

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
JULY 21, 2024



FUNDA Y TIMES



Searching for nectar



COMPETITIONS

PAGES 2 & 4



LANDMARKS

PAGE 3

(ONLINE)



ANIMALS

PAGE 6

KIDS NEWS

PAGES 7 - 8

Follow us on
www.fundaytimes.lk

Please send competition entries to:



Funday Times
C/O the Sunday Times
P.O. Box 1136, Colombo.
Or
8, Hunupitiya Cross Road,
Colombo 2.

Please note that competition entries are accepted by email.

Write the name of the competition and the date clearly at the top of your entry and include the following details:
Full Name (including Surname).
Date of Birth, Address,
Telephone Number and School.

Please underline the name most commonly used.

All competition entries should be certified by a parent or guardian as your own work.

Competition entries without the full details requested above, will be disqualified.

Closing date for this week's competitions:
August 7, 2024

Telephone: 2479337/2479333
Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – Competitions
- **Page 6** – Animals
- **Page 7** – Kids News
- **Page 8** – News in Pictures

Please log on to the Funday Times website on www.fundaytimes.lk or check out the Sunday Times epaper on www.sundaytimes.lk for additional pages of this week's Funday Times.



24th Anniversary

Funday Times celebrates 24 years in August this year. We now have eight pages, four in print and four additional pages online. The fundaytimes.lk website is also up and running. We thank all our readers for being with us through the years. To mark the Anniversary, we are planning an Essay and Art Competition for all our young readers.

Essay Competition

Age Group: 9 years and below
Topic: My favourite hobby
Word Count: 150 - 200

Age Group: 10 - 12 years
Topic: Why I like to read
Word Count: 200 - 250

Age Group: 13 - 15 years
Topic: Pros and cons of digital reading and art
Word Count: 250 - 300

or
 fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Art / Digital Art Competition



Age Groups:
4 - 7 years and 8 - 15 years

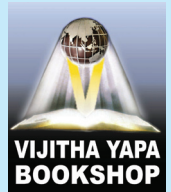
Entries for Art Competition could be sent on any topic of your choice. The topic should be clearly stated on your entry. You could use any art medium such as paints, crayons etc., or Digital media.

Entries for Essay and Art should include Full Name, Date of Birth, Home Address, Telephone Number and School. **All entries should be certified by a parent or teacher as your own original work.** Winners will be awarded attractive prizes!

Closing Date: August 10, 2024



Prize Sponsors



ACHIEVEMENTS



Yashan Sarosh Ibrahim, won Gold Medals in the Under 10 Boys 75 m and 50 m events, a Silver Medal in the Under 10 Boys 75 m relay and was adjudged the Most Valuable Athlete in his age group at the Negombo South International School, Piliyandala inter-house sports meet 2024.



Thameem Dhillshan Ibrahim, a student of Negombo South International School, Piliyandala won Silver Medals in the Under 12 Boys 100 m and Long Jump events at the school annual inter-house sportsmeet 2024.

JOKES

WHY DID THE BOY EAT HIS HOMEWORK?
HIS TEACHER TOLD HIM IT WAS A PIECE OF CAKE!



WHY CAN'T A NOSE BE 12 INCHES LONG?
BECAUSE THEN IT WOULD BE A FOOT!



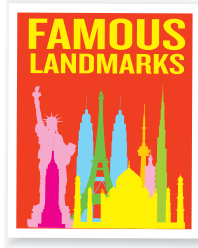
WHAT DID THE TRIANGLE SAY TO THE CIRCLE?
YOU'RE POINTLESS!



WHO IS EVERYONE'S BEST FRIEND?
THE PRINCI-PAL!



Source: Etsy



Amazon Rainforest

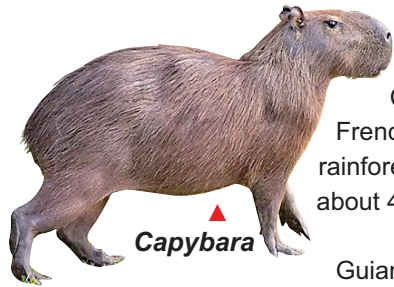


▲ Macaw



▲ Amazonian Poison Frog

The Amazon Rainforest is the world's largest tropical rainforest. It is located in northern South America. The rainforest covers some 2,300,000 square miles (6,000,000 km²) of land surrounding the Amazon River and its tributaries.



