

Flanagan's Running Club – Issue 44

Introduction

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

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

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

On This Day – 12th February

1832 – Ecuador annexes the Galápagos Islands.

1909 – The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is founded.

1993 – Two-year-old James Bulger is abducted from New Strand Shopping Centre by two ten-year-old boys, who later torture and murder him.

2019 – The country known as the Republic of Macedonia renames itself the Republic of North Macedonia in accordance with the Prespa agreement, settling a long-standing naming dispute with Greece.

It's National Freedom to Marry Day (United States)

Red Hand Day (United Nations)

Union Day (Myanmar)

Youth Day (Venezuela)

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

Screamin' Jay Hawkins, b. 1929, d. 2000

Screamin' Jay Hawkins, who died aged seventy, was a performer whose bizarre and frenzied act caused a sensation in the early days of rock and roll; even more than Little Richard, he epitomised the wild and ungovernable aspect of the music.

Hawkins projected a crazed and dangerous persona on stage. He would be carried on in a coffin, dressed in a Dracula-style cape, and throughout the proceedings make use of such props as a rubber snake, a large plastic tarantula, various voodoo objects, and a cigarette smoking skull named Henry.

Sometimes he wore a bone in his nose. He had a penchant, too, for fire, and more than once set himself alight, causing considerable injury. His flamboyant showmanship, he claimed, derived from his love of opera and its extravagant spectacle.

Jalacy Hawkins was born on 18 July 1929 in Cleveland, Ohio. Abandoned at birth, he was later adopted by an American Indian family. He began teaching himself the piano as a child and showed promise as an amateur boxer, winning the Golden Gloves middleweight championship in 1949.

After serving in the US army, he worked first as a pianist to the guitarist and bandleader Tiny Grimes, and later joined Fats Domino's band. Domino sacked him for insisting on appearing in a gold and leopard skin suit and turban.

By 1955, Hawkins was working as a solo act. His most famous song, 'I Put A Spell On You', dates from the following year. Although his own manic recorded version did not score a chart hit, the song itself became hugely popular and was later recorded by many other artists, among them Nina Simone, The Who, and The Animals. Among his later songs were 'Alligator Wine', 'Feast Of Mau-Mau', 'I Hear Voices', and the unbroadcastable 'Constipation Blues'.

In the late 1960s Hawkins moved to Hawaii and teamed up with the singer Shoutin' Pat Newborn. The collaboration prospered until she knifed him in a jealous rage. He returned to mainland America and in 1980 opened for the Rolling Stones at Madison Square Garden. He became friends with Keith Richards, who played guitar on a Hawkins recording session in the same year.

When he was nearly sixty, Hawkins began taking small parts in movies, in particular the films of Jim Jarmusch. He appears in 'Mystery Train' (1989, as the hotel desk clerk) and 'Stranger Than Paradise' (1984), of which 'I Put A Spell On You' is the theme tune.

In recent year Hawkins married a Cameroonian woman (said to have been his ninth wife) and moved to Neuilly, in the suburbs of Paris. He performed infrequently, but his influence had been considerable. Apart from direct imitators, such as Screaming Lord Sutch, a whole generation of frantic rockers, like Black Sabbath, are clearly in his debt.

It is entirely typical that he should have issued elaborate instructions regarding the disposal of his ashes: 'Fly over the ocean and scatter the dust so I can be little particles in everybody's eyes. Drive everyone crazy for the rest of their lives'.

Births

1809 – Charles Darwin
1809 – Abraham Lincoln
1881 – Anna Pavlova
1974 – Naseem Hamed

Deaths

1554 – Lady Jane Grey
2000 – Tom Landry
2019 – Gordon Banks

#vss365

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

I'd been found guilty of some of the most heinous crimes. The jury had taken ten minutes to return the verdict.

It was time for sentencing, and I wasn't worried in the slightest. There was a gasp of disbelief when the #judge said, "probation".

I'd let his family go now.

#vss365

Joke

Bad Bernie was in prison for seven years. The day he got out, his wife and son were there to pick him up. He came through the gates and got into the car. The only thing he said was "F.F." His wife turned to him and answered, "E.F." Out on the highway he said, "F.F." She responded simply, "E.F." He repeated "F.F." She again replied, "E.F." "Mum! Dad!" their son yelled, "What's going on?" Bad Bernie answered, "Your mother wants to eat first."

Drabble

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

One Hundred Years On

It is the third of September 2039. Russia has just invaded Poland after telling anyone who would listen that they had no expansion plans.

Londonia unfriends Russia on TwitFace. The strongest condemnation a country is now allowed to give openly.

Only minutes after the unframing, Londonia's account is then hacked to post the message;

"Lolz polish them off."

Nobody laughs, nobody hits like, lots of nations unfriend Londonia, despite pleas of innocence.

One nation dies. One nation moans about the spelling involved. TwitFace suspend Londonia. No one else dares to unfriend Russia.

Emperor Trump mocks them all from his spaceship.

Random Items

Facts

The maximum weight for a golf ball is 1.62 oz.

In Mel Brooks' 'Silent Movie,' mime Marcel Marceau is the only person who has a speaking role.

Pulp Fiction cost \$8 million to make - \$5 million going to actors' salaries.

Thoughts

If love is grand, then divorce is a hundred grand?

Why do "tug" boats push their barges?

If only good people die young, what does that say about senior citizens?

Never Eat Shredded Wheat

Weird Ways to Remember Things.

Royal Dynasties

The list of royal dynasties from the Norman period onwards:

- Norman (1066-1154)
- Plantagenet (1154-1399)
- Lancaster (1399-1461; 1470-1471)
- York (1461-1470; 1471-1485)
- Tudor (1485-1603)
- Stuart (1603-1649; 1660-1714)
- Hanover (1714-1901)
- Saxe-Coburg-Gotha (1901-1917)
- Windsor (1917- to date)

The most commonly used mnemonics for this list are:

Neighbours persuaded lovely Yvonne to shut her sash window.

