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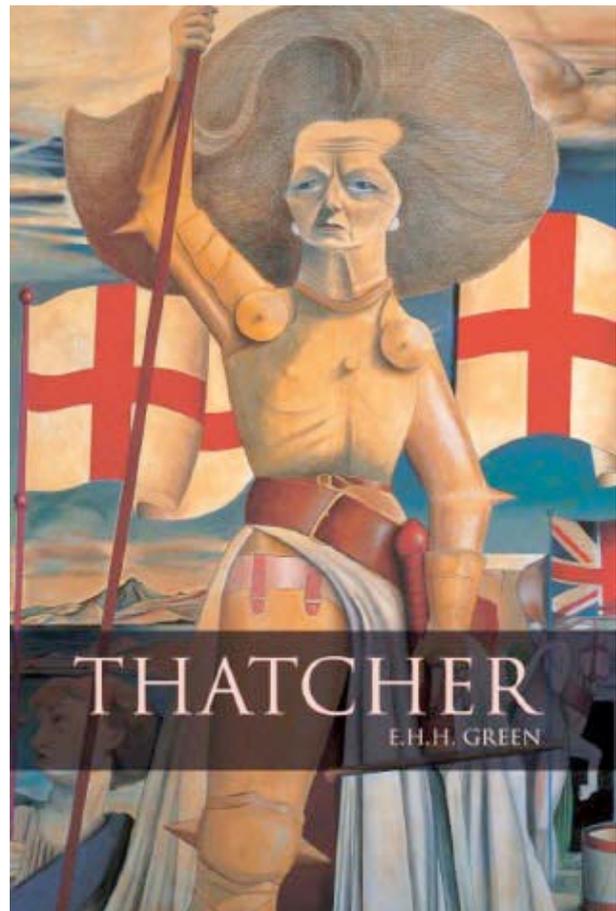
Thatcher's Shadow : Assessing the size and shape of Margaret Thatcher's political legacy — an interview with Dr E.H.H. Green.

by Pauline LAVAGNE D'ORTIGUE.

The recent debate on the EU budget and the British Rebate have revived memories of Mrs Thatcher's crusade to get « her money » back which drew the attention of cartoonists and political commentators across Europe. Two decades after the Iron Lady's « victory » at Fontainebleau, Dr Ewen Green reflects upon her pervasive legacy in British politics.

Dr Ewen Green, Fellow and Tutor at Magdalen College and Reader in Modern British History at Oxford University is a specialist in the history of the Conservative Party. He has just completed the first comprehensive study of the political goals and aims of Margaret Thatcher, based upon a survey of her recently opened personal and political archive.¹

E.H.H. Green, *Thatcher* (London: Hodder Arnold, January 2006).
ISBN 0340759771



Painting by John Springs, courtesy of Rules restaurant, London
<<http://www.rules.co.uk>>

What is the degree of continuity between Thatcherism and Blairism with regard to European and foreign policy ?

Blair's initial resistance to any reduction of the British rebate in the recent EU budget crisis debate has often been likened to Margaret Thatcher's early 1980ies stance, and depicted in the European press as typical British intransigence. But what is really

¹ The Thatcher archive is held at the Modern Records' Centre, Churchill College, Cambridge.

remarkable in the end is not so much that Blair resisted his European counterparts' demands but that he eventually retreated in a way that Thatcher would never have considered. More generally, the issues at stake in the rebate debate are quite revealing of both the differences and the similarities between Thatcherism and Blairism.

Whereas Thatcher could be described as Britain's De Gaulle with regards to European policy, Blair could be described as Britain's Pompidou.

Admittedly Blair's Europeanism has always been cautiously crafted. He has had to tread carefully for fear of losing popular support by appearing too non-Thatcherite to a predominantly Eurosceptic electorate, but also because of pressure from within his own party. His surrender of part of the rebate unleashed a clamour from Tory MPs who accused him of having sold out the hard won gains of Thatcher without demanding a reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in return, but the Tory MPs were not alone in the protesting crowd. So far only the tip of the Eurosceptic iceberg has gone public in the Labour party, when people like Denis Skinner expressed vocal disapproval of Blair's stance. But while the iceberg is definitely there and shows no signs of melting, in contrast Blair has continuously engaged with Europe and tried to reinforce Britain's role in the EU.

