

# Flanagan's Running Club – Issue 52

## 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.

## Recent Publications

First up is one of my poems being published on the Mind website (mental health charity), which can be found at the link below. This was up before the last issue went out, but I've been waiting a while for them to update my name to the correct spelling. I'm not nylon.

<https://www.mind.org.uk/get-involved/mind-membership/members-content/members-poetry/>

The second one is another piece of mine that is currently on display in Crawley Museum as part of their "Diverse Crawley" exhibition which will be there until the end of November this year. The piece is also on the museum's website at the link below.

<https://crawleymuseums.org/a-crawley-impression/>

## On This Day – 12<sup>th</sup> October

1692 – The Salem witch trials are ended by a letter from Province of Massachusetts Bay Governor William Phips.

1748 – War of Jenkins' Ear: A British squadron wins a tactical victory over a Spanish squadron off Havana.

1773 – America's first insane asylum opens.

1810 – The citizens of Munich hold the first Oktoberfest.

1984 – The Provisional Irish Republican Army fail to assassinate Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and her cabinet. The bomb kills five people and wounds thirty-one.

Children's Day (Brazil)

Fiesta Nacional de España (Spain)

Freethought Day

International Day Against DRM

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

### **Nerina Shute, b. 1908, d. 2004**

Nerina Shute, who died aged ninety-six, wrote acerbic film reviews, risqué novels, histories, and memoirs of which none aroused greater interest than 'Passionate Friendships' (1992), a 'book of confessions' published when she was in her eighties.

Among other eye-popping revelations, Nerina Shute told how marriage to Howard Marshall, BBC Broadcaster, D-Day hero, Oxford rugby blue and author of a book about Scott of the Antarctic, hit the rocks after she confessed to having an affair with their French housekeeper. She also chronicled her twenty-two years of 'friendship, happiness, and love' with the doyenne of ballroom dancing, Phyllis Haylor.

Nerina Shute was born on 17 July 1908 in North Wales, where her parents had briefly repaired after her father lost all his money on the stock exchange, but she spent her early childhood in a house on Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, her father having inherited money from a relative.

Nerina Shute's mother, Renie, was a novelist and bohemian, and in 1920 abandoned her husband and baby son and took Nerina to Hollywood, having received an offer for one of her books.

There she bought a gold mine in which she lost what remained of the inheritance, created a scandal by embarking on an affair with a married man, then attempted suicide after her lover was killed in a motor accident.

Rapidly recovering from this tragedy, Renie then married a Hollywood actor, despite still being legally married (under English law) to Nerina's father, thus becoming, consciously or unconsciously, a bigamist. It was at this point that the eighteen-year-old Nerina decided to return to London, where her father (now living in Le Zoute, Belgium, a bolthole for impoverished gentry) had found her a job as a typist for the Times Book Club.

From this small beginning, Nerina Shute became a gossip columnist for Film Weekly, writing acerbic pen portraits of film stars and causing offence to a generation of British film personalities. E.A. Dupont, the director of Piccadilly, was so annoyed by the comments she made about him that he banned her from the studio floor. She sneaked back disguised as a rabbi.

By now Nerina Shute had become the 1920s equivalent of an 'It Girl', famous for her outspoken opinions, her passion for sexual politics and broad-brimmed black hats. She moved in bohemian circles and attended louche parties at the home of the playwright Aimee Stuart in Carlton House Terrace where 'we talked endlessly about free love and homosexuality.'

At the same time, she embarked upon her first novel, 'Another Man's Poison,' published in 1930 when she was twenty-two. This was, in effect, an apologia for her mother's life and was thus considered deeply shocking (by this time her mother was on her fourth husband; there would be two more).

Having taken up the cause of free love, Nerina embarked on an affair with 'Charles,' a playboy former doctor who had been struck off the medical register for performing an illegal abortion. Their 'trial marriage' soon came to an end. She found consolation in the arms of 'Josephine,' a monocle wearing Roman Catholic who took comfort from the fact that 'there's nothing in the Bible against lesbians.'

Their affair lasted until 1936, when Nerina, in a 'wild attempt to escape the homosexual world', married James Wentworth Day, a prominent High Tory journalist who regarded homosexuals as 'perverts'. Her marriage brought her a brief period of respectability. She went fox hunting and was photographed at Ascot in a huge hat; but she soon tired of married life and left her husband after a year.

By now Nerina Shute had become an agent for the beauty firm Max Factor in a Bond Street salon. After her marriage ended, she moved in with 'Helen and Andy,' a pair of professional women – respectively a dentist and a gynaecologist – who shared a house in Portland Place. Nerina and Helen soon became lovers.

In 1940, by which time she had returned to writing, Nerina Shute was invited to be interviewed on a radio programme by Howard Marshall, a BBC broadcaster and cricket commentator popularly known as the 'Voice of England' for his homely weekly programmes about cricket, fishing, home, or family.

Marshall was married with a wife and two sons sitting out the war in America, but he and Nerina began an affair. Marshall became chief war correspondent for the BBC, served in North Africa and accompanied the troops to France on D-Day, filing the first live radio report of the landings before chronicling the campaign in Normandy and the fall of Paris. They married in 1944 when Marshall was home on leave.

Nerina Shute did not tell her husband about her affairs with women, realising instinctively that he would be shocked. But if he were ignorant of this aspect of his wife's past, he could not have harboured any illusions about her morals. In 1945 she published 'We Mix Our Drinks', a selective account of her life in permissive pre-war London. The book (mysteriously dedicated to 'Three I Love') caused a stir in the more puritanical post-war atmosphere. Nerina's mother-in-law never recovered from the shock.

The Marshalls moved to Mayfair, but Nerina again soon found herself becoming bored with the restrictions of married life; her husband did not like parties, and she missed her old friends. Her gloom was lifted by the arrival of Renee, a young French housekeeper. The two women became close, and although Nerina regarded their relationship as akin to that between mother and daughter, it soon became obvious that there was more to it. One day, Renee approached her mistress, duster in hand: "'Madame, j'envie de faire l'amour.'" The next minute she was in my arms.'

But the sudden deepening of their relationship seemed to bring about a crisis in Renee's life. She became emotionally unstable; there were fits of temper, and she began to imagine that Marshall was trying to poison her. After being incarcerated for a time in a mental institution at Epsom, Renee returned to France.

