

# Flanagan's Running Club – Issue 49

## 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 – 12<sup>th</sup> July

1543 – King Henry VIII of England marries his sixth and last wife, Catherine Parr, at Hampton Court Palace.

1975 – São Tomé and Príncipe declare independence from Portugal.

1979 – The island nation of Kiribati becomes independent from the United Kingdom.

Birthday of the Heir to the Crown of Tonga (Tonga)

The second day of Naadam (Mongolia)

The Twelfth, also known as Orangemen's Day (Northern Ireland, Scotland, Newfoundland, and Labrador)

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

John Boon, b. 1916, d. 1996

John Boon, who died aged seventy-nine, was chairman of the publishers Mills & Boon, and an architect of its modern success.

The romantic formula that the firm developed has been much mocked, not least by feminists. But though many have felt themselves called to write novels for Mills & Boon, relatively few have succeeded in mastering the art. To write a good Mills & Boon novel, John Boom insisted, it was necessary to believe. 'It is exceptionally difficult', he added. 'You can't do it if you have your tongue in your cheek'. But, for those writers who made the grade, the rewards were generous. No other publishing house has made so many novelists so rich.

Mills & Boon was the first British publisher to take market research seriously. It discovered that its readers were represented in all income groups and classes, both in Britain and overseas. The firm publishes nearly 700 titles a year and sells in 23 languages in more than 100 countries.

'I'd like the company to continue', Boon observed in 1989. 'I think it will, provided someone doesn't do anything silly. Someone might suddenly decide they want us to educate the public. Bloody disaster. The public don't want to be educated by us. They want to be amused. We really think we serve a most valuable function. We ought to be prescribed by the NHS. We're much better than Valium.'

## Births

100 BC – Julius Caesar

1730 – Josiah Wedgwood

1951 – Cheryl Ladd

1962 – Julio César Chávez

1966 – Annabel Croft

## Deaths

1910 – Charles Rolls

1973 – Lon Chaney, Jr.

2013 – Alan Whicker

## #vss365

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

She couldn't see it anymore. When she had met him, she had been attracted by his #charisma, or so she thought.

Years down the line she knew he had none. She had found his notebook with all his lines and stories in.

He had no #charisma, just a script and a good memory.

#vss365

## Joke

A policeman was drilling three blondes, who were training to become detectives. To test their skills in recognising a suspect, he shows the first blonde a picture for five seconds and then hides it. "This is your suspect; how would you recognise him?" The first blonde answers, "that's easy, we'll catch him fast because he only has one eye." The policeman says, "well...uh... that's because the picture shows his profile." Slightly flustered by this ridiculous response, he flashes the picture for five seconds to the second blonde and asks, "this is the suspect, how would you recognise him?" The second blonde laughs and says, "Ha! He'd be easy to catch because he only has one ear!" The policeman angrily responds, "what's the matter with you two? Of course, only one eye and ear are showing, it's a picture of his profile! Is that the best answer you can come up with?" Extremely frustrated at this point, he shows the picture to the third blonde and in a very testy voice asks, "this is your suspect, how would you recognise him?" He adds quickly, "think hard before giving a stupid answer." The blonde looks at the picture intently for a moment and says, "hmmm... the suspect is wearing contact lenses." The policeman is surprised and speechless, because he really doesn't know himself if the suspect wears contacts or not. "Well, that is a good answer... wait here for a few minutes while I check his file, and I'll get back to you on that." He leaves the room and goes to his office, checks the suspect's file in his computer and comes back with a beaming smile on his face. "Wow! I can't believe it...it's true! The suspect does in fact wear contact lenses. Good work! How were you able to make such an astute observation?" "That's easy" the blonde replies, "he can't wear glasses because he only has one eye and one ear."

## Drabble

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

### Do You Deliver?

I'm sat in the pub, and I'm watching Deliveroo drivers coming in out. And I'm wondering who the cheeky feckers are who are ordering food in to be delivered to the pub. It took the third Deliveroo driver coming in before I realised, they weren't delivering food to people in the pub, they are picking up takeaways orders from the pub to deliver out to people sat in their nice warm homes.

This is after drink one. My brain thinks that this could get messy already.

Then it gets to 1am and the Dominos delivery turned up to the pub.

## Random Items

### Facts

Charles Lindbergh took only four sandwiches with him on his famous transatlantic flight.

