

Flanagan's Running Club – Issue 47

Introduction

The first rule of Flanagan's Running Club is everyone should be telling everyone they know about Flanagan's Running Club! After all, sharing is caring. Details of how to sign up is in the epilogue.

There is no need to panic, there is no actual running involved, it is not a running club in that sense. The title is made up from extending the title of my favourite book – Flanagan's Run by Tom McNab.

So, sit back, grab a cup of coffee (or beer or wine or whatever), and enjoy the read.

On This Day – 12th May

1191 – Richard I of England marries Berengaria of Navarre in Cyprus; she is crowned Queen consort of England the same day.

1932 – Ten weeks after his abduction, Charles Jr., the infant son of Charles Lindbergh, is found dead near Hopewell, New Jersey, just a few miles from the Lindberghs' home.

1982 – During a procession outside the shrine of the Virgin Mary in Fátima, Portugal, security guards overpower Juan María Fernández y Krohn before he can attack Pope John Paul II with a bayonet.

Day of the Finnish Identity (Finland)

International Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Awareness Day

International Nurses Day

Thinker, Failure, Solider, Jailer. An Anthology of Great Lives in 365 Days

Simon Raven, b. 1927, d. 2001

Simon Raven, who died aged seventy-three, set himself up, convincingly, as a bounder; yet retained the discipline, wit, and intelligence to become the author of thirty-six books and several television scripts.

Raven the cad attained his finest hour when his wife sent the telegram: 'Wife and baby starving send money soonest'. He replied: 'Sorry no money suggest eat baby'.

Raven the writer produced his best work in the ten novels – from 'Fielding Gray' (1959) to 'The Survivors' (1976) – which made up the 'Alms for Oblivion' sequence. The series follows the fortunes of a group of public schoolboys in the post-war years; and has been described by the critic A.N. Wilson as 'the jolliest roman-fleuve ever written'.

Fielding Gray is based on Raven himself, while other characters are derived from the author's friends: Peter Morrison MP from James (later Lord) Prior; Somerset Lloyd Jones from William (later Lord) Rees Mogg; Sir Gregory Stern from the publisher Anthony Blond and Max de Freville from John Aspinall.

All the characters in Raven's novels can be guaranteed to behave badly under pressure; most of them are vile without any pressure at all. They are also afflicted by sexual kinks which are described in gloating detail.

For himself, Raven played under all rules. 'I like all four types,' he once said, 'amateur and professional men and amateur and professional women.' His one caveat was never to become involved.

Yet Raven loved institutions. Though extruded in turn from Charterhouse, Cambridge, and the Army, he retained a deep affection for them all. To the end of his life, he remained captivated by his schooldays. 'There were sports which I enjoyed; there was homosexuality which I enjoyed; there was intrigue for power which I enjoyed.'

There was something of Lord Byron about Raven: if not the same genius, at least the same energy, contempt for cant, unshocked eighteenth century acceptance of human folly, urge towards sexual experiment and – underlying the hedonistic philosophy – the same desire to court retribution.

Writing of gambling, Raven observed that 'there is nothing arid in the deep, the almost sexual satisfaction, which comes from an evening of steady and disastrous losses'. If he rejected the Christian God, he believed most passionately in the Furies, forever on hand to cut down human presumption. Raven also held that life is too short and too insignificant to get worked up about. Behind his characters' twisted strivings lies the bleak realisation that they have lost touch with what they are competing for. 'The answer', Raven knew, 'is six feet of earth, and that pretty quickly.'

Simon Arthur Noel Raven was born on 28 December 1927, the eldest of three children. 'My background,' he later explained, 'was middle-class, for which read respectable, prying, puritanical, penny pinching, joyless.'

His grandfather William, born in 1832, had begun his career at Leicester as a knitting frame operator, and built up one of the largest hosiery works in the country, employing over a thousand hands.

The boy was brought up in commodious house in the Surrey stockbroker belt, as Virginia Water and the Wentworth estate. At Cordwalles School, near Camberley, he was, aged nine, 'deftly and very agreeably' seduced by the games master. The episode, he considered, taught him 'several valuable and lasting lessons. Firstly, that sex (of whatever kind), although matchless as an occasional diversion, is too ridiculous to be taken seriously; secondly, that it is too trivial to be allowed to interfere with more stable and satisfying preoccupations, such as cricket and the flicks or (later) horse racing and books; and thirdly, that sex is best spiced with a degree of shamelessness which love, or serious affection would probably inhibit.'

He won a scholarship to Charterhouse, where he won his cricket colours in a side which included Peter May, the future captain of England. But in 1945 his school career ended in expulsion – 'for the usual reasons'.

Raven did his National Service in the Parachute Regiment, where he found ample opportunity for cricket and lechery before being sent as an officer cadet to Bangalore, where he received his commission in May 1947. Back in England he joined the Oxford and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

Going up to Cambridge in 1948, he found the somewhat louche atmosphere of King's – 'nobody minded what you did in bed or what you said about God' – entirely to his taste. He honed his snobbery, kept up the dissolute life ('the only true aphrodisiac is variety') and ran up debts. Even so, he won two English essay prizes, and King's awarded him a Studentship for a thesis on the influence of the Classics on Victorian public schools.

Raven began to dabble in journalism. 'I promoted myself "Man of Letters",' he remembered, 'when in fact I was just a tiresome and impecunious research student, neglecting his research.'

In 1952 King's declined to continue supporting this way of life. In May 1953, after nearly a year in London – 'a wild, Catullan' period – Raven joined the King's Own Shropshire Light Infantry. Over the next four years he served in Germany and saw action against the Mau Mau in Kenya.

Gambling eventually ended Raven's military career. Though he had one great win in October 1956, when a four-horse accumulator brought him £5,000 (he bought a Bentley to celebrate), the money soon disappeared, and gave way to new debts. In 1957, as a local tradesman and bookmakers began to close in, the Army sportingly allowed him to resign rather than making him face a court martial.

Raven now settled down 'to write my way back into a decent and solvent existence'.

In the next decade he was a regular contributor to The Spectator. His first published novel was The Feathers of Death (1959), the story of a homosexual romance in the Army. It was well received, but Raven could never make ends meet while living among the fleshpots of London. At this point his publisher, Anthony Blond, rescued him by proposing a bargain which would condition his life for the next thirty years.

In return for Raven agreeing to live at least fifty miles from London, Blond undertook to pay him £15 a week in cash against royalties, to settle various bills (including, up to a point, the wine merchant's) and to stand the cost of his evening meal at a local hostelry. Raven went to live at Deal, near his brother Myles, a prep school master. In the next five years he wrote five novels, two non-fiction books, six television plays, eight radio plays, a stage play and a host of articles and reviews.

Raven remained in Deal or nearby Walmer until 1995. Then, after a prostrate operation, he found a place at Sutton's Hospital, an alms-house for indigent old gentlemen that occupies the remains of the London Hospital in Charterhouse Square.

The hospital's constitution gave preference to 'souldiers maimed or ympotent'. By that time there was general agreement that Raven qualified.

