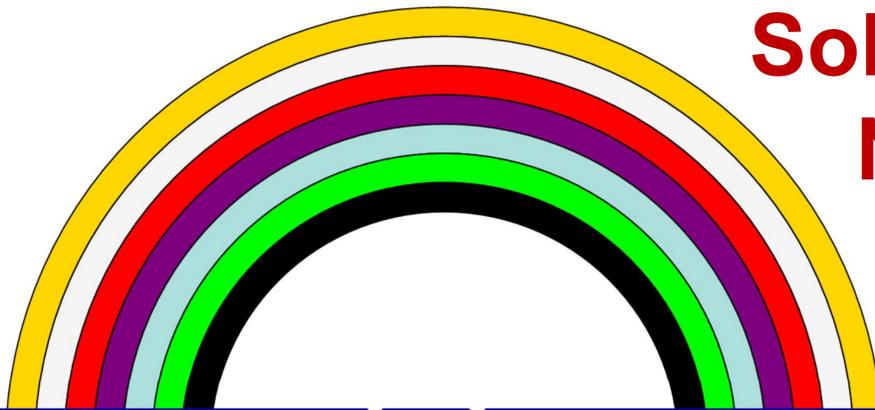




# Enigmata: Project Puzzles

Solihull Methodist Church

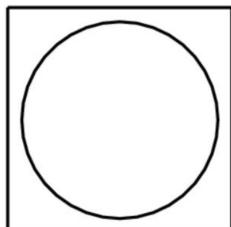
## Solution Notes



•• ••	S <sup>18</sup>	O <sup>4</sup>	R	E	•• ••	Painful - <i>boil</i> - almost sure (4)	
•• ••	E <sup>8</sup>	S <sup>9</sup>	S <sup>5</sup>	E	N	•• ••	City found in the Ruhr (5)
•• ••	N <sup>15</sup>	A <sup>1</sup>	A <sup>10</sup>	F	I	•• ••	Hungry soldiers here go (5)
•• ••	T <sup>2</sup>	W <sup>3</sup>	A <sup>13</sup>	N	G	•• ••	Sound of taut <i>archer's</i> bow (5)
•• ••	I <sup>14</sup>	D <sup>17</sup>	I <sup>11</sup>	O	M	•• ••	An expression we know (5)
•• ••	E <sup>16</sup>	T <sup>19</sup>	N	A		•• ••	Sicily volcano (4)
•• ••	N <sup>7</sup>	E	T			•• ••	This can trawl in the sea (3)
•• ••	T <sup>12</sup>	U <sup>6</sup>	N	A		•• ••	And what's caught there maybe (4)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19  
A W A R E N E S S F O U N D A T I O N

A N A M E L E S S N U M  
B E R O N A L I S T  
W H I C H W A S A F T E  
R W A R D S M I S L A I D



# Enigmata: Project Puzzles - Solution Notes

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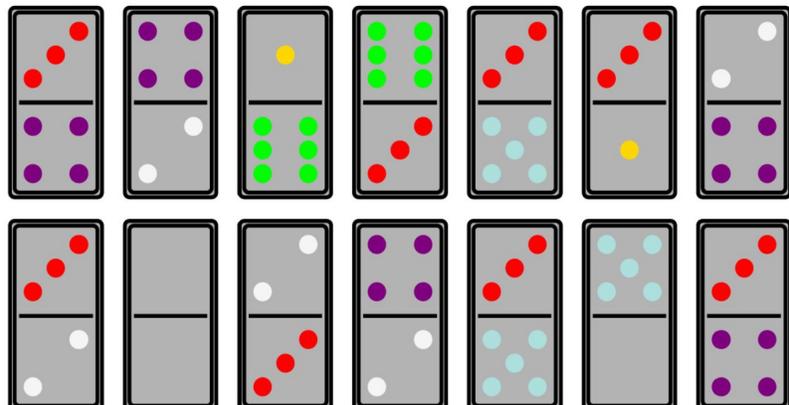
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Completed Grid



## Introduction

These are the solutions for the *Project Puzzles* produced for the Church Project in December 2025. Notes on the solutions are also provided.

The next few sections consider aspects which run across several (or all) of the puzzles. After this the individual puzzles are discussed.

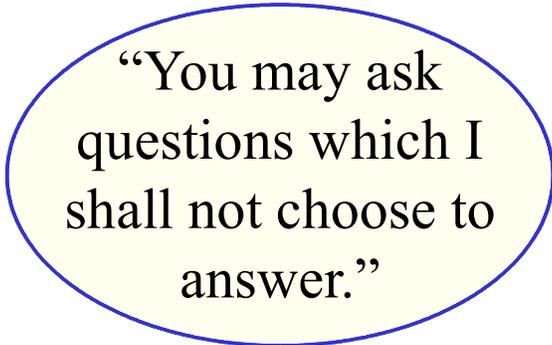
## Front Cover

There are two puzzles on the front cover. The upper one has clues to eight words with three, four or five letters. The Braille codes for the first and last letters are given. The 19 internal letters can be rearranged (in the line below the grid) and spell out the name of this year's charity: AWARENESS FOUNDATION.

The lower puzzle uses the "Pigpen Cipher" to encode a quotation from *Doctor Zhivago* by Boris Pasternak.

## Jane Austen

Jane Austen was born on 16 December 1775 and so 2025 was her 250th anniversary. To mark this, the puzzles contain a number of quotations (and some other references) from Austen's novels and letters. These are usually shown in a yellow ellipse with a blue border.



“You may ask  
questions which I  
shall not choose to  
answer.”

## Dominoes

There are 28 dominoes in a standard set. There are 26 letters in the alphabet.

There is a natural order for the dominoes. Start with the seven dominoes one of whose “numbers” is a blank. Arrange these in the order of the other number on the domino. Now take the remaining six dominoes one of whose numbers is 1, and arrange these in the order of the other number. And so on. The chart gives all 28 dominoes arranged in this order.

A code is established in which the double-blank domino represents a space. The next 26 dominoes represent the letters A to Z in alphabetical order. The double-6 is not assigned. The chart also shows which letter is associated with each domino.

If a domino has the values  $x$  and  $y$  with  $x \leq y$ , then the expression

$$\frac{1}{2}x(13 - x) + y$$

gives the position in the alphabet of the coded letter.

For example, the 4:2 domino has  $x = 2$  and  $y = 4$  and its letter has the position

$$\frac{1}{2} \times 2 \times (13 - 2) + 4 = 11 + 4 = 15$$

Hence its letter is O.

