

## **BRIEFING** **at the Metropolitan Police HQ**

You are all police officers (detective constables/DCs) from Reading CID who are put to specific tasks. Find information about the place/the person(s) you have been assigned. Draw your scene (if possible!). Report to the other police and your superior at the Metropolitan Police Head Quarters, Detective Superintendent Finderup, about your findings.

- 1:           **Outside + the gatehouse:** p. 10, l. 36 – p. 12, l. 25  
(names of students)
  
- 2:           **The Garfields:** p. 12, l. 26 – p. 13, l. 29  
(...)
  
- 3:           **The Reads:** p. 13, l. 30 – p. 14, l. 13  
(...)
  
- 4:           **The other families:** p. 14, l. 14 – p. 15, l. 7  
(...)
  
- 5:           **Pangbourne Village:** p. 15, l. 9 – p. 16, l. 18  
(...)
  
- 6:           **The residents:** p. 16, l. 20 – p. 18, l. 17  
(...)
  
- 7:           **The staff + the children:** p. 18, l. 19 – p. 19, l. 22  
(...)

Do a good job – play the role!

Cheers – DS Finderup

## **CRISIS MEETING at the Metropolitan Police HQ**

After days of hard work on the Pangbourne case, DS FINDERUP (me) and her excellent team of DCs (you) are rather frustrated: We seem not one bit closer to a solution of the mysterious massacre.

Therefore, we will have a meeting shortly and there I want you to put forward your “personal” theories of what might have happened on 25 June.

You get 10 minutes to prepare a presentation of the theory *and* the arguments against it.

- |                                     |                             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. The Lone Assassin                | p. 19, l. 30 – p. 20, l. 16 |
| 2. Thrill Killers                   | p. 20, l. 16 – p. 20, l. 36 |
| 3. Misdirected Military<br>Exercise | p. 21, l. 1 – p. 21, l. 17  |
| 4. Foreign Powers                   | p. 21, l. 19 – p. 21, l. 32 |
| 5. International Terrorism          | p. 21, l. 34 – p. 22, l. 9  |
| 6. Organized Crime                  | p. 22, l. 10 – p. 22, l. 21 |
| 7. The Parents                      | p. 22, l. 22 – p. 23, l. 2  |
| 8. The Domestic Staff               | p. 23, l. 3 – p. 23, l. 11  |
| 9. Bizarre Theories                 | p. 23, l. 13 – p. 24, l. 1  |

Cheers – DS FINDERUP

## GROUP WORK QUESTIONS

1. What new information do we get about the houses and the way they were furnished?  
What does Dr. Greville mean by “surveillance of the heart”? (p. 30, l. 29)
2. What is the “real porn” Dr. Greville and Sgt. Payne find in Jeremy’s room?  
Why, indeed, call it “real porn” (p. 31, l. 9)?
3. Sgt. Payne elaborates on his opinion of Pangbourne Village as a prison. How does he argue for this opinion?
4. What activities took place on/were planned for the day of the massacre?
5. Dr. Greville suddenly realizes that there might be a connection between the curious marks found on the skirting boards and the headboards and the Piaget book.  
What connection?  
And what could you conclude from that?

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**Everybody:**

Why does Sgt. Payne only give hints about his theory (belief) that the children were the murderers instead of simply saying it? (compare to his hesitation to speak on p. 35, ll. 24-30)

## **PRESS CONFERENCE** **at 9 am in Lille Sal**

### **The Discovery of Marion Miller**

When 8-year-old Marion Miller is found, the media are (AE: is) naturally eager to get a lot of information from all the people who have been involved in the discovery, examination, nursing etc. of her. Therefore, we have arranged a *press conference* in which reporters from *The Guardian*, *The Daily Mirror* and *The BBC* - and *Oprah Winfrey* - will have the opportunity to ask questions from the following people: Frank Evans and policemen from The British Rail Police; police officers from the local Metropolitan Police; Nurse Carter from the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital; a team of officers from the intelligence services who have watched the TV documentary; and Dr. Greville.

You are the various people to be interviewed. Go through the information given in the novel and prepare for meeting the *sensation-mongering* media. The press conference will be organized in the following way: First, Frank Evans and co. will be asked one question from each of the four groups of reporters, then the Metropolitan Police etc.

- Frank Evans + policemen from The British Rail Police (p 36)
- Police officers from the local Metropolitan Police (pp 36 + 37)
- Nurse Carter from the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital (p 37)
- A team of officers from the intelligence services. You have watched the TV documentary several times, looking for clues. (pp 38-39)
- Dr. Greville (pp 36-39)

It's up to you to decide whether you want to have one spokesperson from your group, or whether everybody in the group should have something to say.

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You are the reporters. Go through the pages (36-39) and decide what you want to ask each of the persons mentioned above. The press conference will be organized in the following way: First, one question for Frank Evans and co. from each of the four groups of reporters, then one question per group for the Metropolitan Police, etc.

