

Uncertain Times

Editor: Big Bang

No 3 10th April

“The Good Friday Edition”

Unravelling Mysteries of the Human Psyche

4th April Science Reporter Phantom

It's official: Stockpiling people are off their trolleys. What's more, it's a common disorder that's occurred regularly throughout history.

Here are a few examples:

During the Great Famine of England and Wales in 1315-17, the lords hoarded grain while the poor starved.

During the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic, there was panic buying of Vicks VapoRub.

During the 1968 Hong Kong Flu pandemic, food was looted from restaurants.

In 2020, the thought of running low on coffee or booze is more terrifying than the risk of exposing oneself or others to infection, while those who buy trolley loads of instant noodles are more likely to die from MSG poisoning.

So there you have it folks.

Unravelling the Toilet Paper Mystery

2nd April Science Reporter Phantom

Here's some trivia which is quite interesting, given where COVID-19 started:

It was in medieval China, in the 6th century during the Tang Dynasty, when the first use of toilet paper was recorded.

The "modern" toilet paper, which was also perfumed, was made in 1391 during the Ming Dynasty and was made for the Chinese Emperor's family's needs.

The toilet paper made and produced for the Chinese royalties were in an enormous size of 2 ft by 3 ft sheets.

From out of the Vault

2nd April Our Investigative Reporter Troppo.

As we are aware the advent of self-isolation and close, cheek-by-jowl-living has caused a change in social norms. Or has it?

Our man in the spot has found that the human fart is a game-changer in human relations.

Troppo has used his razor

sharp research skills to dig up an archival tome that rivals the importance of the Rosetta Stone.

Note the shades of grey that testify to the age of this document and its authenticity.

The message for those that cannot read such old text is that farts are audible emissions of wind (gas, for the uninitiated) erupting from the anus.

The message is that farting is natural, human and produced by high nobility to the lowest swineherd.

Any takers on who wrote this diatribe? Your Editor awaits your replies.

Words of wisdom from our GM on a favourite topic ...

What is a fart? Dictionaries define it as:

An emission of wind from the anus, especially an audible one.

Everyone farts, admit it or not. Kings fart, queens fart, you fart, I fart. Edward Lear, the 19th century English landscape painter, wrote affectionately of a favourite farting Duchess who gave enormous dinner parties attended by the cream of society. One night she let out a ripper and quick as a flash she turned her gaze to her stoic butler, standing, as always, behind her.

"Hawkins!" she said. "Hawkins, stop that!"

"Certainly, your Grace," he replied with unhurried dignity. "Which way did it go?"

St. Augustine claims to have seen someone in such control of his backside that he could break wind at will and follow the tone of verses spoken to him. Michel Eyquem de Montaigne (Betty to his mates) warned: "God alone knows how many times our bellies, by the refusal of one single fart, have brought us to the door of an agonising death. May the Emperor who gave us the freedom to fart where we like, also give us the power to do so."

The contemporary danger of holding back as they say, is commemorated on a gravestone in a tiny cemetery in the town of Stanley on the north-west coast of Tasmania, birthplace of former Prime Minister Joe Lyons. In carved stone it thus records:

Where-ever you may be
o let your wind go free
cos holding it caused the death of me.

Obviously we should just let it RIP

Keeping fit whilst in isolation

April 9 Special Reporter P. Lagiarism

The University of Sydney has published on its website <https://www.sydney.edu.au/news-opinion/news/2020/03/27/how-to-stay-fit-and-active-at-home-during-self-isolation.html>

Eight suggestions on how to keep fit:

1. Don't be afraid to dance like no one's watching



2. How much physical activity?

Global recommendations are for all adults to accumulate at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity physical activity per week, as well as muscle-strengthening activities on two or more days a week.

3. Sitting, standing and movement

Take a few minutes break to walk around the house, take some fresh air on the balcony, in the garden or yard, or play

with your dog for a few moments.

4. Make stairs your best friend

Not with these legs..... [Ed.]



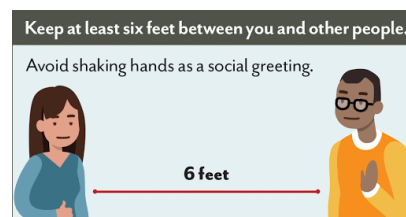
5. Use your own bodyweight

6. Dance the COVID-19 blues away!

An increasing number of live concerts are streamed online. Use the stress-releasing magic of music and dance at home like nobody's watching (which is not unlikely).