It is of course easier to use the chart to decode dominoes.

The eight dominoes shown on the “welcome page” decode to give the word: DOMINOES.

0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	2	3	4	5	6
space	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	1	1	1	1	1	2
1	2	3	4	5	6	2
G	H	I	J	K	L	M
2	2	2	2	3	3	3
3	4	5	6	3	4	5
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T
3	4	4	4	5	5	6
6	4	5	6	5	6	6
U	V	W	X	Y	Z	?

## Pentominoes and Cardan Grille

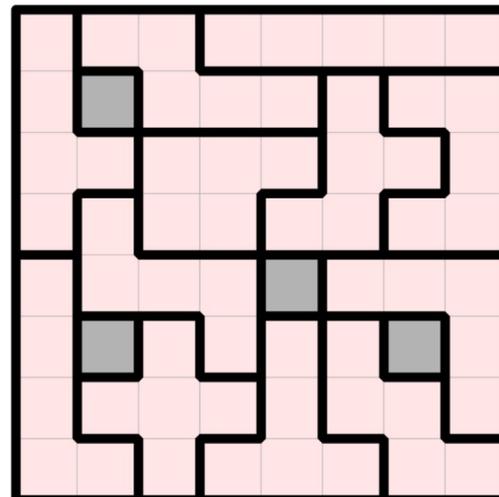
A pentomino is a shape made up from five squares which touch each other along common sides. There are twelve pentominoes. There is one at the top right of each puzzle page.

Each pentomino should contain the letters of a five-letter word. In each case, one letter is missing. Each required five-letter word is given in (unnecessary) italics on one of the puzzle pages as indicated by the following table.

	from	word	letter		from	word	letter
1	puz 7	COUNT	C	7	puz 10	LONGS	G
2	puz 5	ALICE	A	8	puz 4	ENTER	R
3	puz 2	ARROW	R	9	puz 6	FIRST	I
4	puz 12	ADDED	D	10	puz 11	SPLIT	L
5	puz 8	STARS	A	11	puz 3	PLAYS	L
6	puz 9	KNOWN	N	12	puz 1	ASIDE	E

The twelve pentominoes can be arranged to form an  $8 \times 8$  square with four internal holes, with the letters the right way up, and the gold letters spelling the name of the charity: AWARENESS FOUNDATION. The figure shows the arrangement, with and without the letters, and the grey squares are the holes.

The missing letters (in puzzle order) spell out CARDAN GRILLE (as in the table) which is a means for handling coded messages. It is used to obtain the answers for puzzle 9.



## Chapter and Verse

At the foot of each puzzle page is a quotation from the Bible (King James Version) and a reference. However, the references are incorrect and, in fact, one does lead to any Biblical verse. This suggests that the references need to be handled in a different way.

What is required is to take two characters out of the name of the book. For example, the first reference is “Exodus 4:3”, and the 4th and 3rd characters in “Exodus” are D and O. If the name of the book starts with a numeral, this is counted as the first character. The table shows the extractions from all twelve references.

1	Exodus 4:3	D O	7	Esther 4:3	H T
2	Matthew 3:5	T H	8	2 Thessalonians 3:4	H E
3	Genesis 2:7	E S	9	1 Peter 6:5	R E
4	Malachi 4:1	A M	10	Revelation 6:5	A L
5	Hebrews 2:6	E W	11	Proverbs 2:5	R E
6	Ecclesiastes 7:10	I T	12	Song of Solomon 6:1	F S

The extracted letters give the message: DO THE SAME WITH THE REAL REFS.

There are several web-sites which allow the Bible to be searched. Indeed, simply entering the verse into Google (or any search engine) can identify the appropriate reference (chapter and verse). The following table gives the real references for the various verses and the letters similarly extracted.

1	Doth not wisdom cry and understanding put forth her voice?	Proverbs 8:1	S P
2	So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase	1 Corinthians 3:7	O T
3	For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit	1 Corinthians 12:8	S H
4	And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, come and see	Revelation 6:3	A V
5	And the sea coast shall be dwellings and cottages for shepherds, and folds for flocks	Zephaniah 2:6	E N
6	All the cities of the plain, and all Gilead, and all Bashan, unto Salchah and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan	Deuteronomy 3:10	U M
7	And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after	Hebrews 3:5	B E
8	And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen	Revelation 1:6	R A
9	Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon	Daniel 3:1	N D
10	And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling	1 Corinthians 2:3	C O
11	Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth	Colossians 3:2	L O
12	And his host, and those that were numbered thereof, were fifty and four thousand and four hundred	Numbers 2:6	U R

The new message is: SPOTS HAVE NUMBER AND COLOUR

This is related to puzzle 12.

## Card Code

The Card Code is used only on the Entry Form.

There are 52 cards in a normal pack of playing cards: there are 26 letters of the alphabet. So it is straightforward to create a code in which each letter of the alphabet is represented by two different cards.

The message on the Entry Page decodes as:

TWO  
FROM  
TUDOR  
GRANGE  
ACADEMY  
COLLEGES

The Academy has six colleges: Austen, Duleep, Hawking, Mirzakhani, Owens, Turing.

[ref: <https://www.solihull.tgacademy.org.uk/parents/college-structure/>]

---

A♣	2♣	3♣	4♣	5♣	6♣	7♣	8♣	9♣	10♣	J♣	Q♣	K♣
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M

---

A♦	2♦	3♦	4♦	5♦	6♦	7♦	8♦	9♦	10♦	J♦	Q♦	K♦
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

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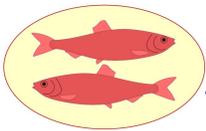
A♥	2♥	3♥	4♥	5♥	6♥	7♥	8♥	9♥	10♥	J♥	Q♥	K♥
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M

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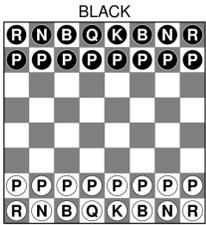
A♠	2♠	3♠	4♠	5♠	6♠	7♠	8♠	9♠	10♠	J♠	Q♠	K♠
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

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# “Welcome Page” Notes



Red herrings



Chess notation

Nautical flags decoding to “Olney Hymns”



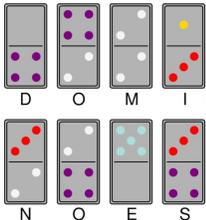
Hints for Puzzle 6

1	hot drink
2	toilet water
3	forty five inches
4	foster brother
5	skull cavity
6	scottish optic
7	half type face height

Read down columns: hint about filling blanks in pentominoes using words in italics

F	F	E	F	B	H	W
I	I	N	I	L	E	O
N	F	T	L	A	N	R
A	T	R	L	N	C	D
L	H	Y	S	K	E	S

Dominoes code example



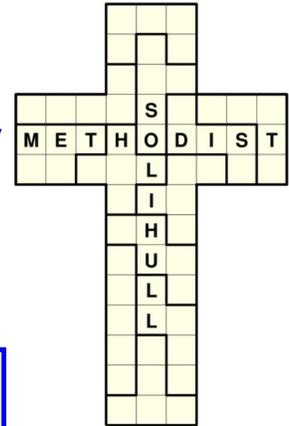
References a sonnet by Burns; magic square with sums = 14

5.0	2.4	2.2	4.4
2.8	3.8	4.0	3.4
3.6	3.0	3.2	4.2
2.6	4.8	4.6	2.0

What lucubrations can be more upon it?

