

# Murder Aboard

A buoyant murder mystery for 7 to 16 people which you can run yourself

All aboard the Dolphin for the voyage of a lifetime! A “swell” party and jolly fellow passengers - till calamity strikes...

Duchesses and lords rub shoulders with film stars and millionaires in this plot aboard the luxury yacht Dolphin. The voyage has already

been eventful. One elderly passenger fell overboard last night but was bravely rescued by First Officer McTavish. The fall was initially blamed on too many brandies but the “accident” is now looking suspicious.

Someone on the Dolphin seems to mean others harm. And on a yacht, there is no escape. It’s put a dampener on the party everyone is about to attend. But at least there is safety in numbers. Or is there? Inspector Darling of Scotland Yard will do his best to make sure everyone reaches dry land still breathing...

As well as trying to work out who the murderer is, the real fun of Murder Aboard comes from playing your character. Each of them has a different set of objectives. Achieving them involves talking to lots of other people. Is it true that some passengers have lost heavily in the onboard casino? Is everyone as rich as they seem? Not that anyone will ever need them, but – are there enough lifebelts to go round?

The game is often run over a meal (but doesn’t have to be) and usually lasts around three hours. Explore with us a world of ship-board romance, blackmail and dastardly wrong-doing on the all-at-sea Dolphin. While scattered waters rave, there’s a death on the ocean wave...

## Age Rating/Content Rating

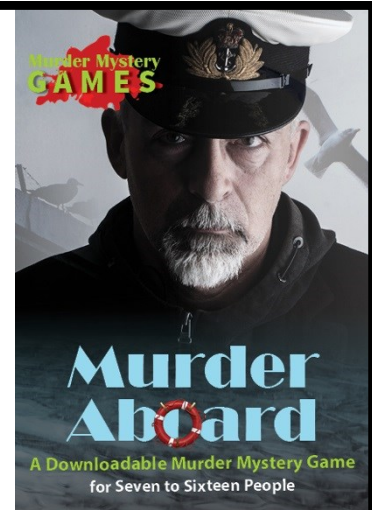
Some of the characters in Murder Aboard have secrets they are trying to hide concerning various indiscretions they’ve committed. However, we don’t believe these indiscretions will upset most people playing the game. Instead, they form an enjoyable part of the entertainment! We believe this plot is suitable for anyone aged 12 or older.

## When is this whodunit set?

You can choose. The era is kept deliberately vague. This allows you to decide for yourself when you’d like everything to take place. Simply add the era you’ve chosen to the invitations. As Murder Aboard is about the super-rich aboard a luxury yacht, any period from around 1900 to the Present Day can work fine.

## Hire an actor

If you are in or visiting the UK and would like a professional actor to run your game for you, please look at Option 2 on this link: [www.mayhem.org.uk/plots/best-value/](http://www.mayhem.org.uk/plots/best-value/). If you’d like a professional events company to put together the whole party for you, please go to Option 3 on the same page.



# Welcome to Murder Aboard

Thank you for taking the time to download this document. Most of the information you need to put the plot together is contained in the main game, for which you will have to pay. Before you do that, please check that your software and hardware are compatible with ours by printing out this whole document.

## *What is in this section?*

- A summary of our murder mystery.
- An invitation. Please don't send this out until you have bought the rest of the plot, where you will find out which characters to include in your version of it.
- A list of all the character parts.
- A copy of the Dolphin News.
- Notes on how to buy your game.

## *What is included when you actually buy it?*

- Character information for each guest.
- A step-by-step guide on how to run it.
- A chart which shows how to allocate the characters: which to keep and drop.
- Paper money and all the other essential paper props: medical reports, blackmail notes, etc.
- The solution!

## *How does 'Murder Aboard' work?*

Designed for groups of 7 to 16 people, Murder Aboard usually lasts about 3 hours and works particularly well over dinner. One person acts as co-ordinator, responsible for making sure everything goes smoothly and that guests receive all the information they need. They, like all the other guests, also have a character to play in the mystery.

