

Retiree News



A Biannual Publication for Retirees of all
Chevron UK Companies



Editor's Chat

Issue 75, May 2019

Today (9 April), I am sitting working on this edition of Retiree News. It has been raining and for that I am pleased because I have recently finished re-designing a front garden for some friends and these plants, along with other new ones planted elsewhere are getting some much needed rain. Leaves are gradually coming out on trees, Forsythia and Magnolias are in blossom and it is chilly. There are a couple of Magpies in a tree which is outside our kitchen window where they are nesting and they are fun to watch. Nature is wonderful. Hopefully Easter will be good and because you will receive this in May, belated good wishes for Easter.

It has been so good to receive the many stories from some retirees. I really enjoy reading them and including them for you all to read. Please keep them coming. These are not just stories about times at our company/ies, but also about life! There were so many different personalities that we came across during our careers and many became friends. I look back on good memories of my time at Texaco. When I started, I thought it would be ok for about five years, but I had the opportunity to work in several departments and the people were the company; I stayed for almost twenty five years!

I wish you all a great summer. Will be back later in the year.

News From Chevron

A new milestone; one million barrels a day

Chevron North America Exploration and Production (CNAEP) achieved a significant new milestone recently; reaching one million barrels of oil and oil equivalent production per day. Chevron leaders shared that 2018 fourth quarter Permian production was up 84 percent compared to fourth quarter 2017.

Epic voyage leads to TCO FGP milestone

The safe, on-schedule delivery of an 830 ton modular component was an engineering feat and project milestone for Tengizchevroil Future Growth Project- Pressure Management project. After a voyage of almost 16,900 miles, (27,198 kilometres), the delivery demonstrated marine functional expertise by Chevron Shipping Company.

Fuelling students' critical needs

Chevron recently announced its ninth consecutive Fuel Our School programme. The programme is part of our overall support for education, which has totalled more than \$400 million worldwide since 2013. In addition to supporting public education in the United States, Fuel Your School is active in Latin America and Asia.

Industry first; smart cleaning pig solved pipeline problem

Throughout Chevron's pipeline network, we apply a strong integrity management programme. A collaboration between Chevron Energy Technology Company (ETC) and Chevron Thailand demonstrates our ability to deploy a new technology – an integrated cleaning and inspection pig (ICIP) tool – and a first for the oil and gas industry.

Manila centre wins wellness award

Our Manila Shared Services Centre (MSSC) was named "Wellness Company of the Year" by the prestigious Asia CEO Awards 2018. MSSC was recognised for supporting healthy behaviour in the workplace and improved health for its employees.

New data search mimics the human brain

In collaboration with Google, Chevron has developed a tool that automatically ingests and analyses all document content, including text, tables and images. The tool enables us to quickly find appropriate data from thousands of documents.

Oronite celebrates its rich history in China and Louisiana

Chevron Oronite just celebrated two milestones, underlining the organisation's strong global presence. One celebration commemorated the 75-year anniversary of Oronite's Oak Point additives plant and the other marked twenty years of direct sales in China.

Partnering with Technology Partners

Chevron's Appalachian Mountain business unit recently launched a partnership with Carnegie Mellon University to support recruiting efforts and research partnerships that advance our business.



A new tip on Recycling

Gordon Brown

For those of you who have not thought of this, I earned some brownie points from my wife by having the gold from my pins melted down and made into a charm for her charm bracelet. I then had a jeweller confirm that the diamonds in my pins were in fact diamonds, as I had my suspicions that they were just costume jewels, I had them mounted in a silver bangle which he made too. The diamonds are worth a few hundred pounds.

We Aberdonians know how to make good use of our assets.

Texaco Memoirs

Julie Southern

My memories of the early days of Texaco are of Martin Southern who I married at the grand old age of twenty. I travelled on Texaco oil tankers in the years 1980 to 1982; Martin was an engineer who worked on the Texaco Rochester, Liverpool and the Greenwich and Denmark. I was happy to enjoy 23 years of marriage with three lovely children. We met at infant school and as odd as that may seem, in our small town (up North) it was not surprising really. We met up again when I was eighteen; Martin was nineteen and going away on his first trip on the Texaco Denmark. He was going to Singapore and was taking the ship to dry dock.

He had many adventures and the one that I recall was the one three weeks before our wedding when he was due back and didn't appear! The ship had broken down in Curacao, Caribbean and I was wondering if he had done a bunk! I joined the ship in Pembroke Dock and I couldn't believe the size of the ship. We sailed together on the VLCC Simpca Jeddah, the largest ship I had ever seen and it took us through The Mediterranean, up the Suez Canal and around Africa. It was three months without going ashore as the VLCC was too big for the ports. To say I was desperate to shop for a simple newspaper or toiletries was an understatement. We had no mobile phones then, no newspapers and no computers to keep in touch with home. The only contact I had for four months was a crackly call put together by the sparky on the ship, with so many people listening in various countries.

