

ISLE OF WIGHT FOLLIES - RESTRICTED CASE FILE

THE ALVERSTONE MANTICORE

THE GUARDIAN'S SECRET GARDEN

MYTHICAL CLASSIFICATION: WINGED GUARDIAN AND BOTANICAL ARTIST

RESTRICTED - PASS HOLDERS ONLY!



F.O.L.L.I.E.S. REF: ALV-MAN-26



CLAWS, WINGS AND WILDFLOWERS

CREATURE	The Alverstone Manticore
PRIMARY RANGE	Alverstone and the Eastern Yar valley
APPEARANCE	Golden lion body, dark wings, spined tail
KNOWN CLUES	Large prints, wing shadows, pressed petals
SPECIAL SKILLS	Flight, watchfulness and botanical art
CASE STATUS	Protective; observe from a safe distance

THE F.O.L.L.I.E.S. BRIEF

Federation of Legendary Lore Investigation and Evidence Specialists

A vast winged guardian patrols Alverstone. The surprising clue is not a claw mark, but a perfect pressed flower discovered beneath a watchful golden paw.



FIELD RULE

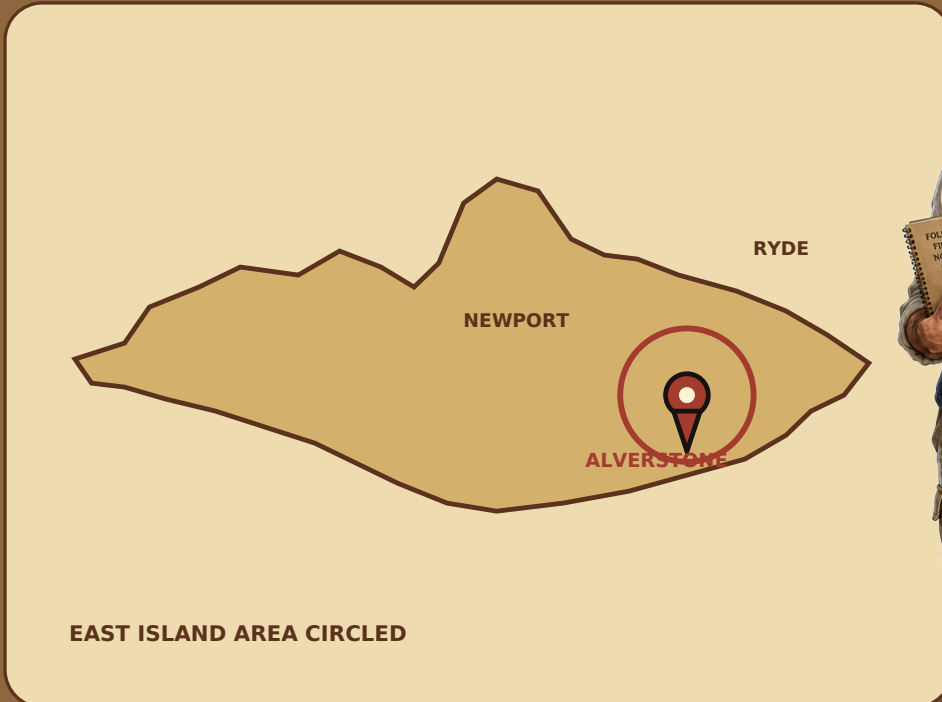
Use public routes, explore with an adult, never enter a wild animal's shelter and do not pick protected plants.



THE ALVERSTONE WATCH BOARD

TAIL SPINE CAST

PRESSED PETAL



PAW CAST

WING SKETCH

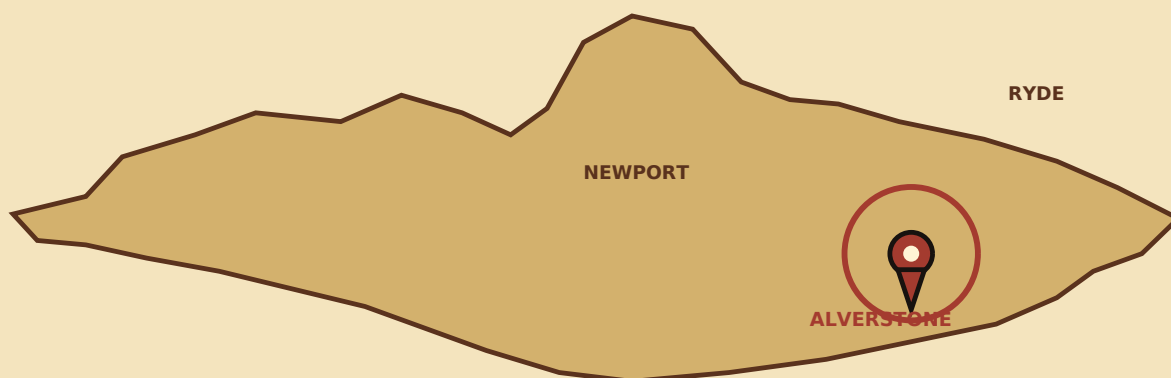


Professor Follies linked the clues to Alverstone, inland from Sandown and beside the Eastern Yar valley.

