

You are invited to help solve



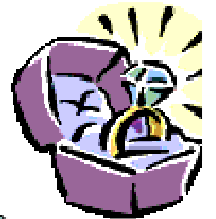
# THE MURDER OF MRS WHYTE

On: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



## RSVP



Professor Bloom, universally celebrated botanist, has called the world's press to Lancaster Grange to announce the results of his latest research. Research which he declares will revolutionise the world of crime investigation. But moments before the press conference starts, a body is found! Housekeeper Hilda Whyte has been found murdered. Bludgeoned to death in the kitchen with the candlestick. Which one of six suspicious characters is guilty...?

**Laura Woodcock, 46,**  
Horticultural expert and owner of  
Lancaster Grange

**Reverend Lidius P Beane, 50,**  
American Clergyman. Head of the  
Church of Christian Ecologists



**Professor Eric Bloom, 55,**  
Eminent English Botanist

**Fleur Rouge, 21,**  
Lidius's niece. A bright, lively,  
headstrong girl

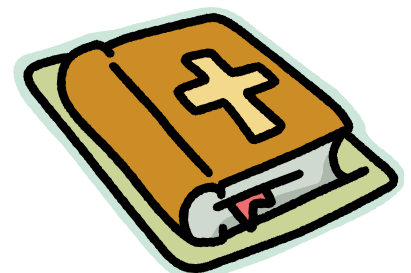
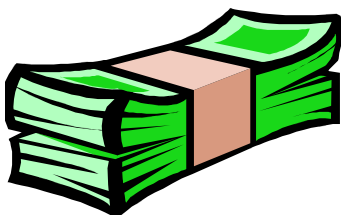
**Dr Charlotte Black, 39,**  
Successful Harley Street  
Psychotherapist

**Captain Richard Tarragon, 35,**  
Ex-Army. Horseman and adventurer

You are invited to assist

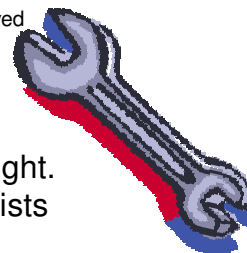
**Casey "Catch'em" Trent, 38,**  
The Great American Undercover News Reporter

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## CRIME DETAILS



Mrs Woodcock's official house party guests arrived on Friday night. They were due to leave first thing on Monday morning. Journalists of various criminal, horticultural and other magazines, including Casey "Catch'em" Trent, the great American undercover reporter, had been invited for Sunday lunch and then to attend Professor Bloom's briefing. This briefing was due to take place in the ballroom at 3.00pm. Lunch finished at 2.00pm when Mrs Whyte cleared the dining room. She then retired to the kitchen to wash up. At this point the journalists went en masse to look round Mrs Woodcock's conservatory of rare shrubs.

Mrs Whyte was last seen alive by both Laura Woodcock and Reverend Lidius Beane at 2.10pm. Mrs Woodcock had gone to the kitchen to speak to Mrs Whyte about the evening meal. While she was there Reverend Beane also came to see Mrs Whyte. Mrs Woodcock left the pair together.



Reverend Beane states that Mrs Whyte had invited him to take a look at her herb garden. He left her in the garden at approximately 2.20pm and when he saw her last she was heading back to the kitchen.

Mrs Whyte's body was found by Richard Tarragon shortly before 3.00pm. He immediately raised the alarm.

## SUSPECT STATEMENTS

However, during the crucial time between 2.10pm and 3.00pm, all suspects declare themselves to be in places other than the kitchen.

**Laura Woodcock** states that after leaving Mrs Whyte, she went outside to prune her roses in the rose garden.

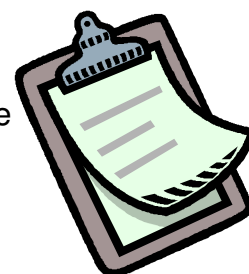
**Lidius Beane** declares that after leaving Mrs Whyte in the herb garden, he went to the library to read the "News of the World"

**Fleur Rouge** says that immediately after lunch she retired to the lounge to watch television.

**Eric Bloom** declares that during the crucial time he was in the ballroom, making last minute preparations for his briefing.

**Dr Charlotte Black** states that she went to the study where she wrote up some notes concerning medical research she is conducting.

**Richard Tarragon** says that after lunch he went to the stables, saddled one of Mrs Woodcock's horses, and went for a ride.



Returning, he entered the kitchen for a glass of water and discovered Mrs Whyte's body.



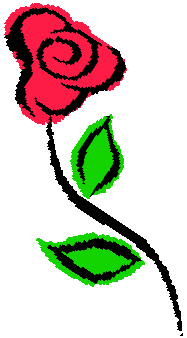
The assembled journalists spent the crucial time together in Mrs Woodcock's conservatory, and so can be eliminated as suspects.

### CRIME SCENE

Mrs Whyte, aged 54, was found lying face down in the kitchen. There was a wound to the back of her head, obviously caused by a heavy blow. Lying by her body was a blood-stained candlestick.

On the kitchen units was a bottle of "Natracalm Tea". By it was an empty cup and saucer. The cup contained dregs of "Natracalm Tea"

The washing machine had been pulled away from the wall. The bolt holding the washing machine drum in place had been loosened.



### PLAN OF ACTION

It is now 4.00pm on Sunday, an hour after the crime was discovered. As some of the finest investigative journalists are assembled at the Grange, the six suspects have decided to delay calling in the police. With the talented Casey Trent leading the investigation, they, and the other assembled journalists, are going to have a try at solving the crime themselves. If they are successful, they can then hand over the guilty party to the police, and leave without a stain on their character.

So far Casey has instructed them to fingerprint the candlestick using the flour shaker from the kitchen. Fingerprints have been discovered on it. And, having taken the fingerprints of the six suspects, it has been proved that the last person to hold the candlestick was Dr Charlotte Black.



You are invited to play the role of

# **CASEY “CATCH’EM” TRENT**

*America’s finest undercover reporter*



## **BACKGROUND**

I am America’s finest undercover reporter, and a legend in my own right. Earlier this year I was awarded the title of “Investigative Journalist of the Decade”, in recognition of some of the sensational scandals that I have exposed. These include the mass embezzlement being perpetrated at International American Conglomerates and the notorious conduct of some of Hollywood’s finest at “Madam Floosies horizontal dancing club”. I also managed to stow myself away on the maiden flight of the army’s new nuclear powered helicopter.

I am particularly interested in crime, and it is said that my “news nose” is so sensitive, I can smell a story. That “news nose” went into overdrive when I heard about Professor Bloom’s briefing, and I journeyed across the Atlantic to attend. My instinct has not let me down. Already I have been rewarded by a particular juicy murder, and I am sure that I and my journalist friends will reveal more gossip, intrigue and scandal before finally unmasking Mrs Whyte’s killer.

## **ABOUT THE VICTIM**

An extremely good cook and housekeeper, Mrs Whyte had been employed by Laura Woodcock at Lancaster Grange for two years. Originally from Barnsley in Yorkshire, Mrs Whyte had never married, although there were rumours of an unhappy love affair in her younger days. One of Mrs Whyte's main pleasures in life was tending her herb garden. However recently, for some unknown reason, she had seemed morose and depressed.