7. Give them the play time they've always wanted

Social-distancing is a good opportunity to bond more with the little two and four legged members of your family through active play.



Both children and dogs will love you replacing some of your online media and sitting time with playing in and around the house with them.

Dogs thrive on human attention and, given the opportunity, they would keep you on your feet 24/7. Take advantage of the extra time you will be in and

around the house. There are many great indoor games to keep you active and improve your dog's well-being.

8. Just do something!

Left unattended, the self-isolation imposed by COVID-19 will likely skyrocket sedentary time and will drastically reduce the physical activity levels for many.

Our suggestions are only a few examples of ideas that need no special equipment and can be done within limited space.



[Bullshit – I need all the lounge room floor with this little number... Ed. Oops I meant “to do” **not** “with”.]

Things to do at Home

6th April Social Reporter

S – words: Sleep...

This week's quiz – how many words beginning with Ess can you do legally at home.

Best correct entry gets a free lifetime subscription of Uncertain Times. Send to P Lagiarism at this office. If you can't find the address send it to Santa at the North Pole.

From our Local Correspondents

From Shadow

2nd April

I love this (my friend Carol (Deliverance) [sic] made it up) - Just seen a news report about the stresses and strains of self-isolation.

It reported that people are going crazy from being in lock down!

It was strange, actually, because I had just been talking about this with the microwave and toaster and all of us agreed that things are getting bad.

I didn't mention anything to the washing machine as she always has to put a different spin on everything, and certainly not to the fridge as he is acting cold and distant.

In the end the iron calmed me down. She said everything will be fine, which surprised me because she's usually the first one to apply unnecessary pressure and get steamed up over nothing !!!

I think she might have been sneaking off to the medicine cabinet. 😁

[I'm not responsible for the plagiarism but I will print anything these days. Ed.]

Another gem from Shadow

[Six solutions – no sanitizer included].

SIX SOLUTIONS

1. Eraser to rub away your troubles.
2. 5 cents so you'll always have cash on hand.
3. A rubber band to help when you feel you're stretched beyond your limit.
4. 3 marbles in case someone says you've lost yours.
5. A piece of string to tie things together when you feel you're falling apart.
6. A smile to show that someone cares. 😊

Keep these in your hand bag – especially when life has its stresses these days.

Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag and smile, smile smile...

From Animule:

Animule is a veritable repository of junk mail and fun stuff. Take this little nugget:



And this from Animule



From Dead Squid

Dead Squid sent this in for Edition 2 but lack of space prevented publication. So here it is in keeping with the general trend of this edition.



From High Beam

This has done the Facebook rounds. But its now an oldie but a goodie!



From the rubbish tip:

This is embarrassing....



Green pyjamas???

Editorial

A number of our intrepid reporters have sent in reports to Uncertain Times to make Edition 3 the organ that we all hoped it would be – the leader and inspiration in these difficult times.

Next week’s historical inputs should make the Uncertain Times a leader in contemporary journalism, a proud record for such a recent journal.

Our scientific correspondents are proud of their contributions. Adding to history by recording scope for discussion and thought.

Uncertain Times needs contributions. I will print second hand stuff to fill these pages.

Feedback will greatly appreciated. Next week there will be a new addition to these lines: letters to the editor.

Next week’s edition will have a historical supplement. Look for it.

Ed.



Not this year Lance. Not ever!!!

Sport: The Lack of It

8th April Sports Reporter

No sport, no hash!

Virtual Hashing is a sport in its infancy. Spackle and Wisey put their Virtual Hash into the ether and Ed tried something different.

Big Bang and Miz Nomer (actually it was Miz Nomer’s idea) volunteered to produce the Virtual Hash this week.

The format has changed slightly but it is pretty-well the same. The idea (if there were some that asked “what the hell is this all about?”) is that you look at the map and identify where you are coming from and going to. Simple! Just like in normal hash. In normal Hash there are farrows on the ground.

Any takers for next week’s virtual run? Contact your Ed.

Uncertain Times Weekly Sport Crossword:

1										

Across:

1. What’s stuffing up our lives at the moment?

Down:

1. What’s preventing us from doing Hash?