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.

In the last 4000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

### Thoughts

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

Why is it that insurance covers everything apart from what actually happens?

Does anybody really know the difference between a currant and a raisin?

### Never Eat Shredded Wheat

Weird Ways to Remember Things.

The standard mnemonic for the points of the compass, North, East, South and West, is of course:

Never Eat Shredded Wheat.

As with other old standards, there are lots of alternative versions, including:

Naughty Elephants Spray Water.

Never Eat Slimy Worms.

Never Ever Smoke Weed.

Never Eat Soggy Wafers.

### **Savoir Faire**

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

**Haboob** \ ha-boob \ (Arabic)

A dust storm. These occur in desert regions when the downdrafts from nearby thunderstorms pick up and scatter sand, reducing visibility to near zero.

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

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

#### **Ugley**

A lovely Essex village completely at odds with its name, Ugley's lively social goings-on include a branch of the Women's Institute, a farmer's market and much more besides. The name, recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086 as Ugghlelea, means 'woodland clearing belonging to someone called Ugga'.

### **Brewers Britain & Ireland**

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

#### **Stainton**

'farmstead on stony ground', Old English *stan* + -TON.

A village in south Yorkshire, 1.5 miles east of Maltby. The Yorkshire, Derbyshire, and England fast bowler F.S. (Fiery Fred) Trueman, self-styled 'finest fast bowler that ever drew breath', was born here in 1931. There are further Staintons in Cumbria, Durham, Middlesbrough, and North Yorkshire.

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.

### **Into The Void**

He knew there was something about the building that was wrong. He couldn't find the penetralia. He'd worked out where it should be but there was no way in. There was nothing placed around the central space, no desks, no pictures on the wall. As if it was trying to hide itself behind a layer of non-entity.

Could no one else see it, or were they all brainwashed to ignore it, asking about it had only gotten blank stares in response.

With no doors, on any floor, to it, he'd have to make his own way in. The strangest thing was nobody batted an eyelid as he took the sledgehammer to the wall. Was them being brainwashed why they paid no attention as he attempted to smash his way inside.

It took more effort than he thought it would. It wasn't just plaster and wattle board walls, there was concrete and breeze blocks, it took a couple of hours but finally he smashed a hole through the wall.

He expected darkness in the void space behind the wall, not the bright light than emanated from the hole. The light finally caught the attention of those working in the offices. It was as if they all suddenly snapped out of a trance. They

all came forward to have a look at the hole, or so he thought until the last moment. They weren't interested in the hole at all; they were only interested in stopping him.

The hands dragged him to the floor, and the sledgehammer he had used to such good effect to create the hole was now being put to a different and far more deadly use. He saw the heavy weight on the end of the pole heading towards his face and his final living act was to scream.

## Leicestershire

### History

#### **Alice Hawkins**

Alice Hawkins was born in 1863 in Stafford and by 13 she was working in Leicester creating boots and shoes. In 1884 she married Alfred Hawkins. She was a mother of five children and worked as a machinist at Equity Shoes. In 1896 she joined the new factory's new Women's Co-operative Guild where she learnt about socialism and the writings of Thomas Mann. Hawkins had joined the Independent Labour Party in 1894 and via that organisation met Sylvia Pankhurst. Pankhurst came to Leicester in 1907 and Hawkins made introductions. They were soon joined by Mary Gawthorpe, and they established a WSPU presence in Leicester.

Hawkins was first jailed in February 1907, among 29 women sent to Holloway Prison after a march on Parliament. After two weeks in jail, she returned to Leicester to set up a branch of the WSPU. Alice was jailed a second time in 1909 as she tried to force entry into a public meeting where Winston Churchill was speaking in Leicester. In this case the lead role was played by her husband, Alfred. Alice could not gain access into the room where Churchill was speaking so Alfred volunteered. During the speech Alfred asked Churchill to explain why women did not have a vote and he was ejected. Alice was protesting outside when she too was arrested.

Her third imprisonment was in 1911 after throwing a brick through a Home Office window in full view of a policeman. She was jailed twice more in 1913, first for throwing ink into a Leicester post box, and then a last time for digging a slogan into a golf course at night. She received a Hunger Strike Medal from the WSPU.

