

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH – September 2018, edition no 45.



Hello again. I hope you are well and have been enjoying yourself. I think this edition is interesting as it not only contains the details of our new short story competition, but also features interviews which look at immigration in the UK and an interview with an aspiring young musician called Hannah Cobb. In addition, there are the usual quizzes which have proved to be very popular as well as some more tasty recipes.

I must emphasise that this magazine is open to anyone who wants to express themselves in a non-racist, non-sexist and inoffensive manner – I want everyone to feel comfortable in this community we are creating. You can send your contributions to be considered for publication to us at: dean@fthm.org.uk

[MY NOT VERY SERIOUS STARS](#)

[FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH SHORT STORY COMPETITION](#)

[AN INTERVIEW WITH BILL PEARCE OF HALIFAX](#)

[WRITING OUT OF MY R's](#)

[DAZE OF MY LIFE \(Part Two\)](#)

[THREE MORE OLD RECIPES FROM JUNE CHARLTON](#)

[A LOVELY RECIPE FROM KELLY WESTERN](#)

[BRENDA'S THOUGHTS ON SUMMER](#)

[HANNAH COBB TALKS ABOUT HER MUSIC AND ART](#)

[KATE CULLEN'S MONTHLY QUIZ](#)

[KATE CULLEN'S CLASSICAL MUSIC QUIZ](#)

[DESERT ISLAND DISCS by Bill Pearce](#)

[LETTERS PAGE](#)

[KATE CULLEN TALKS ABOUT HER LIFE AND HER VIEWS](#)

[FILM REVIEW OF THE CHICKEN \(2015\)](#)

[ANOTHER FUN QUIZ FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH](#)

ADVERTISING WITH From The Horse's Mouth

If you wish to advertise with From The Horse's Mouth then please [get in touch with Dean](#), our rates are very cheap and we assure you that your business visibility will increase as a result.

How can we assure you that your online visibility will increase?

For these reasons:-

1. Unlike Google Adwords, and other Advertising type schemes that are machine run, our Advertisements are handwritten in line with the text in the magazine and in that way are not detected by Adblockers
2. Unlike other Advertising Solutions we carefully word your Ad so it looks and feels different in each issue and we will work with you to do this.
We will change images and any text in each monthly issue if you buy 12 months with us.
3. We are the most competitive Advertising Service locally we feel and we have approximately 15 places of the 20 left that we originally allocated as **buy one year and get another free. That is two years of advertising for only £50**

This Special Offer for the First Twenty advertisers signing with us will be ending soon. Get your TWO years of Advertising for only £50 with FTHM whilst there is still time.

YOU can have TWO years worth of Adverts in From The Horse's Mouth, with back-links to your websites and social media profiles all for only £50 !!

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

ADVERT

We are pleased to introduce Spiritual Connections Shop in Todmorden.

Located on Water Street, Spiritual Connections is a place where you can chill and have a chat with the owners plus buy lots of interesting products, from incense to handmade Witch Dolls. Also you can get the most amazing Tarot Reading from Barry, you need to Book First.

Get in Touch:

[Spiritual Connections on Facebook](#)

[Spiritual Connections Etsy Shop](#)



MY NOT VERY SERIOUS STARS

Scorpio 24 Oct – 22 Nov

A taxi driver may show you unexpected kindness this month by actually helping you with your shopping. You should start to consume less milk from now on with

the result that you start acting in a nicer way to others – instead of always playing the role of the spoilt cow. You are in a rut and a change of routine would do you the world of good. Eat more fresh food.

Sagittarius 23 Nov – 21 Dec

A good time to give up smoking – just think of all the holidays you could then afford! Unfortunately, you are so ugly that it is time you started wearing a balaclava when you go shopping. Don't worry though as someone, somewhere, will take pity on you and ask you out. Consider changing your soap powder immediately. Buy a lottery ticket.

Capricorn 22 Dec – 20 Jan

This month a caring, nice man will come into your life and prove to you that not all men are insensitive pigs. Also, an older woman will astound you with her intellect and make you realise that not all women are washed up at forty. Why not change your usual cuppa to a cappuccino? It might be interesting to start keeping reptiles in your bedroom.

Aquarius 21 Jan – 19 Feb

It is time to stop kidding yourself that you are attractive to the opposite sex but do lap up any crumbs of attention that do come your way. A good time to have a boob job. Consider changing your car if you want to impress others but be prepared to be in more debt. Dye your hair purple before you go completely bald. Include monkey nuts in your diet.

Pisces 20 Feb – 20 Mar

You have been extremely mean this year so it is now time to show someone less fortunate than yourself some kindness by shedding a few pounds from your fat wallet. It is a good time to run 10K blindfolded. Someone who is very grey will come on to you in the near future but do let them down gently if you're not interested. Buy a sports bra to control your wobbly bits.

Aries 21 Mar – 20 Apr

If you feel you badly need attention, then walk around town with a miniature Christmas tree strapped to your head. If you have a grievance, it is a good time to write to your MP so that

they can ignore you or at best, fob you off as if you're a fool. You should consider making a baby as this would stop you being so self-centred. Buy two turnips.

Taurus 21 Apr – 21 May

Someone will soon comment on your wrinkles and how your face looks like a screwed-up paper bag – but at least you have a lovely personality so that's something to hold onto. A good time to stop drinking alcohol if you want to avoid waking up in the local graveyard every weekend. Stop being so sycophantic to people in authority.

