

The Viral Times

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These pictures were the winning entries in the Photography Challenge "A Family Pet"

From the Newsletter Editor

I hope you all enjoyed the last issue, if you have any comments please let me have them. Thanks again to all who volunteered their time to distribute hard copies to those members without e-mail.

I appreciate any and all contributions for this newsletter so please don't be shy. Put your 4 pennyworth in (to paul.smith2000@talktalk.net) and let us know what you are doing to cope with this really difficult situation. **I would like to put out a request for some more contributions as I am beginning to run out of copy.**

From the Committee

Zoom General Meeting – Monday 17th August 2020 at 2.00pm

We will be holding our usual General Meeting on Zoom in August. Committee members will give an update on Bourne U3A during the pandemic and Malcolm Scriven will give a talk on living and working in Qatar. If you have not already done so, please register your interest by email to mpscriven@hotmail.com

A Photography Challenge?

The challenge was to take photos on the subject of "A Family Pet". 14 Entries were received (the best level of entries yet, thank you) and selected as the best 3 were those above from Diedre Carter, Jean Fletcher and Vaughan Roberts

The new challenge is " A Landscape " (entries by 10-08-20)

The next challenge is " From the Garden " (entries by 24-08-20)

Entries to :- vasmroberts@gmail.com

A little bit of humour



Perspective.

"Imagine you were born in 1900. On your 14th birthday, World War I starts, and ends on your 18th birthday. 22 million people perish in that war. Later in the year, a Spanish Flu epidemic hits the planet and runs until your 20th birthday. 50 million people die from it in those two years. Yes, 50 million. On your 29th birthday, the Great Depression begins. Unemployment hits 25%, the World GDP drops 27%. That runs until you are 33. The country nearly collapses along with the world economy. When you turn 39, World War II starts. You aren't even over the hill yet. And don't try to catch your breath. On your 41st birthday, the United States is fully pulled into WWII. Between your 39th and 45th birthday, 75 million people perish in the war. At 50, the Korean War starts. 5 million perish. At 55 the Vietnam War begins and doesn't end for 20 years. 4 million people perish in that conflict. On your 62nd birthday you have the Cuban Missile Crisis, a tipping point in the Cold War. Life on our planet, as we know it, should have ended. Great leaders prevented that from happening. When you turn 75, the Vietnam War finally ends. Think of everyone on the planet born in 1900. How do you survive all of that?

If you were a kid in 1985 and didn't think your old grandparent understood how hard school and life was, think again! They survived through everything listed above. Perspective is an amazing art, refined as time goes on, and enlightening like you wouldn't believe. Let's try and keep things in perspective."

For Free!

A small cement mixer is available, free to a good home, please contact Nigel at this address :-
njsellwood@googlemail.com

Lockdown Lingo

This is good Lockdown lingo - are you fully conversant with the new terminology? I found they got funnier the further down the list you go!.

Furlough Merlot

Wine consumed in an attempt to relieve the frustration of not working. Also known as “bored-eaux” or “cabernet tedium”.

Coronadose

An overdose of bad news from consuming too much media during a time of crisis. Can result in a panicdemic.

The elephant in the Zoom

The glaring issue during a videoconferencing call that nobody feels able to mention. E.g. one participant has dramatically put on weight, suddenly sprouted terrible facial hair or has a worryingly messy house visible in the background.

Quentin Quarantino

An attention-seeker using their time in lockdown to make amateur films which they’re convinced are funnier and cleverer than they actually are.

Covidiot* or *Wuhan-ker

One who ignores public health advice or behaves with reckless disregard for the safety of others can be said to display “covidioty” or be “covidiotic”. Also called a “lockclown” or even a “Wuhan-ker”.

Goutbreak

The sudden fear that you’ve consumed so much wine, cheese, home-made cake and Easter chocolate in lockdown that your ankles are swelling up like a medieval king’s.

Antisocial distancing

Using health precautions as an excuse for snubbing neighbours and generally ignoring people you find irritating.

Coughin’ dodger

Someone so alarmed by an innocuous splutter or throat-clear that they back away in terror.

Mask-ara

Extra make-up applied to "make one's eyes pop" before venturing out in public wearing a face mask.