In 1913 Hawkins was among the representatives chosen to speak with leading politicians David Lloyd George and Sir Edward Grey. The meeting had been arranged by Annie Kenney and Flora Drummond with the proviso that these were working class women representing their class. They explained the terrible pay and working conditions that they suffered and their hope that a vote would enable women to challenge the status quo in a democratic manner. Hawkins explained how her fellow male workers could choose a man to represent them whilst the women were left unrepresented. Her protests ceased when war was declared in 1914 and the WSPU agreed to cease protests in exchange for having all prisoners released.

Hawkins died in 1946 and her burial had to be paid for by the state. She has a plaque at her workplace and another on the Leicester Walk of Fame. In 2018, a five-year campaign ended when a seven-foot-high statue was unveiled in market square by four women including Manjula Sood and Liz Kendall. The ceremony was witnessed by Helen Pankhurst, dozens of her relatives and hundreds of people.

### Church

#### **St Peter's and St Paul's Great Bowden**



There was a church mentioned on the site from the early 11th century, but the current building was started in the 13th century.

The church consists of a clerestoried nave with north and south aisles, a clerestoried chancel flanked by chapels forming continuations of the aisles, north and south porches, and a spired west tower. It is built of ironstone with limestone dressing. The oldest parts of the fabric date from the second half of the 13th century when the main plan of the church was probably similar to the present one with the exception of the north chapel.

The chancel and the south chapel are much altered, but were originally of this date, and there is a single window with plate tracery near the west end of the south aisle. The arcade between chancel and chapel consists of two pointed arches resting on a low central pier and moulded responds. The chancel has a 13th-century piscina in its south wall and a blocked doorway beside it.

The tower, which is of two tall stages above a high plinth, was probably built fairly late in the 14th century. The lower stage has angle buttresses and above are tall two-light windows with decorated tracery. The castellated and pinnacled parapet is of limestone and is pierced by cruciform loops. Behind the parapet rises a short octagonal stone spire. Considerable alterations were made to the church in the 15th century when the aisles were raised, and the three-bay arcades were rebuilt. Probably at the same time clerestories with square-headed windows were added to both nave and chancel.

The north chapel, which has large square-headed windows and is separated from the chancel by an arcade similar to those of the nave, appears to be an addition entirely of the 15th century. It contains some original roof timbers and on its north wall the remains of a large fresco representing the Last Judgement. Most of the windows in other parts of the church are replacements of the 15th century and later.

In 1639 it was said that the west end of the chancel was in disrepair and that the aisles and steeple needed attention. In 1777 there was a crack from top to bottom of the tower and in the following year, although other defects had been made good, the crack was still there. New pews were installed in 1790 and it is evident that much work was done to the church at about this time or soon afterwards. It included the insertion of a west gallery on which the organ was mounted, the erection of galleries in both aisles, and the addition of a north porch in which a gallery staircase was incorporated.

The south porch may be of the same date or somewhat earlier. The insertion of plaster ceilings to nave and chancel, divided by an elliptical arch, was also probably done in the late 18th or early 19th century. The low ceiling level appears to have necessitated the blocking of the clerestory windows in the chancel. Throsby, who visited the church c. 1790, remarked on its well-kept appearance, with handsome pews and a fine stone floor. In 1795 the archdeacon noted that the building was exceptionally well maintained and that the parishioners had been at great expense in beautifying and repairing it. In 1832 it was reported that the tower had been cramped with iron. In 1836 a new east window was inserted.

In 1886-7 the building was restored under the direction of W. Talbot Brown and Fisher of Wellingborough at a cost of over £2,200. Except for the north chapel, the church was re-roofed. External buttresses were built against the south aisle wall and a large internal buttress to support the south wall of the chancel. The interior was much altered: a stone chancel arch was inserted and a new arch between the north aisle and the north chapel. The galleries were removed, the tower arch opened up, and a west doorway in the tower blocked. The organ was transferred to the north chapel. The pews were reduced in height, the tall 18th-century pulpit was removed, and new fittings were provided in the chancel. The font was replaced but the carved oak font cover of two tiers, dating from the 17th century, was retained.

