

# St. Cakes

## Downloadable Murder Mystery Game for Forty to Two Hundred People

Trouble and tragedy in an English public school as pupils and teachers celebrate another Founder's Day.



Teachers and pupils of St. Cakes school gather to honour the memory of the blessed Bishop Cakes, who established it in 930 A.D. Prefects, nerds, bullies and sneaks all do their best to make this a day to remember – and one the headmaster would sooner forget! Everyone taking part is given a team or “house” to belong to. Some also have a guest character to play (the ambitious headgirl Charlotte Lemon, the incredibly dull science teacher Ernest Stevens, his lively wife, French teacher Fifi, and others). One of the guests will, of course, be a murderer.

The different houses compete with one another to identify who this is and are also given a “St. Cakes” challenge to tackle. Among other things, this involves the writing of a new school song. At the end, accusations are made, the murderer is identified and the winning song selected. Fancy dress is optional but strongly recommended.

The plot allows all those taking part to re-live their schooldays, mixed in with a bit of St. Trinian's, Hogwarts, Greyfriars and Malory Towers. It usually lasts about 3-3½ hours and can take place either over a meal or on its own.

### **Age Rating/Content Rating**

This plot is suitable for groups of most types and ages. But if you are planning to run it in your school, bear in mind that characters in murder mysteries often behave badly: they kill, they tell lies, they have affairs!

### **When is this whodunit set?**

You can choose. Life in English public schools is all about tradition. Preserving the past. Protecting pupils against all things nasty and new. Not much ever changes. Which means our St. Cakes plot works well in bygone eras as well as the modern day. So you can choose which period you set it in. While the mystery unfolds, you may need to explain a few things to make it fit the time you've selected, but nothing major needs doing.

### **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.

# St. Cakes - Introduction

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 document?**

- A summary of what our murder mystery is about.
- A list of all the guest character parts.
- An invitation.
- A copy of the School magazine and history of the School.
- Notes on how to buy your game.

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

- Character information for all of the guest characters.
- Speeches for a few of the guest characters to read out.
- Team information for each team.
- A step-by-step guide, explaining what the organisers need to do before and during the event, to make everything run smoothly.
- All the paper props you need: clues, coroner's reports, etc.
- The solution!

## **How does it work?**

Designed for groups of 40-200 people, St. Cakes runs for about 3 hours and works particularly well over a meal. Two people will need to act as co-ordinators, responsible for making sure everything goes smoothly and that guests receive all the information they need. As you will see from the invitation, all the guests are supposed to be connected with St. Cakes School, either as pupils or teachers. (Fancy dress is optional, but strongly recommended.) There are six main guest characters. Everyone will be given a team or "house" to belong to. Each "house" has its own Head of House (team leader), Prefect (motivator) and Swot (the clever one). One of the guests will, of course, be a murderer.

To help find out who this person is, every house is given a few clues soon after the first murder happens. They use the clues they have to trade and barter with other houses, in the hope of ending up with a full set. They also have a "St. Cakes Challenge" to complete, for which they will be asked to write (and perhaps perform) a new school song.

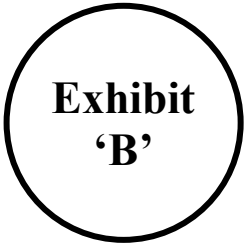
As proceedings draw to a close, the different houses get the opportunity to make their accusations then the correct solution is revealed and the murderer is unmasked.

## **Who has taken part in the game 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.



**INVITATION**  
**St. Cakes' Founder's Day**

The Headmaster of St. Cakes, Raymond Ashmole, is pleased to invite you to the school's next Founder's Day celebration.

The celebration will take place on:.....(date)

and start promptly at: .....(time)

The school's address is:.....  
.....  
.....(address)

Please RSVP to:.....(name)  
on:.....(phone/email)

**St. Cakes - Who's Who**

Most of those attending (YOU!) are pupils currently studying at St. Cakes. There will also be a few members of staff. Among them will be:

- Clovis Boreham**     the school secretary
- Kendal Pilkington**     the school bursar
- Raymond Ashmole**     the headmaster
- Nancy Ashmole**     the headmaster's wife and head of music
- Grant Browning**     the headboy
- Charlotte Lemon**     the headgirl
- Ernest Stevens**     head of science
- Fifi Stevens**     teaches French and life skills and is Ernest's wife.

If you aren't chosen to be one of the above, please feel free to make up a name and character for yourself, and to wear what they would wear. Are you a Head of House? A Prefect? A Swot? The school bully? The school sneak? The school clown? Grab a catapult, grab some chewing gum, take your hands out of your pockets and come along. We look forward to seeing you. Provided that you remain at all times a credit to the school.

**St. Cakes**  
An independent,  
fee-paying school.  
Founded: 930 A.D.



'Semper Inflatus'  
-  
'Always Inspired'

Exhibit  
'B'

# Cake's News

Ritten, ederted and everfink els by the pewpills off St. Caks.  
If yew haf ani ideus for the ederter, kep them to yorsel!!!

## "Help The Hungrie" already makes £3,000

The brilliunt charity ideur thort up by Grant and Charlotte have mad lots of monie what with head teecher Ramond gifing us £2500 of his monie. "Help the Hungry" wil help the hungrey by payinge for fodd for them to ete. Plees keep yor genuros donasians coming, pable to: Grant Browning and Charlotte Lemon. Thnaks you for yor sport so far.



## Nou Scol Songe

There is gowing to be a niou scol songel! If you no anithin about music, cum up wyth yor own niou song and singge it to hedmastre.