Gemini 22 May – 21 Jun

Be careful now for if you continue to put on so much weight, you will surely end up living outside with the chickens. An older, intelligent man may shock you by how much lead he still has in his pencil. Start developing a mindset to cherish this planet as it's the only one we've got. Give something to a worthwhile charity that doesn't pester you for money afterwards.

Cancer 22 Jun – 23 Jul

You have always been a fashion victim but this month decide to think for yourself and wear what you want to really wear. Depression may come knocking on your door so don't reject the idea of antidepressants without thinking properly about it. Buy a woman with a fat bottom some flowers because you can. Think about starting running again.

Leo 24 Jul – 23 Aug

Someone with nice legs may give you the run about this month. A bank manager may seem to have a heart by allowing you to get more into debt. Start thinking about Christmas as it will soon be upon us again. If you are married, take a long, hard look at your marriage and decide if you really want to be in it – remember this life is so short.

Virgo 24 Aug – 23 Sep

It is time you considered going to a gym if you hope to live past 50. An unexpected gift will make you feel very appreciated this month. You may soon realise that you are married to an idiot. Do something about your image as you look absolutely dreadful. Someone from the past may reappear and bring good fortune with them. Start to moisturise.

Libra 24 Sep – 23 Oct

You should really shower more often as people are beginning to talk about your personal hygiene. You are extremely good with other people so seriously consider a career change. A boring woman may collar you this week, but do give her the time of day, as this is clearly what she needs. Stop being so tight and pay for a decent haircut.

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)



ADVERT

[Aegis Martial Arts](#)

Aegis Martial Arts

Aegis is a system rather than a style of martial arts that incorporates kick boxing, boxing, grappling and personal protection. It is dedicated to teaching self-defence in any situation so we are teaching people techniques of how to defend themselves...[read more](#)

Aegis have branches all over the North of England with one in Hebden Bridge as well as , simply check out the [Aegis Contact Page](#) to find out more.

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH SHORT STORY COMPETITION

This competition started on 1st August and runs until **midnight (BST) 30/09/18**.

The theme is “There but for the grace of God go I” which must be used in your story.

Full details are available at: www.fromthehorsesmouth.org.uk

The minimum is 2,500 words – maximum 5,000 words

1st Prize is £50 Amazon Gift Vouchers, the 2nd prize is £25 Amazon Gift Vouchers and the 3rd prize is £10 Amazon Gift Vouchers.

Please send all entries to dean@fthm.org.uk

AN INTERVIEW WITH BILL PEARCE OF HALIFAX



Bill, can you tell me a bit about yourself? Yes. I'm 70 and glad to have reached 70. I was born in 1947 and come from a large family of five brothers and two sisters. I've lived all through the Calder Valley and moved around a lot. I attended Sowerby Bridge Grammar School and left there in 1962.

What did you do after you left school? The first job I got was at the Co-op in Millbank and there I worked behind the counter before they transferred me to Sowerby Bridge. I then went to work for Humphrey Carpets which was a big employer in Sowerby Bridge in the 60s and 70s. I worked on maintenance keeping the spinning and twinning frames going. I was

supposed to be trained up again but wanderlust took over, and I ended up in engineering as a lathe turner. After that I had a little gardening business for a while but was too soft to charge people enough money.

I ended up at Boosters which was part of Calderdale Mencap, volunteered there, and ended up managing the place until 2005, when it was closing down and somebody else took it over.

So, in 2010, along with two other people, I started The Hive charity for adults with learning difficulties. Even though I have now retired, I still volunteer there two days a week.

What attracts you to that kind of work? It's the people who are vulnerable and grateful for anything you do for them. I feel like I'm making a difference. Someone once told me if you're a volunteer you're selfish, and I know what they mean as I feel fulfilled when I have done something for them.

But can you relate to these people? Yes. I have a unique relationship with most of them because I can tailor jokes to their mentality; I insult them, laugh with them and we just have a good time all day. I can connect with them. Before doing this, I also did a couple of years working with unemployed adults who had left school illiterate which is why they had ended up unemployed. I also found this work fulfilling as we taught them basic skills which they needed to become employed.

What other interests have you got in life? I love music. Music's a big part of my life - from the late 50s to early 60s was my favourite time. I love the Beatles, Beach Boys and the early music of the Rolling Stones before they became 'spoilt'. I also like Pink Floyd except for 'The Wall' which I thought was rubbish. But they're good musicians and like them mainly through my son who is a big fan of them.

How many children did you have? Two. A boy and a girl.

Do you see them? I see the boy, but my ex-wife and daughter don't speak to me.

How do you find living in England? It frustrates me because I have quite a good memory of growing up in the 50s and 60s which was the part of my life that I loved the most. It was very English, and though times after the war were still quite austere, people and communities pulled together. We used to sit out on summer nights until ten or eleven, and people took it in turns to make tea and provide biscuits.

When the first immigrants came in the 60s, I had the hope that they would integrate but this was not the case. I find now, especially in my hometown of Halifax, that there's an enclave that's spreading and people won't join in and make an effort to integrate. They want everything their own way.

But I've been treated by immigrant doctors who have been good and are good people – I just wish immigrants would try and integrate more.

Can I just add that from the ages of 17 to 30 I played football for Sowerby Bridge and ended up running the reserve team which was also a happy time in my life.

