

CHAS'S

ROCK'N' ROLL

ALLOTMENT

THE CLOCKS went back a week ago and I'm still getting used to it. I've now got less afternoon light for my allotment visits so, after getting up at the crack of noon, I can't hang about too long over breakfast.

Can't I get up any earlier I hear you cry? No. I don't like mornings. The only mornings I like are the wee small hours. Like now. It's 2am. I love it. All is quiet and I can think. I've got the old stove going. Run out of logs so I've got a bit of coal. Like the smell of coal.

Don't get the coalman coming round any more though, more's the pity. The coalman's horse used to smell lovely. Warm horse and coal dust. What a wonderful combination. Our coalman used to smell of coal dust and beer sometimes. I loved the state of his face though and I wondered how he managed to get it like that, so completely covered, not

‘Why don’t we eat more rabbit? I think we should’

a white bit of flesh to be seen. I pictured him having a cup of tea at breakfast, pitch black coal dust, all over his face, all round his neck, in his ears and nose and all up his arms too. What a magnificent way to go to work, I thought. Try telling HIM that his nails are dirty.

So now it is allotment tidy up time. Got to have a bonfire. Love the smell of the bonfire too. Well, allotment bonfires. Bonfires in my back garden when I was a kid smelt of burnt armchairs.

Always an armchair appeared on firework night for the bonfire. Can't remember ever getting a new armchair for the house. Always seemed to get one passed down from someone else's house. Our house usually being its last port of call, so after at most a year in service, it was ready for the bonfire. Good way of getting rid of any potential bugs though.

But after being sat in the garden for days getting soaked in



Picture: LUKE SANTILLI

rain it would take a couple of hours before any kind of flame got going on it. So for two hours we would all stand round it in a complete fog of thick smoke while granddad poked around, (you could hear him but you couldn't see him) trying to get some sort of flicker happening.

Now and again a sparkler would appear in an effort to get the party going, accompanied by "ooohs" in the midst of the smoke. It was on one of those smoky bonfire nights that I had acquired a few ha'penny bangers, or "Boy Scout Rousers" as they were called, and to cheer up the proceedings I tested 'em out on my sister's old dolls house that had been left out in the garden. I blew it up.

The shallots I saved from my

crop a couple of months ago and planted out a month ago to overwinter are going lovely. Never overwintered shallots before so I will keep you posted.

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holders ain't mad on 'em, but they taste wonderful in a stew, so it's obvious what should be done with them. They should end up as lovely dinners.

The best way of catching them I think is with a ferret. A good ferreter deals with 'em quick and humanely. Also, a brace of rabbit over the bar always has and always will be good for a pint. Or two pints in some inns.

●Chas and Dave's autobiography All About Us (John Blake, £7.99). Chas and Dave gigs: Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells, tonight; Theatre Royal Windsor, Tuesday; Central Theatre, Chatham, Saturday. For a full list of Chas and Dave tour dates visit chasndave.net



Did you know?
by Mitchell Symons

WITH DISCOVER DOGS STARTING ON SATURDAY (AT EARLS COURT), HERE IS HOW DOGS BARK IN OTHER LANGUAGES

Ham ham – Albanian
Haw haw, hab hab – Arabic
Kung-kung – Batak
Gheu gheu – Bengali
Bow bow – Bulgarian
Bup bup – Catalan
Wu-wu – Cantonese
Haf haf – Czech
Vuf vuf – Danish
Waf waf, woef woef – Dutch
Woof, bow wow – English
Auh auh – Estonian
Hau hau, vuh vuh – Finnish
Ouah ouah, ouaf ouaf, wouf wouf – French,
wau wau, waff waff, wuff wuff – German
Ghav ghav, woof – Greek
Hav hav, haw haw – Hebrew
Wan wan – Japanese
Gav gav, tyaf tyaf – Russian



BRYAN ADAMS, WHO IS 55 ON WEDNESDAY, HAS A PLACE ON CANADA'S WALK OF FAME. THESE INDUCTEES WERE ALSO BORN IN CANADA

Pamela Anderson, k.d. lang, Paul Anka, Margaret Atwood, Dan Aykroyd, James Cameron, John Candy, Jim Carrey, David Cronenberg, Celine Dion, Linda Evangelista, Michael J Fox, Eugene Levy, Gordon Lightfoot, Rich Little, Joni Mitchell, Mike Myers, Leslie Nielsen, Mary Pickford, Christopher Plummer, Robbie Robertson, William Shatner, Martin Short, Donald Sutherland, Shania Twain, Jacques Villeneuve, Fay Wray, Neil Young

THIS WEEK'S PONDERABLES

●When the music in a bar is turned up by a fifth, it makes people drink a quarter faster.

