



The Dilemma

An Inspector Gawper Mystery Trail



Welcome to this Town Team Mystery trail which starts and ends at the station in Bottom Mossley. It takes about 80 minutes walking on pavements, the canal towpath (which can be muddy) and up steps and steep streets. Along the trail you will find clues which will help solve Inspector Gawper's dilemma.

Follow the trail and answer the questions. Each answer is exactly the number of letters shown. The answers to all the questions are in the specimen box which you can use at the end of the trail to decide who committed the crime.

The Crime and the Suspects

Someone has been stealing the plants put out each year by the Town Team. Inspector Gawper has three suspects - Mary who is very fond of plants, Chris who has connections with lots of groups who like plants and Tony who has links with the horticulture trade. Good Luck with your detective work!!

The Trail

Start on Manchester Road in Bottom Mossley opposite the Railway Station. Stand under the Clock facing what was the District Bank and is now a doctors' surgery.

1) What name is written under the clock? _ _ _ _ _

Walk to your left to the top of Queen Street and notice the Blue Plaque facing you. This was the place where discharged and often injured soldiers from WW1 came to for help and soup.

2) What was this place commonly called ? _ _ _ _ _

Walk back past the District Bank/ Surgery and look out for the red metal pillar box which belonged to Queen Elizabeth II.

3) What time is the collection on Saturday? _ _ . _ _ _ _

Keep walking. Cross Waggon Road and keep on. At the corner of Bashums Alley you will come to a house with a name which sounds as though it was built in a swamp.

4) What is the name of this house? _ _ _ _ _

Turn back. Retrace your steps and walk down Waggon Road and over two bridges. The first is over the River Tame from which Tameside gets its name. This river joins the River Goyt near Stockport to become the River Mersey which flows into the sea at Liverpool. This is the bridge where three counties (Lancashire, Cheshire and Yorkshire) met in the days before Greater Manchester was created in 1974. The second bridge crosses the canal.

Notice the New Bridge Inn ahead on your left. Its name celebrates the building of a new railway bridge which connected Saddleworth with Stalybridge. The railway line closed in the 1960s and the bridge was demolished later. The railway station

on the line still exists as a private house on Station Road, next left after the pub.

Cross the road into Croft Row, Audley Street. Continue to the end and go left down the passage to the canal towpath where you turn right.

The Huddersfield narrow canal was opened in 1796/7 but the tunnel through the Pennines, the longest, highest and deepest canal tunnel ever built, at just over 3 miles, did not open until 1811. The canal has 74 locks. The railway opened in 1849 taking most of the canal trade.

Look across the canal to the houses built on Milton Island which was the site of the magnificent Milton Mill built by the French company - Mossley Woolcombing and Spinning Ltd.



Keep on the towpath passing bridge number 89 until you get to the next bridge. What number do you think that will be?

As you go on, look at the spectacular chimney of Woodend Mill, originally built in 1850.



It is now full of small businesses and artists' studios. Cross over the canal and walk down the cobbled alleyway and over the bridge into the mill yard.

5) What is written on the west facing side of the mill's water tower? _ _ _ _ _

With the Hatch Bakery on your right and the Allotment Cafe to your left walk up the hill to Manchester Road. Turn left And after 25 metres cross the road and climb the steep cobbled path at the side of the brick-built Drill Hall.



Pause to examine the blue plaque on the Drill Hall commemorating the volunteers who marched from here to the Railway Station on their way to fight in Northern France in WW1.

Continue up the steep steps over the railway line and turn right and then left into New Earth Street, probably the steepest street in the town.

At the top turn left into Carrhill Road. Notice the red brick building on your left.

6) Whose HQ is this? _ _ _ _ _

Cross the road and look at the red metal box belonging to Queen Elizabeth II

7) Who made this box and where? Write the maker's name and where it was made _ _ _ _ _

Carry on on this side of the road and notice a large building set back. Look at its faded sign.

8) Which county would you be in if it was before 1974 when Greater Manchester was created? _ _ _ _ _



Walk further up the road passing The Shears which was once a public house and stop in front of the Old School House. This is where the Chartists used to meet. They fought for the right to vote in elections and many were killed and injured in the Peterloo Massacre in Manchester in 1819.

When safe to do so cross over the busy road and walk down Egerton Street to Stamford Road. Cross over into Hanover Street. Notice the Blue Plaque on the wall of the first house on the left. It tells the story of Mossley's most important building for culture, enjoyment and education, which served as a military hospital in WW1 for injured Belgian soldiers who were patients there.

Walk up and along Hanover street and at the end of go through the gate and down the steps into the park. Turn left. Walk down the path using the handrail if slippery and down the steps into the carpark. Notice the picnic area on the left and admire the views up the Chew Valley



9) What is the name for the colours of the tables? _ _ _ _ _

Walk past Mossley Hall, notice the blue plaque on the wall and stop for a moment to admire the view over the town once full of cotton mills.

At the noticeboard turn right and down to the park gates.

10) What is the name of the gatekeeper's lodge? _ _ _ _ _

Leave the Park, turn left and walk down Old Brow until you reach the Railway Station. Have a well earned cup of coffee in one the cafés or bars whilst you work out "who dunnit."

The Specimen Box

Rainbow Soldiers Club Machin Scotland Bog House

Studios to Let Brambles Yorkshire 11.00 am

Scout and Guide Town Council

Check your answers with the ones in this box

Find the names of the thief by taking letters from the answers to the questions. For example 9,3 is the 3rd letter of the answer to question 9.

1,1 2,2 1,4 8,1 _ _ _ _

7,2 7,6 5,4 _ _ _

10,4 9,2 10,2 8,1 _ _ _ _



We welcome feedback. Please email to pmdowthwaite@gmail.com to let us know what you think or if you would like to try more Town Team trails