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Banksy
Yes or No



Before the artist confirmed it was his piece of work, Islington councillor Flora Williamson said it would be "incredible" to have a Banksy artwork "right in the middle of social housing and one of the poorest parts of the borough".

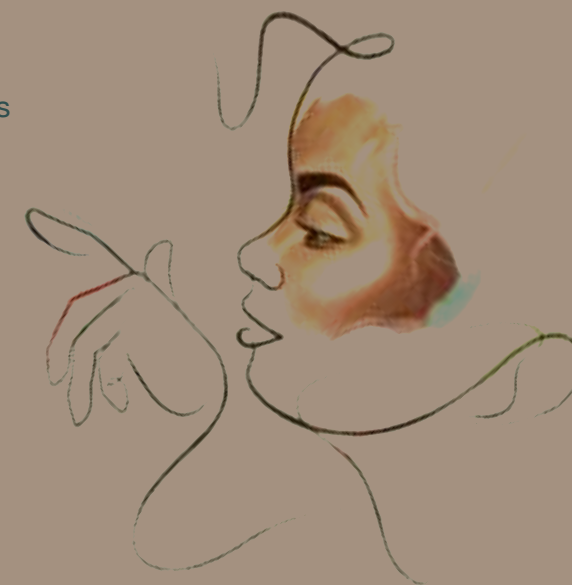
"I think it adds intrigue and culture and brings the area to life," she said. Islington Council said its graffiti removal team is aware of the artwork and won't remove it.

Fans have slammed the defacing of a new tree mural after white paint was hurled across the artwork, branding it as 'wanton vandalism', but said that it did not ruin the piece.

The new mural on Hornsey Road in Finsbury Park, north London, was created with green paint behind a bare tree to

resemble foliage, with a stencil of a person holding a pressure hose depicted next to it.

After two streaks of white paint were splatted across the artwork this morning, caking the grass and flowers below it, a metal security fence was erected by Islington Council around the piece to protect it from further vandalism.



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Safeguarding

Tuesday 2nd April 2024 is Autism Awareness Day.

This is one of seven health related days recognised by the United Nations and has been observed since 2008.

Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that effects how people perceive the world and interact with others. Autistic people see, hear and feel the world differently to other people.

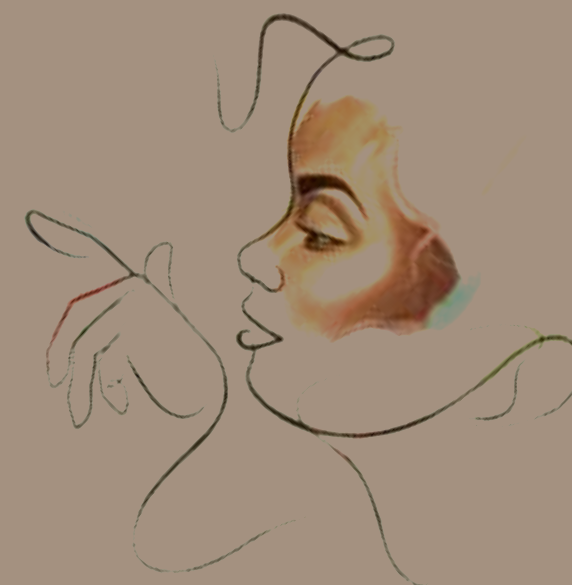
Autism is a spectrum condition; all autistic people share certain difficulties but these will effect the individuals in different ways.

Characteristics of Autism can include

Differences with verbal and non-verbal communication, many have a literal understanding of language and struggle with abstract concepts, they may find it difficult to understand others expectations or manage social chit-chat. In terms of bowling, it may be useful to establish preferred communication methods prior to giving information as to distance from jack to bowl or when asking for a specific shot to be played.

Difficulties recognising or understanding others feelings and intentions, and expressing their own emotions. They may not understand the concept of danger or be able to prepare and cope with change. Building relationships may be difficult. In terms of bowling people with Autism are likely to cope better with people they know than being placed in a team with strangers, so you may find they avoid certain bowling activities such as umbrellas where they could be drawn with anyone or friendlies where they would be up against people they do not know. Changes in start times to games can be difficult to process and prepare for.

There is a preference or daily routines so that they know what is going to happen, for example eating the same foods or travelling the same route. This can mean that change is difficult to manage and that they need time to prepare for this. In terms of bowling short notice call-ups would be difficult to manage and their game could subsequently suffer as their pre match routine would be interrupted. A change in team mates without their





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Safeguarding

knowledge could have cause a similar issue.

