

## **FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH – June 2022. Edition No 90.**



Hello. I hope you are well at the moment and your thoughts are with Ukraine.

If you want to get involved with this publication, please contact us in a non-homophobic, non-racist and non-sexist way at: [dean@fthm.org.uk](mailto:dean@fthm.org.uk)  
Best wishes, Dean.

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## MY NOT VERY SERIOUS STARS



### **Scorpio 24 Oct – 22 Nov**

It is the perfect time to stop wearing your heart on your sleeve as some unscrupulous people will exploit your honesty and naivety. Also stop thinking about death so much and get on with the here and now – things aren't that bad, are they? Your obesity is becoming a problem so change your

diet and slow down your general decline. Treat your flatulence immediately.

### **Sagittarius 23 Nov – 21 Dec**

Someone you have not seen for ages will pop back into your life and give you a new perspective on everyday things. It is time you confronted your lingering fears and learnt to move on free of worry. Some people think you dress like a tramp so maybe you should stop hoarding every penny and invest in some new clothes. Take many more baths too.

### **Capricorn 22 Dec – 20 Jan**

A person with Cerebral Palsy may enter your life and illustrate just how valuable each individual is. A good friend will treat you to a delicious meal this week so don't spoil the occasion by eating like a pig and showing yourself up. Your right-wing friend who is notorious for his meanness may shock you this week by donating to a humanitarian cause.

### **Aquarius 21 Jan – 19 Feb**

Now is a good time to take driving lessons as you are on a very positive path at the moment. A former, faded, beauty queen will give you the green light to approach her and this may be to your advantage. A lad you used to play football with will kick the bucket this month and remind you how fragile and finite our lives really are. Do pick your nose more in public.

### **Pisces 20 Feb – 20 Mar**

The ghost that presides in your back bedroom will make contact with you once more – but don't worry as even ghosts get lonely just hanging around. A much younger person will express an interest in you this week, but can you successfully bridge the age-gap? You are watching far too much telly so develop other interests unless you are happy being a slob.

### **Aries 21 Mar – 20 Apr**

Now that winter is a distant memory, why not visit the seaside and take a holiday that you can afford and so does not cost you an arm and a leg. Should you really buy the latest footwear for your children or are you just letting them walk all over you? If you are disenchanted with the political system, then maybe now is the time to form a new party.

### **Taurus 21 Apr – 21 May**

Someone who smokes more than tobacco may surprise you and show you how to get more and not less out of your life. An admirer will reveal their interest in you, but if you're not interested, let them down gently as we all know what rejection feels like. Some may say that you waste a lot of time, but if you're happy doing this then that's OK. Have your boil lanced.

### **Gemini 22 May – 21 Jun**

Love is coming nearer for you but will you be prepared to break up another relationship to experience it? If you fancy having a bun in your oven then now is the time to get cooking! You will meet someone famous this month but don't be too starstruck as, at the end of the day, we are basically all the same. A bra-less woman will try to influence your thinking.

### **Cancer 22 Jun – 23 Jul**

A hand-delivered letter may turn your world upside down as it will contain some great news! A middle-aged man will also give you a nice gift so accept it in the spirit intended. You are trying far too hard to impress someone you fancy but relax and be your wonderful self. Money is now short so buckle up your financial belt and be ready for a very bumpy ride.

### **Leo 24 Jul – 23 Aug**

Life looks good this month as you are about to meet the perfect person for you and all your romantic dreams will come true. Although a trip to the seaside may make you feel like a beached whale and regret not spending more time in the gym over the winter. An elderly relative will pass away soon but this will be a time for celebration not sadness. Wear green.

### **Virgo 24 Aug – 23 Sep**

A strange little woman will come into your life and encourage you to question all that you hold true. Times are tough for a lot of people at the moment so it is a good idea to count one's blessings and value what you already have. Maybe you are being foolish not taking your prescribed medication and this month you will start to not feel so well. Eat more jam donuts.

### **Libra 24 Sep – 23 Oct**

This month you may start to doubt whether you're in the right body, and if this is the case, proceed carefully. It is clearly not the time to start splashing the cash although sometimes you have to invest in your future. A good time to shave off your beard as it makes you look ten years older than your actual age. Why not start baking your own bread? Be less promiscuous.

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## MICHAEL STIFF TALKS ABOUT LEAVING THE EU AND HIS LIFE



**First of all, Michael, can you tell us a little bit about yourself?** Yes. I'm retired. I've been retired for about eight years now. I was a bookkeeper for more or less the whole of my working life. I was born in Halifax. When I was young, we lived in Brighouse and I went to school there. Then we moved up to the estate at Field Lane in Rastrick and I went to Carr Green School, which is now defunct. From there, I moved

on to Rastrick Secondary School and I was there until I was 15 or 16.

