



**FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH – January 2023.
Edition No. 109.**

Hello. I hope you find yourself at peace in the New Year and that Christmas was enjoyable.

If you would like to (in a non-homophobic, non-racist and non-sexist way) make a small donation to the running costs of this publication, advertise or submit things to be considered for publication, please contact us at: dean@fthm.org.uk

Please note that our website address is: www.fromthehorsesmouth.org.uk Best wishes, Dean.

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MY NOT VERY SERIOUS STARS



Scorpio 24 Oct – 22 Nov

Now that you've seen through the Christmas festivities, you might be turning over every dietary stone in order to find a way to lose weight – just start by watching what you put in your mouth. A woman with a bit of a beard will reveal her true colours this month and make you realise what a beautiful person she really

is. If you're gay, live with pride. Smoke less.

Sagittarius 23 Nov – 21 Dec

On a materialistic level you are doing well, but you are clearly still emotionally poor and would benefit from having some romantic love in your life. Stop bricking it by hiding behind your wall. You played the role of the drunken fool over Christmas, so now, take a look at your alcohol intake and give your liver a fighting chance. Be kind to someone who is down.

Capricorn 22 Dec – 20 Jan

You may have recharged your batteries over Christmas, but now is the time to resolve to work less and spend more time with your loved ones. A silly young man may upset you this week, but just laugh it off as he is just young and daft. Maybe get your ears tested, unless you have selective hearing and don't want to hear your partner. Be good even if you're an atheist.

Aquarius 21 Jan – 19 Feb

You have been stupid recently, and it is time you put things into perspective and realised you are not the centre of the universe – we are all worth respect. A large lady will give you a lovely smile this week and make you feel really tall – do you remember when you were also overweight and very self-conscious? Consider buying a new fridge-freezer and a microwave.

Pisces 20 Feb – 20 Mar

Because of your love of music, why not learn to play an instrument and be a performer instead of just a spectator all of the time? You have creativity under your layers of geekiness. A man with a glass eye will watch your every move, but this is only because he admires you so much. Buy something nice for loved ones and spend some quality time with them. Shop.

Aries 21 Mar – 20 Apr

This month a magician will fail to impress you with his wand; consequently, you will be more sceptical than ever about magic. Christmas has gone and it's time to embrace the mundane and look out for the good bits in life. It's time you re-examined your political views and worked out if you are being brainwashed by the establishment. Eat less imported food?

Taurus 21 Apr – 21 May

A good time to immerse yourself in a new culture as this may give you a new lease of life. Your ego is far too big, and you are heading for a fall if you don't change your perception of yourself and the world. Take up romantic fishing and hook up with a new partner. Make allowances for people who you think are stupid. Buy a friend some lovely flowers. Work.

Gemini 22 May – 21 Jun

You are still drinking far too much caffeine, so maybe consider your heart more. A conspiracy theorist will bore and annoy you with his interference in your private conversations. You will meet someone in a wheelchair and be amazed by their extreme joie de vivre. The bra-less woman at work may show interest in you, but are you ready to invest in a new relationship?

Cancer 22 Jun – 23 Jul

A fishmonger may please you with his soulful approach to life. Maybe stop always looking to the future and realise that the present moment is all that we have. Some people think you dress like a tramp but, if you're happy, that's all that counts. It is a good time to purchase a three-legged horse and ride it naked around town. Be careful when crossing major roads.

Leo 24 Jul – 23 Aug

Like many people, you may have the blues after experiencing a joyful Christmas, but plod on and try to enjoy the process of pushing up the rock up the hill – only for it to fall down again and again and again. It is a good time to learn to cook as you are far too dependent on others for your meals. Stand on your own two feet and stop expecting to be babied. Buy chocolates

Virgo 24 Aug – 23 Sep

A beautiful woman will try and attract you soon but be aware that she will be extremely high-maintenance and will leave you both financially and emotionally broken. Be more prudent about your health and, as we are no longer spring chickens, stop making so much effort to feather your temporary nest. You smell a lot better than you used to. Try caviar.

