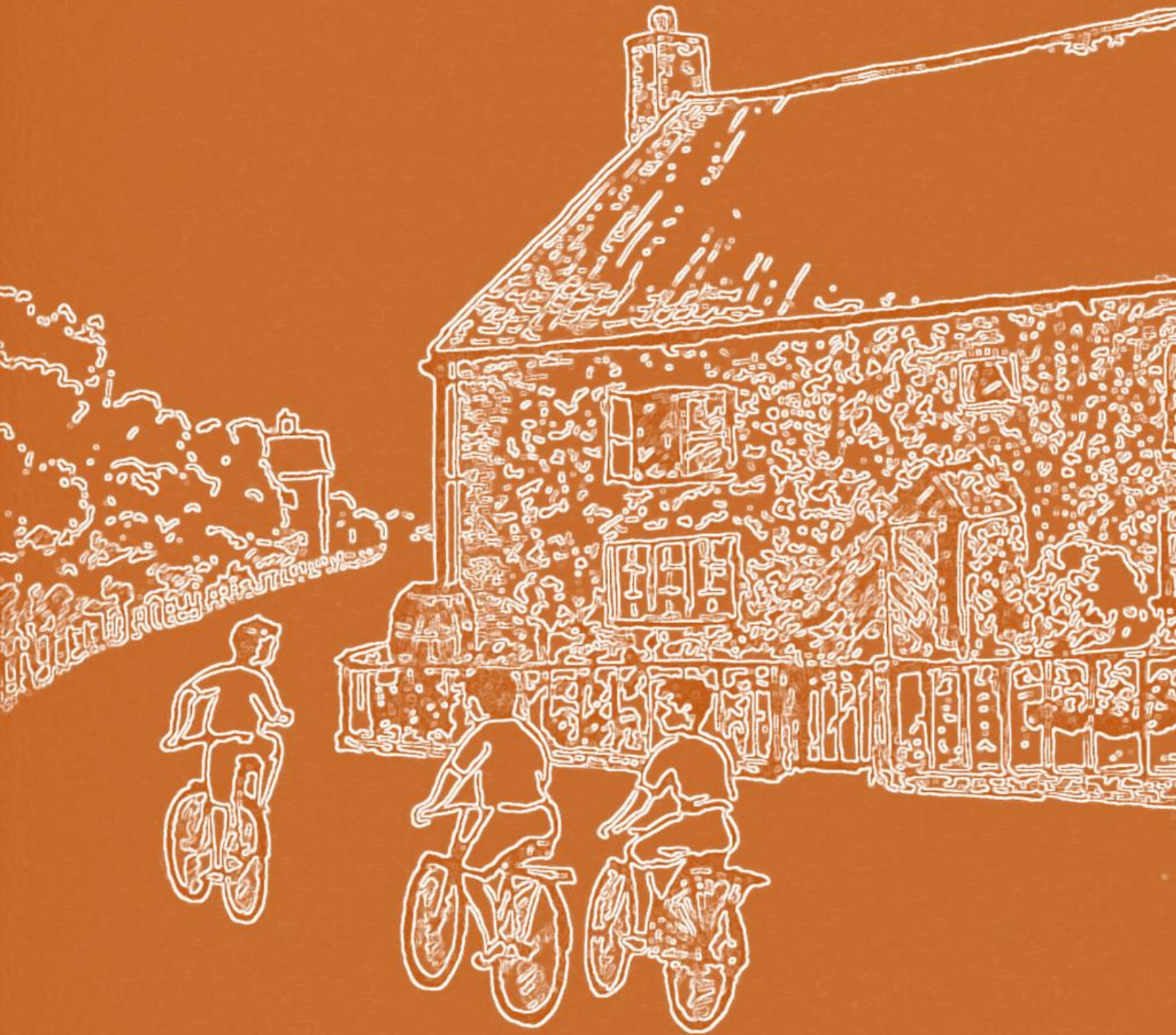


The **63** Outlaw

Summer 2020



Coots Ahoy! TARS Chairman, Peter Wright, is calling your attention to a side of Arthur Ransome's writing too seldom considered, that of poet. Once upon a time, the habit of liberally pouring out poems in magazines was the first and only step to getting a name published in the *literary* world. Take a look opposite at his challenging proposal and have a go!

In *The Big Six*, As Dr. Dudgeon states late on: "The value of evidence fluctuates with its context." (*The Legal Mind*) We begin issue **63** by considering 2020's *Global Pandemic* and earlier in the year we asked members for voluntary contributions on the subject of how they have managed to pass life beyond the varied safety restrictions imposed around the Earth and so in *TARS Bookworlds and other Quarantines* some of you shared with us a glimpse of your world at this time and Winifred shares her thoughts on AR books which have an element of quarantine in them.

"It was bad enough to be suspected by their enemies, but it was much worse to find that even their best friends were to think they had had a hand in that kind of mischief." (*First Sign of Trouble*) From plucked teeth to boats cast off and stolen shackles, the Death and Glories ("We don't need to be detectives to know we ain't done it.") are cast as outlaws and hunted all over the Norfolk Broads as accusations fly. Their restricted movements are watched almost forensically by P.C. Tedder and others.

