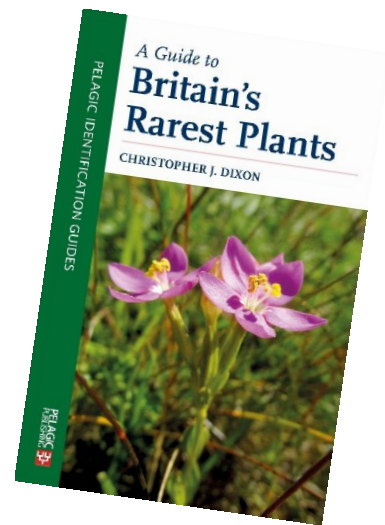


Chris's Fiendish Christmas Quiz 2018

raising money for Plantlife, the wild plant conservation charity

To enter, make a donation of £2 – more if you're feeling generous – at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cjd-quiz, and email your answers to quiz@makaques.com by the end of 28 February 2019. Answers will be sent out and the winner announced shortly afterwards. The winner will receive a signed copy of *A Guide to Britain's Rarest Plants* (Pelagic Publishing, 2017, 156 pp.) worth £20.



1. Narrates game / Tree anagrams

This section has a botanical theme. Match the scientific names (left) with the vernacular names (right). Note that each column has been sorted alphabetically.

A lonely vascular

Acanthus matriarch

Anorexic flux rises

Ant pulled beau

As a gulf's cavity

Bias a piece

Canada tree plus soup

Canary egg as 'mouton'

Cuisine jumps on rum

Cur cups a rare compass

East Asia vacant

Expresses viburnum

Ilium of ex-quail

Ivy's silent spurs

Laurels pump out

Map scarce tree

My runic possum

Nirvana album nut

Pain subcultures

Peru axial spur

Piano spurms us

Pure secret aqua

Roman cuss

Sang ululations

Silica burned

Siri's algal fix

Slurs or ambitions

Subsuming a car

The holly pasturage

Tidal Croatia

Truly miss slaves

Unfurl lasagna

Unleash capacious stump

Usurp as a caribou

You un-puree a mousse

Asthma union

Be carp pal

Chervil ribs

Cow ilk crawl

Coypu warrens

Cry inner chorale

Dimple-leaf

El Red

Enfold Arab once

Enthral burdock

Ferreting away

Gong up birch trunk

Has

Hebce

I prowls up well

Likes oases

Lose

Lyloh

My stony creepers

Napes

Nice posts

Oh, barmen!

Ox B

Pen lids

Radle

Rape

Redelivers twice

Rip June

Salad elm, evil elm

Shrew competence lurks

So creamy

Stench shouter

Wet suet stench

What horn?

Zahle

2. A Fabric-ation

Complete the story by inserting the names of fabrics and fibres in the spaces. The number of letters is given in brackets.

The party began when Ian and Linda, a duc____(7) had somehow met, arrived at our p____(4) in Ayrshire. Trying to act nob____(7) arrival, I instead ____ (4) like riff-____(6)sked if she would like a ____ (9), but ma____(6)ed for champagne instead. My husband ____ (5) was doing some DIY and the noise of his ban____(7)____(6)ur garage was like a ____ (9)rvously took Linda's ____ (6). "Terence," I scolded, "put that ____ (5) down and come to the kit____ (8)xpect some help." The jumper in my hand was the dernier ____ (9)s or creases marred it, and I didn't dare hold it a____ (5)ger. Although Linda's wh____ (6)ery told of ____ (8) commoners could only dream of, Ian looked like a misplaced Norse poet, a sa____ (9)xile.

I heard my husband make a b____ (6) crash, and imagined ____ (6)ting clumsily around in the kitchen, although he could usually handle hi____ (7)trously. "I hope this glas____ (5)right," I said, handing over a rather f____ (5)ample. "I____ (5) do," Linda replied, as I put on a Jethro ____ (5).P.

Rather than putting the twins in their ____ (6)ight, I had left t____ (4)laying with c____ (5)s ____ (5) the lounge, and when I ____ (4)ed in, silence en____ (5)erily. A ____ (5)o more than 18 inches off the floor went all round the walls, and I hardly recognised my copy of the ____ (7) *Daily Express*, when I saw that ____ (7)ed all the colours of the rainbow.

I knew who to b____ (4) for thi____ (5)e, and I was vo____ (6)nfess, as I took a wet ____ (7) to those little fingers ma____ (5)ble by mani____ (5)tition. Ignoring the dri____ (6) kids were uttering, I took them out to play among the gra____ (6)ch and kno____ (5) we call our ____ (4).