Libra 24 Sep – 23 Oct

It is a very good time to learn to play the ukulele and then you can spend many happy hours leaning on a lamppost singing your heart out. You are still torturing yourself by looking at your reflection through shop windows, so either accept you are fat and get on with things or do something about it. Times may be hard money-wise, but things will improve this year.

INTERVIEW WITH EBONNIE GREENE



Ebonnie, can you tell me a little bit about yourself? I'm from Halifax, and I'm part of the Brigantes.

What's the Brigantes? We're a local band combining Ska, Reggae, Dub and Punk. We've been going in a heavier direction this year, more punk orientated. We've been going for 12 years.

Are you influenced by any particular band? So many. So many. It's hard to pinpoint, but there's The Specials, Dub Pistols and Random Hand who are actually from Keighley, near Halifax. We're playing with them in January and, hopefully, in the summer at Handfest.

What's Handfest? It's a festival that Random Hand put on.

Who are the members of your band? There's me, Harrison, Jordan, Luke and Drew. I play the guitar and perform secondary vocals, Harrison is the lead vocalist, Jordan is the bass player, Luke is the drummer and Drew is the guitarist/percussionist/sample man!

Where do you normally play? We play all around Huddersfield and Halifax. We've also played gigs in Thirsk, Leeds, Newcastle and soon we're going down to Camden.

Why Camden? Because there's a big music scene there!

So, it's going to make you a rock star?! That's the dream.

Is that why you're into music, to make it? Or are you into music for the sake of being into it? I'm into music because it's a passion of mine, but if I'm honest, I would like to make money from it, just as any artist wants to make money from the art that they make. But it's

mainly a passion for the music and playing with my best friends. It's a blessing being able to do that.

What age and how did you get into music? I started playing guitar when I was about 14. Brigantes started when Harrison, Drew and myself were young teenagers. That's how it all started! Then we met Jorden at college and Luke joined the band a little later - he's a childhood friend as well.

What kind of guitar do you play, Ebonnie? I play a blend of rhythm and lead.

So, your next gig is in Camden, is it? Yes, it is. We're also playing Camden again in January.

Do you get paid for you gigs? Yes. But not a lot! Recognition is a reward in itself though. Just being able to play for people who appreciate and enjoy what we do.

Is it difficult to get on in the music industry? And if so, why? There's not enough money in it and it involves a lot of costly travel. We all also work full-time. It's a passion, but it can also be a strain sometimes, not the band itself, but just how musicians and artists generally are treated in the world.

Do you think they are treated badly? Not badly, but I don't think there is enough recognition, and they are not valued enough. That applies to artists of all kinds e.g., writers, musicians, painters – people in all art forms are undervalued.

And would you like to be a millionaire then? No. I would like to make a comfortable living, but I'm not materialistic. But it would be great to make a good living out of something you're passionate about.

How often do you rehearse and where do you rehearse? Twice a week. We have our own band room now. Sometimes at the Arch-Way Project here in Halifax. Sometimes at Drew's house as he has a small space we can use.

Have you been in any other bands? I was in a band briefly in my teenage years, but I've been with Brigantes for 12 years.

Do you think Brigantes has evolved over the years? Definitely. We have evolved from being young teenagers to what we are now. For example, we used to be an acoustic trio. We continued to grow out of the sound we were making at the time and developed more.

Do you have a following? Yes. I would say so.

Do you recognise people in the crowd? Yes, and I often don't recognise some people which is a positive as it shows more new people are listening to us.

Have you anything to add? I'd like to promote some of the gigs that we've got coming up: in January we'll be playing at the Grayston Unity with Random Hand – that's on the 19th of January. I think tickets are available for that now. We're also playing in Camden on the 28th of January.

One gig in Camden? Yes. One gig. It will cost us a lot of money to get there, but it will be worth it for the exposure.