**Did you leave school with any qualifications?** It was a little bit different back then. There weren't any 'O' levels or 'A' levels at the time in schools, we're talking mid-1960s. You would have to go to college to get those qualifications. When I was at the stage where I was ready to leave school, they were starting to experiment with having a sixth form. I didn't really know what to do and I didn't really have anyone to ask for advice. The only real employment options were Firth's Carpets or Blakeborough's Engineering and neither really appealed to me.

**Did the school have a careers service?** Yes but, it was very basic. The advisor would just come in and say "what do you want to do?" Most kids don't really know what they want to do at that age and so they tended to just push you down the engineering route or the textiles route. As a result, I chose to be part of the experimental sixth form that I mentioned earlier. In essence it meant staying on at school for another year. In reality after three or four months, for what I was getting out of it, I didn't feel like it was worth carrying on.

**Did you want to be earning a wage?** I think so. Also, you just need some money when you're that age and you can't be expecting spending money all the time. My parents weren't rich by any means but they weren't tight either. I just felt I wasn't getting anywhere and I felt I needed to do something about it.

**When you were in the sixth form what were you doing?** Things that you wouldn't do in regular school. Economics, statistics and the like. It was like an extension to the fifth form. Sometimes we were in the classroom with the fifth formers themselves and other times we weren't. There were only four of us in this experimental group. We were like guinea pigs. The fact was that I wasn't making any real progress and because my mates were earning money and were going out at night, I did have a bit of money from my parents but it did make me want to get out.

**What did you do when you left sixth form?** Well jobs were advertised in the newspaper back then and I saw an advert in the Brighouse Echo for the role of junior clerk at the

Brighthouse Co-op, working in their office. So, I applied and I got the job. I was sixteen by this time. They worked all silly hours at the Co-op. Some weeks you worked half past eight until five, an hour and a half for lunch and another week you might work nine o'clock until five or sometimes until half past six. Some weeks you might get a Tuesday afternoon off, because Tuesday was half day closing back then and some weeks you might get a Saturday off, or a Saturday morning. The hours were peculiar.

**Did you like it there?** Yes and no.

**Was the money good?** The money wasn't bad. It was just a junior's job. It was the hours that got on your nerves. When you're going out on a Saturday night and you're still working until four or five o'clock. I think I realised at that point that it's alright working Saturdays but I also realised I didn't really want to be in that line of work, in the retail trade.

**So, what did you do then?** I went back to looking and applying for jobs that were being advertised in the Echo again. This was after about six to nine months at the Co-op. I ended up going to an engineering company on Wakefield Road and I was like a junior clerk there too. I worked there for a couple of years. The hours were more stable, basically you were working nine to five and there were no Saturdays or Sundays. At the Co-op when you were going out on a Saturday, you had to look on your calendar to see when you were off if you wanted to go anywhere but you didn't have to worry about that in this job, so that was better. It was around this time that I realised I needed qualifications. I knew about them before but, I didn't know how to get them. The obvious step at the time would have been to go to college and looking back, if I could have had my time again, I would have gone to college full time and done my 'O' Levels and 'A' Levels.

**So, did you go to night school?** Yes, I went to night school instead. I went to Huddersfield.

**How long did you go there for?** Well, I was sixteen when I started and was there for six or seven years?

**And what qualifications did you come out with?** I got about six 'O' Levels and three 'A' Levels. I got on to an accountancy course eventually. I'd be about twenty-one by the time I started on that, because you couldn't do all those qualifications at once so I had to wait about four years until I could start on that. It was a course on Custom Works Accountancy, which is a five-part course. I got about halfway through it. The problem I had was law. That was a stumbling block for me. I did ok with everything else; I just couldn't get law right. I always think, if I'd have gone to college at fifteen, I'd have got my 'O' Levels and 'A' levels earlier and then I'd have been qualified to get on the accountancy course at eighteen or nineteen. You need to get on these courses when you're still that young.

**Do you think there are more opportunities for young people now?** Definitely yes, but, it's easy for me to say in hindsight what I should have done. It's easier for the youngsters now. I mean, I was going to night school two or three nights a week and working full time.

**So, you stopped doing the accountancy course half way through?** Yes

**And did you resolve to become a bookkeeper at this point?** Yes

**Did you enjoy being a bookkeeper?** Yes. I did.

**Were you still at the engineering company?** No. I was always moving on.

**Were you always a bookkeeper from that point on?** Yes bookkeeper, doing accounts or wages.

**Of all the jobs you have had, which one did you enjoy the most?** Probably the last one I had to be fair.

**And what was that last one?** I worked at a company in Elland called Edel Telenzo.

**And you were their bookkeeper?** Yes. I was their bookkeeper. They were only a small company but there was a lot of responsibility and I was there for ten years, my last ten years before I retired.

**Away from work, what have been your hobbies or interests?** I'm interested in sport.

**Which sports?** I'm into football, horse racing, and cricket and rugby league to some extent. I can watch rugby union as well. I'm not really into motor racing.