Her lover's departure plunged Nerina into a deep depression from which her husband, ignorant of its cause, was unable to rescue her. It was Nerina who brought matters to a head. On New Year's Eve 1953, in the course of a violent row, she told her husband about her love for Renee. 'You have been unfaithful to me. I can never forgive you,' said Marshall. 'But I haven't been unfaithful,' Nerina protested. 'Loving a woman is quite different from loving a man.' But Marshall could not understand. The marriage was over.

Nerina returned to her mother, by now living in a house near Horsham with her sixth husband, Noel Sparrow. Just before her mother's death in 1958, Nerina decided to take up ballroom dancing and joined a dance club. Before long she had

met and fallen in love with Phyllis Haylor, a well-known figure in the ballroom dancing world. After selling the house at Horsham, Nerina moved to live nearer Phyllis in London, where Nerina found work as a secretary at a hostel for unmarried mothers and later as a voluntary social worker with the Samaritans.

In 1967, she and Phyllis bought a cottage together in Hertfordshire and eventually lived together in London. 'I had never been so happy in all my life.' Nerina recalled. Their relationship lasted until Phyllis's death in 1981.

### **Births**

1875 – Aleister Crowley  
1935 – Luciano Pavarotti  
1944 – Angela Rippon  
1968 – Hugh Jackman  
1983 – Katie Piper

### **Deaths**

1845 – Elizabeth Fry  
1915 – Edith Cavell  
1996 – René Lacoste  
1999 – Wilt Chamberlain

## **#vss365**

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

He hurt all over. He'd had fights before, but he had never been giving such a good #kicking as the one he'd just had. He'd no idea what prompted the other bloke to lay into him, but it had been a sustained attack.

His twin rang, "Just found out Kate's husband is a boxer."

#vss365

## **Joke**

A man stopped at his favourite watering hole after a hard day's work to relax. He noticed a man next to him ordered a shot and a beer. The man drank the shot, chased it with the beer and then looked into his shirt pocket. This continued several times before the man's curiosity got the better of him. He leaned over to the guy and said, "Excuse me, I couldn't help but notice your little ritual, why in the world do you look into your shirt pocket every time you drink your shot and beer?" the man replied, "There's a picture of my wife in there, and when she starts looking goof, I'm heading home."

## **Drabble**

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

### **Betrayal**

The knights were being careful. They were watching out for an attack. It felt like an ambush spot to them. If one of their swords scraped the stone of the tunnel they were in, it would spark and ignite the gas that was down here.

They could only move slowly and in single file, it wouldn't take much to box them in, yet it was the only way they had left to them.

They needn't have worried about a spark or an enemy; one of their own, Garrimore, waited until they were all inside and threw in a flaming torch.

## Random Items

### Facts

The Eisenhower interstate system requires that one mile in every five must be straight. These straight sections are usable as airstrips in times of war or other emergencies.

A donkey will sink in quicksand, but a mule won't

The average garden variety caterpillar has 248 muscles in its head

### Thoughts

Why does time at work go so slowly and free time fly by?

Why when the prize is a year's supply of lager are you given 365 cans, who only drinks one a day?

Why are kids the only ones that can open items with childproof lids?

### Never Eat Shredded Wheat

Weird Ways to Remember Things.

Vowels

If you need to remember the five vowels in the alphabet, think of the following sentence:  
Angry Elephants In Orange Underpants.

### Savoir Faire

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

**Kaftan** \ kaf-tan \ (Turkish)

A long, belted tunic worn by men in the near east.

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

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

### **Buttock**

A farm and adjacent plantation, known as Buttock Plantation, nestling in the lee of Pendle Hill. Famous as the site of the 17<sup>th</sup> century witch trials, Pendle Hill is worth visiting for the scenery alone, in the delightful Forest of Bowland AONB.

### Brewers Britain & Ireland

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

### **Ely**

"District where eels can be found." Old English, oel or el – 'eel' + ge 'district.' (In the eighth century the Venerable Bede recorded that Ely was named after the large number of eels in the surrounding area.)

A cathedral city in Cambridgeshire, on the Great Ouse, about fifteen miles northeast of Cambridge. It grew up on an area of raised ground amid the surrounding fens. St Etheldreda founded an abbey here in 670. The building of the present Ely Cathedral began in the late 11<sup>th</sup> century, but many parts of it are from a considerably later period, notably the extraordinary octagon, an eight-sided crossing tower topped by a wooden lantern (a glazed structure), which was added in the first half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Ely's splendid isolation ended in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, when its fenland moat was drained (the land now supports agriculture, notably the growing of sugar beet), but from a distance across the level landscape, or even suddenly glimpsed from closer to, the sight of its cathedral like a great ship on an empty ocean can still take the breath away.

The great English polyphonist Christopher Tye (c1500 -73), an innovator in the 16<sup>th</sup> century change of musical and liturgical styles from Roman to Anglican, was appointed choirmaster at Ely Cathedral in 1541 or 1542. King's School Ely was founded in 1543.

There are towns called Ely in the USA (Iowa, Minnesota, Nevada).

The Ely Coucher Book, a survey of the Bishop of Ely's lands, commissioned by Bishop Hugo de Northwold in 1251, contained detailed descriptions of landed estates, types of land, field names, woods, and meadows.

Isle of Ely. Originally the raised rocky 'island' among the fens on which Ely and its Cathedral were built. It is seven miles long and four miles wide. The only means of access through the surrounding marshes and meres was by boat or causeway. It serves as a place of refuge, and Hereward the Wake hid out here during his campaign against the Normans in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. The name later came to be applied to a much larger area of East Anglia, and administrative unit with Ely as its chief town. It shared boundaries with Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Holland, and the Soke of Peterborough, and its other main town was March. It was absorbed into Cambridgeshire in 1965.

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.

### **The Pirate Party**

Bert looked at the damn hat on the table in his dining room. How the hell had he managed to get hoodwinked into having to go to a pirate party. It must have been one of his hungover mornings when his haughty halfwit of a sister Hilda had harangued him into agreeing to go to her son Henry's thirtieth birthday hoo-ha.

He hadn't managed to find an excuse quickly enough and had found himself having to buy pirate paraphernalia. Seriously, what kind of half-witted, ham-fisted human has a pirate party for their thirtieth birthday? It's the kind of thing any self-respecting child would have grown out of by the time they were halfway through their teens.

