



## Official TenGrand\_IE8 Clue Answers

To solve the puzzle you had to find the elements of the URL where the \$10,000 was located. By solving each clue, you could create a list of seemingly random answers. Solve enough correctly and you would notice some answers repeated themselves or tied together. Revisiting disparate unsolved clues, would allow you to resolve them to also match one of the more common answers. After a while, you should have seen several words occurring a lot. These were the key words that made up the secret URL.

Steps were taken to prevent people unfairly abusing the game by scanning for the URL before clues had been released for all four key words. Everyone deserved an equal chance of solving the clues through logic and search without being cheated by someone who didn't have the spirit of fairness and fun.

In addition, there were clues that led to a password required to access the site and claim the \$10,000 prize money.

Throughout the competition, players often asked why there were so many clues pointing to the same answers, eg private or fast. Firstly, not everyone was able to solve all the clues. Some people were unable to solve many of them. Had we provided just one or two clues to a keyword, these pivotal clues could have remained unsolved within the competition timeframe. Secondly, the reappearance of certain answers is part of the method of solving the puzzle. The internet is a big place and it's easy to get lost down many a rabbit hole. Repetition was used to help players realise they were on the right path.



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If you are reading this, the competition has probably ended and someone may have won the \$10,000. If it was you – congratulations! If not, well played. We hope you enjoyed the game. These clues were created to entertain you throughout the game and (hopefully) point you in the right direction. Along the way, you most likely found the internet is a massive and marvellous place of free information. That's what this game was all about. Now that the game is over, feel free to message us on Twitter @TenGrand\_IE8 and tell us your thoughts. Thank you for playing.

– The TenGrand\_IE8 Cluemaster

**Clue 1:**

*3000 Upside Down*

3000 in Roman numerals is MMM. Upside down it becomes WWW. This signifies the beginning of the URL.

**Clue 2:**

*FbWiFnRg*

Separate upper and lower case to reveal FWFR has been put into Microsoft's new search engine 'bing'. That is, do a bing search for FWFR and you will find the Four Word Film Review. This site provides film reviews in just four simple words. Just like the URL you are searching for has four simple words. There is also a reference to film which relates to later clues. A search of the site will also yield a movie titled "A Lousy Ten Grand" which is purely coincidence. Ten grand is certainly not lousy. Just ask the winner. ☺

**Clue 3:**

*You are now watching 370211931299*

The phrase "You are now watching" applies to eBay. The number is an eBay item number. That item is a book titled "Buried Treasure and How to Find it." This simply refers to the nature of solving clues and doing internet searches in order to find the buried treasure.

**Clue 4:**

*New clue: a predatory fish being earnest*

Broken into two parts, the first part being "new clue:" and the second part being the clue itself. This subtly indicates that if you solve the clue, the first part of the clue is most important.

In the sense of being sincere, another word for 'earnest' is 'frank'. If the fish is being earnest, it could also be said to be a 'frank fish'.

Some research on bing will reveal a list of potential predatory fish: barracuda, sturgeon, oscar, pike, etc. Trying each fish in 'frank fish' and binging each combination reveals the name of a character in the UK TV comedy series "Dad's Army" - Private Frank Pike.

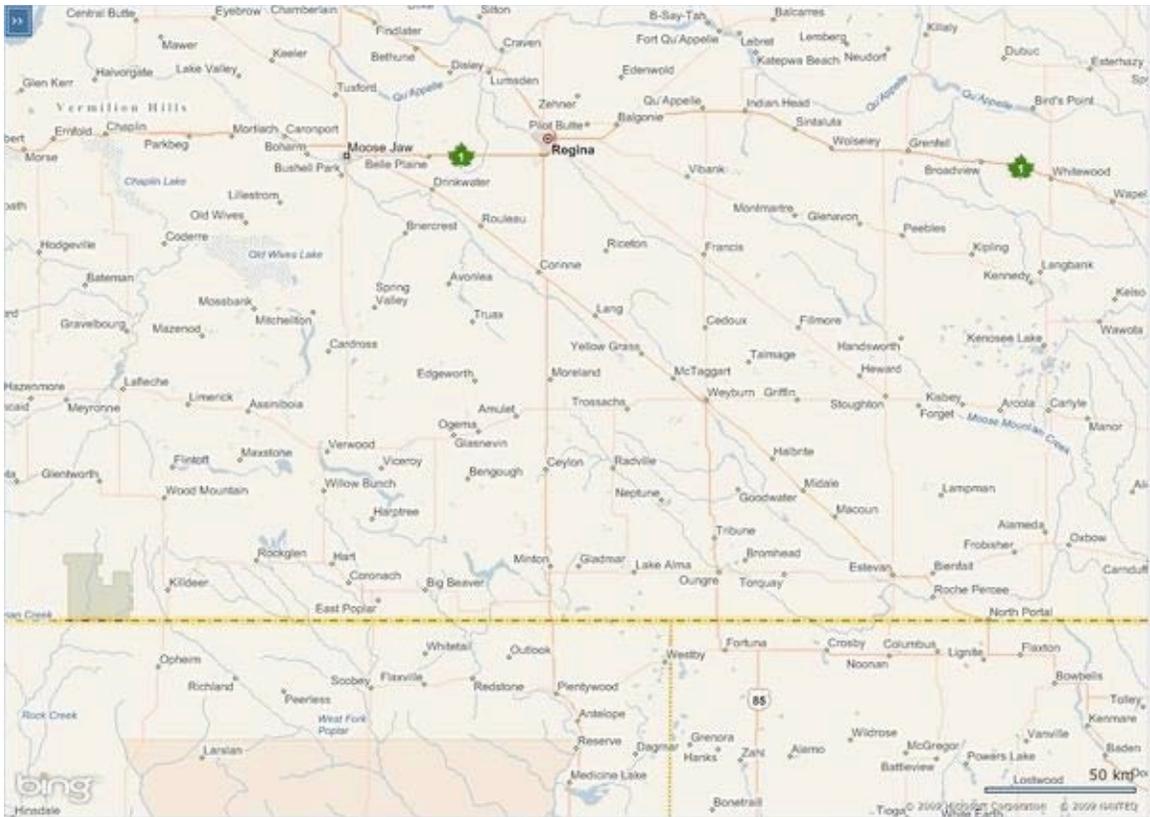
The first part of which (ie. The "new clue:" part) is "private". This is one of the four key words. The inclusion of "new clue:" also indicates that this is the first clue based on one of the four key words.