Association between colours and “planets”, days of the week and metals used in several puzzles – based on ideas from heraldry and alchemy

Solution to a pentomino puzzle in *Messenger* (Nov 2025)



Rule for converting a domino to a letter in the alphabet

$$\text{For } [x, y] \text{ with } x \leq y, \\ \text{pos} = \frac{1}{2}x(13 - x) + y.$$

Explanation of an “acrostic”

A verse am I  
Created so  
Readers may gain  
One thing to know:  
Starting each line  
The letters tell  
I am myself:  
Consider well.

Letter-based sudoku: diagonal is song from musical No No Nanette

	F	A	O		R			
R			G					A
		W	E					
E	O		T		R		L	
	L		E	G		F		
G	F		A		W		E	
			G	A				
A			E					F
	G		R		T		A	

AFTERGLOW

1	Or	Gold	Sun	☉	Sunday	Gold	Au	79
2	Argent	Silver	Moon	☾	Monday	Silver	Ag	47
3	Gules	Red	Mars	♂	Tuesday	Iron	Fe	26
4	Purple	Purple	Mercury	♀	Wednesday	Mercury	Hg	80
5	Azure	Blue	Jupiter	♃	Thursday	Tin	Sn	50
6	Vert	Green	Venus	♀	Friday	Copper	Cu	29
7	Sable	Black	Saturn	♄	Saturday	Lead	Pb	82

## Puzzle 1: Poet

ANSWER: HAPPINESS

The pictures alongside the first verse lead to COW+PER and the poet is William Cowper (1731-1800). He lived in the Buckinghamshire town of Olney which is noted for its pancake races on Shrove Tuesday. The style of the first verse follows that of Cowper's poem *The Diverting History of John Gilpin*.

The second verse starts with the first line of a hymn by Cowper (StF 104). The pictures with the second verse lead to NEWT+ON referring to John Newton the reformed slave-trader, clergyman and hymn writer. The second line of the second verse references *Amazing grace* (StF 440) which is perhaps Newton's best known hymn. Together Cowper and Newton produced the collection known as the *Olney Hymns*.

The third verse directs the solver to the Crescent Arcade in Touchwood (shown on the map). If you stand outside Mango and look down the arcade away from the Atrium, you can see (high up) the following quotation from Cowper's *The Task*:

Happiness depends, as Nature shows,  
Less on exterior things than most suppose.

The first picture against the last verse shows a scarlet pimpernel, related to the idea of "They seek him here, they seek him there" which is misquoted in the verse. The second picture is the flag of the USA surmounted by two feather dusters or "tickling sticks" (cf. message in the dominoes).



**Nine-line poem:** This is an acrostic. The the first letters of each line give: TOUCH-WOOD. Starting at the Atrium (marked A) and going down Crescent Avenue, you come to Apple, the usually assumed fruit that resulted in the Fall in the Garden of Eden. Going further down, you reach Pandora: opening of Pandora’s box brought ill into the world.

**Table:** In the table, the fifth sense is TOUCH, and the traditional form of present for the fifth wedding anniversary is something made of WOOD.

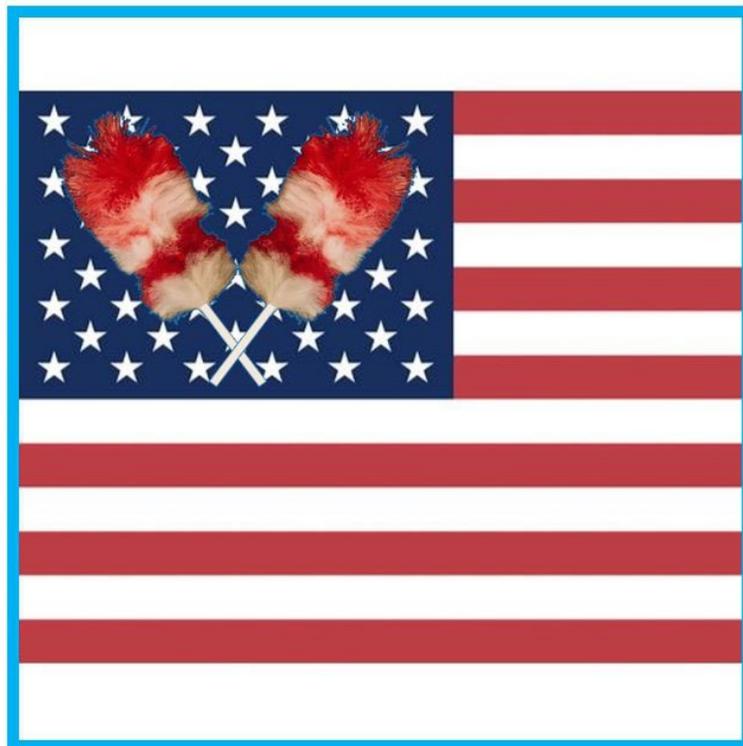
**Dominoes:** These decode to give:

A GIFT OF KEN DODD THAT AMERICANS PURSUE.

*Happiness* is a song recorded by Ken Dodd (and also the name of a museum in Liverpool about him). The American Declaration of Independence (4 July 1776) has the following:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, and liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

**Austen quotation:** “Ye fallen avenues, once more I mourn your fate unmerited” is said by Fanny Price in *Mansfield Park*. She is quoting from a poem by William Cowper called *The Sofa*. Cowper was one of Austen’s favourite poets.



## Puzzle 2: Making Changes

ANSWER: GOLD

Each piece of text is part of a hymn. At each step, the next word is the same as the previous one but with a single letter changed.

If the letters in the coloured squares are copied into the grid on the left, they spell out ALCHEMY.