However here he was having hundredth thoughts about having to go to Hull and horrible Henry's "Happy Thirtieth party." He cursed Hilda to hell. He put the damn hat on his head and glared at himself in the mirror in the hall. He hated how it looked on his head, and the elastic on the inside of the hat hurt his head and pinched at the remaining hair just above his ears.

He took the hat back off and stuffed it into his holdall and headed for the door. He left his house and headed to Hammersmith tube station. He'd get the Hammersmith and City line to King's Cross before getting the half past twelve train to Hull.

He had read over a hundred pages of his current book whilst on the train. The Haunting of Hill House wasn't James Herbert's greatest effort, but he knew it was better than Henry's hoedown was going to be.

He got off the train and headed out of the station, down the hill into downtown Hull. People weren't joking when they compared it to Hell. He hailed a cab and headed to his hotel. He had had the chance to stay at Henry's house, but he hadn't wanted to spend any more time that was entirely necessary with his horrible family in their home, so he had booked into the Holiday Inn Express.

He arrived at the party and put his hat on before entering. He looked around in horror. Half a dozen other men were wearing the exact same hat. It looked horrendous on them, so he had no doubt he looked just as horrid. It was confirmed when Henry's eldest daughter came up to him and said, "Uncle Herbert, you look like a hippo wearing a hat."

He wondered if anyone would notice if he had Harriet hog tied and hidden in a hundred feet deep hole.

## **Leicestershire**

### **River Eye / River Wreake**

The River Eye is a river in north-eastern Leicestershire that becomes the Wreake. The River Wreake is a river in Leicestershire, England. It is a tributary of the River Soar. The river between Stapleford Park and Melton Mowbray is known as the River Eye and becomes the Wreake below Melton Mowbray.

The Eye rises at Bescaby, about six miles (10 km) north-east of Melton Mowbray. It flows east towards Saltby, where it turns south and flows past Sproxton, Coston and Garthorpe. At Saxby it turns west and flows by Stapleford, Freeby,

Wyfordby, Brentingby and Thorpe Arnold. At Swan's Nest it enters Melton Mowbray, where it flows under bridges at Burton Road and Leicester Road. It then passes Sysonby, where, at Sysonby Lodge it changes its name to the River Wreake, which flows into the River Soar. Its full journey is about thirteen miles (21 km).

It flows southwest, passing through Melton Mowbray, Asfordby, Frisby on the Wreake, Brooksby, Thrussington and Ratcliffe on the Wreake, before meeting the Soar near Syston. In its upper reaches it is called the River Eye and it becomes the Wreake below Melton Mowbray, near Sysonby Lodge.

The river is neither wide nor fast flowing, although it does flood periodically. It drifts through the gentle rolling countryside of north-east Leicestershire by fields bounded by hawthorn hedges. There is very little woodland in the area, what's there is largely man-made in the form of fox coverts. Farming in the district is largely pastoral, with the grassland given over to sheep and cows, the traditional beasts of local agriculture. Stilton and Red Leicester cheeses originally came from the village and farm dairies in the Eye basin.

The name Eye comes from the Old English *ēa*, meaning "the river". It probably had an older, pre-historic name that has now been lost. However, Wreake is Danish in origin, meaning the twisting or meandering one.

The river has been the centre of human activity for many centuries. To its north-east, at Saltby Heath, are King Lud's Entrenchments, which may date from prehistoric times, although historians' debate this. It may be significant that the Entrenchments lie just inside the county boundary with Lincolnshire, which may have been a territorial frontier. The county boundary follows the watershed between the River Eye and River Witham and is marked by the ancient route way from south-east England to the north, known as Sewstern Lane or The Drift.

About six miles south of the river at Melton Mowbray lie the impressive remains of an Iron Age hill fort at Burrough Hill. It is suggested that this may have been the tribal centre for the Corieltauvi people who lived in the East Midland counties of Leicester, Lincoln, Nottingham, and Rutland. There is a presumed prehistoric trackway from Burrough Hill northward towards Melton Mowbray, where it crosses the River Eye and heads north towards the Vale of Belvoir. In Roman times the tribal centre was moved to Leicester, which the Romans named Ratis (or Ratae) Corieltauorum.

Nine of the villages bordering the river have Danish names. The rest are Saxon. It is likely that these incomers used the river to reach their new homes. All these villages are likely to have been sited on dry ground close to a good source of water. The River Eye provided this source. Stapleford means 'the ford (over the River Eye) marked by posts' and indicates that the lanes around the Eye were in use twelve hundred years or so ago.

Melton Mowbray appears to have become the Eye basin's trading centre in Saxon times. Its market probably pre-dates the Norman Conquest and is one of the few in England listed in the Domesday Book (1085). Melton continued as the main trading centre in the area throughout medieval times, up to the present day.

The Eye valley was used by the Oakham Canal when it was built early in the nineteenth century. The stretch of the river from Stapleford to Sysonby (about six miles, 10 km) was canalised. There are a few sparse remains of the canal, although the river has largely reverted to its natural state. In 1844 the Midland Railway built the Syston and Peterborough Railway alongside the canal. It had to buy out the canal company as part of the agreement to build the railway. The Midland Railway allowed the canal to fall into disrepair because it was the major competitor to its new route.

Today, the River Eye is a relatively unknown part of the English landscape. Like many rivers it has a long history, much of it unwritten. It is still vital as a water source and drainage route and has a leisure focus for fishermen and those who walk the rights of way that criss-cross its route. The Eye has given its name to the UK's first community radio station 103 The Eye which has been broadcasting to Melton Mowbray and Vale of Belvoir since 2005.

The name Wreake was given by the Danish invaders of Leicestershire, who probably navigated the River Trent, then the River Soar and finally into the Wreake as they entered the district. Their word Wreake indicated that the river followed a tortuous, twisting and turning course.

The river was canalised in the late 18th century, though after the building of the Syston and Peterborough railway in the mid-19th Century, the canal was disused and fell into ruin. Many of the diversions made to the river in order to make the canal navigable are still visible, especially in the neighbourhood of Hoby, Rotherby, Frisby on the Wreake, Kirby Bellars and Asfordby.

The Wreake is graded by the Environment Agency as "B" quality, which is excellent for a Midlands river. Biotic index surveys report mayfly and stonefly nymphs, caddis fly larvae, dragonfly and damselfly nymphs and crayfish. Among the fish are Perch, Chubb, Pike, Minnows, Miller's Thumb, and Trout. Otters are starting to repopulate the Wreake in its quieter stretches.

