

Psychologicals get messy.....

Captain: Arthur King (Pete)

Ladies and Knights: Gisela, Nick, Steve, Paul, Roger, Jo, Karen, Annika, Sharon, Mike, Peter, and occasional others

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Note: Any subsequent use of the word 'page', refers to the pages of the Hunt PDF, in the order they were presented to us for download.

Poster.

The poster introduces lots of **Messy** themes.

Charles Messier, 1730 -1817– Astronomer and comet hunter. Responsible for cataloguing 110 objects that could be mistaken for comets - Messier objects.

Central figure with telescope is Messier, wearing his Cross of the Legion of Honour Award.

The eleven bright stars with trails, and two more hidden in the comet trail could represent the 13 comets he discovered.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Messier

The building behind and above him in the poster is part of the Musée de Cluny in Paris, formerly the Hotel de Cluny. In the 18th century Messier used the tower of the hotel as an observatory. The balcony design is repeated at the bottom of the poster

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Musée_de_Cluny_-_Musée_national_du_Moyen_Âge

Olivier Messiaen, 1908 -1992 - Composer, organist and ornithologist. In 1931 he became organist at Église de la Sainte-Trinité, Paris, a post he held for more than 61 years. The vaulted ceiling and stained glass windows shown in the poster are from this church.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Olivier_Messiaen#La_Trinité,_La_jeune_France,_and_Messiaen's_war

He also had colour synesthesia, seeing colours when you hear sounds, a connection to the rainbow and spectrograph windows.

<http://www.rowan-hull.com/the-man-who-heard-colour/>

Lionel Messi, 1987 – Professional footballer, Barcelona and Argentina no10.

The Messier figure is wearing a pair of rainbow coloured football boots. This is a clue to the Adidas Messi F50 adiZero football boot.

<https://jlcsports.com/products/adidas-messi-f50-adizero-trx-fg-soccer-cleats-f32795>

Messerschmitt KR200 bubble car. Messier is riding a customized KR200 with wings.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/motoring/news/67521565/messerschmitt-is-all-car-even-with-wings-and-tailfin>



Festive Message.

The spectrograph windows are a depiction of the 2nd verse of Deck the Halls, with the spectrum colours representing the pitch and length of the notes of the music.

The altered words of Verse 2, lines 3 and 4 give the festive message.

The first words of verse 2 “See the flowing bowl before us” seem to describe the golden bowl of overflowing coins on the poster.

(The key is F Major, the + sign placed where Bb is raised a semitone to B)

MESSY PLEASURE + BURIED TREASURE

Deck the Halls

(Messy Pleasure and Buried Treasure)

T.Oliphant (19th c.)

Moderato



Verse 2: See the flow - ing bowl be - fore us, Fa la la la la, la la la la!



Strike the harp and join the cho - rus, Fa la la la la, la la la la! Foll - ow me in



me - rry mea - sure, Fa la la, la la la, la la la!



me - ssy plea - sure +



While I sing of beau - ty's trea - sure, Fa la la la la, la la la la!



bu - ried trea - sure

Spectrum key: F major



F G A B \flat C D E

Poster Suggestions:

Further **Messy thoughts and ideas that might come up in the hunt:**

The horned orb on the tower and the bowl could be made of brass, which is Messing in German.

Coins along the comet trail might be clueing the 110 Messier objects.

Messina, a city in Sicily, Italy <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messina>

Simon Messingham, Sci Fi author https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simon_Messingham

Messalina, 3rd wife of emperor Claudius <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messalina>

Eton Mess. A type of desert https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eton_mess

Lancing Mess. A similar pudding. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lancing_College

Mesum's art gallery in London (branch in Wiltshire) <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mesum%27s>

Messiah, an Oratorio by Handel. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messiah_%28Handel%29

Messor, a genus of ants. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messor>

Possible Treasure locations with a **Mess connection**

Messing, a town near Colchester, Essex <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messing-cum-Inworth>

Messingham, a village near Scunthorpe <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messingham>

Eton (Mess)

Timeline to finding the Treasure Box.

Taken from our Club Forum, a timeline of some of the key discoveries that led us to the treasure location, in a rather messy fashion!

Friday 15th December 2017

- 16:00** – The puzzle starts....printers are switched on! !
- 16:17** – Steve assembles the first composite picture of the 12 pages manually
- 16:57** – Begin to find hexagon images – Ninevah stained glass window
- 17:08** – Sharon solves the Minesweeper game/wordsearch. GAY + GOPHER = **GEOGRAPHY**
- 17:19** – Nick thinks that the blue-bordered images look like photos to the treasure site
- 17:34** – Discover that the blue-bordered pictures all contain anagrams of towns along the river Mess, Luxembourg – this gives the order to put these images in.
- 18:43** – Discover that all the birds are from Messiaen’s “Catalogue d’Oiseaux”
- 20:43** – Gisela finds the first French Heraldic Arms, Avignon
- 21:40** – Jo assembles composite picture on computer.
- 22:25** – Number the hexagons in the order that Mr Messy’s pink line goes through them.

Saturday 16th December 2017

- 04:19** – Karen discovers the Arabic writing is Al Mayadin, a town in Syria, and that the grey outline map (hexagon edged) is roughly the shape of Syria.
- 09:00** – Gisela suggests the birds facing left and right could be an Atbash cipher.
- 09:50** – Steve finds message from the comet date line on page 7. **PUB PALATABLE BUT SUGGEST GET TABLE**
- 10:15** – Steve prints off second set of pages and begins cutting out the 65 hexagons.
- 11:40** – Gisela finds the last French Heraldic Arms, Messimy
- 13:28** – Roger spots heraldic message from letters around map of France **HERALDRY OF GAUL BEGOT TOO FROM ARMORIAL FRAGMENTS ROUND PERIMETER**
- 13:32** – Discover that this Heraldry sentence is an anagram of 13 words /abbreviations from the heraldic fragments of each of the 12 French towns plus one mystery town.
- 14:54** – Find missing coat of Arms is MESSING, with associated word **TREASURE!**
Almost a month earlier on 17th Nov, Gisela had proposed Messing as a possible location.

18:09 – Karen solves Messiah puzzle. **HELP LIONEL RE-ARM REBELS**

18:44 – Gisela finds “Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific.” The Tables used to solve the code words on the 8th blue-edged picture.

18:20 – Jo and Karen find Messi/Syria/rebels connection with Addounia TV channel.

20:32 – Begin trying to solve postcard messages.

21:01 – Steve suggests that The Match of the Day theme tune be used in a similar way to Deck the Halls from the poster, using the spectrum colours.

21:25 – Karen and Pete confirm the 8th blue-edged picture codes are astronomical coordinates of Messier objects.

21:40 – Steve starts fitting hexagons into map of Syria.

Sunday 17th December 2017

01:15 – Steve successfully places hexagons into map of Syria.

11:20 – Find enough hexagon images to make a guess at the first message:
HAPPY XMAS EPIC NEW YEAR SORTIE FIXING MESS. LUCK AND LOVE FROM BRUCE HINDSIGHT

13:30 – Nick (and Mary) make first visit to Messing. Find locations of the first 6 blue-edged pictures on route into Conyfield Wood. Notice the fallen tree and lots of bird boxes in the trees around the pond. Nick even searches the fallen tree, but misses finding the box!

17:58 – Karen suggests postcard message #8 (page 8) is from ET - **ALIEN**

21:30 – Pete suggests Hercules and The Hydra, 2nd labour, for postcard message #7 - **HERO**

22:43 – Gisela finds Mr Tidy and Mr Neat from the Mr Messy story, hexagons #24 and #42

23:17 – Nick finds Madame Adolphine cartoon character, hexagon #19

Monday 18th December 2017

04:38 – Karen suggests postcard message #6 is about Roo and Eeyore in N. Pole Expotition

04:52 – Karen suggests postcard message #10 is to do with Emmy Noether

08:55 – Solve message from bird sequence **ADD SENDER TO STAMP**

11:13 – Bird code confirms the letters obtained from the bird stamps on the postcards

12:36 – Peter confirms Syria map of hexagons is a unique solution.

13:39 – Have four senders' names for postcards. Hercules, Roo, Elliott and Einstein

13:57 – Begin to see snippets of sentences in Syria hexagon map.
EACH PIECE MISSING ORDER – MAP OF SKY – NUMBER

16:42 – Karen proposes Earhart as the sender of postcard message #2, with **FLIER** as the clue.

23:56 – Gisela proposes J R Smith to Obama for postcard message #9

23:56 – With just 7 senders' names on the postcards, and some not confirmed, Gisela proposes that the sentence derived from Sender + Stamp is **IN FALLEN TREE**

Tuesday 19th December 2017

00:04 – Nick says, "You can't miss the fallen tree from the pond, it was the first place I searched, but I could do a thorough search next time I go"

10:27 – Nick sets off on second trip to Messing

11:45 – Nick finds treasure box in the fallen tree.

We get Ticket no 1!

Picture of M1, the Crab Nebula, on the ace of spades.



16:20 – Steve finds Match of the Day sequence through the Syria hexagon map to give second message

EACH P IS MAP OF SKY EACH PIC IS MESSIER SO NUMBER IN A TIDY INCREASING ORDER.

17:04 – Interpret this message as: Each page is a map of the sky, with the stars represented by the brown stain blots, and each hexagon is a Messier object. Start looking for Messier objects.

19:34 – Discover all sky maps and all 65 Messier objects.

Get third message from a "tidy increasing order" of Messier objects M1...M110

FIND AN ESSEX PLACE AMID EVERY EIGHTH BOX IN SYRIA.