"Each time it has happened in a place where those boys were close by and in a better position to do it than anybody else. ... It's a biggish coincidence to get over ... The shackles were stolen at Potter Heigham the night they were there ... I'm only pointing out how things look to an outsider." (Dr. Dudgeon in *Things Look Black*)

And so, Dick, Dot and Tom Dudgeon ("We know who it isn't") aid the Death and Glories (making the *Big Six*!) in rapscurry-hurrying about like detectives with their hounds, looking for clues and suspects out of the corners of their eyes as they try to clear their honest names and hard-earned reputations, messengers skulking 'from Scotland Yard to the Coots all over the district to turn them all into plain-clothes men and to arrange for them to report at once if any boats should be cast adrift anywhere. ... a general examination of Horning bicycles and a list made of those which had Dunlop tyres.' (*Rival Detectives*) (And, comically, they even suspect P. C. Tedder and the local vicar!)

Why not eat your way in stately slowness through *River Fayre*, with *Innocents' Pie*, *Fried Eels*, *Villain Stew* and *Eternal Summer Salad Dressing* to whet your appetites?

In *Misleading Appearances or Two Ways of Looking at the Same Thing Twice*, you can have a try at a spot-the-difference puzzle, try to 'scientifically' solve the case of greatest common factors for George Owden's guilty motives, plot your way through the Coots' mazy adventure and share a joke with Dr. Dudgeon. "All the world believed them guilty ... The evidence was black on every side..." (Dorothea)

In *Out of the Dentist's Window* we consider d-i-y teeth-removal, taking a close look at pike teeth – all because of Pete's loose tooth and the flying brick that it followed!

Through *The World's Whopper! or Coots Forever & Ever!* we take a closer-up view of Pike and Perch.

The back cover will feature a classic Big Six cover illustration for you to add colour to, should you wish, along with a few AR sketches and peel your eyes for details of ***The TARS Junior Fund***.

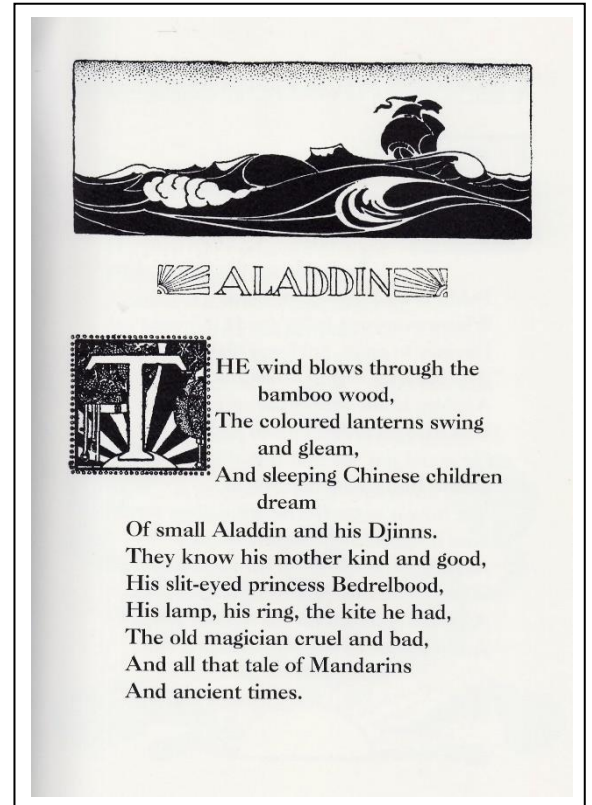
The Outlaw is the magazine for Junior and Family members of The Arthur Ransome Society.

Chairman's Grand Poetry Competition.

Did you know that in addition to writing the *Swallows and Amazons* books, Arthur Ransome also wrote over 20 others? One of these, written eleven years before *S&A*, was a retelling of the story of *Aladdin* – a folk tale, often now retold as a pantomime. Ransome's version, which is beautifully illustrated, was written as a piece of humorous poetry. Its full title is, *Aladdin And His Wonderful Lamp in Rhyme*. Here is the first introductory page – you may spot that Ransome doesn't use the word *Genie*, the one we are most familiar with, but the original Arabic version, *Djinn*.

Ransome had a good sense of humour and in his personal life would often write short poems or ditties by way of thanking someone for a gift, or to add interest to his letters or books. Here's one he wrote, thanking someone for the gift of a box of kippers!

*Red Herrings, of all the fishes in the sea
The kipper is the fish for me. God bless Mrs Kelsall!
For breakfast, dinner, supper, tea,
He is as good as good can be, Oh, God bless Mrs Kelsall!
Who cares for salmon or for trout,
When Scottish kippers are about? God bless Mrs Kelsall!
All the best things a man can eat,
A raw red kipper has them beat, so, God Bless Mrs Kelsall!
Bless her for sending us those fish,
We've scoffed the last and licked the dish,
No wonder that our heartfelt wish is, God bless Mrs Kelsall!*



To celebrate Ransome's interest in poetry, TARS is inviting junior members to enter a grand poetry competition. The **four best winning entries will receive prizes (to the value of £25 in book token or TARS Stall own prize choice) and have their poems reproduced in both *Outlaw* and *Signals*.** Details of how to enter are set out below – good luck! **Peter Wright**

Grand Poetry Competition

Entries are invited in the following age categories:

- 1) Under 8's
- 2) 8 -12 years
- 3) Over 12's
- 4) Funniest poem (all ages)

Your poems can be about anything but it would be helpful if there is a loose connection to Arthur Ransome and his books. Themes could be: the countryside, sailing, camping, the books, the characters, fishing, wildlife, your holidays, cooking, TARS etc. – there are endless opportunities.