## St. Peter's Redmile



St Peter's Church dates from the 13th century: the earliest references are to an earlier building, to whose parish the prior of Belvoir Priory was patron in 1155 and whose first rector was installed in 1220. The parish is now served by the Vale of Belvoir Team. Three late 17th-century gravestones in the churchyard, also listed, exemplify a local type known as "Belvoir Angels", made of Swithland slate. One is dated 1690, making it the oldest such stone in the Vale (of Belvoir). It is a Listed Building grade II\*. List Entry Number: 1075013

The Parish church has thirteenth century fabric with a fourteenth century tower and chancel. It has fifteenth and nineteenth century re-modelling throughout. The south aisle roof was re-covered in felt during the 1980s; however, by 2011 the covering had reached the end of its life. A National Lottery Heritage Fund grant was awarded in December 2011 for urgent works, and these were completed in summer 2013. Internally there are substantial full height vertical cracks in the masonry at the west end of the north nave and south clerestory wall. These are thought to be stable, but an external crack has re-opened. Further investigation is required.



The octagonal crocketed spire tops the square tower and is constructed of a dressed grey stone, the tower being of local ironstone. John Outram (age 22), the vicar's son and a sailor, no doubt found the crockets useful when, in 1887, on the occasion of Queen Victoria's Jubilee, he climbed the spire and tied a hanky around the stem of the cockerel (and came down safely!). The cockerel, 150 feet above the ground, is a reminder that St. Peter denied Christ before the cock crowed. Cockerels were often used as weathervanes due to a belief that the creature was feared by the Devil and were placed at the highest point of a sacred building. Around the tower there are several gargoyles or waterspouts, a decorative device to send rainwater clear of the building.

The tower has three bells; Treble - 1613, approx. 6cwts, inscribed "God save his church 1613": Second - 1841, approx. 7.5cwts., inscribed "O LORD SAVE THY PEOPLE MDCCCXLI": Tenor - 1770, approx. 10cwts, inscribed "Robert Hand Churchwarden Tho.Hedderley founder 1770". Thomas Hedderley, bell founder of Nottingham also worked at Wymeswold in 1742; Hucknall (Notts) 1749, Ashford in the Water (Derbys) Shelford (Notts) 1754 and East Norton 1779. The wooden frame is thought to date from the 17th century with evidence of an earlier frame. This equates with the comment in North re two bells and a Sanctus bell being in the tower in the sixth year of Edward VI's reign, i.e., 1553. When the bells are rung together it is called 'firing the bells'. They were rung in times of disaster but were not rung at all for 5 years during the 2nd World War as arrangements were made to ring bells only if the enemy actually landed in England. The bells are now unringable but, were chimed for services within living memory.

The clock in the tower was placed there by public subscription on the occasion of the coronation of Edward VII but delay in accumulating the £65 needed, meant it was finally installed in 1907. It was supplied and is marked 'G&F Cope (W. Cope) makers of Nottingham, 1907'. Inscribed on the count wheel are the names: Rev.F.T. Hetling M.A. Rector: D.S. Carlile & Wm. Mackley churchwardens: J.J. Bird treasurer. We know, from a number of sources, that this clock replaced an earlier clock (see 1900 Kelly's Directory of Leicestershire and Rutland) but unfortunately have no details about it. The clock strikes the hour on the tenor bell. It is still hand wound and due to the insertion of a new ceiling the weights are unable to travel the original distance and now it needs winding every five days. The single dial on the south face of the tower is of cast iron and painted blue with gold numerals it was last painted for the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

The organ - was installed in 1870 by Foster & Andrews of Hull, at a cost of £120. Behind the organ is the vestry, a later Victorian addition. It was used as a Sunday school and there are still old pegs with names attached where the choir and clergy hung their clothes. There are several memorial tablets on the walls.

There is a blocked doorway on the North side, but this could be a 'mock' doorway, built to allow 'the devil to leave' as, by tradition he was reputed to leave by a north door. The outside face of this contains a stone mantelpiece, possibly from the house mentioned in an inventory of 1352, of William de Ros who held a manor house with chapel - probably 'All Hallows' site. On the window ledge of the south - east window can be seen signs of a carved 'Nine Man's Morris' game. This may be a relic from the days when the local boys were taught here - in 1626 the curate taught, in 1635 there was a master.

There is a memorial by William King to his first wife in the chancel - The 4th Duke of Rutland died in 1787 but his Agent, William King, exerted a notable influence during the minority of John, 5th Duke of Rutland, until 1801 and actively encouraged efforts towards the realisation of the Grantham to Nottingham canal. This was fortunate for without his support it is doubtful if the canal would have been built at all.

Reverend Thomas Daffy Vicar of Redmile 1666 - 1680 inventor of Daffy's 'elixir salutis,' A Saxon coffin lid, located near the pulpit, was found when the railway was constructed in the 1870's. The railway construction partially destroyed the 'All Hallows' site. Bones collected at the time were re-buried in the churchyard.

In 1827 the church was re-pewed with box pews, but these were removed in the 1880's

The chancel window was installed in 1859

### **South Croxton**

South Croxton is a village and civil parish in the Charnwood district of Leicestershire, England. It had a population of 261 in the 2011 census. Nearby places are Beeby, Barsby and Twyford.

The Parish Council holds open meetings on the first Monday of each month in the Village Hall. The Village Hall Committee meets there on the second Thursday of the month. A programme of improvements to the hall begun in 2007 continues. The Golden Fleece reopened in 2008 as a pub/restaurant. The village also has riding stables in Three Turns Lane, a Women's Institute that meets monthly, and a Wednesday Luncheon Club meeting every other month.

The recorded population of South Croxton in the last two centuries varied between a high of 324 in 1851 and to a low of 153 in 1951. It was 234 at the time of the 2001 census and 261 ten years later. The highest point is the church, at 120 m above mean sea level. The lowest altitude is 85 m by the Queniborough Brook. The moated area to the north of the church formed part of a medieval manor enclosure and has yielded Saxon remains. Signs of medieval ridge-and-furrow field patterns can be seen to the north of the moated area.

