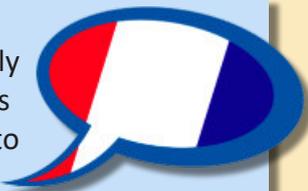


Arguably one of the best ever sitcoms and certainly one of mine and Robbie's favourites, 'Allo Allo' manages to take the mickey out of every side in WWII without causing offence to any of them. When we lived in France we discovered that the French translation was every bit as funny. Click [HERE](#) for an hour of the best bits.



Apparently there's a bloke in Greatie market selling Oxford vaccinations for £2 each... or 3 for a Pfizer



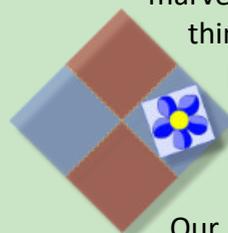
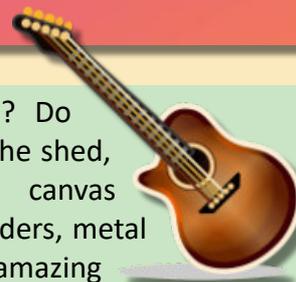
There can't be many people who don't think fresh snow is beautiful (before it goes grey and slushy and we have to go out in it).

One scientist/photographer is so fascinated with snow crystals that he has developed a camera which captures images at a microscopic level. Click [HERE](#) to read the article.



Who would have thought that a car with so many controversial stories attached to it, not to mention poor owner experiences, could not only become a film star but be the subject of an electrification project. Back to the future indeed! Click [HERE](#) for the story.

Do you have hidden talents? Do you have a man cave or a she shed, in which you turn out canvas masterpieces, wooden wonders, metal marvels or other amazing things? Does your particular hobby/skill take the form of magic, music or mayhem?



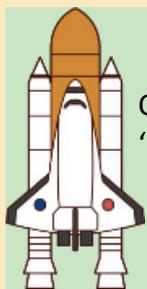
Our readers would love to read about your (family friendly) pastimes so please send in your stories. If you can share photos or videos even better! Send contributions to the normal email address.



To get things started, some of you already know that I sing in a chorus. Click [HERE](#) to watch us singing our version of the Turtles' song 'Happy Together'. I can't begin to describe the fun and challenges we had learning this one. All 4 voice parts are singing similar but different words and music, syncopated, for the entire song until the last note!



This Week In History



On January 28, 1986, the space shuttle 'Challenger' exploded shortly after take-off. Click [HERE](#) to read an article about the problem and aftermath.

January 26th 1926 saw John Logie Baird giving the first public demonstration of a new invention called 'Television'. Click [HERE](#) for a timeline of its progress.



By Sylvia Miley

Sometimes when you climb a mountain, the route is not easy. The wind blows and your head is down. The ground is rough, and careful negotiating is necessary, to avoid a stumble.

Friends are around you, who have previously climbed, are there to encourage and support your journey and some in their eagerness direct you wrongly. So you have to be firm and follow your inner knowing, of your pace, capacity and strength, to achieve the struggle.

In this climb, from darkness and uncertainty, be assured the sun, which gives life and strength, still shines. Behind that cloud of the grip of wind and cold, is the source of all growth and understanding.

Healing glances penetrate these clouds, which are like shafts of light and warmth. When these happen, you will be spurred on, and your strength will increase. Breathe deeply and inhale the fragrances of friendship, for friends only desire, what you desire, and wish to assist you, to achieve your purpose.

The purpose of all healing is to calm agitated hearts and souls, and re-establish certainty, in the stormy journey of life. You are supported and strong, well prepared, and with your feet firmly on the ground, carry on for the summit is in sight.

Great work from Sylvia, but just to prove that poetry doesn't always have to be deep and meaningful, here is a limerick wot I wrote, dedicated to all those lovely sand lizards in our dunes.

There once was a lizard called Sandy
Whose legs were incredibly bandy
As his tum hit the deck
He cried out "Oh Heck"
"A surfboard right now would be handy!"

By Ian Homewood

Prepare yourself as you walk to the most great Ocean to fathom its hidden depths.

Take one step into the gentle waves and feel the healing power from each drop as it cascades on to the golden sands signalling its strength.

Take another step into the ocean of oneness and be lifted by its power as you allow yourself to be washed and the dust of sorrows drift away.

Take two more steps and feel the strength as the mighty waves carry you forward - ever forward - to be immersed with joy allowing the healing powers to sooth the scars of yesterday.

As you swim in the ocean of oneness look ahead to the horizon and know that it can never be reached. Explore instead the mystical depths of the sea that hold their secrets.

Listen now to the rhythm and the Voice that's calling:

"Immerse yourselves in the ocean of My Words, that ye may unravel its secrets, and discover all the pearls of wisdom that lie hid in its depths."



