



# OUT NOW

## Don't miss our special bonus edition celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

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# The NEWS Shed

Issue No.49

[www.literacyshedplus.com](http://www.literacyshedplus.com)

May 27-June 3, 2022



# Let's go WILD!

**C**hildren and their families are being encouraged to get involved with nature every day in June.

The Wildlife Trusts are running their annual 30 Days Wild campaign and are on course for a record-breaking year after 760,000 people took part in the challenge last year.

Popular activities include wildlife-watching, breakfasting outdoors each day and listening to birdsong. 30 Days Wild fans can take the challenge in different ways – from planting for pollinators to taking on sporting challenges to raise money for The Wildlife Trusts.

Television actor and presenter Cel Spellman is supporting the campaign and said: "30 Days Wild is a brilliant way to explore and develop our relationship with nature and to enjoy new experiences outdoors.

"Not just that, the benefits that time in nature has for our physical and mental health are quite amazing.

"I can't wait to get involved this year, and I hope that people of all ages and backgrounds do the same. It's good for the soul and good for nature."

A survey of last year's participants found that taking part in 30 Days Wild improved people's relationship with nature and that it had inspired them to take action.

Almost 90 per cent said they were very likely to make their garden more wildlife-friendly after taking part and 74 per cent said they had either already taken action to reduce their carbon footprint or were very likely to.

**Sign up at [wildlifetrusts.org/30dayswild](http://wildlifetrusts.org/30dayswild)**

## Fact SHED

### Some ways you can get involved in nature each day

- If you have a garden, make it more wildlife-friendly with areas of long grass or build a bug hotel or a pile of sticks for insects to nest in.
- Carry out a survey of all the creatures you see in the garden.
- Give packets of wildflower seeds to friends and neighbours.
- Get up early to see the sunrise and hear the dawn chorus.
- Try your hand at wildlife photography.
- Take walks in the countryside.

**INSIDE THIS WEEK** >> NEWS pages 2 & 3 >> BOOKS page 4 >> HISTORY page 5 >> SPORT page 6

**WORD  
IN THE  
NEWS**

A weekly feature in which we turn the spotlight on a single word which has been used in the news, looking at its meaning and where it came from.

**JUBILEE**

The nation is celebrating the Queen’s Platinum *Jubilee* with a four-day bank holiday weekend after her 70 years on the throne.

**Definition**

A special *anniversary* of an event or a monarch’s reign.

**Derivation**

From the Hebrew word *yobel*, a ram’s horn trumpet which was traditionally blown to mark the start of an anniversary year.

**NUMBER  
IN THE NEWS**

**4**

The number of pupils at a primary school on the remote island of Foula (population 28) in the Shetlands, which is looking for a new headteacher.

The NEWS Shed

- The News Shed is a digital newspaper, produced weekly to inform, entertain and educate pupils and to provide resources for their teachers.
- It is among a whole host of educational resources at: [www.literacyshedplus.com](http://www.literacyshedplus.com)
- For contact details please see the website.
- The next edition of The News Shed will be out after half-term on June 10.



# 50 years of an iconic junction

The city of Birmingham has been celebrating the 50th anniversary of the opening of an extraordinary road junction.

The Gravelly Hill Interchange – better known to everybody as Spaghetti Junction – opened in May 1972, a bewildering collection of roads and flyovers connecting the M6 motorway with the A38, the A38M Aston Expressway, the A5127 and several other local roads.

It involves 2½ miles (4km) of slip roads but only just over half a mile of the M6 motorway itself.

Many of the roadways are raised high in the air to accommodate three rivers, two railway lines and the junction of four canals beneath it. The structure features more than 550 concrete columns and some roads are 80ft (24m) in the air at their highest point.

National Highways director Melanie Clarke said: “Spa-

ghetti Junction is a special part of England’s motorway network.

“It’s something to be proud of in Birmingham because it’s known all around the world – quite rightly – as a feat of engineering.

“When it was designed 50 years ago, nobody could have predicted that Gravelly Hill Interchange would carry around 200,000 vehicles every day.”

Andy Street, mayor of the West Midlands Andy Street, added: “Spaghetti Junction has become an iconic Brummie landmark, so it’s only right that we celebrate its 50th anniversary.

“At the time of its inception, it was actually considered a real engineering feat – so much so that my grandfather used to take me to visit while it was being built.”