The last missing word is the exception. The missing word is ANSWER which of course does not fit in the grid. It was expected that by this stage the solver would have realised that the puzzle was fulfilling the alchemist's dream of turning LEAD into GOLD.

**Austen quotation:** This is from Chapter 18 of *Pride and Prejudice*: Elizabeth is endeavouring to curtail a musical performance by her sister Mary.

	L	E	A	D	___ us, heavenly Father	StF 238
	L	E	N	D	faith ___s its realising light	StF 457
	L	A	N	D	fill this ___ with the Father's glory	StF 059
	L	A	N	E	skilled at the p___ and the lathe	StF 526
	L	A	M	E	and I cured the ___	StF 247
	C	A	M	E	this is the day when the Spirit ___	StF 152
	C	O	M	E	___ ye before him and rejoice	StF 001
	H	O	M	E	whose Spirit shall guide us safe ___	StF 067
	H	O	L	E	were the w___ realm of nature mine	StF 287
	H	O	L	Y	ye ___ angels bright	StF 069
H	O	L	D	___ me with thy powerful hand	StF 465	
G	O	L	D	from earth alleluia, in ___ to heaven	StF 017	

### Puzzle 3: Preferences

**ANSWER:** MINT VELVET

NANETTE only likes things which can be spelled out in capital letters which are formed only of straight lines: no curves.

**Second puzzle:** This is provided to try to suggest that it is not the actual meaning of the words, but more their written structure. The way in to the second puzzle is to look up “FANNEE DOOLEE”. This was a childrens’ game/puzzle in which it might be suggested that Ms Doolee does not like PEANUTS but does like PEANUT BUTTER. The key here being that she only likes things with a double letter (as with the T in BUTTER).

Applying this rule to the second puzzle leads to WENDY COPE who describes herself as a poet, but who has an excellent line in humorous verse.

One of her poems is called *Does She Like Word-Games?* and this is also the title of a collection of her poems published in 1988.

COPE is the missing entry in the word ladder changing WORD to GAME.



## Puzzle 4: Harvest Hill

**ANSWER:** BERRY MOUND

Berry Mound is an Iron Age hill fort situated close to Shirley.

The entries in the top grid fall into two categories: five are berries; five are mounds (small or large). The words BERRY MOUND appear diagonally in the grid forming a shape (somewhat) like a mound.

ARMY	M	A	R	Y	M	E	S	A	SAME		
IN-CAR	C	A	I	R	N	L	O	G	A	N	ALONG
GRUB	B	U	R	G			T	U	R	N	RUNT
EPHA	H	E	A	P			B	A	N	K	NABK
ABLE	B	L	A	E			S	H	A	D	DASH

**Metals:** Choose the appropriate letter from the metal associated with each colour.

colour	metal	choice	
silver	SILVER	letter 2 out of 6	I
green	COPPER	letter 6 out of 6	R
red	IRON	letter 3 out of 4	O
blue	TIN	letter 3 out of 3	N
black	LEAD	letter 3 out of 4	A
gold	GOLD	letter 1 out of 4	G
purple	MERCURY	letter 2 out of 7	E

**Elements:** Use the chemical symbol for the element with the given atomic number.

Ir (77) + O (8) + Na (11) + Ge (32)

**HILL for T:** Replace the letter T in the first answer by HILL to obtain the second.

STING becomes SHILLING

ACTES becomes ACHILLES

SEVENTY becomes SEVEN HILLY

**Rebus:** IRON + [p]AGE + H[w]ILL + FORT[h]

Wasp's weapon (5)	S	H	I	L	L	I	N	G	Old coin (8)		
***** des Apôtres (5)	A	C	H	I	L	L	E	S	Greek hero (8)		
14 × 5 (7)	S	E	V	E	N	H	I	L	L	Y	Like Rome? (10)

## Puzzle 5: Tea Time

**ANSWER:** WHITE CAT

An underlying theme here is *Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There* by Lewis Carroll. This is suggested by the mirror writing in the top grid. Also the verse “A boat beneath a sunny sky” is by Carroll and is the terminal poem in the book. Further, the poem is an acrostic: the initial letters of each line spell out ALICE PLEASANCE LIDDELL, the full name of the eponymous heroine.

The answers in the first grid need to be entered backwards. This is suggested by the vertical bar separating the elements in the last pair of two-word entries. The white and red squares than contain the chess notation for chess pieces.

								L	I	O	N		Monarch of the jungle
													It agreed to believe in <i>her</i>
													Beware its jaws and claws ...
													... and shun this one too
													An ostreophage ...
													... and another
													Monarch who met <i>her</i> initially
													Inventor who rescued <i>her</i>

Identifying on the chess board where these pieces can start the game, choosing a square with letter in each case, and then taking those letters in order gives: LETTERS IN THE CHAPTER NAMES. There are twelve chapters in the book, numbered in some editions, using Roman numerals.

I	Looking-Glass House	VII	The Lion and the Unicorn
II	The Garden of Live Flowers	VIII	“It’s My Own Invention”
III	Looking-Glass Insects	IX	Queen Alice
IV	Tweedledum and Tweedledee	X	Shaking
V	Wool and Water	XI	Waking
VI	Humpty Dumpty	XII	Which Dreamed It?

On the clocks, the hour hand points to the required chapter and the minute hand gives the position of the required letter in its name. The letter than needs to be moved in the alphabet by the number indicated beside the clock.

hour	minute	letter	moved
X	1	S	W
I	6	N	H
VII	6	O	I
V	1	W	T
IV	8	D	E
XII	7	R	C
II	10	O	A
VI	4	P	T

In chapter XII, Snowdrop is the name of Alice’s white kitten. In Solihull, the *White Cat* was a tea room in the High Street near the corner with Drury Lane. It closed in about the 1960s.

“The right hand side of High Street, next to Mr Smith’s barbers shop was a sweet shop, then the Mason’s Arms, White Cat Cafe and Duddy’s before it was bombed.”

From: *Solihull in Wartime, 1939-1945*, Sue Bates (editor), 1995, page 3.

“Solihull High Street was hit by three bombs. The first bomb fell on Winfield’s Chemists, on the corner of Poplar Road and the High Street. The second bomb fell on Fitter’s jewellers halfway up the High Street, and the third on Duddy’s wool shop, on the corner of Drury Lane. The adjacent White Cat café was also damaged, as was a classroom at Park Road C of E School (now St Alphege Infants School).”

