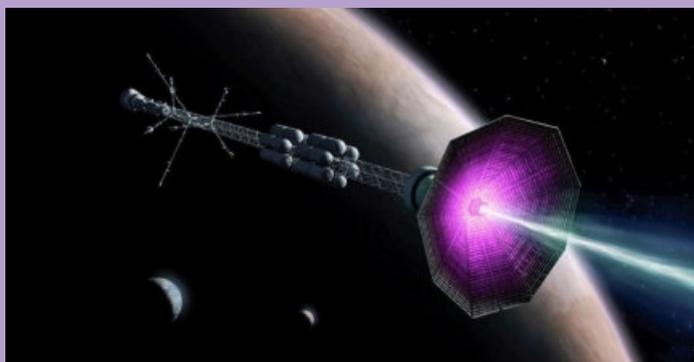
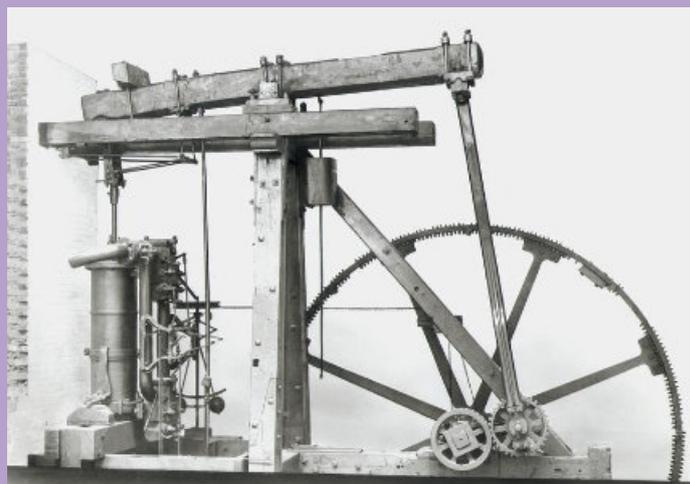


**Chocolate is vital for our survival.
Dinosaurs didn't have chocolate and look what happened to them...**



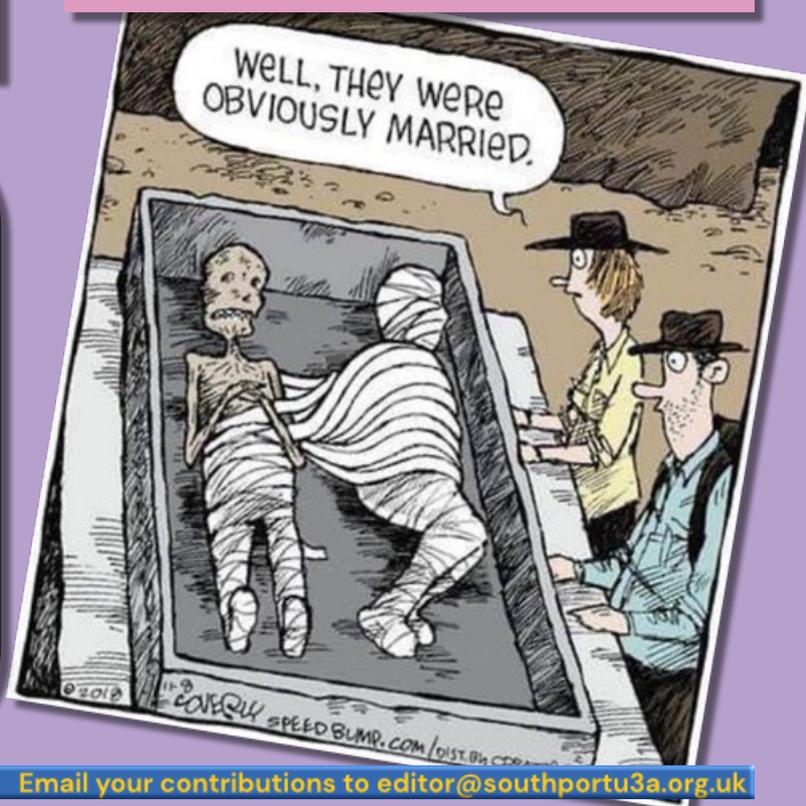
On the subject of chocolate, click [HERE](#) to read an article about new rocket thruster technology which will make it 10 times quicker to get to Mars (how about that, a joke and 'topic'al too!



After our item on Friday, about the Trencherfield Mill engine, Mary Wren got in touch to inform me that the Lego model was built by her son-in-law and that he has just completed another model.

His latest recreation is the Boulton & Watt Rotative Beam Engine 1788, designed by James Watt. Click [HERE](#) to watch the original machine in action in the Museum of Science and Industry in London and [HERE](#) to watch a video of the Lego replica.