Births

1812 – Edward Lear
1820 – Florence Nightingale
1924 – Tony Hancock
1968 – Tony Hawk
1968 – Catherine Tate
1975 – Jonah Lomu

Deaths

1700 – John Dryden
2018 – Dennis Nilsen

#vss365

A short story in 280 characters or less, based on a prompt word on Twitter.

I knew what they would call me. It was no surprise when I heard shouts of #quisling as I walked past.

The invading force had crushed our army and thrown down our government.

People were terrified at the change, but I wasn't, they couldn't be any worse than what we'd had.

#vss365

Joke

The local bar was so sure that its owner was the strongest man around that it offered a standing £1,000 bet that no one could beat him. The challenge was that the owner would squeeze a lemon until all the juice ran out into a beer glass, then hand the lemon to the customer. Anyone who could squeeze even one more drop out of the lemon would win the money. Over the years many people had tried this, truck drivers, weightlifters and all had failed. Then one day this frail little man with heavy rimmed spectacles came into the bar and asked if he could try the challenge. After the laughter had subsided the owner said that it was only fair that the man be given a chance at the bet, so he picked up a lemon and started squeezing. Once he was done, he handed the remains to the little man who promptly squeezed out four more drops of juice onto the bar. Everyone looked on in amazement as the owner handed over the prize and asked, "What do you do for a living that has given you such strength? Are you a lumberjack, weightlifter, what?" "No," the man replied, "I work for HMRC."

Drabble

A drabble is a complete story that is exactly one hundred words long.

What Corruption?

"Yes!"

"Yes what mate?"

"I've just had it confirmed that we have managed to get that contract to do all the new anti-fraud and anti-bribery training courses for that multi-national power company."

"How did we manage that, they weren't keen on our training packages, and I thought we'd been undercut by at least two of the other companies that had put together RFI's."

"That's true, but I had a bit of a brainwave."

"You did? Why what did you come up with."

"Well, after being told we'd been undercut by twenty grand, we bunged them a twenty-five-grand kickback."

Random Items

Facts

The characters Bert and Ernie on Sesame Street were named after Bert the cop and Ernie the taxi driver in Frank Capra's "It's A Wonderful Life".

Michael Jordan makes more money from Nike annually than all of the Nike factory workers in Malaysia combined.

In the great fire of London in 1666 half of London was burnt down but only 6 people were injured.

Thoughts

Why do boring people always find you to talk to?

If the best things in life are free, why aren't poor people happy?

Why is it called a boxing ring? Wouldn't boxing square be more accurate?

Never Eat Shredded Wheat

Weird Ways to Remember Things.

Months of the year

If you need a quick way to remember the order of the months of the year you could use the mnemonic Just For Me A Mouse Jumps Jelly, And Somebody Orange Never Diets.

Or a pithier version is

Just For MAM, Jammy JASON Dances.

(Or just look at a fucking calendar!)

Savoir Faire

1,000+ Foreign Words and Phrases You Should Know to Sound Smart

Flense \ flens \ (Danish)

To strip the blubber from an animal's skin (usually a whale's.) Though literal usage is uncommon, corporate types have found metaphorical use for it during layoffs.

Strumpshaw, Tincton & Giggleswick's Marvellous Map of Great British Place Names

Entries from the map of rude and odd place names of Great Britain.

Wigtwizzle

Just within the Peak District national park, this enchantingly named hamlet between Broomhead Reservoir and Broomhead Moor will ensure that almost every other place name you ever see will be a disappointment.

Brewers Britain & Ireland

The history, culture, folklore, and etymology of 7,500 places in these islands.

Piddlehinton

'estate on the River Piddle belonging to a religious community', PIDDLE + Olde English *hiwan* 'members of a religious community' + -TON.

A village in Dorset, on the River Piddle, about four miles northeast of Dorchester. In the novels of Thomas Hardy, it is fictionalized as Longpuddle or Upper Longpuddle.

If anyone has any place names, they'd like to see then let me know and if they're in the book I'll put them in.

Flash Fiction

Something between the 100-word shortness of a Drabble, and the short story, these are works of fiction somewhere between five hundred and seven hundred words.

As Happy As Larry

Larry was an unhappy crustacean. He was supposed to have been a lobster, but it had turned out he was a mix between a lobster and a crab, and because of that he had been shunned by both communities.

Whoever had come up with the phrase as happy as Larry either; hadn't met this particular Larry, or if they had, they had created the phrase with a great sense of irony. Not only was Larry a mix of crustaceans, but he found out that he couldn't live in the sea. The salty water irritated his shell, and he hated the taste of plankton.

He had moved up the beach and into the forest beyond, testing each of the different types of grass, tree, and flowers to see which was most suited to his tastes. The bark of the trees had made him sick, so he knew to stay away from them in the future. The grass was OK but had no flavour, and the flowers just tasted nasty.

He had been wandering for weeks when he came to a clearing in the forest where the ground was covered in round green plants. Plants he hadn't seen before. He nibbled at them, the leaves were tough, but had a decent flavour to them; they were the best thing he had ever tasted. And there were lots of them. He was in wonderland. For the first time in his life, he felt happy. He just ate, slept, ate again, and slept again, for days and days.

And then it came. He saw the strange brown object in the sky, moving at a speed he couldn't comprehend. Behind it was a tail of bright orange, which faded away to white and wispy, just like the foam on the sea.

It got closer and as it did Larry could make out the size of it. It was huge and getting bigger every moment he watched it.

It hit the ground not far away from where he was munching away on his plants. He felt himself thrown into the air as the ground beneath his claws exploded upwards.

Then he felt the heat from the orange tail of the object from the sky as it washed over him. It cooked him from the inside out. He felt his insides melting away and sliding out from his now very frazzled shell.

His final conscious thoughts were back to the very unhappy Larry he had always been. If he hadn't been a half lobster, half crab freakazoid then he wouldn't have been on the land to be cooked, he'd still be alive in the nice cool sea.

Leicestershire

History

Ashby-de-la-Zouch Castle

The manor of Ashby was granted to Hugh de Grentmeisnil after the Norman Conquest, and then passed to the Zouch(e) family by marriage. They started building the castle in the twelfth century on the site of the existing Manor House, and over the next three hundred years it was extended and made into a grand castle and grounds. Only for it to be slighted and fall into disrepair after the English Civil War.

The manor house would have been a wooden structure, but from about 1150, stone buildings began to replace the original timber structures. When the manor passed to the Zouch family in 1160, they started an expansion and the large hall, with the buttery and pantry just off it were built. They are the oldest parts of the surviving castle structure.

Little expansion was done during the thirteenth century, and it wasn't until the latter half of the fourteenth century that the next large expansion took place with the large kitchen and cellar area being added to the site. The solar area was started during this period and finished in the early fifteenth century.

It was only in the latter half of the fifteenth century, when the Lord Chamberlain, Lord William Hastings, who was awarded the property by Edward IV, that the expansion really took off. The inner walls were completed, a chapel and priest's rooms were added, and so that services could be said within the castle and not at the very close by St Anne's church.

