



# TREADS

[www.aamc.co.uk](http://www.aamc.co.uk)

The November 2017 Newsletter of AAMC

## Editor's Bits – Morton

A few years ago, Elaine and I thought that eventually we'd settle on a Gold Wing as our regular bike, for comfy – nay, luxurious – touring. Then we tried one, and the gymnastics required to get on and off sank that idea - I think when getting on and off the Deauville becomes problematical we'll try a Street Twin. However, once moving, even that 1500 Wing could pop along and corner, so the new version of the 1800, with its new, lightweight frame, will probably surprise some people expecting to leave one way behind. It now has double wishbone front suspension with a central monoshock and a separate pair of steering rods (like BMW's Duolever?). However, it looks pretty normal, unlike this one:



This is the MotoInno (short for Motorcycle Innovation) – TS3, available in Australia, with Ducati Testastretta engine and apparently offering the following:

- Can be braked harder and later into corners, including trail braking through any corner/camber combination.

- In-line and corner trail braking does not upset front end stability or bike trajectory.
- Throttle changes during cornering do not unsettle the front end stability or trajectory.
- Directional changes during a corner do not upset front end stability and overall trajectory.

Changing the subject completely, I was surprised to find, on the DfT website, that the penalty for riding a bicycle on the pavement is £500. I don't know how widely this is applied, but while I can see the point of deterring "pavementing" in crowded town/city streets, I often find myself – particularly in the car – stuck for what seems like ages behind a cyclist when there's an empty pavement begging to be used, to provide the cyclist with safety from uncaring motorists and enable me to make progress.

Finally, in the language of heaven,  
Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda –  
and safe riding!

## Legal Questions

### 1. Van Man ran me over, but can I claim?

*I pulled up behind a van which was on the right-hand arm of a rural Y-junction. The van driver then seemingly decided he wanted to go down the other arm of the Y, started reversing and only stopped when he felt the van hit the front of my bike - despite some frantic beeping of my bike's horn. I was not injured, but the bike was forced onto its side and had some cosmetic damage. The driver said he didn't see me, but where do I stand?*

**Answer:**

It would seem that one of two things happened to cause this accident. Either you were there to be seen but the van driver didn't check his mirrors, or there was a solid back to the van and he did check his side mirrors but in the absence of being able to check a rear-view mirror you weren't there to be seen even though he looked.

If it's the former then it would seem that a court must conclude that he was entirely at fault.

Where a vehicle has a solid back, the court may well criticise a rider who pulls up so closely behind it rather than positioning himself on the road in a place where he could be seen in the side mirror – as with a lorry, if you can't see the mirrors then the driver can't see you.

The end result would likely be a finding that the van driver was primarily to blame but there may be a degree of contributory negligence on your part, which could affect any settlement. But this is unlikely and I would need more information to be sure.

Andrew Campbell, MCN, **October 2017**

**2. Can I lose my car license too?**

*I have taken my motorcycle Direct Access at 27 years old, having driven cars and passed my car test nine years ago in Poland*

*However, my friend has told me I will lose my whole licence (which is now British, as I live in Britain) if I accumulate six points in the two years after I pass my test, is this true? If it is, I wish I had not bothered taking my bike test!*

**Answer:** Your friend is wrong but a few people would make the same mistake. Your first licence was obtained in a European Union country, so it is treated as a British licence under EU Treaty Rules. Your position is no different to any other full British licence holder.

The date of your first full licence, in your case a car licence, means the timer started running on the day that you passed your Polish test and obtained a full Polish licence.

For the first two years, had you accumulated six UK points on your UK licence (and there is no method of putting foreign points, including EU points, on a British licence) then your car licence would have been revoked. You would then have had a provisional UK licence and you would have had to take your theory and practical tests again for any class of vehicle you wish to ride or drive.

The Road Traffic (New Drivers) Act 1995 treats the first two years after getting a full licence as 'probationary'. The test is, when did your licence stop being provisional? If you hold a non-provisional licence, it is treated as a full licence under EU regulations, whether for car or motorcycle and once the two years has expired, your probationary period ends.

However, if you accumulate six points in your first two years of a full licence, your licence is simply lost. There are no appeals, no court hearings, just a letter telling you that your licence has been revoked and you then have to apply for a fresh provisional and start all over again. However, this does not apply nine years after you got your first full licence.