The Grade II\* listed Church of St John's and four farmhouses in the parish (Bell Dip, Hill Top, North Manor, South Manor) are listed historic buildings. The village was designated as a Conservation Area in 1975 for its special architectural and historic interest. It has ninety houses, a 14th-century church, a pub (the Golden Fleece) and a village hall, formerly the local school. A considerable number of unlisted buildings are also of architectural interest, having "survived relatively unchanged over the last hundred years." Some are still roofed in slate that was quarried at nearby Swithland, some later ones in Welsh slate.



As a community South Croxton antedates Domesday (where it is referred to as Crochestone) and probably the coming of the Danes. It appears as "Sudcroxtun" in the Coroner's Rolls (county records) of 1212. There were two manors known as Nether End and Upper End, divided by the Queniborough brook. These were enclosed in 1757 and 1794, respectively. There was a short-lived frame knitting industry in the village in the first half of the 19th century. The group of older houses down School Lane once formed a separate hamlet called West Thorpe. Since the 1960s, the character of South Croxton has largely changed from a farming community into a dormitory suburb for Leicester.

In 2000, a grant was obtained to clean up the Queniborough Brook at the bridge and to provide seating there and at the top of the hill. Halfway up the hill, a little obelisk made of tiles produced by local children was placed to mark the Golden Jubilee of Elizabeth II in 2002. There is a public footpath from Lowesby past the deserted medieval village of Baggrave to South Croxton. This passes the mid-18th century Baggrave Hall, which was badly damaged by developers in 1988–89 and then abandoned. There is also a public footpath following the brook to the village of Queniborough.

The Anglican church of St John the Baptist is the only place of worship in the village, although there was at one time a Methodist congregation. The Anglican parish is united with All Saints', Beeby. It forms part of the South West Framland Cluster of Parishes. The church is built in the late decorated style, of local honey-coloured Waltham ironstone and dates mainly from the early 14th century, when it replaced an earlier stone building probably from the Saxon period. However, the Romanesque font of the earlier church remains. The south aisle and the roof were built a hundred years later. The bells, cast in 1636, remain in the tower, but unhung. Extensive repairs had to be made in 1925 due to subsidence. A 15th-century oak roof corbel from the church is displayed at the Charnwood Museum in Loughborough.

"CROXTON (South), a parish in Barrow-upon-Soar district, Leicester; on an affluent of the river Wreak, four miles SSE of Brooksby r. station, and 7 SW of Melton-Mowbray. It has a post office, of the name of Croxton, under Leicester. Acres, 1,760. Real property, £2,535. Pop., 311. Houses, 68. The property is subdivided. The living is a rectory in the diocese of Peterborough. Value, £130. Patron, the Duke of Rutland. The church is old but good; and comprises nave, aisles, chancel, and steeple. Charities, £32 and four cottages." John Marius Wilson's "Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales." 1870-72

## Top Ten

The ten tallest Cathedrals in the world, those in red were the tallest buildings in the world when they were completed.

	Cathedral Name	City	Country	Height	Year Finished
<b>1</b>	<b>Ulm Minster</b>	<b>Ulm</b>	<b>Germany</b>	<b>530 ft</b>	<b>1890</b>
2	Our Lady of Peace Basilica	Yamoussoukro	Côte d'Ivoire	518 ft	1989
<b>3</b>	<b>Cologne Cathedral</b>	<b>Cologne</b>	<b>Germany</b>	<b>516 ft</b>	<b>1880</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Rouen Cathedral</b>	<b>Rouen</b>	<b>France</b>	<b>495 ft</b>	<b>1876</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>St. Nikolai, Hamburg</b>	<b>Hamburg</b>	<b>Germany</b>	<b>483 ft</b>	<b>1874</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Strasbourg Cathedral</b>	<b>Strasbourg</b>	<b>France</b>	<b>466 ft</b>	<b>1439</b>
7	Basilica of Our Lady of Licheń	Stary Licheń	Poland	464 ft	2000
8	St. Peter's Basilica	Vatican City	Vatican City	458 ft	1626
<b>9</b>	<b>St. Stephen's Cathedral</b>	<b>Vienna</b>	<b>Austria</b>	<b>449 ft</b>	<b>1433</b>
10	New Cathedral, Linz	Linz	Austria	440 ft	1924

## Poetry Corner

### The Four Little Circles Of The Apocalypse

In the Bible in the book of Revelations the subject of the Four Horsemen of the apocalypse is raised. Of course, at the time horses would have been the mode of transport of choice to discerning devils. But times have changed and now most transport is motorised, and the evils of the world are on the roads. And the names of those former horsemen will have changed to their on-road misbehaving habits now.

These devils on wheels have no imagination and so flock together in the same make of transport. They choose the very same make across all four new horsemen to show they are linked and from hell. And behold, they are now the Four Little Circles of the Apocalypse, believing they own the road in their Audis.

Little Circle number one is the Tailgater who will ride in the boot of your car rather than giving you space. The second Little Circle is the Cutter, the one who will sweep across in front of you, so you have to brake.

Up next, the third Little Circle is the Non-Indicator, the one who confounds and confuses you at every turn. Finally, the last Little Circle is the Speeder, who zooms past with no thought for you or anyone else alive.

These four little circles on the front or back of any car serve as a warning to the rest of mankind. Stay away from these devils that ride in their four circled chariots, they are here to claim your death. They won't care or even think about you, because there are no human brains inside their heads. So, if you see those four circles then it's time to say your prayers and hope you don't end up dead.

## **Musical Madness**

### **This Day In Music**

Born  
1935 – Luciano Pavarotti  
1948 – Rick Parfitt  
Died  
1971 – Gene Vincent  
1997 – John Denver  
Event  
1999 – Six stamps honouring the Bee Gees were issued by the island of their birth – The Isle of Man. Their mother had run a local post office on the island

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

**1993 – Salt-N-Pepa release their fourth album 'Very Necessary' on Next Plateau.**

Produced by Hurby 'Luv Bug' Azor and Salt, the multi-platinum juggernaut from the all-female rap crew spent eight nine weeks on the Billboard 200 peaking at #4 and went to #6 on the R&B chart.

Sales were driven by the dance orientated and sexy singles, including "" Shoop," which reached #4 on the Billboard Hot 100, and "Whatta Man", which featured En Vogue and peaked at #3. "None of Your Business" #32 on the Billboard Hot 100, won the Grammy for best rap performance.

