

'MASTERMIND' CHALLENGE

Last spring the *Mastermind* quiz programme included a contestant whose chosen specialist subject was 'The Life and Works of Henry Williamson'. Peter Lewis painstakingly made a transcript of this section of the programme (quiz master Magnus Magnusson), broadcast by the BBC on Easter Sunday, 15th April 1990.

1. What was the North Devon village that Williamson called Ham in his books where he made his home in 1921?
2. What was the meaning of the name Tarka which Williamson gave to the hero of his otter book?
3. What was the name of the wisest heron of the Two Rivers which frequented the same waters as Tarka?
4. What was the name of the book that Williamson discovered in a second-hand bookshop that was a major influence on his work?
5. Into which Brigade did Williamson enlist when he joined up in the summer of 1914?
6. Which book developed from a proposal made in 1928 that Williamson should provide captions for lino-cuts of the First World War?
7. In *The Patriot's Progress*, what was the first crime John Bullock was charged with after missing a parade?
8. What name does Williamson give to Lewisham, the birthplace of Phillip Maddison, the hero of *A Chronicle of Ancient Sunlight*?
9. What actually caused the death of the legendary Bloody Bill Brock, the invincible badger?
10. Who was the first illustrator, with wood engravings, of *Tarka the Otter*?
11. What natural disaster is the climax of Williamson's last novel in the *Chronicle* series?
12. In a foreword to the 1936 edition of *The Flax of Dream*, whom did Williamson salute as 'a great man whose life-symbol is a happy child'?
13. What was the name of the sea-trout that lost its life trying to protect himself and Salar against the otters?
14. Which editor of *The London Mercury* did Williamson believe was mainly responsible for him receiving the Hawthornden Prize for *Tarka the Otter*?
15. In *Tarka*, what name was given to the only true otter-hound in the Cheriton pack?
16. What was the bird painted on Williamson's motor-cycle that was the symbol of his Nature Club?
17. Which First World War battle is described in the third part of *A Fox Under My Cloak*?
18. In *Chronicle*, what did the Vicar tell young Phillip was the reason the Socialist Oak tree was dying?
19. In *Tarka*, where in the White Clay Pits did the dog-otter Marland Jimmy particularly like to play hide-and-seek in his old age?

Answers by 1.11.90, please. Would anyone care to devise a further similar quiz?