Recent holders of full licences need to be very careful about this Act. If you are pulled over by a Police constable in the first two years of holding a full licence for minor speeding, or if he pulls you over for a duff brake light and a bald tyre, you could instantly lose your full licence, if you have not held it for two years, if you passed your car and bike tests in close succession, you lose both.

The police are fully aware of this and it is at contacts like this when your attitude becomes absolutely crucial. A police officer will either give you words of warning or, if the defect is more serious, he can give you a vehicle rectification notice, without points.

A bad attitude means you will be written up and points will win a lot of trips on the bus. This is not about a power-crazed copper setting out to ruin your life. Most police officers assess whether or not words of warning are sinking in. A much better response to being pulled over is to promise to rectify your ways, fix your brake light, replace your bald tyre, keep an eye out for speed signs or whatever it is that has drawn police attention, if the copper is a powerhungry numpty intent on ruining your riding career, then a couple of minor infractions can do this. Speed cameras are immune to persuasion, so do not trip two of these as a new driver.

As a general proposition, it is wise to avoid any police attention in the first two years after your provisional licence has been changed to a full one, whether for a car or a motorcycle. So look after your bike and don't risk a 'silly' pull. Keep your lights working and your tyres good, don't have a noisy can and while small plates and a black visor don't attract points, they attract police attention. For the first two years of a full licence, keep a low profile, obey speed limits and avoid behaviour likely to attract police attention.

Andrew Dalton, [RiDE Magazine](#) September 2017

## RoSPA Examiners - Simon

I understand from RoSPA that they have recently appointed two new examiners for our area.

The first is Ian Marriott, whom many of you will recognise as the local organiser of the Police BikeSafe courses and leading light in the Great Western Air Ambulance Charity. Ian has now retired from the constabulary and has decided to become an examiner for RoSPA. I believe he also has an interest in the IAM locally, but cannot confirm exactly what that is.

The second is Dave Stiles. I'm afraid I've been unable to find out much about Dave so far, but I'm sure more information will become available over the next few months.

They will both provide car and bike cover across Bath, Bristol and North Somerset, and augment the work currently done by Geoff and the others just outside our area.

I'm sure you will join with me in welcoming them 'into the fold'.

## Plug & Grub

*Note: pics by Mark C.*



This took place at the Carpenter's Arms, Stanton Wick, as last year. The event was well-attended: we filled the dining-room again.





As usual, it proved a good way to meet people we hadn't seen for a while and make new friends.



It also enabled Sue to exercise her fiendish quiz-writing skills. Some of the suggested answers were interesting, such as one to "What is a traditional gift for a couple celebrating a 15-year marriage anniversary" – "Divorce!" If you couldn't make it to the P&G, have no fear: this year's questions are appended to this issue of Treads – no prizes, and answers in January Treads.



Prizes were distributed via Sue's novel (?! ) system of raffle tickets. This year, Fowlers nobly stepped into the breach left by our usual prize-supplier, Lovett's, so thanks go to them. Nigel D won prizes for best ride and favourite photograph.



Among comments received about the event are the following:

*Hi Sue*

*Just a note to say how much Jackie and I enjoyed the Plug and Grub. Our thanks to all involved in organising an excellent evening.*

*As mentioned last night it is with much regret that I have decided that my riding days are over and I will not therefore renew my club membership. My time with the club has given me great pleasure and many good friends and I believe I will miss these friends more than the riding.*

*Please give my thanks and kind regards to all. - Paul*

*Hi Simon*

*We both enjoyed the evening, great time! Please pass our thanks onto Sue and Helen See you in the New Year*

*Kind regards - Tim*

*Dear Sue and Helen*

*Thank you for a lovely dinner last night.*

*A lot of effort had gone into organisation including the raffle and place cards .....it all takes a lot of thought and time, and it was appreciated.*

*The food was fab and the venue/service was great.*

*We were made to feel very welcome and struck up lots of great non bike related conversations (Wendy) .....I found out that Martin does Andalusian dancing!!! ... who would have thought I would have found*

*such wonderful people that are into performing arts at a biker Christmas social?*

*Thanks again*

*Wendy*

)

## View from the Saddle –AI

### Conspicuity – I'm all for it

Conspicuity, or the art of being conspicuous, defined as 'easily seen or noticed; readily visible or observable'

Stu explained clearly in last month's Treads, that conspicuity is not all about the Hi-Viz and daylight running headlights; there also has to be a large element of you making yourself conspicuous to other road users in your ride plan.

