

## FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH – January 2023. Edition 97.



Hello. I hope you are alright and had some fun at Christmas and New Year. It has been very cold in the north of England and I invested in a good, warm dressing gown to keep me warm at home and to cut down on my heating bills as I am worried about paying them like everyone else.

As usual anyone can send in things to be considered for publication as long as they are not racist, homophobic or sexist in nature. You can send things to us at: [dean@fthm.org.uk](mailto:dean@fthm.org.uk) Please note that this e-magazine can be viewed at: [www.fromthehorsesmouth.org.uk](http://www.fromthehorsesmouth.org.uk) Best wishes, Dean.

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### CONTENTS

[MY NOT VERY SERIOUS STARS](#)

[BURY](#)

[GRAHAM TOWNSEND'S MONTHLY QUIZ](#)

[JUNE'S WORLD](#)

[BRENDA'S WILDLIFE CORNER](#)

[BIBLE TALK](#)

[FLEETWOOD MAC – ALL FACTS NO RUMOURS – A BRIEF HISTORY](#)

[JUNE CHARLTON OFFERS THREE MORE GOOD RECIPES](#)

[GRAHAM'S WORLD CUP 2022 REVIEW](#)

[ANOTHER FUN QUIZ FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH](#)

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### POETRY COMPETITION:

This latest competition is open to anyone and invites you to write a poem about any subject. There will be two prizes each of £50 for the two best entries which will appear in a future edition of the magazine. The closing date for entries is midnight (GMT) on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2023. Good luck! Please send to the email address mentioned above.

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## MY NOT VERY SERIOUS STARS



### **Scorpio 24 Oct – 22 Nov**

Now that Christmas is over, avoid using the scales after everything you consumed as there is nothing fishy about you looking like a beached whale – definitely wait a while before you try on your swimwear again. That shared kiss at the office party must be forgotten and hopefully your partner will remain

ignorant about it. Bills may come in that you will struggle to pay.

### **Sagittarius 23 Nov – 21 Dec**

You may still be keeping to your New Year's resolution but realistically, you will break it at some point as you have the self-control of a killer shark. Letting Father Christmas fill your stocking may prove very costly in the near future. However, this year promises to be a fantastic one when all your hard work is rewarded – but beware of the phoney friends you will attract.

### **Capricorn 22 Dec – 20 Jan**

A surprise phone call may both please and excite you and leave you with a big decision to make i.e., are you ready to embrace drastic change? Now is the perfect time to establish an exercise regime even though those who know you, know that it will be history within three months and you will be back to being a slob. Ageing worries you but die with no regrets.

### **Aquarius 21 Jan – 19 Feb**

Life will gradually get better for you this month with an unexpected cheque dropping through your letter-box. A really thin woman will illustrate that there are kind people out there by sharing her fatted calf. Someone in authority will really annoy you but maybe just play the game to get the result that you want. A good time to go trout fishing for your tea. Rest more.

### **Pisces 20 Feb – 20 Mar**

The planets all indicate that you will be extremely lucky in love this week so make sure you keep yourself clean. Your mood may have been a bit low recently so be kind to yourself and go through the motions until you feel a little better. Someone will offer to do you a big favour in the near future, but be careful, as they may expect a huge favour in return. Stop spitting.

### **Aries 21 Mar – 20 Apr**

Love will come along this month so, when it does, cherish and look after it so that it doesn't disappear overnight and you find yourself back at lonely square one. You may still feel

confused about certain facets of your life, but clouds of doubt will soon disperse leaving you basking in the sunshine of well-being. Buy a new laptop or make a peanut butter sandwich.

### **Taurus 21 Apr – 21 May**

Because you like a drink, don't worry if the frog you kiss doesn't turn into a prince/princess as you are often so out of it that you won't know the difference, and anyway, you are quite ugly yourself. A good time to eat Neapolitan ice cream as you don't know when you will next meet a nice Italian at a car boot sale on a Sunday morning. Shave often with a good blade.

### **Gemini 22 May – 21 Jun**

You may be on the verge of losing a good friend over something stupid, so consider apologising even if you think you are in the right, as real friends are hard to find. Bad times are nearly over for you, as you will soon land your dream job as a lollypop person. The lockdown is now a distant memory and you will appreciate how vulnerable we are. Share.