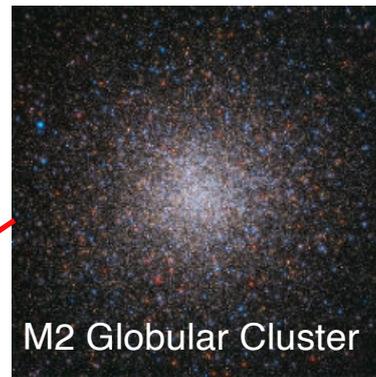
Not a lot is known in the UK about Swedish folk music, but the Swedes actually have a long tradition. It is said that the horns of their helmets were made to unscrew, to be used not only as drinking vessels but, when the Swedish beer had run its course, as musical instruments.

Click [HERE](#) to watch a video of a traditional Swedish folk song.

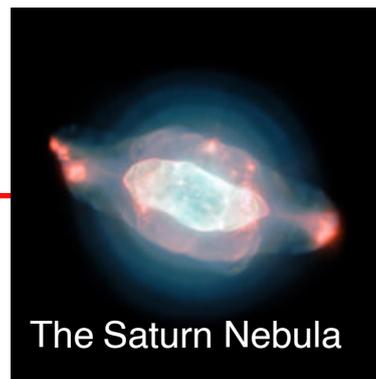
What's in Your Stars?

Courtesy of the Astronomy Group

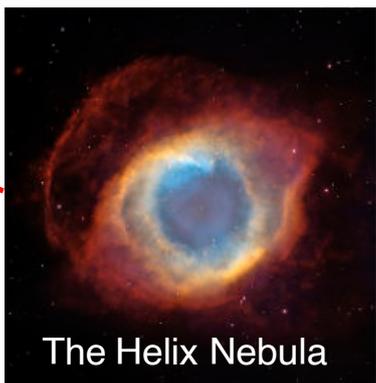
AQUARIUS (20 Jan - 21 Feb) The water bearer, is the 11th sign of the Zodiac and the 6th largest of all constellations, but is not easily recognised because it consists of low magnitude stars. However, Aquarius contains numerous deep sky objects and planet bearing stars; some are shown below.



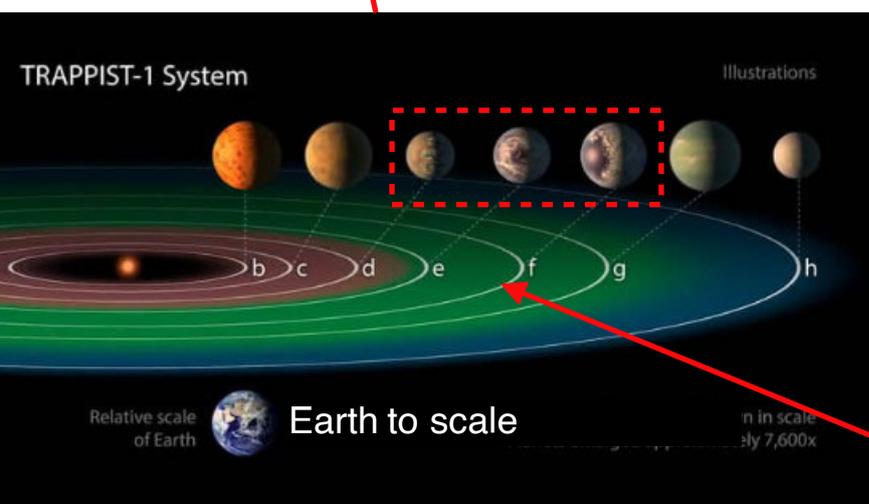
M2 contains 150,000 stars and is 174ly across



Planetary Nebula Discovered by William Herschel



Supernova remnant. Distance: 655 ly



TRAPPIST-1 is a stellar system consisting of a Red Dwarf star and seven rocky planets, found at a distance of only 40 light years from the Sun. The star has a very low surface temperature and is only a little larger than Jupiter, but much more massive. Three planets orbit within the habitable zone.



Saturday 30th January 2021

Everton v Newcastle United
12:30 BT Sport

Crystal Palace v Wolves
15:00 Sky Sports

Man City v Sheffield United
15:00S Sky Sports

West Brom v Fulham
15:00 BBC One / BBC iPlayer

Arsenal v Man Utd
17:30 Sky Sports

Southampton v Aston Villa
20:00 Sky Sports

Sunday 31st January 2021

Chelsea v Burnley
12:00 BT Sport

Leicester City v Leeds United
14:00 Sky Sports

West Ham United v Liverpool
16:30 Sky Sports

Brighton & Hove Albion v Tottenham Hotspur
19:15 Sky Sports



In the 19th century, the Swedish Navy planted 300,000 oak trees on the Visingsö island to provide strategically important timber for building ships in the future. Nearly 150 years later, the trees were fully grown and ready to be used, but they no longer needed the timber as modern ships are built with steel and iron.

unbelievable-facts.com



Game Show Hosts

learn,
laugh,
live

Who were the original hosts of these quizzes?

