



INSPECTOR GENERALS' MISSIVE WEEK 35

Week 35 IG Missive – 19th November 2020



Week two of the new (latest?) lockdown and life stumbles along quietly at the moment. News on the vaccine front sounds very encouraging so let us hope sufficient of the various versions come to fruition and allow us back to something a little more like normality. The Zoom virtual visit by MP Bro Alan Englefield was well “attended” with just over 20% of the District appearing on screen and I hope all who were on-line enjoyed the event as much as I did. Our thanks go to Peter Moody for assisting the Grand Secretary General’s staff to set it up and to AsstGDC Matt for keeping us more or less under IT control.

Stephen Knight returned to the top of the tree last week with a perfect set of answers, just ahead of Steve Tunney and Nick Wilson who weren’t far away (must make the questions harder this week).

Here are my answers to last week’s questions:

1. The Duke of Clarence and Avondale was Provincial Grand Master of Berkshire and died in 1892 at the age of 28. He was the eldest son of the then Prince of Wales, later Edward VII. The Duke’s younger brother George became Prince of Wales in 1901 and George V in 1910.
2. Inflammable (meaning capable of being inflamed) is an unusual word in that the prefix in- usually converts a word to its opposite (ineligible, indistinct etc). The word has nowadays fallen into official disuse with non-flammable used instead as the opposite of flammable.
3. Teflon (or PTFE) was discovered accidentally by Dupont’s Roy J Plunkett in 1938. It was first patented by Kinetic Chemicals in 1945 and the trademark name now belongs to Chemours.
4. In the opera’s 1700’s setting the deserter and murderer Boconnion kisses Jenny, one of the touring actors, and she then reveals that she has plague so Boconnion will die.
5. Flying the Union Jack from a Royal navy ship whilst under way indicates either that the ship is carrying the Monarch or an Admiral of the Fleet, that it is conducting a court-martial or is “dressed” with masthead ensigns for an anniversary or celebration.
6. Queen Matilda was wife to William 1 (though apparently never crowned as Queen of England) and ruled as Regent in the Conqueror’s absence on occasions. Lady Jane Grey was Queen for 9 days but never crowned but Mary I was crowned in 1553 and was the first queen regnant.
7. Simone Enefor-Doy is Chief Executive of Lifelights.
8. Arizona was the last contiguous state of the USA to be admitted – in 1912.
9. Odysseus (and his remaining men) tied themselves beneath sheep to escape the then-blind giant.
10. First man to the 2 Poles and the summit of Everest (the “3 Pole Challenge”) was Erling Kagge in 1994. The first woman was Tina Sjögren in 2002.

Here are this week’s posers:

1. In what way might your GP, a college lecturer and a legal paper be said to share a common root?

2. Name 2 villages which were drowned to supply water to Liverpool.
3. Who modified the direct feed carburettor of Merlin engines to prevent “rich cut-out”?
4. Why, customarily, do Privy Counsellors (also called Councillors) stand during meetings?
5. Who designed the mulberry harbours built for the D-Day beaches?
6. What was the real name of the “Manassa Mauler”?
7. Who holds the current world unlimited water speed record?
8. What did Prometheus do and who saved him?
9. What should have been celebrating its 68th anniversary next Wednesday.
10. Which 4 countries have not registered a nationality identifier with ICAO for the designation of its domestic aircraft?

I do hope the questions are difficult rather than obscure! Happy Googling.

Maintain the mantra - Hands, Face, Space and Keep Phoning Around – and may we all be spared the virus.

Stay Safe

Peter Harborne 33°

Buckinghamshire