As part of the celebrations, Heinz have produced special cans of tinned spaghetti featuring the junction.



**Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall are to make a guest appearance in a television soap opera as part of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations.**

The royal couple will play themselves in an episode of *EastEnders* to be aired on Thursday, June 2. Charles and Camilla will be seen at a jubilee street party in the famous Albert Square, being introduced to the soap’s characters by Danny Dyer, who plays Mick Carter.





Mary Anning was only 12 when she found the first ichthyosaur skeleton. Right, a portrait of Mary and, left, the new statue

# Honouring the queen of fossils

## » Mary Anning statue unveiled

**M**ary Anning, the 19th century fossil hunter, has been remembered with a new statue on the seafront of her home town Lyme Regis.

Her finds led to scientists understanding prehistoric life in the area of Dorset which became known as the Jurassic Coast.

Mary was only 12 when she discovered an ichthyosaur skeleton amid cliff landslides and she went on to find plesiosaur fossils and a pterosaur skeleton among many other finds.

The unveiling of the statue, created

by sculptor Denise Dutton, comes at the end of a four-year campaign to honour Mary by a group called Mary Anning Rocks.

Among the leading campaigners was schoolgirl Evie Squire, who is now 15. She admitted she was not a big fan of fossils herself, but said: "The main reason I wanted to do it was to make sure she got the recognition she deserved."

Television anthropologist Professor Alice Roberts and naturalist David Attenborough were among the celebrities who supported the campaign.

As a woman from a poor background, Mary often did not get the credit for her discoveries, with interest in her work and life only growing after her death at the age of 47.

## Fact SHED

### Mary Anning

- Mary was born in 1799 to a poor family in Lyme Regis. She was one of 10 children but only she and brother Joseph lived to become adults.
- Her first major find, at the age of 12, was the first known example of an ichthyosaur ever found. She went on to find several more ichthyosaurs.
- Mary also discovered two almost complete skeletons of plesiosaurs.
- Among her other discoveries was the first pterosaur fossil ever found outside Germany. The name pterodactyl was introduced later.

Thousands of train enthusiasts queued through the night to be among the first passengers on a major new train line across London.

The Crossrail project connects west and east London and cuts journey times across the capital by half.

The line has been named the Elizabeth Line in honour of the Queen, who performed the official opening.

The first public service left Paddington at 6.31am and by 10am it had been used by 130,000 passengers according to the



Transport for London organisation.

The line currently connects Paddington Station to Abbey Wood in south-east London and there are plans to extend the line to the west with one branch going to Heathrow Airport and another to Reading in Berkshire. Another branch to the east will reach Shenfield in Essex.

The project has been hampered by delays and increases in cost. The line was originally to have opened in 2018, while the cost rose to £18billion from an original budget of £14.8billion.

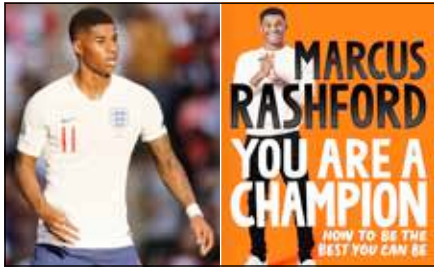
The BBC has apologised after a caption appeared on screen during a sports news report reading 'Manchester United are rubbish'.

It said somebody was learning how to use the system and accidentally uploaded it to live television.

Many mischievous football fans – including some United fans – said there was no need to apologise as the message was accurate!



# Now Marcus is a champion too



**M**arcus Rashford's motivational book for children has been named book of the year at the British Book Awards.

You Are A Champion came out on top from the awards' 12 category winners, ahead of books written by authors including Billy Connolly, Paul McCartney and Sathnam Sanghera.

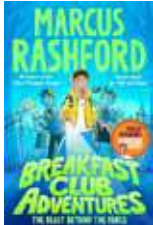
The Manchester United footballer has since added a second motivational book, You Can Do It, and has now turned his hand to fiction as well (see below).

Rashford said: "Hopefully it shows that if we can get books in the hands of children, it allows them to dream and believe in whatever they want to achieve in life."