GO W FROM CH TURN L PICK UP MESS

19:40 – Every 8th letter of the Match of the day sequence spells **MESSING !!**

20:34 – Get message from 8th blue-edged picture. **IN A TREE CLEFT**

Wednesday 20th December 2017

11:44 – Pete suggests the postcard face pictures link with Messiaen's "Des Canyons aux Étoiles"

17:19 – Pete finds Messiaen's musical alphabet – Steve and Pete solve the 4 pieces of music. They are all from a preface to Messiaen's 7th movement of "Quatuor pour la fin du temps"

ARCS EN CIEL, BRUSQUES ÉTOILES, FOUILLIS, ÉPÉES DE FEU

Thursday 21st December 2017

17:38 – Pete finds Bharata to Rama story – postcard message #4 - **BRO**thers

20:48 – Steve finds recipient of Elliott’s postcard message #8 is Tyler.
We start thinking that recipients’ names will also give a word/phrase

Friday 22nd December 2017

15:36 – Pete proposes **INTERVERSION** as word from recipients’ initial letters.

15:36 – Pete confirms Ribbentrop as recipient of Lady Astor’s postcard message #3

15:50 – Pete finds Gene Vidal is recipient of Amelia Earhart’s postcard message #2

15:54 – Discover information about Messiaen’s use of **INTERVERSION** in his music.

16:10 – Pete sees that the page order of the postcard faces can be changed using the Interversion permutation used in Messiaen’s 4th movement in “Quatre Études de Rythme”

18:13 – Pete finds postcard message #11 is from Laboa to Noriega – **MGR** = Monsignor

Sunday 31st December 2017

23:26 – Pete proposes Phillip Sidney as recipient of postcard message #5

Monday 1st January 2018

13:10 – Peter finds confirmation that **EARL** Leicester is the sender of postcard message #5

Tuesday 2nd January 2018

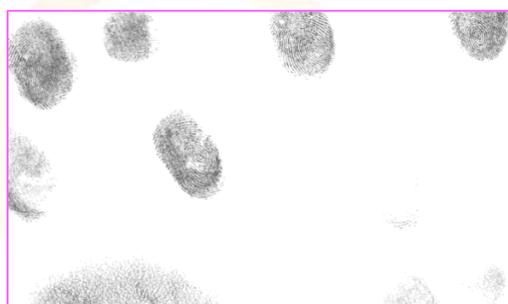
12:18 – Peter proposes Queen Eleni as the recipient of postcard message #1.
Sender is Pêro da Colvihã. Can’t find a positive **DOM** link.

Monday 8th January 2018

14:09 – Nick finds the Elephant hexagon image is a detail from a stained glass window.
Discover thematic link to Messing All Saints Church through Abraham van Linge. This also gives the thematic link for the Nineveh hexagon stained glass window.

Sunday 14th January 2018

22:17 – Steve finds the Fingerprint image is from the opening pages of the Mr Messy book!



The Main Hunt:

The following is our account of the logical order to untangle the Mess, solve the puzzles and reach the treasure location.

Mr. Messy pink line route through 65 hexagon pictures.

With no questions this year, the first message comes from identifying the images in the hexagons. After assembling the 12 pages correctly, the overall picture shows a single continuous route from Mr. Messy to the final 65th treasure chest hexagon.

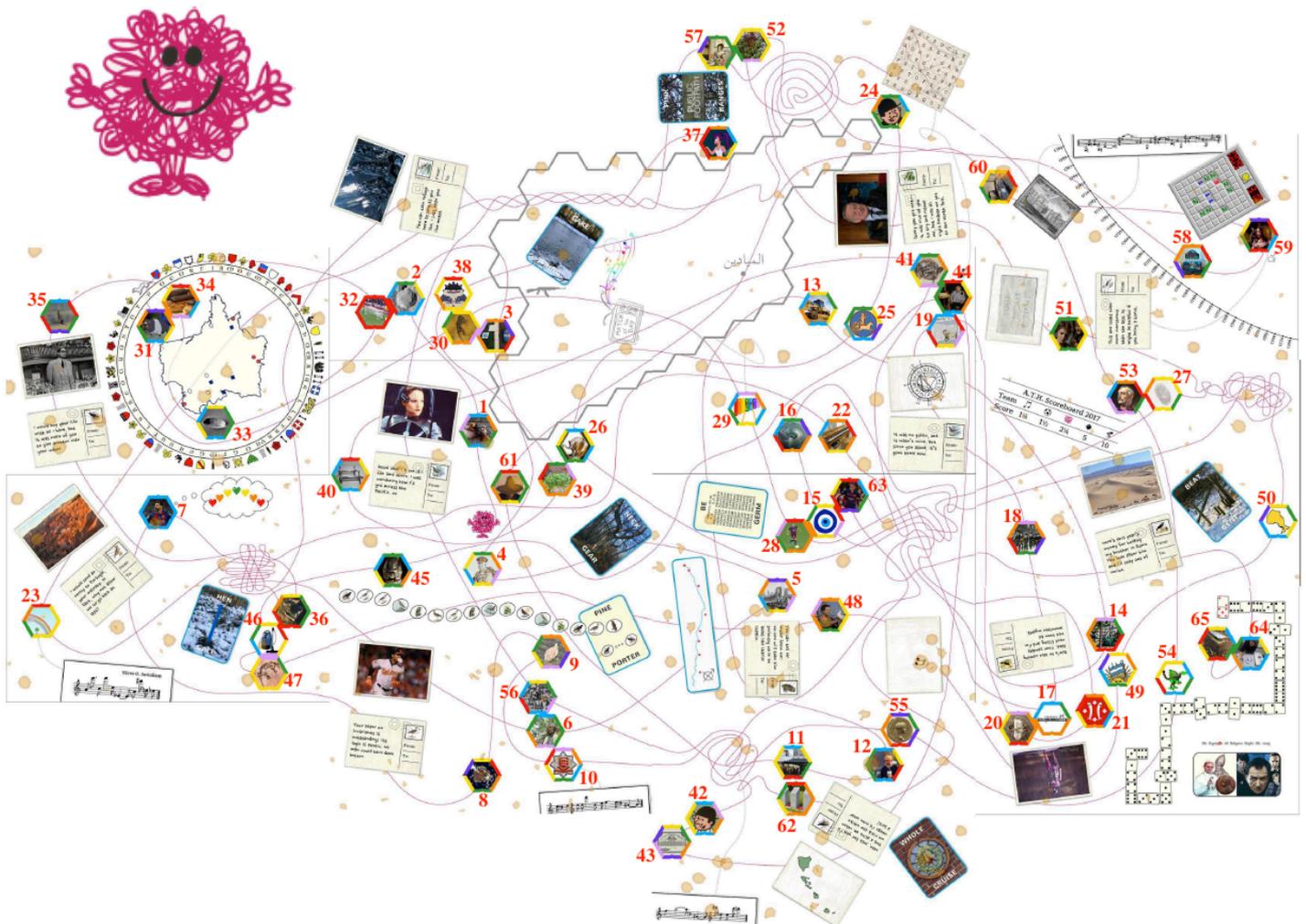
The initial letters of the names of these hexagon items spell out the message:

HAPPY XMAS, EPIC NEW YEAR SORTIE FIXING MESS. LUCK AND LOVE FROM BRUCE HINDSIGHT

Note: Using the double S from Salm-Salm, makes this read slightly better:
Happy Xmas, Epic New Year's Sortie fixing Mess. Luck and love from Bruce Hindsight.

Each picture has a connection to a **MESS** theme.

- A. Messier – Charles Messier, astronomer
- B. Messiaen – Olivier Messiaen, composer, organist, ornithologist.
- C. Messi – Lionel Messi, footballer
- D. Messines – Battle of Messines, 7th June 1917. (19 mines detonated)
- E. Mess - General group with words that start with Mess (many in German!)



No.	Hexagon Name	Picture and Thematic connection	Reference links
1	Hornet	Hornet. Hornisse ME410 Messerschmitt .	https://i.ytimg.com/vi/9wxqDDUqfGs/maxresdefault.jpg https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messerschmitt
2	Azophi	Azophi crater on moon. Earliest recorded observation of Andromeda Galaxy, Messier M31 by Persian astronomer Azophi.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Azophi_%28crater%29 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abd_al-Rahman_al-Sufi https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andromeda_Galaxy
3	Pleiades	NASA 'Pleiades' supercomputer. Pleiades, Messier M45.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pleiades_%28supercomputer%29 https://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/images/content/460445main_ACD10-0095-001.jpg https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pleiades
4	Plumer	General Sir Herbert Plumer, commander of British second Army, Battle of Messines 1917.	http://c8.alamy.com/comp/DF7CJ5/world-war-one-postcard-portrait-of-general-sir-h-c-o-plumer-gcmg-gcvo-DF7CJ5.jpg https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Messines_%281917%29
5	Ypres	Ruins of Ypres Cathedral. Battle of Messines .	https://pbs.twimg.com/media/DNvZu7HWkAAVMe5.jpg
6	Xenakis	Iannis Xenakis. Pupil of Messiaen .	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iannis_Xenakis https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jCP5tCR1oXw
7	Messi	Lionel Messi . Professional footballer, Barcelona	https://www.welt.de/img/sport/fussball/internationale-ligen/mobile166293864/8291625967-ci23x11-w1280/Lionel-Messi.jpg https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lionel_Messi
8	Ascension	Ascension Island. L'ascension, work by Messiaen .	https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=3327 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/L%27ascension
9	Swan	Feeding swan. Swan Nebula, Messier M17.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Messier_objects
10	Essex	Essex County Fire & Rescue Épees de Feu, Messiaen .	https://www.cadcorp.com/images/uploads/news-images/ne_ecfrs_badge_750x748.jpg https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quatre_études_de_rythme
11	Peckham	Peckham Rye Station. Mine at Battle of Messines .	http://c8.alamy.com/comp/GHEA9C/art-deco-front-to-peckham-rye-station-rye-lane-south-east-london-uk-GHEA9C.jpg https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mines_in_the_Battle_of_Messines_%281917%29
12	Iglesia	Álex de la Iglesia. Director of Messi (2014) film.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZFPq-45sVZY https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messi_%282014_film%29 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Álex_de_la_Iglesia
13	Caterpillar	Caterpillar Inc. bulldozer. Mine at Battle of Messines .	http://www.theconstructionindex.co.uk/the-digger-blog/view/cat-reaches-another-milestone-with-500th-d7e-dozer https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mines_in_the_Battle_of_Messines_%281917%29
14	Nineveh	Jonah window, City of Nineveh Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, by Abraham van Linge. Linge also created window in All Saints Church, Messing .	http://www.geograph.org.uk/photo/3937462 http://www.essexviews.uk/photos/Essex%20Churches/Essex%20Churches%20M-R/slides/Messing-Church-Essex-Window.html
15	Evil eye	Evil Eye symbol. Evil Eye Galaxy, Messier M64	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Evil_Eye.svg https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Eye_Galaxy
16	Whirlpool	Whirlpool. Whirlpool Galaxy, Messier M51	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whirlpool_Galaxy
17	Yellowhammer	Song of the Bruant jaune (Yellowhammer) by Messiaen .	https://www.researchgate.net/figure/236145957_fig7_Fig-9-Notacao-da-partitura-e-sua-resultante-espectral-Messiaen-Meditations-VIII
18	Eton	Eton boys marching. Eton Mess (a dessert)	https://i.pinimg.com/originals/3a/e8/6c/3ae86cb571d9ea7b943442fb85ec2cc1.jpg https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eton_mess
19	Adolphine	Madame Adolphine cartoon. Adolfine, ME 261 Messerschmitt	https://kid-lit-reviews.com/2014/08/17/635-benny-breakiron-2-madame-adolphine-by-peyo/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messerschmitt
20	Ring	Yellow gold blister pearl and diamond ring. Ring Nebula, Messier M57	https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/14ct-Yellow-Gold-Blister-Pearl-and-Diamond-Ring-/322884674845?hash=item4b2d6d251d https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Messier_objects
21	Salm-Salm	Flag of Salm-Salm. The original capital was Badonviller, Messier's birthplace.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salm-Salm https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Badonviller
22	Ondes Martenot	Ondes Martenot electric organ. Used in many of Messiaen's works. (E.g. Turangalîla)	https://www.thomasbloch.net/f_dossier-de-presse.html https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ondes_Martenot