●For the past two centuries, the rulers of Russia have alternated between bald and hairy

●Parking wardens walk about 15 miles a day.

●South Korea and North Korea are sworn enemies but a few years ago, a South Korean naval unit defended a North Korean ship against Somali pirates

●A baby quail is known as a "cheeper" or a "squeeler"

●That small pocket in the front of a pair of jeans was originally intended to hold a pocket watch

●If you eat too much, it dulls your hearing

●Perhaps it is not surprising but red underwear is more popular in Wales than anywhere else in the UK

●Germany is the world leader in solar power production

THIS WEEK'S IMPONDERABLE: WHY ARE BAKED BEANS SOLD IN TOMATO SAUCE? Because that is the way people like 'em. They weren't always: until 1895, people ate them without any particular sauce, or just with butter. People also ate them for the most peculiar of reasons: in the 17th century people thought they cured baldness. Then, in 1895, Henry J Heinz created baked beans in tomato sauce in Pittsburgh, US. They were introduced to Britain nine years later where they were sold with a lump of pork and considered a great delicacy. Once British factories started making them, they came down in price and proved incredibly popular. So much so that, today, more baked beans are sold here than anywhere else. We eat twice as many baked beans per person as in any other country

WISE WORDS

It is better to deserve honours and not have them than to have them and not deserve them (Mark Twain)

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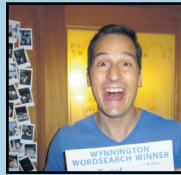
HURRY! CASH PRIZES DELIVERED THIS SATURDAY!

Win £17,777

Find the 3 missing words for the chance to win £17,777. There is 1 missing word from each word list.

WORD LIST 1	WORD LIST 2	WORD LIST 3
WINNER	MONEY	TREAT
SUCCESS	PRIZE	INDULGE
BELIEVE	WINDFALL	SPLURGE
DESERVE	CASH	SPEND
CONQUER	AWARD	ENJOY

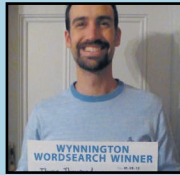
Enter now for the chance to join our most recent winners...



R. Firth
London
WON £4,000



J. Warnock
Cleveland
WON £3,000



J. Luker
Kent
WON £3,500

HURRY! CLOSES MIDNIGHT TOMORROW!

Here's your chance to claim £17,777 cash! That's right, we're giving all UK residents who qualify and are over 18 the chance to win Seventeen Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Seven Pounds Cash! All you have to do is find the THREE MISSING WORDS

from the puzzle above and activate your entry for the draw with us on the activation line by midnight tomorrow.

You will also be given the opportunity to win an additional £1,000 in our hidden mystery word competition! Simply find the seven letter word that is hidden within the grid but NOT listed in any

of the three word lists for the chance to win an extra £1000.

TESTIMONIALS

As with all our cash prize puzzle winners of £1,000 or more, if required we ask that you make yourself available for a winners photograph upon receiving

your prize money. Call now for the chance to Win £17,777 Cash! Hurry, the competition phone line closes at Midnight Tomorrow!

Leave your missing word answers on 0906 661 1363*

Call costs £1.53 per min and lasts 3mins. Network extras apply. Max call cost £4.60.



"Come out!" Her crystal voice he hears, Then in that ice a gap appears!

Rupert
And Jenny Frost
EPISODE 12

Rupert calls again, his teeth chattering with cold, and this time the little tinkling voice bids him to come out.

"How can I?" he cries. "I'm surrounded by ice. I can't break it and I shall soon freeze solid in here!"

Then to his astonishment a hole appears in the ice curtain near the grass. Crawling shakily through, he is confronted by a slender little dancing figure. Snowflakes seem to be falling constantly around her and she stands in a patch of snow as she giggles mischievously at him.



A dancing maid, with fairy grace, Laughs merrily in Rupert's face.

To order the Rupert Annual for 2015 No. 79 (out now) at £7.99 with free UK delivery, please call 0871 988 8370 or send a cheque/PO to The Official Classic Rupert Bear Shop, PO Box 200, Falmouth TR11 4WJ; or order it online at classicrupertbearshop.com. UK delivery is free.