



ISLE SPY: ANSWER FILE



Clue 7: **Solved**



St Cross Lane
Stained Flagstones

St Cross Lane gets its name from St Cross Priory, which was built in 1120 and was finally dissolved in 1391.

Local legend says that two monks at the priory got into a fierce argument, leading to one grabbing a pair of scissors and stabbing the other in the chest.

As part of his punishment, the murderer was made to scrub the bloodstained flagstone until it was clean. His efforts were not successful. Centuries later the blood stained flagstone was put on display at Ye Olde Curiosity Shoppe in Holyrood Street.

Clue 8: **Solved**



One Holyrood
Shoes for Oxen

This was once the site of a blacksmith's shop run by Mr Old.

As well as shoeing horses, Mr Old was also shod the oxen that worked in the farms and breweries around the Island.

This is a difficult task as, unlike horses, oxen have cloven hooves that are split down the middle. This means that they need eight shoes instead of four. Oxen also do not like having their feet lifted off the ground, and a special stand was needed to hold the animal up during the shoeing process.

Evidence of blacksmithing survives in this area today and hundreds of shoes and nails were uncovered when restoration was recently carried out on the building.



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Clue 9: **Solved**



Watchbell Lane The Curfew Bell

During the late 1800s Edwin Snow was responsible for tolling the curfew bell at dusk and in the mornings at 7am in the winter or 6 am in the summer.

It was said that he was so reliable and accurate that many people in Newport depended on him. As well as this, he was also a member of the Newport Company of Chimers and the chief organ blower at St Thomas' Church.

Sadly Edwin died in 1899 following a sudden illness. The curfew bell rung by Edwin still hangs on the wall of Watchbell Lane.

Clue 10: **Solved**



Newport Minster A New Beginning

On the 11th February 1630 five marriages were recorded in Newport. The couples were Henry Bushell and Alice Cook, Edmund Marshall and Marye Mitchell, Walter Beare and Anne Green and Robert Gullafer and Joan Pie.

Marriage was just the start of the adventure for these couples. After the ceremonies were over, the newlyweds all boarded the ship Abigail that had stopped on the Isle of Wight before sailing to Virginia in the New World.

Ships continued to regularly sail to America and in 1634 Isle of Wight County was founded in Virginia.



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Clue 11: **Solved**



Newport Grammar School The Treaty of Newport

King Charles I was released on parole and stayed at Newport Grammar School for ten weeks to negotiate the Treaty of Newport in 1648. This treaty was to try to reach a compromise to bring an end to the fighting of the English Civil War.

Charles did make some substantial concessions, particularly over the control of the militia. However, in private, Charles admitted that he only agreed to take part in the discussions because he thought he might be able to use it as a chance to escape.

The negotiations failed and Charles I was taken to Hurst Castle, put on trial and executed the following year.

Clue 12: **Solved**



County Hall 'Tally Ho' Coaches

The 'Tally Ho' coaches were fast moving coaches used for transporting goods, such as corn. They were pulled by teams of four horses and their approach would be announced by a blasting horn, warning people to get out of the way.

The coaches would change to a different team at the Swan Hotel, now the site of the County Hall, and the four horses that were left behind would be led to the mill pond to drink and to cool their feet.