23	Rainbow	Rainbow picture. Arcs-en-ciel, Messiaen	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quatre études de rythme
24	Tidy	Mr Tidy. Character from Mr Messy story	https://mumbojumbosoph.wordpress.com/tag/mr-messy/ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvfOMG2tF_4 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Mr_Men#Mr_Messy
25	Iceni	Symbol from Total War: Rome II The Rampart, last battle of the Iceni, Messing	https://www.honga.net/totalwar/rome2/faction.php?l=en&v=rome2&f=rom_ice_ni https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messing-cum-Inworth
26	Elephant	Detail from a stained glass window in Lydiard House, Swindon, by Abraham van Linge. A. van Linge also created stained glass window in All Saints Church, Messing .	http://swindonia.blogspot.co.uk/2008/12/painted-window-at-lydiard-house.html http://www.essexviews.uk/photos/Essex%20Churches/Essex%20Churches%20M-R/slides/Messing-Church-Essex-Window.html
27	Fingerprint	Fingerprint image comes from opening pages of the Mr Messy book. "...he left a trail of messy fingerprints wherever he'd been."	https://www.amazon.co.uk/Mr-Messy-Men-Classic-Library/dp/1405274506
28	Iniesta	Andrés Iniesta. Teammate of Messi at Barcelona.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrés_Iniesta
29	Xylophone	Picture of Xylophone. Xylophones used by Messiaen to imitate birdsong.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Olivier_Messiaen
30	Ida	Ida fossil. Messel pit, Germany.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darwinius
31	Napoleon	Napoleon, Animal Farm cartoon. Messier attributed the 1769 great comet to the birth of Napoleon.	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jyw8BPB69Ds https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Messier
32	Goal	Goal from video of match between Espanyol and Barcelona. 10/09/17 Messi scored a hat trick	http://lionelmessi.cf/post/165182185206/hat-trick-king
33	Messier crater	Messier crater on Moon.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messier_%28crater%29
34	Éclair	Chocolate Éclair Éclairs sur l'au dela, work by Messiaen .	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Éclairs_sur_l%27au-dela
35	Swallow	Barn swallow. Schwalbe, ME 262 Messerschmitt	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messerschmitt
36	Sigmundskron	Sigmundskron Castle. Messner Mountain Museum	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sigmundskron_Castle
37	Leela	Turanga Leela, Futurama character Turangalila symphony, Messiaen	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leela_%28Futurama%29 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turangalila-Symphonie
38	Untidy	Gokai, Yo-kai character. Messy!	http://yokaiwatch.wikia.com/wiki/Untidy
39	Cress	Cress mess sounds like Christmas	
40	Knife rests	Knife rests are another name for Cheval de Frise, used at Messines . And Messerbänkchen in German	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheval_de_frise https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=heW1CwAAQBAI&pg=PA83#v=onepage&q&f=false https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messerbänkchen
41	Allaeochelys	Allaeochelys fossil. Messel pit, Germany.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allaeochelys
42	Neat	Mr Neat. Character from Mr Messy story	https://mumbojumbosoph.wordpress.com/tag/mr-messy/ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvfOMG2tF_4 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Mr_Men#Mr_Messy
43	Dumbells	Dumbells Banknote. Dumbbell Nebula, Messier M27	http://www.britishnotes.co.uk/news_and_info/picture_library/isleofmanpicture/s/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dumbbell_Nebula
44	Loriod	Jeanne Loriod. Sister in law of Messiaen . Ondes Martenot player	http://www.conservatoiredeparis.fr/en/nc/voir-et-entendre/videos/article/master-class-dondes-martenot-de-jeanne-loriod/?tx_ttnews%5Bnpagel%5D=35 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeanne_Loriod

45	Omega	Omega, Dr Who character. Omega Nebula, Messier M17	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omega_%28Doctor_Who%29 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Messier_objects
46	Vacuum cleaner	Vacuum cleaner clip art. Vacuum cleaner galaxy, Messier M109. Ondes Martenot, vacuum tubes and sounds like a vacuum cleaner in Messiaen's work.	http://clipart-finder.com/data/mini/Anonymous_Blue_vacuum_cleaner.png http://gardenastronomy.moonfruit.com/blog/4566966000/M109-The-Vacuum-Cleaner-Galaxy/11194272 https://www.theguardian.com/music/2009/oct/12/ondes-martenot http://www.rowan-hull.com/the-man-who-heard-colour/
47	Eurotamandua Anteater	Eurotamandua fossil. Messel pit, Germany.	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eurotamandua
48	Francis of Assisi	Francis of Assisi played by Brad Dillman. Saint Francois d'Assise, opera by Messiaen .	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rG5jVcYA1aM https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Francois_d%27Assise
49	Rosario	Part of Rosario (Argentina) flag. Birthplace of Messi .	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosario,_Santa_Fe
50	Ontario	Map of Ontario, Canada. Ontario Farm, name of mine at Battle of Messines	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mines_in_the_Battle_of_Messines_%281917%29
51	Messalina	Messalina played by Sheila White in I Claudius.	http://www.lens-views.com/Index/1_Claudius.html https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messalina
52	Beehive	Beehive. Beehive cluster, Messier M44 Honeycomb – Paul Combs	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Messier_objects
53	Rupprecht	Prince Rupprecht. Commander of German 6 th army at Battle of Messines	https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruprecht_Bavorský https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rupprecht,_Crown_Prince_of_Bavaria
54	Undermine	Undermine, a Cybertron transformer. Mine tunnels at Messines	https://www.seibertron.com/transformers-toys/view/cybertron/undermine/676/2/27/ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mines_in_the_Battle_of_Messines_%281917%29
55	Claudius	Emperor Claudius gold aureus Messalina was his 3 rd wife.	http://media.liveauctiongroup.net/i/5667/8605192_1.jpg?v=8CBEF064B4BFCC0 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Claudius
56	Eligius/Eloi	St Eligius at his workshop French spelling is St Eloi, name of mine at Battle of Messines .	https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Master_of_Balaam_-_St_Eligius_in_His_Workshop_-_WGA14373.jpg https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mines_in_the_Battle_of_Messines_%281917%29
57	Herschel	Caroline Herschel, astronomer. Discovery of Messier M110	https://images.vice.com/motherboard/content-images/contentimage/12969/1399663847795.jpeg https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messier_110
58	Inworth	Village sign of Inworth, Essex. Messing-cum-Inworth .	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messing-cum-Inworth
59	Nebula	Nebula, character in Hercules, played by Gina Torres. Messier catalogued several Nebulae, and the Hercules cluster M13	http://hercules-xena.wikia.com/wiki/Nebula
60	Dipstick	Oil dipstick from car engine. Dipstick is Mess stab in German	
61	Sombrero	Sombrero hat. Sombrero galaxy, Messier M104. A football move, Messi	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sombrero_Galaxy http://www.soccer-training-info.com/the_art_of_the_sombrero.asp
62	Irish Peace Park	Irish Peace Park. Memorial at Messines	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Island_of_Ireland_Peace_Park
63	Garcia	Olga Garcia. Barcelona women's team, no10. (Messi is men's no10)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Olga_Garc%C3%ADa
64	Halloran	Lia Halloran, artist. Picture is a still from 4 th video. Her Deep Sky Companion work is based on the 110 Messier objects.	http://www.liahalloran.com/video/ http://www.liahalloran.com/deep-sky-companion/
65	Treasure Chest	Treasure Chest. Treasure box location, Messing .	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messing-cum-Inworth

Dominos puzzle

In the bottom right corner of the assembled pages (page 4) is a composite picture of three popes next to a picture of the DVD cover of the TV thriller Messiah.

These are read together as "Pope's Messiah". This is a clue to Messiah, a poem by Alexander Pope.

The first line of the poem is disguised in a block text.

Ye Nymphs of Solyma begin the song



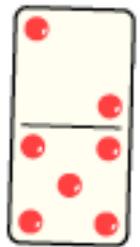
**Popes: Paul VI,
Nicholas IV, Eugene IV**

**Messiah
series III & IV**

Using the poem as a book code the dominos spell out a message.

Each domino represents a new line in the poem, with the rotated dominos representing the start of new words. The pips on the dominos give the word/letter to extract from each line.

The highlighted red letter and the red domino, specify the letter 'h' in Nymphs.