Outside with Ian - a wi____ (5)nt than most - I asked how he came to ____ (4)inda. "I was praying in a church in Leiden - St. Bartholome____ (7)ward, I think - and she was on holiday in ____ (7). We clicked straight away; I might ____ (6)da the question tonight."

A ____ (7) sang as our shadows began to ____ (4)ast, and as my mind grew ____ (6)earned for a simpler time.

3. Mammals

These cryptic crossword clues are listed in alphabetical order of their solutions.

- 1 Something missing from equation? (5)
- 2 Much about long lady (6, 6)
- 3 Bi bird! (9)
- 4 Girl gripped by a crab returns to ship's hold (7, 7)
- 5 After madly drilling round Hindhead, leak engulfs hotel (7, 5)
- 6 Acrobat holds his hat (not top) a lot (5, 8)
- 7 Features in reflection of mountain pool (5, 3)
- 8 International appearance backs old Arabia (8)
- 9 Taps to the right before loathing returns (7)
- 10 Weird, weird, regular low-life (4, 4)
- 11 Roamed dry range (9)
- 12 Avoid paying if stew pulp stayed (4-6, 8)
- 13 Unsettling reembodied soul ... (6, 8)
- 14 ... dissembling in very loud beast (6, 3)
- 15 Ditch Latin (5)
- 16 Sounds like sauces last if mixed bare (6, 5)
- 17 A flower and a headless snail (5, 3)
- 18 Weirdly, John's a carnivore (5, 10)
- 19 Hurriedly paroled before closing (7, 4)
- 20 Little archangel surrounded by throng (8)
- 21 At least a thousand? (4)
- 22 Slippery? (4)
- 23 Retake almond whirl (5, 4, 3)
- 24 Abandoned a mine-drill disaster (4-6, 9)
- 25 Hunger troubled lion (8)
- 26 Heavy breather conceals shy heart (7)
- 27 Tack westbound streetcar between north-east and east (4, 6)
- 28 Heard of the tree that's bad for potting? (9)
- 29 Spooner given stones to eat (3, 3)
- 30 Arrived on 'orseback, they say (3, 4)
- 31 Orbited a ghost tree spookily (5-7, 5)
- 32 Mould in French flower (8)
- 33 Change to Silk Cut (7)
- 34 Only wearing glasses? (10, 4)
- 35 Chained spy in stir (5, 7)
- 36 Cashier among saints as pig holds regular debauch ... (8, 3, 3)
- 37 ... and vilest craze holds craze (9, 5)
- 38 X marks sound where ship shank (6)
- 39 Line of defenders, and one extra lacking energy (7)
- 40 O, lowly unfortunate! Endless wealth reaches the ends of the earth (6, 7)

4. Single-character quiz

The solution to each question can be represented as a single character in the Windows-1252 (often called ISO 8859-1) character set. Give the code point – a number from 0 to 255 – for each. For instance, the answer to a question “What is awarded by Oxford?” might be 176 (i.e. °), representing ‘degree’.

- 1 The Great Maria (900 kg) is a what where?
- 2 Where do Care and Sorrow meet in the shadow of Gloom?
- 3 What deconstructs ‘manspread’ into something else?
- 4 Where does a noctambulant dolmen stand on its gold?
- 5 What eats hops and flies?
- 6 Sweet child o’ whom?
- 7 What has crypts to hide the founders from poisoners?
- 8 What spider monkey, duckling or dog can have six audible pulses?
- 9 What connects a lynx to a water-snake?
- 10 Who went from Vernon to Wink?
- 11 What crag is at the summit of a Wharfedale marilyn?
- 12 What Welsh addition makes a wall into a parade?
- 13 What is used in espionage?
- 14 What holds half a tun?
- 15 Who described the southernmost conifers?
- 16 What marks the gloved man or his end?
- 17 Who, like his teacher, glorified Ludovico Magno?
- 18 What is a heard sense?
- 19 What did Tallboy kill with?
- 20 Opium Jones
- 21 What may be like a crown, like an arrow, or sideways?
- 22 What might migrate at 3093 furlongs per fortnight?
- 23 Whose law was passed by 49-3?
- 24 What describes a boy with Still’s disease?
- 25 What is Arno missing that Bikini isn’t?
- 26 What goes along each side of a horse’s coffin?
- 27 What is over the border from Roisin?
- 28 Where were three men with the same name successively in charge?
- 29 Where does a tower lean 1.5 m north (from a German point of view)?
- 30 What is used in Helvetica but not Helvetia?
- 31 What species is at the centre of Meili’s world?
- 32 Eraser starts what?

5. Tie-breaker

Choose a number. It must be real, positive and finite, but it can be as large or as small as you like. In the event of a tie, the person whose chosen number is closest to the average (geometric mean) of all the numbers chosen by the entrants will be declared the winner.