### **Number 1's**

Number 1 single in 1987 - M/A/R/R/S - Pump Up The Volume  
Number 1 album in 1977 - The Supremes - 20 Golden Greats  
Number 1 compilation album in 2001 - Hits 50

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

#### **Pet Shop Boys - Actually**

Actually (stylised as Pet Shop Boys, actually.) is the second studio album by English synth-pop duo Pet Shop Boys. It was released on 7 September 1987 by Parlophone in the United Kingdom and by EMI Manhattan in the United States and Canada. It is featured in the 2005 musical reference book 1001 Albums You Must Hear Before You Die, and in 2006 Q magazine placed the album at number 22 in its list of the "40 Best Albums of the '80s". In 2012, Slant Magazine listed the album at number 88 on its list of "Best Albums of the 1980s". In 2020, Rolling Stone placed it at No. 435 in its list of the five hundred Greatest Albums of All Time.

Actually was released on 7 September 1987 by Parlophone in the United Kingdom and by EMI Manhattan in the United States and Canada. In television commercials for the release, Lowe and Tennant were shown in black tie, blank-faced against a white background. The former seems unimpressed by a radio DJ-style Alan 'Fluff' Freeman voiceover listing their previous hits and the new LP's singles, while the latter eventually "gets bored" and yawns, with the image then freezing to create, roughly, the album's cover shot. It reached number 2 in the UK charts and spent 60 weeks on the chart, and a 2018 reissue spent another week on the chart.

Actually spawned four UK top 10 singles: the number-one single "It's a Sin", "Rent", "What Have I Done to Deserve This?"—a duet with fellow Parlophone artist Dusty Springfield which peaked at number two in both the UK and US and led to a resurgence of interest in Springfield's earlier work—and another UK number one in April 1988 with a remixed version of the song "Heart". During this period Pet Shop Boys also completed a full-length motion picture called It Couldn't Happen Here. Featuring songs by the duo, it was most famous for containing the video for "Always on My Mind" (starring Joss Ackland as a blind priest), which—while not on Actually was released as a single during this period.

## Track listing

All tracks are written by Pet Shop Boys (Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe), except as noted.

### Side A

No. - Title - Writer(s) - Length

1. - "One More Chance" - Tennant, Lowe, Bobby Orlando - 5:30. Was released as a single in 1984 on ZYX Records, re-released as a double A-side with West End Girls in 1985, and re-released again in 1986, but didn't chart at all. Covered once.

2. - "What Have I Done to Deserve This?" (with Dusty Springfield) - Lowe, Tennant, Allee Willis - 4:18. Third single from the album, it reached number two in the UK charts and spent nine weeks on the chart in total. The B-Side was a non-album track - "A New Life". Sampled twice and covered twice.

3. - "Shopping" - 3:37. Although not released as a single, the track "Shopping" is frequently featured as background music in British television news and current affairs programmes dealing with retail business issues and as bumper music on home shopping shows. This is despite the fact that the song is actually a critique of privatisation in 1980s Britain and has little to do with actual shopping. It was also used in a season 1 episode of the Disney Channel television series Lizzie McGuire. Covered once.

4. - "Rent" - 5:08. Fourth single from the album, it reached number eight in the UK charts and spent ten weeks on the chart in total. The B-Side was "I Want A Dog", later featured on their "Introspective" album. Sampled once and covered twelve times.

5. - "Hit Music" - 4:44

### Side B

No. - Title            Writer(s)            Length

1. - "It Couldn't Happen Here" - Tennant, Ennio Morricone, Lowe - 5:20

2. - "It's a Sin" - 4:59. Second single from the album (but first proper release from the album as "One More Chance" was originally released three years prior to the album release), it spent three weeks at number one and eleven weeks on the chart in total. The B-Side was a non-album track - "You Know Where You Went Wrong". Samples Jack King's spoken word "3 Minutes 45 Seconds and Counting". Has been sampled twice and covered thirty-one times.

3. - "I Want to Wake Up" - 5:08. Was released as a single sided acetate promo. Covered twice.

4. - "Heart" - 3:58. Fifth single from the album, it spent three weeks at number one and ten weeks on the chart in total. Between the release of "Rent" and this as singles, "Always On My Mind" was released and was the Christmas number one. The B-side was a non-album track - "I Get Excited (You Get Excited Too)". Sampled four times and covered twice.

5. - "King's Cross" - 5:10. Has been covered twice.

## Personnel

Neil Tennant – co-production on tracks B1, B3 and B4

Chris Lowe – co-production on tracks B1, B3 and B4

Andy Richards – Fairlight CMI and keyboard programming on tracks 1, 4, 5, 7 and 9