Thatcher and Geoffrey Howe (first as Chancellor of the Exchequer and then as Foreign Secretary) saw the EU as dominated by a Franco-German axis and refused to consider that Britain should play a leading role in Europe. Instead they, and especially Thatcher, emphasized the Special Relationship with the US which was the essence of Thatcher's foreign policy outlook. In her last book *Statecraft*, published in 2002, she stated that « All the worst things that have happened in the twentieth century have come from mainland Europe » ! Thatcher was incredibly Europhobic. She tried her best to avoid visiting Europe and spoke no European languages. She maintained a staunchly provincial attitude towards Europe throughout her Premiership. The downright xenophobic comments on Germany made by her Trade Minister Nicholas Ridley in an interview with *The Spectator* (July 14, 1990) were often said to be an expression of her personal views.

In contrast Blair has played a much more subtle and constructive role. Even though Britain's six months presidency of the council will not be remembered as a particularly fruitful time, Blair is a convinced and enthusiastic Europhile. He worked very hard to change the balance of power in the EU, and lobbied continuously for the enlargement of the Union.

Economic and monetary policy is probably the only field where similarities between Blairite and Thatcherite European policies can be found. Mr Blair's Europeanism has been held in check by Gordon Brown's desire not to enter the Euro and to retain a degree of British economic independence. When Peter Mandelson, then Labour's Minister for Trade, declared in an interview with *The Times* (June 10, 2002) that « We

are all Thatcherites now, » he articulated what is clearly a hallmark of New Labour both at home and abroad.

As regards domestic affairs, what do you think of the saying that Blairism is Thatcherism with a human face ?

Labour monetary policy and control of public expenditure are quite in line with Thatcher's thinking and policies — in 1997 Blair and Brown announced they would keep to the Conservative expenditure policies for the period until the end of 1999, in order to reassure disillusioned Conservative voters who were contemplating switching their political allegiance. Hence the Labour government's attitude towards education spending and more specifically student loans and university fees were policies which Thatcher had contemplated but never implemented for fear of alienating her middle class support. These measures were put in place amidst much protest within the Labour Party, but were based upon a different ideological framework and a radically different goal from that Thatcher would have pursued, namely the increase of the number of students entering higher education.

More significantly, the main difference between Blairism and Thatcherism is that under Blair and Brown, the basic structure of economic and social policy, and more specifically the fiscal system, have been a lot more redistributive than Thatcher would ever have contemplated. This redistribution has been cautious and quiet, precisely because Thatcherism turned the welfare state into an expletive in the UK and cemented "taxphobia" within the British political culture. Statistics show that in fact the rich have become richer and the poor poorer since 1997. This is a long term trend, but the tax structure put in place by the Labour government has been beneficial to people on the margins and at the bottom of the income pyramid. Policies like the Working Family Tax Credit, where people in work and with children are given tax breaks, have been successful in redistributing wealth to the poorest sections of society.

As regards party politics, what is Margaret Thatcher's most lasting political legacy? And what could be Tony Blair's ?

Thatcher assassinated Socialism in Britain, but ironically she changed the structure of British politics mostly by transforming the Labour Party. Her ideological sway made it impossible for any of her political contemporaries and successors to espouse Socialism. Hence Labour became an extremely moderate social democratic party which makes even people like Gerhard Schroeder look radical.

Blair's most important legacy will perhaps be his achievement in Northern Ireland where he seems to have engineered a lasting peace agreement. But domestically speaking, his Premierships definitely confirmed the death of Socialism and the ultimate triumph of both the middle classes and middle England. In that sense, the

political continuity between Thatcherism and Blairism is striking. David Cameron's recent election as the leader of the Conservative party confirms the narrowing of the ground between the Labour and the Conservative parties. Just as Blair had won the leadership of his party by presenting himself as a Labour Thatcher, Cameron presented himself as a Tory Blair. Only the next general election will tell whether he will be as successful as his role model. Matching Gordon Brown will probably prove quite a challenge, but regardless of their opponents' personalities and/or behaviour, the Tories still have a major electoral mountain to climb.

Dr E.H.H. Green, Magdalen College, Oxford University.