▲ Capybara

The Amazon Rainforest lies in parts of nine countries: Brazil, Ecuador, Venezuela, Suriname, Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Guyana and French Guiana. However, most of the rainforest is in Brazil, where it makes up about 40 percent of the country's total area.

To the north of the rainforest are the Guiana Highlands. The Andes Mountains are to the west, and the Atlantic Ocean is to the east. The Brazilian central plateau borders the Amazon Rainforest to the south. The region gets high rainfall, humidity and temperatures.

The Amazon Rainforest has the richest and most varied plant and animal life in the world. It contains several million species of plants, insects, birds, other animals and other living things, many of which are still unrecorded by science. The region has a wide variety of trees. They include many species of myrtle, laurel, palm and acacia, as well as rosewood, Brazil nut and rubber tree. The mahogany and the Amazonian cedar provide excellent timber. The trees of the Amazon Rainforest support a wide variety of epiphytes (plants living on other plants) — such as orchids, bromeliads and cacti. The rainforest is also home to many ferns, mosses and woody ropelike vines called lianas. The trees in the Amazon Rainforest teem with insects, snakes such as boas and anacondas, tree frogs, and several types of monkeys. Among them are howler monkeys, spider monkeys, woolly monkeys, capuchins and marmosets. Other major wildlife includes jaguars, manatees, tapirs, red deer, and capybaras and other types of rodents.



▲ Toucan

The Amazon Rainforest is especially rich in birdlife. Among the numerous species are parrots, macaws, parakeets, toucans, caciques, woodpeckers, nightjars and various water birds.



▲ Orchid

Fun Facts

- Running through the north of the rainforest is the Amazon River — a network of many hundreds of waterways that stretches 6,840 km.
- Around 400 – 500 indigenous Amerindian tribes call the Amazon Rainforest home. It's believed that about fifty of these tribes have never had contact with the outside world!
- The Amazon has an incredibly rich ecosystem – there are around 40,000 plant species, 1,300 bird species, 3,000 types of fish, 430 mammals and a whopping 2.5 million different insects. Wow!
- The Amazon is home to a whole host of fascinating – and deadly – creatures, including electric eels, flesh eating piranhas, poison dart frogs, jaguars and some seriously venomous snakes.
- This area of immense natural beauty plays an important role in limiting climate change. This is because the rich vegetation takes carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas) out of the air and releases oxygen.
- Due to the thickness of the canopy (the top branches and leaves of the trees), the Amazon floor is in permanent darkness. In fact, it's so thick that when it rains, it takes around ten minutes for the water to reach the ground!