A quick search on Google and I am drawn to the study carried out in the US called 'Enhancing Motorcycle Conspicuity Awareness in Iowa'. A scintillating read.... It is a study of motorcycle crash data in the US to determine any correlation between conspicuity and collisions with motorcycles. It does reference its own research in the state of Iowa as well as balancing views from studies throughout the States and worldwide. Some of the studies referred to evidenced reduction in fatal motorcycle crashes with riders wearing hi visibility clothing/helmets, while other studies showed no measurable difference at all. One of the interesting pieces of information it referred to, was a 'Rider Conspicuity Campaign in Minnesota' where an e-survey was carried out asking web site visitors to give a top 10 Hi-Viz riding tips chosen from a list of 20 suggestions. The top 10 tips were: -

- Fluorescent/reflective safety vest
- White helmet
- Brightly-coloured jacket
- Strategic lane positioning
- Headlight modulation
- "Flash your tail light"
- Reflective materials

- Movement
- Auxiliary driving lights
- Hand signals

All of them increase conspicuity, but not all of them need to be purchased from your local bike store. Our 'package' of conspicuity has to be a combination of clothing, equipment, accessories and actions (how we all apportion this will be personal to all of us) and although it won't ever be the ultimate impregnable 'magic cloak' there must be a better chance of influencing other road users to see us, avoid us and not give them an opportunity to say 'Sorry mate I didn't see you'....

## Speeding Penalties –Morton

Naturally, none of us would *think* of deliberately exceeding any speed limits, but for those of us whose concentration isn't what it was I offer the following table to remind us of the consequences of getting caught:

Speed limit (mph)	Recorded speed (mph)		
	21 – 30	31 – 40	41 +
20	21 – 30	31 – 40	41 +
30	31 – 40	41 – 50	51 +
40	41 – 55	56 – 65	66 +
50	51 – 65	66 – 75	76 +
60	61 – 80	81 – 90	91 +
70	71 – 90	91 – 100	101 +
Sentence range:	Band A fine	Band B fine	Band C fine
Points/disqualify:	3 pts	Disqualify 7 – 28 days OR 4 – 6 pts	Disqualify 7 – 56 days OR 6 pts

"Where an offender is driving grossly in excess of the speed limit the court should consider a disqualification in excess of 56 days."

Source:

<https://www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk/offences/item/speeding-revised-2017/>

# Diary of Events

New items in red

## December

### Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Ride

Bath Cycle Track and Greenway Two Tunnels. Meet at the Bird In Hand pub in Saltford (BS31 3EJ) at 9:45am for a 10am start.

\*

Mob

### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> – Haynes Breakfast Ride-In

Museum café open from 9:30am. Haynes International Motor Museum, Sparkford, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 7LH

## June 2018

### Friday 15<sup>th</sup> to Monday 18<sup>th</sup>

Stu's weekend bash to North Yorkshire.  
*See next sheet for further details and how to book.*

We endeavour to issue Treads on a regular basis during the third week of the month. Therefore if you have any items to be published in Treads, can you please ensure that they reach the editor before or during the first week of that month. Contributions for Treads are always needed, whether they are motorcycle related or of general interest! Please don't be shy.

E-mail [editor@aamc.co.uk](mailto:editor@aamc.co.uk)

NB – We publish articles for the benefit of members – it is not an endorsement or recommendation. You must make up your own mind if you think something is suitable for you.

# AAMC WEEKEND BASH

**15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2018**

I know it's early, but following my recent research it is evident that booking accommodation isn't. That means the quicker this gets underway the better for us all, so this information will be for all club members.

So, dates for the 2018 bash are **the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018**. Travel up on Friday 15<sup>th</sup>; lurk about for two days; return on Monday 18<sup>th</sup>.

We will be in the North York Moors region. That's about 300 miles (5 hours motorway travel without stops) away from where I live in Somerset. I have identified the following hotel:

**Premier Inn, Sowerby Gateway, Thirsk, N Yorks, YO7 3HF.**

Link: <https://www.premierinn.com/gb/en/hotels/england/north-yorkshire/thirsk/thirsk.html?INNID=THISOW&ARRdd=15&ARRmm=06&ARRyyy=2018&NIGHTS=3&ROOMS=1&ADULT1=2&CHILD1=0&COT1=0&INTTYP1=DB&SID=4&ISH=true&BRAND=PI>

If you can let me know by email when you have booked, that will give me an idea of numbers. It does not matter to me when you do that, other than prices will go up. Currently 3 nights for 2 people in a double room are £187 with cancellation facility and £148 without. The hotel manager has advised me that they have one room booked for that weekend to date.