POLITICS & SOCIETY

[Labour MP wants a public debate on the sensitive issue of first cousin mariages](#)

By Sugandhi NADARADJANNE

A great number of British Pakistanis are marrying their first cousins which dramatically increases the risks of having genetically diseased children.

In most European countries, while there is no law forbidding marriage between first cousins, the practice has long been extinct. But in Britain, a Labour MP, Ann Cryer, is campaigning to stop this practice among the British Pakistani community.

Marrying a first cousin is legal in Canada and in Mexico, but both arranged marriages and cousin marriages are more often found in the Muslim world as well as in south Asian communities. The tradition is based on beliefs as well as pragmatic reasons. The stability of the relationship between such couples and the preservation of family property are the most often cited justifications. In most cases, people want to keep money within the family circle and they object to the thought of any outsider benefiting from their wealth. Marrying one's daughter outside the family circle is often likened to watering one's neighbours' garden. So, instead of seeking a lifepartner for their daughters, they'd rather look for a guardian to their fortune.

Over 55% of British Pakistanis are believed to be married to their first cousins. As a result, their children are the most affected by recessive genetic disorders. A recent study showed that 30% of the UK's genetically diseased children are from Pakistani families. In Pakistani-dominated Bradford, the city's main hospital has identified more than 140 different recessive genetic disorders among the local children.

In the light of these statistics, Keighley MP Ann Cryer, claimed on BBC's Newsnight: "we have to stop this tradition of first cousin marriages." Banning this age old practice would help prevent infant mortality and preserve the children's health, but traditions tend to cling on.

Sources:

"British Pakistanis Should Stop Marrying Cousins, Says MP," *The Guardian* 16 November 2005.

"The Risks of Cousin Marriage," *BBC News* 16 November 2005.

"Ban UK Pakistanis from Marrying Cousins," *The Times of India* 17 November 2005.

POLITICS & SOCIETY

How the death of a “dealer” shook the Australian nation.

By Bérangère MAILLET

Australia reaffirms its position on the death penalty after the execution of one of its citizens in Singapore.

On December 2nd, an Australian citizen, Van Tuong Nguyen, was hanged in Singapore after having been convicted of smuggling almost 400 grams of heroin through Singapore to Australia in 2002.

Back home this case generated indignation and outrage. The Australian Federal Government abolished capital punishment in 1973. The Government, the family and the lawyers of young Nguyen joined efforts to try and save his life. Several appeals were made for clemency. Prime Minister John Howard, former Prime Minister Bob Hawke, Pope John Paul II and even Pope Benedict XVI all asked Singapore to spare the life of Nguyen, to no avail. After 3 years of imprisonment, Van Nguyen was put to death.

But the polemic did not end with the execution. In the wake of Nguyen's death, a new anti-death penalty committee was created in Singapore, while Nguyen's lawyer, Mr Julian McMahon, has tried to take things further. He aims at putting pressure on all the countries which have not abolished the death penalty yet. His tallest order might be the US which has just executed its 1000th prisoner since 1976. McMahon thinks that if Australia wants to be taken seriously in its fight against capital punishment, it is cardinal that its leaders take a strong stance against the death penalty in the US.

Nguyen was not the first foreigner to be executed in Singapore and unfortunately might not be the last. While *The Straits Times* (the main English newspaper in Singapore) blames Australia for being soft on drugs, arguing that Singapore's tough laws for drug trafficking are a strong deterrent, there are still Australians condemned to life imprisonment over there. There are also three Australians on death row for drug crimes in Vietnam: Trinh Huu and two other Australians of Vietnamese origin - Nguyen Van Chinh, 45, from Sydney and Mai Cong Thanh, 46, from Melbourne.

Trying to influence American policies is certainly a most worthy crusade, but putting pressure on Vietnam is probably a good deal easier.

Sources: "Singapore Takes Nguyen's Life," *The Australian* 02 December 2005.

"Nguyen's Body to Return," *The Australian* 03 December 2005.

"Nguyen Lawyer Targets US," *The Australian* 03 December 2005.

"Group Defends Approach to Drug Problems," *The Sydney Morning Herald* 13 December 2005.

"Third Australian on The Death Row," *The Sydney Morning Herald* 20 December 2005.

