. The highlight was almost unanimously voted by our jury (and many others I spoke with) as El Pony Plsador on Friday, who came on before Trevor Horn. Not sure I would buy their CD but they were very entertaining and funny to watch. Martin Barre covered the entirety of the Aqualung album which was great fun if you were a Jethro Tull fan. Their singer did a really good job of catching Ian Anderson's inflections and vocal style. I particularly enjoyed "Mother Goose" and Locomotive Breath was a great set closer as always. One other unexpected highlight was the return of Robert Plant during Deborah Bonham's set. He still sounded good.

### **Homeward Bound**

I haven't lived in Farnham for forty odd years, but as the town where I grew up as a teenager, I still think of it as (a) home. As we didn't have to dry out the tent on our last day, Jacqueline and I were able to take a short drive back to Farnham for some reminiscing. It was fun to get my wrist working at the WC (an old advertising campaign for the William Cobbett pub) and stroll across the Rec.

## Railway Rivals (Senegal and Gambia) - RR2556SG

### Round Two

**COUER**  
Steve Ham  
Purple

2a) 3. Builds first half of Sene-Gambia Bridge from Faroufenni,  
2b) 6. (Thies) – L5 – K6 - Tiebo – J7 – J8 - J9,  
2c) 4. (J9) – J10 – J11 – NDIBENEN DAHRA - J13.  
BANK: 32 + 3 – 5 (BOGGER) = 30

<b>SETI</b> Richard Smith Blue	2a) 3. Builds first half of Sene-Gambia Bridge from Faroufenni, 2b) 6. (M7) - M8 - M9: (M7) - L7 - K7 - Tiebo, 1 short 2c) 4. (Tiebo) - I7 - H7 - G8 - F8. BANK: 32 – 1 (BOGGER) = 31
<b>ROGER</b> Roger Trethewey Black	2a) 3. (Bassa Santa Su) – U19 – U20 - U21, 2b) 6. (U21) - - - - U22: (U15) – V14 – KOLDA, 2c) 4. (U22) – U23 – U24 - U25 / Gold - V25. BANK: 35 + 6 = 41
<b>BOGGER</b> Bob Gingell Brown	2a) 3. (J8) – J7 – TIEBO: (P14) - Q15, 2b) 6. (Q15) – Q16 - KOUMPENTOUN - R17 – R18 – R19 - TAMBACOUNDA, 2c) 4. (Tambacounda) – S21 - T21 / Gold; (O11) – O10 - O9. BANK: 38 + 6 + 3 + 6 + 5 (COUER) + 1 (SETI) = 59

The round three die rolls are 3a) 2, 3b) 5, and 3c) 2. For clarity, COUER and SETI have built the first half from Faroufenni. ROGER has bridged the Gambia river between U21 and U22.

The in-game map is available at <https://variablepig.org/maps/rr/ingame/RR2556SG.png>

## Railway Rivals (Estonia) – RR2542EE2

### Round Five

<b>ARVO</b> Richard Smith Blue	5a) 6. (L48) - K48 - J47 - I47 - H46 - G46 - F45, 5b) 2. (F45) - E45 - Tamasalu, 5c) 3. (Polva) - Q65 - R64 – Rapina. BANK: 36 + 3 – 1 (BENDY) + 1 (ROGER) – 1 (MARS) = 38
<b>BENDY</b> Bob Gingell Black	5a) 6. (H50) - G51 – Jogeve: (G51) – F51- E52 - D52: (H50) - I51 5b) 2. (I51) – I52 - I53, 5c) 3. (I53) – I54 - Tabivere - I56. BANK: 60 + 1 (ARVO) – 1 (ROGER) + 1 (ET) = 61
<b>ROGER</b> Roger Trethewey Green	5a) 6. (Z26) – Z27 – Z28 - Z29 – A65 – B65 - C66, 5b) 2. (C66) - D66 - D67, 5c) 3. (D67) - D68: (L62) – L63 - L64. BANK: 39 – 1 (ARVO) + 1 (BENDY) – 1 (MARS) + 1 (ET) = 39
<b>MARS</b> John Marsden Orange	5a) 6. (K10) – K9 - K8: (P13) – Rapla: (K11) – J11 – I12 - H12, 5b) 2. (H12) – G12 - F11, 5c) 3. (F13) - E14 – <u>HAAPSALU</u> - Rohukula. BANK: 50 + 6 + 1 (ARVO) + 1 (ROGER) = 58
<b>ET</b> Michael Pargman Red	5a) 6. (O41) - P41 – Johvi: (B50) – C51 – D51 – E52 - F52, 5b) 2. (F52) – G53 - H53, 5c) 3. (Paide) – Y16 – X16 - <u>TURI</u> . BANK: 46 + 3 – 1 (BENDY) – 1 (ROGER) = 47

The sixth-round die rolls are 6a) 4, 6b) 4, and 6c) 6.