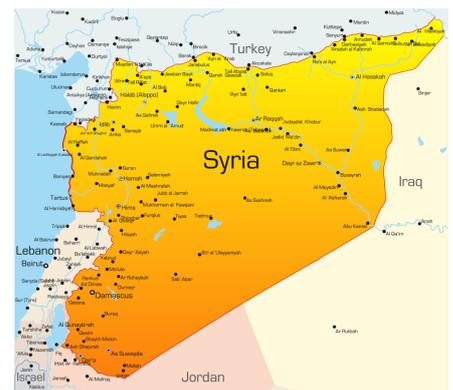
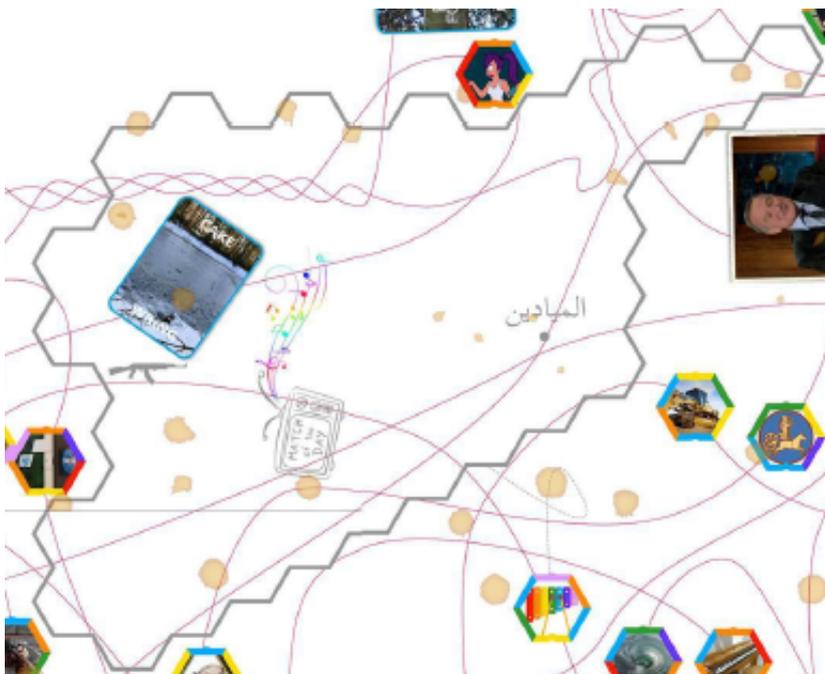


The dominos give the message: **HELP LIONEL REARM REBELS**

This is referring to the Syrian TV channel Addounia's claim that the way Lionel Messi and his teammates moved across the pitch during the build up to a goal showed the route that rebels could smuggle guns into Syria.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/syria-paranoia/messis-footwork-part-of-anti-syria-conspiracy-tv-idUSL6E8EK1NR20120322>

On the composite puzzle picture is a grey outline map of Syria. According to the Addounia commentator, the move was started by Messi as he crossed into Syria at Homs. Homs is depicted by the AK-47 rifle on the map. The Arabic town named on the map is Al Mayadin, where the rebel arms shipment was apparently destined for, as indicated by the goal scored at the end of the move. The move also involved Iniesta, who is pictured in hexagon #28.



Fitting the 65 hexagons into the map of Syria.

The 65 hexagons all fit into the outline map of Syria. Start by placing the red edged GOAL hexagon on Al Mayadin, and the blue edged MESSI hexagon on the AK-47 symbol.

It is now possible to fit in all the remaining 63 hexagons, in a unique arrangement, so that adjacent coloured edges always match.



Match of the Day route through Syria

In the middle of the grey map of Syria is a picture of a TV with 'Match of the Day' written on the screen. Starting at the MESSI hexagon the tune can be played out, with the spectrum coloured edges of the hexagons representing the notes of the song, following a twisting route that ends on the GOAL hexagon. The key is A major.

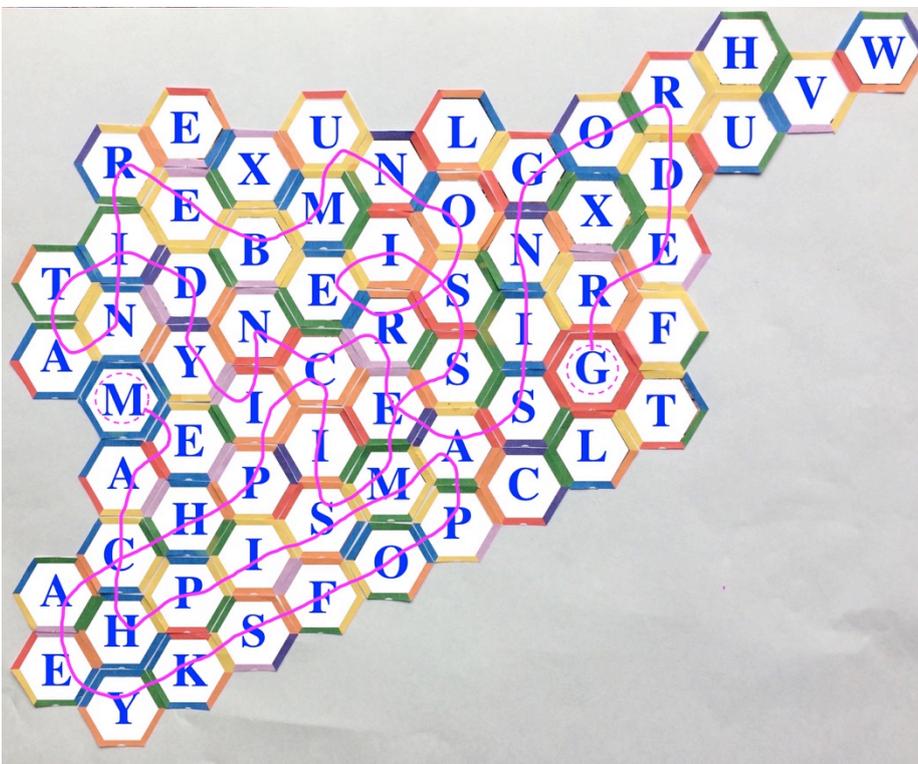
Using the initial letters from the names of the hexagon pictures, a second message is spelt out.

**EACH P IS MAP OF SKY, EACH PIC IS MESSIER.
SO NUMBER IN A TIDY INCREASING ORDER**

Match Of The Day Music by Barry Stoller



Lightly $J = 112$



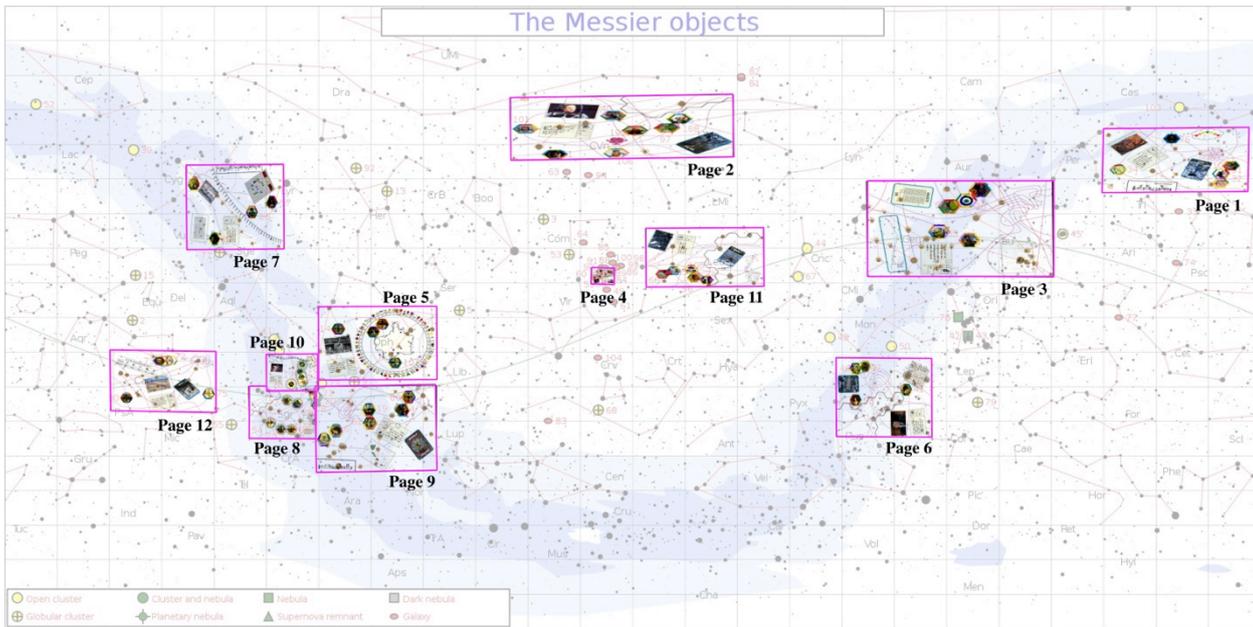
Note: Messi's thought bubble, the picture of the TV inside the map, and the grey dotted line joining the Xylophone hexagon to the map are all clues to use the Match of the Day theme tune to find a route through Syria, using the spectrum colours.



Twelve Maps of the sky.

Interpreting the message from the Match of the Day route through Syria tells us that each page (p) of the hunt is a map of the sky, and that each picture hexagon (pic) is a Messier object. Further research shows that all the brown messy stains on the pages represent stars in that part of the sky, larger blots for brighter stars. The map below shows the approximate superimposed position of the 12 pages. Putting the Messier objects into “a tidy increasing order” gives a third message from the hexagon letters.