Or, if counting the Saxe-Coburgs as Windsors:

No point letting your trousers slip half-way.

Savoir Faire

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

Caduceus \ kah-doo-see-yus \ (Latin)

A staff with two serpents coiled around it, the symbol of the medical profession.

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

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

Dull

Deriving from a suitably prosaic meaning (either 'meadow' or 'snare'), this village in Perthshire became twinned with Boring, Oregon (USA) in 2012. Together, the powers that be of Dull and Boring created the League of Extraordinary Communities in 2013, the first new member of which was Bland, New South Wales (Australia).

Brewers Britain & Ireland

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

Oswestry

'Oswald's tree', Old English *Oswaldes* possessive form of male personal name *Oswald* + *treow* 'tree'.

Legend links 'Oswald's tree' with the death of Oswald, King of Northumbria (St. Oswald, c605-42): he was defeated in battle against the heathen King Penda of Mercia at Maserfelth, and according to later tradition was subsequently crucified; but the identification of Maserfelth with Oswestry has never been established for certain.

A market town in Shropshire, close to the Welsh border (it did not officially become England until 1535), about 17 miles northwest of Shrewsbury. An Iron Age hillfort known as Old Oswestry is just to the north of the town.

The poet Wilfred Owen (1893-1918) and the novelist Barbara Pym (1913-1980) were born in Oswestry.

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.

Who Are You Calling A Cult?

Mariq was a natural with numbers; it was always assumed he would be a leader in the Cult of Math when he grew up. That someone with such natural affinity to the use of numbers could be anything else was not going to happen.

And yet it did, here he was as the Grand Master in the Cult of Language. He had left countless people shocked at his choices over the years. It had been hard work, but he was now in a position to destroy the enemy cult from the inside. What the Cult of Language didn't realise was, with him as Grand Master, he had the right to amend the wording in their rites.

A word, or part of a word could be replaced by a number. And they were. Over a period of years their whole canon was corrupted, and the Cult of Math would be in a position to destroy language for once and for all.

One of the Cult of Language's council leaders joked to Mariq that the rites now looked like the calculus she'd hated as a youth. The Grand Master felt his blood run cold but didn't let any flicker of emotion escape to his face. When she started laughing, he allowed a small smile to reach his lips.

All the rites had been rewritten in math speak. It'd taken years; each epsilon size change had gone through without a murmur of discontent from the rest of the council. Yet from a drop at a time, an ocean can be made; so, it was now. The Language day rite was tomorrow, and it would be the end of their cult.

As Language Day dawned, Mariq found his anticipation riding, the updated special rite of the day was going to be read out to all the Cult's followers. The Cult of Math's theorem on the destruction of language through replacement was going to be tested. If proven, the Cult of Language would die today. If not, then Mariq had wasted all his adult life.

Reading the amended Language Day rite had the desired effect; the Cult of Language was no more. The Cult of Math won, and they'd now guide the planet with the logic of Math. But the thing about Math is that it is also the route of Chaos Theory, and chaos is what they got.

Tabitha had agreed to do what the Council of the Cult of Language had asked of her, but only when they'd agreed to her specific requirements. They had become suspicious of the Grand Master and the changes to their rites, although they couldn't place what was wrong with them; they knew there was something not right.

They had found Tabitha in the sewers under the citadels, a lost soul, cast aside by all Cults, and estranged by her family. She had agreed to blow herself and the Cult of Math's citadel up; if and only if her family were moved off planet with new names and she was given a different name so they wouldn't be connected to her act. They had given their word and she saw her family departing on the shuttle before making her way to the citadel.

As the Language Day rites were being read out destroying their cult, she now stood in the Cult of Math's citadel with her finger on the detonator to the coat of explosives she wore.

BOOM!

With that both cults were mortally wounded. Tabitha no longer existed, her last thought had been of her family being safe and that she had done a good thing for them, yet her detonator also triggered the destruction of the shuttle. No one won that day.

Leicestershire

National Space Centre

The National Space Centre is a museum and educational resource covering the fields of space science and astronomy, along with a space research programme in partnership with the University of Leicester. It is located on the north side the city of Leicester, England, next to the River Soar. Many of the exhibits, including upright rockets, are housed in a tower with minimal steel supports and a semi-transparent cladding of ETFE 'pillows' which has become one of Leicester's most recognisable landmarks.

The building was designed by Nicholas Grimshaw, and it opened to the public on 30 June 2001. The tower is 42 m (138 ft.) tall and claims to be the only place to house upright space rockets indoors.

The centre arose from a partnership between the University of Leicester's Space Research Centre and local government agencies. The total project cost was £52m, £26m of which came from a Millennium Commission grant, and the rest from private sector sponsors. It is run as an educational charity and offers science workshops for school children of all ages. The National Space Centre currently has post-doctoral science researchers based at the University of Leicester's Space Research Centre (SRC) and the University of Nottingham's Institute of Engineering Surveying and Space Geodesy (IESSG).

The Centre has on display one of only three known Soyuz spacecraft in the West (there is one in France at the Cité de l'espace and another one in the United States at the Smithsonian Institution as part of their Apollo-Soyuz Test Project display).

The centre has six main galleries of exhibits and visitor activities covering space flight, astronomy, and cosmology. The attraction also includes a Digistar 3 dome cinema and planetarium, a gift shop, and a restaurant. The restaurant is situated beneath the two nozzles of the Blue Streak and PGM-17 Thor rockets.

The Centre's own digital visualisation team, NSC Creative, make all the "fulldome" planetarium shows shown at the Centre. By 2011, NSC Creative fulldome shows are playing in over 220 planetaria in 27 countries worldwide. These productions include the official International Year of Astronomy (IYA2009) planetarium show "We are Astronomers" which was funded by the UK Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC).

