



INSPECTOR GENERALS' MISSIVE WEEK 55



Week 55 IG Missive – 8th April 2021

We do seem to be entering a period of increased optimism with the vaccination process running so well although the doom-mongers are still attempting to spin their web of despondency. I must admit my first thought when I heard some people had developed blood clots was not “is it the jab” but rather that it was probably more likely to be like getting a Deep Vein Thrombosis on long aircraft journeys – people haven’t been moving enough. However, serious medical opinion is getting a little concerned so perhaps there is more to it.

The 17th May seems to be holding as the date when rule-of-six masonic meetings may resume although it seems likely that LofIs and rehearsals might be the main business needed after such a long gap. Most of our centres have now taken precautions to reduce the likelihood of our catching Covid whilst in the building so many of us will no doubt feel prompted to range a little further than the garden or the golf club. Renewing physical proximity to friends we haven’t seen for a while will be very pleasant. There may of course be those who wish to wait a little longer before venturing out. Although 21st June is the

anticipated date of full release from restrictions and the resumption of full meetings with dining, we need to hope there is no ‘third wave’ around the corner. My fingers remain crossed.

Here are my answers to week 54’s questions:

1. Easter is said to be named after the goddess Eostre about whom the Venerable Bede wrote in the late 7th century. Her feast day was celebrated in pre-Christian times at the beginning of Spring.
2. Easter is always celebrated on the Sunday after the first ecclesiastical full moon after the vernal equinox so Easter Sunday can never be earlier than 22nd March (nor later than 25th April).
3. The French word for Easter is Pâques and is derived from the Latin word Pascha (and Hebrew word Pesah) and refers to Passover, the Jewish celebration of the Exodus from Egypt.
4. Chocolate Easter eggs started in France and Germany in the mid-1800s but the first chocolate eggs in the UK were made by J S Fry in 1873 (and Cadbury from 1875).
5. According to all 4 Gospels, Jesus was in the house of the high priest and Peter was outside the door when he denied Jesus for the third time and the cock crowed.
6. Laetare Sunday is the 4th Sunday in Lent. It is also known as Mothering Sunday or Refreshment Day and it was traditionally a break in the Lent fasting period.
7. Simnel cake is a traditional Lent/Easter light cake made of fruit, marzipan and almond paste.
8. Easter Island is in the south-east Pacific Ocean and is owned by Chile.
9. Liliun Longiflorum, the Easter lily, is toxic to cats and if a cat eats any part of the plant (even if it just licks pollen off its coat after brushing past a flower) it needs a vet’s help to save its kidneys.

10. If a plant is a hybrid within the same genus then 'x' is placed within the name such as *Abutilon x suntense* or, if from 2 separate genera, then preceding the name as in *x Laeliocattleya*. Names of graft hybrids are usually preceded by a '+' sign.

Not too difficult for most responders but I trust everyone trips over something new each week.

This week's posers to prompt your research:

1. What is the usual naming protocol for inter-species big-cat hybrid offspring?
2. When were lodge secretaries relieved of the legal obligation annually to send a list of members to the local "Clerk of the Peace?"
3. How long must elapse before a 22-year-old table tennis player who has adopted a new nationality is allowed to represent his new country in international competitions?
4. What is the average life expectancy of *Erithacus rubecula*?
5. In which month might photo-voltaic roof panels in S.E. England produce the most electricity?
6. How would one measure transpiration?
7. Why are prisons often referred to as "the clink"?
8. In what respect are fish and trees examined in a similar way?
9. Why might telegraphists of 60 years ago have appreciated the theme tune from "Endeavour?"
10. What is meant by a waning gibbous moon?

Happy researching and keep phoning around. Freedom is approaching but hasn't arrived quite yet.

Maintain the mantra - Hands, Face, Space,

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