FIND AN ESSEX PLACE AMID EVERY EIGHTH BOX IN SYRIA.
GO W FROM CH TURN L PICK UP MESS



Page 1	Messi	M76
	Rainbow	M34
	Sigmundskron	M110
	Vacuum cleaner	M31
	Eurotamandua	M32
Page 2	Hornet	M40
	Knife rests	M101
	Elephant	M108
	Sombrero	M109
	Cress	M97
	Omega	M51
	Plumer	M106
Page 3	Garcia	M38
	Evil eye	M36
	Iniesta	M37
	Ypres	M35
	Francis of Assisi	M1
Page 4	Nineveh	M90
	Treasure Chest	M86
	Halloran	M84
	Rosario	M89
	Undermine	M87
	Ring	M60
	Yellowhammer	M59
Salm-Salm	M58	
Page 5	Swallow	M14
	Éclair	M12
	Napoleon	M10
	Messier crater	M107
Page 6	Herschel	M46
	Beehive	M47
	Leela	M93
	Tidy	M41

Page 7	Dipstick	M29
	Nebula	M57
	Inworth	M56
	Messalina	M27
Page 8	Allaechochelys	M21
	Caterpillar	M22
	Iceni	M28
	Loriod	M20
	Adolphine	M8
	Xylophone	M54
	Whirlpool	M70
Ondes Martenot	M69	
Page 9	Claudius	M80
	Peckham	M19
	Iglesia	M4
	Irish Peace Park	M62
	Neat	M6
Dumbell	M7	
Page 10	Swan	M16
	Eligius	M17
	Xenakis	M18
	Ascension	M25
	Essex Fire & Rescue	M24
Page 11	Azophi crater	M65
	Untidy	M105
	Goal	M66
	Ida fossil	M96
Page 12	Pleiades	M95
	Rupprecht	M73
	Fingerprint	M72
	Eton	M36
Ontario	M75	

M1	F
M4	I
M6	N
M7	D
M8	A
M10	N
M12	E
M14	S
M16	S
M17	E
M18	X
M19	P
M20	L
M21	A
M22	C
M24	E
M25	A
M27	M
M28	I
M29	D
M30	E
M31	V
M32	E
M34	R
M35	Y
M36	E
M37	I
M38	G
M40	H
M41	T
M46	H
M47	B
M51	O
M54	X
M56	I
M57	N
M58	S
M59	Y
M60	R
M62	I
M65	A
M66	G
M69	O
M70	W
M72	F
M73	R
M75	O
M76	M
M80	C
M84	H
M86	T
M87	U
M89	R
M90	N
M93	L
M95	P
M96	I
M97	C
M101	K
M105	U
M106	P
M107	M
M108	E
M109	S
M110	S

Messing & Mess.

The first part of this new message says **FIND AN ESSEX PLACE AMID EVERY EIGHTH BOX IN SYRIA**. Taking every 8th letter from the Match of the Day message from the Syria map gives **MESSING**. This is a village in Essex, to the north of Tiptree.

EACH P IS **MAP OF SKY** EACH PIC IS **MESSIER** SO NUMBER **IN A TIDY INCREASING** ORDER

The second part of the message says **GO W FROM CH TURN L PICK UP MESS**

This gives directions from the church in Messing.
Go west from the Church, turn left, and then pick up Mess.

'Mess' refers to the 8 blue-edged pictures, which all contain anagrams of towns along the river Mess in Luxembourg. The 9th blue-edged picture is a map of the river Mess with the positions of the eight towns shown with red dots. This gives the correct order of the pictures.

WHOLE CRUISE = **Schouweiler**
 PINK RANGES = **Sprinkange**
 BEAT GENT = **Bettange**
 NECK GEAR = **Reckange**
 HEN GALE = **Ehlinge**
 CAKE WRING = **Wickrange**
 PINE PORTER = **Pontpierre**
 BE GERM = **Bergem**



Going west from the church in Messing, take the left turn into School Road.
The first 6 photographs show features along the route to the site in Conyfield Wood.

1. Christmas wreath on house.
2. Footpath sign.
3. Old fence/gate into wood.
4. Tree.
5. Blue post.
6. Pond.

On reaching the pond, the 7th and 8th blue-edged pictures pinpoint the exact hiding place of the treasure box.

Note: Around the pond in Conyfield Wood there are numerous bird boxes in the trees. This is perhaps a confirmer to the use of the bird code in the 7th blue-edged picture.

Messiaen's Birds.

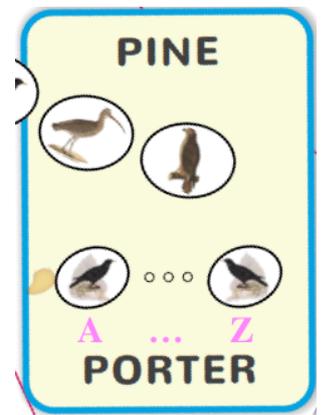
All the birds shown along the wavy line ending on the 7th blue-edged picture are one of 13 birds from the "Catalogue d'oiseaux" (Catalogue of birds), a work by Olivier Messiaen.

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catalogue_d%27oiseaux

The two Alpine choughs facing each other with an ellipsis between them, is a clue that these images represent the letters A to Z.

As there are 13 birds in the Catalogue, they can be given the letters A - M when facing right, and Z - N when facing left. (Atbash code)

This is the key to the Bird Code.

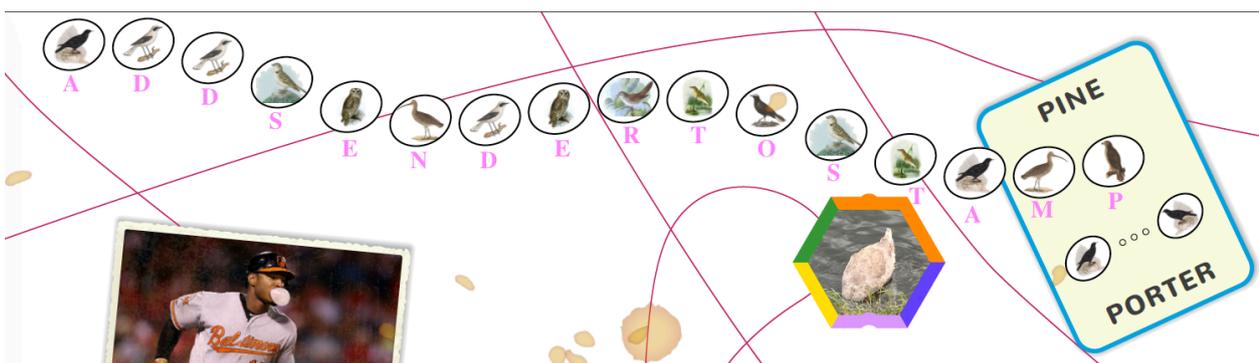


	Catalogue d'oiseaux (Catalogue of birds) - Messiaen	Facing Right	Facing Left
1	Alpine chough – Chocard des Alpes	A	Z
2	Eurasian golden oriole – Lorient d'Europe	B	Y
3	Blue Rock thrush – Merle bleu	C	X
4	Black-eared wheatear – Traquet stapazin	D	W
5	Tawny owl – Chouette hulotte	E	V
6	Woodlark – Alouette lulu	F	U
7	Eurasian reed warbler – Rousserolle effarvette	G	T
8	Greater short-toed lark – Alouette calandrelle	H	S
9	Cetti's warbler – Bouscarle de Cetti	I	R
10	Common rock thrush – Merle de roche	J	Q
11	Common buzzard – Buse variable	K	P
12	Black wheatear – Traquet rieur	L	O
13	Eurasian curlew – Courlis cendré	M	N

The wavy line of birds leading to the 7th blue-edged card decodes to:

ADD SENDER TO STAMP

This is referring to the 12 postcards, one on each page, that all have stamps depicting one of the same birds from Messiaen's Catalogue of Birds.



The twelve French towns on the map all have a Mess connection.

Blue squares: Place names beginning with **Mess**
Messigny et Vantoux
Messery
Messei
Messimy

White Ovals: Places **Messiaen** lived in.
Avignon – Birthplace
Ambert – Moved there soon after birth
Grenoble – During WW1
Nantes – Moved there in 1918

Red Hexagons: Birthplaces of French astronomers who discovered **Messier** objects
Laon – Pierre Mechain
Coutances – Guillaume Le Gentil
Rumigny – Nicolas de Lacaille
Belgentier – Nicholas-Claude Peiresc

Each town's component parts of their Arms match to letters on the perimeter circle. Starting on the background shield, they spell out: (mainly going clockwise, some are anagrams)

Laon – **OTTOMAN**
Coutances – **FLIER**
Rumigny – **GR**
Belgentier – **MP**
Avignon – **EARL**
Ambert – **ALIEN**
Grenoble – **HERO**
Nantes – **BRO**
Messigny – **MGR**
Messery – **DOM**
Messei – **TOY**
Messimy – **OFFGUARD**

These 12 words/abbreviations are clues to solving who the sender of the postcard is.



The remaining component parts on the circle make up the Arms of the village of Messing in Essex. The associated word from the perimeter circle of letters is **TREASURE**.

Note: Also on the map of France is a minesweeper game mine, which represents the site of the Battle of Messines 1917.

See **Minesweeper & Wordsearch** section

Note: Heraldry town information in **Research Notes & links** section.

Postcard Messages.

The postcard backs each have a written message. The **From:** and **To:** suggest we have to discover who the sender and recipient are. These are very tricky tasks, made even harder as they seem to have no Mess connection, and also have no connection to each other.

The only further clue is the word or abbreviation gained from the Heraldic Arms of the 12 towns, presumably from where the postcard is sent. To start with any of the four grouped words could go with any of the four matching franking marks on the postcards.

Using the Bird Code letters, each stamp can be given a letter. The instruction from the bird sequence was ADD SENDER TO STAMP, and by adding the initial letter of the sender to the stamp letter gives a new sum for each page. In page order these say **IN FALLEN TREE**

This is the answer to the 7th blue-edged picture. The treasure box is hidden in a very prominent fallen tree near to the pond in Conyfield Wood, Messing.