**Clue 5:**

*The image map*

This clue serves several purposes. Firstly, lining up this location in bing maps and zooming in to the very centre will reveal the tiny town of "Forward". This is a homonym of "four word", a reference to the four key words.

The image is also of the area Saskatchewan in Canada which will relate to various other clues to follow and plays a vital role in the game much later.



The area also contains a town called "Outlook", which provides further amusement as it is also a well-known Microsoft product.

**Clue 6:**

*Use a crowbar to open the tun*

Not only a subtle metaphor for the game in which you must break the code to access the prize, this clue is a cryptic play on words. To use a crowbar is to pry. Another word for tun is vat. Together you have "pry vat", a corrupted form of "private", one of the four key words.

**Clue 7:**

*Jobiska made a drink for Ian. Or Arthur.*

The name Jobiska appears in the poem "The Pobble with no Toes" by Edward Lear. In it, Aunt Jobiska makes a drink of lavender water. Ian Lavender, also known as Arthur, was an actor on the UK TV comedy "Dad's Army". He played the role of Private Frank Pike. This reiterates clue 4 and points to the word "private".

**Clue 8:**

*GI v Texas Ranger*

This clue can be expanded to be GI (Joe) v (Walker) Texas Ranger, two well-known fictitious characters. This reveals Joe Walker, another character in the UK TV comedy "Dad's Army" who was of the rank "private".

The v which commonly signifies 'versus' is used here to also subtly indicate the pointed chevron of the rank of private. This will reappear in Clue 9.

**Clue 9:**

*Image of painting*

A Bing image search using items from the painting such as "three guards smoke", will reveal the painting is "A Guard Room Interior, with a Soldier Blowing Smoke in the Face of His Sleeping Companion, a Third Looking On" by 17th century Dutch painter Gerard ter Borch. The astute observer will notice there are some changes in our version of the picture. A crowbar now leans against the barrel (also known as a vat). This is a reference to Clue 6 which solves into the word "private". Our picture also features arrow chevrons on the guard's sleeves, a reference to Clue 8 and an indication of the rank of private.

Despite popular and wild theories, there are no other clues to be found in this image.

This image, and the three chevrons, play a vital role in the game much later.



It should be noted, metatags were stripped from this image before it was uploaded, so any appearance of tags (savoury or otherwise) are a result of the image being hosted on third party sites. Interesting.

**Clue 10:**

*Domino player gets all messed up*

A famous player by the name of Domino was Fats Domino, the piano player of the 19XX's. If you mess up his first name, you can find the word "fast", one of the four key words.

After these first ten clues, it is possible to deduce that the URL might be [www.\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](http://www._____.com).com (or .com.au)

**Clue 11:**

*Only eat half your cereal*

Cereal is commonly eaten at breakfast. By only using half this word, you find the word "fast", one of the four key words.

**Clue 12:**

*Thanks, if you find one of four brothers, you may find two.*

This clue refers to the film Saving Private Ryan, starring T. Hanks in which his character must find one of four brothers during WW2. By deducing this, you will actually have found two of the key words, that is, two of our four brothers - private and safe.

**Clue 13:**

*The final remark on the fishbowl is not for Jack Elam*

On the internet, the most common place for remarks is on blogs. A search on the net will reveal that "the fishbowl" is the name of a blog. The use of "final remark" in the clue also means the "last word", indicating one's last words at the time of their death. Jack Elam, a US western actor, passed away on 20 October, 2003. A search through the archives on the Fishbowl blog will find that the last remark on that date, made at 11.10pm, was titled "The right words in the right order". This indicates that the four key words have a specific order that must also be deduced.

**Clue 14:**

*Crack it*

This simple clue not only speaks of the game of solving clues, but also indicates a safe, which can be cracked in order to access the money inside. This reveals one of the four key words, "safe".

This clue also relates to Clue 15.

**Clue 15:**

*L19R1L6R5*

The Ls and Rs indicate a safe's combination lock, a reference to one of the four key words, "safe". Applying the instruction from Clue 14, it is also a code you must crack. By replacing the number with the equivalent letter in the alphabet (1=a, 2=b, 3=c, etc), you decipher the word "safe".