Our second voyage was on the Greenwich, which I joined in Dubai, it was nothing like the present-day Dubai. I managed to venture out to a shop and bought a pair of flip flops for Martin, these turned out to be two left feet! This time the plane to take me to Gatwick got cancelled due to winds and I flew to Heathrow and took a Chinook helicopter to get me on the plane on time. I thought I was dreaming! This time we were lucky enough to get to Sydney and Perth, Martin worked hard and was conscientious to the maximum. He worked whilst I went to Manly Beach, Sydney with another wife. We had a fantastic day however, we arrived late at the launch station, that was where we got the boat for the Texaco Greenwich. There had been a huge storm around the headland and the ship had broken anchor. Can you imagine the panic, so eventually we were put on the launch boat with waves crashing around us; I was petrified. We then had to jump off the launch to the ship steps in the wild weather. I got to the top of the ship and Martin said 'where on earth do you think you have been!' I was in the doghouse!

The third trip was aboard the Texaco Rochester. This time we went to Taiwan and Pusan in South Korea where we faced the scrapyard where the ship was to be dismantled. It was a surreal experience and depressing to see the ships all side by side being ripped up. Many men were too upset to speak. The atmosphere was oppressive and dismal and I just wanted to get home. I didn't relish being on a ship that was being run aground with all the metal clashing around me.

We have sailed with some fantastic people and kept friends for life. I loved the Indian food and to this day still love a really good curry. Back then I had one for breakfast and dinner! Egg curries were my favorite. Goodness knows what my local takeaway would say if I asked for one of those. My favourite food on the ships was cheesy beano. This was beans on toast with cheese and sometimes ham. After all the lovely dishes the crew cooked this was just a simple English dish and we used to devour it. Some very kind Indian crew gave me an Indian cookery book for Christmas, the chief steward wrote in it. This was the kindest gift as I knew the crew had very little to give.

The life at sea for me was so different than normal life. The watches Martin did were 8am – 12pm 8pm - 12am for seven days and sometimes there were other watches, therefore the only way to survive in the cabin was to be awake at the same time. Knitting, writing and listening to a hissing crackly radio. It was on these occasions I wrote down the football scores for the officers. Well, I often got it wrong but they were so desperate for their little link back home; I just kept quiet. Goodness how many times they were cheering when they lost! Bolton Wanderers (our team) happened to do very well in those days!

We left the life at sea when Paul Whaley came into our lives! Martin was interviewed for a Sales Engineer vacancy with Texaco. Our lives changed and we settled down. I will be eternally grateful to Paul. We then used to socialize with the regional managers David Williams, John Yarwood, Jeff Vaughan, Phil Ernil and many others, we had many great parties. Martin had lots of friends all over the world, but the ones from all those years ago were always remembered.

Martin was dashing up and down the country to Carlisle and eventually dashed all over Europe. We then moved to New York head office and worked for Wilson Berry and Glen Tilton in Westchester. That was a fantastic experience in a beautiful area. We moved to Singapore after that where Martin was Vice President Asia Pacific. It's a good job I love travelling and we had the most exciting times whilst trying to bring up our children, which was not always easy let me tell you. Moving two teenagers and a baby is not a walk in the park. Our teenagers thought we were the worst parents in the world and now they tell me it was the best thing we could have done! The experiences and lifestyle were fantastic.

Martin became involved in Sri Lanka, again Kishu Gnomes was a close friend out there. He helped raise money with Caltex/Texaco for the deaf and blind schools. I later visited one in Colombo after Martin had died and the school had a memorial service for him. I could see from around the school the difference the money had made in the small kitchen, musical instruments and the children melted my heart. Even the floral tributes money went there and to see the improvements was amazing.



It was the hardest service to attend but I am glad we did. Martin was friends with the teachers and I will never forget that day I went to the deaf and blind school in Colombo. I was lucky to have known a great strong man who made friends throughout the world.

We lost Martin 23 March, 2005 aged 45 to cancer. He will never be forgotten by so many people not least me and my children. I think we were lucky to have shared our lives with him and now our children are adults and our first granddaughter was born in September last year.