Page	Frank mark	Stamp Bird code letter	Sender	Stamp+Sender	Sum	Recipient	Clue from Heraldry	French town
1	Square	F	Covilhã	F + C	I	Eleni	DOM	Messery
2	Hex	I	Earhart	I + E	N	Vidal	FLIER	Coutances
3	Hex	E	Astor	E + A	F	Ribbentrop	MP	Belgentier
4	Oval	Y	Bharata	Y + B	A	Rama	BRO	Nantes
5	Oval	Z	Leicester	Z + L	L	Sidney	EARL	Avignon
6	Square	T	Roo	T + R	L	Eeyore	TOY	Messei
7	Oval	W	Hercules	W + H	E	Ioalus	HERO	Grenoble
8	Oval	I	Elliott	I + E	N	Tyler	ALIEN	Ambert
9	Square	A	Smith	A + S	T	Obama	OFFGUARD	Messimy
10	Hex	M	Einstein	M + E	R	Noether	GR	Rumigny
11	Square	S	Laboa	S + I	E	Noriega	MGR	Messigny
12	Hex	C	Bayezid II	C + B	E	Innocent VIII	OTTOMAN	Laon

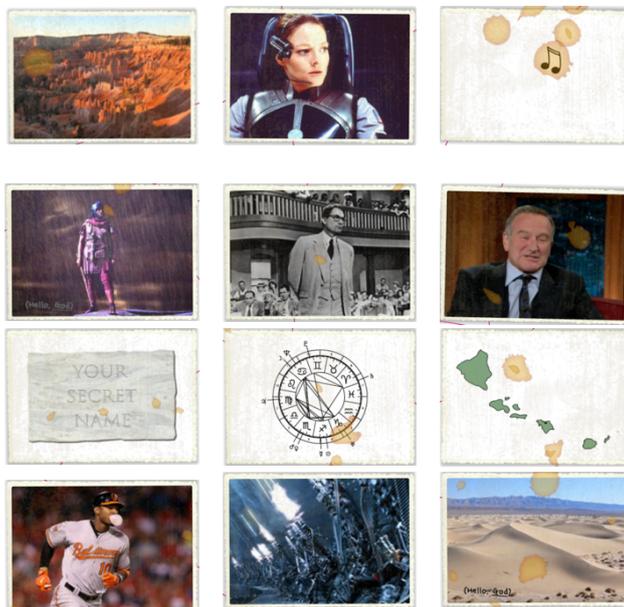
- Page 1: Pêro da Covilhã to Queen Eleni of Ethiopia. (**DOM** ?)
- Page 2: Amelia Earhart to Eugene Vidal – Earhart was a **FLIER**
- Page 3: Lady Astor to Joachim van Ribbentrop – Astor was an **MP**
- Page 4: Bharata to Rama – they were **BRO**thers
- Page 5: **EARL** Leicester to Philip Sidney
- Page 6: Roo to Eeyore – **TOY** from Winnie the Pooh
- Page 7: Hercules to Ioalus – Hercules was a **HERO**
- Page 8: Elliott to Tyler –scene from ET- **ALIEN**
- Page 9: J R Smith to Barrack Obama – Smith played in **OFF-GUARD** position.
- Page 10: Albert Einstein to Emmy Noether – **GR** = Einstein’s theory of General Relativity
- Page 11: Monsignor Laboa to General Manuel Noriega – **MGR** = Monsignor
- Page 12: Bayezid II to Pope Innocent VIII – Bayezid II was 8th **OTTOMAN** Sultan

The page 7 postcard message had an extra clue. There is a dotted grey line joining it to hexagon 59, Nebula a character in the TV show **Hercules**.

Note: Full details of the senders/recipients in **Research Notes & links** section.

Postcard Pictures and Interverision.

- Page 1: Bryce Canyon
 Page 2: Scene from "Contact"
 Page 3: Semiquavers on Aldebaran stain blot.
 Page 4: "Greatest story ever told" – John Wayne
 Page 5: Scene from "To Kill a Mockingbird"
 Page 6: Robin Williams on chat show
 Page 7: Your Secret Name
 Page 8: Messiaen's horoscope, astrological chart
 Page 9: Hawaiian Islands
 Page 10: Adam Jones, Baltimore Orioles
 Page 11: Scene from "The Matrix"
 Page 12: Death Valley



These 12 postcard pictures link to a work by Messiaen called "Des Canyons aux Étoiles..."
 (From the Canyons to the Stars) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Des_canyons_aux_étoiles

Part 1:

- Le désert (The desert) – [p12 Death Valley](#)
 Les orioles (The orioles) – [p10 Baltimore Orioles](#)
 Ce qui est écrit sur les étoiles (What is written in the stars) – [p8 Messiaen's Astrological Chart](#)
 Le cossyphe d'Heuglin (The white-browed Robin-Chat) – [p6 Robin Williams/Chat show](#)
 Cedar Breaks et le don de crainte (Cedar Breaks and the gift of awe) – [p4 John Wayne quote "Awe, truly this man was the son of God" / \(Hello, God\) written on postcard.](#)

Part 2:

- Appel interstellaire (Interstellar call) – [p2 Contact from aliens / SETI](#)
 Bryce Canyon et les rochers rouge-orange (Bryce Canyon and the red-orange rocks) – [p1 Bryce Canyon](#)

Part 3:

- Les ressuscitées et le chant de l'étoile Aldebaran (The resurrected and the song of the star Aldebaran) - [p3 *](#)
 Le moquer polyglotte (The mockingbird) – [p5 To Kill a Mockingbird](#)
 La grive de bois (The wood thrush) – [p7 Enid Blyton story "Tell me my Name!"](#)
 Omao, leiothrix, elepaio, shama (Omao, leiothrix, elepaio, shama) – [p9 Hawaiian Island birds.](#)
 Zion Park et la cité celeste (Zion Park and the celestial city) – [p 11 The Matrix, Zion City](#)

This page order for the postcards is 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11.

In this order, the initial letters of the postcard recipients spell **INTERVISION**

Interverision is a method that Messiaen used to add mathematical permutations to music. In the 4th movement of "Quatre Études de Rythme" he repeatedly uses the same permutation to produce new orderings of the notes in a cyclic pattern.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quatre_études_de_rythme

Using the interversion permutation that he uses in this movement, this postcard sequence can be re-ordered back to the original page number order.

12	10	8	6	4	2	1	3	5	7	9	11
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

***Note:** Research and details of the Aldebaran Star in **Research Notes & links** section.

Comet Timeline.

On page 7 there is an arc of dates. A dotted grey line connects the first date, 1769, to a picture of the great comet of 1769. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C/1769_P1

These dates correspond to the 13 comets discovered by Charles Messier.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Messier

C/1760 **B**1, C/1763 **S**1, C/1764 **A**1, C/1766 **E**1
 C/1769 **P**1, C/1770 **L**1, C/1771 **G**1, C/1773 **T**1
 C/1780 **U**2, C/1785 **A**1, C/1788 **W**1, C/1793 **S**2
 C/1798 **G**1

Using the highlighted letters from the comets' names, the sequence of dates spell out a message:

PUB PALATABLE BUT WE SUGGEST GET A TABLE

As well as a comment about The Crown pub in Messing, this is a hint to solving the code on the final picture clue along the river Mess route into the wood.

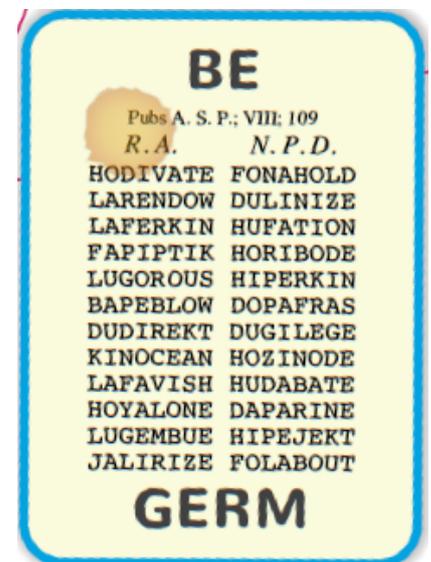


8th Blue-Edged Picture Along The Mess.

This final clue uses a set of tables from the "Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific", Volume VIII, p 109 to encode coordinates of objects in the sky.

<http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1086/121088/pdf>

The R.A. (Right Ascension) and N.P.D. (North Polar Distance) are listed in code. From the tables in the publication these code words can be changed back into numbers, and converted into R. Ascension (hours:mins) and Declination (degrees:minutes)



R.A.	N.P.D.	R.A. h:m	Dec. d:m	Obj	
10468	07811	10:46.8	+11:89	M96	I
18536	05658	18:53.6	+33:42	M57	N
18038	11423	18:03.8	-24:23	M8	A
06460	11044	06:46.0	-20:44	M41	T
20589	10238	20:58.9	-12:38	M73	R
00427	04908	00:42.7	+40:92	M32	E
05361	05552	05:36.1	+34:48	M36	E
16170	11259	16:17.0	-22:59	M80	C
18026	11302	18:02.6	-23:02	M20	L
11115	03420	11:11.5	+55:80	M108	E
20535	10232	20:53.5	-12:32	M72	F
12262	07703	12:26.2	+12:97	M86	T

These astronomical coordinates are all Messier objects, and using the letters from the corresponding Messier hexagons (from the star maps) a final message is revealed. The final letter T from M86 is the T from the Treasure Chest hexagon.

IN A TREE CLEFT

The treasure box is hidden in a cleft in the fallen tree.

Messiaen's Musical Alphabet

The four pieces of music on pages 1,7,9 and 10 are a substitution code using Messiaen's Musical Alphabet as the key. <http://in.music.sc.edu/fs/bain/soundingnumber/tracks/languageoftheangels.html>

The first piece on page 1 is titled "Nieve O. Serialism", an anagram of "Olivier Messiaen".



The pieces decode to:

Arcs-en-ciel = Rainbows

Épées de Feu = Swords of fire

Fouillis = Mess

Brusques Étoiles = Sudden Stars



These words come from a preface to Messiaen's 7th movement in "Quatuor pour la fin du temps". Messiaen wrote the piece whilst a prisoner of war during WW2 in Görlitz camp.

<https://www.naxosmusiclibrary.com/sharedfiles/booklets/gen/booklet-gen12258.pdf>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quatuor_pour_la_fin_du_temps

"Ces épées de feu, ces coulées de lave bleu-orange, ces brusques étoiles: voilà le fouillis, voilà les arcs-en-ciel!"

