

# KNOCKOUT QUALIFYING MATCHES THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2025

## QUESTIONS BY THE TIVIOT AND THE ARMOURY

### First Verbal Round

- As of 17 February 2025 which Greater Manchester MP is Leader of the House of Commons?  
**Lucy Powell** (Manchester Central)
- The Blue Hour* is the latest novel by which author, famous for writing a worldwide best-selling novel in the 2010s?  
**Paula Hawkins** (author of *The Girl on the Train*)
- Based at a former WW2 RAF site, which post-graduate-only university's main campus in Bedfordshire is unique in Europe for having its own airport?  
**Cranfield**
- Which unit of measurement becomes a stretch of water with an 'M' at the front, a lifting device with 'W' at the front and something easy to do with a 'C' at the front?  
**Inch**
- Native to Turkey and the Caspian Sea region, the mouflon is thought to be the ancestor of most modern domesticated animals of which genus?  
**Sheep** (Ovine) **see note 1**
- Edd Kimber was the first winner in 2010. Georgie Grasso won last year. Which TV show?  
**Great British Bake Off**
- Bizarrely, the European Rugby Union Challenge Cup is currently held by a team based outside Europe. In which country are the holders located?  
**South Africa** (The Sharks, from Durban) **see note 2**
- Which is the smallest member of the thrush family of birds found regularly in the UK? Approximately 700,000 migrate here each winter.  
**Redwing**
- Who reached number five in the UK singles chart in 1977 with *Good Morning Judge*?  
**10 CC**
- Which Scottish Football League team play home games at the Balmoral Stadium in Aberdeen?  
**Cove Rangers**
- Since 2011 Philip Mould has appeared in all twelve series of which TV programme?  
**Fake or Fortune**
- If you ordered *carciofi* from an Italian menu, which vegetable would you expect to be served?  
**Artichokes**
- Luciano Pavarotti and Plácido Domingo were two of 'the Three Tenors'. Who was the third?  
**José Carreras**
- Fingal's Cave, made famous by Mendelssohn's *Scottish Symphony*, is on which island? **see note 3**  
**Staffa**
- Which name is shared by a large town in Scotland, New Zealand's fourth most populous city and the capital of a British Overseas Territory?  
**Hamilton** (capital of Bermuda)

16. The navicular bone is found in which part of the human body?  
**Foot** (do not accept 'ankle' or 'toe')
17. Celebrating its 100th birthday this year, which political party currently has four MPs in the UK parliament?  
**Plaid Cymru**
18. *Fraxinus excelsior* is the Latin name for which British tree?  
**Ash**
19. The *Kamig* compact SUV is produced by which car manufacturer?  
**Skoda**
20. Name a year in the life of the Scottish poet, Robert Burns.  
**1759 to 1796**
21. Which town in the Republic of Ireland was called Kingstown from 1821 until 1920?  
**Dun Laoghaire**
22. Who wrote the novel *The Napoleon of Notting Hill*?  
**G. K. Chesterton**
23. The battles of Blore Heath in Staffordshire and Ludford Bridge in Shropshire, took place in which conflict?  
**Wars of the Roses**
24. Sulgrave Manor in Northamptonshire is the ancestral home of which famous politician?  
**George Washington**
25. *Cantaloupe Island* and *Watermelon Man* are compositions by which jazz musician?  
**Herbie Hancock**
26. Who became the first Plantagenet monarch of England in 1154?  
**Henry II**
27. Despite its southern European name, heritage and marketing, Britain's best-selling draught lager brand of 2024 is brewed in Edinburgh and Moss Side, Manchester. What is it called?  
(Birra) **Moretti**
28. Which musical fantasy, set in the Land of Oz and starring Ariana Grande and Cynthia Erivo, was the fifth-highest-grossing film worldwide in 2024?  
**Wicked**
29. Which major event took place in the UK on 15 February 1971?  
**Introduction of decimal currency**
30. Mainly found in the Basque region and adjacent parts of Northern Spain, *pintxos* are similar to what, found elsewhere in Spain?  
**Tapas**

**First Written Round** **There is a theme**

(Forenames and surnames are required. Links to the theme may form part of another word or words)

31. Born in 1941, how is the singer Ernest Evans better known? He has been married to Miss World 1962 for over 60 years.  
**Chubby Checker**

32. Which bowler lies fifth on the all-time list of West Indian Test Cricket wicket takers with 285 dismissals, behind only Walsh, Garner, Marshall and Gibbs?

