

The Viral Times

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These pictures were the entries in the Photography Challenge "Wildflowers"

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. I still have a few quiz questions and funnies but "more serious" contributions are a bit thin on the ground so please let me have anything you would like to contribute.**

A Photography Challenge?

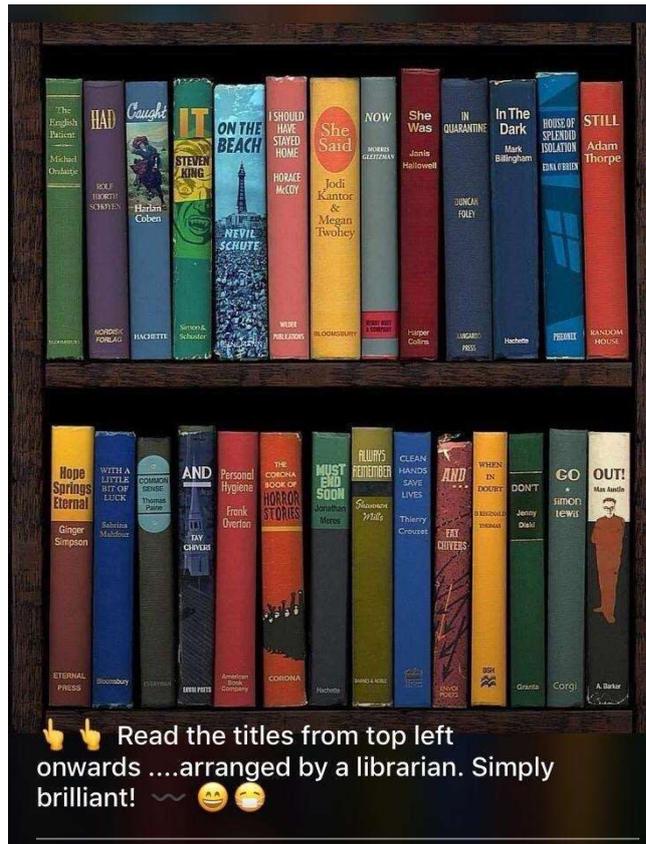
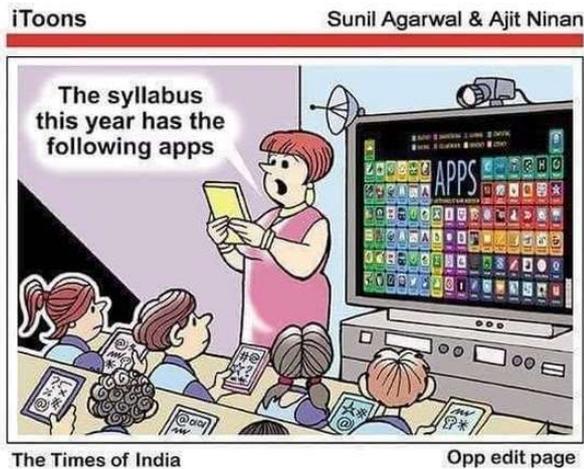
The challenge was to take photos on the subject of "Wildflowers". 13 Entries were received (thanks to all of you) and selected as the best 4 were those above from Diane Hinchliffe, Vaughan Roberts, Richard White and somebody called Paul Smith.

The new challenge is " A Souvenir " (entries by 14-6-20)

The next challenge is " Summertime " (entries by 21-6-20)

Entries to :- vasmroberts@gmail.com

A little bit of humour



From the Poetry Group

High Flight

John Gillespie Magee Jr. (1922-1941)

Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth,
and danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth
of sun-split clouds - and done a hundred things
you have not dreamed of - wheeled and soared and swung
high in the sunlit silence. Hovering there
I've chased the shouting wind along
and flung my eager craft through footless halls of air.

Up, up the long delirious burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace,
where never lark, or even eagle, flew;
and, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
the high un-trespassed sanctity of space,
put out my hand and touched the face of God.

John Gillespie Magee Jr. was a World War II Anglo-American fighter pilot. He was born in China to an American father and a British mother who both worked as Anglican missionaries. In 1931 he arrived in England and attended school at Walmer in Kent before going on to Rugby School where he decided he wanted to become a poet. Rupert Brooke, who wrote the famous World War I sonnet 'The Soldier' had also attended Rugby School.

In July 1940 Magee volunteered for the Royal Canadian Air Force and obtained his Wings in Ontario in June 1941. On August 18th, in Wales, he flew a Spitfire to 30,000 feet in a flight thought to have inspired his famous sonnet 'High Flight'. He was assigned to RAF Digby in the September and saw active service over France in November. On December 11th, while engaged in tactical training, Magee was involved in a mid-air collision over Roxholme, near Cranwell and although managing to exit his plane was at too low an altitude for his parachute to open and died on impact with the ground, near Ruskington. He was nineteen. He is buried in the graveyard of Holy Cross Church at Scopwick and, when conditions permit, it is well worth visiting the location, only a 35 minute drive from Bourne. Take with you, and read there, a copy of the poem.

