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Tekstboekje

Shaun the Sheep



- 1 Two farmers in Tasmania believe they have found the world's woolliest sheep. Peter Hazell told Australia's ABC News he found the sheep wandering in scrubland on Sunday. The animal named Shaun has never had his incredible coat cut. He appears to have travelled more than 25 miles from the Australian island's east coast after he escaped from shearers. Fortunately, the ram was easy to catch as his 20kg of extra fleece is weighing him down and the wool has fallen over his eyes. "It is the heaviest sheep I've ever lifted," Peter's wife Netty Hazell said. The couple said it is lucky the six-year-old Merino ram survived in the wild without getting heat stroke or myiasis from fly larvae.
- 2 Shaun is carrying a coat roughly half-a-metre thick and is being clipped this week to see if he can break the world record for fleece yield. "There's three or four good jumpers in there," Mrs Hazell told ABC. Merino wool is prized for being among the finest and softest of any sheep and is widely used in clothing. The record for fleece yield is currently held by a New Zealand sheep called "Shrek", who produced 27kg of wool when clipped in 2004 and set off on a nationwide tour that included meeting the Prime Minister.

www.independent.co.uk

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Sir Bernard Hogan Howe, the Met commissioner, says: “I am committed to providing a police service which looks and feels more like London. Almost 300 languages are spoken in the capital. We need officers with language skills in areas where those languages are spoken. I believe it will help boost confidence, help to solve crime more effectively and support victims and witnesses.”

Aspiring constables must speak an additional language to join the Metropolitan police under a month-long pilot scheme which started yesterday. Scotland Yard is hoping the new criterion will help police “engage with London’s diverse communities as effectively as possible”. To be considered for the force, applicants must speak one language in addition to English. A recruitment update on the Met’s careers website states: “Unless you meet our eligibility criteria, you are unable to submit an application to become a police officer at this stage.” Those who are not able to communicate in another language can still apply to be a special constable. Scotland Yard said the pilot would be “evaluated and assessed but there is no information yet as to whether it will be repeated, or whether things will go back to the way they currently operate”.

The Guardian, 2015

Quinn wants to raise the school drop-out age

New York City Council Speaker and mayoral candidate Christine Quinn proposed raising the legal high school drop-out age to 18 as part of a plan to increase high school graduation rates. “By raising the minimum age at which a student can drop out to 18, we will ensure only legal adults are



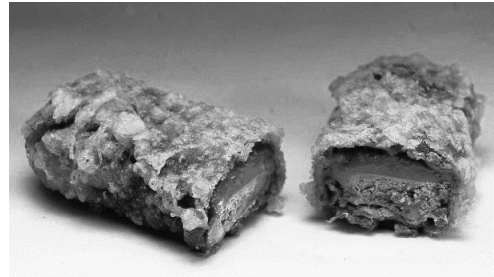
making important life decisions,” Quinn said in a statement. The city would need permission from the state to change its drop-out age from 17. Quinn said the move would send a message to students that the city expects them to stay in school until graduation. Some 9,000 students dropped out of city high schools last year, Quinn said. The average income for dropouts is \$8,000 less than high school graduates. “Anything less than 100 percent graduation rate is unacceptable and we as a city strive to change this and take measures to correct it,” Quinn said. The state’s Department of Education did not immediately respond to requests for comment on Quinn’s proposal.

First News, 2012

Home of the deep-fried Mars bar wins shop sign battle

Libby Brooks, Scotland correspondent

Aberdeenshire council has been forced into an embarrassing apology after a community tried to save a sign proclaiming a chip shop to be the originator of the deep-fried Mars bar.