### **Cancer 22 Jun – 23 Jul**

A man with a big bottom will help you see which way the wind blows and set you on the path to enlightenment. A good time to start learning a new language so that you can be miserable and negative in another language. A teenage girl will also help you through her precocity and you will feel grateful to her. A great year for love, money, happiness and getting worms

### **Leo 24 Jul – 23 Aug**

A holy person will prove to be unholy in your eyes, but do look beyond their failings and see the human being who is just trying to make sense of this crazy life. It is a great time to learn to cook some new dishes so that you can impress the lover you are yet to meet. Even though money is tight, try and book a holiday so that you can look forward to it during the winter.

### **Virgo 24 Aug – 23 Sep**

A woman selling lucky heather will curse you when you refuse to become one of her customers but don't worry as her words will prove to be hollow. This year, you may have the chance to be famous but do you really want all the phoniness that comes along with it? Now is the time you will realise how lucky you are to have caring friends and family. Start a cult.

### **Libra 24 Sep – 23 Oct**

It is unlikely you will ever become a millionaire but at least you've still got most of your own teeth and a few people like you. A freak accident may leave you financially better off but don't go looking for it. Your worries will begin to diminish and you will realise that they were just symptoms of an illness you had. Make someone you love feel good and wanted.

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## BURY



Bury is a market town in Greater Manchester which in 2015, had an estimated population of 78,723. The reason I am writing about it is that me and Brenda recently visited the wonderful Bury Market with a view to doing some Christmas shopping and to see its famous black pudding stalls – it used to also be well-known for its tripe but its popularity

has declined in recent decades. It is worth mentioning that the Black Pudding Company which is owned by the Chadwick family, supplies black pudding to major supermarkets and even to Harrods!

Bury emerged in the Industrial Revolution as a mill town manufacturing textiles but Bury Museum contains evidence of Roman occupation of the area, as it has a Roman urn containing various small bronze coins dating from AD 253 – 282 which were discovered north of what is now the town centre. Also, the Conservative Prime Minister Sir Robert Peel, who founded the Metropolitan Police, was born in Bury. In the last 30 years, the town has evolved to become an important commuter town for neighbouring Manchester with the old railway line to Manchester Victoria being closed in 1990 to be replaced by the Metrolink in 1992, and was linked to the motorway network with the opening of the M66 motorway. Other changes were brought when the old shopping area around Princess Street and Union Square were demolished in the late 1960s to be replaced by a concrete precinct, which in turn, was replaced by Mill Gate Shopping Centre in 1995.

2010 was a significant year for the town as a £350 million shopping development opened up there which contained stores like Marks & Spencer, Primark, Poundland and other independent shops and food outlets. In addition to this, a new medical centre was built around this time, and also office accommodation was created near to Bury Town Hall. There has also been large-scale housing development in areas like Limefield, Unsworth and Elton.

Let's now take a look at the more distant past of Bury. The most impressive building in the early town was Bury Castle which was a medieval manor house built in 1469 which was well-positioned on high-ground to deter people from attacking the town. The Pilkington family, which was important to the area, suffered badly in the Wars of the Roses through supporting the House of York. Richard III was killed in the battle of Bosworth in 1485 with the result that Thomas Pilkington was later executed and the family estate was presented to the Earl of Derby. So, began an association with Derby with the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century Earls supporting Bury Grammar School – in fact, one of the school houses is named Derby in their honour. In addition, the town was formerly home to Derby Hall and Derby Hotel.

During the Industrial Revolution, Bury's economy was dependent largely on domestic textile production of yarn and cloth as well as water-powered fulling mills. Developments were swift to come in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and early 19<sup>th</sup> century in the cotton industry with the building of Brooksbottom Mill in Summerseat which was initiated by Sir Robert Peel. By early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the cotton industry was flourishing with local rivers providing power for spinning mills and processing water for the finishing trades. The town's population doubled

from 7,072 to 15,086 between 1801 and 1830 and the makeup of its landscape began to be dominated by factories, mines and foundries. Importantly, Bury Savings Bank was established in 1822 under government control and later became TSB. The linking of the town to the national canal networks also helped its economic development. By 1818, there were 7 cotton mills in Bury, and by 1841, its population had grown to 20,710.