Entries should be sent to: The Chairman of TARS, 17, Chesterwood Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B13 0QG. Alternatively, you may email them to: peterwright180@btinternet.com

The deadline is 31st December 2020 and winners will be published in the Spring 2021 editions of *Signals* and *The Outlaw*. You may enter up to three poems per category. Please clearly state your name and age on your entries.

The entries will be judged by an independent specialist outside of TARS.



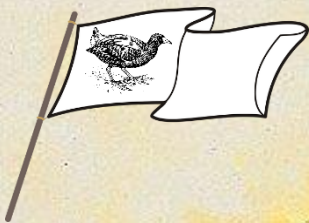
'If one man does not make a move, the other must, and by permitting the adversary to make the attack one learns something about him.' Hercule Poirot, *The Big Four* (Agatha Christie)©

"There's that Tedder popping out everywhere."



When detective-fiction writer Agatha Christie wrote about *The Big Four* she was talking about the four greatest villains in the world at the time. When Arthur Ransome wrote about *The Big Six*, he was probably referring to *The Big Five* – the Chief Inspectors who were well-known as the senior detectives at New Scotland Yard who were called in to solve complicated cases anywhere in the world. "But who are the Big Six?" asked Pete. "It's the Big Five really," said Dorothea. "They are the greatest detectives in the world. They sit in their cubby-holes in Scotland Yard and solve one mystery after another." "But why Six?" "There are only five of them and there are six of us," said Dorothea.

Coot Club shed becomes *Scotland Yard* - whose name comes from the location of the original Metropolitan Police headquarters at 4 Whitehall Place, which had a rear entrance on a street called Great *Scotland Yard*. The *Scotland Yard* entrance became the public entrance to the police station, and over time the street and the Metropolitan Police became synonymous with *Scotland Yard* (officially *New Scotland Yard*) and the territorial police force responsible for policing all 32 boroughs of London, excluding the City of London.



Do you have a **club flag** in the same way that the D&Gs have this one here? Maybe you could share a picture of it with fellow members? Please send it and all else via the contact arrangements below.



THE EDITORS

C/O The Chairman of TARS,
17, Chesterwood Road, Kings Heath
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Email: outlaw@arthur-ransome.org.uk



BOOKWORLDS AND OTHER QUARANTINES

Quarantine in children's books

Apart from Arthur Ransome's *Winter holiday*, it's not easy to think of children's books which involve quarantine, or 'lockdown,' but it strikes me that to anyone under the age of, say 70, the world of the *Swallows, Amazons and D's* might seem a bit like what we are all experiencing at the moment, with very limited travel and contact with others, at least at the time of writing this in May! (And now June! Ch. Ed)



The *S's, A's and D's* didn't go away for foreign 'holidays' especially, nor even travel far in their own country. (Peter Duck and Misset Lee, and even *Great Northern?* are generally thought of as fantasy!) Certainly, the *Death and Glories* wouldn't have been far beyond their own village of Horning before they sailed right down to Great Yarmouth and up the river Yare. The *Swallows and D's* lived in 'the South', and travelled by train to have their holidays on the English Lakes, and the *Amazons* once went to *Secret Water* in the east of England. And of course, the *Swallows* sailed to the Netherlands, but they didn't mean to! The overseas travels of Captain Flint and the Walkers' parents were something very exotic in the children's eyes.

We are all now finding out what it's like to be confined to our immediate surroundings and, depending on where that is, we are learning to adapt to that, and to spend more time out of doors locally, appreciating what we see around us. For example, the most exciting thing I have seen on my daily walks so far was a heron swallowing an eel! After drinking a lot of water to wash it down with, it flew off with a loud 'Fraaaaank!', as AR described its call in both *Coot Club* and *The Big Six*.

Perhaps next year's Carnegie Medal-winning book will be a new 'Ransome', confining its setting to a local area, and making the most of it. How about writing your own story within these limits? What would it include? Of course, we now have the kinds of technology which would have seemed like science-fiction to Ransome and his characters, so you could make use of that, or you could pretend it didn't exist, and neither include it in the story nor use it to write with. I'd love to read what you come up with, and don't forget to illustrate it too!

Winifred Wilson, May 2020

*We asked if you would like to contribute to a section of the magazine by sharing with us some of what you have been doing in the past few months.

Overleaf is a gathering. (Eds)



My grandson Marley tells me that his 6-yr-old son Ray Ahmed-Worrall (they came to Rattletrap Day and went to Iain G-K's camping event) has been learning (from him) to write essays on the Kings & Queens of England. He thought perhaps Ray could also write something on AR and/or the books. I wondered if he might prefer to write about the more recent film which he thoroughly enjoyed – but I suppose this might be a popular topic? He's read about Alexander Graham Bell, Isambard Kingdom Brunel (English civil engineer, builder of dockyards, the Great Western Railway and steamships, bridges and tunnels!) and quite fittingly Edward Jenner (English physician).