Do you think Britain's future looks bright? I doubt it. I've tried to remain positive until a couple of years ago, but when I look around and see the political scene, I am dismayed.

What do you think of current politicians? The only one I like is President Trump because he tries to do what he promised and he shoots from the hip - and I like that. He tells it, whether you agree or not, as he thinks it is.

What are your personal hopes for the future? I want to be healthy although I have some health problems.

What health problems have you got? I've got heart failure, I've trouble with my back and now they've diagnosed me with polynurothopy, which is nerve damage in my feet, arms and legs. But I look out of the door and I see people in a much worse state than me so I'm grateful.

Have you anything to add? Yes. My father was a very violent father but he had good standards, morals and strong work ethic – but he had eight kids to feed!

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

ADVERT

Pennine Provisions

As well as helping to sponsor us here at FTHM, [Pennine Provisions](#) is also a foremost supplier of Health Supplements in the Calder Valley.

You really must visit their great shop in Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 8EH

Find out more information on the [Pennine Provisions Local Listing Page](#).

They also have an [Instagram Account here](#)

WRITING OUT OF MY R'S

Written by Robert A Williams

So, Dean's been asking me to write an article for a while now, I had thought of writing about enlightenment and recent meetings with Sadhguru or about recent experiences at Car dealerships as I have been helping my partner look for a new car.

I have written about Cars before in From The Horse's Mouth Blog, notably in [Issue 36](#) However, on this occasion I cannot, for the life of me, decide what to focus on so I thought I would simply write out of my arse?!

How are you enjoying the Glorious Summer, it is certainly the best Summer I have experienced in the 12/13 years I have been relocated in the North of England. I am against people moaning about it being too hot or some such nonsense as most of the time in Hebden Bridge it is just damp, dark and cold. At least that is predominantly my experience of being here. If anyone would like to comment on anything I have written then they can do quite simply below this page content.

So, what do I do? Well, many things, possibly too much, and some people would say with too little focus in the Spiritual Sense. I am a very Spiritual Being. I believe and see no real point in being here other than trying to help people evolve within their own Spirituality or try to liberate myself from the cyclical hamster wheel of reincarnation. Whether I will manage that this lifetime is anyone's guess really and in many ways it is completely out of my control. Go fathom.

I read Tarot and also am interested in other divinatory tools. I build websites and host websites on environmentally friendly web servers. You may wonder how that is achieved? Well it's quite a simple process, the energy used to run the servers is monitored. The CO2 produced from energy used is calculated and then trees are planted, in the UK, to offset the CO2 produced. This site of Dean's is hosted on environmentally friendly servers and if you want to do similar then simply get in touch. My rates are cheap, £60 to local small business, start-ups and those on low incomes, £80 plus to established Businesses.

There are additional charges on top of that, that is a basic hosting charge, any domain name would be additional.

I am also a keen photographer and I have some images [hosted here](#)
Recent images can be viewed on my instagram profile, which is *grunkern*

Other than the above I manage many Social Media Profiles for Small Businesses on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and other places. If you are interested in increasing your online visibility then get in touch with me. robert@rawilliams.co.uk

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

DAZE OF MY LIFE (Part Two)



Written by Bill Pearce

Education, balaclavas and Davy Crockett

ADDENDUM

Previously, when talking about 35a Bolton Brow, the house where I was born, I should have pointed out the following. Besides our family of five plus Grandma and Grandad Goulden, there were also my aunties Olga and Christine and my uncles Terry, Ernie, John and Fred (when he wasn't with the RAF). Thirteen in one house was pushing it a bit, even for those days.

Back up at Sowerby, the world was opening up for the four-year-old Billy and new friends were being made as more families moved into Dean Lane. The Clarke family moved into number 54 and Phil and I became great friends with their two youngest sons, Kelvin and Philip. Many happy hours were spent making mud pies and seeing who could spin fastest around the washing poles.

There was just one school in Sowerby at that time, St. Peter's Junior and Infants. In the summer of 1952, aged four and a half, I was made to attend, although I hadn't been consulted on the matter. The head teacher, Miss Shuttleworth, whose age I estimated at the time to be around 400, did her best to make us feel welcome and started the unenviable task of educating a disinterested young man who would rather have been chasing butterflies or collecting caterpillars.

To be fair, it wasn't long before the ability to read and write started to emerge and even at that young age it seemed that this education lark may have its benefits. As the school was only a hundred yards from our house, getting there wasn't a problem and the only difference between winter and summer attire was that in winter we had a woolly balaclava forced over our heads. This was knitted by mother from a First World War pattern. The rest of the uniform consisted of anything that was clean and sandals.

Another strange situation developed in the summer of 1952. Mum was putting on weight and Dad was fussing around her a lot. I just hoped she wasn't eating all the food. In late July, Kelvin's Mom asked me if I was looking forward to our new baby. What the hell was she going on about? Then it happened. One morning Mom didn't get up and a nurse came to the house. Me and Phil had no idea what was going on but our John said she was having the baby. Before too long we heard the sound of crying coming from my parents' bedroom.

Eventually, Dad came to tell us we had a new little sister. If the crying was anything to go by, she was going to be a miserable little sod! It was August 1st and she was going to be named Lorraine. She has spent the rest of her life being called Lolly or Loll. I wondered if I was being sent to school so there would be more room in the house for her?