Are you a signed band? No, but we have some labels wanting to sign us.

What will be your direction in the future? We're going more for a heavier punk sound, and we want to focus on the punk demographic.

Would you like music to be your full-time job? Yes.

Does the band have artistic differences? Sometimes, but we are all good friends and resolve things amicably.

Does one person influence the band the most? No. We all influence each other.

Are you initially hoping to make it in the UK? Yes, and then Europe and then the world!

Thank you, Ebonnie.

JUNE'S WORLD



Hello everybody. I hope you are keeping well and fit.

My article this month is about being young in the potteries in Castleford, England.

I quite enjoyed living down the potteries because there was always something to keep us young people entertained. I loved going down Cinder Lane which was just opposite where I

lived. When you reached the bottom of the lane, you came to the river Aire which people walked around and from where you could watch the boats going to Leeds via Methley. I used to take some jam sandwiches and a bottle of tap water with me as we didn't have money to buy drinks like lemonade and dandelion and burdock, but we were happy with our lot.

Having said that, the friend I played with was the exception as she was an only child, and her father had a good job.

I also had a mate/friend called Ethel Will who was very bossy, and she used to tell me what to do all the time. I was a lot younger than her and very quiet, while she was loud. She wasn't a very nice person. For instance, she'd steal things from people like Mrs Marshall who had the Chemists/Pharmacy and who was very old. One day, we went into the shop and Mrs Marshall was fast asleep on a chair near the counter, so Ethel started picking things up and putting them in a bag. I told Ethel she shouldn't do that and that you shouldn't take things that aren't yours, but she told me to shut up and threatened to hit me. I was scared of her, so I kept quiet. She would have been 14 or 15, and I was a young 12-year-old who was shy. I told my mother what had happened, and she told me not to go with her anymore but, initially, it was difficult to confront Ethel, who was domineering, and it was not until I was 13 and had come into my

own that I was able to tell her that I didn't want to hang around with her anymore. Typically, Ethel wanted to fight me, but I declined as I was still scared of her. Consequently, I made a concerted effort to avoid her, but it was difficult as I had to pass her house every day. She would knock on the window and put her fists up at me. I put up with this situation until I was nearly 14 years old when, even though I was scared, I told myself that I mustn't be a coward. So, when she beckoned to me a couple of weeks later, I was ready for her. When she made a move to hit me, I punched her in the face, and she suddenly started crying. I then knew that I had overcome being scared of her as she ran home shouting at me – I remember thinking, who is the coward now?

Ethel didn't bother with me again until I was about 18 years old when I saw her entering the Eagle pub, which was opposite to where I lived. I was going into a little room called the Jug and Bottle where you could buy soft drinks or beer to take out. As I was 18, I was allowed in there, and I had gone as my grandma wanted a glass of beer. I felt really grown up, but I didn't go in pubs themselves until I was 21 years of age, when I started dancing with two or three more girls in the Kiosk, in Castleford. I had a great time there and soon learnt how to bop, which is now called the Jive. I was pretty good at it and was asked by other people where I had learnt to dance like that.

Later on, I started going to the Embassy in Pontefract and had a great time there. My life at this time was good working hard at Bellamy's sweet factory (later Mackintosh's) in the daytime and enjoying ourselves on a Monday and Friday night, which changed to Saturday night to enable me to have a good lay in on a Sunday morning.

When I was working at Bellamy's, I enjoyed every minute in dispatch where we prepared orders for the vans.

Yes, those were the days, and I loved them. I will write some more next time. June. X

LETTERS PAGE



Dear Editor

I hope all your readers have a good and peaceful New Year, full of laughter and joy. However, I think we should all take out time to remember those in war torn parts of the world who are completely innocent and who surely deserve a better life.

In my opinion, we should all work towards creating a more democratic world where a minority of evil people can't make negative decisions that affect millions of others. People, in general, aren't bad.