The Quiz

Answers to the "Menu" quiz

1. Pea.
2. Turtle.
3. Oxtail.
4. Minestrone.
5. Mushroom
6. Perch.
7. Plaice.
8. Cod.
9. Scampi.
10. Haddock.
11. Crab.
12. Herring.
13. Skate.
14. Lamb.
15. Duck.
16. Ostrich.
17. Guinea Fowl.
18. Pork Chops.
19. Turkey.
20. Fillet.
21. Pheasant.
22. Roast Beef.
23. Chicken.
24. Partridge.
25. Grouse.
26. Leeks.
27. Parsnips.
28. Turnip.
29. Runner Bean.
30. Potato.
31. Swede.
32. Carrot.
33. Broccoli.
34. Brussel Sprouts.
35. Courgettes.
36. Eve's Pudding.
37. Mousse.
38. Peach Melba.
39. Pavlova.
40. Black Forest Gateau.
41. Treacle Sponge.
42. Knickerbocker Glory.
43. Raspberry Sundae.
44. Apple Tarte.
45. Baked Alaska.

And now for the new one!

Following on a little from the last quiz here is a "Vegetable Quiz"

1. What vegetable gives added flavour to potatoes in vichyssoise soup?
2. What French term is used by the English for what the Americans call a snow pea?
3. What would you find growing in a West Yorkshire triangle?
4. Can you name the three courses of Willi Wonka's flawed chewing gum that was the downfall of Violet Beauregarde?
5. What fruit is umeboshi made from?
6. What was the first vegetable to be grown and eaten in space?
7. What vegetable did Mark Twain describe as being "nothing but cabbage with a college education"?
8. How did former American vice-president Dan Quayle spell the word potato?
9. What does the hungry caterpillar eat on Thursday?
10. What common vegetable can also go by the name tumshie, snadger or rutabaga?

Answers & more questions in the next issue! (no googling!)

How are you keeping yourself occupied ?

In the spirit of U3A and our educational bias I wondered if a Q and A section might appear.

And here is the first answer (Thanks to Ian Tanner).

1. It's important to realise that a single rainbow is the result of 2 distinct optical processes. Firstly incoming sunlight is split into its component colour spectrum as it enters a water globule by virtue of

every colour having an associated frequency and directly connected refraction angle. The split light then has to return in very roughly the direction from whence it came (It's normal to see single and double rainbows when the Sun is behind you) and it achieves this by reflecting off the globule's internal surface and then passing out of the globule at a fairly normal (ie 90 deg) angle to that last interface.

2. It's also important to realise that the rainbow you see is unique to your position. Your girlfriend's rainbow (I'm dreaming back over 60 years here!) is a totally different one. In either case it is the sum result of the paths of billions of (and some!) light rays making their ways from the Sun to your eyeball(s). In all cases the semi-circular (rain)bow is seen by you because all points on it are at the same angle from you.
3. In a double rainbow the rays have been reflected twice within some globules but still manage to escape (together with the first reflection) in roughly the necessary direction to be seen by you, albeit with a loss of intensity. . The colour reversal of the second image of the first is that of any reflected image. (I'm currently finding it very confusing to be sent screenshots of 'Zoom' sessions where I seem to be on the wrong side of Kathleen!)
4. It's just not possible to get 3 reflections all returning in the observers direction and so those rare observations, and even rarer photographs, which have been made are with the Sun in front of the observer. IF you should see a double rainbow in the direction of the sun (it's going to be very weak anyway) it might just be worth holding your thumb out at arms length to obliterate the Sun to see if a 3rd rainbow can be seen. I believe all the photographs of the phenomenon are electronically enhanced. I've tried to keep this down to printable length but for more see:- <https://earthsky.org/earth/first-ever-photos-of-triple-and-quadruple-rainbows>.

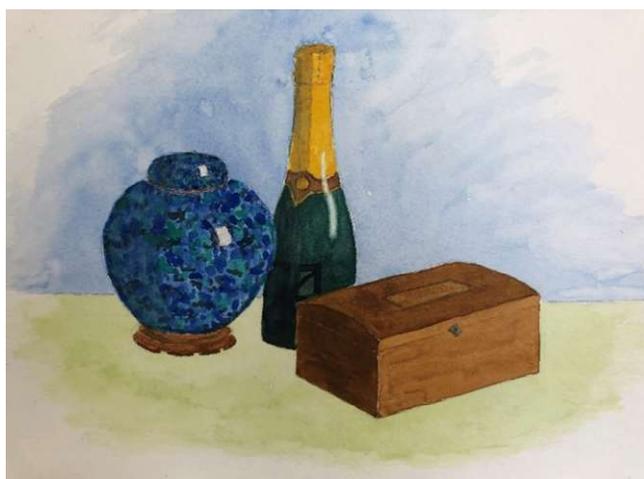
Any more questions?

Creating the Past.

(A Saga in 50 Words) By "The Masked Author".

An archaeologist began digging in Avebury's stone circle, investigating mysteries of the past. Tipping up an enormous stone, to determine its length, he found a crushed skeleton beneath and pondered how and why it got there. Jumping down to look further, the stone tipped back and he became tomorrow's enigma.

From the Drawing & Art Group



This is our first entry from David Piffs

Any more budding artists out there? Give it a go & when you have finished email it to me (petergillatt@sky.com) for inclusion in the next U3A bulletin.