Health Check Up

Chris Schutte

In December 2017 last year, I finally got an overdue general health check with my local GP. I had no particular symptoms or niggles. Part of the check was a blood sample. When he had the results, he said the PSA (Prostate count) was a little high but that he would take a second one and he could monitor me. By early January, the second sample showed an increase to 7.4, but that he had patients who were in the PSA twenties. He would continue monitoring or refer me to Plymouth Hospital Urology. I asked for the latter and after a flurry of tests, some uncomfortable, I was advised by a Consultant that I had aggressive Prostate cancer, stage 2 and that I had choices, because the disease had appeared not to have progressed beyond the gland itself. When I described the invasive nature of the tests, the females in my family said, 'I now knew what women had to put up with'. The earlier Prostate cancer can be diagnosed, the greater the choices of treatment and easier recovery. An ex- colleague, who I rang to get checked, had recently been told that he had the disease and was able to have the less intrusive radio-active option. I elected to have a Prostatectomy (removal of the Prostate gland completely), by robotic surgery and within a week was on the operating table on the 26 March and returned home the next day. Five days later on 1 April, my wife Sue and I celebrated our Golden Wedding Anniversary at a local hotel with friends and family.

I had no physical signs prior to my visit to my GP and had no history in my family of the disease. I have had quite a number of blood tests since the op. which are negative and means I am clear of cancer. The Aspirin Trial (taking an aspirin or placebo once a day) have recruited me for the next five years to see if there is an element to keep cancer at bay. The future looks good with the speed and competence of the staff and surgeons dealing with this disease. All we men have to do is be aware and get tested.

Thanks for this Chris. It is known men are not keen on going to the doctor, but please heed this and get checked. Ed!

Swimming through life.

Roger Willmott

My time in Chevron started in 1979 on the Ninian Northern platform in the North Sea. Prior to that, I had spent seventeen years in the Royal Navy and it was while riding out a storm in the North Sea on a Frigate, that I saw some rigs and production platforms, that firstly weren't bouncing around like a cork in a tub and secondly from tales I had heard, were not serving up a pot mess and ships biscuits every time there was a storm. So I put in my eighteen months' notice and on leaving Guz Barracks for the

last time, headed up to Aberdeen to do some door knocking. Chevron offices were then just off Union street and I was lucky enough to get a few minutes with the HR manager and landed an interview. Not long after I was on orientation and then flying out to the Ninian Northern for my first shift as a mechanic, quite a change from being the Chief of the Watch on a warship.

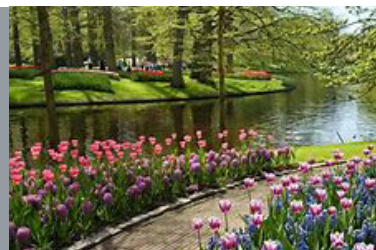
Due to the excellent Navy training that I had been through, I soon settled in starting a new life. Around five years later I was promoted to Mechanical Systems Supervisor and was on my way to the Ninian Southern Platform. A couple of years on and I was heading out to Cabinda, Angola, West Africa as a Mechanical Supervisor, later to become Production Maintenance Supervisor and there I stayed on rotational assignment for eleven years. My first challenge in Africa was language. Portuguese being the official language, so most of my communications with the local lads on site was through a non-official translator, anyone who could speak Portuguese was shanghaied to help out. Fortunately we had several Portuguese nationals on site, but it was still a challenge at best. I decided to learn Portuguese; after a couple of years I wasn't too bad at it and eventually became pretty fluent. I made some amazing friends amongst the local lads and eventually managed to set up some apprentice type training in our training centre for Mechanics and later Electricians and Instrument Techs. I guess it was that effort that led to my next assignment in The Republic of Kazakhstan as the Training Manager on a rotational assignment at the Giant Tengiz Oil Field.

At that time, I moved to Portugal and was living in Cascais, South of Lisbon and later Estoril. Now came my next challenge. Not many folks in Tengiz spoke Portuguese, so it was back to the drawing board again, this time though we did have some excellent Translators, also in the training centre I had twenty two Russian and Kazakh English teachers, along with a whole bunch of other folks, including our own filmmaking group who developed training videos. However, as in Africa, I figured that I would get a much better response from employees if I could speak their language; it was off to Russian classes for me, Kazakh not being the main communication language in the company at that time. My Portuguese was parked in the back of my brain while I struggled with a Cyrillic text and words so long that you almost had to turn the page to get to the end of them. How is it possible to put so many consonants together in one word and expect anyone to pronounce it?

I was two years in Tengiz when a new move was offered back to the North Sea in Operations again. This time though I figured, I had been there, done that and bought at least a dozen T-shirts and decided to take early retirement at 53 and look to do something else, which meant my time with Chevron finished after twenty years.