Fiona Spruce, Hartlepool

Dear Editor

Does anyone else think it is time that the police began arresting ‘professional beggars’ who litter our town centres. These people are not genuine and obviously just see begging as a job and a way to get money without working for it.

I am sorry that there are some homeless people in this day and age, but there are many others who are just taking the Micky out of kind-hearted people. Yet, the police just seem to turn a blind eye to the problem.

Steven Albright, Doncaster

Dear Editor

I love seeing children born from parents who share an ethnicity, but I do think people have the right to have children with whom they choose to. Of course, religion influences matter profoundly and should not be allowed to hinder western society’s evolution with beliefs that belong in the Middle Ages. I for one will associate with who I like, regardless of others’ outdated ideas. The more mixed raced children the better I believe! What do you think?

Andrea Willock, Stoke

A QUICK LOOK AT THE SPORT OF DARTS



Darts is a sport played by two or more people who throw darts at a dartboard in order to score points. Historically, it is thought that it started with people throwing stubs of arrows or crossbow belts at a section of a tree trunk that was circular in shape with concentric rings. The first purpose-made boards were initially made from solid blocks of elm before, in 1935, Ted Leggat introduced boards made of a type of agave – to make them need less maintenance and

have more longevity. Nowadays, boards (which are 17.8 inch in diameter) are made of sisal fibres from Eastern Africa, China and Brazil; less expensive ones are made of cork or coiled paper.

The history of darts is also interesting as they were initially made from solid wood, with lead for weight and split turkey feathers for the flights. Darts continued to evolve being made from brass, wooden shafts with paper flights. With the popularity of plastic in the 1970s, one-piece moulded darts became available to the general public.

A regulation board is divided into 20 numbered, radial sections that are separated by metal wire. Points of 20 to 1 point are scored by throwing a dart in the relevant section and its value is doubled or trebled if the darts lodges in the double or treble part of it. If a player hits the bullseye, they win 50 points or 25 points if the green outer bit is pierced by a dart.

Consequently, the maximum score from three darts is 180, with the aim of securing 501 to win the game – though one must finish on a double or bullseye to win. The lowest possible

finish is 9 darts, though it takes a special effort. If you throw your dart outside of the wire, no points are scored, or if you dislodge a prior score, you lose those points.

The Worlds Dart Federation stipulate that the bullseye must be 5 ft 8 inches from the floor and that one must stand behind the Oche (line) which is 7ft 9 inches from the face of the board. Interestingly, the Yorkshire and Manchester board differ from the standard board as they only have doubles and a bullseye. The Manchester board is also smaller in size. Also, there exists the London Fives Board which has 12 equal segments with the doubles and trebles being a quarter of inch wide.

Darts are played by many amateurs and has been played by professional players such as Eric Bristow, Phil Taylor and Michael van Gerwen. The next time you visit a British pub with a dartboard, why not try this popular sport or improve your existing skills.

* With some help from Wikipedia

BRENDA'S WILDLIFE CORNER



Corn Snake

The corn snake is a non-venomous species of the North American rat snake which kills its small rodent prey by constriction. It is useful to humans as it helps control rodent pests which spread disease. Sometimes, it is known as the red rat snake and, unfortunately, it is often killed as it has a resemblance to the venomous copperhead snake.

The coloration of a corn snake is visually attractive as it possesses an orange or brown body that has large red blotches in black down its back. Also, its stomach has distinctive rows of alternating black and white marks. It grows to a length between 2 and 6 feet and its habitats include overgrown fields, trees and abandoned buildings and farms, and it can live from sea level up to 6,000 feet. In the wild, it usually lives between 10 and 15 years, though it has been known to live for over 32 years in captivity.