**Do you think that modern sportspeople are paid too much?** Far too much. They're millionaires a lot of them and they get paid far too much for too little talent. The top footballers like Ronaldo and Messi are on ridiculous amounts of money. If you look at their lifestyles, it's too much. It's too far away from the ordinary man.

**Do you think they're out of touch with everybody else?** Yes, definitely. They're in their own little bubble. In the 1960s, I used to support Huddersfield Town and you could socialise with the players back in those days. There's a pub in the centre of Huddersfield called the West Riding. You'd go in there on a Saturday night and half of the Huddersfield Town players would be in there and they socialised. They didn't act like your mate but they spoke to you and everybody knew they were there. You wouldn't see that happening now.

**Have you ever played any sport?** I played football when I was at school.

**Were you any good?** Yes, I got into the school team. I started off at full-back. I was thirteen or fourteen at the time. We had quite a strong team. The only way you got in the team was by default if you like. You had to prove yourself. Anyway, the sports teacher must have seen something in me. I had a good left foot or a good right foot, I think. As I went through the years and the older pupils left, I progressed to being a centre half and I enjoyed playing there.

**Do you want to tell us about the other sports or pastimes that you're interested in?** I like cricket. I also like eating and drinking but I don't consider that to be a sport or a pastime!!

**You are married?** Yes. I'm married with two children. I've also got four grandchildren, two boys and two girls.

**How long have you been married for?** Over forty years.

**Have you ever been a gambler?** I do like to have a bet.

**What do you like to bet on?** I like to bet on horse racing. I like to have a bet at the racecourse. I'm not one for betting online or going into bookies shops though.

**Do you like greyhound racing?** No. I've never been interested in it to be honest.

**Do you go to Grand National?** I've been to the Grand National and I've been to the Cheltenham Festival. At one stage I had a card that entitled me to go to all the race meetings at all the racetracks in Yorkshire for twelve months. You paid a fixed amount of money and you could go to any meeting during that period at any of the Yorkshire tracks. I did that for a couple of years.

**Do you think that gambling is a problem for some people?** Yes. I can understand why but, personally, I've never been one for going into the bookies and I don't agree with betting online.

**Why not?** Because people are drawn into it.

**Because it's too easy?** They get offered ridiculous things.

**Do you think it is acceptable for gambling to be legal?** Yes, in its own way. I've gambled when I've gone to race meetings but, the only time I've gone in to bookies is on Grand National day or when Cheltenham has been on.

**But some people can't just do that can they?** No. But it's all down to the money you've got available to spend. As you'll know, any money you have coming in goes in to certain pots and in amongst that you have a pot for pleasure, whether that be for drinking, smoking or gambling for example and, if you spend more than is in that pot, then you're putting yourself in debt. Now some people might think "oh that doesn't matter because I get paid next week" but if you've already spent that money before your wage goes in, then you get into credit, your credit score is affected and you're just spending money you haven't got.

**So even though it isn't a problem for you, it is a problem for some isn't it?** I think it's a big problem for the country. There are a lot of people who are on good money and, fair enough, they spend it but they don't think of the future and things happen!

**It can be an illness, can't it?** It is an illness definitely.

**Have you always lived in England?** Yes. I have.

**What do you think about life in England?** It's better living here than in a lot of places, isn't it?

**So, you're happy with what you've got?** Yes

**Changing the subject, a bit, do you think we did the right thing coming out of the EU?**  
Oh yes.

**Why do you think that?** Because I think they had a control over us. Such as France and Germany. They were controlling matters. They still do in the EU. I think we were stuck in their grip if you like. We had to follow like lapdogs behind them. So, I think it has got to be better outside the EU.

**Is there anything else you would like to add before we draw to a close?** No. I think that's about it really.

**Ok Michael, thanks for your time!** No problem.



## GRAHAM TOWNSEND'S MONTHLY QUIZ



### Questions:

- (1) "Hedda Gabler" was written by which Norwegian playwright?
- (2) The American Civil War ended and Abraham Lincoln was assassinated in which year?
- (3) Footballer Divock Origi plays for which national team?
- (4) Thimphu is the capital city of which Asian country?
- (5) *Pyrus malus* is the Latin/scientific name for which fruit?
- (6) In online chat circles, what does the abbreviation AFK stand for?
- (7) Which film won the best picture award at the 2022 Oscars?
- (8) Focus, Fusion and Mondeo are models of car from which manufacturer?
- (9) Which word defines a learned person, especially a distinguished scientist?
- (10) Vince Neil is best known as the lead vocalist of which American Heavy Metal band?
- (11) What is the main alcoholic ingredient of the cocktail Pina Colada?
- (12) What kind of triangle has two sides of equal length?
- (13) Who played Michael Scott in the US version of the mockumentary sitcom "The Office"?
- (14) What is the state capital of Montana?
- (15) Which former British prime minister was born near Huddersfield, England in 1916?
- (16) In the Bible, by which previous name was Paul of Tarsus known?
- (17) Which US airport has the International Air Transport Association code LAX?
- (18) Which Englishman wrote the opera "Peter Grimes"?
- (19) Which board game features territories including Ural, Siam and Western US?
- (20) The 1,000 and 2,000 Guineas are horse races held at which English racecourse?