**Clue 16:**

*Folderwebcamopenfolderfolderdogearfolderdocumentopenfolderfillingcabinetdocuments.jpg*

The file descriptor “.jpg” refers to images. This is a hint to replace the words with images of the words, and you get: 

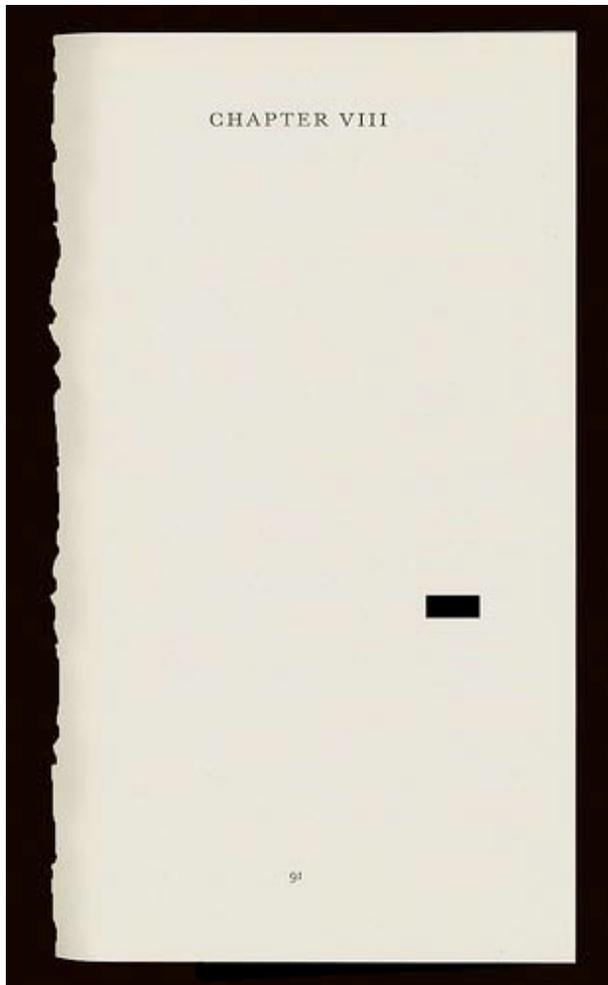
This is the common PC font ‘Wingdings’. When converted to any alphanumeric font, it reveals 0910203154. Apply the image file descriptor again and do a bing image search for 0910203154.jpg will reveal only two images, both are security safes, indicating one of the four key words, “safe”.

Astute observers will have noticed that TenGrand\_IE8 is now following one name on Twitter – Flickr. This indicates that Flickr is important as detailed in the following clues.

**Clue 17:**

*Now you know how to greet people in...*

This phrase is found on the popular website Flickr when you log in. If you can only see it when you log in then, logically, TenGrand\_IE8 must have their own Flickr account. A people search on Flickr reveals “TenGrand\_IE8” does indeed have an account. Viewing TenGrand\_IE8’s Flickr page shows an image has been uploaded.



The image is of a right-hand page from a book. All the type has been removed except the page number "91" and the heading "Chapter VIII". There is a small rectangular hole in the page. The image is titled ISBN978-0-14-103768-4. ISBN codes apply to published books and every edition has a unique ISBN. A search for this code (either online or at your local bookstore or library) will reveal the 2008 Penguin edition of Oscar Wilde's "The Picture of Dorian Gray". By printing out the Flickr image at a size that perfectly matches the book and placing it over Chapter VIII on page 91, the hole will reveal the word "private". Chapter VIII (8) also subtly refers to IE8.

The image also has various tags, most of which only help in a Flickr image search. One indicates that this image is for Clue 17. Another is the number 0822222752. A Bing search for this number will reveal that it is the ISBN code for another book titled "Third" by Wendy Wasserstein. This indicates that the word revealed by the book page is the third word in the URL.

The author "Oscar Wilde" is also a playful link to many bloggers' incorrect theories that the predatory fish in clue 4 is an oscar. You might call this a "red herring." ☺

**Clue 18:**

*B0013X21AK up the world's largest river*

A Bing search will reveal that the world's largest river (by volume of water) is the Amazon. A search on the popular shopping site Amazon.com for the code reveals a DVD titled "How to use Flickr". This indicates that you should use Flickr. A search on Flickr for TenGrand\_IE8 will reveal an account holding the image described in Clue 17.

**Clue 19:**

*Life's philosophies, slogans, news and rules*

A Bing search for this phrase reveals a blog titled "Four Magic Words" again indicating the need for four key words. The reference to "magic words" can also intimate the phrase "open sesame" that Aladdin used to open the door to the hidden treasure.

**Clue 20:**

*Flick to the right page and a picture tells a thousand words minus nine-hundred and ninety-nine*

By combining "flick" and R (for right) this clue refers to the website Flickr. A search on Flickr for TenGrand\_IE8 will reveal an account holding the image described in Clue 17. Of course, that picture is a page from a book that will reveal 1000 words minus 999 words, that is one word. The key word "private".

**Clue 21:**

*At school, view the bell from the hill and say, "Esse quam videri"*

The Latin "Esse quam videri" means "to be, rather than seem to be". While this is a subtle reference to the all new IE8 being great, a Bing search will show it is also the school motto as supported by the start of the clue. The rest of the clue indicates three important words - view, bell and hill - all indicating a school in Bellevue Hill, NSW. That school is Cranbrook, a "private" school.

**Clue 22:**

*Dive into mark because Ray Hnatyshyn died*

This very odd sounding clue is solved by a Bing search for Ray Hnatyshyn to reveal he was a Canadian politician born in Saskatchewan (linked to clue 5) who died on 18 December 2002. Another Bing search for "dive into mark" reveals a blog by this name. Access the blog's archives and the entry on 18 December 2002 is titled "The right ones in the right order" - an instruction that the order of the key words is imperative.