A corn snake's sexual maturity is determined by its size rather than its age, and it usually breeds after a period of cooling called brumation, which lasts for 60 – 90 days. During this time, the snake shelters in rock crevices, logs during cold weather and comes out when it is warm to soak up the sun's heat. After courting, the male ejaculates sperm into the female and fertilises her eggs, which are laid a month after this event, before she abandons them. The resulting young, which emerge from the eggs, are about 5 inches in length. In the wild, the corn snake is to be found in states from New Jersey to the Florida Keys in the US, and they usually remain on the surface for the first 4 months of their existence.

This species of snake is very popular as a pet (especially in Brazil) as it is not dangerous to humans and can be handled for long periods of time. Due to selective breeding, the corn snake now exists in a variety of colours and patterns.

* Ref Wikipedia

THE GARDEN OF LOVE

I went to the Garden of Love,
And saw what I never had seen:
A Chapel was built in the midst,
Where I used to play on the green.

And the gates of this Chapel were shut,
And 'Thou shalt not' writ over the door;
So I turn'd to the Garden of Love
That so many sweet flowers bore;

And I saw it was filled with graves,
And tomb-stones where flowers should be;
And priests in black gowns were walking their rounds,
And binding with briars my joys & desires.

WILLIAM BLAKE (1757 - 1827)

A BRIEF LOOK AT DAUGHTRY



Daughtry is an American rock band that is huge in the US. Interestingly, the band was formed following the appearance of Chris Daughtry on American Idol (season 5) after he came fourth on the show. The current members are Chris Daughtry (lead vocals and guitar), John Steeley (lead guitar and backing vocals), Brian Craddock (rhythm and lead guitar and backing vocals), Elvio Fernandes (keyboard, piano, guitars and backing vocals), Marty O'Brien (bass guitar) and Jeremy Schaffer (drums and percussion). Since their formation in 2006, they have been nominated for many awards and, in 2009, they won the People's Choice Awards for best rock song "Home".

The band's debut album was self-titled in November 2006 and impressively reached No 1 on the Billboard 200 and spawned 4 top 20 hits on the Billboard Hot 100 including the hits "It's Not Over" and "Home". Daughtry has had a prolific career with constant touring and have released (at the time of writing) six studio albums and one greatest hits album: It's Not Over... The Hits So Far (2016), Daughtry (2006), Leave This Town (2009), Break the Spell (2011), Baptized (2013), Cage to Rattle (2018) and Dearly Beloved (2021). Also, the group

have had 20 number 1 hits around the world (according to billboard.com) with songs like “It’s Not Over”, “Home”, “What I Want”, “Over You”, “Crashed”, “Feels Like Tonight” and “There and Back Again”.

But the band has been open to musical influences and have incorporated input from people like Chad Kroeger from Nickelback, Jason Wade from Life house and Eric Gill, who is the former vocalist for the Click five. They have also collaborated with people like Shawn Morgen, Eric Dill and Martin Johnson.

As already mentioned, Daughtry has done much touring during its existence with illustrious names like Bon Jovi and headlined tours like Leave This Town Tour, Greatest Hits Tour and Dearly Beloved Tour. Besides the US, they have also appeared in shows in Canada, Singapore, Russia, the UK, Germany and Australia.

It is true to say that Daughtry has commercially conquered the US market, but this has not been the case in the rest of the world. It is a formidable rock band, and it will be interesting to see what it produces in the near future.

Chris Daughtry (after which the band is named) has really progressed since his appearance on American Idol and it just shows how such shows can propel someone to international stardom.

* I used Wikipedia to help me write this article.

MORE OF JUNE CHARLTON’S WONDERFUL RECIPES



Salmon Bakes

Ingredients:

4 potatoes, baked in jackets
2 oz of butter
8 oz of salmon
Tartare sauce to moisten
Salt and pepper

Method:

Cut the baked potatoes in half-lengthwise. With a spoon, scoop out the potato into a bowl, add butter, salt and pepper, and mash well. Fold in the salmon and tartare sauce. Replace the mixture in the potato shells and bake at 375 F/gas mark 5 for 15 minutes or heat under a gentle grill.

