



INSPECTOR GENERALS' MISSIVE WEEK 13



18th June - Three months locked down now and here we are in week 13. The infection rate does seem to be drifting down at the moment and far fewer people are now in hospitals than was the case a month ago. However, many of us will know of friends and acquaintances whose encounter with Covid has caused an earlier death than might otherwise have been the case. Despite the depressing situation we all find ourselves in, the vast majority of our members have found that self-isolation, social distancing and careful hygiene appear to be working and that they have, so far, escaped infection. Although new drugs are now being used to good effect in cutting the fatality rates of Covid cases on oxygen or under-going mechanical ventilation, it is still much better not to catch it in the first place. Let us pray that if we maintain our current social caution, we may come through this dreadful crisis unscathed.

Many retail outlets are re-opening and provided that we observe the required precautions to reduce the amount of potential Coronavirus we and others may expel, the shop operators will no doubt be very pleased to see us. The managers of our masonic Centres are beginning to lay schemes and draw designs (nice phrase – I wonder where that came from?) and it seems possible that centres may

re-open for some purposes in the next couple of months. However, we must of course await guidance and direction from UGLE and Supreme Council before formal meetings are resumed. Even then, it is possible that some members may not feel ready to attend straight away so an early circulation of minutes after meetings will be an essential tool to keep those who miss a meeting fully involved in proceedings.

Answers to last week's quiz:

1. Jacob was travelling from Beersheba to Haran when he fell asleep and dreamed of the Ladder.
2. He was fleeing from his brother Esau because his mother told him he was in danger.
3. 33 candles and 18 roses on a Rose Croix Altar.
4. Oriel College has the Rhodes statue on its frontal.
5. Nelson's statue on his column is made of Craigleith sandstone.
6. The lions around the column were made (eventually) by Sir Edwin Landseer.
7. The area of Bucks (723.55sq mls) divided by the number of Chapters RC in Bucks (11) = 65.77776 so nearest whole number is 66.
8. They are all places with "Keynes" added
9. They are part of the pancreas and produce insulin (amongst other chemical signallers)
10. It is the second chamber of a cow's stomach(s) and feeds small particles of food and fluid to the omasum and abomasum (the third and fourth chambers/stomachs in ruminants)

John Stribling got the best score in last week's quiz – I may have to give him back one of the bottles of wine that I won from his Royal Arch quizzes (I'll keep the bottle of whisky though John!).

Here are this week's posers:

1. What is the new drug which trials have revealed is a good treatment for reducing the fatality rate of those with Covid-19 who need mechanical respirator treatment?
2. What is its chemical formula?
3. Why is the phrase "14 days' quarantine" something of an oxymoron?
4. Who was the longest serving Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander in England & Wales?
5. Where would you find the malleus, incus and stapes?
6. Which London theatre could seat the most paying customers (if it was open)?
7. Why, in days of yore, were fish&chip shops closed on Mondays?
8. In chemistry, what is a mole?
9. How is this character ↑ produced on a standard qwerty keyboard?
10. How do you get the degree sign, °, on a standard qwerty keyboard?

I suspect the police driver of the car which rear-ended the PM's car yesterday won't have enjoyed his interview without coffee with his boss this morning – there's always someone worse off than we are!
God Bless, Stay Safe and keep phoning around.

Peter Harborne 33°

Inspector General

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