## MORE NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS

**The Breakfast Club Adventures: The Beast Beyond the Fence**  
By Marcus Rashford and Alex Falase-Koya  
Illustrated by Marta Kissi

Out now, Macmillan Children's Books



When 12-year-old Marcus kicks his favourite football over the school fence, he knows he's never getting it back. Nothing that goes over that wall ever comes back. But the next morning during Breakfast Club,

Marcus gets a mysterious note inviting him to join the Breakfast Club Investigators, and he is soon pulled into an exciting adventure with his new mates to solve the mystery and get his football back.

**The Misunderstandings of Charity Brown**

By Elizabeth Laird  
Out on July 7, Macmillan



Charity Brown's life is about to change. Her family have been left a huge, rambling house by a mysterious benefactor, and her parents want to move in and throw open its doors to the needy. It's a recipe for confusion, joy and endless misunderstandings.

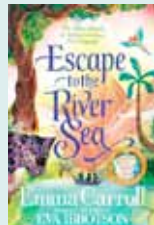
**The Fire Cats of London**

By Anna Fargher  
Out on July 7, Macmillan



Step into historic London and follow two young wildcats caught in the Great Fire. Asta's determination to escape London and return to the wild takes her on a perilous race against time to foil a dangerous plot that threatens the city and her brother Ash as the flames take hold.

**Escape to the River Sea**  
By Emma Carroll, inspired by the world of Eva Ibbotson  
Out on June 9, Macmillan



In 1946, Rosa is longing for her family to reclaim her. The war in Europe is over and she is the only child left at Westwood, a rambling country estate in the north of England, where she had taken refuge seven years earlier. The arrival of a friend of the family starts an adventure that will take Rosa deep into the lush beauty of the Amazon rainforest. The story is inspired by Eva Ibbotson's bestselling classic Journey to the River Sea.

**InvestiGators: Braver and Boulder**

By John Patrick Green  
Out on July 7, Macmillan



The InvestiGators are having a hard time keeping a low profile with their new headquarters being a giant robot towering over the city. How can they be secret agents if everyone recognises them? The fifth side-splitting graphic novel in the series.

**The Insiders**

By Cath Howe  
Out now, Nosy Crow



Callie, Ted, Zara, and Nico are best friends and are like family to each other. But since being embarrassed at school in a practical joke gone wrong, Ted has stopped talking to the rest of the gang. When Callie, Zara and Nico discover someone has been living and sleeping in their school, they decide to investigate – without Ted.

**Great Elizabethans: HM Queen Elizabeth II and 25 Amazing Britons from Her Reign**

By Imogen Russell Williams and Sara Mulvanny

Out now, Nosy Crow

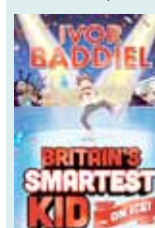


Celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the incredible history of her reign, told through the enthralling life stories of 25 amazing people who have called Britain

home. Featuring the inspirational lives and achievements of people such as Alan Turing, Malorie Blackman, Stormzy and Tanni Grey-Thompson.

**Britain's Smartest Kid... On Ice!**

By Ivor Baddiel  
Illustrated by James Lancett  
Out now, Scholastic

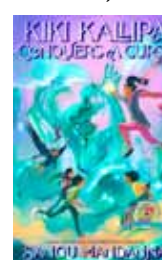


Marsham can answer almost all the questions on the TV quiz shows he watches with his family so when his gran comes up with an idea for him to enter popular show Britain's Smartest Kid in disguise, Marsham

goes for it. But the show has surprises in store – including the fact that some of the challenges will be held on ice!