I never did leave the Republic of Kazakhstan though and am still here today nineteen years down the road. Since those days back in 1999 I got married, set up a consulting business with my Wife with our business model based around management training and later training and auditing of Quality management systems, health and safety systems and environmental management systems.

I spent three years as Managing Director of the Kazakhstan branch of a certification body during which time my Wife learnt



to swim by herself in the consulting world and very good job she does of it too I might add. I later handed the certification business over to local management and for the next ten years spent most of my time as a trainer, auditor and occasional mentor for them.

One of the most enjoyable tasks over those ten years was auditing the environmental management system of BP's facilities offshore in the Caspian Sea and onshore in Azerbaijan and Georgia. Though I have audited many interesting facilities in Kazakhstan, from a Uranium mining and production company to a design institute to a geophysical/geotechnical company and many of the Oil and Gas joint venture facilities in the country. I finally hung my PPE up just before my seventieth birthday, my swansong being a final audit for BP in the Caspian Sea.

Not a bad swimming lesson, for a guy that left school with an English language and Woodwork GCE pass and an attitude that said 'Yes, I can do that!' My Russian? Oh yes, still swimming, but at least now I can get across the shallow end without drowning! I'll be seventy-three next year, hmm learn Kazakh maybe?

London Annual Lunch

Rob Pesch

Plans are proceeding for the RAF Club Reunion Lunch for Friday 25 October 2019. The fayre will be the same "favourite" as last year with Soup to start followed by Steak, Kidney & Mushroom Pie with Sherry Trifle for desert. Special dietary requirements can also be included with prior notice. I am awaiting cost confirmation but can advise that owing to sponsorship from Peter Berriman it will notionally be the same as last year circa £40. I now wish to start firming up on numbers so would appreciate an indication from you all of interest for the event.

Timings again will be the same as last year with the Churchill Bar open from midday; seating in the Sovereign Room for 1.00pm. Once again, we would welcome partners and all colleagues including those from the regions. Once I receive your confirmation, I will commence putting my spreadsheet together.

My contact details are: email rodpesch@aol.com, telephone 01442 249212 and 07831 397539. There is always the alternative to contact via the post which some did last time. Address: 12 The Chestnuts, Beechwood Park, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP3 0DZ. I look forward to hearing from you.

Remember me?

Gloria McDonald-Defoe

My name is Gloria McDonald-Defoe. I used to be known as Gloria Defoe at Chevron and worked at the London based office in Wigmore Street. I was working in the Finance and Accounting department and worked with a very good team of girls and had such a great time there. I am sorry but I am not good at remembering names, however I remember a lady called Janet who I covered for when she went on holidays. This was all back in the early 1980s. There was another lady called Sue and a

young girl called Tracy; there were a few more but, as I said, I can't remember names. So sorry but it's such a long time ago and those were the 'good old days'. I hope that a few of you may remember me; it would be great to hear from any or all of you so please do get in touch. My email address is: gloria6858@aol.com and my mobile number is: 07944 591234. Thank you and bless you all, Gloria.

Texaco 75 years!

From the Editor

I recently received a package from Florence Mansfield, widow of Derek Mansfield, enclosing a book of Texaco in pictures together with the special publication of Texaco – Seventy Five Years in the UK. I was working in Public Affairs in 1991 when it was published and it was so good to read it again. The Chairman at that time was Glenn F Tilton. Below is a snapshot from that publication.

The story began in 1916; Europe was at war when the Texaco Company incorporated its British subsidiary in the City of London. By 1928 the company had moved from the Strand to Millbank and changed its name to the Texas Oil Company. Distribution depots were opened throughout the country and storage terminals were built at Dagenham and Manchester. Trinidad Leaseholds acquired Burt, Boulton and Haywood's London based oil distribution along with manager Simon Vos; the company had sixteen staff. The Regent name was taken from storage facilities at Prince Regent Wharf. During 1930/31 Regent's sales were just 2.5 million gallons of petrol.

During the second world war, the oil companies ceased to exist in their own right and came under Government control. Trinidad Leaseholds operated through the Petroleum Board while the Texas Oil Company operated through both the Petroleum and Lubricating Oil Board. Simon Vos represented the independent petroleum companies on the Petroleum Board. Fuel was rationed and the only petrol available was known as 'pool' having no branding or single manufacturer. After the war the Texas Oil Company and Trinidad Leaseholds were keen to re-establish themselves. Texaco Oil Company had access to Middle Eastern diesel and gas oil and was a strong lubricant marketer in the UK. Trinidad Leaseholds had a ready-made diesel and petrol distribution network which, with the shortage of materials after the war, could have taken five or ten years to rival. June 30 1948 saw the Petroleum and Lubricating Oil Boards demerged and for the employees of Regent, demerger started at 7.00am on 1 July.