The in-game map is available at <https://variablepig.org/maps/rr/ingame/RR2542EE2.png>

# Railway Rivals (Zambia) - RR2545ZM

## Round Seven

There was a problem with the original race 5, Kitwe (33) – DR. Congo (Sp1) as this is only 2 hexes long. I have changed this to 5. Kitwe (33) - Mozambique or Malawi (Sp4). Players were notified by email and my thanks to Steve for spotting this.

Race	<b>ACR</b> <i>Brad Martin</i> Blue	<b>PEAR</b> <i>Kev Lee</i> Purple	<b>MOSI</b> <i>Steve Guest</i> Orange
1. Mwinilunga or Zambezi (41) - Mufulira (32)	<i>Race not possible</i>		
2. Choma (61) - Mongu (43)	20 - 6	+ 6	Offers JR to PEAR
3. Pitauke (25) - Kasama (15)	+ 1	20 - 1	Offers JR to ACR
4. Angola or Namibia (Sp2) - Mazabuka (63)	20 (N) + 5		10 (N) - 5
5. Kitwe (33) - Mozambique or Malawi (Sp4)	10	20	
6. Kabwe (56) - Mbala (12)	+ 6 + 1	15 - 6 - 3	15 - 1 + 3 – 3 DRC
7. Serenje (24) - Livingstone (53)	20 - 5	+ 5	Offers JR to PEAR

Points from Last Round	75	58	95
Points from Races	72	56	19
Build Costs	- 14 + 3 + 3 + 1	- 14 - 1 - 1	- 14 + 1
Corrections	<i>None this round!</i>		
Total	140	98	101

**ACR** (K21) – J20 - - - I20 – H19 – G19 - ZAMBEZI: (I20) – KABOMPO: (O47) – O46 – O45 – O44 – O43 - O42 – N41.

**PEAR** (Q18) - Q17 – P16 – O16 – N15 - - - M15 – L14 - K14 – MWINILUNGA: (Y18) – Y19 – Y20 - Y21 - X21.

**MOSI** (Kataba) - M26 - M25 - M24 - M23 – Kaoma: (Kitwe) - V17 - U17 - T16 - S16 - R15 - - - Q15 - Solwezi.

The second set of races is

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Mwinilunga or Zambezi (41) - Mufulira (32): | 8. Kasempa (45) - DR Congo (Sp1)        |
| 9. Samfya or Lundazi (22) - Ndola (36)         | 10. Lusaka (65) - Luwingu or Isoka (14) |
| 11. Nakonde (13) - Kabompo or Kalabo (42)      | 12. Ndola (35) - Mumbwa (55)            |
| 13. Airports (Sp6) - Livingstone (54)          | 14. Monze (62) - Chipata (26)           |

Enter up to 5 (five) races plus the reoffered race 1 and build up to 12 points of track. Note that Livingstone Airport is not allowed for race 13.

The in-game map is available at <https://variablepig.org/maps/rr/ingame/RR2545ZM.png>



# Bus Boss (Farnham and Aldershot) - BB???FAL

## Round One

FAB Richard Smith Colour: Blue	Aldershot Town Centre - Heath End - Upper Hale 120 – 12 = 108 ( <i>Farnham &amp; Aldershot Buses</i> )
FEAR Kev Lee Colour: Red	Wrecclesham - Farnham Town Centre - Farnham Station 120 – 12 = 108 ( <i>Farnborough Expressways Are Rampant</i> )
BANG Bob Gingell Colour: Black	William Cobbett - Farnham Town Centre - Shepherd and Flock: Farnham Town Centre - Farnham Castle 120 – 12 = 108 ( <i>Bob's Antisocial New Game</i> )
CHAMPS Brad Martin Colour: Brown	Badshot Lea - Weybourne - Heath End - The Rec 120 – 12 = 108 ( <i>Clever Heckling AMPLifies Scoring</i> )
ROGER Roger Trethewey Colour: Green	Farnborough – Dollis Hill – Beacon Hill 120 – 12 = 108




















The build order for round 2 is Kevin, Bob, Brad, Roger and Richard. Note that the round 6 build order will be based on highest to lowest points (i.e. the person that has built the least will go first).