**Kiki Kallira Conquers a Curse**

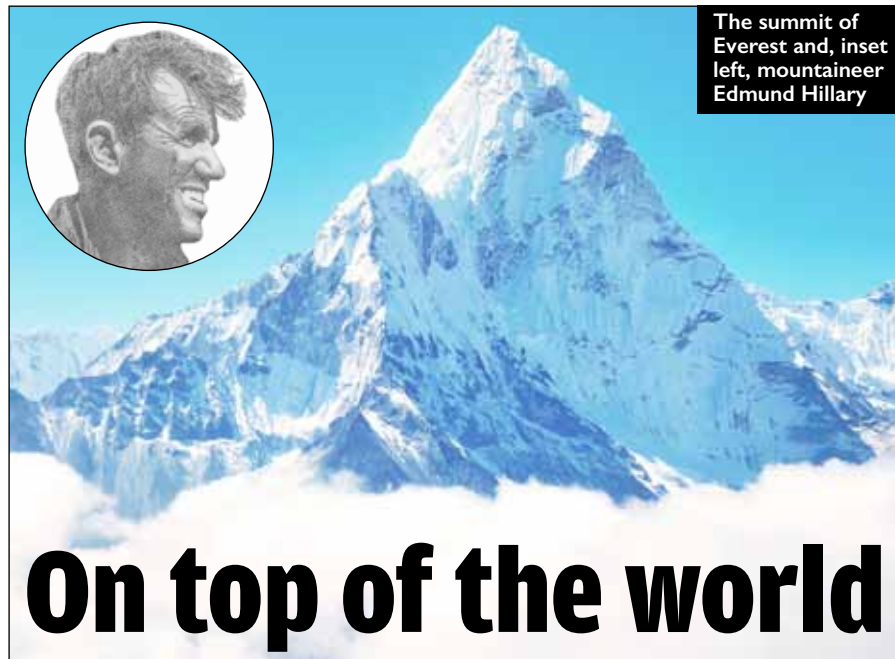
By Sangu Mandanna  
Out now, Viking Books



With just a flick of her pencil, Kiki can bring her drawings of Indian legends to life. But when a mysterious curse threatens her newly created kingdom and friends, how can she use her powers to save them?



**THIS WEEK IN HISTORY MAY 29, 1953**



# On top of the world

**T**he Queen's coronation was not the only big news on June 2, 1953.

It was on that morning that The Times newspaper in London reported that Mount Everest had finally been conquered, four days earlier on May 29.

The British-led expedition was the ninth attempt to reach the summit of the world's highest mountain at 29,031ft (8,848m), although neither of the first two men to finally succeed were British.

They were New Zealand mountaineer Edmund Hillary, accompanied by Tenzing Norgay of the Sherpa people in Nepal, many of them expert mountaineers.

Their success was the climax of a massive operation involving hundreds of people. Weeks earlier, in mid-March, two groups set off from the capital of Nepal, Kathmandu, the first with 150 porters carrying equipment and the second with 200.

They took two weeks to reach the village of Thyangboche, where the group stopped to acclimatise to the altitude.

Over the next few weeks, a series of

campes were established, steadily getting higher and higher up Everest.

The plan devised by expedition leader John Hunt was to make a maximum of three attempts on the summit, each with two mountaineers. Had everything gone to plan, Hillary and Tenzing would not have become so famous.

The first attempt, by Tom Bourdillon and Charles Evans, got to within a few hundred feet of the summit but had to turn back when Evans' oxygen equipment developed a problem which could not be fixed.

Hillary and Tenzing set off on the second attempt on May 27 and reached the summit at 11.30am on May 29.

The news made a tortuous journey back to London. A day after the successful climb, confirmation reached a Times reporter stationed at base camp.

He gave a coded message to a runner who made his way back to the British embassy in Kathmandu, from where a telegram was sent to the newspaper's offices in London.

**MAY 28, 1907**

# Bike bonanza brings racers to island course

For a fortnight in June, the Isle of Man echoes to the roar of motorbikes in one of the world's most daunting and dangerous series of races.

The TT races – standing for Tourist Trophy – are run over a 37.73-mile (60.72km) course of public roads which are closed to traffic, running through the towns of Ramsey and Douglas, on country roads and over the famous mountain road close to the summit of Snaefell.

Unlike circuit races, where riders are protected by sandy run-off areas and padded walls of tyres in case of accidents, TT riders race at high speeds inches away from stone walls, trees and buildings.

It means the races are often criticised as being too dangerous, with 260 people killed in accidents down the years.



The races return this year after being cancelled in 2020 and 2021 because of the Covid pandemic. Apart from that and during wartime, the races have been run every year since May 28, 1907.

The modern races, run in seven different classes over four or six laps, are very different to those early days.

Unlike most motorcycle races, when bikes start together and race alongside each other, the TT races are time trials with riders starting at intervals and the fastest time declared the winner.

Charlie Collier won the solitary race in 1907 at an average speed of 38.21mph (61.49kph), but the current record is an average speed of 135.452mph (217.989kph), set by BMW rider Peter Hickman in 2018.

The fastest recorded outright speed is 206mph, set by New Zealand veteran Bruce Anstey.

After a week of practice sessions, this year's races begin on Saturday, June 4, and run on alternate days until Friday, June 10.