1. BLANKETY BLANK
2. QI
3. ASK THE FAMILY
4. TELLY ADDICTS
5. BIG BREAK
6. WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY
7. WHAT'S MY LINE
8. DOUBLE YOUR MONEY
9. THE PRICE IS RIGHT
10. WINNER TAKES ALL
11. A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN
12. SALE OF THE CENTURY
13. IN IT TO WIN IT
14. TIPPING POINT

The Pope is handing out miracles to kids in Liverpool. Billy walks on stage and asks him, "Can you help me with my hearing"...? The Pope says, "Yes" and puts his hands on Billy's ears and prays, he removes his hands and says, "How is your hearing now"...? Billy says, "I don't know, it's not until next Wednesday"...





My Wartime - Part 2

By Colin Weir

My school had concrete shelters covered with soil attached to the playgrounds and we had a lot of practice using them. Food was our main problem, or rather the lack of it.

We had ration books for everything, butter was reduced to two ounces per week per person, this equates to a quarter of your normal half pound pack of butter, for all of our cooking, baking and eating needs.

During the air raids we had the wardens banging on the door if you showed a mere glimmer of a light. Coal was rationed, that is if you could afford to buy it. Clothes were a problem for a young growing family and a lot had 'Hand me downs' with the aid of a mothers needle and cotton, doing any alterations required.

The wailing of the sirens soon had us dragged out of our nice warm beds into the cold earthy smelling shelter in the garden. Finding sufficient food to feed a family was a daily problem for most. Being close to farms and Lord Derby's estate had its advantages with the odd hare or rabbit, that was poached as well as vegetables from the farms.

My mothers family had a chippy in Old Swan almost opposite the Stanley abattoir with connections working in there. I remember George Hurst who lived close by and was a slaughterman, on a number of occasions, especially during the dark nights he would appear and take off his bulky jacket and shirt and unwrap the layers of beef fat from around his waist that he had nicked. Before he had got to the pub to spend his illicit gains the fat was being rendered down into beef dripping. Mother ensured some of the neighbours got a share and the talk for the next few days was about dripping butties, it was the equivalent of an early Christmas in those days.



Answers

Who were the original hosts of these quizzes?

1. Terry Wogan (1979)
2. Stephen Fry (2003)
3. Robert Robinson (1967)
4. Noel Edmonds (1985)
5. Jim Davidson (1978)
6. Clive Anderson (1988)
7. Gilbert Harding (1951)
8. Hughie Green (1955)
9. Leslie Crowther (1984)
10. Jimmy Tarbuck (1975)
11. James Corden (2010)
12. Nicholas Parsons (1971)
13. Dale Winton (2002)
14. Ben Shepherd (2012)

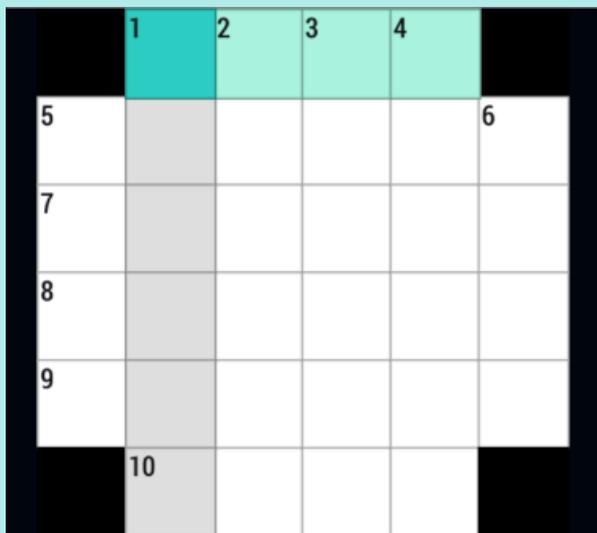
If you have any up-to-date information about Dr. Eric Midwinter one of the founders of the U3A, can you send it in to us please?



One of our members, who was at Edge Hill College between 1961 and 1964, when Mr Midwinter was a lecturer there, would like to hear how he is.



CROSSWORD No 1



ACROSS	DOWN
1 Atomizer output	1 Kitchen utensil
5 One-dimensional	2 Bury
7 Get some air	3 Sailor
8 Insight	4 Kind of show
9 Committal to custody	5 When repeated, a 1997 Jim Carrey comedy
10 Cost of living?	6 Rip apart

WORD SEARCH No 1



SUDOKU No 1

		5					2	
	2			8				
6	7			1			3	
3					6		7	
7		2				5		9
	8		9					3
	4			6			1	7
				4			5	
	3					8		

TODAY'S RIDDLES

- I'm tall when I'm young, and I'm short when I'm old. What am I?
- What is always in front of you but can't be seen?
- You see a boat filled with people, yet there isn't a single person on board. How is that possible?
- You walk into a room that contains a match, a kerosene lamp, a candle and a fireplace. What would you light first?
- A man who was outside in the rain without an umbrella or hat didn't get a single hair on his head wet. Why?
- I have branches, but no fruit, trunk or leaves. What am I?

ANSWERS TO ALL PUZZLES WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER

Jim Hay