▲ Jaguar

Source: Britannica Kids & National Geographic Kids

Famous Landmarks Quiz 50

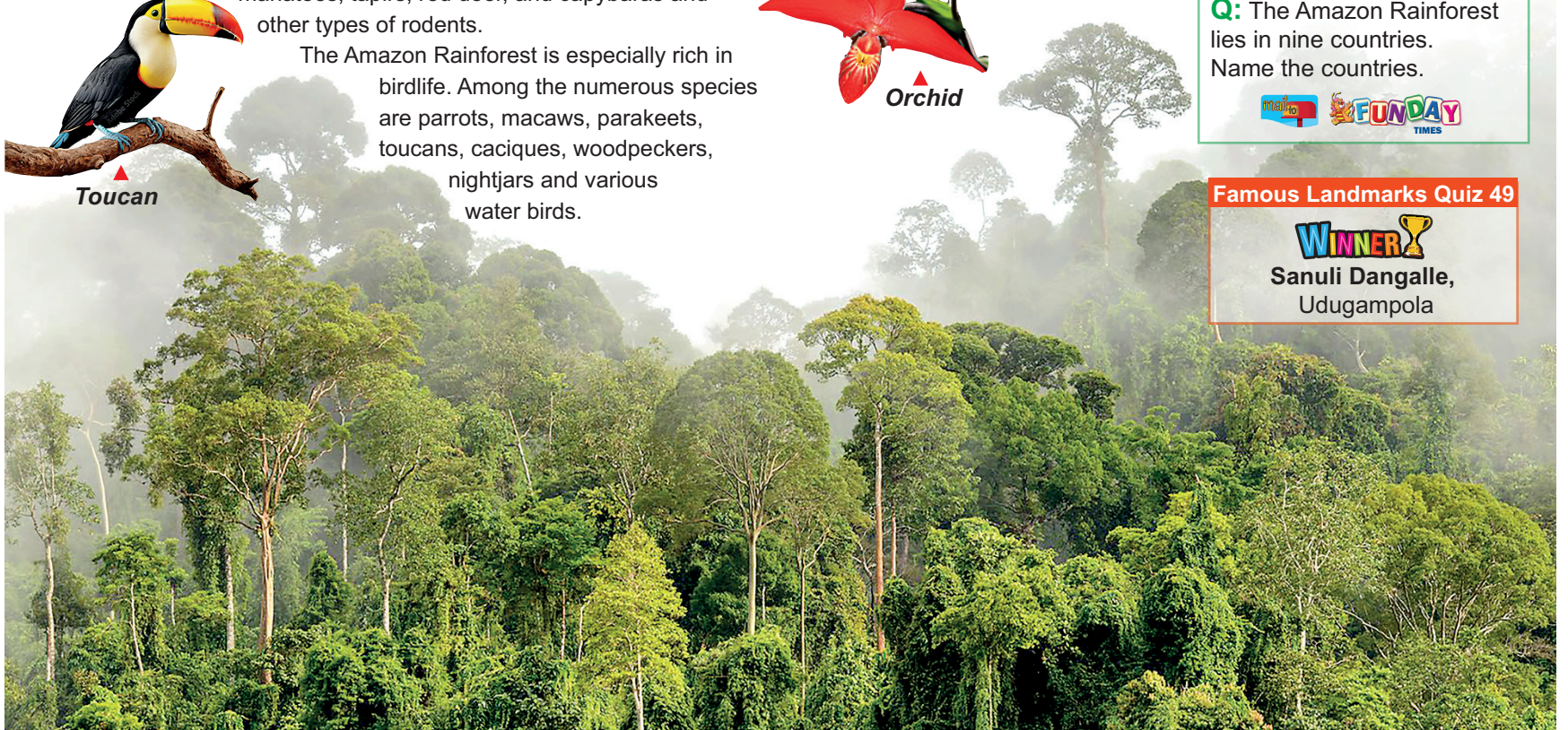
Q: The Amazon Rainforest lies in nine countries. Name the countries.



Famous Landmarks Quiz 49



Sanuli Dangalle, Udugampola



Tomahawk

Quiz No. 221

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 221 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times print issues and e-papers of June 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2024.

All you have to do is to find the answers to the questions given here. Write the answers neatly on a postcard, cut the strip 'Tomahawk Quiz No. 221' seen at the top of this page and paste it on your postcard. Please get your entries certified as your own work by a teacher or parent.

One lucky winner will receive a brand new Tomahawk Mountain Bike with the compliments of Tomahawk Bicycle Mall

All Funday Times readers between 8 – 15 years are eligible to participate. (Those who have already won a bicycle are not eligible to participate.)



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QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 221

1. Where are the 2024 Olympic Games being held?
2. Where is 'Boudhanath Stupa' located and what is special about it?
3. Name the two most active volcanoes in Hawaii.
4. Name five remarkable animal dads who care for their offspring.
5. Who built the 'Maha Seya' and where is it located?

Closing Date: July 31, 2024

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7 – 9 AGE GROUP

Help mummy dinosaur find her baby.

Winners please call Funday Times on 2479333/2479337 and arrange to collect your prizes.

mailto: Or fundaytimes1@gmail.com

4 – 6 years WINNERS

- ▶ Seja Abeywickrama, Galle
- ▶ Mohamed Asjad, Dehiwala
- ▶ Shazad Ghaney, Colombo 2
- ▶ Shyma Nafees, Gampola
- ▶ Nazrath Imthiyaz, Colombo 14

Win super books from



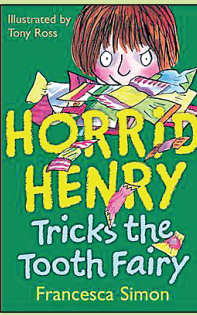
Age: 9 years and below

Word Count: 150

Topic: My school sports meet

Win: Horrid Henry tricks the Tooth Fairy by Francesca Simon

It's Horrid Henry's chance to get rich! So Henry sets out to trick the tooth fairy, with hilarious results.



Not content with causing havoc at home, Henry then ruins Moody Margaret's sleepover, sabotages a wedding... and makes all his teachers run screaming from school!

Age: 10 – 12 years

Word Count: 150 – 200

Topic: Our Solar System

Win: Five have a wonderful time by Enid Blyton

The Five are on a caravanning holiday when they spy a ruined castle on top of a hill. Then they spot a desperate face in the tower window... and an adventure beckons.



Who is hiding inside the castle – and why?