### Answers

- (1) Henrik Ibsen (2) 1865 (3) Belgium (4) Bhutan (5) Apple (6) Away From Keyboard (7) Coda (8) Ford (9) Savant (10) Motley Crue (11) White Rum (12) Isosceles (13) Steve Carell (14) Helena (15) Harold Wilson (16) Saul (17) Los Angeles International (18) Benjamin Britten (19) Risk (20) Newmarket



## WHITBY



Whitby is located at the mouth of the River Esk in North Yorkshire, England, and is a seaside town and port that relies heavily on tourism and fishing to keep its economy afloat. It is also known for the black mineraloid jet which is to be found in surrounding cliffs and moors and which has been used since the Bronze Age to make beads. It was also mined by the Romans.

According to the census of 2011, Whitby had a population of 13,213 and is also strongly associated with the fictional character Dracula.

The town emerged as a fishing port in the Middle Ages with herring and whaling fleets leaving it in search of this valuable cargo. It is, in fact, where the famous seaman Captain Cook completed his seamanship and where the ship HMS Endeavour was built in 1764 having being purchased by the Royal Navy as the Earl of Pembroke, and refitted for Cook's voyage to Australia.

The earliest recorded settlement of the town of Whitby was in 656 AD, and then, when a new monastery was built in 1078 AD, the current name of Whitby began to be commonly used. The Abbey had been founded in 657 AD by King Oswui of Northumbria and was intended to be an Anglo-Saxon monastery for both men and women. Unfortunately, the monastery was destroyed during raids by the Vikings between 867 AD and 878 AD and it was not until two hundred years later after the Norman Conquest, that William de Percy founded a Benedictine monastery dedicated to St Peter and St Hilda on the site.

In 1540, Whitby had become a small fishing port with a population of about 200. One significant development in its economy was the construction of Thomas Chaloner's alum works which brought workmen into Yorkshire to develop the industry. Alum had important medicinal uses and was used to cure leather and fix dyed clothes. Importantly, in the reign of James I, imports were banned with the result that Whitby grew as a port due to the alum trade, and used coal from Durham to process it. The town grew in wealth and size and built many ships using local timber – only London and Newcastle built more. The harbour was also improved which led to an increase in trade.

It was in 1753, that the first whaling ship set off for Greenland and, by 1795, Whitby had become a major whaling port with whale blubber being boiled to produce oil for lamps and streetlighting – there were actually 4 oil houses on the harbourside. Ultimately, gas replaced the oil used for streetlighting with the reduced demand for oil prompting the Whitby Whale and Gas Company to rename itself the Whitby Coal and Gas Company. By 1831, the only whaling ship left was the Phoenix.

Happily, the Georgian period was good for Whitby as it became a spa town following the demand for water from the three Chalybeate springs which were used for medicinal and tonic purposes. The resulting visitors meant that hotels and "lodging houses" were built mainly on the West Cliff. The town's tourism also increased due to the Whitby and Pickering Railway which connected Whitby to Pickering and, later to York. As already mentioned, the

production of decorative items peaked in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century with Queen Victoria preferring it for mourning jewellery following the death of her husband.

The development of iron ships in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the improvement of ports of the river Tees, meant decline for smaller harbours like Whitby. Then things were not helped by the shelling of the town (which included damage to the Abbey) by the German battlecruisers Von der Tann and Derfflinger.

During the 20<sup>th</sup> century however, the fishing fleet was still busy and a few cargo boats continued to use the port. Today, imports of steel and doors are exported while timber, paper and chemicals come the other way. It is true to say that sadly the local economy depends heavily on tourism, fishing and to a lesser degree, manufacture. Unfortunately, the town has an inferior infrastructure which means that there is poverty, unemployment and a dependence on benefits with many young people leaving the area.

At the moment, there are plenty of fish and chip shops in the town but who knows what will happen to them if the cost of living continues to rocket? But if you fancy a trip to Whitby there is much to see: the ruins of the Abbey, St Mary's Church (a grade I listed building on the site of the Saxon church), the harbour and the Swing Bridge, the museum, the whalebone which commemorates the whaling industry as well as the powerful statue of Captain James Cook on the West Cliff. On the outskirts of the town, you can visit Sneaton Castle which was built using money made from sugar and slavery and is now a conference centre and hotel in association with St Hilda's Priory next door. And don't forget to admire Whitby lighthouse which is also outside the town on Ling Hill. If this sounds appealing to you, you can get to Whitby by road, rail and air – Teeside International Airport is only 45 miles away. And don't forget by sea!