POLITICS AND SOCIETY

[Is Kenya sliding into dictatorship ?](#)

By Magali PASQUALINI

After losing the referendum on the new constitution, President Kibaki and Kenya as a whole face a deep political crisis.

When Mwai Kibaki was elected as President in 2002, his victory was hailed as a real hope by the Kenyans, who were eager to recover from the corruption scandals of Daniel Arap Moi, their previous President.¹

However, people's hopes were soon to be tarnished. Mwai Kibaki belongs to the largest Kenyan ethnic group, the Kikuyu which represents 22 % of the population. Ever since Kibaki was elected, he has laboured to create a rich and powerful Kikuyu elite which has in turn fuelled anti-Kikuyu feeling.

The constitution which Kibaki tried to impose on Kenyans last November 2005 was skilfully crafted to reinforce his power. Kenyans widely rejected the constitution draft after a furious national debate between the "Bananas" (Yes) and the "Oranges" (No), the fruit symbols being used to help the illiterate voters make a choice.² Despite strong support from the Kikuyus, six out of eight provinces rejected the constitution.³

This vote was above all a protest vote. Kenyans voted against the Kikuyu community and its privileges. In the aftermath of the vote the country is more divided than ever with the two biggest tribes, the Kikuyu and the Luo (the second biggest ethnic group) at daggers drawn.

After his defeat in the referendum, Kibaki fired his entire team. But the new cabinet he announced on December 7th is not a very surprising composition as it is entirely made up of friends and former colleagues. The opposition immediately called for an early general election, but Kibaki has refused and has banned all public meetings. His opponents, including several members of the former cabinet, want to change the constitution so as to give more power to the Prime Minister. Needless to say their proposal was rejected.⁴

If Kibaki wants to win in the next presidential elections in 2007, he must find a new trick. Kenyans are still waiting for the promises he made in 2002: less corruption and more jobs, neither of which can be seen on the horizon.

¹ "Kenyans Reject Draft Constitution in Blow to Leader," *The Guardian* 23 november 2005.

² "The Future is Orange," *The Economist* 24 November 2005.

³ "Kibaki on a Slippery Slide," *The Mail and Guardian* 2 December 2005.

⁴ "Kenya's Political Crisis Deepens," *BBC News* 8 December 2005.

POLITICS & SOCIETY NEWS BRIEFS

By Pauline LAVAGNE D'ORTIGUE

On Rural Exodus in India, Petro Politics in the Bronx, Presidential Cards and the Alleged 'War on Christmas'.

India: a Nation of 600 000 Villages and 35 Cities With Over 1 Million Inhabitants

In 2001, India had 35 cities with one million or more inhabitants, compared with 23 in 1991. Nearly 30% of its population now lives in cities with urban dwellers making up nearly half the population in some southern states. This is changing the structure of India's economy, culture and linguistic landscape., as farming-based economy gives way to an industry based one, lower castes leave the countryside to enjoy urban anonymity, and Hindi becomes the migrants' *lingua franca*.

Source: « All Roads Lead to Cities, Transforming India, » *The New York Times* 7 December 2005.

South Bronx Receives a 'Humanitarian' Gift from Venezuela

While the price of heating oil has increased by 38% from this time last year, the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program has been refused additional funding by Congress. In the mean time, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez sent discounted heating oil to 8,000 low-income working poor and elderly tenants in South Bronx, New York. At 45 % below the market rate, the Venezuelan oil will help them face soaring heating bills.

A Massachusetts non profit cooperative has also bought some of the discount oil, while similar deals are being brokered in other parts of New York and some New England.

Source : « Politics or Not, Bronx Warmly Receives Venezuelan Heating Oil, » *The Washington Post* 8 December 2005.

Presidential Cards and the Alleged "War on Christmas"

President Bush offended conservative Christians such as the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights by sending 1.4 million cards (paid for by the Republican National Committee) wishing a happy "holiday season."

White House Christmas cards are no joke. Nixon was the first president to politicize them by increasing the number of recipients tenfold, to 40,000, in his first year and by making his party foot the bill. He also initiated an inflationary trend with Jimmy Carter sending 125,000 a year, and Bill Clinton 400,000. The last presidential card that mentioned Christmas was sent by G.H and Barbara Bush in 1992. Although their son's card did have a verse from the Old Testament, its politically correct wording incensed those who fight for "Christmas trees" to eradicate "holiday spruces", for schools to let students out for "Christmas vacation" rather than for "winter break," and for Christmas sales to be called so rather than "holiday specials." Having threatened to launch a consumer boycott, the crusaders did manage to force Wal-Mart, and Macy's into advertising Christmas explicitly to their merry customers.

