

Air Race part 2

London to Manchester Air Race, 1910

The story so far

Claude Grahame-White has failed in his bid to be the first person to fly an aeroplane from London to Manchester.

The Daily Mail's £10,000 prize is still up for grabs and news of Claude's attempt has attracted other aviators to have a go.



French aviator Louis Paulhan arrives at a field in Hendon, London with his Farman aircraft (almost identical to the one used by Claude Grahame-White).

He takes off...

5.31pm Louis crosses the start line in Hampstead Cemetery.

5.57pm A sleeping Claude Grahame-White is woken and told that his rival is in the air and attempting to win the prize.

6.30pm Claude is in the air and in hot pursuit. The race is on.



Louis Paulhan



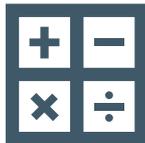
Challenge 1

Louis is leading, but by how much?

By nightfall, Claude is beginning to catch up, but he needs to start the next leg of the race first if he has any chance of winning.

2.45am Claude takes off in the darkness and makes the first ever night flight in England.

3.50am Claude is only 20 miles from Lichfield where Louis has spent the night.



Challenge 2

1 mile = 1.6 kilometres

How many kilometres was Claude from Lichfield?

4.13am High wind and engine problems force Claude to land before he catches up with Louis.

4.09am Louis is already back in the air and on his way, but he is also struggling in the wind.

With news that the aircraft are on their way, thousands of people have turned out to watch the winner cross the finish line in Burnage, South Manchester.



Challenge 3

Both pilots followed the railway line from London to Manchester.

Find Burnage station on an online map. Many of the houses nearby hadn't been built in 1910.

If the race took place today, is there anywhere near they could land?



The winner is...

5.32am Louis Paulhan lands and claims the £10,000 prize.

Claude wants to finish the race and manages to get airborne but his engine lets him down again, so he hops onto a train to Burnage to congratulate Louis.



Challenge 4

As Manchester expands in the 1920s and 1930s, lots of new houses are built. One of the new roads is named after Louis.

Use Street View to find the exact spot Louis won the race (hint - there is a commemorative blue plaque on the wall between houses 25 and 27 Paulhan Street).

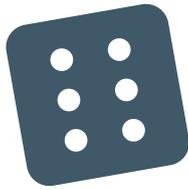
What happens to Claude?

Claude buys some land and opens an aerodrome and flying school in Hendon. He puts on huge flying displays and he also opens an aircraft factory.



In case you are wondering, his factory is still in Hendon today, although now it is part the Royal Air Force Museum, London.

One last thing to do...



Challenge 5 - Take part in the race

You need 2 players, 1 dice

The rules

Player 1 must throw an even number to move each stop on the map

Player 2 must throw an odd number to move each stop on the map

If you can't print the map, just draw your own.