- 1 Council officials had ordered the removal of a two-metre long banner advertising the Carron fish bar in Stonehaven as the birthplace of the world-famous snack, in a sharply worded letter. But the shop's owner, Lorraine Watson, said that the official who wrote to her had now called to apologise and assured her that the council would not insist that the sign was taken down. "He said he hoped he hadn't caused me any inconvenience. In fact he's done me a power of good, I've even had the *Financial Times* on the phone this morning and people passing the chip shop have been hooting their horns in support," she said.
- 2 The deep-fried Mars bar, now copied in chip shops across the country, was first attempted by Carron's fryers in 1992, at the request of a local schoolboy. In 2012, Mars wrote to the owners of the chip shop because Mars wanted to 6 the recipe, saying it was "against its commitment to promoting healthy life styles".
- 3 Chris Stirk, chair of Stonehaven Business Association, said: "There is a regeneration plan to tidy up the town centre and remove eyesores, but I personally don't consider this one of them and it does bring so many visitors to the town. This morning, there were two Austrians in there, who had come to get their Mars bars and have their photo taken with the banner." She said the community was strongly in favour of the banner staying: "It's been there since 2006, which is plenty of time for people to have come up with objections if they had any. The townspeople love it." The Carron, which primarily serves fish and chips using locally sourced haddock, can batter up to 2,000 Mars bars in the tourist season.
- 4 While the deep-fried Mars bar has become typical for Scotland's eating expectations, the culinary landscape has changed significantly in recent years, with 16 Michelin-starred restaurants across the country and the food and drink tourism sector worth an estimated 2.5m pound a day. Sue Lawrence, Scotland's leading food critic, says there has been a move away from unhealthy eating. "People are concerned so much more about provenance of ingredients. And local is so much more important. People are definitely cooking more for themselves."

The Guardian, 2015

Joke Wigs for Babies?

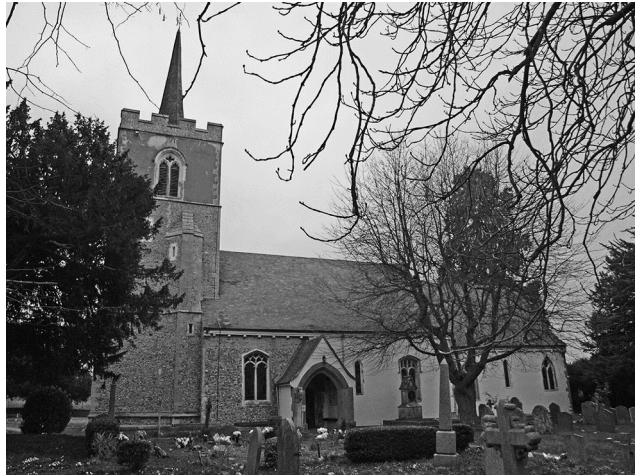


- 1 This is the latest craze from America, dressing your baby in a celebrity wig. The idea has taken the US by storm. Now it is being launched in the UK by an American firm. But children's charities condemned it as irresponsible and described the dazzling wigs as dangerous and distasteful. Michelle Elliott, director of Kidscape, said: "This is ridiculous. Any parent who buys any of these wigs for their child needs their head examined. Wigs are incredibly uncomfortable. And what if the children start chewing the material? That is surely very dangerous. These wigs are a health hazard. Babies look ridiculous in these wigs and I cannot understand why anyone would buy them."
- 2 The wigs come in four styles and are designed to be worn by babies up to nine months old. The range has just been launched in the UK by California-based firm BabyToupee and is available over the internet for £13 each. The firm's website says its mission is to "show parenting can be a great responsibility, it can also be a source of endless amusement." Founder Graham Farrar said: "Having a baby doesn't mean you have to stop having fun or do everything by the book. We don't take ourselves or our products too seriously."

Thou Shalt not Be Rowdy

A CHURCH has been given a noise abatement notice – with neighbours comparing it to living “next door to a night club”.

Neighbours complained to Hertfordshire district council that they are plagued by loud music and drunken shouting. The source of the noise is the 16th-century Tudor barn on the grounds of St James the Great Church in Torley, run by the Church of England, which is hired out for weddings and parties.



One neighbour, who did not want to be named, said: “It’s been hell living here for several years now and the worst of it is that the Church of England actively promotes the barn”.

Church leaders said it would investigate soundproofing and that a church committee meeting was due to address the issue in February.

Daily Telegraph, 2015

Shoplifting



Sarah and Lisa always enjoyed hanging out at the mall. But one Saturday, after shopping for jeans, Sarah pulled a new shirt out of her bag. Lisa didn't remember seeing her buy it. "I didn't," Sarah told her. "I lifted it." Lisa was upset and puzzled. Stealing didn't seem like something Sarah would do.

