

LEAGUE MATCHES THURSDAY 14 DECEMBER 2023

QUESTIONS BY THE ALEXANDRA

First Verbal Round

1. The Scottish city of Dundee lies on the north bank of which river?

River Tay

2. Which member of Manchester United's men's squad wears the shirt number seven?

Mason Mount

3. Which year saw the following events?

- Ed Sheeran's first UK number one single, *Sing*
- Manchester City crowned as English Premier League Champions
- The deaths of Acker Bilk, Joe Cocker and Jeremy Thorpe

2014

4. Which legendary Irish racehorse won five consecutive Cheltenham Gold Cups during the 1930s? In 1934 he became the only horse ever to win both the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Grand National in the same year.

Golden Miller

5. At the beginning of Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables* Jean Valjean is released from a prison sentence imposed for stealing what?

Bread

6. Dupuytren's (*pronounced doo-pwee-tronz*) contracture is a medical condition that affects which part of the human body?

The hand (also accept 'palm' and/or 'fingers')

7. If Mimi Rogers was the first in 1987, and Katie Holmes became the third in 2006, who was the second in 1990?

Nicole Kidman (wives of Tom Cruise)

8. Which chemical element, atomic number 5, lies between beryllium and carbon in the periodic table?

Boron

9. Give any year in the life of English king Henry VIII.

1491 to 1547

10. The B5292 from Keswick to Cockermouth travels through which Lake District mountain pass?

Whinlatter Pass

11. Which actor played title roles in the television programmes *The Last Detective*, *Campion* and *Doctor Who*?

Peter Davison

12. This year's John Lewis Christmas television advert, which features Snapper the Venus Flytrap, has an original soundtrack instead of the usual cover version of a popular hit. Which classical singer sings it?

Andrea Bocelli

13. The first UK general election in which women (aged over 30) could vote took place on this day (14 December) in which year?

1918

14. Paul Arthurs was known by what nickname when playing rhythm guitar in an iconic Manchester band?

Bonehead (of Oasis)

15. In October human rights activist Narges Mohammadi was announced as the recipient of the 2023 Nobel Peace Prize. What is her nationality?

Iranian

16. In October playwright and author Jon Fosse was announced as the recipient of the 2023 Nobel Prize in Literature. What is his nationality?

Norwegian

17. Gary Mounfield, bass guitarist in an iconic Manchester band, is usually known by what nickname?

Mani (of the Stone Roses)

18. On this day (14 December) in which year did Roald Amundsen's team become the first to reach the South Pole?

1911

19. Which British comedy star provides the voice of the Christmas fairy in current television adverts for Marks and Spencer?

Dawn French

20. Which actor played title roles in the television programmes *Judge John Deed*, *Inspector George Gently* and the last three series of *The Chief*?

Martin Shaw

21. The B5289 from Borrowdale to Buttermere travels through which Lake District mountain pass?

Honister Pass

22. Give any year in the life of English king James I (also known as James VI of Scotland).

1566 to 1625

23. Which chemical element, atomic number 12, lies between sodium and aluminium in the periodic table?

Magnesium

24. If Jim Threapleton was the first in 1998, and Edward Abel Smith (also known as Ned Rocknroll) became the third in 2012, who was the second in 2003?

Sam Mendes (husbands of Kate Winslet)

25. Which part of the body is principally affected by the medical condition *quinsy*?

The throat or tonsils (accept either)

26. At the end of Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables* Jean Valjean is buried in an unmarked grave in which Parisian location?

Père Lachaise cemetery

27. The King George VI chase is traditionally held on Boxing Day at Kempton Park. From 1986 which horse won four of the next five runnings of the race?

Desert Orchid

28. Which year saw the following events?

- Coldplay's first UK number one single, *Viva la Vida*
- Manchester United crowned as English Premier League Champions
- The deaths of Jeremy Beadle, Arthur C. Clarke and Humphrey Lyttleton?

2008

29. Which member of Manchester City's men's squad wears the shirt number twenty?

Bernardo Silva

30. Lying at the south-western end of the Moray Firth, which is the northernmost of the eight cities in Scotland?

Inverness

First Written Round **THERE IS A THEME**

(note: in one case the theme word is part of a longer word)

31. Britain last hosted the Ryder Cup in 2014. It was played on the PGA Centenary Course at which Scottish venue?

Gleneagles

32. In which **two** years was Margaret Thatcher elected as the first female leader of the Conservative party, and then as the UK's first female Prime Minister?