I will organise a meeting place well before we leave. Over the two days, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, I will have some ideas for rides for those who want to join in, or just do your own thing. The hotel has an adjacent restaurant that you can check up online. The hotel is around 1.5 miles from Thirsk centre, but I've never been there in this life, so can't tell you just now what facilities there are.

Best wishes

Stuart Bullock  
[bullock.stu@gmail.com](mailto:bullock.stu@gmail.com)

## Avon Advanced Motorcycle Club

### Minutes from Committee meeting held at The Fosseway, Radstock on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017

1. Apologies for absence
2. The meeting was attended by

Matters arising from the meeting – see below:-

3. **Advanced Tutor Training:** For the issue of lobbying RoSPA and for the testing of advanced tutors, there will be a delay until at least early 2018 and these issues will be reviewed again next year. **To be carried forward.**
4. **Website:** Mark and Nigel confirmed that there were no particular issues at the moment
5. **EMS** – this event suffered from poor weather and the turnout was very poor. It is not suggested that we attend again next year, based on this year's show.  
**Biker Down** (plus other events) : Chris was not at the meeting, but reported that all the Biker Down events for this year have been run.  
**BikeSafe etc:** Simon reported that Ian Marriott has now left the police and a new chap will be in charge of BikeSafe events. Andy reported that there are no current specific events shown on the website for 2018. We will check again in the new year. **C/f.**
6. **P&G:** Helen reported that 21 people are booked to attend. There may be a few more bookings to be received. It was requested that there be a quiz in a similar vein to last year and prizes for favourite picture and ride. Simon will consider whether to issue a most improved rider. Sue will contact Lovetts to see if they can assist with any items.
7. **2018 Diary:** Helen has started to formulate this and Paul Batchelor's offer of a long weekend in Wales was passed on. The curry night was scheduled for 10 February 2018, the AGM was set for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February (provisionally at the Farmborough Inn – Helen to confirm), the first ride would be 4 March 2018 and the P&G 17 November 2018.
8. **Bashes:** - **Possible Welsh Bash with Paul B.** Details to follow.  
- **Stu's bash to Isle of Man.** Further details will follow.  
- **Simon's bash to Spain.** This will potentially be in the second week of September and will involve a one way ferry trip and a ride the other way. Further details will follow  
- Keith has investigated the suggestion of using HF Holidays but it appears that this is an organisation designed more for cyclists, walkers etc. It was decided that this was perhaps not quite the right location for AAMC.
9. **Removal of capacity restriction:** There was a further discussion about this. There was a proposal to leave the situation as it is (proposed by Keith , seconded by Andy . All accepted the proposal with one abstention.

**View from the saddle.** Is to be as follows: Nov – Al ; Jan – Adan; Feb – Andy; March – Chris ; April – Simon; May – Jim; June – Jaimie; July – Mark C; August - Keith

AOB:-


- ❖ Andy reported that he would not be standing as Vice Chairman at the 2018 AGM.
- ❖ Date of next meeting: **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7:30pm at the New Inn, Farmborough** – Helen will confirm with venue.
- ❖ Meeting closed at 21:15





## Welcome to the 2017 Plug and Grub

Just for a bit of fun I have prepared a quiz for you again, for you to consider whilst enjoying the company at the Plug & Grub. You can complete it individually, or for the team minded amongst you, you can complete this on a table basis. Choose your diners carefully! Like last year, the quiz is less bike specific (as are the prizes) so I hope that non riders will enjoy it too. Sadly, although the vast majority of our riders ride BMWs supplied by Lovetts, they were unwilling to donate any prizes to our little quiz. 🐼

Fowlers, on the other hand were happy to help. Big it up for 

The use of electronic devices to get answers will be highly frowned upon! The Secretary/Treasurer (who does a good line in frowning) reserves the final word on correctness of answers and points scored. Good luck!

### Round 1 – my favourite things

1. Which band released an album in 1974 entitled 'Crime of the Century'?
2. What is the name of the land where "Puff the Magic Dragon" lived?
3. Order the following European countries by population, from most to least: Belgium, France, Norway, Spain.



