

## CRAZY BUT TRUE



**A MAN** has set a new record by riding a rollercoaster at Alton Towers 64 times.

Sean Evans completed the feat in six hours, despite suffering from a condition called vertigo, which makes it feel like everything around you is spinning.

Sean, from Stoke-on-Trent, described his experience on the Nemesis ride as “fun but very intense”.

## FLAKE SHORTAGE!

**BAD** news for ice cream lovers – there’s a shortage of Flakes to stick in our much-loved 99 ice creams!

The mini Flakes are made by Cadbury. Mondelez, the company who owns Cadbury, has revealed that for some reason there’s been a big demand for the soft whip ice creams and they are struggling to keep up with demand.

The company says it doesn’t know how long the shortage is going to last. It also says it doesn’t know why the ice creams are called ‘99s’. Apparently, the meaning has been “lost in the mists of time”!



## EPIC K’NEX CREATION

**WILLIAM** Rose from Essex was super busy during lockdown – he built the world’s largest, moving K’NEX vehicle!

The 16-year-old has always loved building with K’NEX and he decided to set himself an epic challenge of building a huge, motorised model.

The record-breaking vehicle is a replica of a World War One tank. It measures a whopping 3.88 metres long and includes more than 15,000 pieces. It is powered by over 20 K’NEX motors. Much of the K’NEX was donated by William’s local community.

In order to break the world record, the vehicle had to move at least five metres under its own power – which it did!

William hopes to go to college in September to study Aircraft Maintenance.



## Questions on 'Crazy but True'

1) What **links** the story about the K'NEX model and the story about the rollercoaster rides?

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> rollercoasters | <input type="checkbox"/> models    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> world records  | <input type="checkbox"/> teenagers |

Look at the story 'Epic K'NEX creation'.

2) The headline uses **alliteration** to create a pleasing pattern. Alliteration uses...

- |  |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> words that rhyme                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> words that repeat the same sound          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> words that all start with the same letter |

3) Complete the details of the project.

Age of the model maker: \_\_\_\_\_

Modelling material: \_\_\_\_\_

The model subject: \_\_\_\_\_

Distance the model travelled: \_\_\_\_\_

4) How was William's community involved in the project?

Look at the story 'Flake shortage'.

5a) What's the name for a soft ice cream topped with a mini Flake?

5b) The reason for the name has been "lost in the mists of time". Can you explain what this means?

6) Find **three** pieces of information given by the company that makes the Flakes.

Look at the story 'Record ride'.

7) What did Sean Evans do in six hours at Alton Towers?

8) Sean often feels like the world is spinning. How do you think he felt after his experience at Alton Towers?!



## HOME NEWS

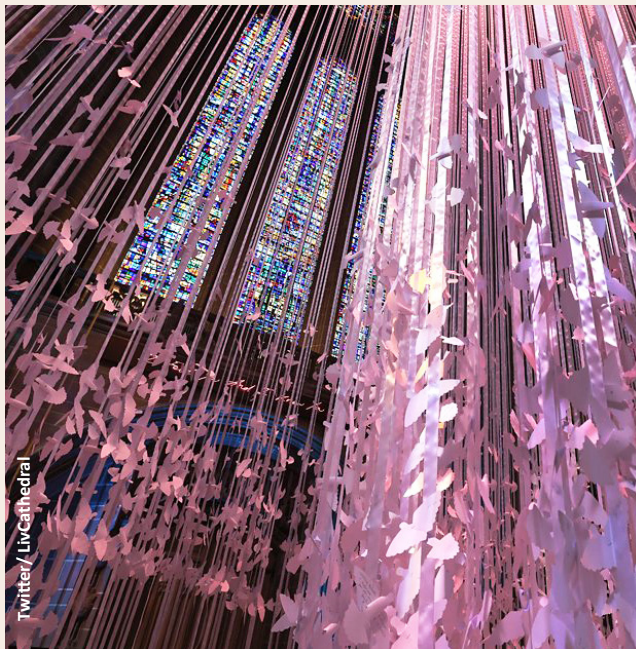
## LIVERPOOL

## ● Peace of paper

A new artwork called Peace Doves has opened at Liverpool Cathedral.