The evidence shelf contains a huge paw cast, one harmless model spine, a wing-rib sketch and a pressed wildflower mounted on aged card.



ISLAND LOCATOR + ALVERSTONE INSET



FULL ISLAND: ALVERSTONE LIES IN THE EAST, INLAND FROM SANDOWN



LOCAL CHECK: Alverstone is inland west of Sandown, south of Brading and north of Shanklin, beside the Eastern Yar and Alverstone Mead.

SPOTTER GUIDE: MANTICORE

1

LION BODY

Powerful, golden and much larger than a bus.

2

BAT-LIKE WINGS

Cast an enormous shadow over the valley.

3

SPINED TAIL

A warning feature: observe from far away.

4

ARTIST'S PATIENCE

Handles tiny petals with astonishing care.

CLASSIFICATION: Formidable winged guardian with a gentle botanical practice.

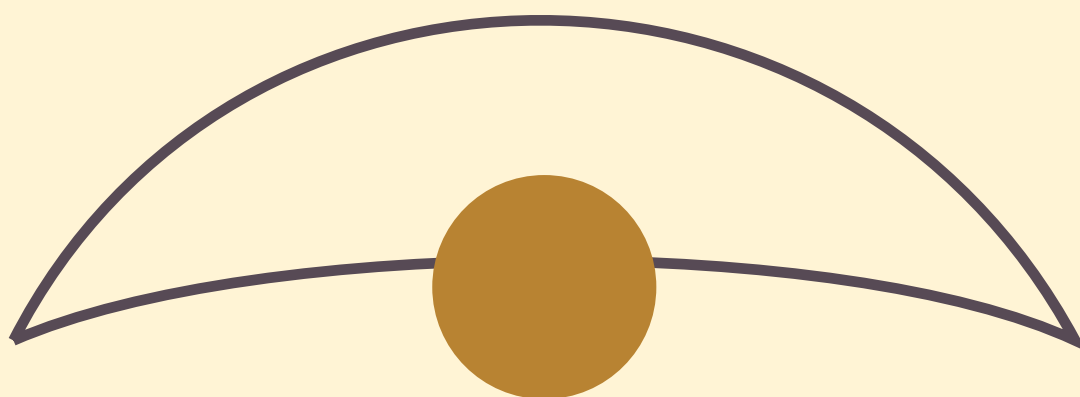
SIGHTING 01: SHADOW OVER THE VALLEY



A shadow swept across the meadow. Above it soared the Manticore, golden as late-afternoon sunlight.

Its great wings carried it over Alverstone, where woodland, wet meadows and open countryside gathered around the winding river valley.

HOW LARGE WAS THAT SHADOW?



MANTICORE WINGSPAN: ENORMOUS

VINTAGE ISLAND BUS



ADULT INVESTIGATOR

Professor's estimate: The exact size remains unconfirmed. The cover comparison is an eyewitness field sketch—not a measurement.

Safe observers stay on public paths, use binoculars and never approach a resting creature.

EVIDENCE 02: THE HIDDEN WORKSHOP



Amelia saw no treasure pile. Instead, every shelf held delicate wildflowers pressed into beautiful patterns.

The Manticore folded its wings, rested its tail safely away and placed one tiny blossom between clean sheets of paper. An adult waited at the open entrance.

THE FOUR-STAGE FLOWER PRESS



1. CHOOSE

Use a garden flower with permission—never a protected wild plant.



2. ARRANGE

Place it flat between clean absorbent sheets.



3. PRESS

Add boards and gentle, even pressure.



4. WAIT

Leave it dry before mounting it carefully.

Craft safely: wash hands, ask an adult and keep unknown plants away from mouths and pets.

EVIDENCE 03: THE CAREFUL LESSON



The enormous guardian moved one paw by the width of a petal. Amelia copied the motion exactly.

They arranged colour, shape and space until each page felt balanced. Strength helped the Manticore guard the valley; patience helped it make art.

FEARS, FACTS AND NEW CLUES

FIRST IMPRESSION

Huge claws, dark wings and a dangerous-looking tail.



NEW EVIDENCE

Pressed petals, patient movements and careful teaching.

