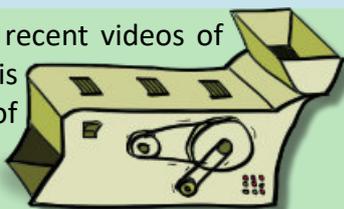


Following on from the recent videos of Lego creations, here is one supplied by one of the members of my chorus. What to do with some cardboard, a few ball bearings and too much time on your hands. Click [HERE](#) to watch the video.



There is some good news for a section of the population. Click [HERE](#) to find out who and why.

CENSUS 2021

Relevant in this year of the census:

The 1851 census enumerators' returns showed that Southport's population of 4,766 included: four merchants, nine manufacturers, nine brokers, three coal mine proprietors and 14 land and property owners.

The professions were also represented with seven surgeons, a physician, five solicitors, a barrister, seven active clergymen, a banker and an accountant.

An indicator of the town's growth was the presence of 142 building operatives.

Servant-keeping topped the list of middle-class 'paraphernalia of gentility' and the number of servants provided a tangible expression of social status. In Southport there were 404 female and 18 male servants in residence.

I wonder what the census this year will show?

Helen Makin (Local History Group)

Southport U3a bridge is going strong

The social U3a bridge which used to meet face to face on

a Monday is still playing bridge but via an online site called Bridge Base Online

Six tables of four play every Monday from 2-4pm and enjoy their games. It's not the same as face to face but at least we're keeping up our skills in bridge.

Another development in bridge has been a beginners group. We started in November last year through zoom, meeting every Thursday. It is not the ideal way to learn to play but the members have to be admired as they have been steadfast in their determination to succeed in learning to play. They are now sufficiently competent to play Bridge Base Online. But they like me can't wait to hone their skills face to face.

Brenda Jones



BBC iPlayer is streaming a series by David Attenborough, about how animals use colour. Click [HERE](#) to watch it.



The Liverpool legend Ian St John passed away this week aged 82, he was a terrific centre forward in the Bill Shankly era and I am reminded of a notice on a church board near to Anfield which said "What will you do when the Lord comes?" and some scouse wit had added "Move St John to inside right!!!!"

Doug Bridson

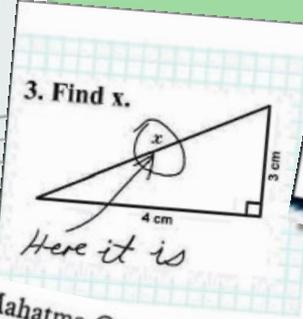


Why Teachers Drink!

Transparency Worksheet 23
Hard and Soft Water

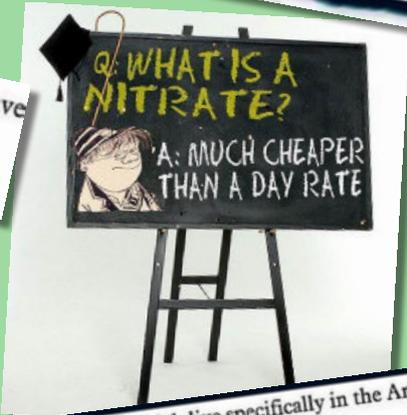
1. Briefly explain what hard water is. *ice*

2. Note that calcium is one of the solids dissolved in ocean water. Describe the effects of calcium on the environment.



What was Sir Walter Raleigh famous for?
He is a noted figure in history because he invented cigarettes and started a craze for Bicycles.

What did Mahatma Gandhi and Genghis Khan have in common?
Unusual names



Name one of the early Romans' greatest achievements.
learning to speak Latin.

Name the wife of Orpheus, whom he attempted to save from the underworld.
Mrs Orpheus

Name six animals which live specifically in the Arctic.
*Two polar bears
~~Three~~ Four seals*

How does Romeo's character develop throughout the play?
It doesn't, it's just self, self, self, all the way through.

Where was the American Declaration of Independence signed?
At the bottom.