The failed Beagle 2 Mars spacecraft was controlled from the centre's Landing Operations Control Centre. UK Government's official Near-Earth object (NEO) Information Centre is also based at the centre.

Apollo program astronaut Buzz Aldrin visited the Space Centre in June 2005. The first Star Wars Day was held on 30 July 2005. Due to the popularity of this event, Star Wars weekend has been held annually, as of 2015.

The centre hosted a celebration of 50 years of Doctor Who in November 2013.

A Sci-Fi Weekend on the weekend beginning 17 June 2006 included a live-action experience similar to Alien War. On 19 July 2006 NASA astronaut Brian Duffy visited and told people about his trip to space.

More recently the National Space Centre hosted a UK tour by the NASA STS-121 crew, including UK born astronaut Piers Sellers. The crew spoke to MPs, industry leaders and school children about the UK Space Industry. Many of the children who met the crew said they were inspired to consider science and technology as a further education topic.

In 2007, the National Space Centre celebrated 50 Years in Space: the anniversary of the first satellite, Sputnik.

St Bartholomew's Kirby Muxloe

Set to the south west of Leicester, the village of Kirby Muxloe, stands just off junction 21a of the M1, and dates back to Saxon times. The parish was known to exist in 1168, and there was definitely a church at this time, however this has since disappeared, and the current building dates from the late 13th century. In 1209 and 1220 the parish is reported to have had a three day a week clergyman.

For many years, the church was a chapel of ease; that is, although people from the village worshipped there Kirby was served by the Rector of Glenfield and most baptisms, weddings etc. took place in the parish church at Glenfield. However, it wasn't until the mid-16th century that baptisms and burials took place within the parish and that Kirby had separate Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, which survive, with a few gaps, from 1597. They are now in the Leicestershire Record Office.

The present church dates from the late 13th and early 14th centuries and stayed fairly much the same for the next 500 years. The only exceptions being the low deal gallery added in 1670, and the roof was repaired in 1710.

The 19th century saw the usual glut of restorations, repairs, and changes, with the low tower's roof being replaced in 1835 with its current pyramid roof and weathercock, replacing the old wooden roof. The tower house five bells which date from 1606, 1609, 1636, and two from 1909, and unusually the porch for the church is set in the tower.

A restoration programme costing £1000 took place in 1848-50, under the Leicester architect Henry Goddard. The church was re-roofed (with Swithland slate) and the north wall of the nave rebuilt in blue Derbyshire stone. New pews were installed and also a new pulpit, with wrought iron decoration painted to look like carved wood.

The first organ was installed in 1853 and opened on 1st December that year. In 1856 a stone reredos was bought by public subscription. It shows the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments and the Apostles' Creed, with the Paschal Lamb in the centre behind the altar.

In 1858 the large west and east windows both received new stained glass, given by T.H. Pares of the Leicestershire banking family, who lived at Kirby Frith. The east window contained three scenes from the life of Christ; the Crucifixion in the central panel, flanked by the Nativity and the Baptism of Christ. The two side panels are now in the south chancel window. The West window showed the four gospel writers.

The vestry was built in 1891-92 and was enlarged to its current size in 1926,

A window on the North side of the nave, depicting St. Catharine and St. Dorothea, was given by the Dalrymple family in around 1900. The present organ was installed in 1901 and was made by J. Porritt of Leicester. On the case is a memorial plate to Horace Webster, organist from 1930 to 1963.

In 1907 the heaviest of the church's three bells was re-cast. It weighs 7 cwt, 1 qtr. 5lb and sounds A Flat. It was dated 1606 and (like another dated 1609) was inscribed "Be in knowne to all that me see that Newcome of Leicester made mee". When it was re-cast the additional inscription was added "In memory of Gilbert and Jane Mee". The third oldest bell, dated 1636, cast by Hugh Watts of Leicester, is inscribed: "IHS Nezarenavs Rex Ivdeorum Fili Dei Miserere Mei". In 1909 two new bells were added, each inscribed "This Bell was placed here by the United Effort of the Parishioners". They were cast by J. Taylor & Co. of Loughborough. One is also inscribed "Praised be the Lord" and the other "The Lord's Name be Praised". With the additional bells there was no room in the tower for the old dial less tower clock, made by William Davis in 1720. This is now in the care of Leicestershire Museums Service. In 1910 a table which is now in the vestry was made out of the old oak frame for the bell of 1606. (A sixth bell was added to the ring in 1970).

In 1912 stained glass was inserted in the north window of the sanctuary, in memory of the Rev George Postlethwaite, "curate" of the parish between 1894 and 1910. He is buried just outside the window. The window shows the Resurrection, with the angel telling the women "He is not here, he is risen".

A new East window was inserted in 1920, in memory of the men of the parish who died in the First World War. It was given by Thomas and Beatrice Hollis, whose eldest son John Gordon Hollis died on the Somme on 14th July 1916. (See the separate article on the War Memorial). Thomas Hollis was a timber merchant, and the family lived at Barncroft in Kirby Fields. John Gordon had studied at the University of Dusseldorf, in Germany, before the war. He and two of his brothers all enlisted as private soldiers at the beginning of the war, but he was soon offered a commission as temporary second lieutenant in the 7th Battalion of the Leicestershire "Tigers" Regiment. There are two tigers high up in the spandrels of the outer lights of the East Window. Oak leaves also reflect the fact that on 15th June 1916 Lt. J.G. Hollis was "Mentioned in Despatches". The window was made by the firm of Heaton, Butler and Bayne, from a design by Christopher Whall.

The central panel shows Christ in glory, saying: "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life". Saint George and the Archangel Michael reflect the theme of battle, and also represent England and France, and a small panel showing St. Andrew represents Russia, which fought on the same side.