Many will have highly focussed interests, often from a fairly young age and their conversation often tends to be centred around this subject as they feel confident but if they are faced with a challenge or question they do not know the answer to they may withdraw form any type of interaction.

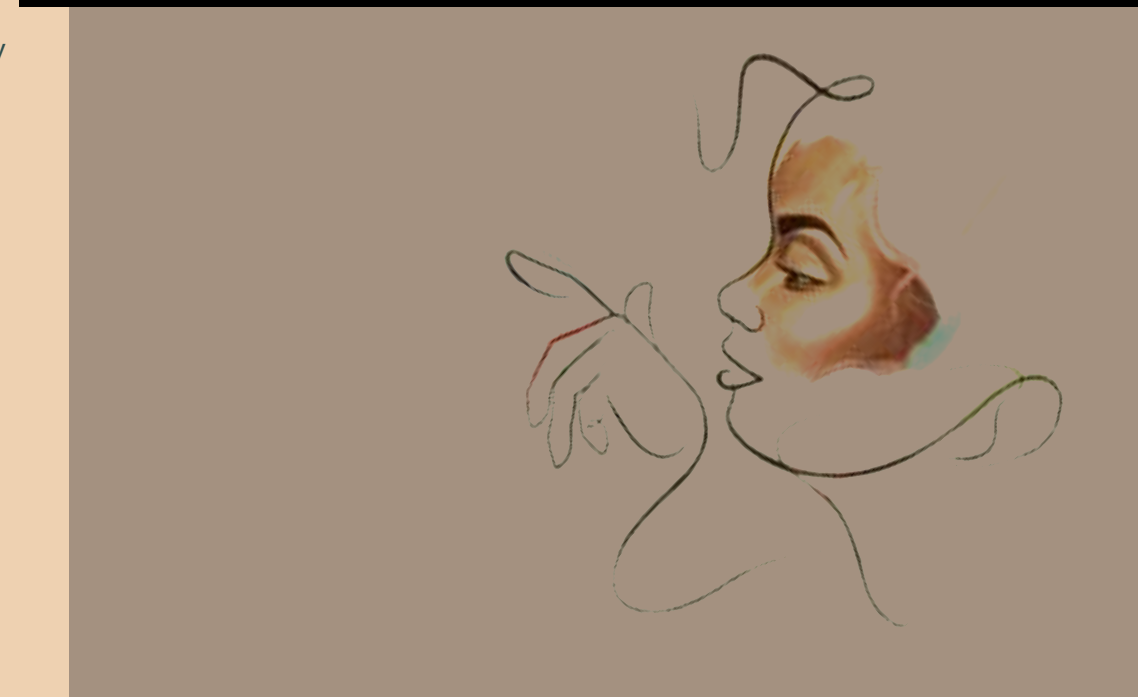
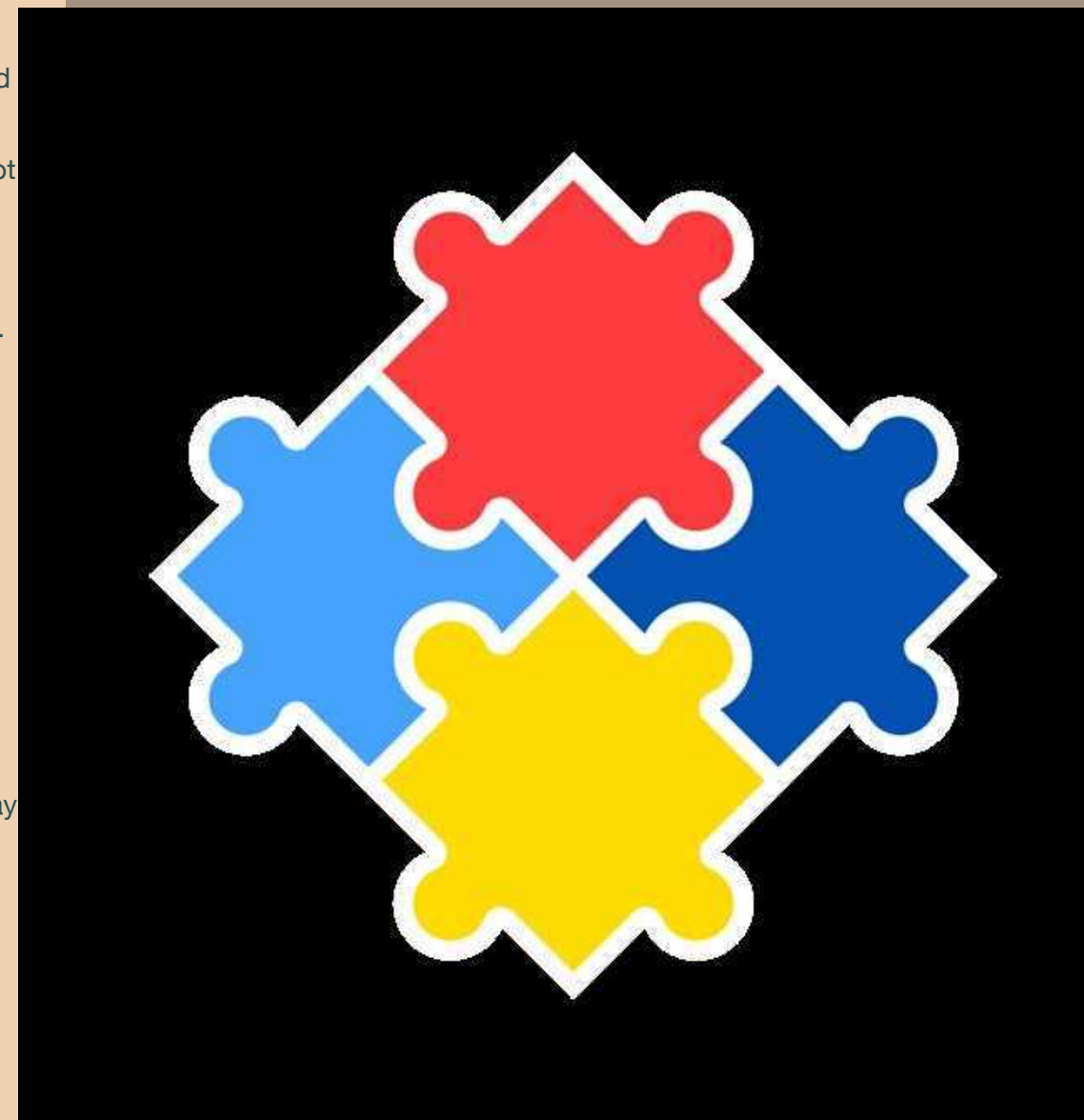
Autistic people may experience over or under sensitivity to their senses, for example sound, touch, taste, smell, light, colours, temperature or pain. Background noise which most can block out can be unbearably loud or distracting and may cause anxiety. In terms of bowling movement behind them when on the mat or the use of bowls lifters and their metallic sound can distract, as could the changing of light levels if a match nearby starts or finishes and the rink lights are switched on or off. In some cases, the use of aftershave or perfume can be overpowering for them. Touching someone to get their attention or to congratulate them may cause an untoward response or anxiety.