**Clue 23:**

*24-dc1 in your letterbox*

The word "letterbox" is never used to describe email (which is always referred to as a "mailbox" or "inbox"), therefore it must be the good old fashioned kind. It's almost ironic that it is called a letterbox because it has numbers on it, not letters. Using a simple number/letter cipher (a=1, b=2, c=3, etc), 24-dc1 is decoded as x-43a. A Bing search will reveal this is the world's fastest plane, alluding to "fast" as one of the four key words.

**Clue 24:**

*Famous street found in the Greek alphabet*

If you didn't already know, a Bing search reveals the word "alphabet" is formed from the first two letters (and the first two words) of the ancient Greek alphabet, alpha and beta. By simply considering the first two letters and the first two words of this clue, you decipher Fa(mous) st(reet) as "Fast", one of the four key words.

**Clue 25:**

*Break out through drive chain food*

When reversed this string of words reads "food chain drive through out break". Each pair of words links as a new word or phrase: food chain, chain-drive, drive-through, throughout, and outbreak. Following this pattern, the word that links "break" back to "food" is "fast", as in breakfast and fast food. This missing link is one of the four key words.

**Clue 26:**

*World fury soon*

This is a simple anagram of "only four words" as a reminder that there are four key words in the secret URL.

**Clue 27:**

*With an American Panorama and a Rock 'n' Roll Lullaby, you get Lost in Love. It's Food for Thought when it's so common.*

A Bing search reveals this clue contains four song titles by the band 10cc. The clue words being structured like song lyrics and the final words of the clue "it's so common" indicate that an important word is common to each of these songs. Find the song lyrics on the internet and spend some time cross referencing them to see which words are in all four songs. Not counting words like 'the' or 'and', the only words that feature in all four songs are "you" and "fast", one of which has occurred in other clues and must therefore be one of the four key words.

**Clue 28:**

*Colaptes auratus takes to the water on the AM-70*

*Colaptes auratus* is the scientific name for a type of woodpecker, more commonly called a Flicker. AM-70 is the naval signature for the USS Flicker. These two mentions indicate participants should check Flickr.com again for a further clue. On the TenGrand\_IE8 Flickr page, a video clip has been uploaded. The video, playing backwards, is an excerpt from Kylie Minogue's "Slow". It is playing backwards to indicate the opposite of slow, ie. "fast", one of the four key words. The video also has the word "first" flash up as the diver enters the pool, indicating the word "fast" is the first word in the secret URL.

A Flickr tag reads "Clue 27" even though this is clue 28. This indicates a correlation between clues 27 and 28 – both lead to the same key word. Another tag reads "Jonah ate franks but was not called by his name". The words "Jonah ate franks" are an anagram for Jonathan Frakes, the actor who played Will Riker in Star Trek: Next Generation. As the tag clue indicates, he was often not called by his name, but by another name, a nickname – "Number One". This also tells that the word "fast" is the first word in the secret URL.

**Clue 29:**

*1227.985.15.10.97*

What looks at first like an IP address is actually a date (15.10.97) following an important figure (1227.985). Bing reveals that on October 15 1997, the ThrustSSC set a new land speed record of 1227.985km/h, making it the fastest land vehicle ever. One of the four key words is "fast".

**Clue 30:**

*Ascham and Brigidine tied for bronze*

Ascham and Brigidine are Australian private schools, highlighting the key word "private". The mention of bronze refers to medals awarded for third place, intimating that "private" is the third word in the URL.

**Clue 31:**

*Say "C'mon" to 9,989,559 Aussies*

This clue refers to the classic Australian chant "Come on Aussie". A Bing search for this phrase and the number 9989559 leads to a webpage with the headline "No Dot Au". This lets participants know that the secret URL does not have a ".au" suffix.

**Clue 32:**

*I took back a mocha today without making little sounds*

"Took back" cryptically suggests reading part of the clue backwards – in this instance, the "mocha today" read backwards becomes "yadot ahcom". The reference to subtract the "little sounds" is the "ya" and "ah" so that "dot com" remains. This is a reference to the secret URL's suffix.

**Clue 33:**

*In verb, know what is at 40.758 up and 73.979 to the left*

This cryptic clue requires participants to have learned a little from the structure of previous clues and techniques used to solve them. Firstly, "40.758 up and 73.979 to the left" refers to longitude and latitude co-ordinates with "up" being North and "left" being West, as they are positioned on the compass. A search will reveal that the Rockefeller Plaza, New York, is at 40.758°N 73.979°W. The actual address is 30 Rockefeller Plaza, colloquially known as 30 Rock. This is also the name of a popular TV sitcom.

The more cryptic opening words of the clue are an anagram (as seen in previous clues, eg. 26 and 28). "In verb know" can be rearranged as Kevin Brown, an actor in 30 Rock. He plays the role of Dotcom.

Yes, that's a lot of work to find something participants may have already known, but it's all part of the fun.

**Clue 34:**

*Decide on the little song from Palermo*

Palermo is the major city of the Italian region of Sicily. In Italian, "little song" can be translated to mean a sonnet. Therefore a little song from Palermo is a Sicilian sonnet, a traditional form of poetry with a specific structure. A Bing search for "Decide on the Sicilian sonnet" reveals a page about sonnets, particularly the sentence – "If you decide on the Sicilian sonnet, use only four words". As instructed by the clue, you must use only four words.

**Clue 35:**

*It's not what you're looking for, but those smarter than a 9th grader will find it... amusing*

There are two solutions for this clue.

Firstly, a Bing search for "smarter than a 9th grader" will result in a quiz page with the opening sentence "smarter than a 9th grader! DUN DUN DUNNNNNNNNNNN!!!!".