On 29th July 1930 Kirby Muxloe became a separate parish, together with Leicester Forest. (Although Leicester Forest was formerly extra-parochial - not part of any parish - its few inhabitants had been attending Kirby Church for centuries.) The population of Kirby village was then 1,500. The first Vicar was Canon Whorlow, who had been the Curate. A memorial to him in Hoptonwood Stone was placed in the Sanctuary in 1934.

During the Second World War the glass of the West window was destroyed by the blast of two parachute mines in the evening of 19th November 1940. It is generally supposed that the bombers were lightening their load as they returned from the raid on Coventry. One of the bombs destroyed the Free Church building at the end of Main Street, and for three months the Free Church congregation used St. Bartholomew's for their services.

In 1950 it was found that the west wall of the church was in very poor condition. So too were the rear pews, and the supports for the raised dais on which they stood were perished. They were all removed, and the remaining pews from

the south west corner were moved to the North West, leaving a space into which the font was moved to create a baptistery area.

It is a Grade II* listed building.

Long Clawson

Long Clawson is a village and former civil parish, now in the parish of Clawson, Hose and Harby, in the Melton district, in the county of Leicestershire, England. Situated in the Vale of Belvoir, the village is surrounded by farmland with rich soil ideal for pasture. Milk from local dairy farms is used for production of Stilton cheese. The Long Clawson dairy is one of the largest producers of this cheese. In 1931 the civil parish had a population of 664.

There is some debate about the origin of the village's name; one theory is that there were once two villages named Clawson and Claxton, which grew together and became Long Clawson. The "Long" part of the name may have arisen from it being over 1 mile (1.6 km) in length, although the main road through the village has 14 sharp bends.

The village is featured in the 1086 Domesday Book as Clachestone, but there is evidence of much earlier settlements. Embedded into the tarmac footpath against the wall of the Manor House is an ancient megalith. The Long Clawson Stone is approximately 3 feet long and allegedly a fragment of a larger ancient stone. The Manor House itself has an ancient fishpond that is still stocked. On the 1st of April 1936 it was merged with Harby and Hose to form "Clawson and Harby" (now called "Clawson, Hose and Harby").

Like many larger village settlements, the number of businesses in the village has declined in recent years. Once possessing five pubs, numerous small stores, and traders, along with its own police presence, the village now only has one pub, the Crown and Plough and a few shops. The community is strong and thriving, however, with a growing population. Around 100 new houses were built in the village in the early part of the 21st century and the primary school has doubled the number of its pupils. Local demographic information shows the population to be 970 as of 2003.

A traditional saying about Long Clawson and Hose (a nearby smaller village) is "There are more whores in Hose than honest women in Long Clawson"; this is thought to contain puns on the village names and items of clothing.

The village churches include the Anglican church of St Remigius, a Methodist church, and a Baptist Church (dating from 1845) the latter two are 20th century red brick buildings, and the Primitive Methodist chapel of 1868 is now a private residence.

The parish church of Saint Remigius dates from around the 14th century and its walls, like those of the nearby manor house, are of a local stone which is a rich red in hue. The church, which seats 300, was restored in 1893, and contains a medieval effigy of the crusader William Bozon.

The present Methodist Church was opened in 1956. Methodism was introduced into the village by a Mrs Hind through her contact with the Wesleyan Society in 1797. After joining a small society at Nether Broughton, she formed a society in Long Clawson, meetings being held in the kitchen of her home. Later a licence was obtained, and William Parkes's home was registered for public worship. It became known as 'The Consecrated Barn'. The first chapel was built in 1801, and in 1816 was improved by the addition of a gallery. In 1840 a new chapel was built on the present site at a cost of £1100. In 1873 a schoolroom and a Minister's vestry were added. A manse was built alongside the chapel in 1887. In 1954 the chapel burnt down. A committee was quickly formed to raise funds for a replacement and on 25 June 1955 the foundation stone for the new building was laid. The new chapel opened on 29 September 1956.

One of only six dairies in England where Stilton cheese is manufactured, the company "Long Clawson Dairy" was founded in 1911 by 12 farmers from the Vale of Belvoir. The company has prospered and today is supplied by over 40 farms, all from within the Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, and Derbyshire area. As Stilton is protected by a PDO (Protected Designation of Origin) it can only be made with milk from these counties. Long Clawson Farms range in size, producing between 350,000 and over 4 million litres of milk per year. The dairy employs about 200 people and produces 6,700 tonnes of cheese in 60 varieties every year. Exports account for about 20% of the company's business. The company had a turnover of about £54m in 2008. Long Clawson Dairy was awarded a total of 11 trophies at the International Cheese Awards 2011, which took place at the Nantwich Show in Cheshire, including 'Reserve Champion UK' and 'Reserve Supreme Champion' for the dairy's 'Blue Stilton'.

The village has a recently restored windmill that dominates the skyline from the south. The windmill, located at Mill Farm, has a characteristic Lincolnshire-style cap (white painted ogee-shaped) and is a Grade II listed building.

Long Clawson and Hose railway station was a railway station serving the villages of Long Clawson and Hose, Leicestershire on the Great Northern and London and North Western Joint Railway. It opened in 1879 and closed to regular traffic in 1953.

Top Ten

The ten characters (and the actors who play them) to appear in the most NCIS episodes.

	Character Name	Actor	Episodes Credited
1=	Leroy Jethro Gibbs	Mark Harmon	402
1=	Donald Mallard (Ducky)	David McCallum	402
3	Timothy McGee	Sean Murray	387
4	Abby Sciuto	Pauley Perrette	354
5	Anthony DiNozzo	Michael Weatherly	308
6	Jimmy Palmer	Brian Dietzen	303
7	Leon Vance	Rocky Carroll	294
8	Ziva David	Cote de Pablo	197
9	Ellie Bishop	Emily Wickersham	160
10	Nick Torres	Wilmer Valderrama	96

Poetry Corner

Houses For The Workers

What's in a name of a street near to you in this town?
In Southgate seventeen occupations are renowned



There's a **baker**, but no butcher or candlestick maker.
The closest being a **chandler**, and not a muck raker.