Other original fittings include a 17th-century oak chest in the north chapel and a panel bearing the royal arms, repainted in 1778. The fine carved organ case is of c. 1700, mounted on panelling from the later gallery. A new east window was inserted in 1891 and a wrought-iron chancel screen in 1892. The vestry screen in the south chapel was erected in memory of the Revd. H. W. Brutzer (d. 1920), the tower screen dates from 1927, and the reredos from 1932.

The church contains many mural tablets of the 18th and early 19th centuries. Stained glass windows commemorate William Hay of Bowden House (d. 1878), Thomas Seabrooke and his wife (erected 1887), Hugh D. A. Owen (killed in the hunting field, 1903), and those who died in the First World War.

There are six bells: Two dated 1737 and 1739, by Thomas Eayre of Kettering; then one from 1624; another from 1621; and a fifth from 1599; these were re-hung in 1926; a sixth treble bell, was given in 1955 in memory of John Thomas March (d. 1954). Painted on a board below the tower is a verse dated 1741, giving rules for the conduct of bellringers and the fines to be imposed if these were infringed.

The registers date from 1559 and are complete.

## Village

### **Knipton**

Knipton is a small English village in the civil parish of Belvoir, in the county of Leicestershire. It lies about 6 miles (10 km) from the town of Grantham, just off the A607, and 10 miles (16 km) from Melton Mowbray. It borders the Duke of Rutland's estate at Belvoir Castle. Although the village is in Leicestershire, it has a Nottinghamshire postcode and a Lincolnshire (Grantham) STD code.

The parish church of All Saints is a Grade II\* listed building. It has a 13th-century tower at the west end and a chancel at the east end, separated by a 14th-century nave and a north aisle. A south aisle was added in 1869 by W. Thompson of Grantham. The churchyard includes two listed table tombs.

Knipton's village hall was built as a Church of England primary school in 1850–1854 in a Mock Tudor style, on orders from the Duke of Rutland, and extended to the rear in 1868. The slate roof carries a tall spire above a louvred bell turret. The building has been Grade II listed since 1979 but ceased to serve as a school in the late 20th century. The village has a number of houses built for the Belvoir Estate, including a couple of cottages ornés from early Victorian times and some late 19th-century houses.

Iron ore was quarried in two areas of Knipton. Both quarries have now been smoothed over and the fields are at a lower level than the roads.

#### Southern quarries

These were an extension of the quarries at Woolsthorpe and Harston. Quarrying began east of the road from Knipton to Croxton Kerrial in 1924, ceasing in 1943. A quarry on the west side of the road operated in 1941–1946. The quarries used steam and diesel quarrying machines. Ore was removed by a steam-operated narrow-gauge tramway to a tipping dock on the standard-gauge railway at Harston, where it was tipped into standard-gauge trucks for transport.

In 1956 quarrying resumed where it had finished in 1946. By that time, the narrow-gauge tramway had been replaced by a standard-gauge one worked by steam locomotives, which brought the trucks to the sidings at Harston from where British Railways locomotives took them away. From 1960 onwards, the ore from some of the quarries was loaded into lorries to be taken to the tramway or the sidings at Harston. The tramway was lifted in early 1964, but the lorry-worked quarries continued for a while. Production at Knipton had ceased by the end of 1964.

#### Waltham Iron Ore Company quarries

Quarrying began at High Leys, close to the Belvoir Road in 1949. The quarry closed in 1951, to be replaced by Granby pit, closer to the village on the east side of the road. Granby closed in 1955, when quarrying began on the opposite side of the road at Harts Pit. Quarrying ceased at Harts in 1958.

These quarries were served by an extension of the Waltham Iron Ore Tramway that transported ore to a tipping stage at the terminus of British Railway's Eaton branch. Diesel quarrying machines were used. The tramway was removed in 1959, and most of the remaining rolling stock was scrapped on site in 1960. One locomotive Cambrai was preserved by the Narrow-Gauge Railway Museum and is now on loan to the Irchester Narrow Gauge Railway Museum.

The village public house is now named the Manners Arms, after the family of the Duke of Rutland. Earlier there had been a Marquis of Granby in the village street. The Manners Arms occupies a late 18th-century brick building known as the Red House, with three bays and two-and-a-half storeys. It retains its slate roof and 19th-century plate-glass sash windows and shutters, and internally features an original closed-string staircase with a ramped handrail and turned balusters.