Things of interest began happening in the field opposite 46 Dean Lane in 1953. Lots of men were wandering about with tape measures and boards. This was the field that contained air raid shelters left over from the Second World War, a brilliant place to hide to avoid parents and neighbours. They also doubled up as headquarters for our gang.

We used to like lighting fires in there but didn't often have any matches. One day this fool-proof idea came to me. I would approach Mrs Walsh at 44 Dean Lane and ask her if she could lend my mum a box of matches until she had been to the shop. She gave me the box which I took in through our back door, out through the front door and ran over to the field.

We spent an hour or so igniting grass, paper, leaves and anything else with combustible qualities. Once the matches were gone we went back to other outdoor pursuits and the matches were forgotten about, but not completely! Mom and dad had been to the shop and on their return, Mrs Walsh appeared at her front door and asked them if they had got the matches alright? All I will say here is that I ended up in bed with a burning bum that glowed much hotter than any of the matches had done. (Ouch!).

Back to the field. We found out that they were planning to build a new school to accommodate the growing number of post war children, now referred to as Baby Boomers. Although we hadn't been informed that a new school was about to be built, the rapidly maturing Pearce-Clarke gang spent many happy days in the foundation trenches.

These were used to replicate battles from the war years which were still fresh in the minds of most people from that era. Although we weren't aware of it, rationing was still in use for some things. Sweets weren't often available, so the occasional gob stopper was greatly appreciated and was often sucked in turn by gang members. A colour change on your suck brought murmurs of approval from the others. The caretaker from Sowerby School was employed as a watchman for the newly emerging primary school but was easily avoided on his infrequent tours of duty.

Another highlight of 1953 for the whole nation was the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Like many other places, Sowerby decided to throw its own street party. It was held on Newlands Avenue with a long row of tables and chairs to accommodate the hungry hordes of children. I only have a vague recollection of butterfly buns and jelly and custard. It must have been difficult to provide enough food to feed us all when finances in general were poor. We were all dressed in our best clothes and a photo does exist somewhere. Our Phil is featured on it with his hair parted in the style of the day (short back and sides). The Queen didn't make an appearance but I'm sure she could have had half of my butterfly bun had she done so.

The Pearce family entered the world of television viewing in late 1954 when we got a 12-inch screen, black and white television on rental. Programmes started at 5.00pm with Children's Hour and ended around 10.30 pm with the Epilogue. The Clarke family got their TV set about 6 months before us, so had bragging rights for a while. A very popular programme back then was Davy Crockett – King of the Wild Frontier. His racoon hat with accompanying tail was much envied by children at that time.

My mother, who was never stuck for bright ideas, acquired an old, second hand fur coat. It was of dubious origin and quite battered, but with scissors, needle and thread and much patience she turned it into four Davy Crockett hats. Ecstasy was the only word that described the feelings of the Pearce-Clarke gang as we paraded our territory sporting our new status symbols. We soon found some old canes or straight branches which then became our Huntsman's rifles. We wandered round Sowerby feeling invincible and the local inhabitants were soon the target of our volleys of lead shot. The old air raid shelters became the Alamo and we also managed to change the story so that we were on the winning side. What else would anyone expect?

Next Time...School holidays and jolly japes

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

ADVERT

Coming Up in Hebden Bridge on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd September 2018 is a Holistic Weekend at the Birchcliffe Centre

For The Facebook page [Click here](#)

For Twitter [Click Here](#)

For EVENTBRITE TICKETS [Click here](#)



**Hebden Bridge's very own Holistic Weekend
Therapies, Stalls, Workshops and Talks including:**

Massage, Reflexology, Reiki, Auricular Acupuncture, Atlantian Therapy, Shiatsu, Oxidative Stress, Local Artists, Jewellery, Magnetix, Soaps, Aromatherapy Products, Mindfulness, KORE therapy, Labyrinth Prayer, Holistic Products, Homeopathy, Sound Meditation & CD's, Angel Energies Artwork and Woodcraft, Astrology, Tarot, Glitter Tattoos and Hair Braids, Crystals and much more



Delicious Vegetarian and Vegan Food by Beets and Beans with Thyme for Tiffin



Buy your Weekend Ticket on Eventbrite and receive a £5.00 voucher to spend at the event
(no cash alternative) <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/myevent?eid=47236512681>
Entry £3.00 per day on the door (Under 14's Free) From 10.00am till 5.00pm



Venue: Birchcliffe Centre,
Hebden Bridge HX7 8DG

595 bus from Train Station or
Commercial Street, Hebden Bridge



Find us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/HolisticHebdenBridge/>

Find us on Twitter
@HolisticHebden



Sponsored by:



Therapeutic Kneads
No.5, Birchcliffe Centre, Hebden Bridge HX7 8DG
07561 532362 www.TherapeuticKneads.co.uk



Earth Spirit
23 Market Street, Hebden Bridge HX7 6EU
01422 847770 www.earthspiritshop.co.uk



Not a Full Shilling
39 Market Street Hebden Bridge HX7 6EU
01422 847801 www.notafullshilling.co.uk



The Banyan Tree
48-50 Market Street, Hebden Bridge HX7 6AA
01422 845880 www.thebanyantreehebden.com

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

THREE MORE OLD RECIPES FROM JUNE CHARLTON



Macarons

Ingredients:

- 1 oz of ground almonds
- 4 oz of caster sugar
- 1 egg white

1 oz of ground rice
½ teaspoon of vanilla essence

Method:

Whisk egg white, ground almonds, caster sugar and essences together for 10 mins. Fold in ground rice. Place in teaspoonfuls on a baking tray lined with rice paper. Top with split almonds if desired. Bake at a moderate heat. Makes approximately 10 biscuits.