## Birthday SHED

### Birthdays this week

- **May 28:** Australian actress and singer **Kylie Minogue** (pictured) is 54.
- **May 29:** Oasis singer-songwriter and guitarist **Noel Gallagher** is 55.
- **May 30:** Former Liverpool star **Steven Gerrard**, now Aston Villa manager, is 42.
- **May 31:** World No.1 women's tennis player **Iga Swiatek** is 21.
- **June 1:** Australian actor and singer **Jason Donovan** is 54.
- **June 2:** Australian cricket greats **Steve** and **Mark Waugh** are 57.
- **June 3:** **Rafael Nadal**, winner of 21 grand slam tennis titles, is 36.





# Key opens door to new faces

**E**ngland begin a busy summer of international cricket on Thursday under completely new leadership.

Former player Rob Key is the new managing director of England men's cricket, replacing Ashley Giles who was sacked after the 4-0 Ashes series drubbing in Australia last winter.

And one of Key's first acts was the surprise appointment of former New Zealand captain Brendon McCullum as coach of the Test team.

McCullum, who replaces the sacked Chris Silverwood, was a hugely successful player and captain for New Zealand but has little experience of coaching in first-class cricket.

England will have a new leader on the field as well, with all-rounder Ben Stokes taking over as captain from Joe Root, who stepped down after the series defeat in the West Indies earlier this year. Root stays in the team as a batsman.

Like McCullum, Stokes is also New Zealand-born, so England will have an

all-Kiwi leadership when they start the summer's action against... New Zealand.

Key has decided to split the coaching duties for red- and white-ball cricket. While McCullum coaches the Test team, Key made another eye-catching appointment with Australia women's team coach Matthew Mott taking on the job for one-day internationals and Twenty20s.

England's highly successful ODI and T20 captain Eoin Morgan is the only senior figure to keep his role.

England start their season against New Zealand while the one-day team go to the Netherlands, followed by all-format series against India and South Africa.

England's squad for the first two Tests against New Zealand features two newcomers in Yorkshire batsman Harry Brook and Durham bowler Matthew Potts.

**England (from):** Ben Stokes (capt), James Anderson, Jonny Bairstow, Stuart Broad, Harry Brook, Zak Crawley, Ben Foakes (wkt), Jack Leach, Alex Lees, Craig Overton, Matthew Potts, Ollie Pope, Joe Root.

## Fact SHED

### England's summer of cricket v New Zealand

June 2-6	1st Test	Lord's
June 10-14	2nd Test	Trent Bridge
June 23-27	3rd Test	Headingley

### v Netherlands (away)

June 17	1st ODI	Amstelveen
June 19	2nd ODI	Amstelveen
June 22	3rd ODI	Amstelveen

### v India

July 1-5	Test match	Edgbaston
July 7	1st T20	Southampton
July 9	2nd T20	Edgbaston
July 10	3rd T20	Trent Bridge
July 12	1st ODI	The Oval
July 14	2nd ODI	Lord's
July 17	3rd ODI	Old Trafford

### v South Africa

July 19	1st ODI	Chester-le-Street
July 22	2nd ODI	Old Trafford
July 24	3rd ODI	Headingley
July 27	1st T20	Bristol
July 28	2nd T20	Cardiff
July 31	3rd T20	Southampton
Aug 17-21	1st Test	Lord's
Aug 25-29	2nd Test	Old Trafford
Sept 8-12	3rd Test	The Oval

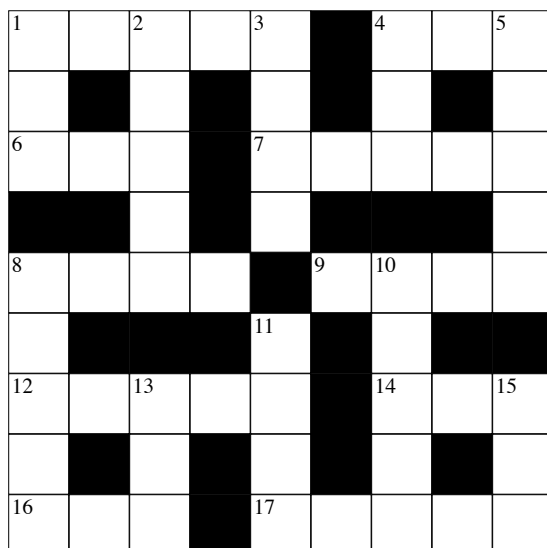
### T20 World Cup

Oct 16-Nov 13	Australia
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### Key