Age: 13 – 15 years

Word Count: 200 – 250

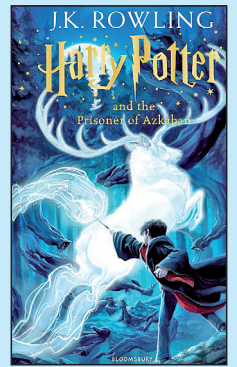
Topic: Alternative energy sources

Win: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban by J. K. Rowling

It's another far-from-ordinary year at Hogwarts for Harry Potter.

Sirius Black, escaped mass-murderer, is on the run and they say he is coming after Harry.

But perhaps most terrifying of all, there are Dementors patrolling the school grounds, with their soul-sucking kiss!



Or

fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Write at the top of your Essay

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic

FUNDAY TIMES Young Reporters

If you are interested in joining as a Funday Times Young Reporter please fill in the coupon given and send it in to us along with a recent report or interview not exceeding 300 words. Photographs or illustrations would enhance the report.

Young Reporters Coupon

Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

.....

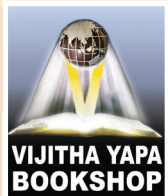
Telephone:

School:

Parent's approval: Date:

.....

Young Reporters who have already enrolled with us, please send in new reports for publication.



Read-a-Book and win a voucher from Vijitha Yapa Bookshop

Read any book of your choice and write briefly about it. What we want is not just a summary of the story but your views on the book. The best account in the three age groups will be awarded book vouchers of Rs. 500 each from Vijitha Yapa Bookshop. Three winners will be selected each month. **Your account should not exceed 200 words. Please indicate word count, fill in the coupon and attach it to your entry.**



Read-a-Book Competition

Name :

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Date of birth :

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Address :

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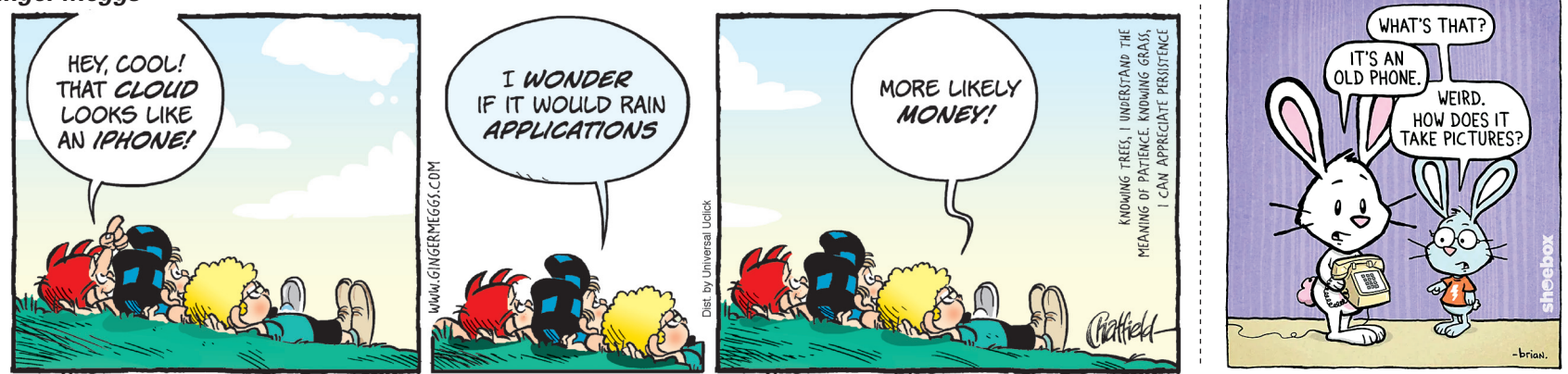
School:

Tel:

Finished book on :

.....

Ginger Meggs



Porcupine

The porcupine is the prickliest of rodents, though its Latin name means “quill pig.” There are more than two dozen porcupine species, and all boast a coat of needle-like quills to give predators a sharp reminder that this animal is no easy meal. Some quills, like those of Africa's crested porcupine, are nearly a foot long.