4. Which country presented the Statue of Liberty to America as a gift?
5. Which two people were told never to leave the Garden of Eden?
6. Would you weigh lighter, the same, or more at the equator than you would at the poles?
7. Which American state is known as the Garden State?
8. In which UK city was the 1997 movie "The Full Monty" set?
9. Which African country's flag is green and has one yellow star with a smiley



curve underneath it?

a: Mauritania, B: Algeria, c: Morocco or d: Mali.

## Round 2 - just for fun

10. Besides fingers and toes, what other human body part has unique prints?



11. Who is this?

12. In the song, how many ships came sailing by on Christmas day?

13. In family relationships, what sort of relation is a male nibling?

14. What is the most common natural object to be mistaken for a UFO?



15. Who is this? How many crashes has he had this year and how many saves? One point for each (answer, not crashes!).

16. Which two punctuation marks are combined to make an interrobang?

17. Former Spice Girl Melanie Chisholm dueted with which Canadian singer-songwriter on the 1998 single "When You're Gone"?

18. Which English model was married to musicians George Harrison and Eric Clapton?

## Round 3 – just for fun

19. During [World War II](#) what nickname was given to the British women who worked felling trees and in sawmills?

20. Which singer released a 1989 album entitled 'Foreign Affair'?



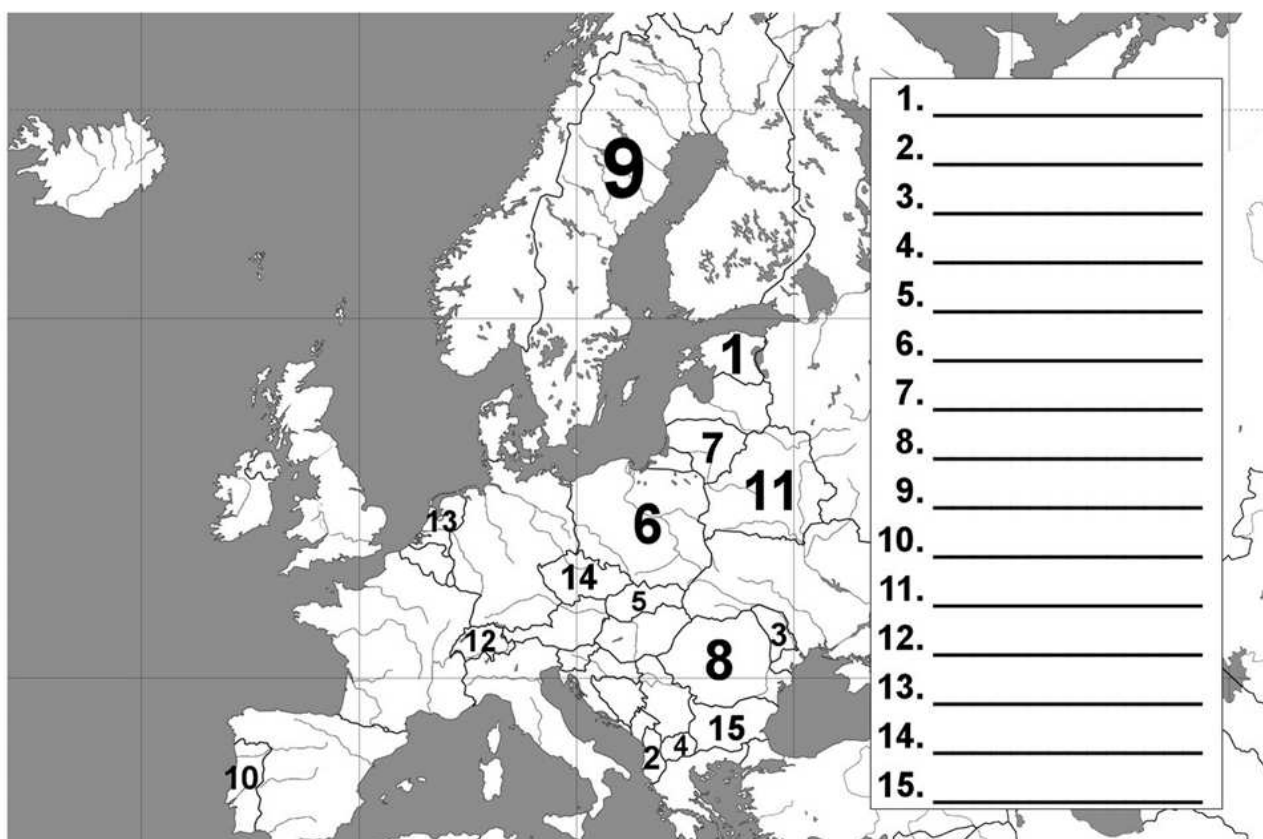
21. Who is this cheery chappy and what does he do?