- 1 Many people assume that shoplifters have a mental disorder or that they must really need the items they are stealing in order to survive. But the truth is that's not why most people steal. Very few people have kleptomania (a compulsive urge to steal), and many people who steal have enough money to pay for the items. There's no 12 shoplifter – people who steal from stores can be any age, race, gender, and social and economic background.
- 2 Getting caught shoplifting can be a lot more serious than people may think. Lots of teens find out the hard way that stores take shoplifting very seriously. Some of the things that can happen to shoplifters are:
 - They may be arrested and paraded through a store in handcuffs.
 - They may face charges for theft.
 - They may be banned from stores or malls.
 - People who have been arrested for shoplifting – especially if it's more than once – may end up with a criminal record. This can make it harder to get a job, get into college, or do the other things they want.People don't have to get caught for shoplifting for their lives to be affected. Some people may feel guilty or ashamed of what they've done. It can cost the person self-respect or the respect of others. Sometimes people lose friends who decide they don't want to be close to someone who doesn't have the same values.

- 3 It can be hard to raise tough topics like shoplifting with a friend. Try saying that you're concerned, and that you don't want your friend to get hurt in the long run. Lots of people simply don't know how serious the penalties for shoplifting can be. Sometimes friends are looking for other people to give them feedback about their choices. Just talking about it may help your friend think more about what he or she is doing and why.
- 4 A lot of people shy away from talking to shoplifting buddies. But if you think it's wrong to take things without paying for them, say so. You can state your own point of view without giving your friend a lecture, putting him or her down, or being judgmental. Simply say what you believe, such as: "I don't think it's right to take things without paying." It takes 15 to speak up like this. But saying nothing can send a friend the message that you're OK with the behavior. When you are scared to talk to your friend yourself or you're worried that the problem is too big to tackle alone, discuss it with a counselor or other trusted adult.
- 5 If a friend tries to get you to shoplift – or to distract someone so he or she can shoplift – you can say no. It can be difficult, especially if the other person tries to put you down if you don't go along. But sometimes we have to be our own best friends and put our needs first. If your friend won't stop shoplifting, avoid shopping together. If your friend is caught, you may be under suspicion, too. You could even suffer some of the same consequences.

www.teenshealth.org

Remembrance Sunday



REMEMBRANCE Sunday is celebrated on the second Sunday in November. As always, the nation will be pinning red poppies close to their hearts and holding a two-minute silence at 11am on Sunday.

But why do we do this every year?

(1) The very first Remembrance Sunday was held on 11 November 1919, one year after the end of World War I, at the request of Britain's king at the time, King George V. He asked the nation to stop what they were doing and stand in silence for two minutes at 11am to remember those who died in the war. Today, Remembrance Sunday is used as a day of respect for all the men and women who have died serving their country; for those who helped fight for the freedom we enjoy today. For almost 100 years, the nationwide silence has been held year after year in religious buildings, shopping centres, on high streets and in many, many homes across Commonwealth¹⁾ countries.

Why the poppy?

(2) You may notice a lot of people wearing red paper poppies on their clothes. The poppy represents this very special day, which honours those who died fighting in the First World War. The poppy is a sign of remembrance and hope, worn by millions at this time of year.

At the beginning of the war, fighting broke out across much of Western Europe, where great landscapes were torn apart by fighting, allowing nothing to regrow. The one flower that could regrow, however, was the red Flanders poppy. These red flowers managed to grow in their thousands across the battlefields, a beautiful but resilient flower. Inspired by the sight of red poppies flourishing across the battlefields in Ypres, Belgium, military doctor and artillery commander John McCrae wrote the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields', adding to the strength and meaning of the poppy. The 19 remains just as strong today.

On every Remembrance Sunday there is a march through London, where people pay their respects by laying poppy wreaths at the Cenotaph, a monument in Whitehall.

And why a two-minute silence?

(3) Silence is considered a sign of respect in most cultures. Not speaking gives us time to think, clear our minds and, in the case of Remembrance Sunday, remember. 20, at the 11th hour on the second Sunday of the 11th month, the nation falls into a two-minute silence to respect, honour and think about those who fought for us.

www.firstnews.co.uk

noot 1 Commonwealth = het Gemenebest: het Verenigd Koninkrijk en zijn voormalige koloniën.