If that isn't enough steam for you, click [HERE](#) to watch a video of where all this invention ended up.



QUIZ

THE CAT'S WHISKERS ANSWERS

- A Burmese
- B Birman
- C Russian Blue
- D Persiam
- E Ragdoll
- F Abyssinian
- G American Bobtail
- H Turkish Angora

Pat Abbott has sent in this contribution with the following message.

“We have just been sent pictures from a friend. They have come from a graphic artist living in Germany. He was looking after the baby whilst his wife was working and became fed up with continual texts asking how he was doing. It has become an Instagram sensation! “



Waiting

All things are renewed. At every end there is a beginning.

Spring approaches and the flowers stretch upwards eager for the warm sun.

Waiting -

Dainty white clouds float by in the weak spring sunshine.

The March wind is around the corner waiting to pounce. Just waiting to drive the old leaves into a corner for the new leaves are not quite ready yet.

Waiting now the clouds thicken and turn dark rolling and tumbling and laughing as they gallop by but waiting - waiting.

Nature halts in expectation and the flowers reaching up pause.

There is no sun, only heavy dark clouds' growing closer to the earth.

Waiting for what...Then the storm comes.

Thrashing and wild the rain beats down and the flowers brace themselves and gently open to receive nourishment - waiting for the storm to pass.

A mad March hare dances eagerly in preparation waiting for his honeymoon and new creation.

The birds snuggle closely in their nests - waiting.

The turbulent spring goes crazy as it welcomes the storm,

for there is a knowing that from darkness comes the light.

From the storm comes the sunshine for everything is renewed for spring and the new creation.

Everything is waiting – waiting for tomorrow, renewal and new birth.

Sylvia Miley

Toads

They call us common
But what do they mean?
We look after our appearance
And we keep our homes clean

We may not be pretty
Or have flowing manes
But there's no need to label us
And start calling us names

How would they like it
If we followed their lead
And shouted up after them
"What's up lanky weed?"

So before you speak out loud
Please try to make amends
And stop calling us names
That are likely to offend!

Ian Homewood



The Zoom Talks group had their first session yesterday, with a presentation about the upcoming census. You can watch a recording of the session by clicking [HERE](#). The presenter's sound quality is intermittently poor, but there is a lot of interesting and useful information.



**I told my suitcases
that there will
be no international
travel this year.
Now I am dealing
with emotional
baggage!!**



AGM VOTING

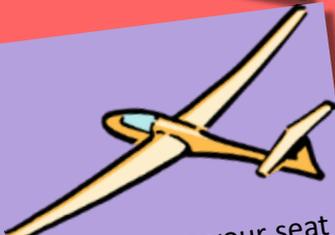
The table below shows the results of votes received for our recent AGM.

Motion	For	Against	Abstained
Acceptance of 2019/2020 Minutes	593	42	0
Acceptance of accounts and balance sheet	607	28	0
J.A. Fell as Examiners of Accounts	610	25	0
Amendments to constitution section 10i	621	14	0
Amendments to constitution section 16iv	569	14	52
Amendments to constitution section 14ii	618	1	16
Paddy McNeish as Chair	600	1	34
Ian Homewood election to Committee	616	0	19



I want to grow my own food, but I can't find any bacon seeds.

Fancy a glide along the coast of New Zealand? Sit back, fasten your seat belts, tray in upright position and click [HERE](#).



I'm sure everybody has heard about the Mars landing and perhaps even seen some of the coverage from NASA. If you want to see or hear more, click [HERE](#) to visit the NASA page devoted to the Perseverance mission.

NASA have also recently released an amazing 4k video of our moon. Click [HERE](#) to watch it.



A few years ago, workers in New Zealand discovered a 'Kauri' tree, which had lived for 1,700 years and then been preserved in a bog for 42,000 years. Scientists have been able to use the remains to determine what was going on with the Earth at the time it was alive.

Click [HERE](#) to read the article.



If you fancy listening to some old time radio shows, here are some links for you.

[Sherlock Holmes](#)
[Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar](#)
[Lux Radio Theater](#)



This Week In History

22 February 1904 (117 years ago): The United Kingdom sells a meteorological station on the South Orkney Islands to Argentina; the islands are subsequently claimed by the United Kingdom in 1908.

23 February 1739 (282 years ago): At York Castle, the outlaw Dick Turpin is identified by his former schoolteacher. Turpin had been using the name Richard Palmer

23 February 1455 (566 years ago): Traditional date for the publication of the Gutenberg Bible, the first Western book printed with movable type

24 February 2008 (13 years ago): Fidel Castro retires as the President of Cuba and the Council of Ministers after 32 years. He remains as head of the Communist Party for another three years.

25 February 1991 (30 years ago): Disbandment of the Warsaw Pact at a meeting of its members in Budapest.