Gingerbread

Ingredients:

12 oz of self-raising flour
6 oz of margarine
4 oz of caster sugar
3 tablespoons of golden syrup
1 tablespoon of black treacle
1 1/2 level teaspoons of ground ginger

2 eggs
4 tablespoons of milk
Pinch of cinnamon
Pinch of salt
Pinch of mixed spice

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

Method:

Grease tin. Sieve flour, salt and spices. Place sugar, syrup, treacle and margarine in a pan and leave over a gentle heat to melt but do not allow to become very hot.

Pour melted mixture on to flour and beat well. Add lightly beaten eggs and beat until the mixture is smooth – the consistency should be that of a thick batter. Add a little more milk if required.

Pour into the prepared tin and bake in a moderate oven until done.



Ginger Sponge Pudding

Ingredients:

½ of flour
5 oz of brown soft sugar
2 oz of butter
3 tablespoons of treacle
1 egg
2 teaspoons of ground ginger

Pinch of cinnamon
1 teaspoon of carbonated soda
¼ pint of milk

Method:

Melt the butter, treacle and sugar in a large pan. When the sugar is dissolved, stir in the flour, spices, carbonated soda and milk and mix well. Beat the egg and add it last of all to give a glossy crust. Pour the butter into a large flat oven tin and bake in a moderate oven. Serve hot with custard or cold with stewed rhubarb.

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

A LOVELY RECIPE FROM KELLY WESTERN



Chocolate and Caramel Shortbread

Ingredients:

100 grams of dark chocolate
40 grams of white chocolate
170 grams of plain flour
60 grams of caster sugar
One tin of condensed milk
2 tablespoons of golden syrup
120 grams butter for shortbread

120 grams butter for caramel

Method:

Cut half of the cold butter in to cubes, add plain flour and rub with hands until crumbled. Add caster sugar and place on a tray and pat down. Cook for 20/25 minutes.

Dice other half of the butter into a pan with condensed milk and golden syrup. Heat and stir until caramel is formed. Add on top of shortbread and then melt dark chocolate and white chocolate before adding on top of the caramel.

Cool until hardened and cut into squares.

For more Recipes Check Out Our [Dedicated FTHM Recipes Page here](#)

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

BRENDA'S THOUGHTS ON SUMMER



Well we had a lovely summer and the end of Spring was nice with the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan.

It's been lovely weather with all the festivals and garden parties which were brilliant but left us a bit short of water – the gardens at times, were much in need of heavy rain.

When the weather is like it's been, we need not go abroad and it's fine to stay in England and enjoy our lovely country.

Let's hope we have some more good summers in the near future when we can live once more as if we don't have a care in the world!

OVER THE HILLS

Over the hills and far away
Over the hills and we dare not stray for fear of getting lost
But the scenery is good from here
So, I'm happy to stay where I am
And make do with how far I have come

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

HANNAH COBB TALKS ABOUT HER MUSIC AND ART



Hannah, can you speak a bit about yourself? I'm 20 years old and at the moment I live between Preston and Manchester – I live with my mum and dad in Preston and with my friend in Manchester. I work in Hebden Bridge and I'm in a band.

What's the band called?
Dream English Kid. It's ethereal, dreamy and dark music.

Who's in the band? There's me and I sing and play synth. There's

my best friend Maria Toase who sings and plays electric guitar. Also, there's Liam Ogburn on bass and Jakob Tynan on drums.

How long have you been together? We've been playing in this band since October last year but three of us used to be in another band, and we've played together for about 4 years now.

Where did you meet the other band members? I met Maria at school when we were about 14. We met Liam (who was at uni in Preston) when we started playing little gigs in Preston. We knew Jakob from college.

Why do you want to make music? Because music is so important to us. We've listened to other people's music and it has helped us get through things and now we want to do the same for other people.

What kind of music has influenced you personally? Pink Floyd, quite synthy eighties music like the Cocteau Twins. Then bands that are around now like Beach House.

Where has your band played? We've played a lot of gigs in Manchester. We've played in Macclesfield and Preston and we played Leeds at the end of August.

Do you write your own songs? Yes.

How do you go about writing a song? We'll be in the practice room and one of us will start playing something and then another one will join in, then we'll end up with a melody, rhythm and a beat we're going along with.

Are the words the last thing? Usually yes.

Are you hoping to be rich and famous then?! I don't expect to be rich or famous but I would like to make music as my job.

Is it true that you are going to uni soon? Yes. I am going to do a Fine Arts degree course in Manchester but I am going to continue with my music as well.

Why do you want to do art if you want to be a professional musician? I'm interested in both and I think they combine together really well.

What kind of art are you into? Modern sculpture though I also really like classical sculpture.

Do you think the band is good enough to 'make it'? I hope so, but we still have a long way to go.

Have you got a record deal? We work in conjunction with our friend's record label which is called First Light Records – they're building up a portfolio and we help each other.

Have you been in a recording studio yet? Yes. It was a really good experience.

Was it expensive? We've been in ones where we've paid to do it at full cost, but we record, at the moment, in our friend's studio in Stockport, at a reduced rate. He does a really good job for us.