If you need accommodation in Whitby, you will find that there is a plethora of holiday cottages, self-catering, caravans, campsites, guest houses, inns and of course, bed and breakfast hotels. Then again, you may come to the town and fall in love with it and want to settle here. In which case, you will find a good education system including the Whitby and District Fishing Industry Training School. In addition, many sports are practised in the area including: wind surfing, cricket, tennis, football and of course, Whitby Regatta which usually takes place annually over three days in August. If you prefer to spectate, you could go and watch Whitby FC or Whitby Cricket Club.

Bram Stoker's novel Dracula was based in Whitby as was part of Elizabeth Gaskell's novel Sylvia's Lovers. Charles Dickens also visited the town in 1861 – so it has a strong literary tradition. Frank Meadow Sutcliffe left a great photographic record of the town before he retired in 1922, and became curator of Whitby Museum – which holds a good collection of the archaeological and social history of jet.

Other events you could enjoy include: the Penny Hedge Ceremony which is performed on the eve of Ascension Day, Whitby Folk Week, the bi-annual Goth weekend and various live music events.

So, if you are wondering where to go in England this summer, why not make an effort to visit picturesque and vibrant Whitby – you won't be disappointed!

\* With a lot of help from Wikipedia

## JUNE'S WORLD



It's been more difficult writing an article this month as we haven't been very far although we still go to cafes, and occasionally, to restaurants.

We've been busy doing jobs around the house and garden. We still try and keep ourselves busy in order to stay healthy. We're going to Lumby nursery/restaurant today to buy some colourful plants.

The weather is not so good today but we can't complain, as it's been really nice and warm recently. We still go to Selby every Monday and visit the Abbey to buy a cup of tea and to meet people we know there. We also like going to 'The Hub' as it's nice and friendly and importantly, the food is good.

It's my husband's birthday today so we're going to Garforth to buy him a watch for everyday use as the watch he wears for gardening and around the house has broken. I bought him a lovely Omega watch for Christmas which was quite expensive, but he considers it to be too good to wear all the time. If we can't find one that he likes, we will go to Castleford where there will probably be more to choose from – he's not a greedy person so it should not be too difficult to find a cheaper watch. For his birthday, we also went to Toby's restaurant and had a lovely meal.

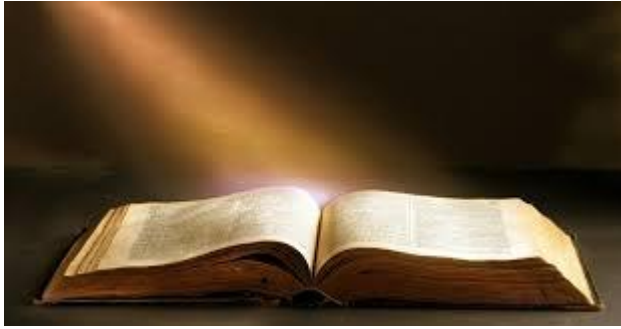
We still haven't booked a holiday yet; we usually have one booked for July or August. We also go to a hotel every year, but maybe we'll go to a log cabin in Wales where my granddaughter Zena went with her boyfriend Ben – they thought it was great getting their breakfast and then being free to get other meals elsewhere. Normally, we get breakfast and evening meal but nothing's written in stone, is it? When the boys were younger it was nice however, to stick to certain times for meals.

Years ago, we had some lovely neighbours called Mr and Mrs Greaney who were very kind people and who wanted to help us with our young family as they had no children of their own. Mr Greaney used to come round to our house to take Dean to theirs. They had a caravan at Filey and said if we cleaned it inside and painted it outside, that we could use it for a holiday for two weeks. We were only young with little money, so thought it was a good deal and this started us off hiring caravans for holidays. As the boys got bigger and I got working, we were able to start going to guest houses, or as they were called then, boarding houses. We had some lovely holidays at Cayton Bay, Filey and used to walk into Filey for fish and chips and for ice creams. We all loved those holidays.

These days, my husband and I, love going to places like Scarborough and Bridlington and staying in good hotels. We've been abroad a lot in the past so we don't feel like we're missing out.

Catch you next month. Love June.

## BIBLE TALK



**Sent by Peter Smith**

In the Book of Revelation John describes his vision of Jesus:

"In the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to his feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.

His head and hair were white like wool, as

white as snow, and his eyes like a flame of fire;

His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and his voice as the sound of many waters;

... and his countenance was like the sun shining in its strength."

**Revelation 1:13-16 (NKJV)**

About 600 years earlier, Daniel also had saw Jesus:

"I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz!

His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in colour, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude."

**Daniel 10:5,6 (NKJV)**

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## ALBUM REVIEW – OUCHYA! – BY STEREOPHONICS

**By Graham Townsend**



I have always been an admirer of Stereophonics and indeed, I own some of their previous albums although, I haven't purchased any for several years now. I was therefore intrigued to see how their music has changed in recent times, and in fact, whether it had improved or even deteriorated.

