

Team Rickrolling

Team Rickrolling with members spanning three generations, was formed this year, roughly two and a half weeks after the hunt started. Not deterred by the possibility that others had already finished, we gathered a crack team with what seemed the key ingredients for success. Computer skills were clearly essential, hence we recruited one team member with a Grade A Computer Studies O Level and, for good measure, a current first year GCSE Computer Science student. Two of the team regularly attempt the Telegraph crossword on a Saturday, so any anagrams would be a doddle. An English teacher with twenty years' experience? Surely there would be some literary clues? That position was swiftly filled. Music knowledge was a must. An avid reader of the NME from 1985-1993? Tick. The youngest member of the team brought some London knowledge, having been born in The Royal Free Hospital in 2001 (before swiftly departing for the South Coast). We have a Sudoku wizard, who doubles as our aviation consultant being a past president of the Supersonic Tunnel Association. And luckily all of us have at one time or another been on a train.

Crucially, some team members had previous experience of the hunt. Over the years, we must have answered ... oooh ... at least two or three questions for Dave Kee's Team. Usually something to do with popular music or football.

And how did we fare in our Virgin year? We considered starting digging in our back garden in Hove, before working outwards in ever increasing circles. Might have been a quicker way to find the treasure, but the South Downs seemed a bit of an obstacle. There was an early breakthrough - Rickrolling was quickly identified by a team member born twelve years after Mr Astley enjoyed his moment in the spotlight. As an aside, in an odd coincidence, a friend pointed out Rick's house to us in Teddington this Christmas. Various stations were identified. A number of questions were answered. And, as suggested in the hunt itself, young brains were the key to the pink brainteasers.

So onwards to next year. Already we have recruited a number cruncher with plenty of free time to offer, having recently been made redundant. We have current vacancies for stargazers and a milliner if you are interested in applying.