Performing another Bing search for "DUN DUN DUNNNNNNNNNNN" results in the URL [www.ten-grand.com](http://www.ten-grand.com) which is probably a spoof of this competition. In very large grey type, it reads "TEN GRAND COM HOME OF YOUR FAVORITE DUDES".

While amusing, it is NOT the page you are looking for, as stated by the clue.

Since there are a plethora of parody sites for this competition, we thought it'd be fun to lead to some of them and point out they are fake. ☺

Secondly, the clue is reminiscent of the TV quiz show "Are you smarter than a 5th grader?". The transposition of 9 instead of 5 in the phrase is an indication of Clues 5 and 9, which require a transposition to solve later clues.

**Clue 36:**

*He misses US orchestras at the Proms, but at times he attends a fair in the heart of London*

A Bing search for "fair in the heart of London" results in the London Map Fair. A Bing search for "misses US orchestras at the Proms" results in a UK Times Online article by columnist Richard Morrison. A third Bing search for "Richard Morrison Map Fair" reveals an article he wrote with the title "Beware of maps contrived to lead you astray." This is trying to tell participants to be careful of reading too much into clues, particularly the map image of Clue 5, because that clue is very important for the final stage of the game and requires special attention.

**Clue 37:**

*The premiers of South Africa keep a step ahead of free extremists*

This is a classic cryptic clue format. "Premiers" indicates the first letters, in this case S(outh) A(frica). "Extremists" indicates the extremities (edges), in this case F(re)E. Having one set of letters "keep a step ahead" of the other set is to put them in front, resulting in SAFE – one of the four key words.

**Clue 38:**

*You better watch out, you better not cry in USA on 14th October 2008*

The opening of this clue is two lines from the classic Christmas song "Santa Claus is coming to town". A Bing search for "Santa Claus is coming" and the date written in American format "10-14-2008" will yield many results. As indicated by the clue "USA", the fifth result is a story on the news website USAtoday titled "The Final Word: Watch Out". This is a hint that the clues to the final key word are coming soon.

**Clue 39:**

*He may be an insider, but Doug needs to update his technology on V3I3*

A Bing search on the obvious words in this clue, "insider", "Doug" and "technology" reveals a website titled Technology Insider featuring a contributor called Doug Ziewacz. Anyone viewing this site will notice it is released in numbered Volumes and Issues. The clue refers to V3I3, meaning Volume 3 Issue 3. A search of the site for this issue will result in a story by Doug Ziewacz titled "Cause I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For – 4 keys to success for a successful online search." The title is several hints. Firstly, that many treasure hunters have still not found the right answers to many of the clues, and a successful online search requires the 4 key words.

Interestingly, Doug's article compares online search engines. Since it was written in March 2006, it predates Bing and therefore should be updated, as indicated by the clue sentence. Thanks Doug.

**Clue 40:**

*There is no neat census in a surf gear binder*

This is a three-fold cryptic clue. Firstly, there are anagrams. "Neat census" can be resolved into "sustenance". The odd phrase "surf gear binder" can be rearranged into "burger and fries". This indicates "fast food", but as suggested by the clue, take the sustenance out of fast food, ie. remove "food", and you are left with "fast". Yes, very difficult.

**Clue 41:**

*Don't follow your date across the river from Gilbert Fraser reserve*

This clue has two answers. Using Bing maps will reveal the Gilbert Fraser Reserve is in East Fremantle in Western Australia. It lies on a river. Across the river is Riverside Road. At number 26 (the date this clue was released - 26th of July) is the Red Herring Restaurant. As indicated by the clue, do not follow red herrings, as many in blog communities may be doing.

The second answer: if you don't follow your date across the river, then you head the other way. In that direction lies a school with the motto "Go Forward", a reference to not following false leads, the four words of the URL, and an indication to many community bloggers that the Saskatchewan map of clue 4 does indeed indicate "Forward" despite some wild, but interesting, theories. ☺

**Clue 42:**

*When starting your day at the café don't reach for the pepper*

More of a puzzle clue than a cryptic one. If you are not to reach for the pepper, then you could assume you must reach for the salt. By starting at "café" you must reach for "salt". This is the common word puzzle in which you change one letter to form a new word at each step. In this case:

CAFÉ

SAFE

SALE

SALT

This results in "safe" being the second word, as it is in the secret URL.

**Clue 43**

*Comic book marvel is followed by modern guilt for giving leather*

Especially given recent blockbuster films like Spiderman and X-men, the most famous man in comic books is Stan Lee, who works for Marvel Comics. "Modern Guilt" is the title of an album by pop artist Beck. If this follows the comic book marvel, you have Stan Lee Beck, or "Stanley Beck". He was the actor, more commonly known by his middle name as James Beck, who played Private Joe Walker in the UK TV sitcom "Dad's Army", indicating the key word "private". The final part of the clue alludes to the traditional anniversary gift of leather, which is given for the third anniversary. This indicates the word "private" is the third word in the URL.

**Clue 44**

*What kind of horse has feathers?*

While the immediate thought might be "Pegasus", the winged horse from Greek mythology, this is not correct. Following the movie-theme of previous clues, particularly Clue 12 "Thanks, if you find one of four brothers, you may find two", Clue 44 is actually a very obscure nod at another four brothers of film, the classic Marx Brothers whose fourth film was "Horse Feathers". One of the most famous comedic scenes in the movie features Groucho trying to enter a private area of Huxley College while Chico is under instructions to watch a door and not let anyone in unless they say the password. This will be the final step in the game – a password protected site.