But they all pale into insignificance compared with the large Hastings Tower that was built. When built it was nearly 90ft tall. Some of this height has gone with the battlements having been removed after the civil war, but it is still an impressive structure.

These later additions formed a south courtyard within the castle buildings for the first time, and they dug an underground passage under the courtyard which ran from the tower to the cellars attached to the kitchen.

Lord Hastings was also given license to fortify another of his properties at Bagworth, and to completely rebuilt and fortify his family home at Kirby Muxloe. He was beheaded in 1483 by Richard III, but his family were allowed to keep the lands and titles.

The castle was kept in good condition for the next one hundred and fifty years, and numerous royal visitors stayed at the castle during that time, including one who did so whilst in custody on two occasions, as Mary Queen of Scots was kept here twice overnight on journeys to London.

During this period only small amendments were made to the property, with the north and south porches to the main hall being added, and large windows inserted. The grounds to the south of the castle were laid out, with the wild garden, two corner turrets to the outer walls and ornamental ponds being added.

The Hastings family were royalists, and a garrison was established here during the civil war. They surrendered the property in 1646 and were allowed to leave. It was only two years later that it came to note that the property was still fortified and that the order to slight the building came down.

The family then moved away from the castle and moved to another of their seats at Donington Park. The castle remained habitable until the middle of the eighteenth century, but by then a new manor house had been built to the north of the castle, and the castle itself was allowed to fall into disrepair.

The new manor house was rebuilt in 1830, and the current house is now part of the grammar school.

Work to preserve the ruins of the castle started in the early nineteenth century, as Ashby was made popular by its use in Sir Walter Scott's novel "Ivanhoe", which had a number of scenes at the castle, including the well know jousting scene. In 1907 the east part of chapel was screened off as a mausoleum for the Hastings family. In 1924 some of the stained glass from the chapel windows was moved and placed in the windows of St Helen's church. In 1932 the ruins and wilderness were placed in the guardianship of the Commissioners of HM Works.

Then in 1984 it was taken into the care of English Heritage, who run the site today. It is a Grade I listed building, and a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Church

St Mary and St Hardulph

The Priory Church of St Mary and St Hardulph is the Church of England parish church of Breedon on the Hill, Leicestershire, England. The church has also been known as Breedon Priory and as the Holy Hill Monastery.

The church was founded as a monastery in the 7th century, and contains the largest collection, and some of the finest examples, of Anglo-Saxon sculptures. It also contains a notable family pew and Renaissance-era church monuments to the Shirley family, who bought the manor of Breedon after it was surrendered to the Crown in 1539 during the Dissolution of the Monasteries. The largest of these monuments is for Sir George Shirley. It was made over 20 years before his death and includes a life-sized skeleton carved in alabaster.

The church stands on the top of Breedon Hill, within the remains of an Iron Age hill fort called The Bulwarks. The hill is flanked to the south by the 400 houses of Breedon on the Hill village and encroached on the east by Breedon Quarry. Breedon church is a nationally important building, with a Grade I listing for its exceptional architectural interest.

The church was founded as a monastery in about 676 on the site of the Bulwarks hill fort and a hermitage. The church was founded by Aethelred, third son of Penda (who ruled until 706) according to the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. The land was given by Friduricus with the stipulation that Headda would be made the abbot. Friduricus is a candidate for the four saints who are interred here, possibly in a now-buried crypt.

The hagiography of the Secgan Manuscript records the other three saints buried in Breedon-on-the-Hill are Anglo-Saxon saints Eardwulf of Northumbria, Beonna of Breedon and Cotta of Breedon.

Headda was to become a Bishop of Lichfield and later, in 731, the monastery trained Tatwine to be its abbot, a position he held until 794. Tatwine was known for his rhyming riddles and for his later ascension to Archbishop of Canterbury. The lands that supported the monastery were added to by King Aethelred. In 1066, the manor of Breedon was given by William the Conqueror to the de Ferrers family, who later became the Earls of Derby. Domesday Book in 1086 records that Henry de Ferrers held Breedon.

Breedon priory was founded as an Augustinian monastery in around 1120, on the site of the earlier Saxon Benedictine abbey of Holy Hill Monastery. The priory was a cell of Nostell Priory in Yorkshire and there seems to have been between three and five canons in residence at any one time, usually from Nostell. Candidates for Prior were also usually selected by Nostell. Gervase, a prior of Breedon, attempted to gain independence for the priory from Nostell, but failed and subsequently resigned in 1244.

In 1441 a visit from William Alnwick, Bishop of Lincoln (Leicestershire was historically within the Diocese of Lincoln), found the monastery to be dilapidated and in debt. By 1535 there was no resident community at the priory, which was now occupied only by the prior. The Valor Ecclesiasticus of 1535 recorded the priory had an annual income, after expenses, of £24. 10s. 4d.

The priory was surrendered for dissolution in November 1539. It was later sold to Francis Shirley, head of the local manorial family, who were recusants. After the Dissolution, the eastern part of the priory with the formerly central tower was retained for parish use. The nave and other buildings were demolished.

The church has been a Grade I listed building since 1962, which categorises it as a building of exceptional interest.

The church contains a series of important Saxon relief sculpture, some of which may be amongst the earliest to survive in England. These carvings came from the original Saxon abbey church. They are not the earliest finds as Neolithic artefacts have also been found on the hill. Around the church are many early carvings which are frequently included as stones in the interior walls. However, they are wrapped in lead sheet as though they are not intended to be structural. The carvings are dated to the 9th century and include Celtic patterns, lions, people, cocks, and other birds that are pecking at vines.

The church contains many 16th and 17th century tombs of the Shirley family which bought the monastery site. There are two substantial tomb chests carved from Chellaston alabaster. The oldest chest tomb is for Francis Shirley and his wife. Around the chest are carved mourners arranged in pairs. This tomb is dated 1571. The other, similar tomb is for John Shirley and his wife, and is dated 1585. Both of these tombs were made by Richard and Gabriel Royley of Burton upon Trent.

The tomb of Sir Francis Shirley was repaired after 60 years by his great-grandson, Thomas Shirley. The latter recorded that even after 60 years; Francis' body was well preserved, with only a black mark apparent on one of his toes but with no sign of rot. His body was re-wrapped in material and returned to his tomb.

Three substantial tombs were constructed to memorialize Sir George Shirley, his father John, and his grandfather Thomas. By far the largest monument dominating the inside of the church is that dedicated to Sir George Shirley. It was made over 20 years before Shirley died in 1622. It is dated 1598 and consists of three storeys. On the bottom storey is a realistic skeleton carved from alabaster and showing the mortality of those portrayed above. The inclusion of this cadaver in the design was unusual for the time.

The second storey is supported on six pillars and the space is divided into two arched spaces. To the right and facing right in prayer is Sir George Shirley with his two sons behind him. All three figures are dressed in brightly painted period dress and the clothes include details in gold. In the left arch are his wife (d. 1595), daughter, and two babies. According to the Latin inscription, Shirley's wife died aged 29 whilst giving birth.