Loriners produced all sorts of items to fit on horses.

Saddlers provided the means to ride them over courses.



The **smith** gave the horseshoes to prevent it being lame.

A **hunter** rode out on the trail of deer or maybe even game.



The **fletcher** gave him arrows to help him with the kill.

The **wainwrights** built carts for the successful kills to fill.



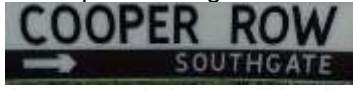
The **fisher** added fish to make the villagers feel full.

And the **shepherd** watched his flock, so they'd provide wool.



A **brewer** converted crops to beer to help memories fade.

It was put into large barrels that the **cooper** had made.



Atop an early house did a **thatcher** put a roof upon

And straw was a good roof until a **tyler** came along.



The **mason** didn't mind what material made the roof coverings.

His stone trumped the **forester** for erecting new buildings.



And the **collier** provided coal to heat up everyone's home.
Look out for all these workers on signs wherever you roam.

Musical Madness

This Day In Music

Birth
1952 - Michael McDonald, former Doobie Brother who had his track "I Keep Forgetting" sampled by Warren G's "Regulate".
Death
2000 – Screamin' Jay Hawkins
Event
2005 – A train was named after Clash frontman Joe Strummer at a ceremony in Bristol. The diesel train, owned by Cotswold Rail, was name after the singer who had died aged 50 in 2002.

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

MC Hammer releases his third album "Please Hammer Don't Hurt 'Em" on Capitol

The double diamond set by the Oakland rapper was single-handedly responsible for bringing hip-hop culture and rap music to the mainstream unlike any other album preceding it.

His worldwide influence would be off the strength of smash hit singles that borrowed heavily from classic R&B tracks. Among these hits were "Pray", which sampled "When Doves Cry" by Prince and the Revolution; "Have You Seen Her", a cover of the Chi-Lites smash of the same name; "Yo! Sweetness," which borrowed from the Barry White hit "Your Sweetness Is My Weakness"; and "Here Comes The Hammer", which sampled "Super Bad" by James Brown for the remix single version. The blockbuster classic "U Can't Touch This" sampled Rick James's "Super Freak" and spent weeks on the charts, eventually winning two Grammys. Other album cuts sampled classics by the Jackson 5, Earth, Wind & Fire, Marvin Gaye, and others.

Producers on "Please Hammer Don't Hurt 'Em" included Felton Pilate of Con Funk Shun, James Earley, Scott Folks, Hammer's brother Big Louis Burrell, as well as MC Hammer.

"Please Hammer Don't Hurt 'Em", which spent 108 weeks on the pop charts, peaking at #1 on the Billboard 200, catapulted rap music to the mainstream masses and made Hammer a household name. He had successful world tours, a Mattel action figure, a Saturday morning cartoon "Hammerman", lunchboxes, and various endorsements, including Pepsi and British Knight running shoes.

Number 1's

Number 1 single in 1983 - Men At Work - Down Under
Number 1 album in 2006 - Arctic Monkeys - Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not
Number 1 compilation album in 1989 - The Marquee - 30 Legendary Years

Thirty-Three And One Third Revolutions Per Minute

Ice T - Power

Power was the second studio album by Ice-T.

Two singles were released from the album: "I'm Your Pusher" and "High Rollers". The album was certified platinum by 2006. Music critic Stephen Thomas Erlewine of AllMusic commented that on its release, Power received "strong reviews" and continued to receive positive retrospective reviews from music guides such as AllMusic, The Rolling Stone Album Guide, and the Spin Alternative Record Guide.

Following the success of Ice-T's album Rhyme Pays, which went gold in the United States, Ice-T was featured on the soundtrack to the film Colors (1988). He felt by the time he started working on Power that he "was aware that people

were listening" and that he "had to be more serious, and ... get some points across". The beats for the album were written by Afrika Islam at his apartment with his SP-1200 sampler and a Roland 909 drum machine. Tracks such as "Drama" had a Roland TB-303 bass synthesizer connected to an SP-1200. Islam stated that he felt that he was creating a different sound for hip hop with this track as the 303 was usually only heard in techno music and that the 303 created a unique "shreiky sound". Others such as "Girls L.G.B.N.A.F." were made by connecting two Roland TR-909 drum machines together.

Power was recorded in Los Angeles at DJ Evil E's home, which was known as Syndicate Studios West. Ice-T described how Syndicate Studios West was set up with a board connected to speakers to resemble a car stereo system so they could test how tapes would sound. A closet in the home was converted into a booth to record the vocals. Power was mixed at Entourage Studios in Los Angeles by Mark Wolfson. Some tracks feature guest vocalists, such as Donald D and Hen-Gee on "The Syndicate". Donald D was a DJing partner of Afrika Islam in the 1970s while Hen-Gee is DJ Evil-E's brother.

"I'm Your Pusher" sees Ice-T dissing fellow rapper LL Cool J. Ice-T explained later that he felt that LL Cool J was "at that time on his 'I'm the great rapper in the world' thing. Me being from L.A., I was trying to rep our entire city alone, so had to step to him". Ice-T also replied that he had no personal problem with him but just "thought I could beat him rapping anyways". Ice-T stated that he recorded "Girls L.G.B.N.A.F." as a humorous response to LL Cool J's song "I Need Love". Ice-T stated that: "Girls came to me and asked, 'Ice, why don't you write a ballad? Now can you imagine saying, 'I need loooove?' That's a wimp. So, I wrote ('Girls') as a joke." LL Cool J later retaliated dissing Ice-T in his song "To da Break of Dawn" from his album *Mama Said Knock You Out* (1990). Afrika Islam said their feud ended when a group meeting involving Flavor Flav, DJ Red Alert, Mike Tyson and Afrika Bambaataa persuaded them to stop fighting. Islam explained Tyson's role: "[he was] down with hip-hop and the Zulus and I've always considered rappers like boxers anyway". Ice-T commented on the feud in *NME* magazine in 2012, stating: "You need a nemesis in hip hop. It's part of what fuels good rap. L was coming out of New York saying he was the best rapper in the world. I was trying to get my feet out of LA. You can't have someone saying they're the best if you're trying to. We had a little hip-hop thing, but it was never serious."