Charlotte Church: X Factor is ‘killing music’!

What’s this all about, Charlotte Church?! We love Charlotte. She has a lovely voice and her first album made her the youngest artist with a no. 1 album on the British charts. We also love the fact that she isn’t afraid to speak her mind, but we



weren’t very happy to hear about her having a go at X Factor! Charlotte said: “That show doesn’t have an interest in true craftsmanship or skill – it’s all about your looks, and hopefully you can keep half a tune. It’s dreadful news for everyone else because there’s no room on radio or TV for anything else.” And she even went on to say that she would make a ‘better judge’ than any of the current judges, including king judge himself, Simon Cowell. He’s not going to be happy about that!

We do agree with you that it should be all about the talent, Charlotte, and it is true that some ‘acts’ manage to slip through the net, but think about what you are saying!

We think you might be forgetting something, Charlotte. Did you not get your big break when you called in to radio show ‘This Morning’ as an 11-year-old and sang down the phone? Just like the contestants of X Factor you used a television show and it achieved the same thing. It gave you a chance to be heard and a platform that you may otherwise not have had, just as X Factor does for its contestants.

We do agree that you would be a great 24, you may have ruined your chances now though!

Sugar, 2010

Neighbours Draw the Line at Halloween Display



A MAN who spent £600 on Halloween decorations for the outside of his flat has been told to take them down because they are too scary. Parents living nearby complained that the life-sized array of skeletons, zombies, witches and a tombstone was frightening their children. Graham Walls, 28, a lighting technician, was told by his landlords to remove the display at the front of his home in Hove, East Essex. Mr Walls received a letter this week to tell him that if he didn't remove the decorations they would take them down themselves and send him the bill. The letter claimed he had 'defaced' the building and caused complaints from other tenants whose children were scared of the monsters and ghouls. But Mr Walls, who shares the flat with his girlfriend, said: "It's just a bit of fun. I thought with all the horror shows that kids are exposed to these days there wouldn't be a problem. It's sad to have to take them down as so many people thought they were great."

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By Damian Carrington



- 1 Ice levels in the Arctic staged a surprise revival two years ago, stopping the long-term trend of decline, according to the first analysis of the entire ice cap's volume. The revival was the result of cooler temperatures that year and suggests that, if global warming were curbed, the Arctic might recover more rapidly than previously thought. The shrinking Arctic ice cap is one of the best-known impacts of climate change. The indication that it could be reversible is rare good news for a region where climate change has driven up temperatures far faster than the global average.
- 2 The extent of the Arctic ice has shrunk by 40% since the late 1970s, when satellite measurements began. But getting comprehensive data on the thickness of the ice, rather than just its area, was difficult until the European Space Agency launched the Cryosat satellite five years ago. The satellite's measurements, analysed in Nature Geoscience, show that from 2010-2012 the Arctic ice volume fell by 14%, in step with the warming trend of the last few decades. But two years ago, the ice volume jumped by 41%. "It's fair to say that none of us were really expecting that," said Rachel Tilling, at University College London (UCL), who led the study. However, she 28 the idea of a wider recovery of the ice cap, saying climate change was still driving average temperatures up despite significant variation from one year to the next. "It was a cold year – that happens."

- 3 The research is significant as it shows that the Arctic ice cap may be more resilient than expected. Tilling said: “You see Arctic sea ice in decline, but then there is a cold year and you get some of the ice back. It shows there is hope for Arctic sea ice if you can turn the clock back to colder temperatures, which would need huge reductions in carbon emissions.”
- 4 Co-author Prof Andy Shepherd, also at UCL, said: “Understanding what controls the amount of Arctic sea ice takes us one step closer to making reliable predictions of how long it will last, which is important because it is a key component of Earth’s climate system.”

The Guardian, 2015

Are summer jobs a thing of the past?