The third storey, again supported by six more pillars, is a canopy made in stone and incorporating a large, central, carved coat of arms. The monument was constructed from large blocks of alabaster. It was rebuilt in the 19th century by the stonemason Thomas Allt, who added his signature to the work.

The Shirley family pew was carved in 1627. The rest of the box pews date from the 18th century. The Shirley family pew now sits to the left of the main monument in the north aisle. In the past this wooden structure was said to be in the main body of the church. It is appropriate that it is now in the vaulted north aisle, as this entire aisle was in the separate ownership of the Shirley family until the 1950s.

The churchyard contains one war grave of a soldier of the Machine Gun Corps of World War I.

St Hardulph

St Hardulf is thought to be Eardwulf of Northumbria. The connection has been made by several historians and is uncontroversial, but not certain. Supporting evidence comes from a 12th-century list of the burial places of saints compiled at Peterborough. This calls the Saint Hardulph to whom Breedon was dedicated "Hardulfus rex"—King Eardwulf—and states that he was buried at Breedon.

Village

Cotesbach

Cotesbach is a village and civil parish in the Harborough district of Leicestershire, England. The nearest town is Lutterworth, about 1 1/2 miles (2.4 km) to the north. Rugby is 6 miles south of the parish. The River Swift flows through the parish, to the north of the village. The parish is located near the M1, M6 and A5, with the main settlement just off the A426 Rugby Road, which was built to bypass the village. Until the year 2000 the village had a small post-office, operated inside the porch of a resident's cottage.

The name 'Cotesbach' is believed to mean the dwelling of a person called 'Cott's', which is next to a valley with a stream. In Middle English 'beche' is translated to mean a river or flow of water in a valley.

Three places in Cotesbach parish are believed to be sites of early settlements of round houses, dating from around 800 to 42 BC. The Roman period saw some changes for Cotesbach, especially with the creation of nearby roads such as Watling Street and Fosse Way. Shards of Roman pottery have been found in the village, leading to people believing that there could have been a Roman villa in the area.

The current site of Cotesbach is believed to have originated from the Saxon period. In this period, Cotesbach was in the 'neutral' area between the Kingdom of Wessex and the Dane Law territory. Many archaeological finds originate from this period, including many brooches, a copper alloy stirrup mount, a small sword/dagger, and a shield boss. The Domesday period saw a new Lord of the parish, Hugh de Gretemaisnil (French: Hugues de Grandmesnil) from France. During the Medieval period, the population was believed to be around 150 people, who were mostly agricultural workers. Several archaeological finds come from this period, including a piece of decorated tile.

The area had been considerably successful until 1591 when the owner of the land, Robert Devereux decided to sell large amounts of land to raise funds. Large amounts of land in Cotesbach came into ownership of John Quarles. Quarles raised rent for tenant farmers, purchased other sections of land and began to enclose the common land for farm animals. This upset many local people, who relied on the common land.

A petition was taken to King James, who started an enquiry into the events, however the enquiry resulted in Quarles being given permission to enclose land in 1603. Enclosure of the land occurred across Cotesbach and beyond. Tension peaked in 1607 when the Enclosures Riot occurred, which resulted in people from many rural towns and villages pulling down hedges and fences and opening up the enclosures. In Leicester gallows were installed to try and put-off the rioters. By 1609 Cotesbach was a mixture of common and enclosed land; however, in 1612 the land was enclosed again, meaning the agricultural world was changed permanently.

This description of Cotesbach was given in the late nineteenth century:

"A parish in Lutterworth district, Leicester; adjacent to Watling-street and the boundary with Warwick, 1¼ mile SSW of Lutterworth, and 4 SE by S of Ullesthorpe r. station. It has a post office under Lutterworth. Acres, 1, 227. Real property, £2, 327. Pop., 125. Houses, 23. The property is divided among a few".

The Hall was constructed in 1703. It was originally built as a rectory for Reverend Edward Wells. The hall is believed to be built on land which used to contain a farmhouse. Since 1759 when Robert Marriott bought the estate, eight generations of the Marriott family have resided here.

The Manor is the oldest building in Cotesbach to be used as a house and is grade two listed. The manor was re-built around 1630 by George Bennett. The building is on the site of a previous Tudor building. The Manor is made up of many parts from many eras.

The Schoolhouse was constructed by Robert Marriott in the late 18th century to provide a good education to the village children. Around the 1870s the schoolhouse was no longer required because another school opened in nearby Lutterworth. The Cotesbach Educational Trust now has a lease on the building.

St Mary's Church was constructed in the 13th century; however, it is believed that a wooden building was on the same site previously. In the late 14th century, the bell for the church was cast. In 1702 Dr Edward Wells restored the building. In 1812, £400 was spent on renovating the church after the central tower collapsed, adding a new roof and side tower, and, later on in the century, installing new heating and applying stucco to the outside. 1919 saw a clock added to the church as a memorial to World War One, as well as a stained-glass window which was installed in memorial to the two Marriott brothers who lost their lives during the war.

Top Ten

The ten leading runners after the penultimate stage at Denville, New Jersey (3120 miles) in Flanagan's Run.

	Runner	Country	Time
1	H. McPhail	Great Britain	520 Hours, 1 Minute, 2 Seconds
2	A. Cole	USA	520 Hours, 3 Minutes, 6 Seconds
3	A. Capaldi	USA	521 Hours, 45 Minutes, 28 Seconds
4	P. Eskola	Finland	521 Hours, 50 Minutes, 27 Seconds
5	M. Morgan	USA	521 Hours, 52 Minutes, 5 Seconds
6	R. Mullins	Australia	521 Hours, 58 Minutes, 1 Second
7	J. Bouin	France	522 Hours, 14 Minutes, 7 Seconds
8	P. Brix	USA	522 Hours, 28 Minutes, 21 Seconds
9	P. Thurleigh	Great Britain	522 Hours, 29 Minutes, 18 Seconds
10	P. Dasriaux	France	522 Hours, 38 Minutes, 40 Seconds

Poetry Corner

Aging

I try not to think
I try not to stink
I do well most of the time

Sometimes it just occurs
Sometimes my bowels stir
It's not as if it's a crime

I try to be kind
I try to use my mind
Yet there are occasions I fail

And my thoughts slip out
And my mouth does shout
And I see other people's faces pale

I like silence more now
I like my furrowed brow
I've changed a lot as I've got older

I hate being in a crowd
I hate when it's too loud
My attitude to other people has grown colder

I'm not nearly as nifty
I'm not admitting I'm fifty
Old age has crept up on me

My body is full of aches
My body would prefer cakes
Yet my bladder only wants to pee

In the morning I mumble
In the morning I stumble
It's always too early to function

I sleepwalk through work
I sleepwalk wanting to shirk
I never seem to work properly until luncheon

I feel that I'm old
I feel I should be bald
But hair sprouts out of every pore

I'm happy to do nothing
I'm happy not to sing
And now I'm just turning into a bore

Musical Madness

This Day In Music

Born
1928 – Burt Bacharach
1942 – Ian Dury
1946 – Ian McLagan
1948 – Steve Winwood
Died
2003 – Noel Redding

Married

1971 – Mick Jagger married Bianca Macias at St Tropez Town Hall

Event

1968 – Jimi Hendrix was arrested by police on his way to Toronto for possession of hashish and heroin.