Dusty Springfield – guest vocals on track 2

J. J. Jeczalik – Fairlight CMI programming on track 3

Gary Maughan – additional programming on track 3

Angelo Badalamenti – orchestra arrangement on track 6

Blue Weaver – Fairlight CMI programming on track 6

Adrian Cook – programming on track 8

Julian Mendelsohn – production on tracks A1, A3 to A5 and B2

Stephen Hague - production on tracks A2 and B5

David Jacob - co-production on track B1

Shep Pettibone - co-production on track B3

Andy Richards - co-production on track B4

## Charts

Chart - Peak position

Australian Albums - 16

Austrian Albums - 5

Canada Top Albums/CDs - 16

Dutch Albums - 5

European Albums - 4

Finnish Albums - 1

French Albums - 19

German Albums - 2

New Zealand Albums - 7

Norwegian Albums - 3

Spanish Albums - 2

Swedish Albums - 2

Swiss Albums - 3

UK Albums - 2

US Billboard - 25

## Certifications

Region - Certification - Certified units/sales

Austria - Gold - 25,000

Brazil - 160,000

Canada - Platinum - 100,000

Finland - Platinum - 68,416

Germany - Platinum - 500,000

Hong Kong - Platinum - 20,000

New Zealand - Platinum - 15,000

Spain - Platinum - 100,000

Sweden - Gold - 50,000

Switzerland - Platinum - 50,000

United Kingdom - 3x Platinum - 900,000

United States - Gold - 500,000

## Top 10

The top ten in the UK singles chart on this day in 1995

Position	Last Week's Position	Title	Artist	Label	Peak Position	Weeks on Chart
1	1	FAIRGROUND	SIMPLY RED	EAST WEST	1	3
2	2	MIS-SHAPES/SORTED FOR E'S & WIZZ	PULP	ISLAND	2	2
3	3	BOOMBASTIC	SHAGGY	VIRGIN	1	4
4	5	WHO THE F**K IS ALICE?	SMOKIE FT ROY CHUBBY BROWN	N.O.W.	4	15
5	4	YOU ARE NOT ALONE	MICHAEL JACKSON	MJJ	1	7
6	6	FANTASY	MARIAH CAREY	COLUMBIA	4	4
7	New	WHEN LOVE & HATE COLLIDE	DEF LEPPARD	BLUDGEON RIFFOLA	7	1
8	12	LIGHT OF MY LIFE	LOUISE	EMI	8	2
9	9	STAYIN' ALIVE	N-TRANCE FT RICARDO DA FORCE	ALL AROUND THE WORLD	2	5
10	11	I'LL BE THERE FOR YOU	REMBRANDTS	ELEKTRA	3	7

## A Single Life

### Queens Of The Stone Age – No One Knows

With its great video, this was one of the house favourites from Chez Didsbury when it came out. I had the CD single, and this song acted as my alarm clock wake up for nearly two years. And despite that Groundhog Day effect, I still love the track.

"No One Knows" was a song by Queens of the Stone Age written by band members Josh Homme and Mark Lanegan. It was the first single and second track from their third album, Songs for the Deaf, and was released on November 26, 2002. "No One Knows" was a chart success, becoming the band's only single to top the US Alternative charts. The song was also critically acclaimed, receiving a nomination for Best Hard Rock Performance at the 2003 Grammy Awards.

Recording for Songs for the Deaf began in March 2002 at three studios across California. Though the liner notes credit Homme and Eric Valentine with producing the majority of the album – including "No One Knows" – Homme credits Valentine with merely recording the beginning of the album for contractual reasons. "No One Knows" has received critical acclaim from critics. In The Guardian review of Songs for the Deaf, Dave Simpson said "'No One Knows' has killer riffs to spare". Playloder were similarly enthused, calling the song "soulful, like the last gasp of the hero in an old western". Eric Carr of Pitchfork Media called it an "easy groove" and "four-to-the-floor slime of the highest quality".

"No One Knows" was awarded the number one position on Australian national radio station Triple J's annual Hottest 100 2002, with four other Queens of the Stone Age tracks also charting. The March 2005 edition of Q magazine placed it at number 70 in its list of the one hundred Greatest Guitar Tracks. In September 2006, it was placed at number 13 on

NME's list of the 50 Greatest Tracks Of The Decade. Rolling Stone placed "No One Knows" at number 97 on their list of the one hundred Greatest Guitar Songs of All Time.

"No One Knows" was nominated for Best Hard Rock Performance at the 2003 Grammys and was the band's first, but they lost the award to Foo Fighters for "All My Life", which was also credited to Dave Grohl who was filling in as the drummer for Queens of the Stone Age.

"No One Knows" was released as a single on November 26, 2002, and became the most successful single from Songs for the Deaf. The song's peak placings of number one, number five, and number 51 on the US Modern Rock, US Mainstream Rock (where it lasted for twenty-eight weeks) and the Billboard Hot 100 charts respectively remain the highest of the band's career. "No One Knows" is also the band's highest charting single on the Dutch Singles Chart (where it reached number 39) and on the Irish Singles Chart, (where it peaked at number 26). It reached number 15 on the UK Singles Chart and stayed on the chart for 8 weeks.

The music video for "No One Knows" was directed by Dean Karr and Michel Gondry; Gondry filmed the first half in June with Karr taking over in July. Josh Homme has said Gondry was chosen because he "did all those videos for Björk and we're huge fans of Björk, so we're excited". The video is split into two sections and switches between them throughout. The first has band members Homme, Nick Oliveri and Mark Lanegan driving a truck at night, whereupon they hit a deer. When they get out to inspect, the deer proceeds to attack them before going on a rampage in their International Harvester Scout, with the three bandmembers tied to the hood of the car. The deer's rampage only stops when it falls in love with a doe statue decorating a garden, proceeding to make love with it after mounting the heads of the bandmembers on the wall like trophies. The second section of the video is of Homme, Oliveri, Troy Van Leeuwen and Dave Grohl performing the song against a black background.

"No One Knows" received heavy rotation on music video channels culminating in a nomination for the MTV2 Award at 2003 MTV Video Music Awards, where it lost to AFI for "Girl's Not Grey".

"No One Knows" has been covered by numerous groups, including The Section Quartet on their 2007 album, Fuzzbox, and Franco Saint de Bakker, with the song appearing on their 2004 release Live At The Ancienne Belgique. It was also covered by Razorlight as part of Jo Whiley's Live Lounge Tour on September 26, 2008. The Divine Comedy often covered "No One Knows" at live shows and one such performance appears on their 2004 DVD, Live At The Palladium. Mark Ronson also covered the song as a B-side to his single "Stop Me", and it later charted in the UK by itself. The Vaccines released their cover version in January 2021.

The song was the first Queens of the Stone Age track to be remixed by British musical outfit Unkle. The "No One Knows" remix appeared as a B-Side on the follow-up single, "Go with the Flow" as well as the EP Stone Age Complication.

#### Personnel

Josh Homme – rhythm and lead guitar, lead vocals

Dave Grohl – drums

Nick Oliveri – bass

Mark Lanegan – backing vocals

#### Charts

Chart - Peak position

Ireland - 26

Italy - 27

Netherlands - 39

UK Singles - 15

UK Rock and Metal - 1

US Billboard Hot 100 - 51

US Alternative Airplay - 1

US Mainstream Rock - 5

#### Certifications

Region - Certification - Certified units/sales

United Kingdom - Platinum - 600,000

## Story Time

### All Gone

I had heard the sirens. I just paid them no mind. They went off at the same times every day. Seven thirty and eight am, the wake-up signal for all of the BU's workers, and then the siren to mark the start of the working day. Then there was the six pm siren to signal the end of the day shift. Those working on the night shift didn't get such reminders. They were expected to be there when their shift started.

I was so used to hearing the sirens that I had tuned them out years ago. They were irrelevant background noise for me. I was one of the few lucky ones who lived around here who didn't work for the BU. I had to walk past the site to get anywhere though. Who didn't in these tightly packed terraced streets? Half a mile long the site was and parts of it were just as wise.