**Test:** Five-day match, two innings per side  
**ODI:** One-day international, 50 overs per side  
**T20:** Twenty20 match, 20 overs per side

## CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- 1 & 4** Popeye's girlfriend, sounds like a cooking ingredient (5, 3)
- 6** A pair of people or things (3)
- 7** Manufacturer (5)
- 8** Lads (4)
- 9** Very small (4)
- 12** Sport, can be league or union (5)
- 14** A man-made barrier to hold back water in a reservoir (3)
- 16** The sun in Spanish (3)
- 17** Well-dressed (5)

### DOWN

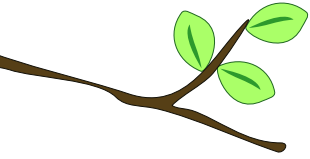
- 1** Strange or unusual (3)
- 2** Material from an elephant's tusk (5)
- 3** Trees which can suffer from a Dutch disease (4)
- 4** Tree grown from an acorn (3)
- 5** Large road vehicle for carrying goods (5)
- 8** National poet of Scotland, celebrated every January 25 (5)
- 10** Asian country, capital New Delhi (5)
- 11** Visual organs (4)
- 13** Substance to style your hair or sanitise your hands (3)
- 15** Annual test for a car (1,1,1)

Ask your teacher to find the solutions online with the reading comprehension answers



## Lets go Wild

Find and copy a word from the article which is an antonym of worsened?



.....

What evidence is given that participating in 30 Days Wild improved people's relationship with nature and were inspired to take action?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Name 3 ways to get involved that are suggested in the article.



.....



.....



.....

How many people took part in 30 Days Wild last year?

.....

How might your school become involved in 30 days wile? Suggest three things that your class could do.

.....

.....

.....





### 50 Years of Iconic Junction

Find a number in the article to match each description.

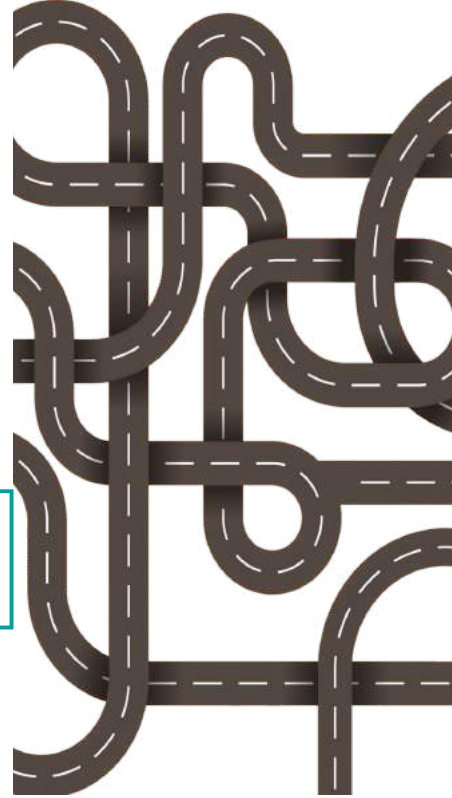
The year 'Spaghetti Junction' was built

The number of canals beneath the roadways

The length of slip roads involved (in miles)

The approximate number of cars carried every day

The height of the highest point of the roads (in feet)



What have Heinz done to celebrate the anniversary of the Gravelly Hill Interchange?

.....

Which royal couple will appear in Eastenders in a guest appearance as part of the Jubilee celebrations?

.....

Create a headline for the Eastenders article. (Try and use some wordplay)

.....

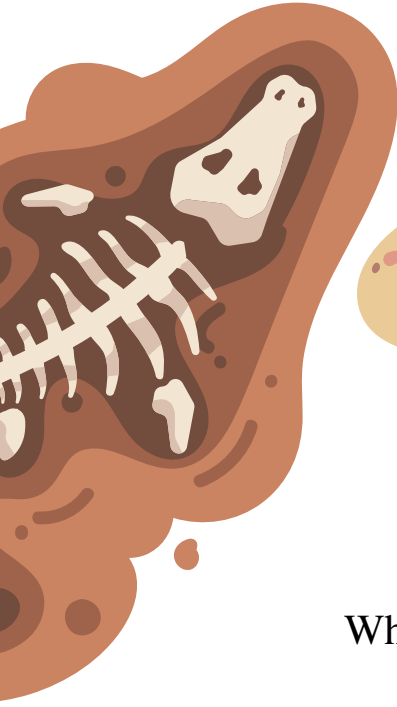






## The Queen of Fossils

Which of these did Mary Anning find? (circle 3)



Plesiosaur fossils

Plateosaurus skeleton

Ichthyosaur skeleton

Pterosaur fossils

Why do you think the area of Dorset Coastline became known as the Jurassic Coast?