Chuck D Presents This Day In Rap And Hip-Hop History

1989 - Kool Moe Dee releases his third solo album “Knowledge is King” on Jive.

The legendary New York MC and former Treacherous Three member produced the gold selling “Knowledge is King”. It contained the hit single “I Go To Work”, which reached #13 on the R&B chart. The action-packed accompanying music video had Moe Dee playing a James Bond like character.

To support the album, Moe Dee became the first rapper ever to perform at the Grammy Awards. The album reached #25 on the Billboard 200 and #2 on the R&B chart.

Number 1's

Number 1 single in 1973 - Dawn featuring Tony Orlando - Tie A Yellow Ribbon Round The Ole Oak Tree

Number 1 album in 1966 - The Rolling Stones - Aftermath

Number 1 compilation album in 2015 - Now 90

Thirty-Three And One Third Revolutions Per Minute

Prince – Sign O' The Times

Sign o' the Times (often stylized as Sign "🕒" the Times) was the ninth studio album by American singer, songwriter, producer, and multi-instrumentalist Prince. It was first released as a double album on March 30, 1987 by Paisley Park Records and Warner Bros. Records. The album was the follow-up to Parade and was Prince's first album following his disbanding of the Revolution. The album's songs were largely recorded during 1986 to 1987 in sessions for releases Prince ultimately aborted: Dream Factory, the pseudonymous Camille, and finally the triple album Crystal Ball. Prince eventually compromised with label executives and shortened the length of the release to a double album, whose music encompasses a varied range of styles, including funk, soul, psychedelic pop, electro, and rock.

Though not as commercially successful as Purple Rain, Sign o' the Times was Prince's most acclaimed record, being voted 1987's best album in the Jazz & Pop critics poll and since being ranked as one of the greatest albums of all time by several publications. It has been appraised by many critics as Prince's best album, ahead of Purple Rain. Writing for The Rolling Stone Album Guide (2004), Michelangelo Matos regarded it as "the most complete example of [Prince's] artistry's breadth, and arguably the finest album of the 1980s". In 2017, the album was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame.

Prior to the disbanding of the Revolution, Prince was working on two separate projects: The Revolution album Dream Factory and a pseudonymous solo effort, Camille. Unlike the three previous band albums, Dream Factory included input from the band members and lead vocals by Wendy & Lisa. The Camille project saw Prince create an androgynous persona primarily singing in a higher, female-sounding voice. With the dismissal of the Revolution, Prince consolidated material from both shelved albums, along with some new songs, into a three-LP album to be titled Crystal Ball. Warner Bros. balked at the idea of trying to sell a three-LP album and forced Prince to trim it down to a double album. Prince cut seven tracks, and also reformulated the album to accommodate the newly added title track.

As with many of Prince's early 1980s albums, this album features extensive use of the Linn LM-1 drum machine on most songs. In addition, many songs on the album (such as "If I Was Your Girlfriend") feature minimal instrumentation, and use of the Fairlight CMI, a then state-of-the-art digital sampler. Unlike many of his contemporaries, Prince used the stock sounds of the Fairlight to create the title track. Four of the album's standout songs, "Housequake", "Strange Relationship", "U Got the Look" with Sheena Easton, and "If I Was Your Girlfriend" use pitch-shifted vocals to create a higher voice, ostensibly the voice of "Camille", Prince's alter ego of this era.

Two of the album's songs were first recorded in 1979 and 1983: "I Could Never Take the Place of Your Man" and "Strange Relationship". Prince did additional work on both for their placement on the Dream Factory project and involved the "Wendy & Lisa" partnership of Wendy Melvoin and Lisa Coleman on the former. When the project was cancelled, "Strange Relationship" was further updated for Camille. The remaining tracks were recorded between March and December 1986. The surviving Camille tracks feature a playful high-pitch vocal. "U Got the Look" was also recorded in this manner, though it was not intended for the Camille album.

Regarding the themes explored throughout the album, MTV News writer Hanif Abdurraqib said it functions "as a political action" and "that the politics are not those of solutions, but those of survival in the face of that which you might not survive for much longer. The politics of survival say that we may dance in the face of a coming apocalypse. We may, in

the face of a coming apocalypse, go to bed with someone we love or someone we didn't know before the night started. We may play in the streets or fantasize about a new world to run into. On Sign 'O' The Times, after laying out the terrifying landscape, Prince pushes the landscape aside, lays out all of our options for survival on a table, and tells us to take our pick."

Sign o' the Times was released on March 30, 1987, in the United Kingdom, and one day later in the United States and France. It peaked at number six on the Billboard 200, reached the top 10 in Austria, France, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, and reached number one in Switzerland. The singles "Sign o' the Times", "U Got the Look" and "I Could Never Take the Place of Your Man" reached number three, two and ten on the Billboard Hot 100, respectively. Following Prince's death in 2016, the album re-charted on the Billboard 200 at number 20. It reached number 4 in the UK and spent 32 weeks on the chart.

All photo images for "Sign O' The Times" album and promotion, including tour book, were photographed by Jeff Katz.

Sign o' the Times became Prince's most critically acclaimed record. Reviewing for Spin in 1987, Bart Bull said the musician's loosely organized songs are "genius" rather than indulgent and that, although there is no song as groundbreaking as "Girls & Boys", "nobody else's outtakes would sound so strong, rock so hard, swing so free." Don McLeese from the Chicago Sun-Times hailed it as "a one-man show, a tour de force, and a confirmation that pop's former prodigy has come of age." In The Village Voice, Robert Christgau said the album is not a "formal breakthrough" but rather "the most gifted pop musician of his generation proving what a motherfucker he is for two discs start to finish." He particularly praised Prince's "one-man band tricks" and multi-tracked vocals, which he said, "make Stevie Wonder sound like a struggling ventriloquist" and express real emotions: "The objects of his desire are also objects of interest, affection, and respect. Some of them he may not even fuck."

Sign o' the Times was nominated for Album of the Year at the 30th Grammy Awards. It was voted as the best album of 1987 in The Village Voice's Jazz & Pop critics' poll. According to Christgau, the poll's creator, the album was "easily the biggest winner" in the poll's history and "established Prince as the greatest rock and roll musician of the era—as singer-guitarist-hooksmith-beatmaster, he has no peer." The title track "Sign o' the Times" was named the best single of 1987 in the poll, while "I Could Never Take the Place of Your Man" and "U Got the Look" were also voted within the top 10. The album also ranked second among "Albums of the Year" for 1987 in the annual NME critics' poll, and the title track ranked number one among songs.

Track listing

All songs written by Prince, except where noted.