This is their twelfth studio album. It has a running time of just over sixty-four minutes and features fifteen tracks. It has already attained the number one slot in the UK Albums Chart.

Track one "Hanging on Your Hinges" was the only track I was familiar with prior to purchasing the album. It was also the first single released from the album. Subsequent single releases to date are "Do Ya Feel My Love?" and "Forever".

I had forgotten how raucous their music could be and actually found myself turning down the sound on the album opener. It will certainly blow away the cobwebs after a night out or if you

are not fully awake. It is a very atmospheric track, one at times where the vocals are difficult to hear over the music itself but, it's a great song and it just seems to romp along.

"Forever" and "When You See It" are both very melodic. The former track reminded me somewhat of their early stuff, maybe "A Thousand Trees" or "Pick a Part that's New"

You can see why the aforementioned "Do Ya Feel My Love" made the cut as a single. There is a great riff in this one. I felt there was a hint of The Cult or U2 in here.

"Right Place Right Time" is the first true ballad on the album. The lyrics sound auto-biographical. It is straightforward enough and pleasant enough to listen to and enjoy.

I really like "Leave the Light On". There seems to be a lot of feeling that has gone into this one.

"Running Round My Brain" is a fun piece of classic rock. It took me back to something from the 70s or 80s perhaps a little reminiscent of something from Deep Purple.

I wouldn't say "All I Have Is You" is boring by any means but the lyrics are quite depressing. This is something that unfortunately helps to get a song's message out sometimes, as is the case here.

Most of the album is up-tempo although "Seen That Look Before" slows things down a little before we get the rockier sound of "Don't Know Wot Ya Got".

"Jack in the Box" closes out the album. There is a hint of folksiness to this one and I quite enjoyed it.

This is a typical Stereophonics album that their fans will surely enjoy, despite the fact it doesn't really break any new ground in my opinion. There are a couple of tracks that probably could have been left out but I didn't feel bored at any point when listening.

MY STAR RATING = \*\*\*1/2 out of 5

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## INTERVIEW WITH BRENDA CONDOLL ABOUT HER DAY IN BRIDLINGTON



**Brenda, on 26<sup>th</sup> April you visited Bridlington, can you tell us what it was like?** Yes. The journey to get there was quite long but, it was alright when we got there.

**What time did you set off to get there?** Half past nine.

**And at what time did you arrive?** Just after midday, about five past twelve

**What did you do when you got to Bridlington?** We took a short walk and then we visited a café.

**Which café was it?** It was one called Café Society.



**What did you have when you were at the café?** I had some nice tuna and cucumber sandwiches with a cup of tea.

**When you had finished eating where did you go next?** We walked to where there were some seats and then we got an ice cream. It was a lovely vanilla ice cream with a flake and it was topped off with strawberry sauce.

**After that?** We paid a visit to the leisure centre. Whilst we were there, we had another cup of tea and I had a scone with it.

**How was the weather?** It was sunny but a little bit chilly.

**And what about the shops?** Not all of them were open but some of them were.

**What else did you do during the trip?** We took a ride on the train to Sewerby Hall. It cost seven pounds on the land train for two return tickets. But I enjoyed the ride, even if it was a bit chilly. I was glad I had my coat on.

**What happened after the ride on the train?** We went back to the leisure centre and had another cup of tea so I could get warm again.

**Did you find it difficult to pass the time in Bridlington?** No not at all. We found enough to do until we had to go back to the coach for quarter past five. Actually, we visited another café after we left the leisure centre.

**How was the journey home?** It wasn't too bad. It took about two hours. I was glad to get home because I was feeling a little tired by then.

**For people who might be interested in visiting Bridlington, how much did the coach trip cost?** The tickets cost twenty pounds each.

**Do you think that it was good value for money?** Yes. I think it was.

**Thank you for sharing your thoughts on Bridlington Brenda.** Thank you.

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**Read More About Places visited by Dean and Brenda at [Dean's Places](#), be inspired for future vacations**

## SOME USEFUL RECIPES FROM JUNE



### Potato and Lentil Pie

#### **Ingredients:**

2 lb potatoes  
1 oz butter  
A little hot milk  
4 oz of lentils  
1 onion  
½ teaspoon of meat extract  
Salt and pepper  
½ pint of stock or water

3 oz of grated cheddar cheese  
1 oz of butter  
1 teaspoon of chopped parsley

#### **Method:**

Soak the lentils overnight. Rinse and simmer with the onion in the water until tender. Drain. Mix well with the cheese, parsley, meat extract and seasoning.

Peel potatoes and boil or steam them. Mash them well with butter, seasoning and milk to make a fairly soft texture.

Butter a pie dish and spread with some of the potato. Place the lentil mixture on top and cover with the remaining potato. Mark with a fork. Dot with butter and bake at 375F/190C or gas mark 5 for 30 minutes.