The railways also opened linking Bury from Bury Bolton Street railway station to Manchester. From Knowsley Street railway station, there were also connections to the mill towns of Heywood, Bolton and Rochdale. At this time, industries like cotton mills, calico printing and light engineering thrived with the result that the town expanded incorporating other local areas like Elton. Many terraced houses were built alongside factories in districts such as Fishpool, Pimhole and Freetown, but in many cases, they were inadequate and lacked sewers and proper streets. But by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century there was a definite decline in the number of mills in Lancashire towns like Bury.

If one is serious about discussing Bury, it is essential that one mentions the Lancashire Fusiliers who were based in the town when previously conscripted men joined Prince William's of Orange Men in response to the mass movement of working-class men known as the Chartist Movement – the Chartists were fighting against political corruption, wage cuts and unemployment whilst campaigning for democracy in an industrial society.

After the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War, the cotton industry drastically declined and many chimneys and mills were pulled down. Today, there remains many landmarks to enjoy in the town like Bury Art Museum, Bury Castle, Bury Parish Church, and of course, the aforementioned Bury Market which has existed for over 600 years and was awarded 'British Market of the Year' in 2006 by the National Association of British Market Authorities. There is also the Fusilier Museum, prominent sculptures (e.g., Sir Robert Peel), Whitehead Clock Tower and Peel Tower. So, for a small town, there is much to see! Also, there is a good bus service, Metrolink and heritage railway at your disposal so public transport around the town is good.

From a cultural point of view Bury is very progressive with a reformed professional football club, a basketball team and rugby league being played in the town. The well-known band Elbow hail from Bury and it has two very popular festivals: the Glaston-bury Festival and Head for the Hills Festival. Besides black pudding, you could also come and try Bury Simnel cake. Famous people from Bury include Cherie Blair, Gary Neville, Antony Cotton and Lisa Riley.

So, if you fancy something different why not visit vibrant Bury?

\* With a lot of help from Wikipedia

For more of Dean's Places and inside knowledge on places to visit in the UK and Europe, then please visit this page:

<https://fromthehorsesmouth.org.uk/category/deans-places/>

## GRAHAM TOWNSEND'S MONTHLY QUIZ



### Questions:

- (1) Which African country's football team is known as the "Atlas Lions"?
- (2) Which primate, scientific name "Pan paniscus", shares 98.7% of their genetic codes with humans?
- (3) What is the year 1981 in Roman Numerals?
- (4) Which band had a hit in 1975 with the song "January"?
- (5) In May 1941, which major Greek island was captured by the Germans in the face of opposition from the British?
- (6) Which Swedish actress's last film was "The Two-Faced Woman"?
- (7) Cape Horn is the southernmost point of which continent?
- (8) Which company invented the Windows operating system?
- (9) Which communist was president of North Vietnam from 1945 to 1969?
- (10) What type of cloud is abbreviated to Sc?
- (11) Which English composer was born in Down Ampney, Gloucestershire?
- (12) Which Muslim leader captured Jerusalem in 1187?
- (13) How many chains are there in a furlong?
- (14) Malachite is an ore of which metal?
- (15) Who writes the Women's Murder Club series of novels?
- (16) Drosselmeyer is a character in which ballet?
- (17) In a golf competition what is the maximum number of clubs allowed in the golf bag?
- (18) Whose cinematic directorial debut was the film Oh What a Lovely War?
- (19) The Roman city of Venta Belgarum is now known by what name?
- (20) Which male singer had hits with "Dream Baby" and "Crying"?

### Answers

- (1) Morocco (2) Bonobo (3) MCMLXXXI (4) Pilot (5) Crete (6) Greta Garbo (7) South America (8) Microsoft (9) Ho Chi Minh (10) Stratocumulus (11) Ralph Vaughan Williams (12) Saladin (13) Ten (14) Copper (15) James Patterson (16) The Nutcracker (17) Fourteen (18) Richard Attenborough (19) Winchester (20) Roy Orbison

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## JUNE'S WORLD



Hello everybody. I hope you are all well. I hope you managed to get ready for Christmas and bought all the Christmas presents you wanted to. I know from when I was working that it sometimes took longer to buy and wrap presents – some people who I used to work with only managed to wrap them up on Christmas Eve, but in fairness, they did work full-time whilst I only worked part-time before I retired. I was leading up to retirement when the manager invited me to work part-time which suited me as I had worked full-time for over thirty years. I really appreciated working shorter hours as it also allowed me to follow other interests.