Autism effects more than 1 in 100, males are more likely to be diagnosed as boys often demonstrate Autistic traits much younger than girls who may be labelled as anxious, quiet, passive or shy until their teenage years where traits become more obvious.

Individuals learn to develop throughout life but as Autism is a lifelong condition, not an illness, and does not have a cure the traits will remain with them into adulthood.

As Autism is a recognised disability it may mean that individuals are more likely to be subject to abuse, harm or neglect and are therefore more likely to be subject to safeguarding and any instances should be reported. In other words, see something say something.

Liz Dicks - Health & Safeguarding Officer





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*National
Championships*

Vol 6 - Issue 4 - April 2024



England Indoor Bowling National Championships

Congrats to Mark Reeve, Steve Smart and Tim Hemburrow on reaching the finals stages in Nottingham. They played last Monday and lost a close match to three times world singles champ Andy Thompson MBE and his team from Bromley.

Just two behind on the 17th end they were holding five and the end was killed. They were holding 2 on the replayed end, that was also killed. Sadly the next replayed end they lost and there was no time for the 18th. A lot of killing goes on at this level, no need though for a murder enquiry, the better team did win. Mark says “ A first time experience for the three of us. Wonderful experience. A great atmosphere with music constantly playing, colourful lighting and good crowd noise. In some strange way nothing distracts, it’s a bowls carnival. There were familiar faces from Somerset with Clarrie Dunbar and St Andrews teams there on the day we played. Big guns in the Triples with Greg Harlow, Neil Smith and Simon Skelton amongst other notable bowlers. I was quite choked being presented with a memento medallion before the start. It was a privilege and I was very proud of our effort.”