What happens during puberty to a boy?
He says goodbye to his childhood enters adultery.

Explain the phrase 'free press'.
When your mum irons trousers for you.

What is the highest frequency noise that a human can register?
Mariah Carey.

Where was Hadrian's Wall built?
Around Hadrian's garden

What is a vibration?
There are good vibrations and bad vibrations. Good vibrations were discovered in the 1960s

Joanna works in an office. Her computer is a stand-alone system. What is a stand-alone computer system?
It doesn't come with a chair

Why would living close to a mobile phone mast cause ill health?
You might walk into it.

Submitted by Colin Weir

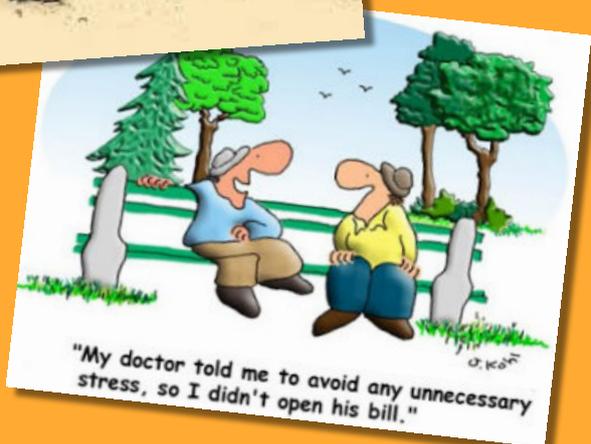
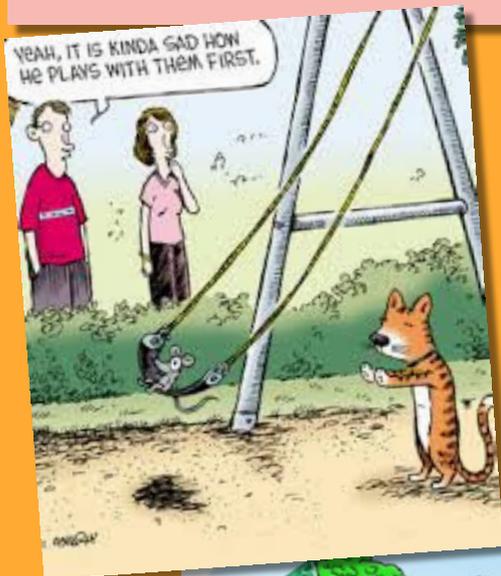
THE LEGEND OF THE LOST BUS.

The old folk tell a tale
When they meet to sup their ale
It's all a little spooky strange and weird.
They say somewhere near Rose Crescent
Something happened most unpleasant
And a number 49 bus disappeared.

It was lost and never found,
Was it swallowed underground?
Was it stolen and driven to destruction?
Was it hi-jacked by Afghanis,
Or a group of Kurdistanis,
Was it a case of alien abduction?

Now when the day begins to die
And the night is drawing nigh
There's a reason why your bus is overdue
Dreading danger in the dark
Like the animals in the ark
The number 49s go two by two.

Mike Rathbone.



Derrick Oldfield has sent me an interesting item about 'Augusta', home of the US Masters.

learn,
laugh,
live

It is too long to include in the newsletter so I have created a separate document which you can read by clicking [HERE](#).

You think English is easy?

Words that are spelled the same but are pronounced differently and have different meanings are Heteronyms.

- The bandage was wound around the wound.
- The farm was used to produce produce.
- The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- We must polish the Polish furniture.
- He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- The soldier decided to desert his friend in the desert.
- Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
- There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- They were too close to the door to close it.
- The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer pipe.
- To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- Upon seeing the tear in the painting, I shed a tear.

David North

Click [HERE](#) to watch an amazing technique for bringing old artwork to life.



Wine 2 during lockdown

Since very early on in the first lockdown Wine 2 have been holding weekly Zoom meetings. To be honest I'm not too sure how it came about. I recall Jenny Tyler suggesting that we have a Wine 2 Whats App group which Jenny set up. This is still up and running and members use it daily.