- *The Guardian* (an intellectual, fairly left-wing newspaper ~ *Information*)
- *The Daily Mirror* (a tabloid ~ *EkstraBladet*/BT)
- *The BBC*
- *Oprah Winfrey*

It's up to you to decide whether you want to have one spokesperson from your group, or whether everybody in the group should have something to say.

## NEWS!

The Great Ormond Street Kidnapping sheds new light on the Pangbourne massacre. The press naturally frontpage the news and seize the opportunity to make a special report on the Pangbourne children.

You are to produce such a newspaper, say “The Independent”, a fairly neutral, serious British newspaper.

Base your articles primarily on the information given in the novel, but also feel free to make things up – as long as they are in keeping with the ideas of the novel. You may also add photos.

Save your documents on First Class in our English “conference”.

The articles should cover:

1. **The front-page news** of the kidnapping from the Great Ormond Street Children’s Hospital (pp 55-59)
2. **Interviews with friends:**  
Ask questions such as: What was it like visiting Pangbourne Village – before and after the winter of 1987? What did you do together? Do you have any interesting photos? (pp 51 ff)
3. **Interviews with staff members:**  
Ask questions such as: What was it like being employed at Pangbourne Village? What were the youngsters like? How did they treat you? Again: before and after the winter of 1987. (pp 51 ff)
4. **The journals of Gail and Annabel Reade:**  
You have managed to get hold of a copy of one of the journals. Write about the contents in general and add some examples (= 2-5 entries that you write, too).  
(p 52 l 26 – p 53 l 12)
5. **The Pangbourne Pang:**  
You have managed to get hold of a copy of Roger Sterling’s private newspaper. Describe the paper and write the two articles mentioned on p 53 with the banner headlines: “Egg boils in three minutes” and “Staircase leads to second floor”. (pp 51 + 53)
6. **Amanda Lymington’s and Jasper Ogilvy’s home video:**  
You bribed DC Shady and in that way got to participate in a viewing of the video – the final version. Describe what you saw and comment on it in the light of what you know about the killings. (p 53 l 34 – p 55 l 13)
7. **Interview with Dr Greville:**  
You have succeeded in persuading Dr Greville into giving an interview – with copyright for “The Independent”. He is now confident enough to reveal his theory about who murdered the adults and why. However, he must still be a bit cautious since the Home Office is not at all pleased with the situation.

## Dr. Greville's Letter

*Dear Colleagues*

*As we have to consider all possible whereabouts for the Pangbourne children we must not leave out Denmark as an exile for the 13 orphaned children. I therefore see it as my duty to inform the Danish police about the recent state of affairs. I happen to know that you are all true experts in Danish which is why I would like you to translate the following note. Make it a perfect Danish!*

*Thanks, Dr. Greville*

We now believe that the kidnapping of Marion Miller was carried out with ruthless efficiency by murderous adolescents who had admitted themselves to the hospital for observation. They have left fingerprints all over the ward. You could say that these orphaned children are now far beyond the point where questions of guilt and responsibility have any meaning for them. What we see is the nightmare logic of the Pangbourne Massacre, a fanaticism which is rooted in total unity. The massacre might have been the initiation rite that led to the membership of this deranged cult – all carefully planned by a ringleader. To recruit new members, cassettes, desk-top newspapers and videos were circulated.

I see it as a grim paradox that the endless rounds of praiseworthy activities made the children virtually prisoners in their own homes. The parents were the last bars to be removed before they could reach the light – so the murders themselves were of relatively unimportance, you could say. I believe that the children suffered from a complete schizophrenic detachment from reality.

The whole thing might have been triggered by an upcoming TV-documentary which was to be made about Pangbourne Village. Its provisional title was: The New Samoa. Also the fact that plans had been made for the construction of similar estates nearby must have been an important factor. The children simply had to act!

In the totally sane society, madness is the only freedom.

## The Reconstruction

*I'm afraid this will be our last gathering for a long time. However, I am confident that the children are prone to strike again... and then maybe our theory will at last be proved right and accepted! Today, my dear friends, faithful and loyal DCs, we have a very important task to perform. You remember last week, how you translated the brief account of the case for our Danish colleague?! Well, this man is with us today and he has only one wish: namely to know what **we** think happened in Pangbourne Village on that day, the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 1988, minute by minute. So please - for the very last time - let us reconstruct the massacre. Be sure to do this in your own words, including only the most important details, make it understandable, speak up, loud and clear (stand up when you speak) so that even our Danish visitor will be able to follow – even if he hasn't followed the case as closely as we have!*

*Best Regards,*

*Dr. Greville*

5:56	(navn)
6:02	(navn)
6:09	...
6:15	...
6:21	...
6:23	...
6:35+6:48	...
7:00	...
7:05+7:12	...
7:29+7:45-8:00	...
8:05+8:10	...
8:15	...
8:21	...
8:23	...
8:25	...
8:26	...
8:27	...
8:29	...
8:30	...

*If you have time left, please take a look at some of the drawings which were done right after the massacre in 1988 by Janet Wooley. Consider whether you find them appropriate and fitting?*