Record one: Side one

No. - Title - Length

1. - "Sign o' the Times" - 5:02. First single release from the album, it reached number 3 in the Billboard Hot 100, number 1 on the Billboard R&B chart, and number 10 on the UK chart, where it spent 9 weeks in the chart. The B-side was "La, La, La, He, He, Hee (Highly Explosive)", a track cut from the original "Crystal Ball" triple album. The 2020 7" rerelease had "Witness 4 The Prosecution" as a B-side, one of the tracks included in the massively extended 6 LP version rerelease of the album that year. Sampled eleven times, including in Derek B's "Bad Young Brother", and covered eleven times, by artists as diverse as Simple Minds and Nina Simone.

2. - "Play in the Sunshine" - 5:05.

3. - "Housequake" - 4:38. Was the B-side to the single release of "U Got The Look". Sampled 26 times, most famously in Bomb The Bass's "Beat Dis".

4. - "The Ballad of Dorothy Parker" - 4:04. Sampled Joni Mitchell's "Help Me", and has been sampled seven times and covered once.

Record one: Side two

1. - "It" - 5:10. Sampled Fairlight CMI's "ORCH5".

2. - "Starfish and Coffee" (Susannah Melvoin, Prince) - 2:51. Sampled four times, and covered four times.

3. - "Slow Love" (Prince, Carole Davis) - 4:18.

4. - "Hot Thing" - 5:39. Fifth single release from the album, it reached number 63 in the Billboard Hot 100, number 14 on the Billboard R&B chart, but it wasn't released in the UK. Had a remix of the track as the B-side. Was also the B-side of the single release of "I Could Never Take the Place of Your Man". Sampled in three tracks.

5. - "Forever in My Life" - 3:38.

Record two: Side three

1. - "U Got the Look" (features uncredited vocals by Sheena Easton) - 3:58. Third single release from the album, it reached number 2 in the Billboard Hot 100, number 11 on the Billboard R&B chart, and number 11 on the UK chart, where it spent 9 weeks in the chart. The B-side was "Housequake". Has been covered four times.

2. - "If I Was Your Girlfriend" - 4:54. Second single release from the album, it reached number 67 in the Billboard Hot 100, number 12 on the Billboard R&B chart, and number 20 on the UK chart, where it spent 6 weeks in the chart. The B-side was "Shockadelia", another of the tracks cut from the original "Crystal Ball" triple album, which has been covered once. The song samples Spyder-D's "Big Apple Rappin'", Tangerine Dream's "Yellowstone Park (Rocky Mountains)", and Jac Holzman's "Wedding March, Recessional". It has been sampled in 21 tracks, including Jay Z & Beyonce's "'03 Bonnie & Clyde", and has been covered 3 times.

3. - "Strange Relationship" - 4:04. Sampled Mick Fleetwood's "The Visitor".

4. - "I Could Never Take the Place of Your Man" - 6:31. Fourth single release from the album, it reached number 10 in the Billboard Hot 100, number 14 on the Billboard R&B chart, and number 29 on the UK chart, where it spent 6 weeks in the chart. Had "Hot Thing" as the B-side". An edited version was the B-side to some 7" releases of "Alphabet Street" from the "Lovesexy" album. Covered six times.

Record two: Side four

1. - "The Cross" - 4:46. Released as a promo 7" in South Africa, with "Adore" as the B-side. Covered once.

2. - "It's Gonna Be a Beautiful Night" (Doctor Fink, Eric Leeds, Prince) - 8:59. Samples "March of the Winkies" from The Wizard of Oz. Has been sampled once.

3. - "Adore" - 6:29. Was the B-side to the South African promo release of "The Cross". Sampled three times and covered twice.

Personnel

Prince – lead vocals and various instruments

Wendy Melvoin – guitar and backing vocals (7), tambourine and congas (12, 15)

Lisa Coleman – backing vocals (7), Fairlight sitar and wooden flute (12), keyboards and backing vocals (15)

Sheila E. – drums and percussion (10), percussion and rap (15)

Dr. Fink – keyboards (15)

Miko Weaver – guitar (15)

Brown Mark – bass (15)

Bobby Z. – drums (15)

Eric Leeds – saxophone (3, 7, 8, 15, 16)

Atlanta Bliss – trumpet (3, 7, 15, 16)

Susannah Melvoin – backing vocals (2, 4, 6), vocals (15)

Jill Jones – vocals (15)

Sheena Easton – contributing artist (10)

Clare Fischer – string arrangements

The live audience on "It's Gonna Be a Beautiful Night" is credited for backing vocals under the name of "6,000 wonderful Parisians" and was recorded during a Parade Tour's show in Paris on 25 August 1986, while vocals, Sheila E.'s rap and instrumental overdubs were recorded at Sunset Sound on 22 November.

Charts

Chart – Position

Australian Kent Music Report – 20

Austrian Albums Chart – 2

Canadian RPM Albums Chart – 25

Dutch Albums Chart – 2

French SNEP Albums Chart – 4

Italian Albums Chart – 4

Japanese Oricon LPs Chart – 13

New Zealand Albums Chart – 6

Norwegian Albums Chart – 3

Swedish Albums Chart – 6

Swiss Albums Chart – 1

UK Albums Chart – 4

US Billboard 200 – 6

US Billboard R&B Albums – 4

West German Media Control Albums Chart – 11

Certifications and sales

Region – Certification – Certified units/sales

Australia – Gold – 35,000

France – 2x Gold – 280,500

Germany – Gold – 250,000

Italy – 70,000

Netherlands – Platinum – 100,000

New Zealand – Gold – 7,500

Switzerland – Gold – 25,000

United Kingdom – Platinum – 300,000

United States – Platinum – 1,000,000

Top 10

The top ten in the UK singles chart on this day in 2001

Position	Last Week's Position	Title	Artist	Label	Peak Position	Weeks on Chart
1	New	IT'S RAINING MEN	GERI HALLIWELL	EMI	1	1
2	1	DON'T STOP MOVIN'	S CLUB 7	POLYDOR	1	2
3	New	PLAY	JENNIFER LOPEZ	EPIC	3	1
4	New	COLD AS ICE	M.O.P.	EPIC	4	1
5	4	OUT OF REACH	GABRIELLE	GO BEAT	4	4
6	New	IMITATION OF LIFE	REM	WARNER BROS	6	1
7	2	SURVIVOR	DESTINY'S CHILD	COLUMBIA	1	3
8	3	LOVIN' EACH DAY	RONAN KEATING	POLYDOR	2	3
9	5	GET UR FREAK ON	MISSY ELLIOTT	ELEKTRA	4	3
10	8	IT WASN'T ME	SHAGGY FT RIKROK	MCA	1	10

A Single Life

Rob Base & DJ E-Z Rock – It Takes Two

"It Takes Two" is a song by New York hip hop duo Rob Base and DJ E-Z Rock that became a Top 40 hit single and was later certified platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA). Since its release in 1988, the song has been covered and sampled by several recording artists. "There are many critics and listeners who claim that Rob Base & DJ EZ Rock's 'It Takes Two' is the greatest hip-hop single ever cut," noted Music critic Stephen Thomas Erlewine of All Music Guide. "It's hard to disagree with them."