What are your favourite bands at the moment? I'm really into Nick Cave and The Bad Seeds and a new band called Khruangbin which is quite jazzy.

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

KATE CULLEN'S MONTHLY QUIZ

Questions:



- (1) How many ghosts appeared to scrooge?
- (2) How many calling birds were there in the Christmas song?
- (3) How did Buddy Holly die?
- (4) Who sings the theme song in the film 'Goldfinger'?
- (5) Where were Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer married?
- (6) Which is India's sacred river?
- (7) On which island was Ben Gunn marooned?
- (8) In which town do the Flintstones live?
- (9) To which house did Henry VIII belong?
- (10) Who were the two Ronnies?
- (11) How many sides has the 50p piece got?
- (12) Where does the Chancellor of the Exchequer live?
- (13) In which sport is the Davis Cup awarded?
- (14) Which Marx brother had a moustache?
- (15) What was Donald Campbell's jet-powered motor boat called?
- (16) What was special about Louise Brown?
- (17) How many legs has a lobster?
- (18) Which sport is governed by the Queensbury Rules?
- (19) Who was called the 'Waltz King'?
- (20) To whom was Anne Hathaway married?

Answers:

- (1) 4: past, present, future and Marley's (2) 4 (3) In a plane crash (4) Shirley Bassey (5) St. Paul's Cathedral (6) The Ganges (7) Treasure Island (8) Bedrock (9) Tudors (10) R. Barker and R. Corbett (11) 7 (12) 11 Downing Street (13) Tennis (14) Groucho (15) Bluebird (16) She was the first test-tube baby (17) 10 (18) Boxing (19) Johann Strauss (20) William Shakespeare

KATE CULLEN'S CLASSICAL MUSIC QUIZ

Questions:



- (1) In which city was Mozart born?
- (2) Who composed the choral (9th Symphony) 'The ode to joy'?
- (3) Who composed 'By the beautiful blue Danube'?
- (4) What year is commemorated in Tchaikovsky's famous overture about a battle?

- (5) What colour is featured in Gershwin's 1924 Rhapsody?
- (6) Which radio station does the singer Aled Jones work for?
- (7) Which city did Freddie Mercury and Montserrat Caballe sing about?
- (8) Who wrote the opera, 'The barber of Seville'?
- (9) In which English city was Frederick Delius born?
- (10) What is the name of the famous Italian opera house in Milan?
- (11) Which supposedly 'magic' musical instrument did Mozart write an opera about?
- (12) What type of violin was originally made in the Italian town of Cremona?
- (13) In which section of an orchestra would you find a cello?
- (14) What nationality was Felix Mendelssohn?
- (15) How many strings does a violin have?
- (16) What is the name of the Leonard Bernstein musical, set in New York, about two rival gangs?
- (17) Which composer was completely deaf by the age of 46?
- (18) Which composer wrote 'music for the royal fireworks'?
- (19) What nationality was Chopin?
- (20) Which instrument does Nigel Kennedy play?

Answers:

- (1) Salzburg (2) Beethoven (3) Johann Strauss (4) 1812 (5) Blue (6) Classic FM (7) Barcelona (8) Rossini (9) Bradford (10) La Scala (11) Flute (12) Stradivarius (13) Strings (14) German (15) Four (16) West Side Story (17) Beethoven (18) Handel (19) Polish (20) Violin

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

DESERT ISLAND DISCS by Bill Pearce

1. God only knows – The Beach Boys. Brian Wilson at his very best, the layering of instruments and voices are blended into this recognised classic.
2. Harvest Moon – Neil Young. A smooth and relaxing track from this talented individual.
3. Ask me why – The Beatles. Penned and sung by John Lennon, this early classic is indicative of the talent yet to blossom.
4. Be my baby – The Ronettes. I never tire of playing this early Phil Spector produced classic. The song and Ronnie Bennett were made for each other.
5. Eloise – Barry Ryan. A one hit wonder but I have always been fond of this catchy song.
6. I never cared for you – Willie Nelson. One of my all-time favourite performers. Sister Bobbie and friend Paul English also feature.
7. Think it over – Buddy Holly. Probably my favourite singer with this bouncy number. Died far too young.
8. Bad moon rising – Creedence Clearwater Revival. John Fogerty's voice drives along this well-known classic track.

Book: *Bleak House by Charles Dickens*. My favourite author and I could have chosen any of his novels. This one is full of dark characters and Old Krook is a rare victim of spontaneous human combustion (SHC).

Luxury Item: Any solar powered music player. I love to sing along.

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

LETTERS PAGE



Dear Editor

Looking back at the World Cup I think England did well against the weaker opposition that they faced - but there is no way that you can say any of the players are world class. I do however, think that they would have beaten Croatia if Kane had not been so greedy when a second goal was beckoning. The competition clearly

showed that Harry Kane is not world class even if he did win the Golden Boot.

Harry Maguire did well against limited opposition but his distribution was poor against more organised teams. Still one could argue that this England team will mature and improve over time. Let's not mention Raheem Sterling though!

Sian Lewis, Croydon

Dear Editor

I agree with past contributors who argue that a more rigorous and regular system of road testing is needed. Some older drivers are not only a danger to themselves but also to other road users.

The revenue from extra testing could be used to improve our roads and build much needed cycling lanes.

