

**Christmas Quiz 2023: South Warwickshire**

Devised and hosted by Margaret Cund

1. One of the most important authors of the 20<sup>th</sup> century lived with his wife at Kissing Tree House in Alveston from 1959 until his death in 1984. Who was he?
2. What is the name of the Victorian park near Leamington Spa's Pump Room?
3. A Roman road, still much in use today, runs south-west/north-east through Warwickshire. What is it called?
4. Since 1918, Stratford has been in the diocese of Coventry. In which diocese was it before then?
5. In Warwickshire, there is a large number of villages with 'double-barrelled' names. One of these shares the first part of its name with a vegetable. Which is this?
6. In the time of Shakespeare, there were just three five-gabled houses in Warwickshire. One of these was Shakespeare's New Place, another is now the Shakespeare Hotel, and the third stands, little altered, today. Where is it?
7. In 1858, Queen Victoria spent two nights at Stoneleigh Abbey. Half a century earlier, in 1806, a famous authoress had visited with her mother and sister. Who was she?
8. Where is the British Motor Museum, housing many heritage vehicles?
9. A 17th century stone windmill is a striking landmark, standing on a hill in the south-east of the county. What is it called?
10. What is the name of the Junction where the Grand Union and Stratford-on-Avon Canals meet?
11. A former mansion near Stratford, considered "the most important and impressive High Victorian house in the county", is now a luxury hotel; it is reputedly haunted. What is its name?
12. Bidford-on-Avon Bridge is a scheduled monument and is Grade 1-listed. From which century does it date?
13. For nearly 30 miles, low-lying ground stretches from the escarpment of Edgehill to the northern Cotswolds. What is it called?
14. By what name is the modern successor to Henley-in-Arden's feudal court now known?

15. Which ancient town stands at the confluence of the River Alne and River Arrow?

16. In ancient times, a local town was known as "Sheep-wash-Town" because of its important sheep market. That name has since been corrupted. What it called today?

17. In Aston Cantlow, a 15<sup>th</sup> century inn with its original beams claims to have hosted the wedding breakfast of Shakespeare's parents. What is the name of this inn?

Now three questions about places near the Warwickshire/Oxfordshire border:

18. One village shares its name with a town in the south of England famed for its Air Show; its Hall is a National Trust property. Which village is this?

19. In a nearby village is a pottery whose wares are much sought-after by the National Trust and the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, among others. What is the pottery called?

20. What is the name of the complex of Neolithic and Bronze Age megalithic monuments standing on the border of the two counties?

### **Christmas**

21. Which country provides the Christmas tree for London's Trafalgar Square?

22. Which fruit is stuffed with cloves to create a pomander ball?

23. In Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol', what was the name of Ebenezer Scrooge's impoverished clerk?

24. In which century was the turkey introduced into Britain from North America?

25. Last December, from where did King Charles III deliver his first Christmas message to the nation and the Commonwealth?

## Answers

1. J B Priestley; his wife was Jacquetta Hawkes, an archaeologist
2. Jephson Gardens, named after Henry Jephson, a local doctor who promoted the health benefits of drinking water from the mineral springs
3. The Fosse Way
4. The Diocese of Worcester
5. Leek Wootton
6. Long Itchington
7. Jane Austen, whose mother was a member of the Legh family
8. Gaydon
9. Chesterton Windmill
10. Kingswood Junction
11. Ettington Park Hotel
12. Early 15<sup>th</sup> century, like Stratford's Clopton Bridge, though not as strong and, consequently, having to be much repaired over the centuries
13. Vale of the Red Horse
14. Court Leet
15. Alcester
16. Shipston-on-Stour
17. The King's Head
18. Farnborough
19. Whichford Pottery
20. Rollright Stones

## Christmas

21. Norway; the tree is a Norwegian Spruce
22. Orange; pomander balls have been used since the Middle Ages to perfume the air and ward off evil spirits
23. Bob Cratchit
24. The 16<sup>th</sup> century; the first turkeys are thought to have been brought to Britain in 1526 by a Yorkshireman named William Strickland
25. St George's Chapel, Windsor