It had roads running underneath it at three points; allowing those who needed to pass through the area to get past without the detour through the broken-down cobbled streets. It was like an area that time had forgotten. The last Victorian refuge in the city; a historian's dream, but a resident's nightmare. It was difficult to get out, but I was trying.

Perhaps if I hadn't conditioned myself to tune the sirens then I wouldn't have returned that day. I would have realised that the timing was all wrong. The sirens had gone off at three thirty-seven pm on that Tuesday afternoon. As I walked home from my office job in the city centre, headphones filled with the sounds of the eighties, I didn't notice anything out of the ordinary.

I was happily singing along in my own little world. I'd decided to walk down by the canal, past all the dilapidated ruins of an industrial age. Those still backing on to the canal and river. Those that hadn't been bulldozed and replaced by the concrete, glass and chrome regeneration that was common in every city.

The pubs were all closed and boarded up. The Black Horse Tavern looked as if it might fall into the canal at any point in the near future, I always rushed past it. The Frog Island Inn had been graffitied within an inch of its life.

Corah's buildings stood like an ancient brick monolith on the far side of the canal. Nearly as large as the BU site, it stood empty and derelict, its shadow preventing any sunlight from hitting the path I walked along. It had once produced every item of clothing for Marks and Spencer's under the St. Michael brand, back when M&S were still open. Foreign competition had killed Corah's off by the time the nineties had arrived. M&S had gone this year, killed by apathy and poor management.

I skirted the park, and once past the Abbey's park and grounds, I swapped to the other bank of the canal, away from the single chimney proclaiming "Wolsey" down it in large white letters. All that remained from another of the city's manufacturing base.

Technically I was trespassing on this side of the canal, it wasn't a public footpath. Yet even this narrow uneven strip of ground was better than trying to make my way down Belgrave Road. Clogged full of traffic at all times of the day. This way I could sneak through part of the BU site and come out just a few houses away from where I lived.

I had nearly crossed the site before I realised there was something strange going on. I hadn't seen a single person. Usually there would be a constant stream of weary looking people, zigzagging through the site. Tens of forklift trucks would be carrying pallets through the maze of little roads. Yet I hadn't seen anything moving. Not even the rats who used this place as a playground.

There was no hum of machinery in the background. No rumble penetrating past the headphones. I stopped the music and took the headphones off. It was silent. An eerie out of place silence. Unnatural. I had never heard this site be silent, not once in the twenty-four years I had been alive. Not even on Christmas Day. Not even on the Jubilee when the rest of the city partied. The machines always ran. They would survive power cuts. The largest generators in the country were on this site. But now, somehow, nothing moved.

This made me more nervous about crossing the site than any security guard had ever done. I'd been threatened more times than I cared to remember. But I knew this site better than any of them. They couldn't catch me. Yet I felt as if I would be happier if they were here to at least try. This inactivity was wrong and disturbing.

I popped out of the site onto Ross Walk. There was no one in sight. All the usual cars were parked badly down either side of the road. Yet others were abandoned in the middle of the street. Engines off and doors open, but nobody inside them. I turned into my street. There was still no motion anywhere. I could see straight up to the end of the road, pass the BU site to my right, and as far as I could tell there was no traffic moving up there on the Belgrave Road. That couldn't be right.

I was getting properly freaked out by now. The front door to my house was wide open. The air inside felt heavy. I felt as if I was struggling to make my way through the passageway. It was more like I was wading through liquid. No one was in the house; nothing was on, not even the kitchen radio. That was never switched off.

I never saw any of my family again. I never saw anyone I had grown up with again. No one knows what happened. When the sirens went off, outside of their normal routine, everything stopped, and everyone disappeared.

Well not everyone obviously, as I'm still here. As are the people I work with. In fact, most of the city is still here. But everyone who was in the area within the footprint of the BU isn't. The factory, the tightly packed Victorian cobbled

streets. The modern façade on the Golden Mile. All gone. The few of us who were away when it happened have been moved. No one is allowed back into the area, not on to the BU site, or any of the streets around it. Belgrave Road is closed. The tens of thousands of cars have to go a different way now. It is chaos.

I've been back a few times. The silence doesn't freak me out as much now as it did that first day. Despite trying to get out of the area for as long as I can remember, I'm now living in a little flat in Highfields, I want to go back. I want to be back in my old lifelong home. Even if I would be the only one living there.

None of the utilities work in the house anymore. The electricity, the gas, the water, the phones; all of it is dead. I don't know whether that's because of what caused everyone to disappear, or whether the authorities have turned it all off to prevent people moving in. I have asked, but no one has any answers. About any of it.

It doesn't stop me sneaking back and sleeping in my old bed at least once a week. They can't stop me getting in, and they can't catch me when I'm here. They've tried fencing the whole area off. But like the rats that were once commonplace here knew, there are always gaps for those who are determined to get in.

People ask why I do it. Why do I keep returning? But I can't tell them the truth. I give non-committal answers. I don't want people to know that I hope that it will happen again. That whatever took everyone before will come back and get the stragglers.

That I can go and join all those that I had always wanted to leave behind.

### World's Greatest Cathedrals Top Trumps

<b>Hallgrimskirkja</b>	
City / Country	Reykjavik, Iceland
Height	74.5 metres
Commenced Building	1945
Character	17
Global Fame	68
Top Trumps Rating	60
Details	Standing at 74.5 metres tall, Hallgrimskirkja is the tallest building in Reykjavik, the second highest building in Iceland, and the sixth highest structure in Iceland. Hallgrimskirkja's spectacular organ weighs around twenty-five tonnes and has 5,275 bellowing pipes.

### 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>. A lot has gone onto this site recently, and it would be good if you are on there looking at my work if you could register and become a standard member – it's free for the basic member level, but it allows you to follow me on that site and allows for claps and comments to be made on pieces. Anything to help with profile raising is much appreciated.

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 now twelve colours available with some new arrivals: red, black, dark green, light blue, maroon, orange, purple, grey, bright pink, dark blue, coral, and white. In addition, speak to me about Flanagan's Running Club torches, limited stock, bright little so and sos available in red or blue. And now three colours of small leather style notepads in green, red, and black, with mini pens and various size sticky notes. Then there are the hand sanitiser bottles, 100 ml of near pure alcohol.

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

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