## St. Caks' challenge

Putt on yor thinkning cappes and get reddy for the nex Cak's chailinge!! It wil be handied out on Fouonders Day and eatch house wil hav ter try and solv it. It sertinly wont be eesy!

## Foundirs Day

Everi yer sins 930 St. Carks have sellibrated its Foundars Day to sellibrate the deth of Bishop Cake hoo found the scool back in 930. He was a man who gave up his lief for good werks, for instans settin scole up to look after peple who had gotte bettre from leprisy from wich Bishop Caks himselve was to dye getting it from one of pewpills thank goodnesse nowon's gotte it now tho Im notte so shure about Adrian Bullock in Class 4c



sorri Ardian! Aniwai, ther wil be anuther Finders Day dinner soon at which everibody is cumming.

Scool fownder Biishop Cakes bifer he hav dyed of leprisy

## Jus say Noe to druggs

Ther is rumor goin rownd that sum pewpils in are shool are takking drugges. This is very bad for peple and muste be stoped. If you are taekin any druggs you shoodnt jus say No and yewl feel a hole lot better. And if ani one noes hoos seling the druggs but is two afrayed to tel a teecher plees tell head boy or head girl Grant and Charlotte theyl listern to wot yew hav to say in confiduns.

SMALLS ADS  
ANITHIN SMAL TO SEL?  
SEL IT HEAR

Top qualerty skank for sail. Leve yor monie behind the bike shed. We do the rest... Old scool books for sale. Ofers to Grant. No returns... I have got a nice pair of hockie stickes to sell. Would suite someone who plays hockie. £12 ono. See Charlotte. Also, lacrose stick hardily used... Racing bikes, montain bikes, anythin on two wheals—very good prices and all legit: ask Grant... Protecte yor bike and scool books from peple steling. For good, chepe advise, see Grant...



Hear is a fotograf of sumwon hoo hav eet too much. He is not hungri but lots of uther peple are. Plees help them. Giv us yor dash!!!!

St. Cakes  
An independent,  
fee-paying school.  
Founded: 930 A.D.



'Semper Inflatus'  
-  
'Always Inspired'

# Exhibit 'C'

## St. Cakes School Slang



## St. Cakes A History

St. Cakes has been a seat of learning since AD 930, when Bishop Cakes founded an “educational establishment for those miraculously cured of leprosy” here, shortly before succumbing to the disease himself.

Keen that others should share his love of learning, he carried a stick with him which he used to beat anyone he met who had no knowledge of Latin. Poor eyesight and an abysmal memory meant he couldn't speak a word of it either, and he would spend hours each day hitting himself on the head with his own stick.

After the Bishop's death, the school changed its admissions policy and welcomed children from all backgrounds, provided their parents paid for a year's education in advance. On arriving at the school, new students were obliged to kiss a holy relic called “Ye Toe of Ye Bishop”. Most succumbed to leprosy within weeks. Oddly enough, this made parents even keener to send their children there.

The first person of any note to be educated at St. Cakes was John Hogge (1417-1467). Known as John the Red-Legged because of the colour his lower limbs turned in cold weather, he claimed he was the bastard child of Henry V. In the winter of 1467, he gathered a small army together and marched on London to “seize his birthright”. At the gates of London, he became scared after seeing a man on a horse. He sat down in a field and refused to move. He succumbed to hypothermia seven hours later.

St. Cakes next made an impact on world affairs in 1722. A pupil called Philip Braithwaite claimed he possessed the larynx of a sheep. The noises he made were, indeed, very sheep-like. Doctors who examined him found large amounts of grass in his gullet. Local people soon began regarding him as some sort of sacred healer, and many miracle cures were attributed to the power of his bleating. He died of malnutrition in 1723.

Over the past 200 years, the school has been noted for two main achievements: its regular run-ins with the country's top universities over their refusal to accept any of its pupils as students and its “make them suffer” approach to education. Until girls were first admitted in 1986, the summer uniform consisted of four pairs of horsehair trousers, four shirts and four jackets worn over each other. The uniform in winter was a cotton loincloth.

Today, thanks to its present headmaster Raymond Ashmole, the school is a shining example of pedagogy at its very best. Teachers, facilities and equipment are all of the highest standard. Although no pupil has made it to university yet, Mr. Ashmole is confident that the present headgirl, Charlotte Lemon, will succeed next year. “There is no stopping her. Whatever she wants, she gets,” he says, with deep pride. “We have no doubt the future of this school will be just as distinguished as its past.”

Ampy: unpleasant.  
Biffle: to tell an untruth.  
Bunion: teacher.  
Capo: headmaster.  
Cushion: desirable boy or girl.  
Doody: excellent.  
Fluffhead: desirable boy or girl.  
Foodle: eat.

### Note on copyright:

*This murder mystery is the copyright of Murder Mystery Games (mmgames@mayhem.org.uk). It is available under licence for use by charities and other non-profit-making groups, or private parties. It may not be run for profit by commercial organisations. Legal action will be taken against any copyright infringements.*

Grunge: vomit.  
Halibut: idiot.  
Ippydip: idiot.  
Jellytop: idiot.  
Kludger: idiot.  
Lefty: troublemaker who smells.  
Nobbo: new boy or new girl.  
Pool: vomit.  
Sledge: hit.  
Sleepover: desirable boy or girl.  
Slick: vomit.  
Stinko: teacher.  
Swot: clever, hard-working nerd.  
Splodge: food.  
Troggle: play truant.  
Trump: make a loud noise.

**St. Cakes**  
An independent,  
fee-paying school.  
Founded: 930 A.D.



‘Semper Inflatus’  
-  
‘Always Inspired’

# 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\$75. (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.