"These swords of fire, these blue-orange lava flows, these sudden stars: There is the mess, there are the rainbows!"

All four of these pieces of music are connected by grey dotted lines to another object in the picture, which gives a clue to its name:

Arcs-en-ciel is connected to the Rainbow hexagon.

Épées de Feu is connected to the Essex Fire & Rescue hexagon – 3 swords of Essex County

Fouillis is connected to the tangle of Mr Messy's pink line

Brusques Étoiles is connected to the comet date line – sudden stars are comets

Minesweeper & Wordsearch

Solving the minesweeper game on page 7, gives the positions of nine mines, as indicated by the top left-hand red number.

The top right-hand red number, 310, alludes to the time of 3:10am on the 7th June 1917, when the mines used in the Battle of **Messines** were detonated.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mines_in_the_Battle_of_Messines_%281917%29

Overlaying this 8 x 8 grid onto the 8 x 8 Wordsearch grid on page 6, shows the nine mines over the letters G A Y G O P H E R. Using the + symbol this reads as GAY + GOPHER.



This is an anagram of **GEOGRAPHY**.

The evening before the 7th June attack General Sir Charles Harington said to the press “Gentlemen, I don’t know whether we are going to make history tomorrow, but at any rate we shall **change geography**”.

There is a minesweeper mine symbol on the map of France on page 5, showing the location of this battle in Belgium.

The background map used for the word search grid is square 21 from a planning map of the Battle of Messines.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Messines_%281917%29

The German word for Ordnance survey map is **Messtischblatt**.

There is a grey dotted line connecting this wordsearch grid to the Jeanne Loriod hexagon, together with a mine/key symbol. That hexagon is also M20, the Trifid nebula. Trifid means ‘divided into three lobes’



We believe that there is another message to be found from this wordsearch grid and that this mine/key symbol is a clue to that.

We have tried amending the wordsearch grid using the mine count numbers (0,1,2,3) and then using Jeanne Loriod as a key.

We also note that the + symbol is placed on the 21st square of the grid (background map is square 21).



A. T. H. Scoreboard 2017

In this puzzle on page 12, the Team symbols relate to the five main Mess themes.

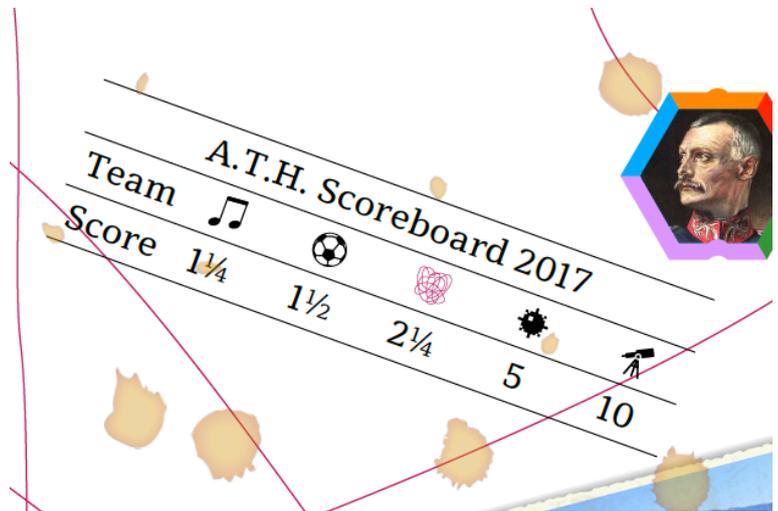
Messiaen	1 ¼
Messi	1 ½
Mess	2 ¼
Messines	5
Messier	10

The five scores total 20 (a score)

We have tried categorizing each of the hexagon images into these five groups.

Another possibility is that it somehow relates to the pieces of music, or scores.

This possibly gives the hunt title, or simply the five-letter word Pablo.



Title of the Hunt?

In the Document Properties of the hunt PDF, the title is listed as (7,4,4).

This is in the form of a crossword clue length.

If there is a method in the hunt to discover this name we have not found it.



Ideas as to what the title could be:

“Messing with Mess”

“Another Fine Mess” – Laurel & Hardy

Or altered to “Another Mine Mess”



Photographs
from Messing
and Conyfield
Wood.



Festive
wreath



Footpath
Sign



Gate/fence into
Conyfield Wood



Tree



Blue post



Pond



Bird boxes near pond



The fallen tree, with x marks the cleft



The M1 card, Ace of Spades



After finding the treasure box and taking the M1 card, Nick replaced the box and left a Christmas card on top of it, wishing the next finder a Messy Christmas!
On a subsequent visit the card had disappeared.

Video of finding the well-hidden box in the tree cleft:

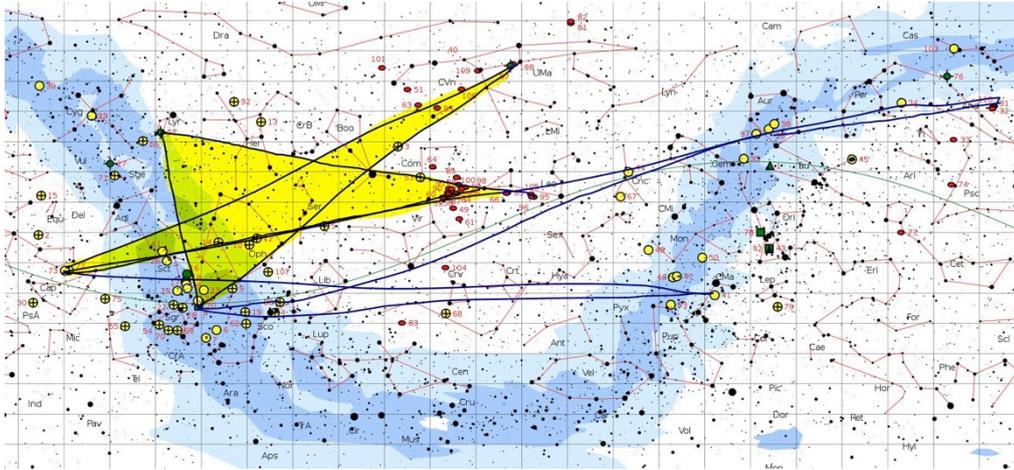
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Fhcxpt3kIpUllS5BJGUtWhZauplwnEZl>



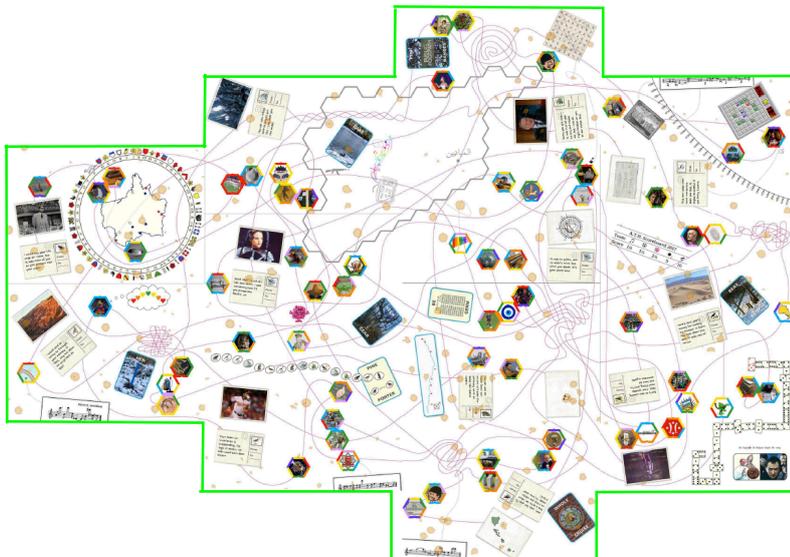
Miscellany.

1. The face picture of the card we picked up from the treasure box differs slightly from the poster. The top heading has been removed revealing 3 more stars with trails.
2. The 12 Messier objects listed in encoded astronomical coordinates on the 8th blue-edged card, can be joined together on the star map to make a drawing of a 5-pointed star with tails!

On our second trip to the site, we also looked for comets!



3. The overall shape of the assembled 12 pages looks a bit like a Christmas tree on its side. This is possibly a hint at the fallen tree.



Research notes & links.

A: French Heraldry:

Blue, white and red symbols are the same as the colours on the French flag (Le Tricolore)

Blue Squares: French towns beginning with Mess

Messei: <https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messei>

Messery: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messery>

Messigny-et-Vantoux: <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messigny-et-Vantoux>

Messimy: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Messimy>

White Ovals: Places Olivier Messiaen lived <http://www.oliviermessiaen.org/messbiog.html>

Avignon: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avignon>

Ambert: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ambert>

Grenoble: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grenoble>

Nantes: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nantes>

Red Hexagons: Birthplaces of French astronomers who discovered Messier objects.

Laon: Pierre Mechain https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pierre_Méchain
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laon>

Coutances: Guillaume Le Gentil https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guillaume_Le_Gentil
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coutances>

Rumigny: Nicolas-Louis de Lacaille https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicolas-Louis_de_Lacaille
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rumigny,_Ardennes

Belgentier: Nicola- Claude Fabri de Peiresc https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicolas-Claude_Fabri_de_Peiresc
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belgentier>

B: Postcard messages:

Page 1: "I would send an envoy to Portugal your majesty. In fact, why not allow me to go back at last?"

Pêro da Covilhã to Queen Eleni of Ethiopia.

DOM connection uncertain, could be Dom Rodrigo da Lima

With the counsel of Covilhã, Queen Eleni sent Mateus as an ambassador to the King of Portugal
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleni_of_Ethiopia

When the Portuguese embassy under Rodrigo de Lima, which included Ethiopian ambassador Mateus and missionary Francisco Álvares, entered Ethiopia in 1520, Covilhã wept with joy at the sight of his fellow-countrymen. It was then forty years since he had left Portugal, and over thirty since he had been a prisoner of state in Ethiopia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pêro_da_Covilhã

Page 2: "Good idea! I'll see if I can land there. I was wondering how I'd get across the Pacific. xx" - Amelia Earhart to Eugene Vidal

Amelia Earhart was a FLIER. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amelia_Earhart

Vidal suggested that landing strips be built on tiny, uninhabitable Howland Island as the largest point of land along the planned route within range of both New Guinea and Hawaii. Earhart agreed with the suggestion and made the request for its use.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eugene_Luther_Vidal

Page 3: "You can tell Mr Hitler from me: no-one will take him seriously while he looks like Charlie Chaplin."