Originally part of one of the few freehold pieces of land dating back to Anglo-Saxon times, and so not part of the Belvoir estate, the land was used for various purposes, including maltings and squatters' cottages. The current building was built in 1774–1790 as a private house for the Rev. Robert Jones, the 5th Duke's chaplain. On Jones's death, the house passed to his son and upon his death to the son's wife. Her son, the estates clerk, mortgaged the building in 1802 for £350.

Unable to service the debt, he sold the building and mortgage to the 5th Duke for £750. The house was modified in the late 1920s as the intended dower house for Violet, the 8th Duchess, but she decided to live at Eastwell Hall. The next plan was to subdivide the house into five flats, but this failed to materialise. When converted into a public house in the late 20th century, it was called the Red House Inn, but renamed the Manners Arms in 2005 at the behest of the 11th Duke of Rutland.

## Top Ten

The ten longest country names in the world including spaces.

	Country	Length
1=	Democratic Republic of the Congo	32
1=	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	32
3=	Central African Republic	24
3=	United States of America	24
5	Bosnia and Herzegovina	22
6=	Republic of the Congo	21
6=	Saint Kitts and Nevis	21
6=	São Tomé and Príncipe	21
9	United Arab Emirates	20
10=	Antigua and Barbuda	19
10=	Trinidad and Tobago	19

## Poetry Corner

### I Can't Help

I can see my father looking dubiously at me.  
I want to help, I'm eager to, but I am clumsy.  
He is thinking about what tool he can pass on.  
To me to avoid the trail of destruction phenomenon

The garden fork with its long prongs is definitely out.  
With a hammer my own toes are what I would clout  
A spade is just an accident waiting to happen.  
Definitely no spanner to help plumb the new tap in

The screwdriver will see many holes in the wall.  
Sending me up a ladder is an invitation to fall.  
So, he puts a big brush into my right hand.  
And tells me painting the fence would be grand.

If I splash or I drop it there's no need to worry  
He tells me to take my time, don't rush or hurry.  
After two hours the fence is a bright shining white  
And my dad smiles at me "Son you did alright".

## Musical Madness

### This Day In Music

Born  
1943 - Christine McVie  
Died  
1979 – Minnie Ripperton  
Married  
1968 - Mickey Dolenz (from The Monkees) and Samantha Juste, who met at a filming of Top of the Pops.  
Event  
1962 – The Rolling Stones made their live debut at the Marquee Jazz Club, London with Dick Taylor (later with The Pretty Things) on bass and Mick Avory (later with The Kinks) on drums. The band were billed as Mick Jagger And The Rolling Stones and were paid £20 for the gig.

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

2005 – Bow Wow releases his fourth studio album "Wanted" on Columbia.

Featuring production from Bow Wow's long-time producer Jermaine Dupri, as well as No I.D., Bryan-Michael Cox, and L'Roc, the album yielded three top forty singles on the Billboard Hot 100, including "Let Me Hold You" and "Like You", both of which cracked the top five. Debuting at #3 on the Billboard 200 and topping the Rap chart, the platinum selling album from the now adult Bow Wow featured appearances by Ciara, Snoop Dogg, Omarion, J-Kwon, and Jermaine Dupri.

### **Number 1's**

Number 1 single in 1978 - John Travolta & Olivia Newton-John - You're The One That I Want

Number 1 album in 1968 - The Small Faces - Ogden's Nut Gone Flake

Number 1 compilation album in 1990 - Deep Heat 7 - Seventh Heaven

### **Thirty-Three And One Third Revolutions Per Minute**

#### **The Jam – The Gift**

The Gift was the sixth and final studio album by the Jam. It was originally released on 12 March 1982 by Polydor as the follow-up to the Jam's critically and commercially successful 1980 album Sound Affects. The songs were largely recorded during 1981 to 1982, assisted by Peter Wilson, and is generally regarded as the culmination of the smoother sound of the band's later work. It was one of the band's most successful studio albums, reaching No. 1 in the UK Albums Chart.

The album moved away from the simple music of In the City and This Is the Modern World, and the more melodic All Mod Cons, Setting Sons and Sound Affects, to demonstrate Weller's love of northern soul. Funk bass lines and wah-wah guitar effects were often used throughout the album, along with jazz influences such as brass sections and saxophone solos (most notably on the track "Precious") and "Trans-Global Express" which was based on the Northern Soul funk hit "So Is The Sun" by World Column, lifting the chorus and rhythm line in their entirety from that song. Only two songs on the album exceed three and a half minutes.

