



## *John Harris quiz introduction*

Jon So I'm in the Bar Bonen then with John Harries, who's the quiz-master. You have a quiz here every month.

John Every month.

Jon In fact, you've got one coming up tonight, John, so I might have a word with you after that quiz.

John Yes, okay. That's fine.

Jon Now how long have you been setting quizzes?

John Oh, about three or four years here.

Jon And you obviously enjoy it, don't you?

John Yes, although as I've got older and the years have gone by, it, it gets harder.

Jon Yep.

John It takes four days preparation, four half days.

Jon Yep. And you like to do your own questions don't you?

John Yeah, I do my own ... I look at various sites, but I no longer print them off, I do my own now.

Jon Right. You use Google, for example, just to check your facts.

John Yes. Google, Wikipedia, anything ... books.

Jon And you don't use books like the one I have in front of me here?

John No I don't have those sort of books, funnily enough ... (inaudible) and then I may think of something, okay, I may use – tonight the colour purple, I'll find a colour.

Jon Ooh, you've given me a clue there. Right.

John And I'll just go off and find ten reasonable questions on that particular colour. It may not involve the colours as such, it may be something like a red letter day (so it's red) or you might be seeing red, or ... there's all sorts of ways ...

Jon I remember a previous quiz of yours, you had a fiendish round – it was on equipment used in speciali.... specialised trades, like shipbuilding, and we didn't win that one.

John No. Well, adze, and, um, um gimlets, and awls, and sail-makers' tools are not for general knowledge. But, a little bit of fun.

Jon We knew bugger all. That'll be edited out. So do you watch many quizzes on television?

John No. I watch very little tv. I watch sport, films, play, uh, play DVDs on them. I dislike television intensely. French tv I watch occasionally – again sport and the news programmes, but that's about it – news, sport, current affairs, nature programmes ...

Jon So when you watch your nature programmes then are you always on the look-out for quiz questions?

John I might write one down as I go, it'll give me an idea. There's, there was a fascinating one last night on the islands that Britain still owns – they're part of our old ... well, not really Empire as such, because hardly anybody knows about them. Places like Pitcairn.

Jon That's near New Zealand, is it?

John Yeah ... well, it's actually near nowhere. It's 4,000 miles from anywhere, but they had trade routes. They didn't have enough food on the island so they had to import it. Even in Polynesian days, 400 years ago. How did they do that? How did we navigate?

Jon Yeah. With great difficulty. But they managed.

John But with some expertise, because they survived.

Jon Exactly.

Jon And their descendants are still there.

Jon Yes.

John Beautiful at coral atolls, which are almost untouched by human foot.

Jon Now then, John, I'm just going to turn the tables on you ...

John Go on.

Jon ... and I'm going to ask you some questions from this book, called *The Pub Quiz Book*.

John That's cruel.

Jon This is completely unprepared ...

John Right, absolutely.

Jon And your first questions is this: What does the place suffix *kirk* signify?

John Kirk? Normally a church.

Jon That's correct. What are the grades of proficiency in judo called?

John Well, the colours of belts are usually known as dan.

Jon Correct. Who was the first Hapsburg Holy Roman Emperor?

John That would be Charlemagne.

Jon It's actually Rudolph.

John Too late.

Jon Who said, 'A week is a long time in politics'?

John I think that was Wilson.

Jon It was indeed. Which word, the Italian for 'air', is used to describe a song solo with instrumental accompaniment?

John Area.

Jon Correct.

John Aria.

Jon Aria. What is the artist Picasso's first name?

John Pablo.

Jon And the last one: Who played the murderer in *Kind Hearts and Coronets*?

John Oh that was Alec Guinness.

Jon It was not, it was Dennis Price.

John Ah, of course, it was. Ha, ha.

Jon But you've scored quite a few and you've passed. John, good luck with your quiz, and we'll speak to you ...

John Thank you very much.

Jon We'll speak to you afterwards.