**Kemar Roach** see note 4

33. Which actor played the villain Mr. White in the films *Casino Royale* (2006 version), *Quantum of Solace* and *Spectre*?

**Jesper Christensen**

34. *Shirley* and *The Professor* are lesser-known works by which author?

**Charlotte Brontë**

35. *The Angel's Share*, *The Wind that Shakes the Barley* and *My Name is Joe* are films made by which director?

**Ken Loach**

36. Name the third studio album by Captain Beefheart and his Magic Band, released in 1969. It was ranked 60th-best album of all time by *Rolling Stone* magazine in 2012.

**Trout Mask Replica**

37. Which British politician died of a heart attack at a conference in North Macedonia in October 2024?

**Alex Salmond**

38. Which 876 ft-high Pennine hill has a tower built in 1863 to commemorate the marriage of the future King Edward VII to Princess Alexandra.

**Hartshead Pike**

39. Gerlachovský štít in the High Tatras, is the highest point of which 1500 km-long range of mountains?

**Carpathians**

40. *Paling in t' Groen* is a traditional Flemish dish. What is its main ingredient?

**Eel** (in green herb sauce)

**Theme: in acknowledgement of the current Pisces astrological period, all answers contain the name of a British freshwater fish** (chub, roach, perch, char, loach, trout, salmon, pike, carp and eel)

## Second Verbal Round

41. In the sixth century, which monk was sent from Rome to England to convert the pagan Saxons? He became the first Archbishop of Canterbury.

**St Augustine**

42. At 519 metres, Dunkery Beacon is the highest point on which English moorland?

**Exmoor**

43. What is the name of the brightest star in the constellation of Orion?

**Rigel**

44. What is the common English name for the *Salix babylonica*, an ornamental tree introduced into the UK in the eighteenth century?

**Weeping willow**

45. Who is the author of the *Inspector Montalbano* novels?

**Andrea Camilleri**

46. Named after the inventor, for what purpose would you use a *zamboni*?

**It's a machine for resurfacing ice rinks**

47. Which Shakespeare play has the subtitle *King of Britain*?  
**Cymbeline**
48. Cardano, Tether, Ripple and Ethereum are all types of what?  
**Bitcoin** see note 5
49. Referencing a 1967 number one, what was the title of George Martin's 1979 memoir?  
**All You Need Is Ears**
50. Which element, number 32 in the periodic table, was the first to be named after a country?  
**Germanium**
51. Which American-born singer and dancer, who died in Paris in 1975, had a pet Cheetah called Chiquita?  
**Josephine Baker**
52. During the reign of which monarch did Great Britain adopt the Gregorian calendar?  
**George II (1752)**
53. The news website Tortoise Media has recently acquired ownership of which Sunday newspaper?  
**The Observer**
54. Who wrote the music for the Tim Rice musical *Chess*?  
**Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus** (full names not required, first names acceptable)
55. Cape York is the northernmost mainland point of which country?  
**Australia**
56. When Charlie Chaplin married for the fourth time, which playwright became his father-in-law?  
**Eugene O'Neill**
57. In which county was the Sutton Hoo treasure found?  
**Suffolk**
58. Which town hosted the 1924 Winter Olympics?  
**Chamonix**
59. Starting in Leeds, the A64 ends at which coastal town?  
**Scarborough**
60. Electrum is a naturally occurring alloy of silver and which other metal?  
**Gold**
61. Who is the current Secretary of State for Education?  
**Bridget Phillipson**
62. Invented in New Zealand, what proprietary name is given to the pastime of rolling down hills inside giant transparent balls?  
**Zorbing** (non-proprietary names include globe-riding, sphering, orbing, but these don't count for points)
63. Into which sea does the River Po flow?  
**Adriatic Sea** see note 6
64. Which British cathedral contains the thirteenth century *Five Sisters* window?  
**York Minster**
65. Which political figure published a memoir in 2020 with the title *Unspeakable*?  
**John Bercow**