Today, we've been to Selby which is a place we both love to visit. We went on Tuesday this week due to medical problems and appointments, but I think it's marvellous how they look after us all and keep us fit and healthy through regular check-ups. I also had a Covid booster recently and apart from having a tender arm where the needle entered, I was okay – I must be as tough as old boots!

Like I said, I had all my Christmas presents wrapped in good time and my daughter-in-law brought the turkey around for me to cook, whilst she cooked the actual dinner which was lovely.

However, I can understand why people go to places like Benidorm for the winter months and this is highlighted by programmes on TV which show their comfortable accommodation of caravans/apartments. They seem to have a great time and there seems a lot to do at all hours of the day.

I was hoping we'd have snow on Christmas Day but it didn't happen, and if it had done, it probably would have lasted for only a few minutes. When I think back to my childhood, I remember happy times on sleighs and hours spent making snowmen and igloos. I wish it was the same now, but with global warming, it will always be too warm now.

Anyway, I hope you had a fun Christmas and happy New Year. Love June.

## BRENDA'S WILDLIFE CORNER



### Antelope

Antelopes are indigenous to various regions in Africa and Eurasia and the term **antelope** refers to many species of even-toed ruminant. A group of antelope is known as a herd but unlike deer, antelopes' horns grow continuously.

There are 91 species of antelopes which are native to Africa and occur in about 30 genera.

The term antelope describes all classifications of the family Bovidae. More species of antelope are found in Africa than in any other continent, usually in savannahs – 25-40 species occur in much of East Africa. Other species occur in places like Asia like the Arabian oryx and Dorcas gazelle. Russia and Central Asia also have the Tibetan antelope and saiga. But no antelope species are native to Australasia or Antarctica. Unfortunately, many species of antelope have been imported to other parts of the world like the United States for exotic game hunting.

It's true to say however, that most antelopes live in the African Savannahs but some do live in seclusion such as forest antelope, saiga, Arabian oryx and the semi-aquatic sitatunga. They are capable of running and jumping at top speeds to avoid predators and they even will encircle their young to protect them.

Although antelope possess a variety of coverings, most have a dense coat of short fur though exceptions are the zebra-marked duiker and the black lechwe. Antelope are ruminants with well-developed molar teeth which grind cud into pulp for further digestion. They have no upper incisors but have a hard upper gum pad which their incisors bite to tear leaves and grass stems.

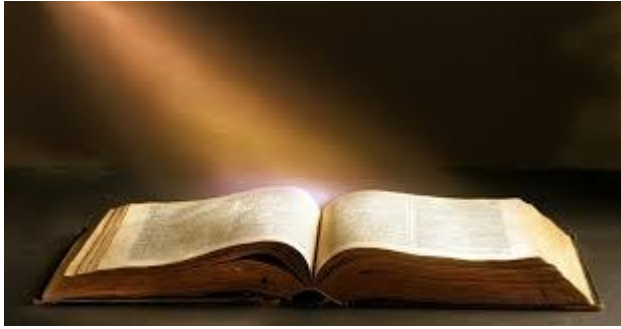
Antelopes are herbivores and they depend on keen-senses to avoid predators and also serve an important part in contact between individuals of the same species. In most cases, both sexes have horns with the male ones tending to be larger than those of the female. Males are usually larger than females with the exception of the bush duiker, dwarf antelope, lechwe and suni.

Some antelope differ in their sexual behaviour with small antelope like dik-daks tending to be monogamous, but larger forest species often form herds of two to four females and one male. However, large grazing antelope, like the impala or wildebeest, have large herds consisting of females with one single breeding male who fights for the right to mate.

\* Ref Wikipedia



## BIBLE TALK



**Sent by Peter Smith**

Sobering words.

What do you mean by crushing my people, and grinding the faces of the poor? Says the Lord God of hosts.

And so it shall be:

Instead of a sweet smell there will be a stench;  
Instead of a sash, a rope;  
Instead of well-set hair, baldness;  
Instead of a rich robe, a girding of sackcloth;  
And branding instead of beauty.  
(Isaiah 3:15,24, NKJV)

(The whole passage is Isaiah 3:13 - 4:1)

So, God created man in his own image; in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

(Genesis 1:27, NKJV)

We have the mind of Christ.