<https://solihulllife.org/2015/11/18/19-nov-1940/>

The verse in the bottom left, notes that the White Cat was on the High Street, near Drury Lane (where the Muffin Man lived in a nursery rhyme). Lines 3 and 4 refer to *The Old Vicarage, Grantchester* by Rupert Brooke. Today Hunters Estate Agents occupy the building (or one close by): Nimrod was a “might hunter” (cf. Genesis 10:9; Elgar’s *Enigma Variations*).

## Puzzle 6: Riddle

ANSWER: TOLKIEN

The main riddle can be solved in the “direct” way by selecting letters appropriately. An alternative approach is suggested by the following table (and hinted at on the welcome page). In *The Hobbit*, Bilbo Baggins has to have a riddle competition with Gollum.

TEA come from TEAPOTS	TEA $\simeq$ T
EAU de Cologne come from COLOGNE	EAU $\simeq$ O
ELL is an old measure of cloth (45 inches)	ELL $\simeq$ L
Sir KAY was a KNIGHT of the Round Table and Arthur’s foster brother	KAY $\simeq$ K
An EYE is found in an ORBIT, the eye socket	EYE $\simeq$ I
An EE is a Scottish word for the eye (something which has seen)	EE $\simeq$ E
An EN is a unit used in PRINTING	EN $\simeq$ N

**Rectangular grid:** The seven clues form an acrostic: their initial letters spell TOLKIEN. The twelve letters in the completed grid can be arranged to form: SAREHOLE MILL.

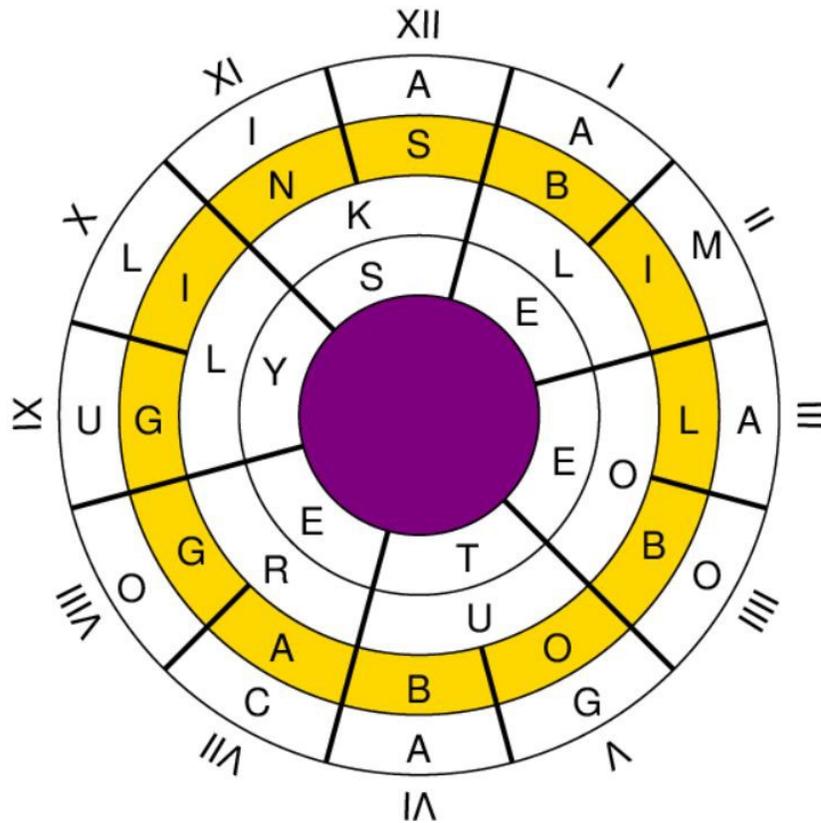
<sup>1</sup> R	<sup>2</sup> O	<sup>3</sup> L	<sup>4</sup> L
<sup>5</sup> E	L	I	A
<sup>6</sup> M	E	S	H

### ACROSS

- 1 Turn over and over
- 5 Otherwise Charles Lamb
- 6 Lattice, net or trap

### DOWN

- 1 Kind of sleep
- 2 Iberian cheer
- 3 Euro iris in heraldry
- 4 Note to follow soh



**RADIALLY INWARDS**

- |                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| I Clever, skilful (4)       | VII To mind, to look after (4) |
| II Imperial distance (4)    | VII Man-eating monster (4)     |
| III Succulent plant (4)     | IX Not pretty (4)              |
| III Woodwind instrument (4) | X Flower, Mrs Potter (4)       |
| V Painful disease (4)       | XI Writing fluids (4)          |
| VI To join, to border (4)   | XII Enquires, requests (4)     |

**Circular grid:** The letters in the GOLD RING give Bilbo Baggins.

**Riddle in the blue ellipse:** This is taken from *Emma* by Jane Austen (chapter 9). The solution (which seems very obscure) is: WOE (affliction) + MAN (one destined to feel) leading to WOMAN (the best antidote). Comments about the difficulty of this riddle and its political correctness should be addressed to Ms Austen.

[Ref:<https://pemberley.com/janeinfo/emmchrad.html>]

**First riddle in red rectangle:** AUS (Australian IVR plate) + TEN (=12-2) = AUSTEN. [Fitzwilliam is Darcy's first name.]