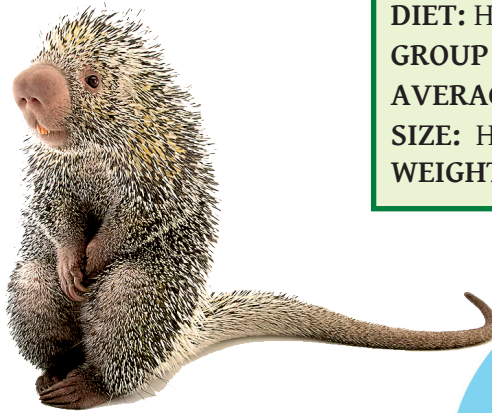
Porcupine Quills

Porcupines have soft hair, but on their back, sides and tail it is usually mixed with sharp quills. These quills typically lie flat until a porcupine is threatened, then leap to attention as a persuasive deterrent. Porcupines cannot shoot them at predators as once thought, but the quills do detach easily when touched.

Many animals come away from a porcupine encounter with quills protruding from their own snouts or bodies. Quills have sharp tips and overlapping scales or barbs that make them difficult to remove once they are stuck in another animal's skin. Porcupines grow new quills to replace the ones they lose.

Behaviour and Habitat

The porcupines found in North and South America are good climbers and spend much of their time in trees. Some even have prehensile (gripping) tails to aid in climbing. The North American porcupine is the only species that lives in the USA and Canada, and is the largest of all porcupines.



COMMON NAME: Porcupines
SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Hystricidae*,
Erethizontidae

TYPE: Mammals

DIET: Herbivore

GROUP NAME: Family

AVERAGE LIFE SPAN IN THE WILD: 5 to 7 years

SIZE: Head and body: 25 to 36 inches; Tail: 8 to 10 inches

WEIGHT: 12 to 35 pounds



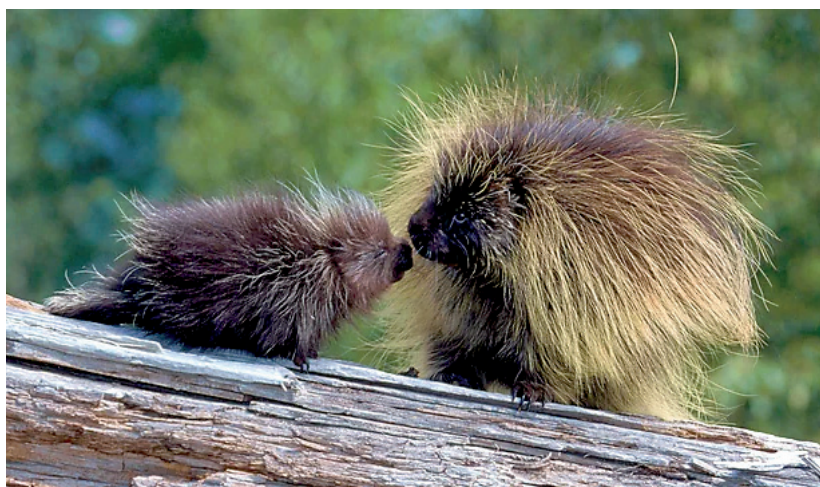
A single animal may have 30,000 or more quills. North American porcupines use their large front teeth to satisfy a healthy appetite for wood. They eat natural bark and stems and have been known to invade campgrounds and chew on canoe paddles. North American porcupines also eat fruit, leaves and springtime buds. Other porcupine species live in Africa, Europe and Asia.



Where Porcupines live

These animals usually live on the ground and can inhabit deserts, grasslands and forests.

Female porcupines have between one and four young, depending on the species.



Shooting the Quills out

Babies have soft quills at birth, which harden within a few days. Most young porcupines are ready to live on their own at about two months of age.

Wimbledon 2024 Winners

July 14, 2024

Barbora Krejčíková from the Czech Republic has claimed her first Wimbledon women's singles title.

She won 2 sets to 1 against Jasmine Paolini, who is from Italy.

Krejčíková went up to the players' box to celebrate with her team and family. Many of them were crying happy tears!

She said: "I don't have any words right now – it's just unbelievable, it's definitely the best day of my tennis career and also the best day of my life."

Who else won at Wimbledon?

Carlos Alcaraz beat Novak Djokovic in three sets, winning the men's singles title for a second year in a row at Wimbledon.

"Honestly, it is a dream for me winning this trophy," said Alcaraz, who was presented with the trophy by Catherine, the Princess of Wales.

The princess was at the tournament while she is still receiving treatment for cancer.



Alcaraz beat Djokovic in straight sets to retain the Wimbledon title.

Alfie Hewett wins TWO Wimbledon finals on the same day

Updated July 15, 2024

Winning one Wimbledon final would be a dream come true for many tennis players – but imagine winning TWO on the same weekend.