The biggest hit of the album was "Town Called Malice". The song's title riffs on the novel "A Town Like Alice" whilst its lyrics lament disappearing aspects of stereotypical working-class life in Margaret Thatcher's Britain. The message is not altogether negative though and the song stands as a potent rallying call to roll with the changes. One of the quintessential "state of the nation" songs in the band's catalogue it is still frequently performed by Weller in concert as a rousing finale to the set. "Just Who Is the 5 O'clock Hero?", which was released as a 7" vinyl single in the Netherlands only, represents the efforts put in by 9-to-5 working men and women of Britain, who keep society running (and as such, are unsung heroes). Unlike the earlier song "Mr. Clean" from All Mod Cons, Weller does not mock the character, but rather praises him/her. However, the character from "Mr. Clean" represents a completely different strata of society, the executive/upper management types who would typically hound and otherwise make difficult the life of the character from "Just Who Is The 5 O'clock Hero?"

Weller's experimentation with several new musical styles on The Gift contributed to a distancing between him and the Jam's other band members, Bruce Foxton, and Rick Buckler, who were uneasy with the move away from Rock/Mod Revival style. Weller himself was also discontented with contractual obligations and had begun feeling as if he were simply writing songs to order. Nine months after the album's release, the band broke up, despite the LP reaching number one in the UK Album Chart upon release, during the band's 'Trans-Global Unity Express Tour' to promote the album.

The front cover of The Gift depicts the members of the band standing upon the roof of a building close to Oxford Street. The posture of each individual is intended to replicate his being poised to run. Each member of the band had known the photographs would be separately tinted in the colours of red, amber, and green with the intention being to replicate the three stages of traffic lights.

The original release of the album was on 12" vinyl, and initial copies came with a paper bag stating "The Jam... A Gift". These copies are increasingly difficult to find, especially in good condition. Other issues included the regular vinyl issue, the Japanese vinyl issue (with a bonus lyric book), the CD issue, the re-mastered issue, and a recently issued Japanese version in a mini-LP style sleeve.

The Gift spent 25 weeks on the UK album charts, rising to No. 1. In the U.S., the album spent 16 weeks on the Billboard 200 album charts and reached its peak position of No. 82 in May 1982.

#### **Track listing**

All songs by Paul Weller except where noted:

##### **Side 1**

1 - "Happy Together" – 2:51

2 - "Ghosts" – 2:11 - Covered once by Suran Song In Stag.



- 3 - "Precious" – 4:13 - First single from the album, officially released as a double A-side with "Precious", although this was very much considered as the B-Side. It got to Number 1 and spent three weeks there in a chart run of 9 weeks.
- 4 - "Just Who Is the 5 O'clock Hero?" – 2:15 - Second single from the album, it was a hit on import only, as it was released in various European countries, but not as an official UK release. Despite this, it reached number 8 in the UK charts and spent five weeks in the chart. The B-side had two non-album tracks - "War", and "The Great Depression".
- 5 - "Trans-Global Express" – 3:59 - Sampled "So Is The Sun" by World Column.

#### Side 2

- 1 - "Running on the Spot" – 3:06 - Sampled by The Sleaford Mods in "R&B Paul".
- 2 - "Circus" - (Bruce Foxtton) – 2:11 - Released as a single sided, mono, acetate by Trutone records in South Africa.
- 3 - "The Planner's Dream Goes Wrong" – 2:19
- 4 - "Carnation" – 3:28 - Was covered by Liam Gallagher and Steve Craddock in 1999.
- 5 - "Town Called Malice" – 2:55 - First single from the album, officially released as a double A-side with "Precious", although this is the track that got all the airplay. It got to Number 1 and spent three weeks there in an initial chart run of 9 weeks, it spent a further four weeks in the chart in 1983, and 1 week in the chart in 2012. Although never credited, the bassline was sampled from Martha Reeves and the Vandellas' "I'm Ready For Love". It has been sampled three times, and covered six times, including by McFly for the Radio 1 Established 1967 compilation.
- 6 - "The Gift" – 3:08 - covered once by Heavy Stereo.

#### Personnel

The Jam

Paul Weller – guitar, vocals, keyboards on "Town Called Malice", design, art direction.