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*Spartans
Explorers*

Vol 6 - Issue 4 - April 2024



Spartans Explorers Bowl Up

Spartans Explorers from Trull bowled up at Taunton Deane Bowling club on Friday 23 February. Nine Explorers and their 2 Leaders tried their hand at bowling on the Club's indoor rinks.

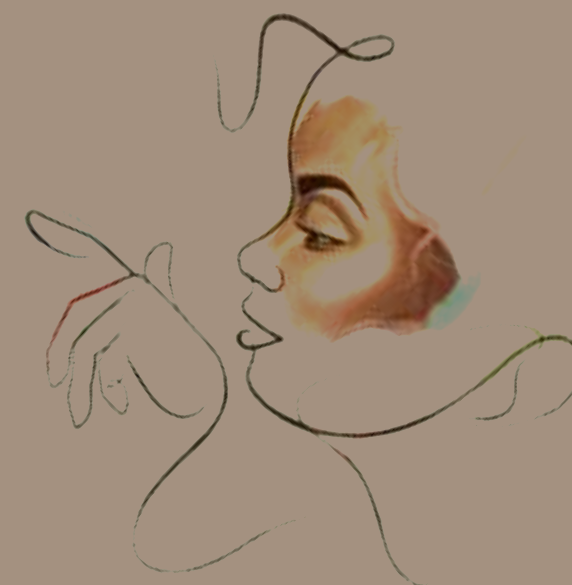
Guided by the Club coaches they were shown how to bowl and after a few practice ends they quickly got into teams for a game of pairs. Each game was keenly contested with the prize of double points for hitting the jack a major focus of everyone's efforts – with many successes!

Quote from Ben

The game was based on Bowls England's 'Bowls Bash' which is designed specifically for people who haven't bowled before. www.bowlsengland.com/bowls/bash/

Thanks to Rod, Bob, David, Nicola, Ella, Robert and Cameron for helping run the session.

Myra Duncan





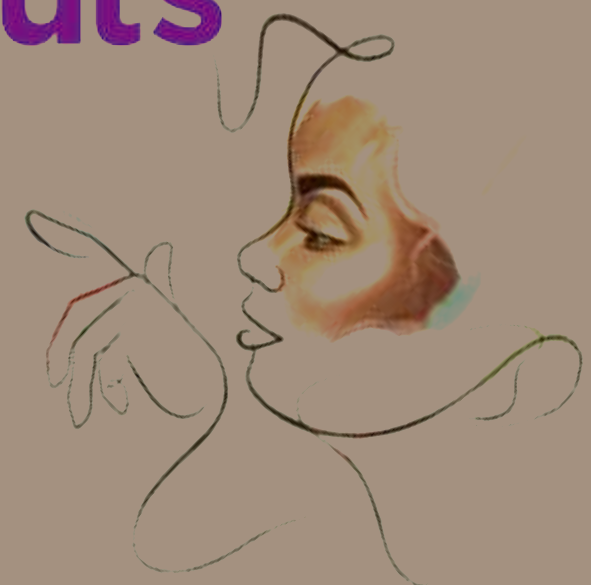
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Scouts





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*Mark
Reeve*

all about jazz

Music was my first love (cont)....

Last month's article on Folk elicited some great responses. I loved Tim Jay's comment to me " a convenient place to park stuff you can't put anywhere else". Barry Watson knows David Sutcliffe, the author on Cecil Sharp, the prolific collector of traditional folk music. David is a member of the Morris dancing troupe that Barry is in. Yes, I also love Jon Boden and Bellowhead, I remember watching them on the BBC folk awards, brilliant.

This month's subject matter is JAZZ. My early exposure was Dad's love of Vaudeville. He wasn't what I'd call a jazz aficionado, more the song and dance man. Ragtime, Charleston, Swing, Bosa Nova, party music in the 50's, big band, Tijuana brass. There was always jazz music in the household.