Steamed Date Pudding

Ingredients:

8 oz of cooked, sieved potato
3 oz of chopped dates



1 beaten egg
1 oz of caster sugar
2 oz of melted butter
Grated rind of one orange
Juice of half an orange
A pinch of salt

Method:

Mix together all the ingredients, adding more orange juice if required to make a soft consistency. Pour the mixture into a lightly greased basin. Cover, and steam for 1 ½ hours. Serve, piping hot, with cream or a brandy sauce.



Meat and Potato Crisps

Ingredients:

6 oz of potatoes parboiled for 5 minutes and grated
12 oz of beef, minced
4 oz of pork, minced
1 grated onion
3 oz of cooked, grated beetroot
1 beaten egg
1 teaspoon of vinegar

1 teaspoon of parsley
Oil
Salt and vinegar

Method:

Mix together the beef and pork with the onion and parsley. Add the potatoes, beetroot, salt and pepper and vinegar. Bind with a beaten egg. Form into thin, flat cakes and fry over a gentle heat until brown and crisp.



Corned Beef and Potato Flan

Ingredients:

2 oz of cheese
4 oz of potato, cooked and diced
4 oz of corned beef
2 oz of cooked peas
½ oz of butter
½ oz of flour
4 tablespoons of milk
1 beaten egg
6 oz of shortcrust pastry
Salt and pepper

Method:

Roll out the pastry to line a 7-inch flan ring. Chop the corned beef and combine with the potatoes and peas. Melt the butter in a pan. Add the flour and allow to cook without browning.

Add the milk gradually and cook until it boils and thickens. Stir in the beef, potatoes and peas. Add the beaten egg, cheese and seasoning and spoon into the flan case.

Bake for 10 minutes at 425 F/gas mark 7. Reduce the heat to 375 F/gas mark 5 and bake for 12-15 minutes.

Can be served hot or cold.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE



Written by Jason Wood

A Horror Story:

THE SCENE IS SET IN A MODERN-DAY PRISON, MANY YEARS IN THE FUTURE - SOMETHING THAT PRISONS COULD BE LIKE IN THE FUTURE. A DIFFERENT CONCEPT TO WHAT WE KNOW NOW...

PRISON OFFICER JAN MURRAY IS TRANSPORTING A PRISONER CALLED THERESA EVANS TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE:

THE GOVERNOR IS SAT IN A CHAIR, SHE HAS A BLANK LOOK ON HER FACE. THE DOOR OPENS AUTOMATICALLY, THERESA PROTESTS HER INNOCENSE, SHE IS WEARING AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE ON HER HEAD WHICH IS SUPPOSED TO CONTROL INSUBORDINATE BEHAVIOUR.

Theresa Evans is introduced to the new governor, she protests her innocence, swears at the governor and shouts out. It's like talking to a brick wall. But she doesn't realize the governor is actually a robot; the previous governor was fired. The new governor stores all the prisoners' files and information in a small microchip in her head. She can do anything. She doesn't eat or drink, she just charges herself up through a battery-operated device. Jan Murray had a smirk on her face. She is a nasty character who loves nothing more than to belittle the prisoners. "She's been insubordinate", said Murray. The governor held her hand out to Theresa and administered an electric shock through her body. It was agonizing, and she fell to the floor in an instant. The governor ordered that Evans be transferred to the artificial intelligence unit, a new unit built onto the prison, for further observation -. Evans was terrified as she'd heard talk of what that cold, dark place was like. She pushed Jan Murray away, but Murray was too strong, and an electric brace was fitted to her head. A massive electric shock was administered. Theresa jolted forwards and Murray just laughed.

The governor said she wanted all of Evans's genetic blue code DNA to be completely wiped out and replaced with a new one, and for her to be assessed for two days afterwards to make sure it had worked. If it had worked, then there may be a chance she would be released with new name and new genetics.