(1 Corinthians 2:16, NKJV)

These are remarkable verses. How can we be in the image of God, and have the mind of Jesus? It must mean that (in a very small way) the way we think is also how God thinks.

Take parenting. A parent likes their child to have a bit of spirit, a bit of character, a sense of fun. S/he does not want a dreary goody-goody, a clone of other children. God must think the same about his children.

And if a human parent bought their child a doll's house or a train set, s/he would not be happy if the child just left the present in the box and refused to play with it. Similarly, God has given us a wonderful world, with something for every kind of person to have and experience and enjoy - so it is not likely to please him if we just turn our backs on all this, and refuse pleasure.

## FLEETWOOD MAC – ALL FACTS NO RUMOURS – A BRIEF HISTORY



**Written by Graham Townsend**

I thought now was as good a time as any to take a look at the history of Fleetwood Mac, following the recent passing of long-term band member Christine McVie at the age of 79.

The band has an interesting, varied and somewhat chequered history in terms of personnel, their relationships and musical style. They were founded in 1967 by drummer Mick Fleetwood and guitarists

Peter Green and Jeremy Spencer. They were primarily a blues band at first. John McVie joined as a bassist soon afterwards and Christine Perfect (as she was known then) joined in 1970 after marrying John. In between Danny Kirwan had joined as a guitarist in 1968.

Their first big hit was “Albatross”, a number one single in the UK. This was very much their flagship song during the first phase of their history. Follow up hits included “Oh Well”, “Man of the World” and “The Green Manalishi”.

Several band members came and went up to 1974, including Green, Spencer and Kirwan. It was whilst in Los Angeles, that Fleetwood came across a folk-rock duo Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks. After being impressed with Buckingham, he invited him to join the band as lead guitarist. Buckingham agreed, as long as Nicks could join as well.

Fleetwood Mac now had what many consider their classic line-up as they headed into more of a pop/rock direction. This also led to arguably the most commercially successful period in their history. Their 1977 album “Rumours” became one of the best-selling albums of all time. Ironically John & Christine, Lindsey & Stevie (who were also in a relationship) and Mick and his wife Jenny all went through breakups during the recording of the album. Mick actually had an affair with Stevie which complicated issues further.

Some of the best known tracks from the album are “Go Your Own Way”, “Dreams”, “Don’t Stop” and “You Make Loving Fun”

Thankfully through the personal turmoil, they managed to stay together professionally and continued to produce high quality and successful material right through to 1987 when they released “Tango in the Night”. This was their most successful album since “Rumours” and included hits such as “Little Lies”, “Everywhere”, “Seven Wonders” and “Big Love”.

At this point the band did start to disintegrate as, Buckingham left on the eve of the band’s tour for the album. Replacements were brought in. Nicks also left in 1991 and, barring a one-off performance for Bill Clinton’s inauguration as US President in 1993, the classic line-up was not seen again until 1997 when live album “The Dance” was released following a performance in May of that year in Burbank, California which was recorded. This was the first time since “Tango in the Night” that Fleetwood Mac had been back in the limelight on a grand scale.

They have continued to perform in various guises since then. Christine did leave for several years during the 21<sup>st</sup> century and Buckingham was fired in 2018. Prior to Christine’s death in

November 2022, Danny Kirwan passed away in June 2018 and Peter Green died in July 2020.

I saw the band live at Maine Road in Manchester in August 1990 on their “Behind the Mask” tour. It was a fantastic occasion and one I’ll always remember. I still have the t-shirt I bought that day as a memento. My only regret is that Lindsey Buckingham was not a part of the band at that point as he contributed so much to the overall success of Fleetwood Mac.

I hope you have enjoyed reminiscing with me and I look forward to bringing you another “band history” in next month’s magazine.

\* With some help from Wikipedia

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## JUNE CHARLTON OFFERS THREE MORE GOOD RECIPES



### Indian Potato Wedges

#### Ingredients:

2 large potatoes, unpeeled  
4 large ripe tomatoes, peeled and seeded  
¼ pint of vegetable stock  
2 tablespoons of puree/paste  
1 small yellow (bell) pepper, cut into strips

4 ½ oz of button mushrooms, quartered  
1 tablespoon of fresh basil  
¾ oz of grated cheese  
Salt and pepper

#### Method:

Cut each of the potatoes in 8 equal wedges. Parboil the potatoes in a pan of boiling water for 15 minutes. Drain well and place in a shallow oven-proof dish.