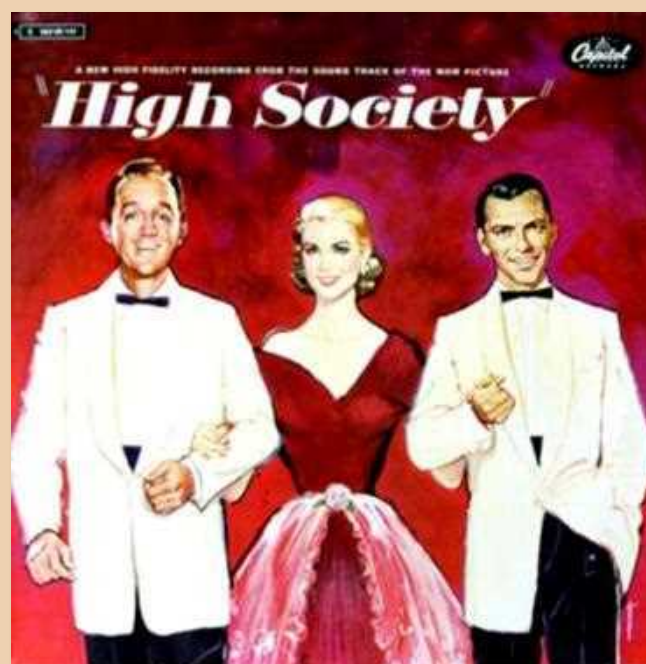
Why as an adolescent I was taken with all these scintillating rhythms I can't say, other than I just enjoyed myself. I'd stay up late in my PJ's watching from the periphery, the men suited and the ladies in their colourful cocktail dresses. Cigarettes galore, put out on every side table, the mini bar getting lots of custom, soda siphons, cocktail glasses, olives (didn't like them then), nuts, cheese and onion sticks. There was always a lot of preparation, moving the furniture around to make space for the dancing. Getting the parquet flooring polished, decorations if it was a special occasion. The excitement would build as the gramophone went from long playing soothing sounds to the singles that were put on the



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*Mark
Reeve*



spindle stacker. Probably starting with Temperance Seven's 1961 hit Charleston, they specialised in 1920's style music. At this point I was probably enticed with two siblings to join in the dancing and show off the moves that we had practiced. A lot of family time was spent playing and listening to music. Jazz was a big part of that experience. I'm grateful for the blessings of a colonial childhood.

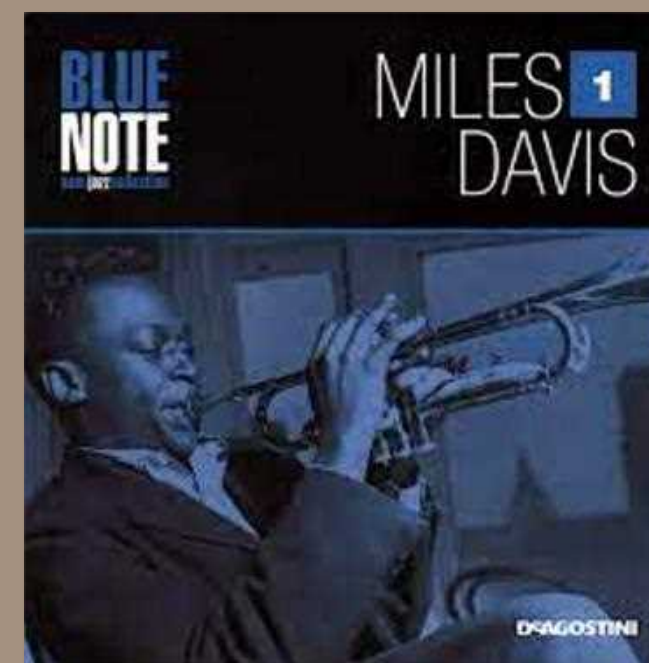
The most influential early recording for me was 'High Society'. A great movie too. On the Cole Porter soundtrack album was Bing Crosby and Louis Armstrong's duet "Now You Has Jazz", an explanation of how musical instruments pulled together to produce jazz music. Absolutely loved it!

So that's how it all started for me, how about you?

Since that time the jazz influences for me are wide and eclectic. Big bands like Ellington and Basie, Glen Miller, Sinatra and the Rat Pack, Miles Davis, Oscar Petersen, George Melly, Charlie Mingus, Ella Fitzgerald, Nina Simone, Frank Zappa, Fela Kuti, George Benson, Van Morrison, Don Pullen, Louis Prima, Jamie Cullen, Diana Krall, Nora Jones, Weather Report, to name a few. I've been fortunate to go to Ronnie Scott's in London and Birmingham, the Blue Note in NY and Chicago, some of the legendary venues. Still, I don't have to go far to enjoy jazz; locally there's the CICC in Taunton, regular Sunday Lunchtime events. Maybe I'll bump into you there?