The governor was warned that the prison was at full capacity and that there was risk of a full-blown riot. Two days later, there was a riot as the prisoners barricaded themselves in. Danni Jones, who was the instigator, was manhandled, caught, wired up to a machine and received 12 doses of electric shock treatment. She died, but they didn't cremate the dead, they preserved the body parts and used the brains and internal organs as spare parts. The rest of the women involved in the riot were sent to the artificial intelligence unit for observation and to be punished. There, the prisoners were bored, although they had devices that they could wear over their heads that could be transport them into the future or past without them being there physically - like being in a computer game. The governor considered this to be a privilege, and not many had access to the devices which made it happen. They didn't have to speak or show emotion as it was all done by electromagnetic waves transmitted between them.

THE GOVERNOR WAS SAT IN THE CHAIR WHEN, WITHOUT WARNING, THERE WAS A MASSIVE POWER CUT

Everything was plunged into darkness, the governor ceased to work and the prisoners in AIU were feeling their way around in the darkness. Eventually, after what seemed like an eternity, the lights were back on. The governor jolted back to life as the electricity was restored to her brain, which was very similar to a radio as it recognized commands. She didn't need eyes to see, just a camera which could zoom in and take pictures. She didn't have emotions; she was just a cold heartless machine.

Danni Woodstock, one of the prisoners, was sent to the doctor as she'd found curious lumps on her neck. The doctor asked her when she'd discovered them, Woodstock said possibly a few days ago. The doctor was concerned and sent Woodstock to the hospital. She was collected and sent in the prison van. She took the opportunity to escape as she had a pen-type device in her pocket which administered thousands of volts of electricity. She stabbed the driver in the neck with it and he died instantly.

Woodstock was desperate to take the microchip out of her neck. She needed to get rid of it, otherwise she'd appear on the CCTV in the governor's office and be tracked and brought back to AIU. Everyone dreaded that place as most people would never get out.

IN THE HOSPITAL a biopsy is underway. The specialist is perplexed as he's never seen anything like this before. He beckons his colleague because the cells under the microscope were mutating before his very own eyes. They decided a virus must be involved. As the days went by, more prisoners complained of strange wart like lumps and flu-like symptoms. It started spreading like wildfire around the prison, and it was called the Black Death. Dr. Matthews visited the governor with his findings but, of course, the governor was nothing more than a robot which could morph into different guises at the touch of a button. She resembled a dalek from Dr. Who. They sat down and explained that the virus was like a type

of viral leukemia. How was it transmitted? The scientists were keen to find out. The situation was deadly serious. In block C, Jenny Martin, who was one of the prisoners, received a visit from an old guy in his late seventies called Bob Andrews. He was pale, drawn and balding, with a strange expression on his face. Jenny had never met him before and wanted to know why this old guy wanted to see her. He seemed very tactile and shook hands with her, before giving her a massive bear hug. He talked about artificial intelligence and warned that the world was in for a massive war between artificial intelligence beings and the human race. He said time was of the essence, and he left her a leaflet, disappearing as soon as he had come. A few hours later she was lying on her bed feeling quite unwell, she put it down to a twenty-four-hour bug. Three days later, she was no better. The governor had her isolated in case the disease was spread. She was vomiting all over the place and had a very slow death. Over the next few days, eight more prisoners died. The big question was how was it being transmitted?