Petrol rationing ended as the Fifties began bringing queues of cars to service stations; staff abandoned their Whitsun weekend to ensure that Regent customers would be able to fill up. By 1952

branded petrol was on sale with Regent selling Regent Regular, Regent Benzole, Regent TT and later introduced Regent 100, which had the same octane rating as the company's aviation fuel. Investment continued with Overseas Tankship (UK) Ltd plans to build seventeen ships. In Trinidad a fluid catalytic cracking unit was added to increase the motor fuel portion of its production.





On 5 June 1956 the Treasury was informed by Trinidad Oil that it had received an offer of purchase. Trinidad Oil was valued at 49 shillings per share and the Texas Oil Company's offer of over 80 shillings valued the company at £63.2 million. Simon Vos explained to the Government why the offer should be accepted. Regent needed a UK refinery and the same access to Middle Eastern crude oil as its competitors. The then Chancellor of the Exchequer announced to Parliament that the Texas Oil Company could purchase 75 percent of Regent. In December, Regent moved into Northern Ireland with the acquisition of Speed Oils.

During the sixties the company began to take shape. A refinery was built in Wales, exploration began in the North Sea and petrol marketing became tougher. The refinery was opened by HRH the Queen Mother in 1964. There was investment in a new chemical plant at Llanelli in South Wales. Exploration started in the North Sea and the aviation fuel market was becoming important with Regent becoming partners with Mobil and Total at Heathrow in a company, Aviation Fuel Services.

In 1967 Texaco took full ownership of Regent, but 100 Regent service stations were rebranded Chevron. Regent then took the Texaco name on 27 April 1968 starting at Aldergrove service station in Northern Ireland, the Regent name came down as Texaco's 'hex' logo replaced it throughout the UK.



Texaco's 'hex' logo was first seen in Northern Ireland

The eighties ushered in a recession which affected every part of the company's operation. Tankships lay idle at the docks, some of Texaco's competitors began to close their refineries, Pembroke was running at low levels of production. Competition was so fierce on the forecourts that the company was not able to make the money it needed to cover its investments in the business. Work was, however, moving forward for the completion of the Tartan platform; production began in 1981. Two other fields, namely Highlander and Petronella were linked by pipeline with oil delivered through Tartan. Also, in 1981 Texaco's customer service centre opened in Swindon. Texaco's share of the service station market was boosted in 1983 with the news of an agreement in principle to acquire Chevron's European assets. In the UK this brought into Texaco 219 service stations, 100 of which had been part of the original Regent chain. 1984 saw the emergence of the Star logo.

The nineties saw Texaco as a major oil company, fourth largest petrol retailer in Britain, among the top ten North Sea operators, Pembroke refinery had been acclaimed as the UK's top refinery. There were many advertisement campaigns, Public Relations handled many press details, sponsorship varied from Emerson



Fitipaldi and James Hunt in Formula 1 motor racing, Barry Sheene with motor cycle racing and onto Texaco Trophy One Day Cricket Internationals. Community activities took place where the company had a presence, i.e. Aberdeen, Pembroke, Swindon, Manchester and of course London Docklands, where the UK headquarters relocated to in 1992 from Knightsbridge. It was a pleasure for me to be involved with many of these events, particularly cricket sponsorship and also community affairs programmes. I spent almost twenty five years with the company in various departments and the last ten years in Public Affairs; I enjoyed my time there, especially the variety of people within the company and also the many I met through many activities.

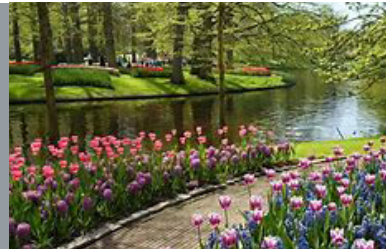
The company merged with Chevron in 2001.