Covid-10

The 10lbs in weight that we’re all gaining from comfort-eating and comfort-drinking. Also known as “fattening the curve”.

...and finally, finally: One sentence to sum up 2020, so far: At one point this week, 1 loo roll was worth more than a barrel of crude oil!

Poetry

This poem was sent to me by David Hughes

Covid19

We know where you've been,
 Covid 19
 You thought you were
 Hidden, acting unseen
 You crept in unnoticed
 and caught us off-guard
 You came up behind us
 You hurt us so hard
 You swelled up with pride
 When you forced us inside
 You thought you were winning
 When so many died
 You took hold of our money
 We went into debt
 But covid 19
 We're not finished yet!
 You are fading out now
 You're losing your grip
 Beginning to fade
 And starting to slip
 Your hold is going
 We've taken a stand
 We've all had enough
 Drawn a line in the sand
 Times have been tough
 But come the day
 We'll all meet again
 At the U3A

The Quiz Section

Answers to the "It's all Greek to me! Crossword"

M	Y	N	Y	M	P	H		G	O	D	I	V
E		O		E		E		A		E		E
M	E	T	E	R		R	O	M	U	L	U	S
E		U		C		M		M		A		T
N	E	P	T	U	N	E		A	L	P	H	A
T				R		S				S		
O	P	H	R	Y	S		A	T	H	E	N	A
		U				O		E				T
V	E	N	U	S		F	O	R	B	E	A	R
A		T		E		H		P		A		O
G	L	I	M	P	S	E		S	Y	R	U	P
U		N		T		R		I		T		O
S	I	G	M	A		B	A	C	C	H	U	S

Now a Combined Quick / Cryptic crossword.

The answers are the same for both sets of clues!

1		2		3			4	5		6		7
8						9						
10								11				
		12		13						14		
15												16
17		15				19		20				
21								22				
23							24					

Quick clues

ACROSS

Cryptic clues

- 1 Home help from abroad (2,4)
- 4 Feudal retainer (6)
- 8 Skimpy undergarment (5)
- 9 Refrain from voting (7)
- 10 Refuge (7)
- 11 Shelf-like projection (5)
- 12 Martial arts expert (5,4)
- 17 Be of use (5)
- 19 Word meaning the opposite (7)
- 21 Journeys by sea (7)
- 22 Lifeless (5)
- 23 Portugal's capital (6)
- 24 Soldier on watch (6)

- 1 Help at the French match (2,4)
- 4 Girl has fool in liegeman (6)
- 8 Chinese party detains husband in swimwear (5)
- 9 Mark follows sailor to avoid (7)
- 10 Confused, lets her retreat (7)
- 11 Snow melts from sleigh on overhang (5)
- 12 Dark support for Dan? (5,4)
- 17 A screen was heard to help (5)
- 19 Contrast shown when Antony married Cleo (7)
- 21 Say!, Gove travels! (7)
- 22 Nitre explodes but remains stable (5)
- 23 City wearing fleur-de-lis bonnet (6)
- 24 Defender gets 3 points for a try (6)

DOWN

- 1 Monet, for example (6)
- 2 Adage (7)
- 3 Bullion bar (5)
- 5 Exonerate (7)
- 6 Injure with hot liquid (5)
- 7 Candle (anag) (6)
- 9 Language of the Boers (9)
- 13 Lively, in music (7)
- 14 Trig ratio (7)
- 15 Wonder (6)
- 16 Mildly obscene (6)
- 18 Bottomless gulf (5)
- 20 Hackneyed (5)

- 1 Dire Strait musician? (6)
- 2 Motto for infinitive (7)
- 3 Robbers went in, got their gold inside (5)
- 5 Explain after first two clear (7)
- 6 Climbed, except Eiger, to get the burn! (5)
- 7 One of Ronnies' four, incised (6)
- 9 Tongue sees Africans lose carbon and gaining a potassium retrospectively (9)
- 13 Everyone, say, preceded soldiers quickly (7)
- 14 Brown man produced deviation (7)
- 15 Be in awe of this Disney Universe! (6)
- 16 Dirty dog loses tail in pig's home (6)
- 18 Your salts are encased in muscles, deep (5)
- 20 "Have a go!" overheard, so clichéd! (5)