From this beginning our Zoom meetings took off. Our normal pre-Covid meetings were held in members homes on a monthly basis. The aim was to have six tastings per evening, three reds and three whites. Each member had to bring a bottle of wine and their contribution to a shared table which followed on from the tastings.

Obviously this format had to be changed. It was agreed, I think, that members would bring to the Zoom meeting a wine of their choice and to talk to the other members about their wine as they would have done in the meetings proper. They would then tell the other members what they had prepared and eaten for their meal to accompany the wine they were drinking. Writing this down it doesn't sound like a lot of fun, which is about what I thought when we were discussing how the Zoom meetings would be run. However I can honestly say how wrong I was and how wrong you are dear U3A member if you thought the same.

As discussed above, our meetings would under normal circumstances be held monthly. As consequence of lockdown, and all being of a similar age range, with the probability that we would not see our children or grandchildren for several weeks at least. It was decided that we would hold our meetings weekly. After some months I asked members if they wanted to change from weekly meetings to maybe two-weekly or even monthly and quite emphatically the decision was that we should continue to meet weekly.



I perhaps should mention that there are seventeen members in the group and we regularly have fifteen members for our Zoom meetings. The meeting starts officially at 7.00pm but in reality members are waiting to get into the Zoom meeting from 6.50pm onwards. As people enter the meeting there is a general chat, welcoming each other in much the same way as you would under normal circumstances. The meeting proper tends to

begin about 7.10pm and the members who have brought white wine will lead off. These are then followed by the red wine drinkers. Quite a lot of banter takes place during this "formal part" of the evening which is wonderful to listen to. After we have all done our bit then it becomes a "controlled" free for all, a contradiction in terms I know. However it seems to work well for us. The meeting will normally last from an hour up to one and half hours. No set limit but the end is determined by the level of chat going on. That members turn up in force each week I think exemplifies just how enjoyable the meetings are,

Bob Jones



response from Ron Tate.

Car in the desert I can top that drove my Morris marina from Woolwich east London to St. Neots 75 miles with the string coming in the driver's window.

The video on Tuesday prompted this

Did not take the bonnet off. Cause of the problem loose earth lead on the engine. So pulled the starter car earthed through the throttle cable which melted the outer sleeve of the cable. Happened twice before they found out what had caused it. If I had been going to work I would have stopped but I was going home

