

The Hunt for the Magical Chocolatey Chick

VO/Announcement

Ladles and Gentlemen, Boys and girls, welcome to the Visit York and Little Vikings Easter Festival. Please welcome your special guest, the Easter Bunny!!!

Enter Lester Bunny

Lester:

Hello everybody! Oh you can do better than that, I said hello everybody. Hello Mums. Hello Dad's. Hello Girls. Hello Boys. Hello that gentleman there. Thank you very much, you can stay....for now. My name is Lester. Lester Bunny. Not the Easter Bunny, no no no.

I'm Lester Bunny

And I'm all out of money

You may think that's funny

But the day's not too sunny

And my nose is really.....rather twitchy actually, because I am on a mission. A mission to sniff out something of a VIP. A Very, Important, Poultry! Yes, I'm on the search for a chick, but not just any chick, oh no no no no. I am searching for the magical Chocolatey Chick! Have you heard of her? Weeell let me explain. You see at this time of year, called um, North, no that's not it, er, South, er, no not that either, er West, er.....er, east, er, Easter....got there in the end....things tend to appear. Wonderfully magical things that can be gobbled up, or nibbled, or put in a cupboard and stored over time.... if you're just plain weird. You may not have heard of these wonderfully magical things but they call them Easter....eggs....oh you've heard of them? Then do you know where they come from? Well, all those eggcellent (!) eggs are laid for us by the magical Chocolatey Chick. We've all seen the eggs, even if we have had to hunt for them on Easter Day, but has anybody actually seen the Chocolatey Chick that lays them? The answer is no by the way! So I, Lester Bunny, have made it my mission in life to find her and to shake her by the wing and say "Thank you for all the chocolatey goodness you have given us over all these years". In my search I shall leave no stone unturned (*trips over a stone*), no lesson unlearned (*trips over the same stone*) and I will make sure there is not a hare (*indicates self*) out of place. Unlike that gentleman (*indicating puppet that has appeared*) who doesn't appear to have a hair in place! Now my search for this magical Chocolatey Chick has brought me here, to the home of chocolate, the Easter egg capital, this fine City of York!

Yorkshire Farmer (puppet)

Farmer: No lad, this isn't York, it's the City of York. York as in Fork, not York as in Folk!

Lester: I'm not sure I can hear the difference!

Farmer: Honestly lad you can't talk proper.

Lester: Properly

Farmer: Eh?

Lester: Nothing! So are you local?

Farmer: Ay, that I be. What of it?

Lester: Well, I'm on a search for a magical chocolatey chick.

Farmer: Is tha now?

Lester: Do you know where I might find her?

Farmer: Well, it sounds like a load o' mumbo jumbo if you ask me but.....if it were me I'd start off at Rowntree Park.

Lester: Rowntrees...as in the chocolate makers?

Farmer: Ay well they're long gone now but they gave that park t' City o' York to stop Terry's from building on it. Bit o' York chocolate history right there....you didn't think this was gonna be an educational show did yer?! If it were me I'd get mesen down there. But whatever you do, get yoursen some 'elpers. I've shot rabbits that looked brighter than you. Tara for now.

Lester: Bye. How lovely to meet a friendly local! But then he has a point. Perhaps if I am going to succeed in my mission I should enlist some helpers. After all, I'd struggle to find my way out of this marquee! Who here likes chocolate eggs? Then you will want to join me on my search. Have you ever done an Easter Egg hunt? You have? Well then you will be perfectly qualified to help me on my hunt for the magical Chocolatey Chick. Do you think you would like to help me? Eggcellent,(I'm so sorry) in that case we all need to stand and march along while singing our hunting song.

Sings:

Let's all stand up and march along
while singing out this hunting song
We'll find that chick and shake her wing
if you'll join in with me and sing:

(Song – Chickery Chick tune)

Chocolatey Chick we're off to see
follow the clues there's no way that we can lose
If we can find her won't you thank the
Chocolatey chick for me
repeat.

Well done everybody. Don't worry if you didn't pick it all up, it's just possible that you'll get another try at it. So here we are at Rowntrees park, but I can't see the Chocolatey Chick anywhere. Can you spot anything that might give us a clue?

A goose is poking out with a clue in its beak.

What's that? No that's not a chick that's a goose. There's enough of them in York already! Ooooooh but look! A Clue! *(struggles to wrestle it from the beak)* It says "From the Magical Chocolatey Chick". We must be on the right track! Shall I read it out? Right then here goes...

“When chocolate melts, it’s bound to ooze,
Find the Ouse to find more clues.”

Oooh. I’m not very good at clues. Where do you think we need to go next? The Ouse? What’s that?
Oh, the river! Righto here we go are you ready to stand and march along while singing our hunting
song?

Let’s all stand up and march along
while singing out this hunting song
We’ll find that chick and shake her wing
if you’ll join in with me and sing:

Chocolatey Chick we’re off to see
follow the clues there’s no way that we can lose
If we can find her won’t you thank the
Chocolatey chick for me
repeat.