### Mushroom and Celery Pie

#### **Ingredients:**

¼ lb of mushrooms  
1 medium sized head of celery  
4 rashers of fat bacon  
6 oz of shortcrust pastry  
Salt and pepper  
Lemon juice  
A little butter

A little milk and water

#### **Method:**

Skin the mushrooms and remove stalks. Sprinkle under-sides with salt and allow to stand until salt dissolves, then wipe dry and cut into medium-sized pieces.

Wash the celery and cut into even, moderate-sized pieces. Fill a pie dish with alternate layers of bacon, mushrooms and celery, sprinkling each layer with salt, pepper and a few drops of



lemon juice. Add about 2 tablespoons of milk and water. Dot top with butter and cover whole with pastry.

Bake in a fairly hot oven 400F/gas mark 6 for 10 minutes, then cover with a sheet of greaseproof paper. Finish baking in a moderate oven 350F/gas mark 4 for another 20 – 30 minutes. Serve hot.



### **Gluten Free Tomato and Chorizo Soup**

#### **Ingredients:**

- 1 lb or red pepper, halved and deseeded
- 2 tablespoons of olive oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 5 oz of sliced chorizo sausage
- 1 teaspoon of ground cumin

- 1 teaspoon of smoked paprika
- 1 lb of tomatoes, halved and deseeded
- 1 pint of gluten free chicken or vegetable stock
- Handful of parsley, chopped
- Salt and black pepper

#### **Method:**

Put the red peppers on a baking sheet and drizzle over half the olive oil. Place in a preheated oven 200C/400F/gas mark 6 for 10 – 15 minutes, turning after 5 minutes. Heat the remaining olive oil in a large pan while the peppers are roasting and add the onion, garlic and chorizo. Fry for 3 – 4 minutes until the onion is softened and the chorizo is beginning to brown. Stir in the spices and fry for a further minute. Add the tomatoes and the stock to the pan and season well. Bring to the boil and simmer for 5 minutes.

Remove the red peppers from the oven, skin them, roughly chop them and add to the soup and simmer for a further 15 minutes. Remove from the heat and allow to cool for 5 minutes. Roughly blend in a food processor or blender, then stir in the parsley and serve.

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## BRENDA'S WILDLIFE CORNER



### Camel

A camel is an even-toed animal that has fatty deposits, which are known as humps, on its back. Camels have been domesticated for years and have been used for food (meat and milk – you can even make ice cream from it) and textiles (fibre and felt from its hair). It is true to say that camels are working animals in a desert habitat and are used to transport people and cargo.

There are three species of camel: the one-hump dromedary camel which makes up 94% of the world's camel population, the two-humped Bactrian camel which makes up the other 6%. It is important to mention that there is also the wild Bactrian camel which is in fact a separate species that is critically endangered.

The life expectancy of a camel is between 40 – 50 years. The full-grown dromedary camel stands up to 6ft 1 inch at the shoulder and 7ft 1 inch at the hump while Bactrian camels are a foot taller. Camels can run up to 40 mph and can easily sustain a speed of 25 mph. Bactrian camels can weigh from 300 lb to 2,200 lbs.

Importantly, camels do not store water in their humps as these store fatty tissues.

\* Ref Wikipedia

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## GRAHAM'S WONDERFUL WORLD OF SPORT



Flaming June as it is known has arrived and British Summer Time gets underway towards the back end of the month.

Early June sees the final play-off matches take place to determine the remaining teams who will qualify for the FIFA World Cup in Qatar in November/December 2022. From a British perspective, either Scotland or Wales

will hopefully be one of these qualifiers although, it is not possible for both to make it through as they will potentially meet each other to decide one of the remaining places in Qatar. Elsewhere in international football, we have the opening four match days in the 2022/23 Nations League tournament. England have been drawn alongside Germany, Italy and Hungary in what promises to be a tough and competitive group.

Across the pond in North America, we have the NBA finals in basketball and the Stanley Cup Final in ice hockey. The NBA finals are slated to commence on 2<sup>nd</sup> June whilst the Stanley Cup reaches its conclusion at the very end of the month.

In golf, the third major of the season, the final one of the year in the US, the US Open takes place between 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> June at The Country Club in Brookline, Massachusetts. A venue probably best known for the controversial Ryder Cup event it hosted in 1999.

The UK horse racing flat season sees its premier event take place when the Derby is held at Epsom on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June. Many people will feel that it is appropriate for the event to be held on the weekend when the UK will be celebrating Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee although, it remains to be seen whether she will attend in view of her recent health concerns.

The Formula 1 motor racing season continues with rounds in Azerbaijan on 12<sup>th</sup> June and Canada on 19<sup>th</sup> June. On two wheels, MotoGP rounds will take place in Spain on 5<sup>th</sup> June (Catalunya GP), 19<sup>th</sup> June in Germany and 26<sup>th</sup> June sees the Dutch TT in Assen. Sticking with two wheels, Speedway GP rounds 4 and 5 take place in Teterow, Germany and Gorzow, Poland on 4<sup>th</sup> June and 25<sup>th</sup> June respectively.