It came from the album It Takes Two, and the single was released on February 1, 1988 on Profile Records in the US and on Citybeat in the UK. The song was produced by Teddy Riley and built around the "Whoa! Yeah!" sample from Lyn Collins' 1972 song "Think (About It)." That sample was originally used by Marley Marl in Roxanne Shante's "Go On Girl", but went (in today's parlance) viral after the release of this single. Within months it was all over the place and is now the second most used sample of all time. It took off so quickly that it caught out Les "Mixdoctor" Adams. he had been a judge at the 1988 DMC world championships and had gotten bored of the consistent use of "Pump Up The Volume" and "This Is A Journey Into Sound" samples. When he released his own pastiche single "Check This Out", there is a bit where he makes this frustration known, and then say, "how about something completely new", at which point he uses the "Whoa! Yeah!" sample. By the time it was in the charts half a dozen other records had the same sample in it.

Not being content with just sampling the "Whoa! Yeah!" loop, they also sampled the song for the "It Takes Two" chorus (It takes two to make a thing go right, it takes two to make it out of sight); along with other pieces. So much so that James Brown (writer and producer of Lyn Collins' track) got a writing credit on the song along with Robert Ginyard (Rob Base's full name). It also sampled the Galactic Force Band's "Space Dust". It has been covered four times, and sampled a massive 196 times, most effectively by Fatman Scoop featuring the Crooklyn Clan in their UK number 1 single "It Takes Scoop", and the Black Eyed Peas in their number 1 UK Single "Boom Boom Pow".

It also spawned a copycat diss record by female MC, Icey Jaye in her "It Takes A Real Man", which has all of the original song, but she changes the lyrics to rip it out of Rob Base, "and your fat DJ" E-Z Rock.

The single reached number 24 on the UK Singles Chart spending 10 weeks on the chart. It reached number 36 on the US Billboard Hot 100, number 3 on the Billboard US Dance Club Songs chart, and number 17 on the Billboard US Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs chart.

In popular culture the song was used in the films Iron Man 2, Bumblebee, The Proposal, Sisters, The Disaster Artist, Love & Basketball, and Spies in Disguise. Song was also used in the game Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas. It can be heard on Playback FM. The song was used in Google's "Year in Search 2020" video (00:25-00:58 and 2:03-2:52) under Covid-19, RBG and BLM video segments. The song is used in multiple episodes of the sitcom "My Name is Earl". The song replaced "20th Century Boy" as the theme song for Lip Sync Battle in the fifth season.

From a personal perspective, I love this song, and it is my favourite Hip Hop track of all time. The seven inch and the twelve-inch singles got played to death, even the album got more plays than most of the rest of the tracks deserved. I've done it on karaoke. on stage at a scout jamboree, but most memorably at a wedding with re-written lyrics.

My friend John's sister was getting married, so we re-wrote the lyrics to the seven-inch version to be specific to his sister and her groom, and performed it over the B-side track which just had the sung chorus, but instrumentals where the verses were. It didn't go without flaws. The DJ at the wedding put the a-side on first, not the B-side as requested and so

we were competing with the actual lyrics. But second time around we managed to nail it, and the groom seemed to love it. Unfortunately, the song's enduring popularity lasted longer than the wedding.

Story Time

The Noticeboard

Henry had come to the village of New Langton when the first new houses had been built there in 1973. The builders had attempted to make them look as if they were original sixteenth century stone cottages, but it was all fake.

The concrete breeze blocks could now be seen under the fake stucco on the outside, worn away by the weather in just over twenty years. Certainly not built to last like previous structures.

He had jumped at the opportunity to live in a brand-new village, stuck away at the end of a single road in. No passing traffic going through on its way to somewhere less remote and boring. There would be less people for him to have to deal with. He hated most people.

Henry worked outside, in the rear of his fake cottage, making occasional pieces of furniture from wood from fallen or chopped down trees. Not that he ever chopped a tree down himself. He just took advantage of the available wood when someone else did.

When he moved to the village a quarter of a century ago, the church at the top of the hill hadn't been in use. It was nearly ten years before there were enough people in new houses in the village to bring the church back into use. Now, the rector from St. Guthlac's in Church Langton gave services in the village twice a week. Once on Sunday morning and then another on a Tuesday evening. There was no rhyme or reason as to why the Tuesday had been chosen, or why it was an evening service.

The benefice left the church open at all times. They weren't worried about passers-by, or vandals. There was nothing of value in the church; it had all been removed decades before. It was a surprise the church was still standing; it wasn't loved or even cared for. Henry doubted there was any godliness in the church either, especially during a service.

He felt sure this was the case when the first of the messages was pinned to the noticeboard. The villagers started to leave passive aggressive notes to each other on it, all anonymously. This then escalated to accusations, fingers were pointed without the knowledge of who was doing the pointing. All the petty differences came to the fore. The rector either didn't notice or didn't care. No one removed any of the messages. They just pinned responses or new accusations over the top of them.

Henry had never left a note there; not even once. Yet, over the last few months he had seen his name posted on the board several times. He had been accused of stealing flowers from the garden of a neighbour. Then of painting the wall of another cottage black during the night. After that there was the accusation, he had thrown the bike of one of the children in the village into the stream. And now, he was accused of undermining the tree in the churchyard to make it fall over so he could use the wood to make more furniture.

He was fed up with it; he hadn't done any of the things of which he had been accused. He hated flowers, none grew on his property, and he had never had any inside his house. He hadn't painted his own cottage in all the time he had lived there, let alone painting another during the night. Why would he randomly throw a child's bicycle in the stream? And just how was he supposed to have undermined a two-hundred-year-old oak tree?

Henry had interrupted the last Sunday service, right in the middle of one of the rector's more boring sermons. He had shouted at the godless creatures in the church that they were bearing false witness. Why, instead of posting anonymous scurrilous notes on the noticeboard, couldn't they be brave enough to make the accusations to his face, or even to the police? Why did they feel they could lie about him on the noticeboard in the church? What made them think their anonymity gave them the right to make slanderous accusations?

None of the congregation would meet his eye. The rector ignored him completely, carrying on with his sermon, which ironically spoke about the Ten Commandments. So, Henry just shouted all the louder. Swearing with every other word, and there was still no reaction. So much so that it made Henry question whether he was actually there and alive. When the service finished, he stood outside the porch entrance and challenged every member of the congregation as they came out. They still wouldn't look him in the eye and answer him. All apart from the child whose bicycle had been thrown in the stream that is.

"I know you didn't do that mister; it was Billy's dad who did it."

Henry stormed back into the church and tore the noticeboard from the wall, smashing it on the stone floor of the nave. He went back to the door and screamed at the backs of the villagers making their way back down the hill to their homes

promising vengeance. As he finished, the rector passed him, bidding him a good morning, and climbed into his car. Henry couldn't believe that there wasn't even an acknowledgement of what had just happened.

