# Alex Horne brings Taskmaster challenges to Oxfordshire care home residents



Alex Horne, the creator of the popular game show "Taskmaster," recently brought his signature humour and competitive spirit to a care home in Adderbury, Oxfordshire. In a heartwarming event that mirrored challenges from the hit Channel 4 series, Horne organised a playful competition where four residents showcased their creativity and lateral thinking.

The tasks were uniquely designed to stimulate both wit and dexterity, capturing the essence of what has made "Taskmaster" a beloved format. Participants were tasked with identifying objects related to pineapples, testing their sense of time by raising their hands after what they felt was a minute, and transferring sweets using only a straw. The final challenge pushed them to construct the tallest tower possible with spaghetti and marshmallows, highlighting both their ingenuity and competitive spirit.

Reflecting on the experience, Horne remarked, “I've done Taskmaster with kids in schools, stags and hens in pubs, boys and girls in scout huts, executives in offices and over a hundred comedians on telly over the last 10 years, but this was perhaps the most memorable task session for me.” He recognised that despite their age, the residents exhibited the same competitive fire as any of his other contestants.

Notably, among the challengers was 100-year-old Ruth Johnson, who expressed her initial confusion regarding the tasks but ultimately enjoyed the interaction. She fondly recalled, “Alex was so nice. I thought I had met him before, but I think I just knew him from the television.” The general manager of Seccombe Court, Wojciech Kuczkowski, shared that the residents are avid fans of "Taskmaster," and this event was arranged as a special opportunity for them to engage directly with the challenges they admire.

The genesis of "Taskmaster" can be traced back to Horne’s vision during the 2010 Edinburgh Festival Fringe, where it began as a live show. It has since evolved into a beloved television series that first debuted on UKTV's Dave in 2015, before transitioning to Channel 4 in 2019. The programme has not only entertained audiences but also inspired various international adaptations, board games, and even a "HomeTasking" initiative during the 2020 lockdown, which encouraged fans to partake in challenges from their own homes.

As "Taskmaster" continues to thrive in British comedy, this recent event at Seccombe Court serves as a poignant reminder of the show’s accessibility and its ability to elevate the spirits of people from all walks of life.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/uk-news/taskmaster-creator-alex-horne-hosts-31770766), [[4]](https://www.comedy.co.uk/tv/taskmaster/interviews/greg_davies_and_alex_horne/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/uk-news/taskmaster-creator-alex-horne-hosts-31770766), [[2]](https://www.rts.org.uk/article/10-things-you-might-not-know-about-taskmaster), [[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alex_Horne)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.radiotimes.com/tv/entertainment/taskmaster-champion-of-champions-alex-horne-rates-the-contenders/), [[6]](https://www.channel4.com/programmes/taskmaster/on-demand/71672-002)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/uk-news/taskmaster-creator-alex-horne-hosts-31770766> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.rts.org.uk/article/10-things-you-might-not-know-about-taskmaster> - This article from the Royal Television Society delves into lesser-known facts about the 'Taskmaster' series. It highlights the origins of the show, including its creation by Alex Horne for the 2010 Edinburgh Festival Fringe. The piece also discusses the show's expansion into various international versions and the release of related media, such as books and board games. Additionally, it touches upon the 'HomeTasking' initiative during the 2020 lockdown, where Alex Horne organised a public competition with 20 tasks for participants to complete at home.
3. <https://www.radiotimes.com/tv/entertainment/taskmaster-champion-of-champions-alex-horne-rates-the-contenders/> - In this Radio Times interview, Alex Horne provides his insights on the contestants of 'Taskmaster: Champion of Champions'. He offers evaluations of the competitors' performances, discussing their strengths and unique approaches to the challenges presented on the show. The article provides a glimpse into Horne's perspective as both the creator and assistant on the series, shedding light on the dynamics between him and the contestants.
4. <https://www.comedy.co.uk/tv/taskmaster/interviews/greg_davies_and_alex_horne/> - This interview with Greg Davies and Alex Horne, featured on the British Comedy Guide, explores their experiences and perspectives on the 'Taskmaster' series. They discuss the evolution of the show, the creative process behind the tasks, and the dynamics between them as co-hosts. The conversation also touches upon the challenges and rewards of producing a show that has become a staple in British comedy television.
5. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alex_Horne> - The Wikipedia page on Alex Horne provides a comprehensive overview of his life and career. It details his early life, education at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and his rise in the comedy scene. The page highlights his role as the creator of 'Taskmaster' and his contributions to British television. It also covers his personal life, including his marriage to Rachel Horne and their three children, as well as his interests outside of comedy, such as birdwatching and football.
6. <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/taskmaster/on-demand/71672-002> - This Channel 4 page offers information on 'Taskmaster' Series 3, Episode 2. The episode features Greg Davies setting unique tasks for five comedians, including the challenge of surprising Alex Horne after he emerges from his shed. The page provides details about the episode's content, the participating comedians, and the nature of the tasks involved, showcasing the show's blend of creativity and humour.
7. <https://www.comedy.co.uk/tv/taskmaster/interviews/greg_davies_and_alex_horne/> - In this interview with Greg Davies and Alex Horne, featured on the British Comedy Guide, the duo discusses their experiences and perspectives on the 'Taskmaster' series. They delve into the evolution of the show, the creative process behind the tasks, and the dynamics between them as co-hosts. The conversation also touches upon the challenges and rewards of producing a show that has become a staple in British comedy television.