The Los Angeles Daily News noted that its lyrical themes ranged from sex to gun violence, and that Ice-T "implicates everyone from radio programmers to the police as accomplices in the decline of western civilisation." The album contains lyrics which began a feud between Ice-T and rapper LL Cool J. The album cover, which features Ice-T's then-girlfriend Darlene Ortiz, Ice-T, and DJ Evil E, was described as "perpetuating stereotypes" by the Chicago Tribune and "violence-glorifying" by both the Chicago Sun-Times and The Sydney Morning Herald.

Power was released in the United States on September 13, 1988, through Sire on vinyl, compact disc, and cassette. The album debuted on the Billboard 200 on October 1, 1988, at number 102. Power stayed on this chart for 33 weeks and peaked at number 35 on November 12, 1988. While touring to support Power, Ice-T visited schools as a mentor "telling the students of his shady past and profitable present". By January 1989, Power had sales of over 500,000 copies in the United States and went gold.

Track listing

All songs are composed and produced by Ice-T and Afrika Islam except where noted.

No. – Title- Length

1. – "Intro" – 1:11. Samples his own "Squeeze The Trigger". Was sampled three times.
2. – "Power" – 4:25. Samples James Brown's "I Don't Want Nobody To Give Me Nothing (Open Up The Door I'll Get It Myself)" and "Give It Up Or Turnit a Loose", Jimmy Castor Bunch's "It's Just Begun", and Isaac Hayes' "Joy". Has been sampled twice. Was on the B side of the "High Rollers" release.
3. – "Drama" – 4:15. Sampled Kool & The Gang's "Funky Stuff", and Simon Harris' "105 BPM Dopejam". Featured as a B Side on releases of "Heartbeat" and "High Rollers".
4. – "Heartbeat" – 4:08. Samples War's "Heartbeat". Was remixed into a 12" release in 1989 credited to Ice T and War with "Drama" as the B Side. Also released as a single sided 10" acetate. Was also the B Side to "Lethal Weapon" from his "Iceberg...Freedom Of Speech" album.
5. – "The Syndicate" – 3:32. Samples Parliament's "Aqua Boogie (A Psychoalphadiscobetabioaquadoloop)", The Treacherous Three's "Gotta Rock", James Brown's "Talkin' Loud And Saying Nothing", and his own "Dog'n The Wax". Was sampled once on Donald D's "Syndicate Posse".
6. – "Radio Suckers" – 4:24. Samples the Bar-Kays' "Do You See What I See", John Davis and the Monster Orchestra's "I Can't Stop, and Public Enemy's "Rebel Without A Pause". Was sampled once.
7. – "I'm Your Pusher"- 5:35 – additional writing credit to Curtis Mayfield, as it samples his song "Pusherman". First single release from the album, it reached number 13 on the Billboard R&B Chart and number 21 on the Billboard Dance chart, and number 17 in New Zealand. Has been sampled nineteen times.
8. – "Personal" – 3:43. Samples Heart's "Magic Man" and Dyke & the Blazers' "Let A Woman Be A Woman, Let A Man Be A Man".
9. – "Girls L.G.B.N.A.F." – 3:00. Samples Rufus Thomas' "I Ain't Gittin' Older, I'm Gittin' Better". Has been sampled three times. Was the B Side to the single release of "I'm Your Pusher".

10. – “High Rollers” – 4:36. Second single release from the album, it reached number 76 on the Billboard R&B Chart and number 9 on the Billboard Rap chart and number 38 in New Zealand. Reached number 63 on the UK singles chart. Sampled Edwin Starr’s “Easin’ In” from the Hell Up In Harlem OST. This single was released after his next album (“Iceberg...Freedom Of Speech”) and contained that album’s track “The Hunted Child”, along with “Power” on the B Side of the US release, “Power” was replaced by “Drama” on the UK release.

11. – “Grand Larceny” – 3:51. Samples Coldcut and Matt Black’s “That Greedy Beat”, Gang Busters’ “Gang Busters Theme”, “The Case of the Ape Bandit”, and “The Case of the Death Mask Killer”, and Dynmaic Corvettes’ “Funky Music is the Thing”.

12. – “Soul on Ice” – 4:42. Samples Les McCann’s “The Harlem Buck Dance Strut”.

13. – “Outro” – 0:39. Has been sampled three times.

Personnel

Ice-T - producer, writer, arrangements, executive producer

Afrika Islam - producer, programming

Mark (Full Moon) Wolfson - mix engineer

Glen E. Friedman - photography

Kav Deluxe - design

Jorge Hinojosa - management

DJ Evil E - cutting

Pimpin' Rex - performer (on "I'm Your Pusher")

Microphone King Donald D and DJ Hen G - performer (on "The Syndicate")

Amazing Many Styles Kid Jazz - performer (on "High Rollers")

Bilal Bashir - programming (on "Personal")