**Second riddle in red rectangle:** TU (French for "you") + RING (cf. Wagner's Ring Cycle) = TURING (cf. Turing Test).

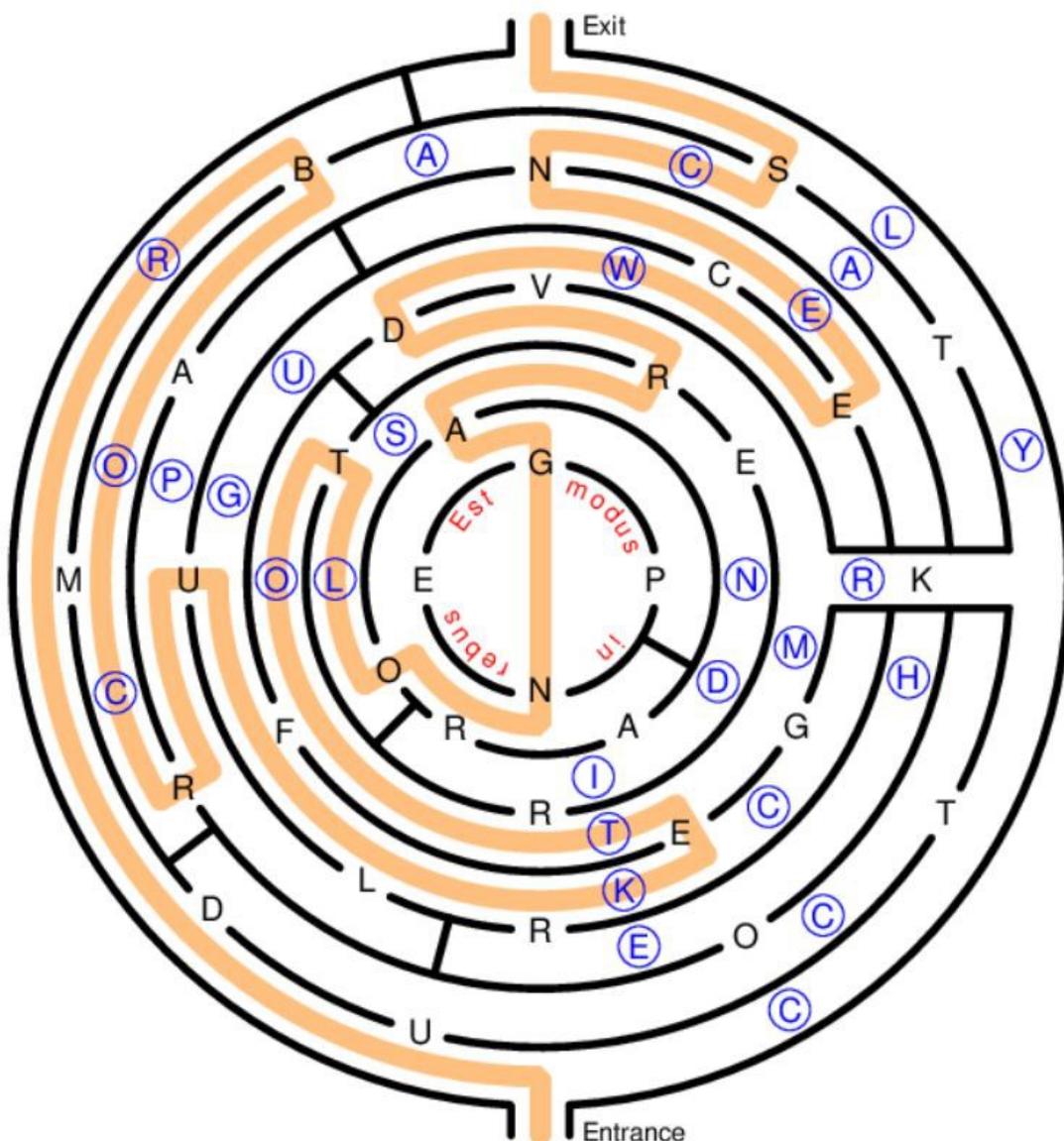
## Puzzle 7: Mazes

**ANSWER:** HORACE J BRUETON

The appropriate route through the maze traces out the location: BRUETON GARDENS. The current feature of the location is the CLOCK TOWER (“high time”?).

Brueton Gardens is on the triangular piece of land bounded by Warwick Road and Lode Lane which lies beyond the northern end of Poplar Road. A plaque there notes that in 1938: “these gardens were presented to Solihull by Councillor Horace J. Brueton”.

The quotation “Est modus in rebus” is from the Roman poet Horace. It is translated in the *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations* as “There is moderation in everything”. Some Internet sites suggest the translation: “There is a middle ground in things”.

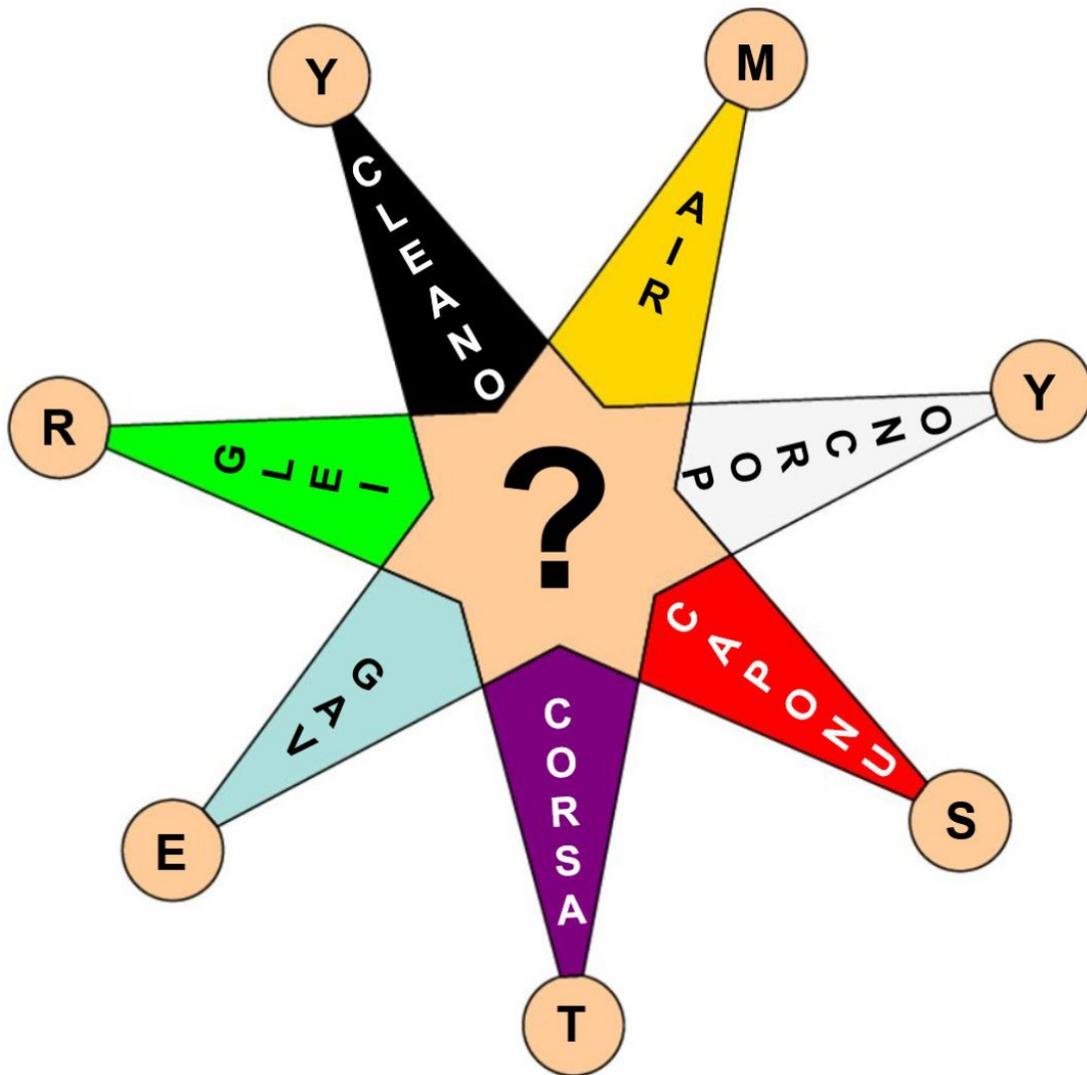




**Maze in the lower right:** This contains the sites of some mazes in the UK: Hampton Court, Blenheim Palace, Chatsworth House, Longleat, Traquair House, Leeds Castle. These names are interrupted by the letters of MINOTAUR (who lived in the Labyrinth on Crete).