66. The Mahaweli Ganga is, at 208 miles, the longest river in which island country?

**Sri Lanka**

67. Also called Bingley or Waterside Terriers, which dogs are named from the northern English valley of their origin?

**Airedales**

68. The current holders of the Webb Ellis Trophy are South Africa. In which year might this cup next change hands?

**2027** (next Rugby World Cup)

69. Name two of the three John Steinbeck novels which are set in Monterey, California, and often described as "comic".

Any two from: ***Tortilla Flat*, *Cannery Row*, *Sweet Thursday***

70. The ubiquitous Greene King beers are brewed in which Suffolk town?

**Bury St Edmunds**

## **Second Written Round** There is a theme

**In the answers, theme word spelling may differ OR may be part of another word**

71. Which Graham Greene novel examines the relationships between the central characters Maurice Bendrix, Sarah Miles and Henry Miles?

***The End of the Affair***

72. Which family-run cider company is located in Somerset, between Taunton and Wellington?

**Sheppy's Cider**

73. What was the name of the travelling wine salesman and amateur detective who featured in eleven short stories by Dorothy L. Sayers?

**Montague Egg**

74. What is the term for the vertical division between panes in a window or casement?

**Mullion**

75. Which town in County Waterford, on the Blackwater River, is the birthplace of the scientist Robert Boyle (Boyle's Law), and the travel writer Dervla Murphy?

**Lismore**

76. What is the official residence of the monarch in Scotland?

**The Palace of Holyroodhouse or Holyrood Palace** (accept either)

77. Which garden bird, particularly fond of niger seeds, has a distinctive red face with a black cap and black around the eyes?

**Goldfinch**

78. Which Donovan song starts with the line '*I'm just mad about saffron*'?

***Mellow Yellow***

79. One of his best-known works, what was Wilkie Collins' fifth novel, published in 1860?

***The Woman in White***

80. Which red sandstone sea stack is the tallest in the UK, and was first climbed in 1966 by a team that included Chris Bonington?

**The Old Man of Hoy**

**Theme is islands around the British Isles** (Fair, Sheppey, Eigg, Mull, Lismore, Holy, Inch, Yell, Wight, Man, Hoy)

## Spares

- 19-year-old Toby Roberts won Britain's first ever gold medal in which sport at the 2024 Paris Olympics, only the second Olympiad at which the sport has featured?  
(Sport) **Climbing**
- The British Labour Party and FC Bayern Munich were both founded on today's date in which year?  
**1900**
- In the 1989 Tom Hanks film *Turner and Hooch*, what breed of dog is Hooch?  
(French) **Mastiff or Dogue de Bordeaux**
- Harrow School was founded, over a century after Eton, under a charter granted by which monarch?  
**Elizabeth I**
- '*Come a little bit closer*' is the opening line of which Neil Young song?  
**Harvest Moon**

## Notes

- The question asks for the genus, so an even better answer is *Ovis*.
- The correct name of this competition is the EPCR (European Professional Club Rugby) Challenge Cup.
- Fingal's Cave* forms part of Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture* rather than his *Scottish Symphony*.
- Roach has taken 284 test wickets. He is fifth in the list, behind Walsh, Ambrose, Marshall and Gibbs. Joel Garner is sixth.
- The correct answer is 'cryptocurrency', of which Bitcoin is a specific brand.
- It would have been better to mention that the required answer is an arm of the Mediterranean – as the question stands, 'Mediterranean' would be an acceptable answer.