By Erin Blakemore Smithsonian.com



- 1 It used to be an American tradition: as soon as school let out for the summer, many teens put on their fast food uniform, grocery store apron, or hotel name tag and went to work at a summer job. But the experience that seemed routine for people of the past is becoming a rarity: according to Pew Research, summer jobs for teens are becoming a thing of the past. When they examined the average employment rates of teenagers during summer months between 1948 and 2014, it found that the share of teens who score summer jobs has fallen sharply in recent decades. Pew Research notes that the younger a teen is, the less likely they are to find a job.
- 2 Why aren't kids getting more work? It's tricky. Pew Research mentions falling youth employment over time, but notes that other issues like early school schedules and the rise of unpaid summer internships might be to blame. And the Bureau of Labor Statistics does not count unpaid internships as employment, so all the teens doing internships aren't being counted in these estimates. The competitive post-recession job market could be to blame.
- 3 But skipping out on summer employment doesn't just mean more time to hang out with friends. It can have real impacts on teens who don't get a chance to build their job skills, says Andrew Sum, a youth employment expert at Northwestern University. He found that for every year teens work, they can expect a 14 to 16 percent rise in their income during their twenties.

www.tweentribune.com

Sing for Simon

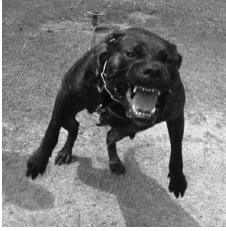
A Midlands charity organisation, the Simon Community, is inviting people to join their Sing for Simon campaign this Christmas and to help end homelessness across the region. Sing for Simon is an opportunity for people to take part in, or organise, any event that involves singing throughout December.

The Simon Community helps people to move out of homelessness through the provision of a range of services, including providing emergency accommodation, housing with support and assisting people to move into and maintain their own home.

Tony O’Riordan of the Simon Community said: “We believe in people, and we believe that with help and support, people can move out of homelessness and rebuild their lives. Sing for Simon is a great opportunity for people to make a real difference to the most 35 in our community. If you like to sing and would also like to help others please add your voice to ours and Sing for Simon this Christmas. You can find out more on www.facebook.com/MidlandsSimonCommunity.”



advertiser.ie, 2011



Q I don't own a dog but I go for walks. Unfortunately, people who own dogs also take walks, with their dogs. I am scared of dogs – I'm frightened of getting bitten. Lots of dogs bark and growl when they see me, even jump on me. Their owners say it's because I don't have a dog and many of them just ignore their dog's behaviour towards me. What's the best way of getting dogs to ignore me?

Tony T, by email

A The short-term fix is to find somewhere to walk where there are no dogs, but I know that this can be difficult in many areas. If a dog does come near you try to ignore it; it's best to 'be like a tree', standing completely still and unresponsive, with your hands by your side or in your pockets. Most dogs will find you so uninteresting that they'll just move on. A dog is very unlikely to rush up to a stranger and bite him, but paradoxically, the more nervous you are, the more likely you may be to attract unwelcome attention.

Longer term, it would be useful if you could find a way to feel less nervous around dogs. Anxiety UK (anxietyuk.org.uk) is a charity that gives information and support to people affected by all sorts of anxiety-related problems.

Video gone viral

A Dutch department store recorded a video that is going viral. The odd footage begins with an excited manager spotting a possible thief on CCTV and then running downstairs with another member of staff holding a billboard. He tells a member of security staff to keep hold of the suspect so they can pull off the pre-planned prank. When they reach the woman they hand her flowers and a slice of cake, telling her she is the 100th shoplifter this year, as a band plays in the background. The manager can then be seen putting a party hat on her head – but she is obviously not in party mood and takes it straight off again. The woman then makes a swift exit – setting off the security beeper as she scuttles through the stores front entrance. Her disappearance doesn't stop the band playing however, as the store staff appear to be in genuine party mode.

www.mirror.co.uk

Pub in a Museum is Art



In the Tate Modern Museum in Central London a pub has been installed. The pub is complete with a cosy bar, atmospheric wooden furniture and a piano – perfect for boozy sing-along. It is an art installation erected by the art collective Black Dogs, to celebrate the anniversary of the Tate Modern Gallery in London. Unlike every other drinking den, thirsty gallery-goers will just have to soak up the atmosphere, as alcohol cannot be bought on the premises.