Arthur Ransom was born in 1884 children in his family. He went to he grew up, he became an secret service. His most Amazons. In 1953 he was given Manchester in 1967 and was In conclusion, his story of the original and taught us how two book is a classic and, in my history.



in Leeds. He was the oldest of four Rugby school in Warwickshire. When author but also worked as a spy for the famous book was Swallows and a CBE by the Queen. He died in buried at St Paul's Church in Cumbria. Swallows and Amazons was very enemies can work better together. The opinion, probably the best book in



Nicholas during lockdown at the lagoon 500m from our house. There are some camera-shy coots and water hens on the lagoon somewhere (at least I think that is what they are), but only Peter Ducks came to have their photos taken. As you can see, it's getting a bit cold over here. We haven't done much Ransome-like activity during lockdown. The photo of the juvenile brown snake we saw while exploring rocks at nearby Dangars Falls some weeks ago didn't turn out clearly enough, I'm afraid. Would have been a nice link to Swallowdale ...

Catherine Lamont in New South Wales, Australia (upcoming editor for *Mixed Moss*) emailed a snapshot of life during the pandemic for her and her son, Nicholas. Great snakes! That was a lucky escape! Please see our eggs-in-nest photograph further on which we believed, at first, were snake eggs but later discovered that might belong to a Mistle-thrush!



Dear Outlaw Editors,

We have been having a go at the various quizzes you set in Outlaw and have come up with some answers.

Becky completed Camping Confusion

Ben answered Getting John's Bearings

Franny completed the maze and Secret Water Maps.

Becky also came up with answers to Mud and Mastodons:

Daisy - Totem Pole to Boat

Don - Speedy to Eel

John - Camp to Telescope

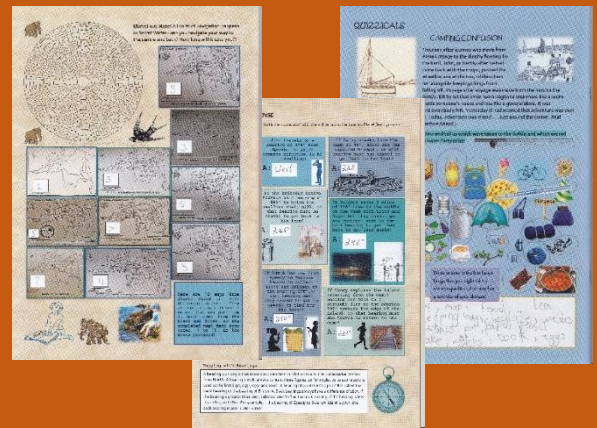
Susan - Giant Cornflakes (well that's what the picture looked a bit like!) to Campfire

Roger - Meal Dial to Beach

Titty - Mapping Equipment to Buffalo

Bridget - Tins of Food to Sinbad

Karabangbaraka! - Well done, prize by pigeon post!

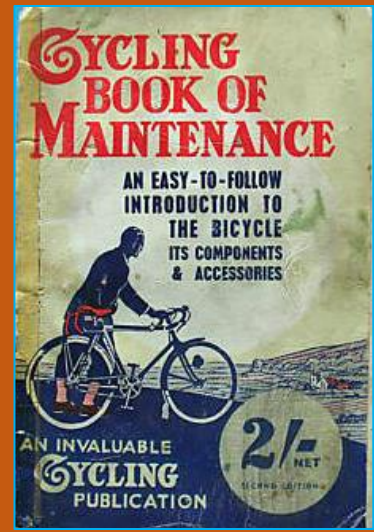


You were asking for S and A related activities which we have been doing over lock down. The one that worked the best was semaphore battleships which, due to the large size of the 'sea,' is still on-going! We drew out two squares each on a piece of squared paper, 25 squares by 25, labelled them A to Y on one edge and 1 to 25 on the other. Then in two teams, we positioned our 8 or so ships as per conventional Battleships. One square had our ships on and we marked on the enemies shots, the other was to mark on our shots. We then used semaphore to communicate our shots to the other team. We decided to do this by pictures using Nancy's code which she wrote in Dick's pocket book. So, character for alphabet followed by letter then character for numbers followed by number. We took three shots each then propelled our message to the other team either in the form of a plane or sometimes simply scrunched up as a cannon ball. We then told each other of hits and misses. We have tended to take just three shots each per day, hence the length of the game. So, no winner yet!



Thanks Rebekah, Ben and Franny!
Sounds like your creative spark has been well-rewarding. We've camped in our garden, too!





The Young Idea






START 'EM YOUNG START 'EM RIGHT...

IT is never too early to instill in your child those elements of power, exhilaration, and responsibility which combine to make "road sense." During early years, children are particularly receptive to such learning. A cycle is play to them. Their vivid imagination will turn the lawn into Trafalgar Square, or the pavement into Piccadilly. They will learn the art of avoiding danger before real dangers come their way. A wonderful training—full of happiness and healthy exercise.

Hercules models for children, rank with the full size Hercules machines for perfection of materials, finish and performance. They are graded in size: the Junior models for little ones and growing "jerkers"; the juvenile models to carry your boy or girl through to the end of school years.

"Start 'em young. Start 'em right!" Buy these cycles of highest quality—sturdy Hercules cycles that will stand the inevitable bumps and tumbles of child use, and which at the same time will provide early experience of that sweet-running ease which all Hercules cycles ensure.




BOYS' JUNIOR MODEL... **BOYS' JUVENILE MODEL**... **GIRLS' JUNIOR MODEL**... **GIRLS' JUVENILE MODEL**...