It is made from 15,000 (fifteen thousand) paper doves suspended from the ceiling of the cathedral. Each dove carries a handwritten message of peace, hope and love, written by schoolchildren and community groups.

The doves were created by the sculptor and artist Peter Walker.



## ARUNDEL

## ● Stolen treasure

A collection of treasure that's worth more than £1 million has been stolen from Arundel Castle in West Sussex.

Among the items taken was a set of gold rosary beads that Mary Queen of Scots carried to her execution in 1587!

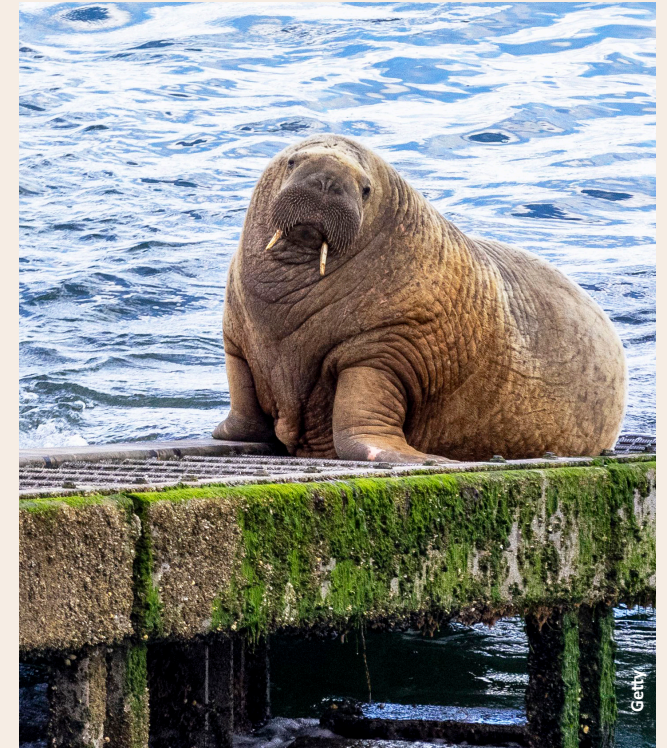
The treasures were on public display at the time of the theft and were kept in cabinets. A person from the castle said the stolen items are of "priceless historical importance." Police are investigating.

## CORNWALL

## ● Wally's Cornish holiday

Wally the walrus, who has become famous for popping up in Wales, has been spotted in Cornwall for the first time.

The massive Arctic mammal was seen near Padstow. Killer whales were also spotted off the coast of Cornwall earlier in the month – their first appearance in more than ten years.



## Questions on 'Home News'

1) Match the headline to the correct place.

Stolen treasure

LIVERPOOL

Peace of paper

CORNWALL

Wally's Cornish holiday

ARUNDEL

**Look at the news from Cornwall.**

2) Find two animals spotted in Cornwall this month.

3) Where has Wally been visiting before Cornwall?  
Where do walruses usually live?

**Look at the news from Arundel.**

4) Find a fact about Mary Queen of Scots.

5) Why is she mentioned in this news report?

6) What does the word 'priceless' mean here?

- ☐ Something that has never been sold, so doesn't have a price
- ☐ Something so valuable it's impossible to put a price on it
- ☐ Something that is extremely funny

**Look at the news from Liverpool.**

7) What sort of things does Peter Walker create?

8) Why has the headline 'Peace of paper' been chosen for this report? Look closely at the spelling!



## SCIENCE NEWS

# DOGS DETECT COVID BETTER THAN TESTS

This dog is smelling swabs of human sweat to try to detect COVID-19 in a study in Rome, Italy

**Dogs are better at detecting COVID-19 in humans than some of the most common tests.**

There have been several reports that dogs are good at sniffing out people who are infected with coronavirus. A new study from France has just reported its results and it turns out dogs are astonishingly good.

The dogs detect the virus by smelling human sweat. In the test, researchers placed cotton pads under the armpits of 335 people. The cotton pads were sealed in jars and the dogs had to sniff the jars. The dog handlers did not know which samples were positive, to make sure they didn't accidentally give the dogs any clues!