QUIZ



Thank you for taking part in the November 2018 edition quiz, the response was much better than previously. Keep it up! The answers to the quiz in the November issue of Retiree News were:

1. A pig
2. Turkey
3. 26 December
4. Jacob Marley
5. Holiday Inn
6. Norway
7. Ladies Dancing
8. Comet, Cupid, Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Donner and Blitzen
9. White
10. Clarence Oddbody
11. Balthasar, Melchior and Caspar
12. Hogmanay
13. Christmas Cracker
14. 1984
15. Turkey
16. Mexico
17. Robert Burns
18. Six
19. Panettone
20. H₂O
21. Christmas Tree
22. UNICEF
23. Wine
24. Walking in the Air
25. Mistle Thrush
26. Capricorn



The winners were:

Mel Horn, Milford Haven. Dave Dobbs, Grimsby. Brenda Mercer, Chatham. Arlene Marrs, Aberdeen. Calum Troup, Aberdeenshire. Well done to you all. *Ed!*

The Quiz for this edition is General Knowledge:

1. What is the highest number used in a Sudoku puzzle?
2. What is the term for a positive electrode?
3. Which swimming stroke is named after an insect?
4. Which English queen has the same name as a type of plum?
5. How many dots are used in each letter in the Braille system?
6. Which movie won the Oscar for best actor, director and cinematography in 2016?
7. What is a female deer called?
8. What unit is used to measure horses?
9. Who is Reg Dwight better known as?
10. Who provided Nick Wilde's voice in the 2016 movie of "Zootopia"?
11. How many ten pin bowling skittles need knocking down for a strike?
12. How is 77 represented in Roman numerals?
13. Who is the patron saint of music?
14. What are birds of a feather said to do?
15. "Kiss Me Kate" is a musical version of which play by Shakespeare?
16. The single "Papa Don't Preach" came from which Madonna album?
17. Betz cells are found in which part of the body?
18. What is the only bird that can hover in the air and also fly backwards?
19. Who earned the nickname "Slow-hand"?
20. Which country does opera singer Pavarotti come from?

Answers to the Editor in the usual manner, i.e. email or post, to be received by 30 June 2019. The Editors decision is final.

BIRTHDAYS 80

Brian Allan Coombes, Bristol

Golden Wedding Anniversaries

On 28 September last year, Margaret and I celebrated our Golden Wedding Anniversary. We got married in 1968 and I joined Gulf Oil at the West Bromwich Terminal 1969 and after a very happy career spread over thirty years, I eventually took early retirement in 1999. To celebrate our personal milestone, we had a great summer holiday in Sorrento, Italy, with the family; taking in the picturesque Amalfi coast and Capri whilst we were there. Later in September, we followed up on our actual anniversary date with just the two of us taking a short weekend cruise to Bruges. David and Margaret Murphy, Kingswinford, West Midlands

Chris and Sue Schutte, 1 April 2018. See his article above.

Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Derek and Myrtle Bond on 28 March 2019, Droitwich.

So That's Where It Comes From!

In the 1400's a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have 'the rule of thumb'

In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes, the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase 'Goodnight, sleep tight'

It was accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that, for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his new son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, which we know today as the honeymoon.

What is Love?



A group of professionals posed this question to a group of 4-8 year olds. The answers they got were more profound, broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined. Here we go.

When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore, so my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love. Rebecca – 8.

When someone loves you, they say your name different. You just know your name is safe in their mouth. Billy – 4

Love is when a girl puts on perfume, a boy puts on shaving cologne, and they go out and smell each other. Karl – 8

Love is when you go out to eat and give them most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs. Chrissy – 6

Love is what makes you smile when you're tired. Terri – 4

Love is when my mummy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him to make sure it tastes ok. Danny – 8

Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and just listen. Bobby – 7 (wow)

If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend you hate. Nikka – 6. (We need more Nikka's on this planet).

Love is when you tell a guy you love his shirt and he wears it every day. Noelle – 7

Love is a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends after they know each other so well. Tommy – 6



During my piano recital, I was on the stage and was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my dad waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that and I wasn't scared anymore.

Cindy – 8

My mummy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night.

Clare – 6

Love is when mummy gives daddy the best piece of chicken.

Elaine – 5

Love is when mummy sees daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford.

Chris – 7

Love is when a puppy licks your face even when you have left him alone all day.

Mary Ann – 4

I know my older sister loves me because she gives me her old clothes and has to go and buy new ones.

Lauren – 4

When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you.

Karen – 7 (What an image)

You really shouldn't say 'I Love You' unless you mean it, but if you mean it you should say it a lot. People forget.

Jessica – 8

The winner what a four-year-old, whose next-door neighbour was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man crying, the little boy went into the old man's yard, climbed on his lap and just sat there.

When his mother asked what he had said to the neighbour he said – 'nothing, I just helped him cry'.

Out of the mouths of babes come lessons for us all in life. Ed!

What is a Grandparent?

(Taken from papers written by a class of 8-year-olds)

Grandparents are a lady and a man who have no little children of their own. They like other peoples.

A grandfather is a man, and a grandmother is a lady!