England's test cricket home season gets underway with a three-match series against World Test Champions New Zealand. The first test is due to take place between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June at Lord's, London. The second test is scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June at Trent Bridge, Nottingham with the final match at Headingley, Leeds between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> June.

Let's hope the weather plays ball for this feast of sport and we get to enjoy many highlights.

Until next time... stay safe and be happy!

\* With a little help from various online resources.

PS – If you fancy a further sports fix, I record a weekly podcast, you can view it at - [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQAG\\_vzf\\_Qq0XIKczwd1I7Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQAG_vzf_Qq0XIKczwd1I7Q)

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## A MAN SITTING DOWN (12)

Written by Krishna Francis

Timing. My greatest enemy. Timing, not time.

Time lays a different trap. It is patient and cruel because of it. It waits for you to think you've mastered it before playing its hand. A small but growing sense that you have worth and relevance because of the people around you or the things that you've done can be destroyed in a moment. All the time you spend creating and ordering your life and those of others can be rendered meaningless within the blink of an eye. As Thomas Grey put it in his Elegy - *The boast of heraldry, the pomp of pow'r, And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave, Awaits alike th' inevitable hour. The paths of glory lead but to the grave.*

Timing, that's a whole different groove...

Whilst you await that inevitable hour there are a million small acts to be performed. Tons of stuff awaits your attention in order for you to fill all the hours before the final one. Ideally, one should approach these individual moments as a robin might a series of perches in a garden. It might land on a branch, then fly to a spade handle, over to the windowsill for a quick scan for danger, then, finally, across to the bird feeder to feed. For example, you might

decide you need a trip to the tip, so you will gather up some rubbish, then load up the car, drive it to the tip and finally offload it into the awaiting skips. Small acts that collect together to create a larger picture of an ordered and purposeful existence.

There are rhythms that guide our actions, find them and there is peace within, don't find them and...

Timing, that is why I have been absent in this publication for the last two months. Instead of getting myself together, choosing a subject and writing something up, my mind has been elsewhere. It's as though the above description of a robin's route across a garden were to be undertaken by a dog or even a horse. Those small flights for a bird would be a challenge for a larger animal to pull off without even considering the perches picked. My lumpen brain doesn't seem to choose a more appropriate pattern of behaviour. My brain is like a horse that thinks it's a robin. That in itself is a challenge. When you add that to the more basic challenges of being in a wheelchair you have a proper dilemma. Being effective is an uphill struggle and going uphill when you have to use your arms instead of your legs for power, that's a whole other game. My lumpen brain and challenged body require more from me than I seem able to give.

Yet here I am. I've challenged the beast and overcome my enemy in a mortal battle. I'm overselling what it means to write 500 words for a monthly publication, perhaps. However, it does feel good to have got this written in good time to appear in the June issue. Hope it's been an engaging read and hopefully see you in July if I'm successful in doing battle with my timing crisis again.

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## ANOTHER FUN QUIZ FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH



### Questions:

- (1) Which city is known for its leaning tower?
- (2) Who defeated Napoleon at the battle of Waterloo in 1815?
- (3) Who wrote the choral work 'The Messiah'?
- (4) On what do silk worms feed?
- (5) What is the name of the Russian alphabet?
- (6) What does an osteopath do?
- (7) Where was the first underground railway built?
- (8) What do you call a group of lions?
- (9) What is another common word for wedlock?
- (10) Where is the Black Forest?
- (11) What mineral ore is used in the manufacture of aluminium?
- (12) Which animal is thought never to sleep?
- (13) Who signed the Magna Carta in 1215?
- (14) Who is said to have discovered Dr Livingstone in Africa?
- (15) Which is the oldest flag in the world?

- (16) What is the Royal Navy's flag called?
- (17) Who invented dynamite?
- (18) What do you call a group of geese?
- (19) Which is the longest river in the UK?
- (20) What was the name of the priest associated with Robin Hood?

**Answers:**

(1) Pisa (2) Duke of Wellington (3) George Frideric Handel (4) Mulberry leaves (5) Cyrillic alphabet (6) Restores the normal function and stability of the joints to help the body heal itself (7) London in 1863 (8) Pride (9) Marriage (10) Southwestern Germany (11) Bauxite ore (12) Bullfrog (13) King John (14) Henry Morton Stanley (15) Denmark (16) The White Ensign (17) Alfred Nobel (18) Gaggle (19) River Severn 354 km (20) Friar Tuck

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**Editor's Final Word:** Thank you for taking the time and trouble to read this publication. If you want to contribute/donate/advertise, please contact us at: [dean@fthm.org.uk](mailto:dean@fthm.org.uk) Best wishes, Dean, Brenda, Robert and Graham.

\* Please note that our website address is: [www.fromthehorsemouth.org.uk](http://www.fromthehorsemouth.org.uk)