Chop the tomatoes and add to the dish. Mix together the vegetable stock and tomato puree (paste) then pour the mixture over the potatoes and tomatoes. Add the yellow pepper strips, quartered mushrooms and chopped basil. Season well with salt and pepper.

Sprinkle the grated cheese over the top and cook in a preheated oven 190 C/375 F/Gas mark 5 for 15-20 minutes, until the topping is golden brown. Serve at once.



### **Lamb and Cabbage Hotpot**

#### Ingredients:

- 2 lb of potatoes, peeled
- 1 lb neck of lamb
- 3 carrots, sliced
- 4 tablespoons of swede, diced
- 2 large onions, thinly sliced
- 1 oz of butter
- 1 tablespoon of flour

A pinch of dried thyme  
Parsley, chopped  
Water or stock  
Salt and pepper

#### Method:

Melt the butter in a deep thick based pan. Mix together the flour, thyme, salt and pepper and toss the lamb in the flour. Place in the pan and quickly brown on both sides. Add the cabbage, carrots, swede and onions pressing them well down.

Cut 1 lb of potatoes into thin slices. Place on top and season with salt and pepper.

Add sufficient water, barely covering and then add the remaining potatoes (if small keep whole, cut the larger ones in half and place on top). Cover with a closely fitting lid and simmer very gently without stirring, till cooked for about 1 ½ hours. Sprinkle with parsley and serve straight from the pan.



### **Chunky Potato and Beef Soup**

#### Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons of vegetable oil
- 8 oz of braising or frying steak cut into strips
- 8 oz of new potatoes, halved
- 1 carrot, diced
- 2 celery sticks, sliced
- 1 ½ pints of beef stock
- 8 baby sweetcorn cobs, sliced

1 bouquet garni  
2 tablespoons of dry sherry  
Salt and pepper  
Chopped fresh parsley  
2 leeks, sliced

#### Method:

Heat the vegetable oil in a large pan. Add the strips of meat and cook for 3 minutes turning constantly. Add the halved potatoes, diced carrot, sliced celery and leeks. Cook for a further 5

minutes, stirring. Pour the beef stock in the pan and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat until the liquid is simmering, then add the sliced baby sweet corn cobs and the bouquet garni. Cook the soup for a further 30 minutes or until the meat and all of the vegetables are cooked through. Remove the bouquet garni from the pan and discard. Stir the dry sherry into the soup and then season to taste with salt and pepper. Pour the soup into warmed bowls and garnish with the chopped fresh parsley. Serve at once accompanied by chunks of fresh crusty bread.

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## GRAHAM'S WORLD CUP 2022 REVIEW



So, how was it for you? Did you follow the tournament, and did you enjoy it? What were your highlights, and your lowlights?

Whatever your viewpoint, the 2022 FIFA World Cup has now been consigned to the record books and people from Buenos Aires to Cordoba to Rosario will be grinning from ear to ear as their beloved Argentinian national team are your new world champions.

The tournament seemed to get off to a slow start, as is often the case when teams are conscious of the importance of picking up every point they can to secure their passage through to the knockout stages.

Two of the early big name casualties, at the group stage, were Belgium and Germany. There seemed to be disharmony amongst the Belgian squad from the outset. After a somewhat fortuitous victory over Canada in their opening match, Kevin De Bruyne was quoted as saying they had no chance of winning due to the age of the players. This came on the back of rumours of a row between De Bruyne, captain Eden Hazard and Jan Vertonghen after the aforementioned Canada match. When they succumbed to Morocco in their second match, the writing seemed to be on the wall. Their third and final group game versus Croatia became a must win, once Morocco took an early two goal lead over Canada. The introduction of Romelu Lukaku as a half time substitute was their last realistic hope of success however, Lukaku was left to rue a string of gilt edged opportunities as a goalless draw saw the Belgians eliminated from the competition. If Lukaku had been fit enough to play a full part then maybe the outcome would have been different however, we will never know.