Grandparents don't have to do anything except be there when we come to see them. They are so old they shouldn't play hard or run. It is good if they drive us to the shops and give us money. When they take us for walks, they slow down past things like pretty leaves and caterpillars.

They show us and talk to us about the colours of the flowers and why we shouldn't step on 'cracks.'

They don't say, 'Hurry up.'

Usually grandmothers are fat but not too fat to tie your shoes.

They wear glasses and funny underwear.

They can take their teeth and gums out.

Grandparents don't have to be smart.

They have to answer questions like 'Why isn't God married?' and 'How come dogs chase cats?'

When they read to us, they don't skip. They don't mind if we ask for the same story over again.

Everybody should try to have grandparents, especially if you don't have television because they are the only grown-ups who like to spend time with us.

They know we should have a snack time before bed time, and they say prayers with us and kiss us even when we've acted bad. A 6-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh," he said, "she lives at the airport, and when we want her, we just go get her. Then when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."

Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! He teaches me good things, but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him!



TIME FOR A CHUCKLE



Wayne was driving home from one of his business trips in Northern Queensland when he saw an elderly Aboriginal man walking on the side of the road. As the trip was a long and quiet one, he stopped the car and asked the Aboriginal man if he would like a ride. With a silent nod of thanks, the old man got into the car. Resuming the journey, the old man just sat silently, looking intently at everything he saw, studying every little detail, until he noticed a brown bag on the seat next to Wayne. 'What's in the bag?' asked the old man. Wayne, looked down at the brown bag and said, 'It's a bottle of wine. I got it for my wife.' The Aboriginal man was silent for another moment or two. Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, he said: 'Good trade.'

Reporters interviewing a 104-year-old woman:

'And what do you think is the best thing about being 104?' the reporter asked.

She simply replied, 'No peer pressure.'

Facebook?

Anon

For those of my generation who do not and cannot comprehend why Facebook exists:

I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook whilst applying the same principles. Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom, I give them pictures of my family, my dog and me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch, and doing what anybody and everybody does every day. I also listen to their conversations, give them "thumbs up" and tell them I "like" them; and it works just like Facebook.

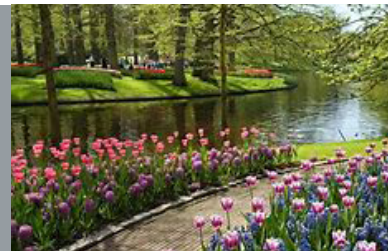
I already have four people following me: two police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist!

This amused me as I am not a Facebook fan. Ed!

OBITUARIES

Sadly, we record the passing of our colleagues. RIP.