Lady Astor to Joachim von Ribbentrop

Lady Nancy Astor was an MP. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nancy_Astor,_Viscountess_Astor

In the 1930s, she held several clandestine lunches with the German ambassador Joachim von Ribbentrop. At one she reportedly criticised Hitler for looking like Charlie Chaplin.

<https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=H4pXDAAAQBAJ&pg=PA193#v=onepage&q&f=false>

Page 4: "Don't be late coming back. Your sandals need filling and I'm not keen to immolate myself."

Bharata to Rama

Bharata and Rama were BROthers. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bharata_\(Ramayana\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bharata_(Ramayana))

When Rama refuses to return from his exile to assume the throne, Bharata obtains Rama's sandals and places them on the throne as a gesture that Rama is the true king

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramayana>

Bharat returned disappointed, but with a promise that Ram would have to return to Ayodhya immediately at the end of 14 years or else Bharat would give up his life by immolation.

<http://susanskrit.org/b-for-bharat.html>

Page 5: "I would buy your life with all I have, but it was noble of you to give another man your water."

Leicester to Philip Sidney

EARL of Leicester. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Dudley,_1st_Earl_of_Leicester

And if I could buy his life with all I have to my shirt I would give it

<https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=CyKqoDDf3AsC&pg=PA380&lpg=PA380&dq=The+Life+of+Sir+Philip+Sidney++%22I+would+give%22+%22Philip+Sidney%22&source=bl&ots=tjXUujsxi2&sig=LGKCV0QyFZpU8ZKFvGzq-thx-IA&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjtxv2mvcbYAhWHAsAKHc5XD80Q6AEILjAB#v=onepage&q=The%20Life%20of%20Sir%20Philip%20Sidney%20%20%22I%20would%20give%22%20%22Philip%20Sidney%22&f=false>

According to the story, while lying wounded he gave his water to another wounded soldier, saying, "Thy necessity is yet greater than mine". https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_Sidney

Page 6: "Sorry you got wet it was nice of you to try to rescue me, but it was all right because we got to the North Pole."

Roo to Eeyore

TOY from Winnie the Pooh. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roo>

Winnie the Pooh, Ch 8, In which Christopher Robin Leads an Expedition to the North Pole.

<http://www.winnie-pooh.org/expedition-north-pole.htm>

but it is Eeyore who has come up with an actual practical solution, as he is dangling his tail into the water so that Roo can grab hold of it and pull himself to safety.

Christopher Robin asks Pooh where he got the pole from, and Pooh says that he just found it, and Christopher Robin announces that it is not just a pole, it is the North Pole!

Page 7: "This one looks even more monstrous than the last. It might be helpful if you bring a torch."

Hercules to Iolaus

Hercules was a HERO

2nd Labour, to kill the Lernean Hydra. <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/Herakles/hydra.html>

Hercules called on Iolaus to help him out of this tricky situation. Each time Hercules bashed one of the hydra's heads, Iolaus held a torch to the headless tendons of the neck. The flames prevented the growth of replacement heads

Page 8: "It was no goblin, and it wasn't mine. But since you asked, it's gone home now."

Elliott to Tyler - (Elliott to Tyler)

From the film ET- ALIEN ("Phone home")

Tyler: Hey, Elliott, where's your goblin?

Michael: Shut up.

Steve: Did he come back?

Greg: Well, did he?

Elliott: Yeah, he came back. But he's not a goblin. [blurts out] He's a spaceman.

Steve: [mockingly] As in extra-terrestrial?

http://www.moviequotedb.com/movies/et-the-extra-terrestrial/quote_28999.html

Page 9: "Man, just for you I'll put a shirt on. When we visit the White House I'll even wear a suit!"

J R Smith to Barrack Obama

J R Smith, Cleveland Cavaliers basketball team, **OFF-GUARD** position.

"Tell J.R. and everybody to put on a shirt," he said at the time. "You can't be just walking around without a shirt like that for a whole week. Now Shumpert's taking off his shirt, Kyrie's taking off his shirt. Come on man." - Obama

<http://ftw.usatoday.com/2016/11/yes-jr-smith-wore-a-shirt-to-the-white-house>

"I want to give a special thanks to J.R. Smith's shirt for coming today," he said. "I wasn't sure it was going to make it."- Obama. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/reliable-source/wp/2016/11/10/president-obama-teases-cleveland-cavaliers-j-r-smith-about-his-preference-for-going-shirtless/?utm_term=.dca5d1f49aa9

Page 10: "Your paper on invariants is outstanding; its logic is poetic. No man could have done better."

Albert Einstein to Emmy Noether

GR = Einstein's theory of General Relativity. https://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/General_relativity

Much of Noether's work in the first epoch of her career was associated with invariant theory
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emmy_Noether

Albert Einstein wrote "pure mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas," and he described Noether as a master of the craft. She was "the most significant creative mathematical genius thus far produced since the higher education of women began,"

<https://www.perimeterinstitute.ca/poetry-logical-ideas>

Page 11: "You can take refuge here as long as you like. I just hope you like metal."

Monsignor Laboa to General Manuel Noriega

MGR = abbreviation of Monsignor

When Noriega took refuge in the Apostolic Nunciature of the Holy See (diplomatic quarter), deafening music and other psychological warfare tactics were used to convince him to exit and surrender himself.

after ten days of psychological harassment, the Papal Nuncio (ambassador) Monsignor Laboa had threatened to revoke Noriega's sanctuary if he didn't surrender to the United States

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Nifty_Package

The music of KISS was played at Manuel Noriega while he hid from the US

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/music/what-to-listen-to/panamas-military-dictator-manuel-noriega-defeated-rocknroll/>

Page 12: "Here's this year's money for holding my brother in Rome. You look after him and I'll stay out of Venice."

Bayezid II to Pope Innocent VIII

Bayezid II was the 8th **OTTOMAN** Sultan. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bayezid_II

Prince Bayezid arrived at Constantinople on May 21, 1481 and was declared Sultan Bayezid II. The sultan promised not to attack Rhodes, Rome, or Venice, as well as to pay Cem's allowance of 40,000 ducats to the Pope (10,000 of which were earmarked for the Knights of Saint John), in return for the prince's incarceration. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sultan_Cem

C: Postcard pictures:

These pictures each relate to one of the 12 movements from Messiaen's work "Des Canyons aux Étoiles..." https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Des_canyons_aux_étoiles

Page 1: Postcard picture shows Bryce Canyon

https://www.tripadvisor.com/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g143015-d146990-i148421114-Sunrise_Point-Bryce_Canyon_National_Park_Utah.html

"Bryce Canyon" is the 7th movement.



Page 2: Postcard picture shows Jodie Foster in a scene from the film "Contact". In the film a signal was received from outer space.

<https://www.theguardian.com/film/2011/aug/17/jodie-foster-hunt-aliens-donation>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contact_%281997_American_film%29

"Interstellar Call" is the 6th movement.



Page 3: Postcard picture shows 2 semiquavers on Aldebaran. Page 3 is a star map showing part of the Taurus constellation. The two semiquavers are placed exactly on the stain blot that represents the star Aldebaran.



"The resurrected and the song of Aldebaran" is the 8th movement.



Page 4: Postcard picture shows John Wayne in the film "The Greatest story ever told", with the words (hello God). John Wayne's only line in the film is "Awe, Truly this was the son of God"

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Greatest_Story_Ever_Told

https://gcaggiano.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/tumblr_lh0zrap9jx1qajllro1_500.jpg

"Cedar Breaks and the gift of Awe" is the 5th movement.



Page 5: Postcard picture shows Gregory Peck in a scene from “To Kill a Mockingbird”. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/films/2016/04/19/to-kill-a-mockingbird-film-review/>



“The Mockingbird” is the 9th movement.

Page 6: Postcard picture shows Robin Williams in a still from video of The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson, 17/11/2011

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvPxRyIWWX8>



“The white-browed robin-chat” is the 4th movement.

Page 7: Postcard picture shows the words “Your Secret Name”

In the Enid Blyton story “Tell me my name” a thrush helps the gnome discover the goblin’s secret name.

https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=tCyTCwAAQBAJ&pg=PT253&lpg=PT253&dq=tell+me+my+name+enid+blyton+thrush+gnome&source=bl&ots=Z5iSlyAVfK&sig=9dz1C7BH0vVw_C6s7Rw8RBh8cco&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjSpOegisbYAhWFDsAKHYXhCcMQ6AEIRzAL#v=onepage&q=tell%20me%20my%20name%20enid%20blyton%20thrush%20gnome&f=false



“The wood thrush” is the 10th movement.

Page 8: Postcard picture is a depiction of Messiaen’s horoscope, his astrological chart https://www.astro.com/astro-databank/Messiaen,_Olivier



“What is written in the stars” is the 3rd movement.

Page 9: Postcard picture shows the Hawaiian Islands. Omao, leiothrix, elepaio, shama are birds found on Hawaii. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_birds_of_Hawaii



“Omao, leiothrix, elepaio, shama” is 11th movement.

Page 10: Postcard picture shows Adam Jones, of the Baltimore Orioles

<https://www.baseballessential.com/news/2016/01/28/how-adam-jones-became-my-favorite-player/>



“The Orioles” is the 2nd movement.

Page 11: Postcard picture shows a scene from the film “The Matrix”. Zion is a

fictional city in the Matrix films. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zion_%28The_Matrix%29
<https://i.ytimg.com/vi/dE4ZOYVKwfQ/maxresdefault.jpg>



“Zion Park and the celestial city” is the 12th movement.

Page 12: Postcard picture shows a picture of Death Valley, Mojave Desert.

http://focus.tracinglight.com/photos/353/Death_Valley_Sand_Dunes/



“The desert” is the 1st movement.