1975 and 1979

33. The Salvation Army features prominently in which George Bernard Shaw play that premiered in 1905?

Major Barbara

34. For which 1973 romantic comedy, in which she co-starred with George Segal, did the late Glenda Jackson win the second of her two Academy Awards for Best Actress? Her first came three years earlier for *Women in Love*.

A Touch of Class

35. Christopher Millar, drummer with the English punk group The Damned, was better known by which two-word stage name?

Rat Scabies

36. Larry Grayson, Peter Cook and Agatha Christie were all born in which town in southern England?

Torquay

37. Which composer's works include the orchestral piece *Nights in the Gardens of Spain* and the ballet *The Three-Cornered Hat*? Full name required.

Manuel de Falla

38. Which classic of children's literature was written by Eleanor H. Porter and published in 1913? The name of its title character is now used to describe someone who is hopelessly optimistic and finds the good in everything.

Pollyanna

39. What name is usually given to celery, walnuts, apple and grapes, dressed in mayonnaise and served on a bed of lettuce?

Waldorf salad

40. Which American singer and dancer had a worldwide hit with the 1982 song *Mickey*? Full name required.

Toni Basil (also accept her real name, Antonia Basilotta)

Theme is the classic TV sitcom *Fawlty Towers*

(most links to the theme should be obvious, but...John Cleese was inspired to write the show after staying at the real-life Gleneagles Hotel in Torquay; the two series were first broadcast in 1975 and 1979 respectively; the first episode, featuring the fraudulent Lord Melbury, was titled *A Touch of Class*)

Second Verbal Round

41. Which British actress, known mainly for her comedy performances, played Perpetua in the 2001 romcom *Bridget Jones's Diary* and Elizabeth Mainwaring in the 2016 movie re-make of *Dad's Army*? She has also appeared on television in *Doc Martin* and *The Durrells*, but is probably best known as Alan Partridge's put-upon assistant, Lynn Benfield. Full name required.

Felicity Montagu

42. A *league* is an old English unit of distance most commonly defined as how many miles?

Three

43. Anthony Vaccarello has held the post of Creative Director at which French fashion brand since 2016?

Yves St Laurent

44. Created by the head chef of New York's Ritz Carlton hotel, what name is usually given to the chilled soup made from potatoes, leeks, onion and cream?

Vichysoisse

45. Broadcast in 1983, *Goodbye, Farewell, and Amen* was the feature-length, final episode of which US television show that ran for eleven series from 1972?

M*A*S*H

46. In the recently released Ridley Scott film *Napoleon*, which British actor plays Sanson, the executioner who guillotines Louis XVI? He is perhaps best known for his impressions on Radio 4's *Dead Ringers* and for co-starring with the late John Sessions in BBC TV's *Stella Street*. His surname only will suffice.

Phil Cornwell

47. A rhombus has how many sides?

Four

48. With which song did Enya top the UK singles chart in 1988?

Orinoco Flow

49. Who is the chief counsellor to the King of Denmark, mistakenly killed by Hamlet in Act III of Shakespeare's play?

Polonius

50. Which UK royal residence has an AB35 post code?

Balmoral

51. In 1949 who became the first Manchester United player and first non-Englishman to win the *Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year* award – at the time known simply as *Footballer of the Year*?

Johnny Carey

52. Name any three of the four countries with which Slovenia shares a land border.

Any three from: **Austria; Croatia; Hungary; Italy**

53. Which London rail terminus stands on the site of a former smallpox hospital in the borough of Camden? It is the first station reached after passing 'Go' when playing the standard London version of *Monopoly*™.

King's Cross

54. In the title of a very popular debut novel of 2020, how are pensioners Elizabeth Best, Ibrahim Arif, Joyce Meadowcroft and Ron Ritchie collectively known?

The Thursday Murder Club (by Richard Osman)

55. Which hormone produced by the alpha cells of the pancreas has the opposite effect to insulin as it increases the level of glucose in the bloodstream?

Glucagon

56. The hormone glucagon increases glucose levels in the bloodstream by causing the breakdown of which substance that is stored mainly in the liver?

Glycogen

57. Give the title of **any one** of Richard Osman's three follow-up novels in the *Thursday Murder Club* series.

Any one from: ***The Man Who Died Twice, The Bullet That Missed* or *The Last Devil To Die***

58. Which London rail terminus stands on the south bank of the Thames in the borough of Lambeth? Of all UK stations it has the most platforms (24) and in 2021-22 it handled the most passengers (about 41½ million).

Waterloo

59. Name any three of the four countries with which Albania shares a land border.

Any three from: **Greece; Kosovo; Montenegro; North Macedonia** (also accept just 'Macedonia')

60. In 1956 Bert Trautmann became the second Manchester City player to win the *Football Writers' Association Footballer of the Year* award. One year earlier, who became the first?