**Clue 45**

*Twitpic movie poster*

A picture of a rare movie poster with the title obscured and the three main actor's names jumbled nonsensically. The movie's promo-line is "...Belongs to the Winner!" To deduce what the movie title is, participants can either laboriously scour movie poster sites, unscramble the three names to conduct a search, or try a search on the one small but legible name of co-star "Dennis Christopher". His filmography on IMDB.com (Internet Movie DataBase) is extensive. Carefully pouring over this list will eventually reveal the correct title – "The Last Word". This is another hint that the last keyword has not been revealed yet and is coming soon, plus the player who cracks the final password, could certainly be the winner.

**Clue 46**

*New Zealand has more species of these types than any other country*

New Zealand has more species of flightless bird than any other country. This answer will relate to Clue 50.

**Clue 47**

*To win, you must first face the burden of losing*

A bing search will reveal the song "Buried Alive by Love" in which the first line is "the burden of losing rests upon my shoulders." This clue is telling participants, that to win, they must face what rests upon shoulders. In the context of this game, the only shoulders we have seen are those of the three soldiers in the picture of Clue 9. Players should recall that the picture had been retouched to include insignias on the shoulders of the three soldiers. These insignias are important indicators, as will be revealed in later clues.

**Clue 48**

*Is Thomas a brute?*

This clue requires participants to answer the question, either as "Thomas is a brute" or "Thomas isn't a brute." A bing search of the latter will reveal this line belongs in a short story by Rudyard Kipling, called "Soldiers Three". The line is from Chapter 8, "In the Matter of a Private".

Here, several answers come together. Chapter 8 signifies Internet Explorer 8. The chapter title refers to one of the four key words, "Private". The title of the story refers to the three soldiers in the picture of Clue 9, who were also bore the insignia of privates. "Private" is also word number three in the secret URL. And lastly, Kipling is a town on the map image of Clue 5. Once solved, this clue shows special attention should be paid to the two images of Clues 5 and 9, linking them together with coming clues.

**Clue 49**

*The pigeon, the coot and the martin.*

These are three birds. Although, they are not flightless as Clue 46 discussed, they are relevant. They are the surnames (misspelled) of three actors, Walter Pidgeon, Robert Coote, and Harry Martin, who all appeared in the 1951 film "Soldiers Three" based on Rudyard Kipling's short story. This is a link to Clue 48 to help direct players to the story.

**Clue 50**

*Some birds can, some birds can't. Theirs didn't. Ours does.*

This clue, linked to the flightless birds of Clue 46, and the flying birds of Clue 49, uses the metaphor of non-flight vs flight to draw a distinction between two other "flyers". The reference to "ours" indicates we are talking about Internet Explorer 8. Which clearly flies. Fast. As opposed to the Space Shuttle Explorer, which is a flightless replica that remains stationary on the tarmac at Kennedy Space Center. This clue reminds of IE8's functionality while also tying together Clues 46, 49 and 51.

The appearance of birds on the bing wallpaper on this day is purely coincidental.

### **Clue 51**

*One went to Washington, St Louis and Philadelphia, the second went to the rafters, and the third changed his name and played among the birds*

This clue refers to three men with the same name and occupation. The US cities of Washington, St Louis and Philadelphia all feature in movie titles in which classic actor James (Jimmy) Stewart starred. Another actor, James Stewart, appears in the Australian TV series "Packed to the Rafters", a drama-comedy set in Australian suburbia. Another actor named James Stewart, changed his name to Stewart Granger to avoid confusion with Jimmy. In 1951, Stewart Granger played the role of Private Archibald Ackroyd in the film "Soldiers Three". His co-stars included Walter Pidgeon, Robert Coote and Harry Martin (whose surnames are all birds).

"Private" and "soldiers three" point participants back to the image of Clue 9, wherein lies the key to solving the puzzle.

### **Clue 52**

*Head North into the wild from the mines of Solomon. At the halfway mark, you'll find Thomas giving pointers.*

In this clue, "the mines of Solomon" is a reference to the classic story "King Solomon's Mines". This book has been made into a film several times. A cross reference of the actors featured in Clue 51 reveals the 1951 version of the film starring Stewart Granger who also starred in the 1953 film "The Wild North". Halfway between these two films in his bio is the film "Soldiers Three", which also starred the pigeon, coot and martin from Clue 49.

By scanning the book "Soldiers Three", one will discover chapter 8 is titled "In the Matter of a Private". This should stand out to participants due to the 8 (as in IE8) and the word "private". Reading this chapter will reveal the "Thomas" from Clue 48, who isn't a brute. In our game, Thomas is soldier three in the image of Clue 9. There are specific links between that soldier and the author, Rudyard Kipling, as will be revealed later.

### **Clue 53**

*Seeking-financial-freedom? Your auction ends at exactly 07-Aug-09 22:15:47 AEST*

The reference to an auction in this clue relates to the world's most popular auction site, ebay.com. The hyphenation of the first three words indicates that these words must remain hyphenated. A search on ebay will reveal that "seeking-financial-freedom" is a seller. Reviewing their list of current auctions will find one item that ends at the exact date and time indicated in the clue. It is a book "For Better or Worse" by Cyndi Kaplan.

"For Better" is a hint that key word four is "better".

Also, there is a Cyndi Kaplan School of Arts in Bellevue Hill, NSW. This is a link to Clue 21 about a key word, to indicate the connection between this clue and previously discovered key words.