Bruce Foxtton – bass

Rick Buckler – drums, percussion

with:

Pete Wilson – keyboards on "Trans-Global Express" and "The Gift"

Keith Thomas - saxophone

Steve Nichol – trumpet

Russ Henderson - steel drums

Technical

Brian Robson, David Woolley, Renate Blauel – engineer

Twink, Kevin Cummins - photography

#### Chart performance

Chart - Peak position

Australian - 23

UK - 1

US - 82

#### Top 10

The top ten in the UK singles chart on this day in 1959

Position	Last Week's Position	Title	Artist	Label	Peak Position	Weeks on Chart
1	1	DREAM LOVER	BOBBY DARIN	LONDON	1	7
2	3	A TEENAGER IN LOVE	MARTY WILDE	PHILIPS	2	6
3	4	BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS	LONNIE DONEGAN	PYE	3	3
4	2	ROULETTE	RUSS CONWAY	COLUMBIA	1	9
5	5	A FOOL SUCH AS I/I NEED YOUR LOVE TONIGHT	ELVIS PRESLEY	RCA	1	12
6	8	PETER GUNN	DUANE EDDY	LONDON	6	4
7	6	PERSONALITY	ANTHONY NEWLEY	DECCA	6	5
8	7	I'VE WAITED SO LONG	ANTHONY NEWLEY	DECCA	3	11
9	10	PERSONALITY	LLOYD PRICE	HMV	9	5
10	14	GOODBYE JIMMY GOODBYE	RUBY MURRAY	COLUMBIA	10	6

## A Single Life

### **The Style Council – A Solid Bond In Your Heart**

Paul Weller wrote this song in 1982 while a member of The Jam, with whom he recorded a demo version which was released in 1992 on Extras, a Jam compilation album. It had been earmarked to be The Jam's final single until the band decided to release Beat Surrender.

Instead, it became the fourth single released by The Style Council in 1983 and it reached number 11 in the UK singles chart and spending eight weeks on the chart.

It is easily my favourite track by The Style Council and was another of those singles I played to death. Back in the days when you could set up your own screen savers and have rolling text across the screen, it was the lyrics from the first verse to this song that I had rolling across my screen in yellow text on a black background. I also managed to get it in a cursive type script that almost matched the one used by the group on all their single and album releases.

The B-side contained a new track - "It Just Came To Pieces In My Hands" (an almost polar opposite from the upbeat A-Side), and an instrumental version of "A Solid Bond In Your Heart". The single release is unique in that it was the only Style Council single released on 7" only. All other singles have at least a 12" single release (others also had cassette single or even CD single releases).

The video featured Paul and Mick as mod scooter boys turning up to set up for a mobile DJ set in a village hall, and the whole vibe is that they are just enjoying themselves.

## Story Time

### King Of The Heap

His name was Angelo, and in reality, he was a bit part player in a poor excuse for an underworld scene in Hartford. But he had big dreams. He wanted to be the king of this disgusting little heap someday. He was a little sneak, and he planned on weaselling his way to the top.

Despite a low rank he really did know where all the bodies were buried, and he knew exactly who had done the burying. Not only that, but he knew everyone else's dirty little secrets. And he wasn't ashamed to use the knowledge to get what he wanted. He thought he was smart, and he always claimed to make sure that his latest blackmail victim knew that their secrets were ready to be flushed out into the open if ever any misfortune happened upon Angelo. And so, there were now a string of dangerous people who would go out of their way to make sure Angelo stayed alive.

Of course, as with all people, Angelo had his own dirty little secret. One that in normal society wouldn't have been an issue at all, but in the dirty macho world he moved in, it would mean ridicule and scorn, and maybe even death. He had a lover. Marco lived across the sound over on Long Island. Marco was the best-looking man Angelo had ever seen. He would have spent all his time with Marco if he hadn't been so obsessed with being the king of the cess pit back in Connecticut.

Alongside the blackmail, Angelo was showing an aptitude for foreseeing the future. He spooked his rivals and friends alike by telling them what their plans were with uncanny accuracy. He would also drop snippets into conversations that he could tell when and where others would be meeting, and what they would be doing at certain times in the future. When people checked out what he had predicted they found he was correct a hell of a lot more than he was wrong.

