

Pablo's 22

Armchair



More Themes than Windows 10

1,741 Questions

20



Global



Coverage



09

No red herrings, just rock 'n' roll

Treasure



Navigators



welcome

Hunt



16

Starts 18th December 00:01 2015-16 Ends 12th January noon

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1. The version number of this Poster. Should be removed in the final production process. Note that some of the Properties of this document are significant, namely:

- Author is ATH Corp. Which will become clear when the hunt starts.
- PDF version is repeat of point 3
- Location is “C:\SecureServer42\Poster\Poster.pdf” 42 is a weak hint to HHGG. (This did not work!)’
- Font is Station 1 and a hint that stations will be significant. 1

2. A link to Pablo’s ATH web site.

3. An acrobat with 9 on his back, version 1.7 on his leg and he is saying "IOS is a problem". This is a hint that the poster has been produced to Adobe Acrobat 9 standard and PDF version 1.7. The IOS comment is a warning that the current Adobe Acrobat Reader used on Apple devices does not support all the features used in the Poster (or more importantly the hunt itself), eg embedded sound files, URL links, etc. 2 3

4. This is a hint to not take this PDF at face value as a document but to look hard at its contents and look

out for sound files. Pixel level and other hidden codes will be found in main hunt. 4

5. A GPS satellite, a hint towards navigation. There is an embedded sound file, Music17, which is Blondie with “Hanging On The Telephone”. The initial ringing tone is repeated. This is a hint to call the phone number on the Consultant Letter and to hang on if it is not answered immediately. Skype can be unpredictable. 5 6

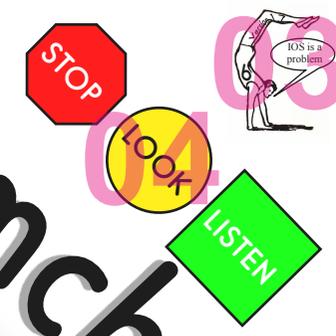
Two of the grey solar panels contain a QR code which needs to be decoded with a QR reader. The left hand panel decodes to “Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all teams, remember to listen to the heads.” and the right hand panel to a link to the Rick Astley video, 7

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQw4w9WgXcQ&autoplay=1> If you followed this link you were Rickrolled, see 8

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rickrolling> for more information on this phenomenon. There are numerous apps on IOS and Android to read QR codes and on the PC we have used the free one at <http://www.onbarcode.com/scanner/qrcode.html> Note that you need to feed an image into this tool

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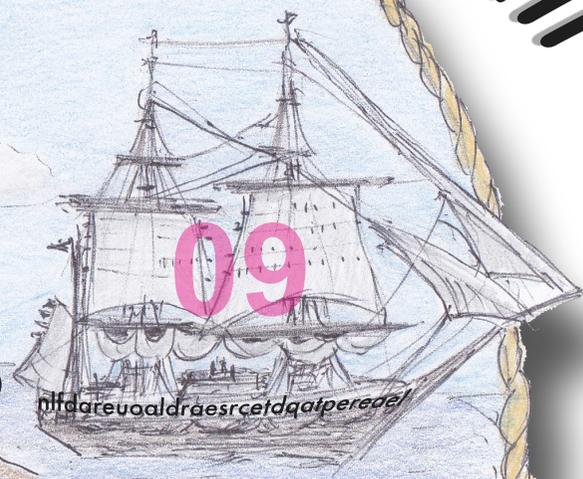
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and we have found that by zooming in on the PDF, taking a screen print, cutting out the QR code and enhancing its contrast is all that is needed to get a successful decode.

6. This is a hint that the Voyage of the Beagle is relevant since it took 1,741 days. **9**

7. This has no real relevance except to provide some cover for some of the odd things included in the hunt!

8. This is Stanfords, the map shop in Long Acre where I have been a customer since the sixties. Each floor has a map for the floor pattern, the basement has an A-Z of London, see point 16 for the relevance. **10**

9. The ship is the Beagle, one of the main themes of the hunt. However it is not supposed to be obvious at this stage. There are three hot spots on the ship to distract attention away from the ship itself. The mainsail has a hotspot link to Music52, "Ship of Fools" by The Doors from the Morrison Hotel album. Most of the rest of the ship links to the Rickrollin video mentioned in 8 above. A small outline to the sail is hotspot to Music53 which is **11**

"Sailing By" (the test card version). This is a weak hint to shipping forecasts (the music is the late night introduction) and their inventor Fitzroy. The cipher text was encoded with a 3 rail Railfence cipher. Notice that the building has a rail fence outline at the bottom. The message is "Not all pdf readers are created equal". This is a hint to try different PDF readers if one does not appear to give the correct results. This will be important in the main hunt. A Railfence cipher tool can be found at <http://rumkin.com/tools/cipher/railfence.php> **14**