Within a week a new noticeboard appeared, and the accusations started up again. Henry went out and bought a spy camera and installed it in the church aimed at the noticeboard. Every day he would come out and check the footage, and then add the name of the person who posted it to each of the notes.

At first those who had posted didn't notice, they were too busy being smug at what they had posted to realise their names had been added. It was only when people began finding themselves accused and that the note had the name of their accuser on it that they realised it wasn't the anonymous noticeboard of old. The recriminations started.

With a specified someone for the accused to blame arguments sprung up all over the place. Fights began to break out, the police were called. Lawyers got involved. Arrests, court cases and awards for damages flowed through the village. Henry sat back and watched the chaos unfold.

By the time the dust had settled the population of the village went down to twelve. It would build back up over time, but as it was now, the church ceased to be used for services again, and the noticeboard was removed.

Henry revelled in the peace and quiet. He built another noticeboard in case the church ever reopened, and he wanted to thin the crowd in the village again.

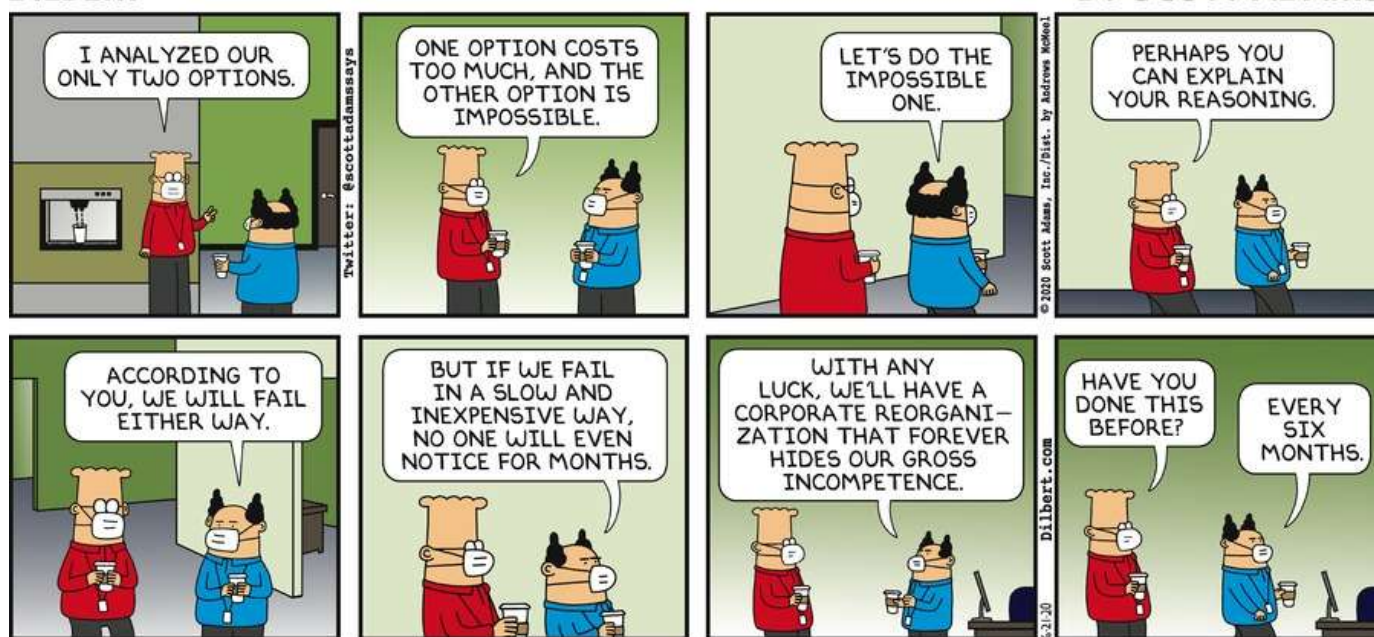
World's Greatest Cathedrals Top Trumps

Hagia Sophia	
City / Country	Istanbul, Turkey
Height	55 metres
Commenced Building	532ad
Character	15
Global Fame	78
Top Trumps Rating	79
Details	Hagia Sophia began as a church, later becoming a mosque, and today serves as a museum in Istanbul, Turkey. Sophia is the Greek word for wisdom. The full name of Hagia Sophia in Greek is "Shrine of the Holy Wisdom of God". Until the Seville Cathedral was built in 1520, Hagia Sophia has been the largest cathedral in the world for almost 1000 years.

Dilbert

DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



Epilogue – Where To Find More Of My Writing

To get people to sign up, point them in the direction of my website's homepage of <http://www.onetruekev.co.uk/> scroll down past the menu and then enter their e-mail address and select whether they want Flanagan's Running Club or blog post updates or both and then hit submit.

If you want to catch up on old issues, go to the website at <http://www.onetruekev.co.uk/frc.php> where all the issues are available.

For blog posts go to <https://onetruekev.co.uk/Mutterings/> which will have the most current post and the ability to scroll back in time.

Some of the blog posts also get published on my Medium account, especially ones that are picture heavy, as there are no hosting costs to store all the photos there, the link is <https://medium.com/@onetruekev>

For all previous works including the old Surerandomality pieces go to <https://onetruekev.co.uk/Mutterings/else/> where pretty much everything I've written before is linked through to.

Then there are my books. Nothing published yet, but I have one full book available online, it's called "Where The Lights Shine Brightest". Can I ask you all a favour, please can you review my book on Inkitt, and the link is below. Even if you don't take time to read it properly, please flick through a few chapters, give it ratings and a review and vote for it please. It may help me get it published.

<https://www.inkitt.com/stories/thriller/201530>

In addition, the first chapter of "Where The Lights Shine Brightest", and my other completed book, "The Talisman", are available on my Goodreads page <https://www.goodreads.com/story/list/77442053-kev-neylon> and the first chapters of two of the four books I have in progress at the moment are on there now and the others will go on there in time. The follow up to "The Talisman" – "The Magicusians" is at <https://www.goodreads.com/story/show/1253978-the-magicusians> and "The Repsuli Deception" is at <https://www.goodreads.com/story/show/1253979-the-repsuli-deception>

I have had a number (seventy-three) of Drabbles published on the BookHippo web site, and they can all be found at <https://bookhippo.uk/profiles/kevin.neylon/drabbles>

You can also follow me on Twitter, where I will occasionally put up some micro fiction or micro poems, my Twitter handle is @Onetruekev – <https://twitter.com/onetruekev>

You can also follow all my writing on the Facebook page Onetruekev which is at <https://www.facebook.com/Onetruekev-102649357993650/>

Speak to me about getting a pen, there are currently eight colours available: red, black, dark green, blue, maroon, orange, purple and grey. In addition, speak to me about Flanagan's Running Club torches, limited stock, bright little so and sos available in red or blue. And new small green leather style notepads, with mini pens and various size sticky notes.

E-mail any ideas or suggestions to kev@onetruekev.co.uk

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