This spooky sense of premonition was making him a big name. Rivals for climbing up the greasy poll, and colleagues who weren't bothered were both in awe of what he could foresee. Yet, it was all fake; all he actually had was a skill in hacking into electronic devices. He had access to phones, e-mails, calendars, and could use any device a listening point to bug anyone he wanted to. The only thing he could foresee was that he would be the big man in control of it all, and in the not-too-distant future.

The only fly in the ointment was Don. Don was a career criminal and had been in and out of penitentiary more times than Angelo cared to remember. Angelo looked down his nose at Don as being a lower-level dumb criminal, anyone who got caught as many times as Don did was plainly stupid. Don looked down his nose at Angelo as being a soft criminal; one that hadn't earned his stripes by doing time as he thought he was too good to get his hands dirty.

Not only that, but no matter what pressure had been applied on Don whilst inside, he had never ratted anyone else out. Not one piece of information had been passed on about the organisation. Not a single trace of evidence every linked Don to any other criminal.

There was a good reason for that. Don was proper old school. He didn't believe in any of these modern devices, he saw them as an easy way to incriminate oneself and everyone else he knew. He had a good memory, so good that he didn't

even write anything down. Paper left a trail that could be followed. And as such it was impossible for Angelo to spy on Don in any of his usual ways, and there was nothing he could find to blackmail Don with. Don wasn't scared of Angelo and made it clear he thought Angelo was a bug that Don would squash one day.

Angelo knew he needed to deal with Don, and sooner rather than later, but he couldn't work out how short of killing the man himself. He didn't want to get his hands dirty doing the deed himself.

It came to a head in a way Angelo and Don weren't expecting. Angelo hadn't realised that Don was looking to rid himself of Angelo, and at the same time force out all the secrets of the others in the organisation that Angelo had been blackmailing. It would be a shortcut to the top for Don.

Don followed Angelo to Long Island. He laughed at the way Angelo swaggered about, not even thinking to look around or over his shoulder for anyone who might be following him. Such arrogance would be the undoing of him. Don watched Angelo enter a green clapboard house in a run-down neighbourhood. He had seen him kiss someone at the door but hadn't been close enough to make out who.

He waited half an hour to check they weren't going to go straight back out, and to get comfortable if they weren't. Then he slipped into the house through the back door. He found Angelo with his back to him, naked from the waist down pounding away at a man bent over the kitchen table in front of him. If Don were of the mind, he could have just taken a photograph and resorted to Angelo's tactics of blackmail. But he was more suited to direct action.

He started berating Angelo, calling him all the filthy names he could think of. His hesitation in killing Angelo cost Don his life. Angelo grabbed a knife from the table and turned and stabbed Don in the stomach with it. Surprised, Don dropped his gun as the knife went deep into his abdomen. Don's eyes widened even more as Marco straightened up from his position bent over the kitchen table. Don uttered two words as he slipped out of consciousness into death.

"Cousin Marco?"

Angelo couldn't believe what he had just heard and turned to Marco.

"Is that right, is Don your cousin?"

Marco nodded as he bent down to pick up the gun Don had dropped.

"Yes, Don is my cousin, one I never spoke about as he spent so much time inside. He was always good to me, didn't look down his nose at what I was, it was him that paid for this place. And you killed him."

Angelo went to say why only to be silenced permanently by a bullet between the eyes.

Marco knew enough to be able to dispose of the two bodies in a way no one would find them.

Within a week, Angelo's blackmail evidence started leaking out. Within a month there was no criminal organisation in Hartford worth the name.

## **World's Greatest Cathedrals Top Trumps**

<b><u>Seville Cathedral</u></b>	
City / Country	Seville, Spain
Height	104.6 metres
Commenced Building	1401
Character	14
Global Fame	78
Top Trumps Rating	72
Details	Seville's cathedral supplanted the Hagia Sophia as the world's largest church and remains the third largest church in the world to this day. Built on the site of the 12 <sup>th</sup> century Almohad mosque, the cathedral's 104.6-metre-high bell tower is actually a converted minaret and now a UNESCO world heritage site.

## Dilbert



## 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. Just in, hand sanitiser, 100ml bottles with printed logo on the bottle.

E-mail any ideas or suggestions to [kev@onetruekev.co.uk](mailto:kev@onetruekev.co.uk)

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