Don Revie

61. Which UK royal residence has an SL4 post code?

Windsor Castle

62. Who is the Thane of Fife that kills Macbeth in the final act of Shakespeare's play?

Macduff

63. With which song did Falco top the UK singles chart in 1986?

Rock Me Amadeus

64. What is the size (in degrees) of each internal angle in an equilateral triangle?

Sixty

65. In the recently released Ridley Scott film *Napoleon*, which British actor plays Louis XVIII? He is probably best known as local handyman and entrepreneur Bert Large in the ITV comedy-drama *Doc Martin*. His surname only will suffice.

Ian McNeice

66. Broadcast in 1993, *One for the Road* was the feature-length, final episode of which US television show that ran for eleven series from 1982?

Cheers

67. Originating in New York City, what name is usually given to the dish consisting of two halves of an English muffin topped with bacon, a poached egg and hollandaise sauce?

Eggs Benedict

68. Virginie Viard has held the post of Creative Director at which French fashion brand since 2019?

Chanel

69. A *cubit* is an old English unit of distance most commonly defined as how many inches?

Eighteen

70. Which British actress, writer and director, who specialises in dark comedy, is the brains behind critically acclaimed TV shows such as *Nighty Night*, *Human Remains*, *Hunderby* and *Camping*? She appeared as Dawn Sutcliffe in *Gavin & Stacey* and is the real-life partner of *The Mighty Boosh* star Julian Barratt. Full name required.

Julia Davis

Second Written Round **THERE IS A THEME**

Where the answer is a person's name both forename and surname are required for a correct answer

(Note: in one case there is a one-letter difference in spelling between the given answer and the related word in the theme)

71. Born in Pennsylvania in 1989, which singer-songwriter has sold over 200 million records globally, including the UK number one singles *Look What You Made Me Do* in 2017 and *Anti-Hero* in 2022?

Taylor Swift

72. What comes next in this chronological list of an author's works?

The Collector, The Aristos, The Magus...

The French Lieutenant's Woman (published works of John Fowles)

73. Developed in the 1970s and widely used in the safety testing of chemicals and drugs, what name is usually given to the procedure that uses *Salmonella* bacteria to determine whether a substance is mutagenic and therefore potentially carcinogenic?

Ames test

74. Which British intellectual was the inspiration for the woodpecker Professor Yaffle in the 1970s children's television programme *Bagpuss*?

Bertrand Russell

75. The real-life home of the Earl of Carnarvon is better known on television and in film as what?

Downton Abbey (the real-life Highclere Castle)

76. What was the name of Reg Varney's character in the ITV sitcom *On the Buses*?

Stan Butler

77. Who sang lead vocals on the 1975 UK top ten hit *All Around My Hat*?

Maddy Prior

78. In 1955 who famously refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama?

Rosa Parks

79. Which single word completes the title of this 1934 Agatha Christie novel: *Why Didn't They Ask...?*

Evans

80. Which driver was Formula One world champion in 1969, 1971 and 1973?

Jackie Stewart

Theme is England Test wicket-keepers

(Bob Taylor; Bruce French; Les Ames; Jack Russell; Paul Downton; Jos Buttler; Matt Prior; Jim Parks; Godfrey Evans; Alec Stewart)

Spares

1. Matty Healy, son of actors Tim Healy and Denise Welch, is the lead singer of which pop group that was formed at Wilmslow High School in 2002?

The 1975

2. With four points from his five matches which European golfer was the leading individual points-scorer at the Ryder Cup played in September 2023?

Rory McIlroy

3. Although not credited at the time, which American soprano provided the singing voice for Deborah Kerr in *The King and I*, Audrey Hepburn in *My Fair Lady*, Natalie Wood in *West Side Story* and the cockney geese in *Mary Poppins*?

Marni Nixon

4. Who was the subject of James McNeill Whistler's *Arrangement in Grey and Black, No.2*?

Thomas Carlyle (the artist's mother was the subject of *Arrangement in Grey and Black, No.1*)

5. The chemical element with atomic number 97 is named after which city in California, where it was first synthesized in 1949?

Berkeley

6. Which body of water would you be crossing if you drove across a suspension bridge between South Queensferry and North Queensferry?

Firth of Forth (accept any answer containing 'Forth')

7. The television appearances of which Scottish actress include *Agatha Raisin*, *Ugly Betty*, *Extras* and *Shetland*?

Ashley Jensen