Thanks for the t-shirt. Hopefully you'll find attached a photo of Eleanor wearing it. She's leaning on the trusty bike that has been her constant companion throughout lockdown. Since it all started, she's been going on rides up and down the Cotswold hills and venturing on ever longer trips to the villages in and around Cheltenham. She tends to go early in the morning before the roads get too busy, often leaving before 6.00am. She's seen rabbits, foxes and deer and ridden in sunshine and rain, through thick mud and even a ford.

Online school-work still takes up an annoyingly high proportion of the day, so she hasn't been able to devote herself to more interesting pursuits as much as she'd like, but when she's not on the laptop she's been learning semaphore and Morse Code and is having a go at mastering knots. We don't currently have the means to camp or sail so have been stay-at-homes the whole time. We did spend almost an entire day watching the SpaceX launch and journey to the International Space Station on *You Tube* and watched with great excitement from an upstairs window as the capsule passed over Leckhampton Jfill.

We came across this nest alongside a railway embankment on a local walk new to us. We wondered whether the eggs belonged to a snake, being so low to the ground and quite large.

Peter Wright tells us:

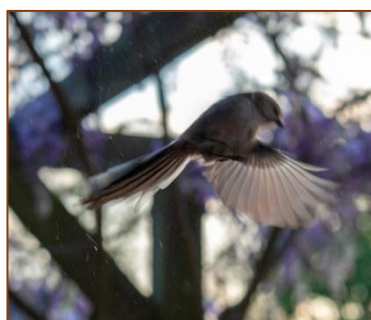
“As far as I can tell, I think the eggs you found belong to a Mistle-Thrush. They appear to be the right size, shape and colour. Whilst they often nest in trees, their nests can also be found low down often quite conspicuously in the fork of a tree or shrub. The nest is described as big and substantial, built of bents, grasses, lichens and roots, lined with dry grasses. It says the Mistle-Thrush usually lays 4 eggs but can be 5 and 6 have also been recorded. They are described as being cream-coloured with brown/red speckled markings. Average size of eggs 30.7mm. “

Peter continued ... “We are lucky in that we can walk from our house to a system of brooks and streams with lots of open space and woodlands and you wouldn't believe you were in the Birmingham suburbs. Lots of wild garlic, Cow parsley and Cowslips out at present and I regularly see a pair of Grey wagtails (which look Yellow) along the brook course. We have twice seen an Egret, which I was most surprised to find and I'm pretty sure I saw a Sparrow hawk yesterday. We also have an amazing number of birds regularly feeding at our bird station of which the Greater Spotted Woodpecker, Nuthatch, Long tailed tits and collared doves are particularly pleasing to see along with all the tits and finches and all members of the crow family. The crows are incredibly intelligent and will use their feet to grab and hold steady the mesh cage containing the fat blocks which otherwise they could not use - hard to describe but it has to be seen to be believed! We also have a pair of Goldcrests regularly in the garden, we think they are nesting in a group of pine trees at the end of the garden.

Christine has taken many nice photos of the birds including a long tailed tit perching on the patio door handle just two feet away from her! I'm sure you know Robins are incredibly social, well last week, whilst refilling the bird feeder with seed, a robin actually came and perched on the feeder just 8 inches away from me and watched me pour in the seed.”



Awesome photography,
Christine!!



River Fayre

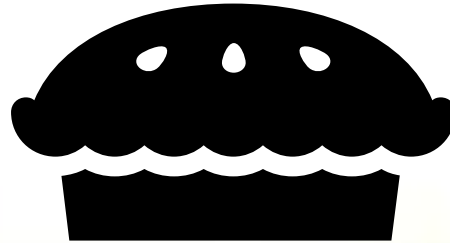
Innocents' Fish Pie

Ingredients

- 🍷 1kg potatoes, peeled and halved
- 🍷 400ml milk, plus splash
- 🍷 25g butter, plus knob
- 🍷 25g plain flour
- 🍷 4 spring onions, finely sliced
- 🍷 1 x pack fish pie mix about 320g-400g
- 🍷 1tsp mustard
- 🍷 small bunch chives, finely snipped
- 🍷 handful frozen sweetcorn
- 🍷 handful frozen peas
- 🍷 handful grated cheese
- 🍷 Heat oven to 200c/gas mark 6

Method

- 🍷 Put potatoes in a saucepan and pour over enough water to cover, bring to boil and simmer until tender.
- 🍷 Once cooked, drain and mash potatoes with a splash of milk and knob of butter, season.
- 🍷 Put butter, flour and spring onions in another pan and heat gently whilst stirring until butter has melted, then cook for 1-2 minutes.
- 🍷 Whisk in 400ml milk and bring to boil, stirring to avoid lumps and sticking to pan. Cook for 3-4 minutes until thickened.
- 🍷 Take sauce off heat; stir in fish mix, mustard, chives, sweetcorn and peas.
- 🍷 Spoon mixture into ovenproof dish, then spoon mashed potato on top with the cheese.
- 🍷 Cook in the oven for 20-25 minutes or until bubbling at edges. Enjoy!



"Cooks made you a pie," she said. "Keep it this way up and give it to the innocents my love."

Two Ways of Looking at the Same Thing



They had only just finished an enormous dinner...when the landlord's wife came out with three glasses of ginger beer and three hunks of fruit cake.