Source: « 'Holiday' Cards Ring Hollow for Some on Bushes' List, » *The Washington Post* 7 December 2005.

ARTS & BOOKS

[A new w@y to read?](#)

By Vincent MONDIOT

A new chapter in the war between computers and books unfolded in September 2005 when a large American writers association sued Google for using books without permission on its e-library project.

Google, the well-known internet search engine, has been working for months on a massive e-library project : the Google Print Library Project. It consists mainly of scanning a large proportion of the book collections of the greatest American universities, such as the University of Michigan, Harvard University, Stanford University, the New York Public Library and Oxford University. The idea is to enable readers to download these texts via Google. Hence the search engine will make money by selling advertisements on its web pages. But it seems the company never asked the authors' agreement. Hence in mid September 2005, The Authors Guild, the largest association of published writers, filed a lawsuit against the company. Google immediately responded with an official message. Susan Wojcicki, vice president of product management, writes "Google respects copyright. The use we make of all the books we scan through the Library Project is fully consistent with both the fair use doctrine under U.S. copyright law and the principles underlying copyright law itself, which allow everything from parodies to excerpts in book reviews." However Google did put the project on halt, while waiting for the outcome of the lawsuit.

This story is but the latest episode in the epic battle between books and computers. So far books seem to have the upper hand as relatively few e-books are available. Paper supporters rejoice when remembering the pioneering failures of Stephen King's. The world's most widely read author did manage to sell a short-story over the internet, *Riding The Bullet* in March 2000. King made it onto the cover of *Time* where his achievement was hailed as a revolution. However his subsequent attempts at e-books were not quite as successful as his first efforts. When he tried to launch a pay-per-read epistolary novel exclusively on the net, readers and fans alike turned their back on him. Only the first chapters of *The Plant* were posted between July and Nov. 2000. King did not entirely give up on e-books as he then published several books simultaneously in print and on the web. But the results were not very conclusive.

Authors, publishers, and readers still seem to be allergic to e-books, but times might change. Or so does Google bet.

Sources:

"Authors Guild Sues Google, Citing "Massive Copyright Infringement"" www.authorsguild.org 20 September 2005.

"Do-it-yourself.com," *Time* 27 March 2000.

<http://googleblog.blogspot.com>

www.stephenking.com

ART & BOOKS

[Dream Theater: the Stuff That Dreams Are Made Of.](#)

By Peter NAIT CHABANE

<jamespeter407@yahoo.fr>

Two decades on, Dream Theater is still one of the most creative & technical bands in Progressive Rock.

Dream Theater is celebrating their 20th anniversary. They are currently on tour with their latest album *Octavarium*, first released on 7 June 2005. This multi-faceted collection has proved once more that the resilient band can still take music into hitherto uncharted territories. The album contains eight songs which incorporate a vast array of musical genres. It is both “a continuation of Portnoy's *Alcoholics Anonymous*” and “an epic rivalling *A Change of Seasons*.”¹

Dream Theater was formed in 1985-1986 by three students from Boston's prestigious Berklee College of Music: guitarist John Petrucci, drummer Mike Portnoy and bassist John Myung. They succeeded in shaping a unique genre of soft metal, with no bestial roaring, no saturated guitars, no haphazardly beaten drums. On the contrary, their melodies rely upon symphonic magnificence and fluid instrumental passages.²

Their skill in mastering their instruments is widely recognised as outstanding, but Dream Theater are also renowned for the complex structure of their albums. Their pieces are often built as a cluster of short stories set in enigmatic plots.

Its most advanced experiment in this field is perhaps *Metropolis Part.2; Scenes From a Memory* released in 1999. In this concept album Dream Theater tried to create a scenario tied to their preceding works. The story was based upon a session of hypnosis led by a psychoanalyst who urged his patient to re-visit his past, his memory, and ultimately his own death. Mike Portnoy and James Labrie (the vocalist) wrote extensively about the stories narrated in this theatrical opus. Commercially speaking, the album was not a major success but it led to a world-wide tour and was hailed as a masterpiece by fans and critics.