10 & 11. This is a hint that the hunt will be globally oriented and not just the UK. A weak indication of the Beagle voyage. **15**

12. The music, Music51, is "Stations" from the Horses and Heels album by Marianne Faithful. Who is surprisingly still alive and making music. This is a hint that stations will play some part in the hunt. The building is Fenchurch Street station which is a hint towards the girl in the cafe at the start of HEGG. The cipher text decodes to "Trust this document always" and is a hint to ignore warning messages when playing the sound clips and **16**

**17**

**18**

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**21**

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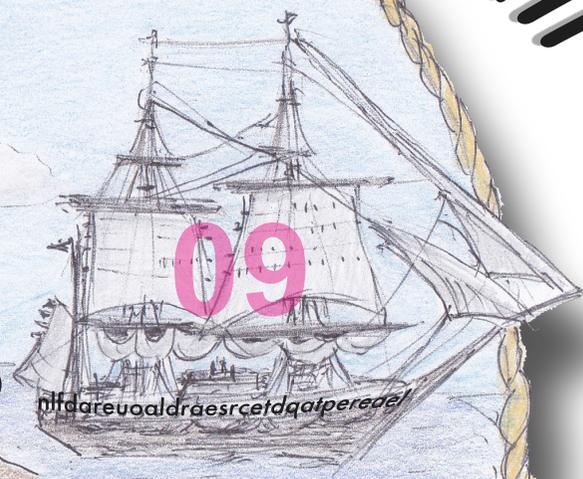
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following links in the PDF. Details of the cipher are in point 9 above.

**13.** This is a hint that there will be no red herrings this year but there will be a lot of links to the Rick Astley video, see point 8 above. This statement is of course a misdirection, there are a few red herrings in the main hunt. There is a Rick Rolling video. **22**

**14.** The map, sextant and compass are a hint that navigation is going to be important in this hunt and is an obvious pointer to Stanfords (for the map obsessed).

**15.** The signature of the artist, Josephine, who drew the poster, the front page of the main hunt and much else besides. **23**

**16.** This is Neil Armstrong descending steps in the basement of Stanfords. He is saying "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." This is a hint that if you go to Stanfords and descend the steps to the basement then at the bottom it is one small step to the treasure location. The floor of the basement is a map of North West London. You just need to tread carefully... At least that was the plan and the quote originally was "One ..." until it was **24**

pointed out that several steps were required to get to Rickmansworth. Hence that addition of ATHkind to the quote to indicate that a leap was needed!

**17.** Two Logica Ls in a cross marking the treasure location. The sound clip here, Music50, is Bob Dylan and the Band from "The Basement Tapes". This is a hint to visit the basement of Stanfords. See points 16 and 8 above. **25**

**18.** This atoll is a hint that circles will be relevant in the main hunt. Note the station and the ship are linked by this circle. **26**

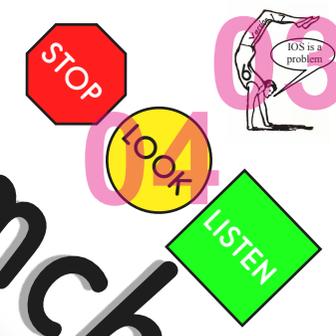
**19.** The edge of the page has been curled up to cover the ATH Corp logo. Only the Easter Island Head is visible. Coupled with the QR code in point 5 this is a hint to look at the ATH Corp logos in the main hunt.

**20.** The rope around the outside is another loose hint to the use of circles in this hunt. Note that the ship and the station are linked by this circle. **27**

**21.** An investigator with a magnifying glass. Yet another hint to look very closely at the detail of this year's hunt. On the magnifying glass is x64. 6400% (ie x64 magnification) is the maximum **28**

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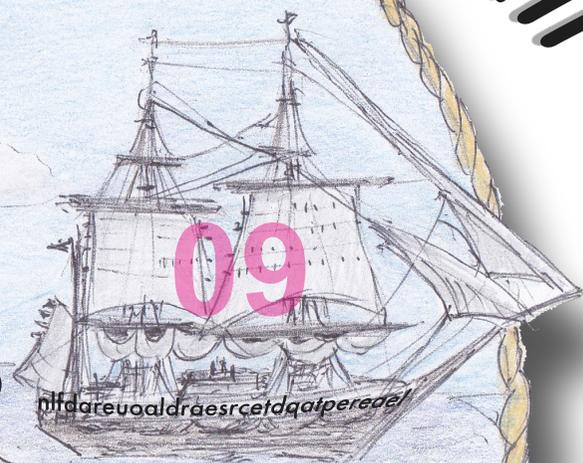
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zoom level in Acrobat Reader and a hint that this may be needed later for the pinhole and pixel codes.

**22.** All text is in Station font, a hint that stations are relevant in main hunt.