At the Roaring Donkey

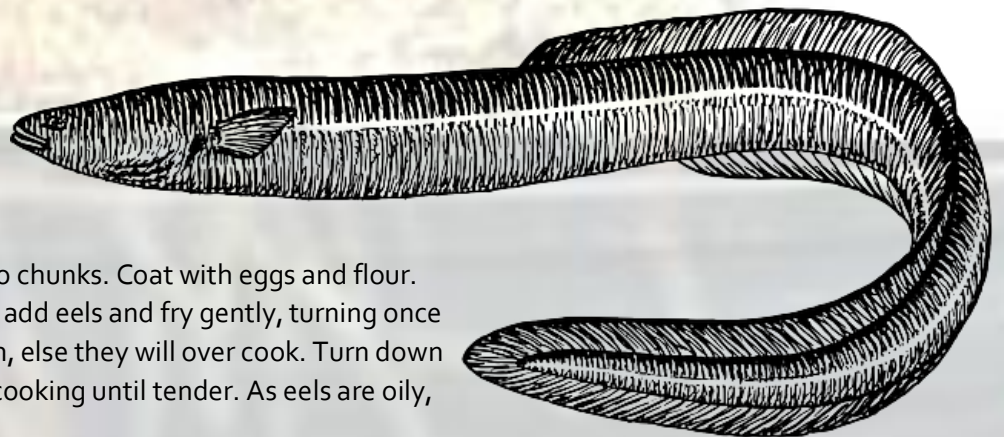
Fried Eels

Ingredients

- 🍷 1 lbs eels
- 🍷 1 egg, beaten
- 🍷 seasoned flour
- 🍷 1 oz butter

Method





Wash and skin eels and cut into chunks. Coat with eggs and flour. Melt butter in frying pan, then add eels and fry gently, turning once to seal, but do not brown them, else they will over cook. Turn down heat, cover pan and continue cooking until tender. As eels are oily, eat with crusty bread. Enjoy!



MISLEADING APPEARANCES OR TWO

WAYS OF LOOKING AT THE SAME THING



<i>Evidence For:</i>	<i>Evidence Against:</i>
The chimney print was made so that George Owden could see if they were there or not – they were not!	Bob's Affidavit 
D&G's spending a lot of money on stores	Photograph of George Owden and Ralph Strakey pushing off the Cachalot !!
A scrap of the villain's trousers!	Tom previously casting off the Margoletta
Chimney pot with a print of the villain's paw (hand) on it! 	D&G's seen casting off (tying up) a yacht that had 'apparently' gotten caught in a tree 
Green paint on the shackles	Bicycle pump
Photograph showing that Tom Dudgeon could not reach the chimney from the bank	Green paint on G.O.'s bicycle
Most of Coot Club + D & D have bikes with Dunlop tyres 	George Owden and Ralph Strakey's witness statements
Dick's bike tyre drawing	D&G's being moored next to or in the same place as all of the cast-off boats
D&G's giving P.C. Tedder the shackles	Coot Club's dislike of George Owden

In *Big Six* you find out how the Coots work out the motive(s) of the criminal step-by-step, George Owden's character slowly unfolding throughout the story - they *had* stopped him from stealing eggs that he sells on to collectors, after all.

Unfortunately, Dick forgot his glasses and mixed up the evidence – can you rearrange it into the correct order?!

THROUGHOUT the magazine there are 30 bicycles hidden. Can you find every single one? (including in this chapter!)

William, after a little coaxing, gave it up, a torn and slobbery scrap of grey flannel.

"Somebody's trousers," said Pete. "It's like what Tom wear..."

Dick, when his turn came, looked at the bit of flannel. "It may be another clue," he said.

"The villain himself!" said Dorothea.

CH. 18 'A scrap of flannel'

"But Tom's young friends seem to get along very well without money," said Dr. Dudgeon. "I don't suppose they've ever had more than a bob or two in their pockets in all their lives."

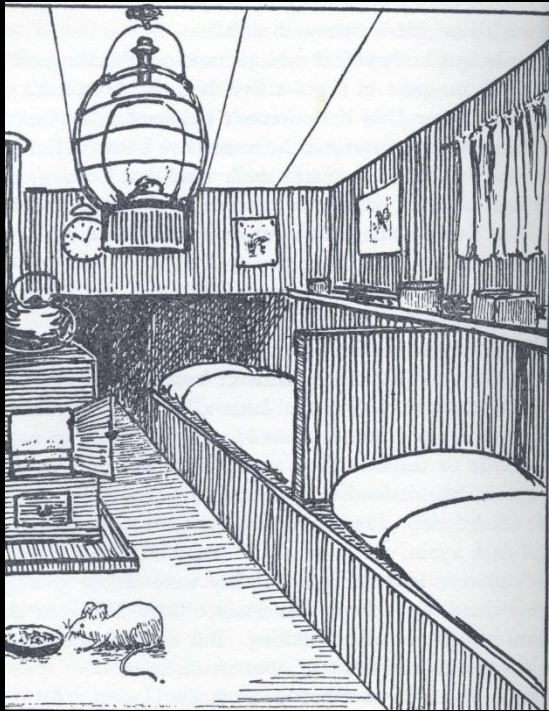
Tom looked at Dorothea. She had turned white and for a moment looked as if she were going to be sick. Both of them were remembering the feast in the *Death and Glory* and the crammed cupboards that night when the three small Coots had come back from Potter Heigham.

CH. 13 'Two ways of looking at the same thing'

Dick and Dorothea came back with the camera and the flashlight apparatus, hidden in a basket under some roses from the Admiral's garden, just in case anybody should guess what they were planning.