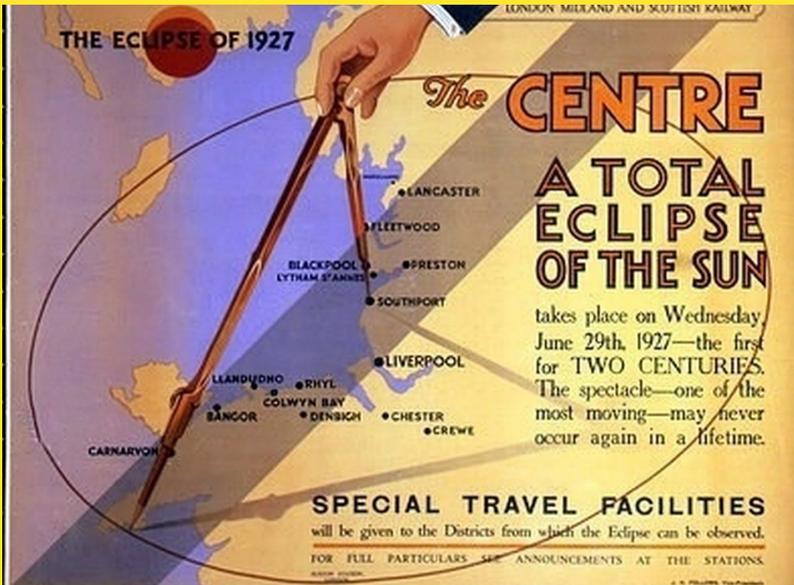
Southport's Total Solar Eclipse



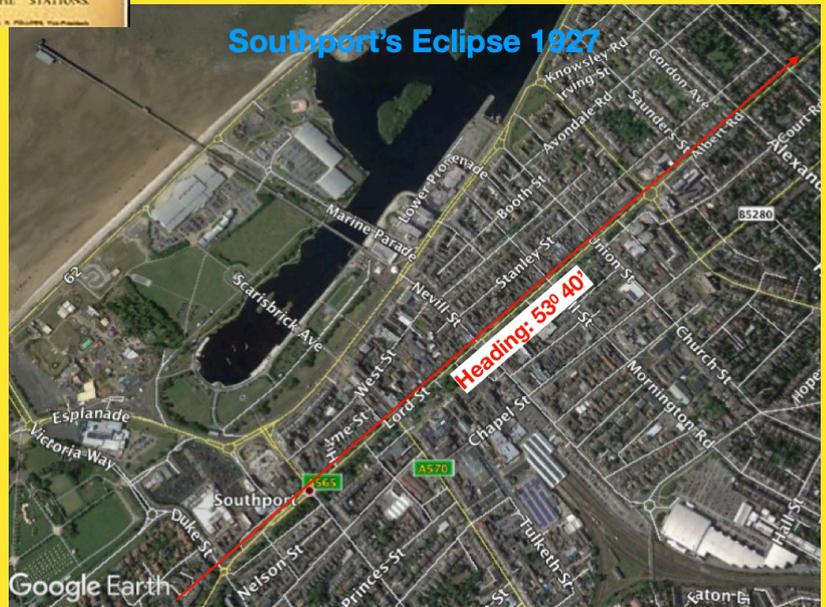
Robert Mount

The eclipse as seen from Southport.

The solar eclipse of 29th June 1927 was the first total eclipse to cross the UK since 1725 and caused much excitement throughout the country, especially Southport, which lay directly in its path.



At 5.24 am, through a clear blue sky, the centre of the path of the eclipse (the Umbra) passed precisely along Lord Street, from top to bottom. Southport had the best view of the event in the country. Totality lasted 24 seconds!



The eclipse path crossed Moor Park in Preston, Giggleswick (where the Astronomer Royal waited) and exited the UK on the east coast at Hartlepool. It ended in the NW Pacific Ocean.

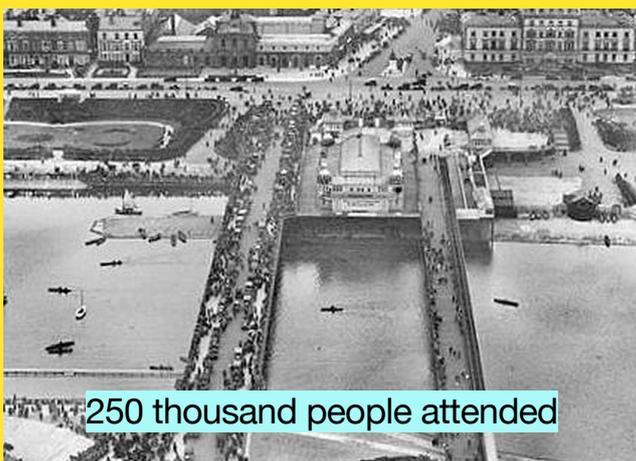
Southport Astronomical Society founded in 1927.



Astronomers one and all!



Scientists preparing for the eclipse at KGV school.



250 thousand people attended



Saturday 6th March 2021

Burnley v Arsenal
12:30 BT Sport

Sheffield United v Southampton
15:00 Sky Sports

Aston Villa v Wolves
17:30 Sky Sports

Brighton & Hove Albion v Leicester City
20:00 Sky Sports

Sunday 7th March 2021

West Brom v Newcastle United
12:00 Amazon Prime Video

Liverpool v Fulham
14:00 Sky Sports

Man City v Man Utd
16:30 Sky Sports

Tottenham Hotspur v Crystal Palace
19:15 Sky Sports

Monday 8th March 2021

Chelsea v Everton
18:00 BT Sport

West Ham United v Leeds United
20:00 Sky Sports

Jeremy Clarkson may not be everybody's cup of tea, but this newsletter is nothing if not inclusive! Click [HERE](#) to watch a short video of him being interviewed while relaxing at the pub.