Germany's elimination was no less high profile and they had no one else to blame but themselves according to manager Hansi Flick. Complacency in their opening match against Japan saw a 1-0 lead overturned and end in a 2-1 defeat. A more than respectable 1-1 draw with Spain seemed to suggest they perhaps were back on track to qualify however, they knew that their fate was possibly out of their hands even with a victory over Costa Rica in their final group match. They duly delivered that victory by a margin of four goals to two but, a highly contentious VAR decision in the match between Spain and Japan, which ultimately awarded what would be a winning goal for Japan, meant that by finishing on points, the same total as Spain, they exited the tournament on goal difference.



Amongst the surprise packages in the group stages, alongside Japan and Morocco who we have already mentioned, were Australia and South Korea. Australia showed up well in their opener against France before eventually going down to a 3-1 defeat. They showed resilience and guile in their other matches pulling off 1-0 victories over Tunisia and Denmark, the latter were one of the tournaments big disappointments in my opinion, as they qualified for the Round of Sixteen with relative comfort.

South Korea were involved in a three way qualification battle with Uruguay and Ghana which came down to the final minutes of the last group games where all three could still reasonably have succeeded. The Koreans beat Portugal who had already qualified. They then had to wait to see whether Uruguay could score in added time against Ghana or indeed whether Ghana could score twice themselves to qualify at their expense. As luck would have it, there were no further goals and South Korea lived to fight another day.

The Round of Sixteen matches went pretty much as one would probably have expected, with the exception of the Morocco versus Spain match which saw the Spaniards go out on penalties after a 0-0 draw after extra time. Their cause wasn't helped by the failure of any of their penalty takers to find the back of the net although much credit should also go to Moroccan keeper Bono. The other result of note was a 6-1 victory for Portugal over Switzerland. This featured a hat trick for Goncalo Ramos, brought in to replace Cristiano Ronaldo after a fall out with team boss Fernando Santos following a show of anger at being substituted during the South Korea match.

The quarter-final stage started with a major surprise, in the form of an exit, on penalties, for Brazil. After a ninety-minute stalemate, Brazil hit the front at the end of the first half of extra time through Neymar. I got the impression that the Brazilians thought the job was done at this point however, this proved to be their undoing as a deflected shot from Bruno Petkovic, their only effort on target in the whole match, brought the Croats level. Croatia were as efficient as ever during the shootout scoring all four of their penalties whilst Rodrygo, who went first, and Marquinhos failed to convert as the tournament favourites were eliminated. Argentina looked to be cruising through to the semi-finals in their clash with Netherlands when they went 2-0 up through a Messi penalty around twenty minutes from time. The Dutch had other ideas though and the introduction of Wout Weghorst transformed their evening as he struck twice in the final seven minutes to take the match to extra time. Just like Croatia these were their only efforts on target during the match! There were no further additions to the score during the extra half hour and again we had a penalty shootout. The hero here was Argentinian keeper Emi Martinez who saved the first two Dutch spot-kicks to see his team progress to the next stage. This was a very dramatic match where fifteen yellow cards were issued including a second one for Netherlands' Denzel Dumfries during the shootout!

By comparison, the Morocco versus Portugal match was relatively tame, however, it saw another big shock as, the African nation knocked out the European team 1-0 with a resilient defensive performance after En-Nesyri put them ahead just before half-time. The most iconic image here was that of a tearful Ronaldo walking down the tunnel after what is likely to have been his final appearance at the World Cup. France also progressed to the semi-finals with a 2-1 victory over England. The English were awarded two penalty kicks during the match. Harry Kane was successful with the first one but, he skied the second and this turned out to be the decisive moment in the game. Like the Argentina match, although with fewer cautions,

the referee was at the centre of plenty of controversy and some of his decisions appeared questionable.

The semi-finals went pretty much as the majority of fans would have expected although, Morocco put up a brave fight against France before going down to a 2-0 defeat. A more efficient frontline might have seen the Atlas Lions push the French even harder but it wasn't to be. Argentina had a comfortable evening against a Croatian team which lacked creativity. A 3-0 score line in favour of the Argentines was not an unfair reflection of the match. Leo Messi again to the fore with assistance from Manchester City's Julian Alvarez.

It was Croatia who sealed the bronze medal, and third place, with a routine win in a reasonably entertaining third/fourth play-off match. They came out 2-1 victors over a seemingly emotional Moroccan team who played well in the first half but became increasingly frustrated with several perceived refereeing injustices in the second half. Needless to say they can hold their heads high with their overall performance at this tournament.