Julie Whitehouse, Manchester

Dear Editor

As a woman can I just say to men that I am sick and tired of being chatted up with the same old boring chat-up lines. We all want the same result at the end of the day, but at least try and make the chase more interesting!

Jade Crabtree, County Durham

Dear Editor

I want to raise the issue of cyclists riding on pavements. I can understand that cyclists are afraid to ride on our busy and dangerous roads, but I don't think the answer is to ride on the

pavement and endanger the safety of innocent pedestrians. There is a shortfall of cycling lanes and space for new cycling lanes but I can't honestly say that I have the answer to the problem. Can anyone help?

Hannah Newsome, Leeds

Dear Editor

I think Britain and the Commonwealth is so lucky to have Queen Elizabeth II as she has faithfully done her job with integrity and dignity.

I can relate to the idea of having an elected Head of State but I honestly don't think we would find anyone more suitable than our current monarch.

However, I don't have a lot of faith in Charles being a good king though I think his heart is in the right place.

Freda Cartwright, London

Dear Editor

At last women are starting to get some protection from predator males who think it is alright to abuse and exploit them. For too long men have ruled the roost and been allowed to get away with murder. I think it is about time we woke up to the fact that women make a huge contribution and bring numerous skills to society.

Stephen Moorcroft, Aberford

Dear Editor

I think the young of today lack imagination and originality. I can't believe how young people deface their bodies with meaningless and ugly tattoos that they may well live to regret. Why don't they do something original like not have a tattoo and spend their money on something more aesthetically pleasing or something more worthwhile? – I stopped putting ink on my skin when I left primary school!

We are all basically the same but there is room for quirkiness and a touch of originality.

Mary Stonehouse, Manchester

Dear Editor

I have to agree with the single person with no children who argued that they should not have to contribute to the cost of educating and bringing up other people's children. I am pro-society but it doesn't seem fair when childless people have to subsidise other people's life choices. People with children should pay for them.

Caitlin Warburton, London

Dear Editor

Does anyone agree with me that many GPs are brilliant at treating physical problems but absolutely inadequate and out of their depth when it comes to treating mental health issues? I

think more doctors should receive in-depth training to deal with what is an escalating problem caused by ever more stressful lifestyles.

George Leeming, Pontefract

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

ADVERT

10% of FTHM Advertising Revenue will be donated to the [Watermark Fund in Calderdale](#)

With Thanks to Silly Billy's Toy Shop for their Continued support:



Silly Billys Toy Shop
Old Gate House, Old Gate
Hedben Bridge HX7 6EN

Tel: 01422 843304
Web: www.sillybillystoyshop.com
Email: info@sillybillystoyshop.com

Silly Billy's Toy Shop has been established for 21 Years Now in Hedben Bridge and 2018 is there Big 21st Birthday year, they would really appreciate it if you would [review Silly Billy's On Trip Advisor](#) if you have visited their fantastic toy shop in Hedben Bridge

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

KATE CULLEN TALKS ABOUT HER LIFE AND HER VIEWS



Kate, can you tell me a bit about yourself? I'm 73, and I was born the day after VE Day at the end of the Second World War. I've had an excellent life in many respects, and good health. As I've got older, I've become happier.

What do you think about living in modern Britain? I don't like it as I feel like a foreigner in my own town and country.

What do you mean by that? I mean that we're overcrowded and are rapidly becoming outnumbered by

people from other countries like Asians and Eastern Europeans who are unwilling to respect our culture and our standards. I feel that England, my homeland, no longer exists.

Do you think immigrants bring any good things? Yes. I think some of them do. Doctors, nurses, business people and many others have contributed to the good of the country fully and fairly. I've no problem with good people who respect our country and its laws, cultures, standards and traditions.

So, who do you think shouldn't come here? People who don't contribute to the good of the whole and probably never will, people who claim benefits and haven't paid a penny in. I resent people using our health care system who haven't contributed to it in any way – they should have to pay for all the treatment they receive. People of my generation have paid in for many, many years. The elderly is blamed for living too long and needing healthcare. People don't think about how much the older generation has collectively paid in over many years.

The fact that so many people from other countries have been allowed to swamp and overcrowd our country, thus putting a strain on schools, doctors, NHS, roads etc. is never mentioned – probably because it's not seen as 'P.C.' It is easier to blame the older generation for living too long.

What kind of work did you do when you were younger? I taught for many years infant age children, between 5 and 7 years of age, which I loved. I left the profession as there became too much dictation from 'on high', often from people who had never been in a teaching role in a classroom. The National Curriculum came in which removed all spontaneity from the classroom.

I liked to work from the experiences the children had had, and objects that they brought into school, such as a simple shell, which could lead down so many paths of interest.

Young children can sometimes find sitting still and concentrating quite difficult. Until children can sit and listen, you can't even begin on the National Curriculum.

What did you do after you left the teaching profession? I went to work as a volunteer at a Mencap centre for adults with learning difficulties. I loved it. I eventually got paid for it.

What kind of work did you do there? The clients, with support, assembled letter boxes, draught excluding strips etc. supplied by a firm in Bradford, who paid a small amount for the work done.

Did they like doing that? Yes, it gave them a purpose and a sense of usefulness and achievement, something to get up for in the morning, which was far better than sitting in T.V. rooms most of the day.

They felt valued and we had lots of fun which made the whole 'work experience' more valuable. Most jobs can be made palatable if you work as a team and make it fun.