**Austen quotation:** This is from a letter written (January 1801) by Jane to her sister Cassandra. Sydney Gardens are in Bath.





**Star puzzle:** each group of letters is a jumble of the name of a star with one letter missing. These are:

Mira (M), Procyon (Y), Canopus (S), Castor (T), Vega (E), Rigel (R), Alcyone (Y)

and the missing letters spell MYSTERY. Hence the title is “The Mystery of the Seven Stars” (cf. Revelation 1:20).

**Dominoes:** These decode to LUKEWARM.

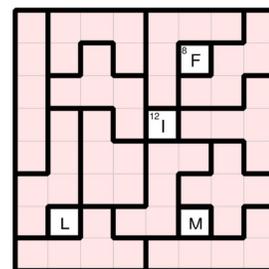
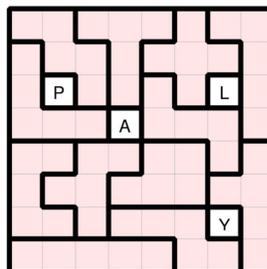
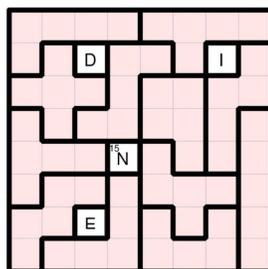
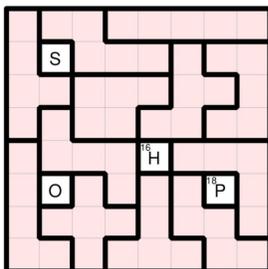
## Puzzle 9: Behind Bars

**ANSWER:** DINE FILM PLAY SHOP

Once the crossword is completed, the Cardan Grille (bars?) needs to be placed over it in each of four rotary orientations to reveal the required words.

**Acrostics again:** The first letters of the eight words to the left of the grid spell SANDI-TON which is Jane Austen's unfinished novel. The last letters of the eight words to the right of the grid spell MATHISON which is the middle name of Alan Turing.

1	M	2	A	T	3	T	4	R	E	5	S	6	S
7	A	S	D	A	A	8	F	I	T				
	U	9	P	A	R	N	10	O	L	R			
11	S	O	D	A	12	I	D	L	E				
13	O	14	V	E	15	N	16	H	E	B	E		
	L	O	17	N	O	E	S	18	P	T			
19	U	L	E	R	20	A	M	Y	L				
21	S	T	A	I	R	W	A	Y					





1	C	2	H	3	A	4	R
5	C	H	A	R			
6	C	H	A	R			
7	C	H	A	R			

**ACROSS**

- 1 Do (housework)
- 5 Scorch
- 6 Type of fish
- 7 Rosie Lee

**DOWN**

- 1 Has precognition
- 2 Searches for food
- 3 Raids
- 4 Length of a watch

**4×4 grid:** All four across clues are definitions of various meaning of CHAR. The solution for the down clues are:

- 1 four Cs = foresees
- 2 four Hs ≈ forages
- 3 four As = forays
- 4 four Rs ≈ four hours

**Picture:** This is an image of a 4 × 4 vehicle viewed through the spots of a four-four domino.

**Austen quote:** This is Mrs Gardiner speaking to Elizabeth Bennet about Mr Darcy. Of course, Jane Austen included a space in “crossword”.

## Puzzle 10: Cryptography

**ANSWER:** ALADDIN

The following decodes the main puzzle.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
*	*	E	N	I	W	*	H	B	R	*	P	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
T	Y	U	L	S	D	*	O	*	G	F	C	A

The decoded message is:

NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. WHAT IS (OR MAYBE WAS) THE PANTOMIME BEING PRESENTED AT THE CORE THEATRE IN SOLIHULL IN THE DECEMBER OF THIS CHURCH PROJECT?

The title ENRICHED SOUP decodes with some adjustment of spacing to give: IT'S BEHIND YOU.

**Mils Eton:** This is based on a “code” used by Jane Austen in a letter (January 1817) to her 8-year-old niece Cassandra Esten Austen. Simply, each word is written backwards. The “letter” here is formed from a quotation of Austen taken from a letter to her sister (also called) Cassandra.

My dearest Cassandra

We met Dr Hall in such very deep mourning that either his mother, his wife, or himself must be dead.

Yours affectionately

J

### Paper Money:

Both coded messages at the lower right use the same code. It might be helpful to note that the lower one is in the style of Austen quotations used elsewhere, and hence guess that the last line might be: "Pride and Prejudice".

Use the following table to decode.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
L	B	C	F	N	H	D	J	K	M	O	P	U
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
I	R	A	*	T	E	S	*	W	*	Y	G	*

The text in the ellipse is:

``I DECLARE AFTER ALL THERE IS NO ENJOYMENT LIKE READING.``  
MISS BINGLEY IN PRIDE AND PREJUDICE.

This quotation accompanies Jane Austen on the ten-pound note.

The text in the red rectangle decodes as:

BANK OF ENGLAND  
THIS IS ONLY A FORETASTE OF WHAT IS TO COME AND  
ONLY THE SHADOW OF WHAT IS GOING TO BE.  
FIFTY POUNDS

The quotation is that accompanying Alan Turing on the fifty-pound note.

The title PAPER MONEY decodes to give ALAN TURING.

## Puzzle 11: SONNETS

**ANSWER:** FELICITY KENDAL

There have been several examples of acrostics on the previous pages where the first letters of the first word in each line spell out a name or something similar.

The upper verse here takes the idea some steps further on. Taking the first letters of the second words in each line, then the first letters of the third, fourth and fifth words give the following, in three cases ignoring the last letter:

RICHARD BRIERS  
FELICITY KENDAL  
PENELOPE KEITH  
PAUL EDDINTON

These are the actors starring in the BBC comedy series *The Good Life*.