That's Jazz.....Keep on bowling!

Mark X

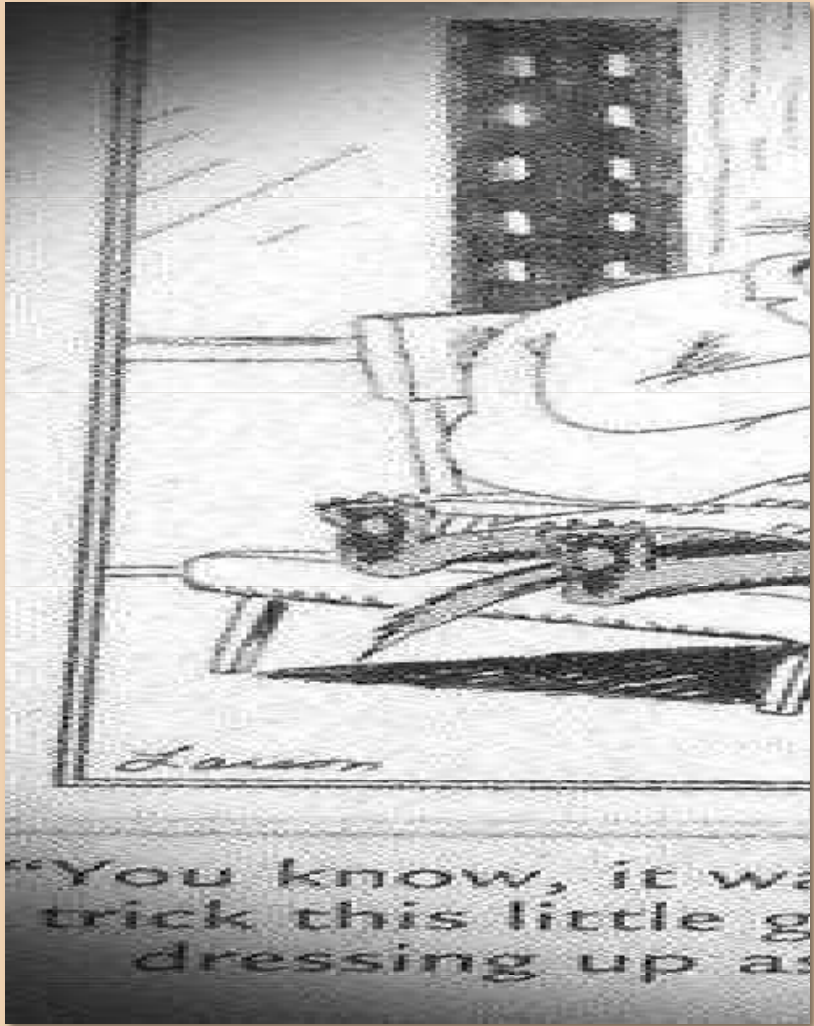




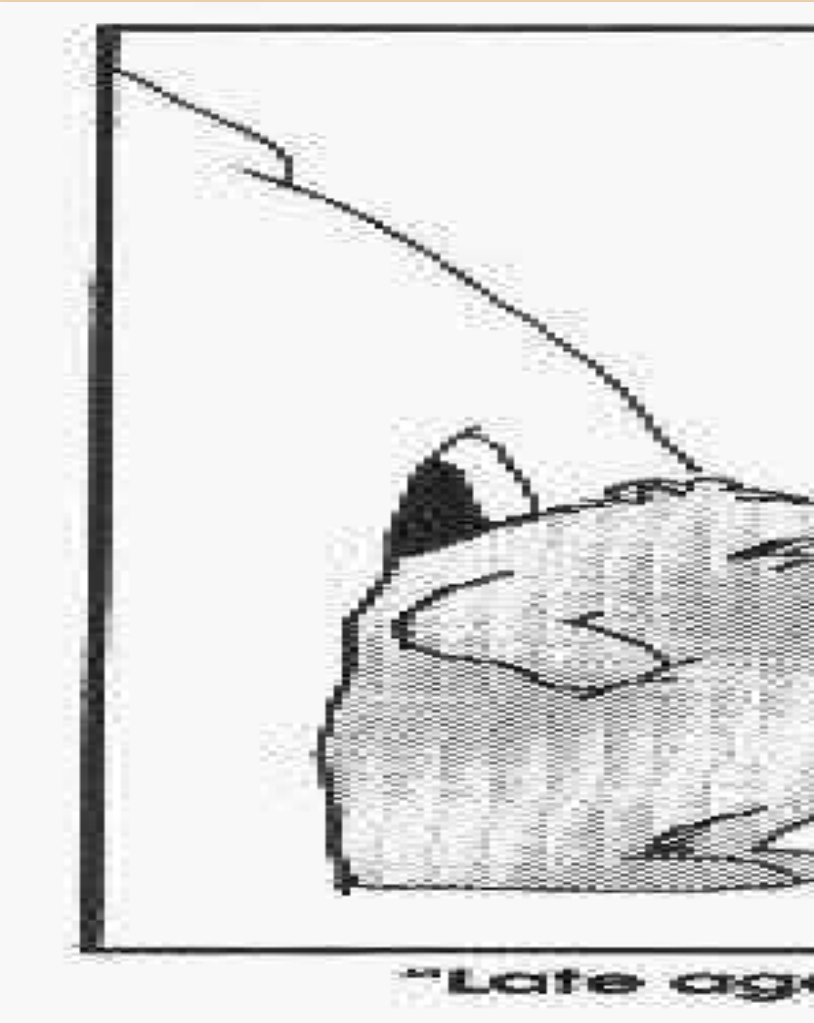
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Humour



"You know, it was a trick this little guy dressing up as a..."



"Late age..."