Charts

Chart – Peak position

US Billboard 200 – 35

US Top R&B/Hip-Hop Albums (Billboard) – 6

Australia – 65

Certifications

Region - Certification - Certified units/sales

Canada - Gold - 50,000

United States - Platinum - 1,000,000

Top 10

The top ten in the UK singles chart on this day in 1965

Position	Last Week's Position	Title	Artist	Label	Peak Position	Weeks on Chart
1	1	YOU'VE LOST THAT LOVIN' FEELIN'	THE RIGHTEOUS BROTHERS	LONDON	1	5
2	2	TIRED OF WAITING FOR YOU	THE KINKS	PYE	2	4
3	6	KEEP SEARCHIN'	DEL SHANNON	STATESIDE	3	5
4	3	GO NOW	THE MOODY BLUES	DECCA	1	10
5	14	I'LL NEVER FIND ANOTHER YOU	SEEKERS	COLUMBIA	5	6
6	4	COME TOMORROW	MANFRED MANN	HMV	4	5
7	13	THE SPECIAL YEARS	VAL DOONICAN	DECCA	7	4
8	7	CAST YOUR FATE TO THE WIND	SOUNDS ORCHESTRAL	PICCADILLY	5	11
9	5	YOU'VE LOST THAT LOVIN' FEELIN'	CILLA BLACK	PARLOPHONE	2	5
10	11	BABY PLEASE DON'T GO	THEM	DECCA	10	6

A Single Life

Surfaris - Wipeout

This is my all-time number two favourite song. It was introduced to me by my schoolfriend Dino, on a Northern Soul compilation.

"Wipe Out" is a surf rock instrumental composed by Bob Berryhill, Pat Connolly, Jim Fuller and Ron Wilson. Composed in the form of twelve-bar blues, the tune was first performed and recorded by the Surfaris, who became famous with the single in 1963.

The single was first issued on the independent labels DFS in January 1963 and Princess in February and finally picked up for national distribution on Dot as 45-16479 in April. Dot reissued the single in April 1965 as 45-144. It was also released on Decca (ED 2765) in the US and Canada (where it reached number 5 on their charts).

Bob Berryhill, Pat Connolly, Jim Fuller and Ron Wilson wrote "Wipe Out" almost on the spot while at Pal Recording Studio in Cucamonga, California, in late 1962, when they realized they needed a suitable B-side for the intended "Surfer Joe" single. One of the band members suggested introducing the song with a cracking sound, imitating a breaking surfboard, followed by a manic voice babbling, "ha ha ha ha ha, wipe out". The voice was that of the band's manager, Dale Smallin.

"Wipe Out" spent four months on the Billboard Hot 100 in the summer of 1963, reaching number 2, behind Stevie Wonder's "Fingertips". Meanwhile, the original A-side "Surfer Joe", sung by Ron Wilson, only attracted airplay in the wake of "Wipe Out's success, peaking at number 62 during its six-week run. "Wipe Out" returned to the Hot 100 in 1966, reaching number 16 on the Hot 100 (and number 63 for the year), peaking at number 9 on the Cash Box chart, selling approximately 700,000 copies in the U.S. The single spent a grand total of 30 weeks on the Hot 100. Wilson's energetic drum solo for "Wipe Out" (a sped-up version of his Charter Oak High School marching band's drum cadence) helped the song become one of the best-remembered instrumental songs of the period. Drummer Sandy Nelson issued different versions on multiple LPs. In 1970, "Wipe Out" peaked at number 110 in the Bubbling Under Hot 100 Singles chart.

It was released in the UK on London American Recordings (Dot) and reached number 5 in the charts, staying on the charts for 14 weeks. It was later picked up and played on the UK Northern Soul scene. It was released on Dot in 1966. It had a European release on ABC records in 1976 (reaching number 46 on the German charts), and then another worldwide release on MCA records in 1978.

It was also released as part of an EP along with The Chantays' 'Pipeline' in Australia in 1963, and this combination was used when Old Gold put them on the same release on their reissues label, and MCA did the same on a 1981 re-release.

The intro and music were used on the 1987 hit by The Fat Boys and Beach Boys, a song I played to death on my ghetto blaster, taking great delight in cackling out the intro.

Story Time

The Basement

There were seventeen cats living in Larry's basement. I don't know which part of the statement is more surprising to me. His terraced house having a basement – something he'd never mentioned in the twenty-odd years he'd lived there, or the cats thing. He hated cats, and spent an inordinate amount of time setting up elaborate ways of preventing the neighbour's cat entering his little front yard and defecating there.

To be fair, he was as shocked as anyone was to find he had a basement. He was investigating a strange noise coming from the pantry when he found it. He couldn't work out what the noise was, but it appeared to be coming from under the floor. He rolled the horrible brown lino back from the wall and found an even more horrible beige patterned lino underneath it. He rolled this back as well and set in the middle of stone floor was a three-foot square concrete section with a metal trim around it, and a metal ring embedded in it. He got a knife and prised the ring up and pulled.

He was nearly overwhelmed by the stench that emanated from the hole. It smelt worse than the sewer tunnels he had spent so many occasions exploring. It took him a bit longer to work out what the noise was. Cats. Lots of cats. He'd gotten his torch and shone it down the hole. The cats had hissed as the light flicked across them. They were used to the dark and didn't appreciate the sudden influx of light.

To this day I'm not sure why he called me to help him explore. We weren't the closest brothers in the world, and he already had a ready-made cabal of fellow tunnel explorers. Yet it was me he rang, and two days later I was stood over the hole in his pantry floor, miner's helmet on, and heavyweight torch in my hand, ready to descend the rungs of the

metal ladder into the dark below. The stench had dissipated, or so Larry said, in which case I'd hate to think how bad it would have been when the cover had been opened.

The underground area was taller than I was expecting, there was a good clearance above my head as I reached the bottom of the ladder. I think Larry's estimate of seventeen cats might have been on the conservative side (possibly the only conservative thing about him ever). We would need to find out how they got into the space, as it was strange why they would stay once there. They had obviously been breeding in the dark. They ran from any vestiges of the light as we moved about amongst them.