The co-ordinator plays Dee Bartholomew, Entertainments Officer aboard The Dolphin (Dee can be male or female). One of the guests is the murderer and tries to hide this from the rest of the group. As well as trying to identify who this is, the other characters have other objectives to pursue. These will get them talking to everyone else as they become involved in other sub-plots along the way.

As proceedings draw to a close, people get the opportunity to make their accusations, then the correct solution is revealed and the murderer is unmasked.

## *Who has booked our murder mysteries before?*

We have been running murder mysteries professionally in the UK since 1989. Hundreds of blue-chip businesses have booked us, and a list of satisfied corporate customers is on this link to the web site of our Murder Mystery and Mayhem sister company:

[www.mayhem.org.uk/about-us/](http://www.mayhem.org.uk/about-us/)

Please do not think, however, that you can just download the game and let it run itself. By getting it at a much lower price than it usually sells for, you will obviously have to put in some work yourselves to make it a real success. But rest assured that thousands of people all over the world have done so before - and been very happy with the result.

Please bring this  
with you. It  
contains useful  
information

# Invitation to Murder Aboard

Exhibit  
A

Dee Bartholomew, the Entertainments Officer on board the Dolphin cruise liner, requests the pleasure of your company at a thoroughly nautical dinner:

at: (address)

.....  
.....

on: (date)

.....

starting promptly at: (time)

.....

This is the final party before we dock - so don't miss the chance to dance a sailor's hornpipe, meet the Captain and have fun, fun, fun!

On a more serious note, Dee would like to express relief that Major Batty was safely rescued from the sea and seems to bear no ill effects from falling overboard.

Signed:

*Dee Bartholomew*

The character Dee would like you to come as is:

.....

If you wish to dress in a way appropriate to your character, please do.

Please confirm whether or not you will be attending by phoning or emailing:

(organiser): .....

on (phone/email): .....

See you there!

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## Guest List

## Exhibit B

### Dee Bartholomew

The Entertainments Officer aboard the Dolphin, Dee creates laughter and good times all over the ship and regularly pulls people out of their deck chairs to include them in some fun-packed activity.

### Major Batty

This frail old chap has become a fixture in the bar where he regales fellow passengers for hours with tales of army life. He is currently recovering from his dramatic plunge overboard.

### First Officer Robert McTavish

Dashing Robert is a real hit with the ladies and, following his brave rescue of Major Batty from the sea, is now everyone's hero.

### Hilary Hughes

Wealthy Hilary is the brains behind Underwarm, a company which makes underwear which is both stylish and practical. Financial success, says Hilary, is down to 'having just one good idea'.

### Inspector Darling

The inspector was enjoying a well-earned break from crime-solving on this trip but duty now calls and Darling is ready.

### Winona Fanini

Movie starlet and party girl Winona adds glamour everywhere she goes. She is relaxing away from her gruelling schedule of filming, drinking champagne and being temperamental.

### Lady Brabington de Whitter

Rarely absent from the gossip pages, Lady B. moves in the highest circles. She provides a great role model for young women who want to be famous without doing very much.

### Captain Suffield

Captain of the good ship Dolphin, Suffield is a delightful old fellow. He does like the odd drink but this in no way impedes his ability to pilot the ship. The incident with the

harbour wall when leaving the Bahamas was entirely down to bad luck.

### Chris Turveydrop

Assistant Entertainments Manager Chris does everything that Dee can't or won't do. A versatile performer, Chris never misses an opportunity to do a song-and-dance routine.

### The Countess of Barchester

Despite her supposed connections to royalty, Her Ladyship is very approachable - as long as people remember to curtsy and say 'ma'am' whenever they see her.

### Jordan Jackson

Jordan is Winona Fanini's personal manager and agent. Jordan has worked with all the greats in the business and is an inveterate name-dropper.