During the Falklands conflict, one of the RAF Vulcan bombers went missing. Click [HERE](#) to watch a video about what happened to it and how the British got it back.



ZOOM TALKS AT HOME

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<p>Wed 10th March at 2pm <i>Cyber Security, being Safe and Secure</i></p>	<p>Tues 23th March at 10.30pm <i>Dark Light, The Flannan Island Lighthouse Mystery</i></p>	<p>Wed 7th April at 2pm <i>Ladies of the Air, 'Grandma Flew Spitfires'</i></p>	<p>Thur 22nd April at 2pm <i>Wrecks of the Southport Coast</i></p>	<p>Thur 6th May at 2pm <i>Rivington Terraced Gardens</i></p>
<p>Thur 20th May at 2pm <i>Apitourism - travelling for bees</i></p>	<p>Thur 3 June at 2pm <i>John Dempsey, on the Sefton Coast</i></p>	<p>Thur 17th June at 10.30 <i>Telling time over the Centuries</i></p>	<p>Thur 1st July at 10.30 <i>The Seven Ancient & Modern Wonders of the World</i></p>	<p>Thur 15th July at 10.30 <i>Life of Sir Henry Segrave & the Land Speed Record attempt on Ainsdale Beach</i></p>



1. The machine used to crack the Nazi codes
2. Come in sizes C4, C5, C6,
3. Lowest commissioned officer in the US Navy
4. Not Welsh, Irish or Scottish
5. A messenger on a diplomatic mission
6. Morse's first name
7. Could be paint, the surface of a tooth, or a toilet
8. More! More!
9. To take delight or pleasure in

We haven't had any 'Smith and Jones' for a while, so here is a 33 minute compilation for you. Whether or not you agree they are the best bits, they are definitely worth watching. Click [HERE](#) for the video.

Last night, there knocked upon my door.
Two animals, I had not seen here before.
They asked for a chat, and maybe a brew.
I felt it my job, on this night, so to do.



They were weary and thin, dejected and sad.

They told me that their lives had really gone bad.
Repetitive, boring, and damned by the rain
Lonely and worried, and going insane.

I listened to them, and felt their unease.
I tried hard to raise them, with some jokes and a tease.

They said they were well used to days being the same.

But the current situation, was no longer a game

The evening wore on and my patience felt pain
Like those talks you are forced to, when you travel
by train

After ages of talking, like you do with your dogs.
I had to remind them.....

That they both were, GROUNDHOGS !

Roger Homewood

The February theme for the U3A Photo Group 1 was 'Little and Large' and there were plenty of submissions for the group to review during Monday's meeting. Tuesday's newsletter will contain a selection of the group's results.



This month, we are tackling 'The Green Shoots of Recovery', which could be the arrival of spring or signs of a recovery in the economy. I can't wait to see what our members come up with!



Do you find that worrying works?

Sure does! 95% of the things I worry about don't come true



Bob

Today In History

- In 1981, Sinclair Research released the [ZX81](#), a pioneering British computer which sold over half a million units worldwide.
- Today in 1953, Joseph Stalin died.
- In 1943, the [Gloster Meteor](#) took to the sky, to become Britain's first jet fighter.
- In 1936, another milestone in British fighter plane development. The first prototype of the Supermarine Spitfire made its debut flight.





IGUAZU FALLS

These falls lie on the border between Brazil and Argentina. To reach them you need to fly in and then spend two days. One to approach from Brazil side, the other to approach from the Argentine side. They are a spectacular sight and well worth the effort

JIM HAY