### **Clue 54**

*0011 1 3063527601*

The "0011" is easily recognisable as an international dialling code. Searching online, or simply calling the number, reveals that it belongs to the "Better Business Bureau of Saskatchewan", located in Regina. Obviously this is a link back to the map of Clue 5, but this clue also links to Clue 53 with the word "better" - the final in the four key words.

**Clue 55**

*What a way to make a livin'*

While quirkily relevant to this competition, this clue is actually a line from the Dolly Parton hit song "9 to 5". This indicates that to "make a livin'" (ie. win the \$10,000), you must take Clue 9 (the painting of three soldiers) to Clue 5 (the map of Saskatchewan).

**Clue 56**

*A soldier's life for me!*

This line is from Chapter 8 of Rudyard Kipling's "Soldiers Three". It is another indication of the importance of three soldiers, privates, 8 and Kipling.

**Clue 57**

*Image of a fish with a sword in its mouth*

This image humorously indicates the word "Swordfish", the title of a popular film about hacking computer systems starring Hugh Jackman and John Travolta. The origin of the title is from the classic Marx Brothers' film "Horsefeathers", as previously featured in Clue 44. In that movie, it is the password required to enter Huxley College. Harpo, unable to speak, produces a sword and a fish. This is an indication that a password is required to gain access to the hidden page that contains the \$10,000.

**Clue 58**

*Part Four: Rust. 7414-7422. Hyphenations and abbreviations are one.*

A quick bing search reveals this clue refers to chapter four in the 1921 novel "Three Soldiers" by John Dos Passos. The solution here is to find words 7414 to 7422, counting hyphenations and abbreviations (contractions, acronyms and initialisations) as one word. The nine words are "Home, boys, home; it's home we want to be." Coming from the "Three Soldiers", this indicates the three soldiers in the painting of Clue 9 wish to return to their homes, as in the map of Clue 5.

It must be noted that many participants tried to find words 7414 to 7422 using digital means and attained many other incorrect results about "pink pyjamas" and "sitting up in bed." Digital word counts are mostly inaccurate, especially when the guide in this clue is to count hyphenations and abbreviations as one word. A manual word count was conducted by each of our team of 40 people, who unanimously arrived at the phrase being words 7414 to 7422.

### **Clue 59**

*The right man isn't a brute*

A link to Clue 48 in which the man in question is Thomas from Chapter 8 of Rudyard Kipling's short story "Soldiers Three". In this clue though, we have identified Thomas as the "right man". This refers to the painting in Clue 9. For the purposes of this game, we are naming the soldier on the right "Thomas". There is an important link between our Thomas, the home to which he wishes to return (Clue 58), and the author of "Soldiers Three", Kipling.

### **Clue 60**

*He's not your son, he's a soldier. Put him at ease. <http://tinyurl.com/4h5kxb>*

The tiny URL links to a video excerpt from the movie "The Dirty Dozen" on YouTube. In the clip, Donald Sutherland pretends to be a General inspecting troops. He stops and asks one GI, "Where you from son?"

As indicated by the clue, we must replace the word "son" with "soldier" in order to put him at ease.

A Bing search for this phrase reveals several instances in which the question "Where you from soldier?" is used to put GIs at ease. A Bing search for the phrase (including quotation marks) has a Wikipedia entry as the first result. We created this Wiki entry for the competition. It claims that you can ask a soldier this question to find out where he is from, or you can look at the chevron on his sleeve. This is a clear reference to Clue 9 in which we retouched private insignias on the sleeves of the three soldiers. As indicated in previously (Clues 55 and 58), Clues 9 and 5 must be brought together. This Wiki clue now indicates that the three arrow-shaped markers on the painting must be aligned to a place name. Clue 59 already reveals one soldier and the place name to which he should be aligned.

It must be noted that shortly after someone found this Wiki entry, they amended it to delete the pertinent part of the clue. The original Wiki entry can still be found in the history for that entry. However, there are enough clues along this line of thought so the omission of this clue is immaterial in the end.

### **Clue 61**

*Thomas belongs at the author's namesake*

Clue 59 indicates that Thomas is the man on the right of the painting in Clue 9.

Clue 48 shows that Thomas is a character from "Chapter 8: In The Matter Of A Private" in the short story "Soldiers Three" by Rudyard Kipling.

Clues 55 and 58 indicate bringing the picture of Clue 9 together with the map of Clue 5.

Clues 47, 52 and 60 tell participants that the rank insignias retouched onto the shoulders of the privates in the painting of Clue 9 are important markers.

Astute observers will have noted there is a town on the map from Clue 5 called Kipling.

Align the arrow insignia of the soldier on the right (Thomas) in the painting of Clue 9 so that it points to the town of Kipling.

## Clue 62

*Slip-ons will (re)direct you*

A search on Wikipedia for "slip-ons" results in the Wiki entry "Shoulder Mark (redirect from slip-on)". This entry is about the epaulettes on the shoulders of military uniforms that usually bear an insignia of rank, also called "slip-ons". This clue tells participants that the insignias on the shoulders of the soldiers in the painting from Clue 9 will direct them in finding the password, as indicated previously in Clues 47, 52, 60 and 61.

## Clue 63

*Oh, a virtue of our post*

The use of the first word should indicate to observant players that this clue is an anagram. When unjumbled, the correct answer is "our favourite photos", a reference to TenGrand\_IE8's Flickr account which now has two photos listed under "Favourites". They are titled "Arrows point the way" and "On a soldier's shoulders", obviously indicating that the insignias retouched onto the shoulders of the soldier's in the image of Clue 9 lead to the password.

