

## **Castle of Horrors?**

**Constanza Hack, Arts and Culture correspondent**

Residents of the small village of Gremlinton, North Yorkshire were surprised to learn that their medieval castle has been taken over by an American movie star best known for his gruesome roles in box office horror hits.

It seems Caspar Blue has bought the historic pile as a romantic hideaway. Since the mysterious death of his wife in 2009, Caspar has been a prominent member of the global jet set, romancing a series of high profile and beautiful women from the movie world.

Now the film star turned successful businessman is quitting the glittering parties and social whirl of Hollywood for a sleepy village in the back of beyond.

Neighbours are intrigued by this sudden change of lifestyle that they attribute to Caspar's new love interest, Belle Theakston, a native of Gremlinton and a frequent guest in Palace Place, the picturesque home of ex-Beastie Boy, Belmondo.

The residents of Gremlinton, the local press, the church hall committee and a busload of passing French tourists are eager to attend tonight's question and answer session with a panel of the village's famous residents.

### **The Master of Ceremonies:**

Give yourself a name and a role in the village.

Familiarise yourself with the names of the characters who will be part of tonight's panel. (Do this by circulating around the group and asking for details). You need to find:

Caspar Blue

Belle Theakston

Belmondo Beastie

Constanza Hack

Reginald Nosy

Philomena Parker

You must introduce each panel member by name and tell the audience what their jobs are or were.

You will then ask for questions from other panel members. Most but not all characters have a question to put.

You may have questions from the general public attending the meeting too – they will raise their hands when they have something to ask and you should respond asking them to give their names before their questions.

Make sure that you don't let the questioning get out of hand or become too boring. Invite answers from particular participants.

Wrap the session up with appropriate 'thank yous'.

<p><b>Caspar Blue</b></p> <p>Movie star</p> <p>Widower</p> <p>Native of LA</p> <p>Likes: ??????</p> <p>Dislikes: ?????</p> <p>Reason for being in Gremlinton: ????</p>	<p><b>Belle Theakston</b></p> <p>Recording artiste and dancer</p> <p>Single</p> <p>Native of Gremlinton now living in Santa Monica, US.</p> <p>Likes: ????????</p> <p>Dislikes: ????????</p> <p>Reason for being in Gremlinton: ????????</p>
<p><b>Belmondo Beastie</b></p> <p>Retired rock star</p> <p>Divorced</p> <p>Native of London</p> <p>In Gremlinton to get away from it all.</p> <p>Maintains contact with some people from the 'old days'.</p> <p>Particularly fond of Belle; suspicious of Caspar's motives.</p> <p>Question: Who is the neighbour who has a telescope trained on the house?</p>	<p><b>Constanza Hack</b></p> <p>Freelance journalist</p> <p>26 years old</p> <p>Aspires to work on national daily</p> <p>Currently living with mum and dad in Gremlinton.</p> <p>Questions to ask at the event: ????????</p>

<p><b>Reginald Nosy</b></p> <p>Retired banker</p> <p>Married</p> <p>Lives at: 10, Palace Place, Gremlinton</p> <p>Likes: stargazing</p> <p>Wants to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why Belmondo came to Gremlinton</li> <li>• If Caspar Blue has any family in the UK</li> <li>• If Belle Theakston likes the village or prefers Santa Monica.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Philomena Parker</b></p> <p>Born and bred in Gremlinton</p> <p>Married to Fred the local handyman/estate manager</p> <p>Lives in Pease Cottage on the Green</p> <p>Wants to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A bit more about the celebrities' likes and dislikes</li> <li>• If there'll be any photos in the local paper.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Les Français</b></p> <p>Touristes.</p> <p>Aucun mot d'anglais.</p> <p>Passe par Gremlinton en route pour l'Ecosse.</p> <p>Veut comprendre un peu de ce qui se passe.</p>	<p><b>The church hall committee</b></p> <p>In charge of the village newsletter.</p> <p>Needs as much information as possible to write an article for the next edition.</p>
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### **The French tourists.**

You have no idea what is going on but one of your party has an English French phrase book. You're going to use this to ask a question at the meeting. Whoever asks the question will have to say who they are and what they do before putting their question all in English and just using the phrasebook. Any member of the group can pass (French or English) comments throughout the meeting or ask other questions in English (by raising their hand).

**Qu'est-ce que vous faites ?**

What do you do?

**Quel est votre travail ?**

What's your job?

**Je suis...**

I am...

**Je fais de la/du...**

I do...

**Je travaille...**

I work...

**dans**

in, inside

**Vous parlez anglais ?**

Do you speak English?

**étranger, étrangère**

foreigner

### **The church hall committee**

Work as a group to collect the information you need for the newspaper.

This will include profiles of the characters on the panel as well as what is said at the meeting. Divide these tasks up in the group.

Whilst the meeting is in progress you may wish to check facts by raising your hand and asking for clarification. You may be asked to give your name so invent one for yourself.

<b>C'est intéressant !</b> It's interesting! <b>exactement</b> exactly	
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