22. Native to the Caribbean, what sort of animal is the mountain chicken?
23. The original version of Monopoly was based on the streets of which American city?
24. What type of food is paneer?



25. Who is this and which country is he from?
26. 'My Bed' was exhibited at the Tate Gallery in 1999 and consisted of a bed with bedroom objects in an abject state; who was the artist?
27. Which Canadian dish is made with French fries and cheese curds topped with a light brown gravy? Yum yum!
28. The phrase 'back to square one' originates, or is at least influenced, by which board game?

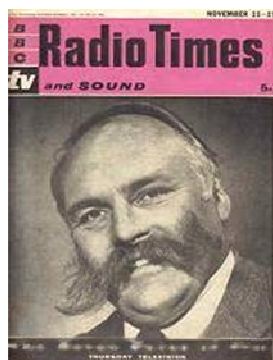
**We get about a bit. How many can you name?**



Round 4 – the camera never lies!

# RADIO TIMES

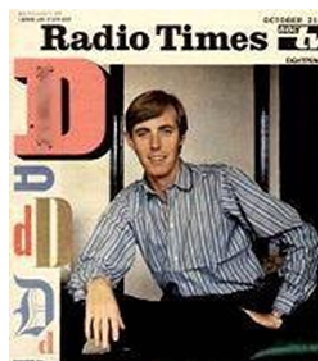
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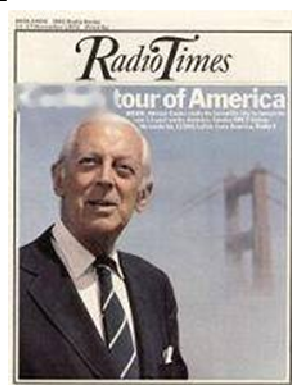
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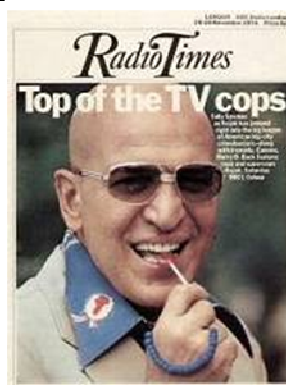
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10



### Round 5 – Just for fun – with notices

29. Who created the Angel of the North?

30. Who is this actress, what has been her recent character name and what was the name of the programme?



31. Which former England cricketer own's a gallery in Chipping Sodbury and is a well known artist?

32. Which form of pottery takes its name from the Italian for baked earth?

33. True or false? Donald Trump's father was named Fred?

34. Order the following London structures by height, from tallest to smallest: BT Tower, London Eye, St Paul's Cathedral, The Shard.

35. What is the title of the first record ever broadcast on BBC Radio 1 in the UK?

36. Name the traditional Louisiana rice dish seasoned and highly flavoured with sausage, ham, seafood, and pork or chicken?

37. Which company was initially called 'BackRub'?

### Bonus round for fun

38. This diamond was sold at auction in 2017 after being worn daily for 30 years. It was bought at a car boot sale



for how much and sold for what?

39. Name the world's largest cosmetics company?

40. What is a traditional gift for a couple celebrating a 15 year marriage anniversary?

41. Carbon Dioxide in a solid form is known as what?

42. What communication change will all MotoGP teams have to adopt in 2018? Really?!

43. What is the top speed of a Bottle Nosed Dolphin? a) 21mph b) 26mph c) 31mph?

44. Which female superstar has a daughter called Blue Ivy?



45. Who is this and what has he just achieved?

46. Which reservoir is the largest in England in terms of area?

47. What does Suggested Mapping 8 mean?

48. Paul O'Grady found fame as which comedic drag queen character?

49. Order the following British Prime Ministers by height, from tallest to smallest: Tony Blair, David Cameron, Theresa May, Margaret Thatcher.

Congratulations! All done. Now let's see who is right?