.....  
.....

Explain the pun in the name of 'Mary Anning Rocks,' the group who campaigned for the statue of Mary Anning,

.....  
.....

How did the Elizabeth line get its name?

.....

How much has been spent on the new train line?

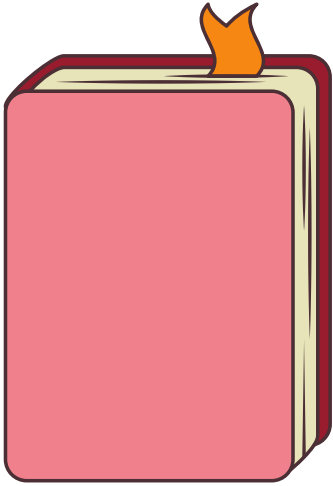
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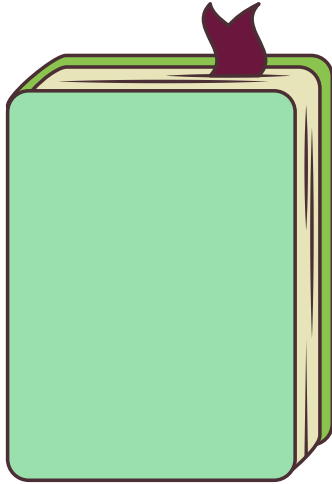


**Find the book - Write the title on the cover.**

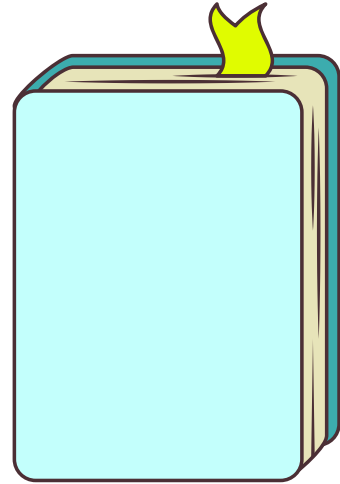
A book written by Emma Carroll



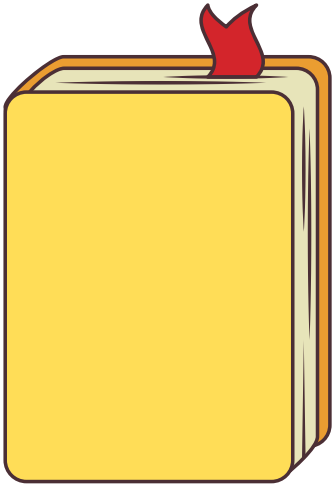
A book about a TV quiz show



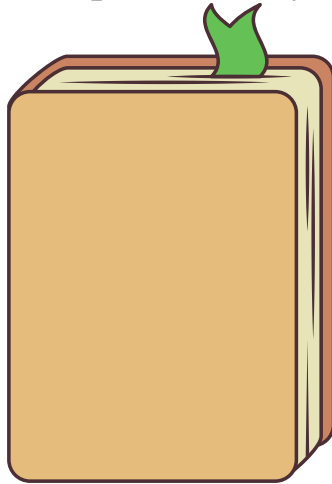
A book with a city in the title



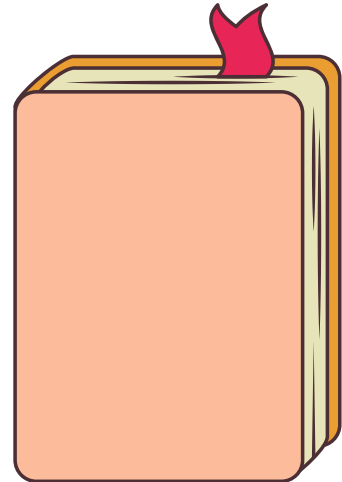
A book illustrated by Marta Kissi



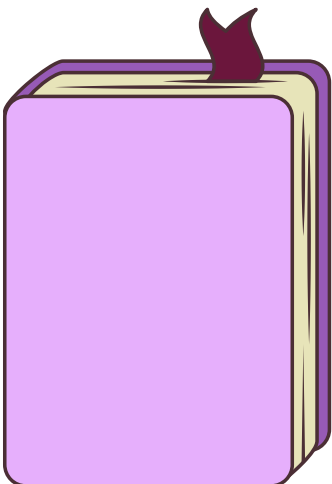
A book published by Nosy Crow



A book where drawings come to life



A book which celebrates the Jubilee



Which book would you choose to read and why?