Here we are, beside the River Ouse. Now Ouse is meant to mean clear water but it looks a little
muddy to me. Ooh, just think if it was a chocolate river? Ooh, I might struggle not to do an
Augustus Gloop and lap it all up.....(*miming lapping up the river as a puppet of the Lady Mayoress
appears behind him.*)

LM: (*Clears throat*) Excuse me

Lester: Why, what have you done?

LM: No, I mean, who are you?

Lester: I’m Lester Bunny, why, who are you?

LM: I’m the Lord Mayor!

Lester: Lord Mayor?

LM: Well, Lady Mayor.

Lester: Lady Mayor?

LM: In fact, Lady Mayoress.

Lester: Lady Mayoress?

LM: Stop repeating me will you! But you can call me Ma’am

Lester: Ma’am

LM: Or M’lady

Lester: M’Lady.

LM: But never both at the same time, because then I'd be....

Lester: Marmaladey!

LM: Not funny Bunny! Now, I live in the Mansion House.

Lester: Make your mind up.

LM: I beg your pardon?

Lester: Well, is it a mansion or is it just a house.

LM: No, that's what it's called; the Mansion House. It's my official residence here in York.

Lester: Oh, so you know York pretty well then?

LM: You could say that.

Lester: Of course I could say that, I just did! So could you help us on our search?

LM: Search? What search?

Lester: Well we're looking for the magical chocolatey chick who lays all the chocolate eggs, and we have reason to think she might be here in York.

LM: Oh, I say! Well could this be anything to do with it?

Lester: What's this? Ooh, a Betty's chocolate nest! And...another Clue! Thank you, that's a massive help. (*Passing the nest to a child*) Look after this for a minute would you? Shall I have a read?

“This isn't my nest, I have to say
But I could be where my nest lay.”

What does that mean? Where do we need to go next?

LM: (*in case the audience don't know*) Well it could mean Nestle, as in the chocolate factory?

Lester: That's it! Thank you Ma'm.....m'lady.

LM: Anyway, best of luck. Now I must be going, I have a host of official engagements to attend. Ta ta for now.

Lester: Bye Lady Mayoress! So shall we march off to the Nestle chocolate factory? Righto here we go are you ready to stand and march along while singing our hunting song?

Song

Let's all stand up and march along
while singing out this hunting song
We'll find that chick and shake her wing

if you'll join in with me and sing:

Chocolatey Chick we're off to see
follow the clues there's no way that we can lose
If we can find her won't you thank the
Chocolatey chick for me
repeat.

Well done everybody, you're almost getting the hang of the song now. I'm so glad you are here to help me, and we must be getting close now. I can even smell the chocolate. But then this is where they filmed some of the scenes from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory! Now then, where do you think we'll find our next clue? Hang on a second, this Kit Kat doesn't look quite right. (*Wrapper says "choc chick" in Kit Kat font/logo*). Do you think this might be a golden ticket? Here, look after that for me (*passes the kit kat in it's foil to a person in the audience*) – ah, not a golden ticket but it is another clue. Shall I have a read?

"It's not a house of chocolate is it
but a House of Cocoa you may visit"

Ooh ooh I know I know this one. I think it's.....York Cocoa House (oh, you knew it as well!) Come on then, you know what to do....

Song

Let's all stand up and march along
while singing out this hunting song
We'll find that chick and shake her wing
if you'll join in with me and sing:

Chocolatey Chick we're off to see
follow the clues there's no way that we can lose
If we can find her won't you thank the
Chocolatey chick for me
repeat.

Ahh, well done everyone, only once more for that song parents, then you're out of your misery! So York Cocoa House. Ooh, if only it was a whole house made of chocolate! Hang on a minute, what's that noise?

Crying heard as the town crier appears.

Lester: Excuse me? (*louder*) Excuse me? What's the matter?

TC: What?

Lester: Why are you crying?

TC: Well, because that's what I do. (*resumes crying*)

Lester: Oh. But why?

TC: Because I'm the Town Crier! (*continues crying*)

Lester: Oh. But...aren't town criers meant to do a different sort of crying. Like making announcements and things like that?

TC: Ah yes, but the problem is, there hasn't been a call for a town crier in York for nearly ten years So now I'm reduced to this sort of crying

Lester: Well, times move on Mr. Crier. It's a bit like there used to be peacocks in the Museum Gardens but...

TC: Yes I know, but there haven't been now for nearly 20 years. Oh it's so sad...*(cries inconsolably)*

Lester: Well not to worry because it's just possible there's a new type of bird in York. We're on a search for the Magical Chocolatey Chick.

TC: A Chocolatey Chick? Pull the other one, you Mad March Hare! It's not April yet/it may be April 1st (but) you can't make a fool of me/do you think I was born yesterday.

Lester: No, it's true, we've been following her clues. Hey, perhaps you could make an announcement to see if anybody has seen her?

TC: What a good idea *(clears throat)*. Oyez, Oyez, Oh....eh what's so funny bunny?

Lester: Sorry, it's just that your voice is really loud!

TC: That's the whole idea! It's not my fault you've got such big ears! Oh it's no use anyway, to be a proper Town Crier I need a scroll to announce from.