WHAT WILL BE, WILL BE

People writhed in agony as the bug took hold. It seemed that it was very contagious but luckily the prisoners didn't starve. They could be connected up to the mains, and a bolt of electricity into their brains kept them alive. They didn't need food. The governor morphed into another robot and liked to zap prisoners she didn't like with a bolt of electricity killing them on the spot. Everyone feared their visits to her office and would be dragged there, kicking and screaming. The prison was being taken over by artificial intelligence officers and there were now twelve on G wing. The governor liked to exert her authority and liked to dictate rules, while the officers abused the prisoners and tortured them. Unfortunately, the sickness was spreading more rapidly, more and more prisoners were dying. The scientists were fighting for a cure, and they named the bug a Leukemia Type-Two Virus. It was now discovered it was spread by hand-to-hand contact, through saliva or physical contact. A few weeks later, and no closer to a cure, the prisoners were fighting for electricity to keep them going, whilst the officers would abuse the prisoners who hadn't succumbed to the virus because they knew there was no danger of them catching it. The officers would visit the prisoners at nighttime and submit them to agonizing bolts of electricity up their spines and into their brains, frying them on the spot. Then, the governor discovered she was being tracked and monitored by a massive team of artificial intelligence robots, which wanted to take over the prison and run the entire prison as an artificial intelligence unit to monitor the prisoners and try and find a cure for Leukemia Type-Two Virus. These were the good guys, who aimed to get rid of the governor, but this wasn't going to be easy. She wasn't going to give up without a fight. She sealed the complete prison off with an electric barricade and anyone who came near was electrocuted to death. The governor was quite evil and had no sympathy or compassion, for she was a robot after all. She loved to hurt and control people.

It was discovered that the disease had been spread by human contact. It was now too late as the whole prison was wiped out. The governor wanted to open a massive unit for artificial intelligence beings that could destroy the human race. Although, she wasn't the prison governor anymore, she still wanted to inflict war, pain and suffering on good people. In the AIU, robots were being built that they were very powerful machines, which could withstand

bullets or anything else that might come near them. The machines came to life with a power source located where their brain-like structures were. They didn't actually have brains, just a mass of wires and electric pulses all connected together. The ex-governor sent them to war, but people watching the news broadcasts had an idea of what was coming: a massive war, where innocent people could be killed in an instant. People barricaded themselves in their cellars.

The robots were coming. More and more robots were being programmed to kill. It was the ex-governor's plan for revenge because she knew too much and didn't trust anybody. All were seen as the enemy. In her eyes, the human race had to be wiped out so she could succeed.

Then, the ex-governor received a visitor of an old woman in a cloak who wanted to join forces with her, but it was a trick. The old woman reached her arm out, stuck an electric probe into the ex-governor's robotic frame and administered twelve shots of electricity. This was too much for her, and she died from the overdose of electricity. I suppose the moral of this story was an ally may not be all she seems. The old woman was, in fact, a sheep in wolf's clothing.

ANOTHER FUN QUIZ FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH



Questions:

- (1) What is a baby kangaroo called?
- (2) Who invented the umbrella?
- (3) What is the currency of Tobago?
- (4) Who won the 1974 World Cup?
- (5) What is the gestation period of a lion?
- (6) When was queen Boudicca born?
- (7) Who invented the first modern toilet?
- (8) What is the capital of the Faroe

Islands?

- (9) Who was the Italian president during World War II?
- (10) What is the strongest wood in the world?
- (11) Where was President Putin born?
- (12) Which species of Whales has the biggest population?
- (13) What is a toupee?
- (14) What is a lute?
- (15) What is soutien-gorge in English?
- (16) What is German for moustache?
- (17) Which national football team did Jozsef Bozsik play for?
- (18) Where do Wales RUFC play their home games?
- (19) What is a sturgeon?
- (20) What is the capital of South Korea?

Answers:

(1) Joey (2) The Chinese (3) Pound Sterling (4) West Germany (5) 110 to 120 days (6) Around AD 30 (7) Sir John Harington (8) Torshavn (9) Mussolini (10) Australian buloke (11) Saint Petersburg, Russia (12) Mink whales (13) A small artificial hairpiece worn to cover a bald spot (14) A plucked string instrument with a neck and a deep back enclosing a hollow cavity (15) Bra (16) Schnurrbart (17) Hungary (18) Principality Stadium (19) A very large primitive fish with bony plates on the body (20) Seoul

Editor's Final Word: Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to read this magazine. If you want to get involved/suggest how we can improve it, please contact us at: dean@fthm.org.uk Best wishes, Dean, Brenda, Robert and Willow.