At this time, players may also note a new video has been uploaded to the Flickr account. The video, titled "Like water that goes round and round", is of a dog chasing it's tail. This post refers to the Whirlpool blog that appears to be running in circles. It is friendly advice to those bloggers to not panic or try to bombard the password page with mere 'guesses' but to revisit previous recent clues to deduce the password. This entry also has the tag "Where you from \_\_\_\_\_?", a reference to Clue 60 to encourage players to put more thought into solving that line of thought which leads to our Wikipedia post (as indicated by this clue).

Astute observers will note below this video is a caption consisting of a single hyphen. This hyphen is a textlink to another Flickr photo titled "Nine over five", again indicating that the image from Clue 9 should be placed over the map from Clue 5 in order to solve the password.

It must be noted that this video was posted before a Whirlpool contributor falsely claimed to have found the password. Any similarities between that player's pseudonym and the content of this video is purely coincidental. Life's funny like that. ☺

## Clue 64

*Let us call them Tom, Dick and Harry, but not necessarily in that order.*

Everyone knows that the term "Tom, Dick and Harry" is used to name the anonymous. In the context of this game, the only three anonymous men are in the painting of Clue 9. We wish to call them Tom, Dick and Harry to be able to direct clues at each man specifically.

Clues 48, 59 and 61 have already revealed that the man on the right of the painting is Thomas (Tom). The other two must be Dick and Harry.

## Clue 65

*Richard is on the bucket brigade*

A search for bucket brigade will result in several meanings, but the one that should pique players' interest is the Wikipedia entry describing a "bucket-brigade attack" in cryptography or hacking. It is also known as "man-in-the-middle". This clue indicates that Richard (aka Dick from Clue 64) is the man in the middle of the painting of Clue 9.

### **Clue 66**

*This bird went from professional guest to halfway house, and his final scene is a point in the middle*

A Bing search will reveal a connection between various elements of this clue. Richard Bird was an actor in the 1930s and 40s, starring in "The Professional Guest" and "Halfway House". He died on 28 September 1986 in Regina, Saskatchewan.

Clues 47, 52, 60, 61 and 63 tell players to use the map (Clue 5) and the painting (Clue 9) together to line up the soldiers' insignias with towns.

As indicated by Clues 64 and 65, Richard (aka Dick) is the man in the middle of the painting from Clue 9. This clue tells players that this man's insignia must point to the town of Regina on the map from Clue 5, while the insignia on the man on the right (aka Tom) points at the town of Kipling (Clues 48, 59 and 61).

Once this is done, the insignia of the third man (aka Harry, on the left) will point at the password.

### **Clue 67**

*Woof-woof*

This ridiculously silly clue directs players back to the video of the dog chasing its tail on TenGrand\_IE8's Flickr page. The hyphenation is trying to get players to notice the hyphen underneath the video which is a text link to another image titled "Nine over five" as previously hinted at in Clue 63 – an indication to place Clue 9 (the painting) over Clue 5 (the map).

### **Clue 68 (unreleased)**

*March Borch's men into Moll's domain*

Before posting this clue, an image was added to TenGrand\_IE8's Flickr page. Titled "Take Tom, Dick and Harry North-West", that image is of Herman Moll's 17th Century map called "A new map of ye north parts of America, claimed by France". The map includes part of Canada with Saskatchewan in the North-West. The image is tagged "cartographer, geographer, mapmaker" to indicate the importance of a map in solving the game. As described in previous clues, we are calling the three soldiers in Borch's painting Tom, Dick and Harry. By taking them to the North-West, you would be taking them to Saskatchewan, as featured in the map of Clue 5.

This clue, much like the new Flickr posting, is for those who hadn't worked out from amongst the previous ten clues that the map from Clue 5 and the painting from Clue 9 need to be brought together. Herman Moll was a 17th century Dutch cartographer. Gerard ter Borch was a 17th century Dutch painter. More specifically, he painted "A Guard Room Interior, with a Soldier Blowing Smoke in the Face of His Sleeping Companion, a Third Looking On" from Clue 9. Players are instructed to take the three soldiers from the Borch painting into Moll's "domain", ie. maps, but more specifically the map from Clue 5.

### **Clue 69 (unreleased)**

*Harry's left dreaming of a gaoler's piano in Florida*

This clue provides two parts of the puzzle. Firstly, "Harry's left" indicates that Harry is the soldier on the left of the painting of Clue 9 (as featured throughout the last 10 clues), which is supported by the fact that this man is sleeping, ie. dreaming. Secondly, what do a gaoler, a piano and Florida all have in common? Keys. Harry is the key to unlocking the password.

### **The Finish Line**

About 65 days into the competition, a player appears to have worked out the password and claimed the prize. We are currently verifying that person's claim.

This was followed by a spate of players either sharing the password or working it out a few moments later. Some of them have also submitted their details to claim the prize in case the previous claimants are deemed ineligible according to the competition's Terms and Conditions.

### **The solution**

As described in the previous 12 clues, to deduce the password, players had to overlay the image of three soldiers (Clue 9) onto the map image of Saskatchewan (Clue 5).

Each soldier in the painting had a 'v' insignia on their shoulder. These had to line up with certain towns on the map.

The insignia of the soldier on the right (Tom, Thomas) had to line up with the name of the author of "Soldiers Three" - Kipling.

The insignia of the soldier in the middle (Dick, Richard) had to line up with the town that served as the final act for Thomas Bird - Regina.

The insignia of the third soldier on the left (Harry, Harold) then lined up with apparently empty space.

Viewing the image map's exact location in Bing maps allowed players to zoom in and find that there is indeed two tiny towns in that location. One of them was the password: Courval.