The critically acclaimed band has won several prizes and awards. Its most prestigious distinction came when John Petrucci was nominated as the third player on the famous “G3 Tour” in 2001 again in 2005. Together with Steve Vai and Joe Satriani, Petrucci toured Japan and the United States last year and yet again established his mark as one of the most brilliant guitarists of his generation.³

¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dream_Theater

² http://www.dreamtheater.net/info_biography.php

³ Allan Richter “A Long Island Sound by Way of Topographic Oceans,” *The New York Times* 22 August 2004.

ARTS & BOOKS NEWS BRIEFS

By Pauline LAVAGNE D'ORTIGUE

On Athletic Art Robbers, the Independent Film Mecca and its Acclaimed Prophet at Sundance, the *Voyage Intérieur* exhibition in Paris.**Athletic Art Robbers**

A two-tonne solid bronze sculpture entitled *Reclining Figure* (1969) by Henry Moore was stolen from open land belonging to the Henry Moore Foundation in Hertfordshire.

The 11ft piece is worth £3 million but is likely to have been lifted for its raw metal value which is estimated at £5,000. As Henry Moore stipulated that his original moulds should never be used to cast more of his bronzes, the *Reclining Figure* could be lost for ever if it makes it to the scrap-yard.

Source : « Oi ! Who Lifted that Two-Tonne Henry Moore, » *The Observer* 18 December 2005.

Independent Film Mecca & Acclaimed Prophet

On December 4th, Robert Redford received the Kennedy Center Honors for his « extraordinary support of independent film .» Twenty five years ago, he founded The Sundance Institute to foster the discovery and development of independent film and theatre artists. At the time the advent of home video and cable helped fuel the success of such blockbusters as *Jaws* and *Star Wars*, and Redford felt that humanistic cinema was under threat.

The 2006 Sundance Film Festival, which will take place between January 19 and 29 in Park City, Utah, has become over the years THE prime showcase for the work of American independent and international filmmakers that embody creative risk-taking, diversity, and aesthetic innovation. This year, Sundance programmers combed through 1,004 American and 936 international feature films, 760 American and 448 international documentaries and 4,311 shorts.

Sources : « The Soul of Sundance's Machine, » *The New York Times* 4 December 2005 ; « The Sundance King: Nurturer Is Redford's Acclaimed Role, » *The Washington Post* 4 December 2005.

A Passage to London / A Passage to Paris

The kaleidoscopic work of 23 British and French contemporary artists exhibited at the Espace Electra (Paris) explores the extent to which the Paris and London art scenes have influenced one another. A dramatic scenography highlights the labyrinthine and peripatetic nature of these imaginary connections.

<http://www.britishcouncil.fr/>



16 NOVEMBER 2005 - 5 MARCH 2006

BUSINESS & MEDIA

Hong Kong prefers USA

By Christophe JAMOT

Two Hong Kong airlines have just made their biggest airplane orders ever, preferring Boeing to Airbus.

At the beginning of December, Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd., Hong Kong's main airline company, announced that it would buy up to 39 new planes in the next few years, mostly from Boeing. Cathay Pacific has already bought 12 Boeings, but this latest order worth about \$3 billion is its largest-ever new plane deal. Just a week before Christmas, hence almost adding insult to injury, another Hong Kong Company CR Airways said it plans to buy around 40 boeings i.e. \$3 billion worth of the US maker's aircrafts. Even though Cathay did buy 3 smaller Airbus aircrafts for its regional routes, these two whopper deals are a dramatic win for the U.S. plane maker over its European rival Airbus SAS.

The Boeing planes on order are long range aircrafts which boast lower operating costs thanks to only two big engines, while the equivalent Airbus planes have four. This seems to be a decisive advantage at a time when oil prices keep rising. But are there other reasons beyond technical details such as fuel consumption, delivery time or prices, which might explain why these airlines prefer the American plane maker as opposed to the European one?