The space was much bigger than the house above it. It was like being in a vaulted crypt of a church. Stone pillars and arches were laid out at regular intervals. This was a structure from long before the terraced houses above it were built. Larry was an expert on underground spaces, and not just ones in Nottingham, but he had never come across any mention of something like this.

After the first subterranean trip, we spent hours searching any source we could find to see what may have been built here in times before the current suburb grew up. There were mentions of manor houses, but overlaying the maps, the closest one was over quarter of a mile away. The single church mentioned still stood. St Botolph's was an ugly squat looking fifteenth century church. Not even the Victorians had wanted to touch it during the restoration craze. It sat on the corner of the main road, five streets down from Larry's house. It was the closest building to the house we could find on any old map, or in any old village archive.

When these houses were built in the late Victorian / early Edwardian period nothing had been recorded about these old underground spaces. No mention from any utility company. How had water, gas and electric been installed without coming across this space? Why no mention in the plans? Someone had to have put the trapdoor in and ladder down to the space below, they didn't appear magically.

The next trip down was to document the space. Mapping it out, videoing what we could see, verbal descriptions. It was vast. We found solid stone walls in all directions, but it was fifty measured paces in both directions. The pillars were set five paces apart in a series of dead straight rows and columns, each with a stone arch between them. The lower end of each arch was still above my head. There must have been twelve feet between the floor and ceiling down there.

Apart from the cats and their deposits, there was nothing on the stone floor. There were four other metal ladders, but they weren't lined up. We couldn't find any hint of a hole in the ceiling or the walls. Searching the outer walls, we were expecting there to be a break or hole somewhere. A first lap around didn't show anything. A second circuit involved a touch search.

We found what may have been doors in the south and east walls. More by luck than judgement. A small draft came from between stones, and we found the stones were lined up with a straight line between the stones all the way down. Everywhere else the stones overlapped on each level. The stone appeared to move slightly when pushed. We did think whether it had actually moved, or whether our imaginations were giving us the impression it did because we wanted it to.

We went and thoroughly checked the north and west walls for any sign of a similar gap, but could find nothing along those walls. We went back to the original gaps and searched every inch of the walls around the gaps looking for any switch or pressure pad that would force the potential door to open. Too many years of watching Indiana Jones and the like getting our hopes up. But we couldn't find anything.

Instead, we reverted to a brute force approach and Larry got a crowbar and sledgehammer. The latter wasn't needed. The point of the crowbar slipped into the gap and we were able to easily prise out the door. It turned out to be only two inches thick. Solid oak with a stone covering to make it look like it as part of the wall. It had a twin behind it, one that with a light push on it made it open.

The space the other side was built and laid out the same way as the first space. However, this was not a dark empty space. This was brightly lit, carpeted, and full of all sorts of things. Comfy sofas were all over the place, racks lines wall and the space under arches. All shapes and sizes of boxes and crates lay upon the racks. From somewhere we couldn't find at first came music. As we turned around a pillar behind more racks came a space with a kitchen and four desks.

In the kitchen stood a middle-aged woman. There was something about the way she was making her tea that seemed odd to me. Almost mechanical. We hadn't been quiet, but as she finished making her tea and turned around, she looked surprised to see us.

"You shouldn't be here. Druze won't be happy you've trailed in god knows what onto his nice clean carpet. If you can run along back to where you came from and forget you were here, I'm sure I can smooth it out.

Larry and I looked at each other, but neither of us said a word. The woman had a neutral look upon her face as she spoke, and the words had been spoken in a flat even tone. A few seconds passed and we stood still not really knowing what to do before she spoke again.

“Go on now, run along, there’s good boys. You shouldn’t be here when Druze gets back; it won’t be good for you.”

And so, we did go, we turned and headed back. We could see out footprints in the carpet and how they got darker as we got back to where we had entered this new space. I looked back over my shoulder, but there was no sign of the woman following us to make sure we left. As we got to the entrance / exit Larry leant over and picked up one of the boxes from the racks and took it with him. He nudged me and I did likewise from a different rack.

The inside of the doors had handles on and we were able to use the one behind us to the brightly lit space. As it shut, even with the miner’s helmets and torches still on I found the transition to darkness hard on my eyes. We pushed the door our side shut and made our way back to the ladder into Larry’s pantry.

We left the stinking boots we’d been wearing outside the back door and put the boxes we had taken on the dining table. Neither of us said a word as we opened the boxes. Larry went first. His small box was really heavy and upon opening it, it was easy to see why. It was full of bullets. My box was slightly bigger but was lighter. Inside it were bundles of tightly packed banknotes. Fifties, twenties, and tens. A quick count of the bundles and rough calculations suggested there was over six hundred thousand quid in the box.

It was time to have a look who this Druze character was. It didn’t take long. I’d never heard of him, and why would I, I didn’t come from Nottingham. Larry was more surprised to find he hadn’t heard of him. Every search item that came up showed that Druze was, on the surface a successful businessman, but the underlying narrative was he was Nottingham’s number one gangster. And there on the table in front of us was a shedload of his ill-gotten gains and enough bullets to wipe out most of Nottingham’s constabulary.

The trap door went back down in double quick time, both sets of lino were put over the top, and every heavy item that could be moved was placed over the top of it.

By the Friday we had packed out bags, and the car was full with every item Larry would need and leaving nothing in the house that could be linked to him, we made out escape.

The YouTube video of the underground chambers got a lot of hits, but not as many as the police arresting Druze.

World’s Greatest Cathedrals Top Trumps

Sagrada Familia	
City / Country	Barcelona / Spain
Height	170m
Commenced Building	1882
Character	17
Global Fame	85
Top Trumps Rating	95
Details	Basilica I Temple Explatori de la Sagrada Familia is a large, unfinished Roman Catholic church in Barcelona. Designed by Antoni Gaudi, who died 44 years into its construction, the building is threaded throughout with religious symbolism and is planned for completion in 2026 (the centenary year of Gaudi’s death)

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.

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

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