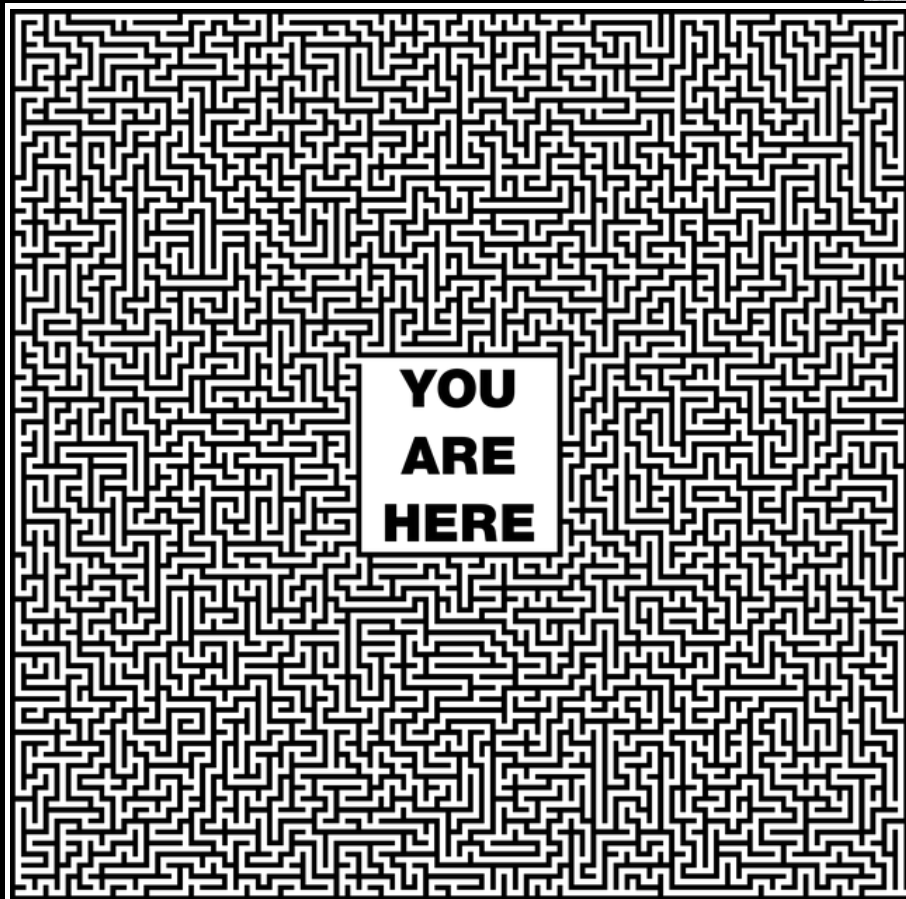
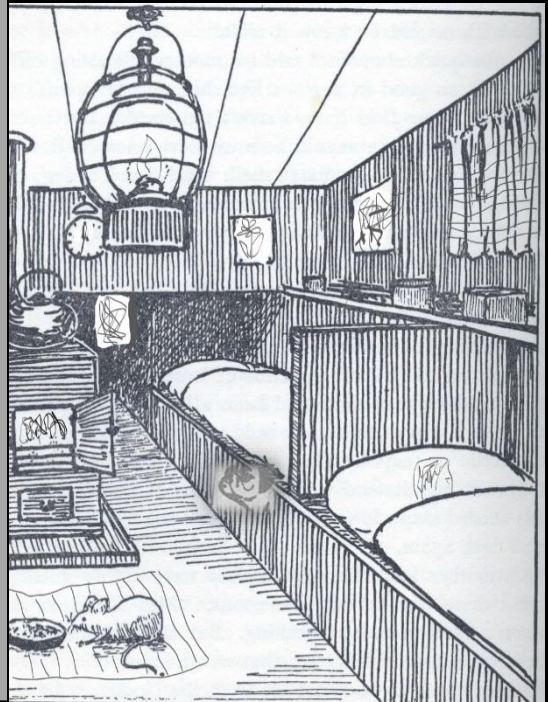
CH. 27 'Setting the trap'





Spot the Differences!

On the left and right of this text box are two sketches of the *Death and Glory*. It is up to you to find all of the TEN differences in these pictures! If you do get all of the answers correct then you might even win a special prize!



An A-Maze-ing Confusion!

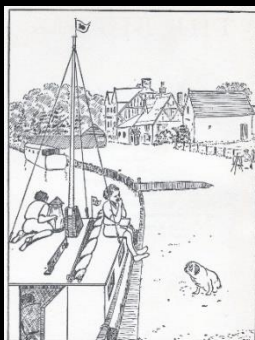
Throughout the book, the Coots have to puzzle through the problems and all of the clues that they then piece together to discover the villain! Try and follow in their footsteps and make your way through the maze starting from 'You Are Here' and ending at the gap marked 'END'. (Keep to the white lines.)



Joke: Why was the Doctor so interested in the *Death and Glories* 'Staithe Escape'?

A: Because he needed a new 'Stethoscope'!

END



INNOCENT PIE!

Mrs Dudgeon was walking across the lawn with a parcel. "Cook's made you a pie," she said. "Keep it this way up and give the innocents my love."

"Innocents!" exclaimed Dr Dudgeon.