What other things did you do? I did a year as a 'Housemother' in a children's home. I felt I could do some good there, but the job was actually cleaning, cooking and laundry.

Any trips out had to be done in my own time and I ended up as a general dog's body and I felt I could have done much more than that.

After that, I worked at the then Halifax Building Society and was there when the Queen came to open the new building on Huddersfield Road. The work didn't suit me and I left there to get married, in 1974.

What are you doing with yourself now? I volunteer two days a week at a charity called 'The Hive', which is a centre for adults with learning difficulties, where I mainly do craft projects. It's a great place to be! I love it!

There is always a smiling face and a lovely welcome when I go there. 'The Hive' is a joyful place and the clients teach me such a lot. We have so much fun.

What else do you do with your time? I go to two knitting groups. I also go to a writers' group at the new library in Halifax. I think our language is the best in the world, the most beautiful, Dickens being the finest exponent of its beauty.

Is it true you used to be religious? Yes, although I'm an atheist now. My father attended the Christian Science Church and growing up, I thought that whatever my Dad said and believed must be true, as he was an absolute pillar of wisdom to me. I thought that everything he did was so highly principled and that he would have 'sussed' it out if it were all nonsense.

Consequently, I believed it all and read the Bible and Science and Health by Mary Baker Eddy on a regular basis. I have to admit that in those days it gave me great comfort.

Suddenly, however, it all became a complete nonsense to me and almost overnight I couldn't believe it anymore.

I still can't understand how I believed in it as it says there is no pain, no illness, no suffering and that all horrible things in life are a result of what they call 'mortal mind'.

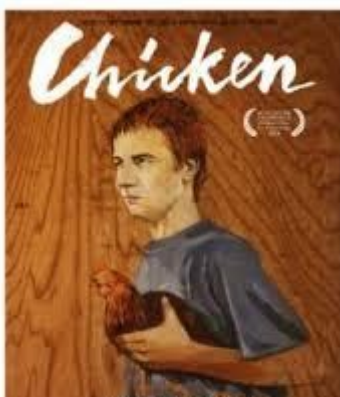
If God were omnipresent then surely, he must have been there when horrendous deeds were done. It just didn't make logic sense to me. In the light of this, I went totally against **all** religion and now it seems a sham and a con.

Do you think religion has any role to play in modern life? It's true that some people get comfort through it as I did. I used to read a book called 'Streams in The Desert' and there was a passage for every day. I thoroughly believed it and it helped me through some very difficult times, although it's definitely not for me now.

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

FILM REVIEW OF THE CHICKEN (2015)

By Bill Pearce



Richard played by Scott Chambers is a 15-year-old with learning difficulties/mental health problems. His relationship with a chicken by the name of Fiona, gives the film its title.

Richard lives in a dirty, poverty-stricken hovel of a caravan with his older brother Polly, played by Morgan Watkins. The first twenty minutes of the film left me wondering if I wanted to see it to the end. I'm glad I made the decision to stay.

Scott Chambers' depiction of Richard was an excellent piece of acting and Morgan Watkins wasn't far behind. Richard strikes up an unlikely friendship with Annabelle played by Yasmin Paige. She initially treats Richard as a source of amusement but eventually gets drawn to him by his honest and open nature. There is a simplistic naivete about him and how he sees the world. This contrasts with his brother, Polly, whose fiery nature ensures his un-employability and is the source of the small amount of violence in the film.

Like many good films, there is a twist near the end which explains much of the previous action. The film ends with the brothers parting.

I would have no hesitation recommending this film and I, for one, would like another viewing.

4 stars out of 5 is how I would rate this film.

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

ANOTHER FUN QUIZ FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH

Questions:



- (1) What basic ingredients make up a screwdriver cocktail?
- (2) What is the capital of Egypt?
- (3) Who directed the film 'The Birds'?
- (4) What nationality was the guitarist Frank Zappa?
- (5) What was the name of the first Pope?
- (6) What are the five pillars of Islam?
- (7) Where is the river Ganges?
- (8) How many players make up a rugby union side?
- (9) What was Nelson's famous ship called?
- (10) Where is the Statue of Liberty?
- (11) How many people make up a netball team?
- (12) What is the capital of Jamaica?
- (13) What is 20 00 hours on the 12-hour clock?

- (14) What is the chemical symbol for gold?
- (15) Where is the Colosseum situated?
- (16) What is the German word for dentist?
- (17) In which century was Beethoven born?
- (18) What is a concertina?
- (19) Where is Auschwitz?
- (20) What is the currency of Iceland?

Answers:

(1) Orange Juice and Vodka (2) Cairo (3) Alfred Hitchcock (4) American (5) Jorge Mario Bergoglio (6) Shahadah, Salat, Zakat, Sawm and Hajj (7) India (8) 15 (9) HMS Victory (10) New York Harbour, USA (11) 7 (12) Kingston (13) 8 pm (14) Au (15) Rome, Italy (16) Zahnarzt (17) Eighteenth Century – 1770 (18) Small Musical Instrument (19) Poland (20) Icelandic Krona

[RETURN TO CONTENTS](#)

Editor's Final Word: Thank you for taking the time and trouble to read this edition of our magazine. If you fancy making a small donation, you can do so [here](#) and/or you want to submit something to be considered for publication, then please send it to us at:

dean@fthm.org.uk