Lines 3-12 of the verse attempt to suggest series in which the actors subsequently appeared.

Briers	Ever Decreasing Circles; Monarch of the Glen
Eddington	Yes (Prime) Minister
Keith	To the Manor Born
Kendal	Solo; Rosemary and Thyme

Interestingly, three of the actors have names with 13 letters. Kendall's name has 14 letters, and "felicity" means happiness". She was born and brought up in Olton.

**Another Sonnet:** This consists of a collection of lines from Shakespeare's sonnets. This is always the first line unless the sonnet has been used before in which case the second line and then the third is taken. In some cases, a line is "improved" by changing its last word to create a simple rhyme pattern.

Shakespeare wrote 154 sonnets which are conveniently numbered starting at 1. The following are the numbers of the sonnets used and the corresponding letter of the alphabet (using A=1, B=2, etc.).

19	20	2	5	18	14	1	18	4	19	18	15	1	4
S	T	B	E	R	N	A	R	D	S	R	O	A	D

In her childhood, Ms Kendall lived in St Bernard's Road.

**Right side of the page:** Taking the appropriate letter in the name of the "planet" indicated by its colour:

Sun - mOon - veNus - saturN - mErcury - jupiTer - marS  
spells SONNETS.

The three pictures and text are references to three sonnets and a line from each. They are:

*Upon Westminster Bridge* by Wordsworth;  
*On His Blindness* by Milton;  
*Ozymandias* by Shelley.

## Puzzle 12: End Game

**ANSWER:** STATION ROAD

The first domino is [4:2]. As such it decodes to the letter O. Continuing, the message reads:

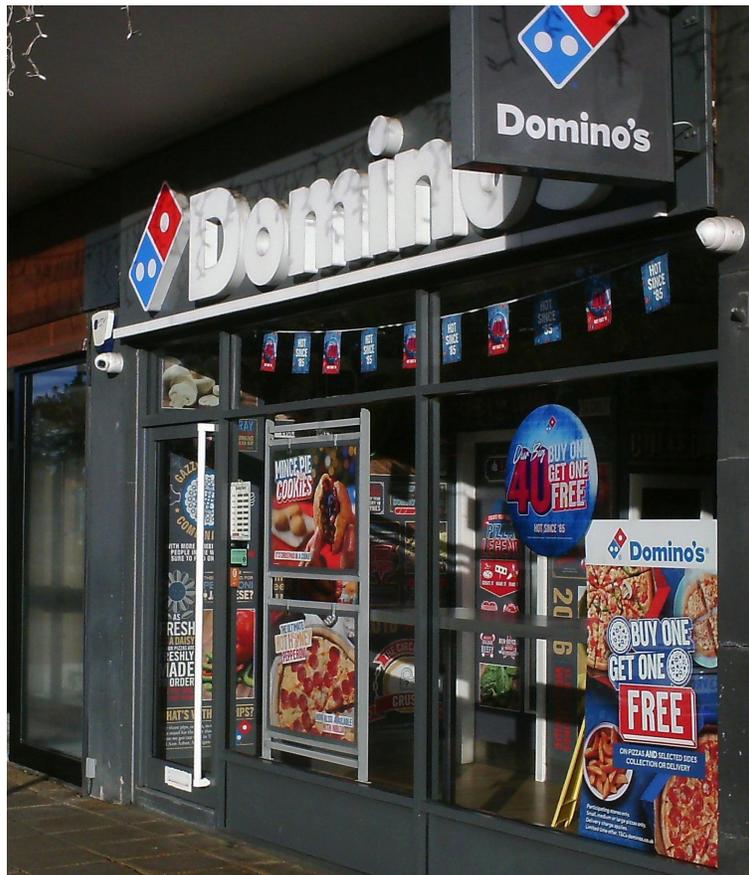
OTHER NUMBER MAY CONTROL SOLVE

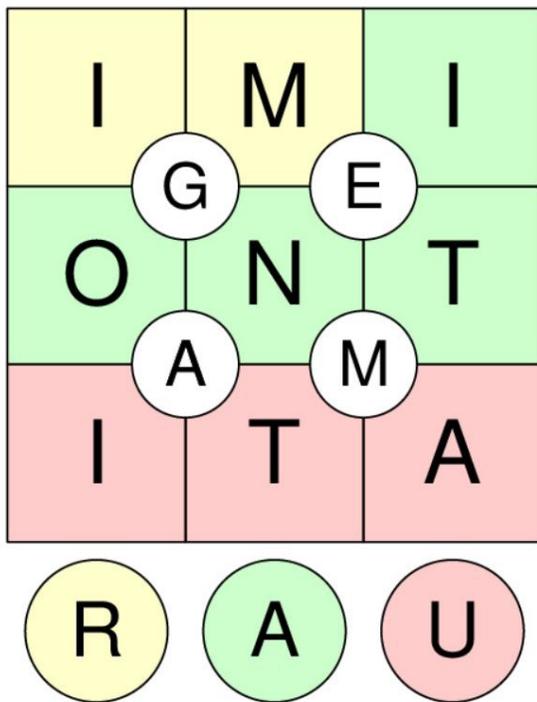
The message from the Biblical quotations is:

SPOTS HAVE NUMBER AND COLOUR

In previous domino messages, the colour of the spots has always agreed with the number. If there is just one spot, it is gold; two spots are shown as silver; three spots as red; and so on. But that is no longer true here.

The first domino needs to be treated, not as [4:2], but as [4:5] from its two colours (cf. chart on the Welcome Page). Now it represents the letter W and the full message reads:  
WHICH STREET HAS DOMINO'S PIZZA?





Here: A=10, E=29, G=26, I=3, M=20, N=2, O=1, R=23, T=4, and U=17.

Fill the empty squares and small circles with letters so that each small circle is the sum of the four squares around it, the letters in each colour block are different, and their sum is the value in the corresponding large circle.

Whose surname gives 75 when its letters are *added* together?

**Lower puzzle:** On completion, the letters in the grid read (in a spiral) as: IMITATION GAME.

The “Imitation Game” is what Alan Turing called what is now usually referred to as the “Turing Test”. It is also the title of the film about Turing starring Benedict Cumberbatch.

$$T + U + R + I + N + G = 4 + 17 + 23 + 3 + 2 + 26 = 75$$

**Austen quotation:** This is from Chapter 44 of *Mansfield Park*.