"I'm sure they are," said Mrs Dudgeon. "And you can tell them their parents think so too. They wanted to bring them home but I told them it would be rather hard on the boys to spoil their holiday if they haven't done anything. So, you're to tell them they'd better keep away from the staithe till things blow over."

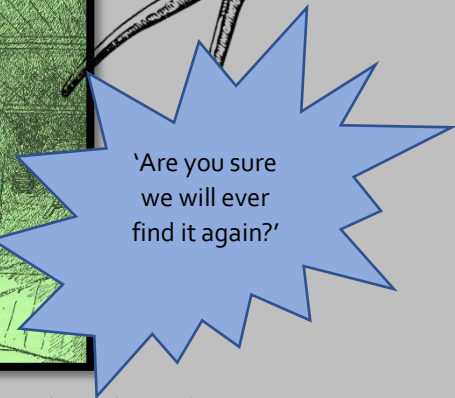
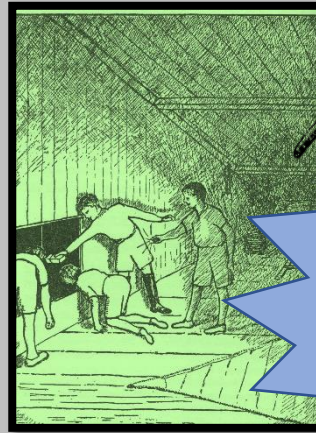
'Two Ways Of Looking At The Same Thing'

OUT OF THE DENTIST'S WINDOW!



METHODS FOR PULLING OUT WOBBLY TEETH

If outing Pete's loose tooth was dramatic, consider my dad's dad's method when he was 7 - tie a piece of string to the offending tooth, tie it to a door handle and shut the door! The easiest and least messy method is to pull it out yourself after days of wobbling it or just go to the dentist and leave all the worry to them! Would a pennorth of screws and a pennorth of humbugs with a penny to spare make it all worth the trouble?



The great pike (which the *Death and Glories* caught) has lost some teeth in the fight.

Here is a puzzle, as puzzling as the *casting off* puzzle that the *D&Gs* have to puzzle over... All of the numbers below represent how many pike teeth have dropped out in a certain place. Try to connect all the numbers together in this way: where there is a five, 5 lines have to be connected to it and so on. No lines can cross. Then using watery blue, green and brown pencils or thin watercolour paint you can shade in any blocks of patterns giving you a river-left-in-turmoil underwater scene ... Oh, and one more rule, read carefully, this is the most important: ENJOY!



THE WORLD'S WHOPPER or Coots Forever & Ever!

PIKE



Imagine catching the colossal, predatory pike like the D&Gs! Imagine that for every 5-8kg of fish eaten, its body weight increases by 1 kg and depending on the amount of food available it grows up to 50-75 cm by its fifth and to 80-110 cm by its tenth year! It has a greyish-green to markedly dark back, sometimes tinged with red or brown, greenish sides marked with yellow spots which sometimes run together to form bands, and a white grey-spotted belly. Pike are territorial fish and each defends its own hunting ground. It is most often found amongst the vegetation of still-moving waters. (Rather like father!) This is one of the most popular fish for anglers, but it is never to be found in large numbers and may be troublesome in trout rivers. 'I recall my dad and I catching a pike as long as I was tall when I was ten years old! It weighed 26lbs! Any over 20lbs count as trophies. I wouldn't have half minded the 10 shillings and two-pence!' (Chief Ed.) Pike can have up to 700 teeth (!), some of which point backwards to hold onto prey.



PERCH

With a deep, thickset body, a triangular head and a mouth well supplied with teeth it has large eyes and two separate dorsal fins, the first of which is formed entirely of spines ('very sharp I recall!' Chief Ed.) and has a characteristic black spot at the back. The body is very distinctly coloured, greyish green to yellowish green with a dark back and five to nine black crossbars on the sides. The belly is lighter and the pectoral, ventral anal and caudal fins are yellowish-orange to red. They are most often found in places with an abundance of aquatic plants and submerged trees and roots where the shadows match their markings. The perch is a favourite fish since its flesh is tasty, firm and white, certainly settling the question of supper for the D&Gs!

The Junior Adventure Fund

This Fund provides grants to help young Tars to take part in Ransome-inspired activities. It is named after Bridget Altounyan, who was TARS' first president and the fund was set up in her memory. Bridget was the *fifth Swallow*.

Are you Eligible? Tars between 13 and 19 may apply and this includes those who are part of family memberships. The fund is trying to encourage adventurous activities that will stretch you and enable you to learn new skills. Young Tars from anywhere in the world can apply.

What may you receive? The fund gives financial grants towards the cost of undertaking Ransome-inspired activities. We usually don't cover the full cost of any activity because we feel that raising funding yourself is an important part of undertaking an activity.

What activities are covered? The range is wide – sailing, climbing, camping, cycling, riding, chess tournaments, scientific activities, archaeological events or activities involving birds or the conservation of wildlife. They can be under the jurisdiction of any recognised adventure-training group.

What activities are not covered? - School trips and GCSE field trips.

How do I apply? Contact Paul Crisp (Greylands, Wellsprings Lane, Sampford Courtenay OKEHAMPTON Devon EX20 2TD). In your letter outline what it is you are planning to do and how much you are seeking from the fund. Remember to include your name and TARS membership number.

Coots Colouring!