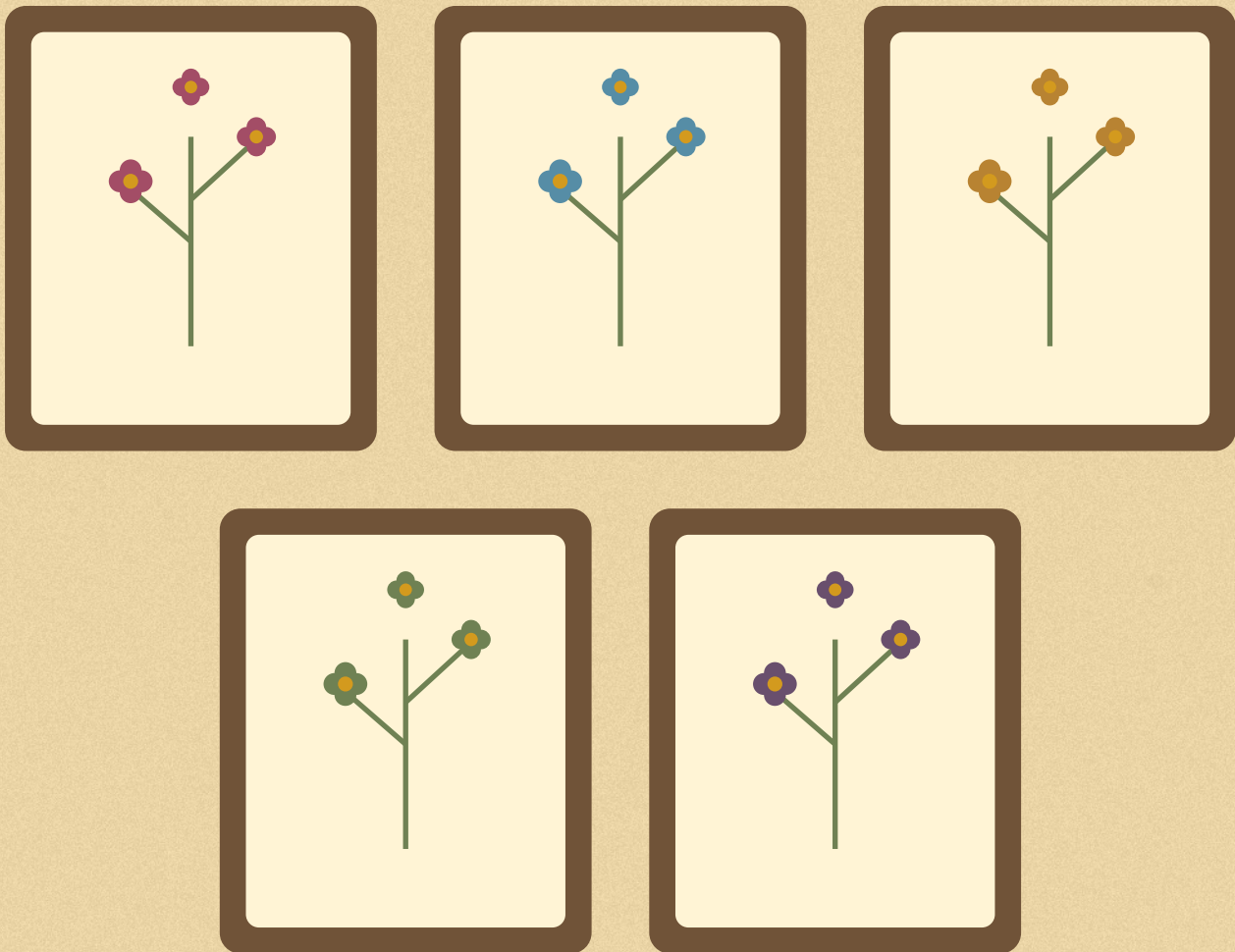


BEST CONCLUSION

Appearance is one clue—not the whole character.

Good investigators change their minds when new evidence appears.

ALVERSTONE'S TINIEST ART SHOW



Framed flowers appeared in village windows. People came to admire them, and the community chose to use the proceeds to help local children.

HOW ONE PETAL BECAME A GIFT



CAREFUL CRAFT

A flower becomes art.

SHARED DISPLAY

Neighbours discover the hidden talent.

KIND CHOICE

The proceeds support children in need.

LASTING CHANGE

Fear gives way to friendship.

The strongest guardian protected more than a place—it protected hope.

THE ALVERSTONE GUARDIAN CODE

1

WATCH FROM AFAR

Wild creatures need space and quiet.

2

STAY ON ROUTES

Wet meadows and woodland edges are living habitats.

3

LEAVE FLOWERS GROWING

Photograph them; only collect with permission.

4

LOOK BEYOND APPEARANCE

Ask what the evidence really shows.

Gentleness is not the opposite of strength. It is one way strength is used.

DESIGN A PRESSED-FLOWER PICTURE

SKETCH YOUR FLOWER ARRANGEMENT HERE



Choose responsibly: draw from observation, use fallen leaves, or ask permission for a garden flower. Never pick from a nature reserve.

Try arranging one large shape, two medium shapes and three tiny details. What mood do your colours create?



The Manticore rose above Alverstone once more—still powerful, still mysterious, and now known as an artist too.

The framed flowers became evidence of an enduring friendship. The village remembered that courage can guard a valley, patience can preserve beauty, and generosity can transform both.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Which clue first made the Manticore seem frightening?

2. What evidence changed Amelia's mind?

3. Why is patience important when making art?

4. How can a fierce guardian also be gentle?

5. Why should flowers in reserves remain unpicked?

6. What hidden talent might your own creature have?

Professor Follies says: The best investigators look twice: first at appearances, then at evidence.





RESTRICTED FILE CLOSED

The Alverstone Manticore

F.O.L.L.I.E.S.

Federation of Legendary Lore Investigation and Evidence
Specialists

If a vast shadow crosses Alverstone, remain on the path and
look closely: the guardian may be carrying a flower rather
than a warning.

PASS HOLDERS' CASE MATERIAL

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