As the small band of hunter-gatherers sat around cleaning their weapons, one made the mistake of looking at his club straight on.



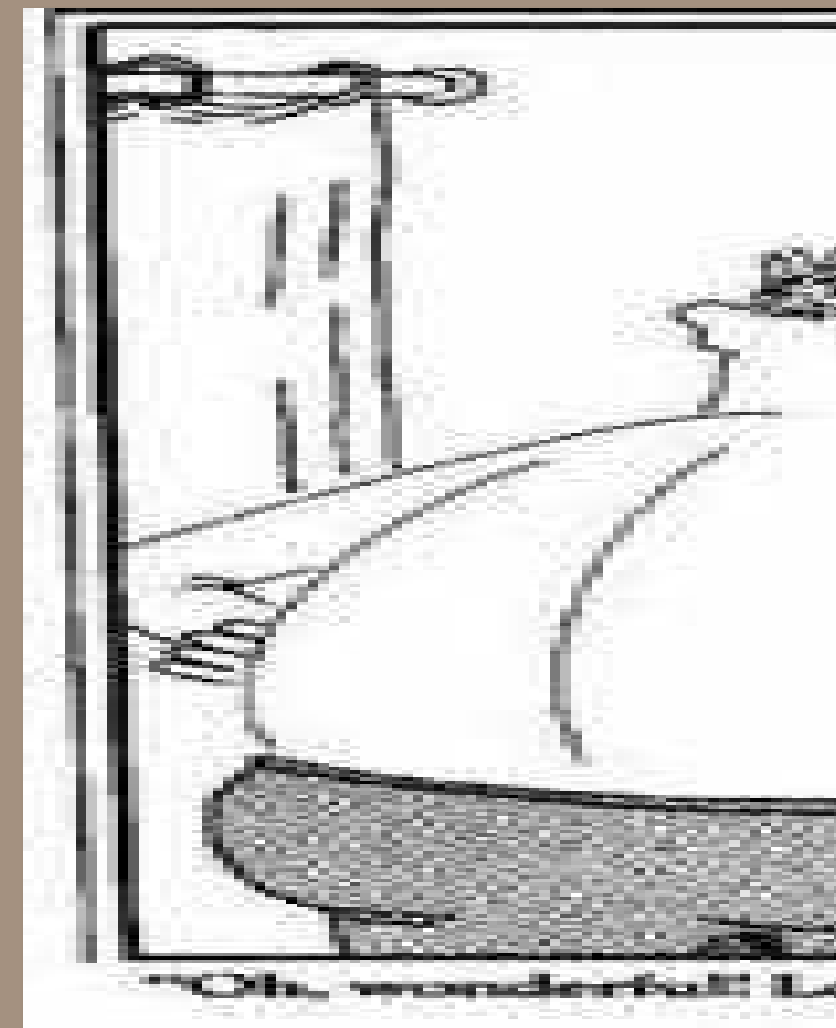
"Good heavens! Pablo got an 'F' in art! . . . Well, I'm just going to go down to that school myself and meet this teacher face to face!"