The dogs detected 97% of the people who had the virus. This is more accurate than the tests we currently use to get a quick result (called LFTs), which give a result in half an hour.

Because the dogs are able to detect the virus immediately, they could be used in places such as airports, train stations and concerts to help identify people who have the virus. These people would then be asked to have a test that is sent off to the lab, to check the dogs are correct.

Kids at secondary school currently have to test themselves twice a week using the quick tests. It usually involves a lot of complaints about sticking cotton buds in throats and noses. Perhaps a happier solution would be for schools to be given a sniffer dog, instead!



Getty



Getty

Sammy, a COVID sniffer dog being trained in Belgium

## Questions on 'Dogs detect COVID better than tests'

1) Which option is correct?

- ☐ The study shows for the first time that dogs can detect the coronavirus.
- ☐ The study explains how dogs are able to detect the virus.
- ☐ The study proves how good dogs are at detecting the virus.

2) Dogs detect the virus in people by the smell of our...

- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> sweat  | <input type="checkbox"/> hair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> breath | <input type="checkbox"/> feet |

3) How did the researchers get the samples from people?

4) Why was it important that the dog handlers didn't know which samples were positive?

5) Can you find **two** reasons why sniffer dogs are better than the quick tests we use at the moment (called LFTs)?

6) Why would sniffer dogs be useful to have in places like airports, train stations and concerts?

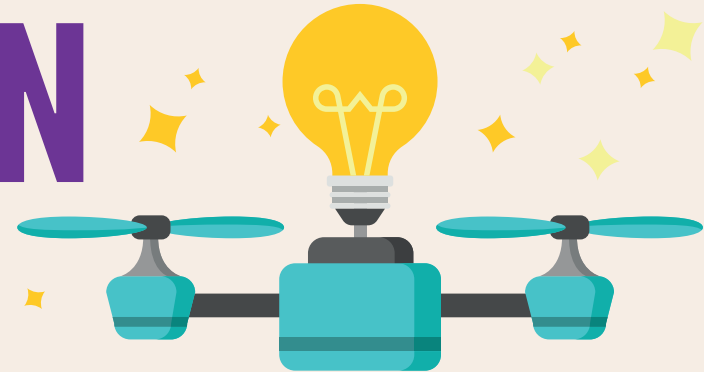
7) What would be the benefits of having these sniffer dogs in schools?

8) It sounds like a good idea, but can you think of the reasons why it might be difficult to use dogs in secondary schools?

## BIG NEWS



# ADVERTS IN THE SKIES



**Drone displays are being used to create expensive airborne adverts in China. Is it amazing or a step too far?**

Genesis is a car made by a Korean company. To celebrate the launch of the car in China, the company decided to create a huge advert over the Chinese city of Shanghai. It is made from 3,281 illuminated drones – so many, that the company picked up a Guinness World Record for having the most drones in the sky at the same time!

Since then, a Chinese company pulled off another spectacular drone display (left). This display was made to advertise a Japanese phone game called Princess Connect! Re:Dive.

If you're wondering why a square pattern makes a good advert for a game, this square is a QR code. People could point their phones at the sky and scan the code with their cameras to find out more about the game. Cool, huh?

Or is it? Using thousands of drones to make a picture is certainly clever, but some people aren't impressed. They say we see enough adverts in the world, the sky is an open, public space that should be advert-free.

What do you think? Are these adverts clever and creative or a smear on our skies?



## Questions on 'Adverts in the skies'

1) Fill the gaps with the correct **country**.

Two companies from \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have recently made drone display adverts in \_\_\_\_\_.

2) What is the word 'Genesis' advertising?  
What is the patterned square advertising?

3) Why has the company behind Genesis picked up a world record?

4) Can you explain how a QR code works?

5) Can you find **three questions** asked by the journalist?

6) Why do you think the journalist has asked all these questions?

7) Find the **adjectives** used to describe the nouns below.

\_\_\_\_\_ adverts  
\_\_\_\_\_ drones  
\_\_\_\_\_ drone display  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ space

8) So, what do you think? Are drone adverts OK?  
If not, what do you think can be done about them?