### Barry Smiley

Newly married to Jenny, Barry is thoroughly enjoying his first cruise. Always outgoing and friendly, he is making the most of all the splendid entertainment facilities on the ship.

### Jenny Smiley

Jenny is on honeymoon and is devoted to her new husband, Barry. She is still very excited about the wedding and the cry 'I'm the bride!' is often heard ringing around the ship.

### Lee Ball

Lee is a keen birdwatcher and spends most of the trip with binoculars in hand, scanning the skyline. There was great excitement when Lee spotted an albatross. Until it turned out to be a soggy pile of newspapers.

### Blair Pinkerton

The Dolphin still relies on ship telegrams for all its communications and shy Blair is the radio operator who sends them out and receives them.

### Dr. Timbers

Ship's doctor S.M. Timbers is rarely troubled by any medical emergencies on the Dolphin and prefers to spend time in the casino instead.

Please bring this with you. It contains useful information

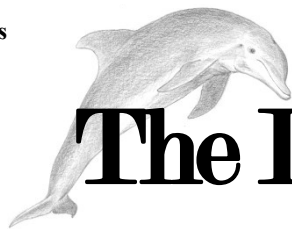


Exhibit  
C

# The Dolphin News

Onboard information about life at sea

## Heroic First Officer Saves the Day!

First Officer Robert McTavish fearlessly dived overboard last night and saved a passenger from the sea. The alarm was raised when McTavish heard Major Batty calling for help. Batty admits he had “enjoyed a few brandies” before the incident took place but claims he may have been pushed in. This seems preposterous aboard a ship as friendly as ours but will of course be investigated before being ruled out. Meantime, erring on the side of caution, let us suggest you have company on any nocturnal strolls.



**The Dolphin: Magnificent and Majestic!**

## Last Night Dinner

Today's party is our last chance to have fun together before the end of what has been an eventful cruise. We're sure it's going to be a wonderful and memorable occasion for all!

### Reminder

Don't forget that, if you have an important message to send, The Dolphin remains true to all the best naval traditions. Yes, we still use Ship's Telegrams! And very fast they are, too!

## Celebrity Watch

We beg her forgiveness in drawing attention to her in this crude way, but may we say how honoured and excited we feel to have a genuine movie star on The Dolphin's passenger list: the glamorous and delightful Winona Fanini. We now look forward eagerly to the release of all her future films. How proud we will be as we point a finger at the screen and say we shared a sun lounger and a cocktail with her!

## Casino Rules

It has come to the attention of the management that there have been various incidents of people failing to honour their debts in the ship's casino. This causes embarrassment for all concerned. We would request that you only play if you've got the funds needed. Credit does no-one any credit!

## Latest Birds Spotted

Many more seagulls have been spotted from the poop deck in the past few days along with a golden oriole or (more likely) a blanket thrown from a passing ship.

# HOW TO BUY YOUR GAME

THANK YOU for getting this far. Now please buy the game!

Available from anywhere in the world, the game is only available by download from the Internet. When buying a game from us, you must respect the copyright terms as set out on our [www.murdermysterygames.net](http://www.murdermysterygames.net) website and to abide by our [Terms and Conditions](#). In particular, you agree not to run your game commercially or for profit unless you have received our **specific, written consent** to do so.

## To buy online

The payment system is very secure. We don't receive or store any of your bank details ourselves. Instead, your payment will be processed via PayPal which encrypts and protects your personal details using SSL.

Please go to [www.murdermysterygames.net](http://www.murdermysterygames.net) and follow the instructions you find there. When we receive your payment, we will e-mail you a password which will enable you to download the main game. Yours for around US\$38. (We are based in the UK and prices may vary slightly according to the latest exchange rate changes.)

## Disclaimer

The game comes "as is". Any disputes arising from the sale of the game are subject to the laws of England and Wales, regardless of the geographical location of the customer.