That's exactly what England's Alfie Hewett has achieved.

He won both the wheelchair singles and doubles finals just hours apart from each other – that's a busy day!

It's his first ever Wimbledon singles title and afterwards, Hewett said it had been the "best day of his life".



Pets awarded with dog-rees and cat-ificates by university

July 11, 2024

Pets are being recognised for the roles they play in helping their owners achieve university degrees.

Queens University Belfast held a special graduation ceremony for 25 pets.

The University said it held the event after research showed how important pets could be in helping owners in their studies.

Dogs, cats and even a hamster were given their honorary awards.

A 'dog-ree' in 'Pawlitics'?

Special awards given to pets included a 'dog-ree' in 'pawlitics'.

The animals were also recognised for 'barketing', 'furensic pawthology' and 'barkitecture'.

Queen's University said that spending time with pets can lower stress and create better concentration – which is really important when doing something as tricky as a degree!



The pets had a special graduation ceremony.

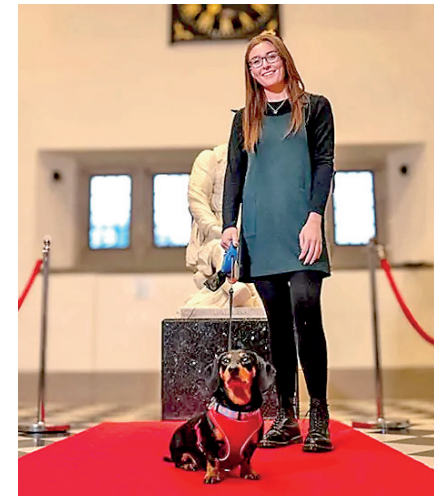


Rico dressed up for the occasion.

'Best study buddy'

Louise McCarthy, who graduated from Queen's Uni this year, said that her dachshund, Milo was the "best study buddy" at University and that she was glad he got to be celebrated for the support he gave her.

Rico – who is a 13-year-old Jack Russell, also accepted an award. His owner, Queens graduate Michael Murphy, said that despite Rico's age he is still "full of beans" and that he was very proud to have another Queen's graduate in his family.



Louise and her dog Milo both 'graduated' this year.



Peaches – who is a dwarf hamster – also got a special cap, that was a little too big for her!

Source : CBBC Newsround

July 16

News in Pictures



St. Peter Port, Guernsey
Cheerleaders perform as a band plays before the special sitting of the States of Deliberation of Guernsey's parliament during an official visit to the Channel Islands by King Charles III and Queen Camilla.



Olathe, USA
People practice yoga on paddleboards at sunset as the heat index tops 100°F at Olathe Lake in Kansas.



Mount Etna, Italy
Lava and plumes of smoke rise from a crater of Europe's most active volcano on the island of Sicily.



Strasbourg, France
The European Parliament President, Roberta Metsola, is applauded after giving a speech during a voting session to elect the parliament's new president.

July 15

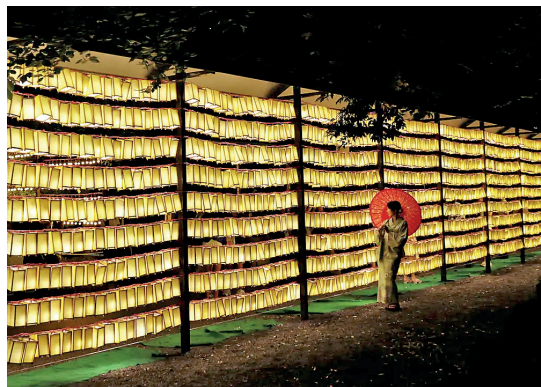
Paris, France
Julien Segui passes the Olympic flame to a fellow torchbearer in front of dancers from the Moulin Rouge cabaret during the Olympic torch relay.



Tairi Mouth, New Zealand
A photo taken on July 5 and received on July 16 from the New Zealand Department of Conservation shows rangers walking beside what appears to be the carcass of a rare spade-toothed whale after it was discovered washed ashore on a beach. The species has never been seen alive.



London, UK
Members of Team GB at St. Pancras International station travelling to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. As the official travel partner of Team GB, Eurostar will be transporting more than 600 athletes to the Games.



Tokyo, Japan
A woman in a 'yukata', or casual summer kimono, observes a lantern display as part of the annual Mitama Festival at the Yasukuni shrine dedicated to the country's war dead.



California, USA
Red foxes at play in Santa Clara.

Source : The Guardian