Number these events in the order in which they happened. (1 is earliest)

Edmund Hillary and Tensing Norgay reached the summit at 11:30 am on 29/5/53

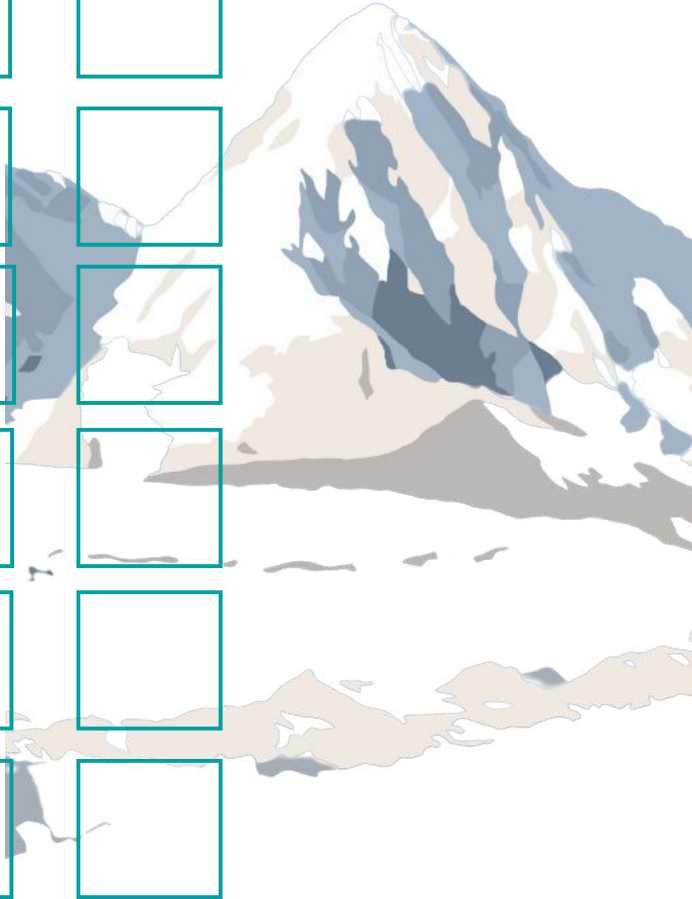
The groups stopped to acclimatise to the altitude in Thyangboche.

In Mid-March, two groups set off from Kathmandu, Nepal.

A first attempt to reach the summit failed due to equipment problems.

The news of the successful climb reached the British Embassy.

The Times newspaper reported that Mount Everest had finally been conquered.



What are the main differences between the Isle of Man TT and normal circuit races?

.....

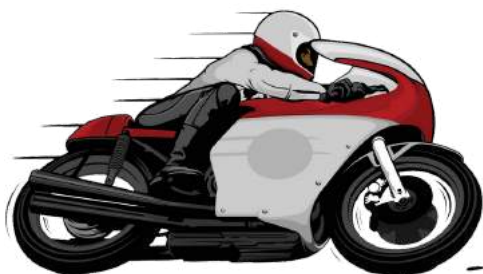
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.....

What is the fastest recorded outright speed at the TT races?

.....







## Key opens door to new faces

Explain the pun in the headline.

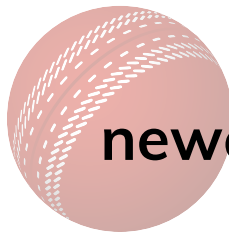
.....  
.....  
.....



Which word means the same as, 'assigning a job or position to someone'?



**coaching**



**newcomer**



**appointment**

What is interesting about the England Men's cricket leadership team?

.....  
.....

What is the name of the new England captain?

.....

Where will the one day international team play first?

.....

What is the difference between a one day international (ODI) and a Twenty20 match?

.....  
.....