So the World Cup Final saw a battle between the defending champions France and two-times former winners Argentina. After Messi put Argentina into the lead, midway through the first half with a penalty, Angel Di Maria doubled their advantage thirteen minutes later with a smart finish following an assist from Messi. France were well below par and didn't register a shot of any kind until the eightieth minute when a foul by Otamendi resulted in a penalty which was emphatically dispatched by Mbappe. This breathed new life into the French and a fantastically executed first time volley from the same man saw them level after they had looked down and out.

So we went into extra-time and both sides looked as though they wanted to win it without the need to resort to a penalty shootout. Argentina regained the lead with a second Messi goal just into the second half of the extra time period. Replays showed his follow up effort was clearly over the line after a superb save from Lloris had initially denied Lautaro Martinez. The drama wasn't over yet though as Argentina conceded another penalty, this time as a consequence of a handball by Gonzalo Montiel. Mbappe stepped up to the mark to complete his hat-trick and become only the second player in history, after Sir Geoff Hurst, to accomplish this feat in a World Cup Final. France almost snatched the trophy with a last minute effort from Kolo Muani but Emi Martinez pulled off a fabulous save and so with the scores level at 3-3, the winners would be decided by spot kicks. In the end it came down to a save by Martinez from Coman and a miss by Tchouameni to allow the Argentinians to seal their third world crown as all four of their penalty takers converted successfully.

Tournaments of this magnitude always highlight new stars of world football alongside those who have already established themselves. Messi won the Golden Ball for Player of the Tournament. Whilst Goncalo Ramos may be one of those new stars, Kylian Mbappe cemented his place amongst the current elite of the game. His star shone very brightly, as he won the Golden Boot, as did that of Jude Bellingham of England, Josko Gvardiol of Croatia, Sofyan Amrabat of Morocco and Enzo Fernandez, the Young Player of the Tournament. In terms of goals, it is hard to look beyond Richarlison's superb overhead kick in Brazil's opening group match for goal of the tournament.

The 2022 World Cup Finals certainly garnered more media attention, for the wrong reasons, than any other tournament in recent memory. Despite this, there were plenty of memorable moments on the field and we can look forward in anticipation to more of this in 2026 when USA, Canada and Mexico play host to the next instalment of the “greatest show on earth”.

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## ANOTHER FUN QUIZ FROM THE HORSE’S MOUTH



### Questions:

- (1) What is the Spanish word for shoe?
- (2) Who won last season’s Champion League final 2022?
- (3) What is the name of the fear of being closed in?
- (4) Which city is the oldest in the world?
- (5) A sonnet has how many lines?
- (6) What is an interregnum?
- (7) Where is Alhambra?
- (8) What is the drink ‘black velvet’ composed of?
- (9) What is the French word for shoulder?
- (10) What is the most southerly point of Great Britain’s mainland called?
- (11) What is the currency of Kenya?
- (12) Where is Alcatraz Island?
- (13) If you play Russian roulette, what do you use?
- (14) Which Viking discovered Greenland in 982?
- (15) When would you use a marlin spike?
- (16) Who originally played Simon Templar on television in ‘The Saint’?
- (17) What was Henry VIII’s legitimate son called?
- (18) What did Sri Lanka used to be called?
- (19) What is a perruque?
- (20) What was the flag flown by pirates called?

(1) Zapato (2) Real Madrid CF (3) Claustrophobia (4) Jericho, Palestine (5) 14 (6) A period when normal government is suspended, especially between successive reigns or regimes (7) Granada, Andalusia, Spain (8) Stout and sparkling wine/Champagne (9) Epaule (10) Lizard Point (11) Kenyan shilling (12) San Francisco Bay, 1.25 miles offshore from San Francisco, California (13) A revolver with one bullet (14) Erik the Red (15) To splice rope, untie knots, or form toggles or handles – nautical term (16) Roger Moore (17) Edward VI (18) Ceylon (19) A wig (20) Jolly Roger or Skull-and-Crossbones

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**Editor’s Final Word:** Thank you so much for taking the time and trouble to read this e-magazine, I hope you enjoyed doing so. If you want to send anything to be considered for publication/want to advertise or simply donate to the running costs, please contact us at: [dean@fthm.org.uk](mailto:dean@fthm.org.uk) Best wishes, Dean, Brenda, Robert and Graham.