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News Editor

In the UK, 1st April is April Fools' Day. This is the one day of the year when it is completely acceptable, encouraged, even, to play pranks on friends and strangers. In fact, everyone, including the media and businesses, is on a mission to get people believing or doing something ridiculous, all in the name of having a good old laugh.

What are the origins of April Fools' Day?

There are many stories and theories surrounding the history of April Fools' Day, but one of the most popular takes us back to medieval times when Pope Gregory XIII ordered a new calendar (the Gregorian calendar) to replace the old Julian Calendar, in 1582. The new calendar called for New Year's Day to be celebrated on 1 January, when previously it was marked between 25th March and 1st April.

However, many people either refused to accept the new date or did not learn about it and continued to celebrate New Year's Day on 1 April. Over time these traditionalists became the butt of jokes and people would tease them by calling them fools for believing that the year started on 1 April. This eventually led to the custom of April Fools' Day, when it was acceptable to play a prank in the name of fun.

In the UK, the first British reference to April Fools' Day was in 1698 when an article was written about people being tricked into going to the Tower of London to see the lions being washed.

April Fools' Day remains popular in the UK. Big companies even produce adverts promoting products and services that are not real, just for a joke. Traditionally, in England a prank can only be pulled before midday and an April Fool joke is revealed by shouting "April fool!" at the recipient.





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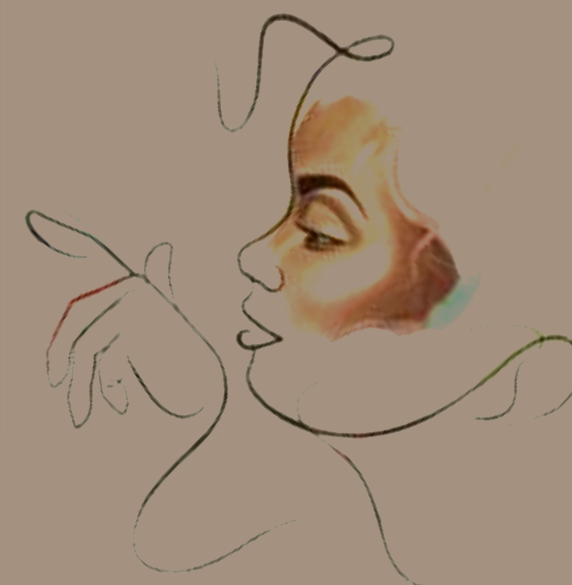
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In Scotland and Ireland, the traditional prank is to ask someone to deliver a sealed message that supposedly requests help when, in fact, the message reads “Dinna laugh, dinna smile. Hunt the gowk another mile.” which translated means “don’t laugh, don’t smile, send the messenger another mile“. The recipient, upon reading it, will explain he can only help if he first contacts another person, and sends the victim to another person with an identical message.

A famous prank in the UK

The UK media has a long history of fooling the public with elaborate hoaxes for April Fools’ Day. In one famous prank from 1957, the BBC broadcast a film that showed Swiss farmers picking freshly grown spaghetti, in what they called the Swiss Spaghetti Harvest. The BBC was later flooded with requests to purchase a spaghetti plant, forcing them to declare the film a hoax on the news the next day.



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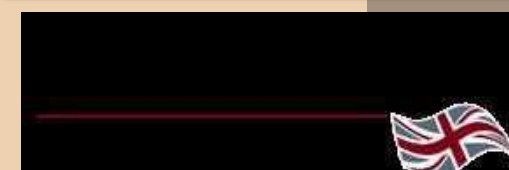
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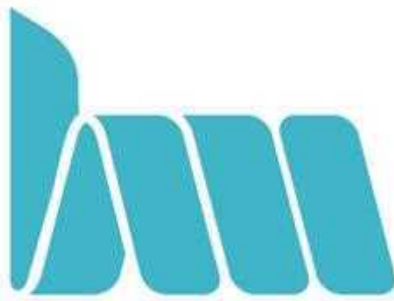
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