The in-game map is available at <https://variablepig.org/maps/bb/ingame/BBXXXFAL.png>

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## TOTES EMOJI 2 ANSWERS

Unlike the first round of these, that drew a blank (very hard!) these were much easier and the theme really helped. Three readers got 5/5: Bob Gingell, Chris Hibbert and Brendan Whyte. I think without the Bond films theme, *leaf-van-light-die* might have been a bit of a stretch!

- 1)   Dr. No
- 2)         Octopussy
- 3)   Goldfinger
- 4)    Moonraker
- 5)     Live and Let Die

## THE CELESTIAL DRAGON #10



**Deadline for all games: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**Website:** Still using the Variable Pig URL for the time being: <https://variablepig.org>

<b>The Celestial Steam Locomotive</b>	<b>#40</b>	<b>Richard Smith</b>	<a href="mailto:richard530smith@btinternet.com">richard530smith@btinternet.com</a>
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### Waiting List / Notes:

BY MODERATELY POPULAR DEMAND - possibly flawed all reader game continues.  
BAG OF DUNGEON - Jim Reader, Chris Hibbert, Bob Gingell - GAME START (PROPER) INSIDE  
BAG OF DUNGEON - game 2: 3 or 4 wanted - John Walker  
RAILWAY RIVALS South Tyrol RR2565ST - Roger Trethewey, Bob Pitman, Bob Gingell, Michael Pargman 4P GAME START INSIDE  
RAILWAY RIVALS South Tyrol RR25xxST - Richard Smith, Steve Ham, Brad Martin 3P GAME START INSIDE - GM Bob Gingell  
RAILWAY RIVALS Syria RR2566SY - Roger Trethewey, Bob Gingell, Brad Martin, Jim Reader, Michael Pargman 5P GAME START INSIDE  
NEW! BUS BOSS Ynys Mon / Isle of Anglesey - the map is 3-4 players and Bob G will GM the first game, but Richard and Jim are available if demand.

<b>Here Be Dragons</b>	<b>#73</b>	<b>John Walker</b>	<a href="mailto:hbdragons@btinternet.com">hbdragons@btinternet.com</a>
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### Waiting List / Notes:

NEARLY THE BEST GAME IN THE WORLD - Chris Hibbert\*, Richard Smith\*, 3 more wanted  
[\*=willing to GM next game]  
LYRIC QUIZ - continues this issue - anyone can play except Mr. Google.  
WORLD RECORD 9.762 - Richard Smith, Chris Hibbert - 3-6 more wanted  
FRAGMENTS (famous people) - all reader game - my favourite - any can join

<b>The Tangerine Terror</b> <b>I Am The Kurious Kumquat</b>	<b>#80</b> <b>#10</b>	<b>Howard Bishop</b>	<a href="mailto:latixsexile@outlook.com">latixsexile@outlook.com</a>
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### Waiting List / Notes:

THE NAME OF THE GAME - all reader game continues, anyone can join  
ORIGINS OF WW2 - Brendan Whyte, John Marsden - 3 more wanted  
DOS DE MAYO - 2 wanted  
COMING SOON! COMMUNAL DON'T WORDLE ([rules](#) being updated) 5+ required. Richard Smith  
NEW! JUST ONE - new game to start when current one ends, 5+ required Richard Smith

<b>SubPAR</b>	<b>#10</b>	<b>Jim Reader</b>	<a href="mailto:jim_reader@hotmail.com">jim_reader@hotmail.com</a>
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### Waiting List / Notes:

BUS BOSS - Shikoku (BB418SHI) - Roger Trethewey, Brad Martin 2-4 more wanted  
BREAKING AWAY - Richard Smith, Chris Hibbert, Allan Stagg - 3 more wanted.  
RAILWAY RIVALS - Bhutan map RR2552BT - Roger Trethewey, Chris Hibbert - 1 more wanted