

NEWSLETTER

Christmas Edition

Lockdown Issue 6



Our special Lockdown Newsletter editions started in spring of this year as a vehicle for keeping you informed of any news relevant to the branch at a local level. National news has come either by e-mail or post on a monthly basis from the Chief Executive John Rostill.

Throughout the year it was felt that the current situation was unlikely to improve without the arrival of an effective vaccine. Well...the good news is that the recent announcement of a vaccine being available, with early encouraging results, indeed has shone a light at the end of what was a very long dark tunnel.

There is still a long way to go but we can move into 2021 with a degree of optimism that many things will improve for the better, one of the many bonuses including that we can also meet again as a branch in a safe environment.



Also at this time of year, leading up to Christmas - a time that we hopefully will be able to share with friends and family - also reminds me that December is when, since 2012, 70-80 members meet up for a Christmas Festive Lunch at the Marriott Hotel. Not this year unfortunately, but I have added some "snaps" of last years' festivities, as a reminder of those occasions and as a reminder of hopefully

a return to some degree of normality next year.

**Happy Christmas and a Healthy
New Year!**

Norman



What carol would you like us to text you?



Lockdown Gardening

My Husband and I are keen gardeners and have a number of allotment plots. Earlier this year we were allocated a plot in the Birchgrove site. During lockdown I sowed vegetable seeds and my husband (Dave) cleared the plot. This plot was to be shared with our son (Jonathan) who lives nearby. At the new allotment, vegetables such as potatoes, carrots, lettuces, leeks, French beans, peas, onions, beetroot, pak choi were grown and in the green house, tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers. We were also very lucky this year with the amount of deliciously sweet strawberries that had grown.

Jonathan was very keen on growing his own hops at the allotment, which were very successful. When they were ready, they were picked and taken to a Cardiff brewery to be made into beer. When Jonathan was on furlough, he would walk his



children over to the allotment; this became a welcome refuge for them all.

Like the rest of the country in lockdown we spent a lot of time at home and with the weather being fine, we set to work on our Garden. I sowed the flowers seeds and when the seedlings were large enough, I arranged them into over 150 pots. Luckily enough during the summer months we had a wonderful display of flowers, in particular dahlias, marigolds, verbena, rudbeckia, roses, cosmos, zinnia and stocks. The huge variety of colours was lovely!

Christine Pritchard





CHRISTMAS QUIZ 2020

PANTOMIME ANSWERS

1. What is the name of the father of Cinderella and the Ugly Sisters? – **Baron Hard-up.**
2. In which pantomime do Robin Hood and Maid Marion appear? – **Babes in the Wood.**
3. What is the name of Aladdin’s brother? – **Wishee Washee.**
4. What phrase does the giant in “Jack and the Beanstalk” use when he can smell Jack? – **Fe Fi Fo Fum, I Smell the Blood of an Englishman.**
5. In pantomime, who is Princess Marcella? – **Sleeping Beauty.**
6. What is the name of Prince Charming’s assistant? – **Dandini.**
7. In which panto does Buttons appear? – **Cinderella.**
8. What is Aladdin’s mother called? – **Widow Twankey.**
9. Who had appeared in panto for 38 consecutive years until 2007 when he won TV’s “I’m a Celebrity...”? – **Christopher Biggins.**
10. What told Dick Whittington to “turn again”? – **The Bells of London.**
11. In Jack & the Beanstalk, what does Jack get in exchange for his cow? – **Magic Beans.**
12. In Disney’s Aladdin the villain was known as JAFFAR but by what name is he traditionally known? – **Abanazer.**
13. What is the most popular panto? – **Cinderella.**
14. Which panto was created in 1902 for the comedian Dan Leno? – **Mother Goose.**
15. From what set of stories does the tale of Aladdin originate? – **The Arabian Nights.**
16. From what does the Fairy Godmother create Cinderella’s footmen? – **Mice.**
17. What is Jack’s mother normally know as in Jack & the Beanstalk? – **Dame Trott.**
18. What name is given to the leading man in panto, usually played by a woman? – **Principal Boy.**
19. In which panto would you find the character King Rat? – **Dick Whittington.**
20. From which side of the stage do the “Goodies” in panto normally appear? – **Stage Right.**



This is your THINKING CAP

Put it on because you’ll need it!

Keep that Brain working...

See if you can figure out what these seven words all have in common:

1. **Banana**
2. **Dresser**
3. **Grammar**
4. **Potato**
5. **Revive**
6. **Uneven**
7. **Assess**

Give it another try...
 Look at each word carefully.
 You’ll kick yourself when you
 discover the answer.
 No, it’s not that they all have at
 least 2 double letters.

Answer:
 In all the words listed, if you
 take the first letter, place it
 at the end of the word, then
 spell the word backwards it
 will be the same word.

IMPOSSIBILITIES



You can’t count your hair.



You can’t wash your eyes with soap.

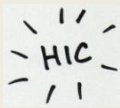


You can’t breathe through your nose when your tongue is out.

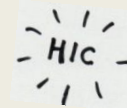
You can now put your tongue back in your mouth.

Nine (9) Things I know about YOU...

1. You are reading this.
2. You are human.
3. You can't say the letter "P" without separating your lips.
4. You just attempted to do it.
6. You are laughing at yourself.
7. You have a smile on your face and you've skipped No. 5.
8. You just checked to see if there is a No. 5.
9. You laugh at this because you are a fun-loving person and everyone else does it too.



MORE QUIZMAS CHRISSES



1. Johnny's mother had three children. The first child was named April. The second child was named May. What was the third child called?
2. There is a clerk at the butcher shop, he is five feet ten inches tall and wears size 13 sneakers. What does he weigh?
3. Before Mt. Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?
4. How much dirt is there in a hole that measures two feet by three feet by four feet?
5. What word in the English Dictionary is always spelt incorrectly?
6. Billy was born on December 28th, yet his birthday is always in the summer. How is this possible?
7. What is the longest word in the English Dictionary?



Answers below



CHEERS

QUIZMAS CHRISSES ANSWERS

1. Johnny, of course.
2. Meat.
3. Mt. Everest; it just wasn't discovered.
4. There is no dirt in a hole.
5. incorrectly.
6. Billy lives in the southern hemisphere.
7. Smiles; because there is a mile between the first and last letters.