Brian Alvey (Cx) on 30/12/18 aged 69, Dyfed



Leonard Baker (T) on 04/11/18 aged 89, Cardiff
 Brian Balsdon (T) on 06/01/19 aged 68, Devon
 James Baxendale (T) on 16/01/19 aged 88, Manchester
 James Bennett (T) on 18/01/19 aged 92, Solihull
 Maureen Sheila Bennett (T) on 04/11/18 aged 82, Swindon
 Maurice Bernard (G) on 11/11/18 aged 85, Merseyside
 Henry John Bishop (T) on 06/02/19 aged 93, Bristol
 Claus Bredsgaard (Cx) on 12/11/18 aged 67, Kent
 James Briggs (T) on 10/12/18 aged 73, Cumbria
 William Brownn (T) on 22/01/19 aged 90, Edinburgh
 Horace Phillip Burns (G) on 15/11/18 aged 91, Sutton Coldfield
 Thomas Charles Colmer (G) on 11/10/18 aged 85, Cheshire
 James Tudor Davies (T) on 06/11/18 aged 88, Dyfed
 John Howard Davies (T) on 14/02/19 aged 87, Devon
 John Hugh Esmond Davies (G) on 09/02/19 aged 88, Milford Haven
 Sidney Richard Draper (T) on 25/11/18 aged 88, Essex
 Howard Hayden Edwards (T) on 14/01/19 aged 89, Dyfed
 Peter Richard Etherington (T) on 26/10/18 aged 90, Dyfed
 Edward Fitzwilliam, (T) on 17/10/18 aged 89, London
 Barry George Foster (G) on 10/02/19 aged 78, Essex
 Norman Furness (T) on 14/12/18 aged 90, Cumbria
 George Alexander Gilmore (T) on 01/02/19 aged 72, Tyne & Wear
 Thomas Dilwyn Griffiths (G) on 21/02/19 aged 78, Carmarthenshire
 Gerald Anthony Hathaway (T) on 18/10/18 aged 86, Dyfed
 Robert Arthur Holland (T) on 30/12/18 aged 77, Kent
 Donald John Hunt (G) on 16/10/18 aged 98, West Sussex
 Graham John Hunt (T) on 10/11/18 aged 74, Somerset
 Edwin James Jeffery (T) on 19/10/18 aged 86, Southend-on-Sea
 Gary Jenkins (G) on 26/01/19 aged 59, Pembrokeshire
 Gwynne Iorwerth Job, (T) on 24/12/18 aged 86, Carmarthenshire
 Eric Llewellyn Jones (G) on 12/01/19 aged 82, Pembrokeshire
 Michael Richard Jordan (T) on 02/01/19 aged 73, Berkshire
 Ronald Jukes (G) on 22/10/18 aged 92, West Midlands
 Martin David Keith (C) on 04/01/19 aged 86, Aberdeenshire
 Kenneth Kemp (T) on 31/10/18 aged 94, Leeds
 Thelma Lawler (G) on 14/11/18 aged 85, Milford Haven
 Robert Lindsay (C) on 06/12/18 aged 63, Hamilton
 Ian Macdonald (G) on 27/10/18 aged 85, Edinburgh
 Derrick Mansfield (T) on 31/01/18 aged 88, Hampshire
 Pauline Jean Martin (T) on 15/02/19 aged 93, Liverpool
 James McKenzie (G) on 24/01/19 aged 84, Lanarkshire
 Raymond Arthur Mills (T) on 15/01/19 aged 81, Westbury
 Robert Stewart Mitchell (C) on 13/03/19 aged 75, Clackmannanshire
 Anthony Newman (T) on 24/01/19 aged 89, Surrey
 Robin Michael Newman (T) on 30/01/19 aged 74, London
 Ronald Joseph Norton (T) on 05/12/18 aged 78, Essex
 John Oakley (G) on 07/11/18 aged 92, West Bromwich
 Colin Otteson (Cx) on 24/11/18 aged 79, Berkshire
 Doris May Paul (T) on 01/11/18 aged 76, Rosendale
 Brendon Pryce-Jones (G) on 29/10/18 aged 88, Cheltenham
 Michael Arthur Reaney (T) on 04/01/19 aged 77, Essex
 John Richardson (C) on 15/03/19 aged 87, Sussex
 Charles Mayfield Smith (C) on 22/01/19 aged 89, Guernsey
 Brian Frederick Steele (G) on 28/11/18 aged 82, Milford Haven
 W M Stewart (T) on 04/03/19 aged 91, Aberdeen
 John Noel Thomas (G) on 29/10/18 aged 97, Kent
 David William Trought (C) on 02/03/19 aged 78, Preston

Calum Troup (?) on 30/03/19 aged 77, Aberdeenshire
 David John Turner (C) on 09/03/19 aged 75, Lincolnshire
 Gordon Alfred Vale (G) on 18/12/18 aged 85, Essex
 Peter Ward (G) on 26/11/18 aged 94, Rickmansworth
 Grenville John Watts (T) on 09/02/19 aged 84, Dyfed
 E Woods (T) on 04/02/19 aged 89, Merseyside
 William James Wratten (T) on 12/02/19 aged 76, Kent

Quotes “”

The love of gardening is a seed sown once that never dies.
 Gertrude Jekyll

Time is like a river. You cannot touch the water twice, because the flow that has passed will never pass again.
 Enjoy every moment of life. Sent by Ted Williams.

Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced. James Baldwin.

Thanks to Ted Williams for the following:

I love this story. Lay down whatever is bothering you, breathe in the fresh air and listen to this story.

As a bagpiper, I play many gigs. Recently I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man. He had no family or friends, so the service was to be at a pauper's cemetery in the Nova Scotia back country. As I was not familiar with the backwoods, I got lost and, being a typical man, I didn't stop for directions. I finally arrived an hour late and saw the funeral guy had evidently gone and the hearse was nowhere in sight. There were only the diggers and crew left and they were eating lunch. I felt badly and apologised to the men for being late.

I went to the side of the grave and looked down and the vault lid was already in place. I didn't know what else to do, so I started to play. The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. I played out my heart and soul for this man with no family and friends. I played like I've never played before, for this homeless man. As I played "Amazing Grace", the workers began to weep. They wept, I wept, we all wept together. When I finished, I packed up my bagpipes and started for my car. Though my head was hung low, my heart was full. As I opened the door to my car, I heard one of the workers say, "I never seen anything like that before, and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years." Apparently, I'm still lost ... it's a man thing.

Editors Last Word

I really enjoy receiving stories such as that sent in by Ted Williams and also various quotations. Life is made up of many a true word said by various people

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