

# Fun Science Quiz - Thursday 15 December 2016

On Thursday evening 15 December there was a joint meeting between the Radlett U3A Astronomy group and the Bricket Wood Science Group. This was a *Fun Science Quiz* devised and presented by Peter Altman, a member of both groups.

There were about 36 of us there, and the quiz was preceded, interspersed and followed by refreshments.

Questions included a bit of chemistry, 'O' level maths, physics, simple logic and even a couple of card tricks. There was plenty of variety in the questions with some for everyone, scientific or not. And there were several practical displays, including swinging round a glass of water with none of it being spilt, some real chemical reactions, and a demonstration of how to create a Toricellian vacuum. Each table also had a small box containing various items for use in some of the questions (guess the weight, make 4 equilateral triangles from 6 matches, blow up a balloon and measure the girth – largest one gets a point etc).



But this was no simple quiz. Oh no, that's too basic for Peter's warped mind. The score board was a bit like Snakes and Ladders. Unless you were very careful, getting a question right could land you in a Black Hole which would reduce rather than

Scoreboard	S	C	O	R	E	B	O	A	R	D
START	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
lab fire -2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
eco +5	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	
solar power +2	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	
black hole -5	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
worm hole	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
?	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

increase your current score. So you needed tactical planning to get the appropriate score so as to avoid landing on a penalty square and to hopefully land on a bonus square. To ensure you got the chosen score, you sometimes purposely needed to get a question wrong.

It was a really great amusing evening, and who cares who won!

*Simon Pyzer*  
 Chairman, Radlett U3A Astronomy Group