Lester: What, like this one? *(finds a scroll in the hay bale)*

TC: Oh. Yes, that'll do nicely, here we go then, shield your ears. *(unrolls the scroll)* Hang on a minute, this is a clue.

Lester: Ooh a clue! What does it say?

TC: "This may not quite be Jackanory
But head here for York's Chocolate Story"

Lester: York's Chocolate story? What's that? *(hopefully somebody in the audience will explain)* Could you give us directions how to get there Mr. Town Crier?

TC: Give directions? Around these wiggly streets? That's nye on impossible! Basically, as a rule, head toward that big cathedral thingy, you'll get there in the end.

Lester: Very well then, thanks for you're, erm, help.

TC: You're welcome, good luck. *(leaves crying)*

Lester: Righto here we go are you ready to stand and march along while singing our hunting song? This may just be the last time – although it probably will be going round in your heads when you go to bed this evening - so let's give it some welly. Are you ready?

Song

Let's all stand up and march along
while singing out this hunting song
We'll find that chick and shake her wing
if you'll join in with me and sing:

Chocolatey Chick we're off to see
follow the clues there's no way that we can lose
If we can find her won't you thank the
Chocolatey chick for me
repeat.

Lester: Here we are at York's Chocolate Story. I can almost taste the chocolate now? Surely we are right on the tail feathers of the Magical chocolatey Chick?! Ooh look, another clue. Would somebody like to read it out for me this time?

"A York Street with a marquee on it
There you'll find my Easter bonnet"

A York Street with a marquee on it? Oh wait a minute, we're in a marquee! Who would have thought we would end up where we started? So here we'll find an Easter bonnet. Any ideas? It's like a big hat with lots of flowers and ribbon on, can anybody see one?

(bonnet positioned on the set to be pointed out by audience member)

Do you think the Magical Chocolatey Chick is under there? Shall we have a look?

Enter the Evil Eggsmuggler

ES: Not so fast!

Lester: Alright then *(slower)*; Shall we have a look?

ES: Step away from the bonnet.....with your hands in the air.

Lester: Ooh it suddenly sounds like a police drama! Who are you?

ES: I am the Evil Eggsmuggler and I have been following you all on your walk around York (and, goodness me, you can talk!).

Lester: But why?

ES: Well you see I am the worst kind of villain, for I like nothing better than stealing all your chocolate! Yes, I'm like a parent two weeks after Easter; I Hoover up all the chocolate I can find, regardless of who it belongs to! So come on, hand over your chocs. Who has chocolate on them? Oh yes, I'll take that Betty's Nest, thank you. And that Kit Kat, hand it over. And if any of you have any Easter eggs on you I'll be having them now thank you!

Lester: Hang on a minute. Do you mean to say you have been following us just so that you could steal all our chocolate?

ES: Not exactly. You see I am after the biggest prize of them all. I want to capture that Magical Chocolatey Chick so that I can have all the eggs she ever produces and you, my fluffy friend, have just led me straight to her. So then, lift up that bonnet and reveal that chick!

Lester: *(to audience)* Do you think I should? I don't want him stealing anybody else's chocolate. But then if he were to steal the chick then there might never be any Easter eggs again! What shall I do?

ES: Achoo

Lester: Bless you. Oh what shall I do

ES: Achoo

Lester: Gesundheit. Oh what shall I....

ES: Achoo

Lester: Do you mind, I'm having a moment of turmoil here.

ES: Well get on with it will you.

Lester: Wait a minute! Why don't you just pick up the bonnet yourself? Why do you need me to do it?

ES: Well because....

Lester: Yes?

ES: Because I'm allergic to those spring flowers.....Achoo!

Lester: Oh. So, if we had lots of spring flowers you wouldn't be able to bother us?

ES: Well, maybe, but you haven't so just hand over the chick and I'll be on my way.

Lester: Not got any flowers eh? Well what about these.

(Lester produces a bunch of flowers and hopefully children will also have some that they have made before the show)

Quick everyone, wave your flowers at the Eggsmuggler.

ES: Argh! Achoo. What are you doing...achoo. That's not...achoo...fair! I can't.....achoo....breath! Just you wait you Easter meddlers, the Evil Eggsmuggler will be back.....*exits sneezing and blowing his nose*

Lester: Thanks for your help everybody. Without you I would have never have defeated the Evil Eggsmuggler. And we would never have found our way to the Magical Chocolatey Chick's Easter bonnet! Do you think she's under there now? Shall we have a look?

Lifts the bonnet

Ah, no chick but there is a note. What does this say;

“You won the battle, all is well,
Now feast upon my chocolate shell,
I'm sorry not to stick around
The Chocolatey Chick must not be found.
I hope you've all enjoyed your walk
Have fun this Easter-time in York”

Well, we may not have found the Magical Chocolatey Chick but hopefully we've had fun along the way. And look, there is some treasure at the end of our hunt that she has left for us. Who would like an egg? Thank you so much for helping me and for joining me on my adventure around York. Have a fabulous Easter and don't forget to take part in all the other activities at this Festival. Before we let you go I think we should have one final rendition of the song....

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