If both the United States and Europe share common values with Hong Kong (respect of human rights, freedom of enterprises...) and both support the "one country, two systems" principle, it seems that the US has a stronger economic partnership with Hong Kong than Europe does. In 2002, the US represented 13,2% of Hong Kong's external trade making Hong Kong its second biggest partner after mainland China, while Europe represented less than 10% of it. European companies remain leaders in a number of sectors though, especially in the financial and service sectors. But Hong Kong, which returned to Chinese rule in 1997, has stronger bilateral commercial ties with the US. Specific law enforcement cooperation and counter-terrorism efforts have recently been organised between the US and Hong Kong. The same imbalance is to be found with mainland China where American companies are well ahead of their European counterparts. The Europeans have missed a number of opportunities and have not significantly capitalised on their former presence in the region.

These massive purchases by Cathay Airlines and CR illustrate American strength in the region. However, the Airbus-Boeing competition is not over. The Republic of China has just made a huge bulk order to Airbus and given that China is the second biggest aviation market in the world after the US, the European plane manufacturers are not ready to give up the fight.

Sources: « Cathay Pacific Orders 12 Boeing Jets, » *The Seattle Times* 1 December 2005.

« Cathay Signs US\$4b Plane Deal, » *South China Morning Post* 2 December 2005.

« CR Expands Fleet Amid Doubts Over Traffic Rights, » *South China Morning Post* 19 December 2005.

« The EU's relations with Hong-Kong SAR, an Overview » EU Commission's website : http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/hong_kong/intro/

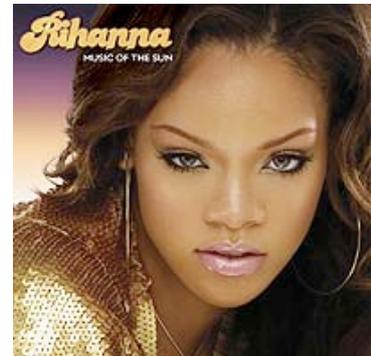
« European Commission issues its Annual Report on Developments in Hong Kong » 5 August 2005 EU Commission's website : http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/hong_kong/

BUSINESS AND MEDIA

Rihanna: a process to become a success.

By Jérôme VASSILIEFF

Everybody in the UK and in the US knows Rihanna's song "Pon De Replay". If you have not heard it yet, there is no great need to worry: it does sound quite familiar.



After her first single, "Pon De Replay", which has reached the second place in the UK Charts, Rihanna's new song "If It's Lovin That You Want," has entered at No. 20, and might soon become one of the most sold singles in the UK and the US. At the tender age of 17, Rihanna's life looks like a fairy tale: discovered in her country of origin, Barbados, by the producer Evan Rogers who was on holiday, Rihanna has become a superstar overnight. But what are the reasons behind this success? The men who have made Rihanna what she is now seem to know the recipe to create a star.

The two men who discovered her, Evan Rogers and Carl Struken, are not newcomers. They have produced hits for Kelly Clarkson, who won the reality TV show "American Idol", and is of course the spitting image of all the formatted singers created by the music industry. Comparing Rihanna to the other R&B singers, gives pretty obvious clues as to the producers' formula: first, take a young and pretty girl, preferably black, who can sing just enough not to be entirely ridiculous on stage. Then write songs for her: Evan Rogers and Carl Struken built up 12 songs with her to send to Def Jam recordings, a label that also produces Beyonce Knowles. Make sure the songs are easy to remember, both rhythm and lyrics wise. Next, make casual video clips, and lastly, try to broadcast these songs as often as possible on all media, so that even people who won't like the music actually know it.

This was the recipe for Rihanna, but is worked also for Jamelia or Beyonce (actually Rihanna and Beyonce now have the same producer...). Rihanna's producers are more than confident. They boasted that she would sell millions of albums before the age of 20, but they kept very quiet about the music itself.

Now, with this musical and physical resemblance to the other R&B singers, to what extent can she be considered as an artist, while she has been entirely "made" by the music industry? Strangely enough, most of the press, even quality papers like the Observer, describe her as the new great artist from the Carribean. Why does this rehashed recipe work again. Because of Rihanna's Carribean origins which do add a little zest to the overall packaging? Because of some unfathomable talent that "non-initiated" people cannot see? Let's wait until she turns 20. We might find out then.

Sources: * <http://www.ilikemusic.com/urban/Rihanna-1600>

"Music of The Sun," *The Observer* 4 September 2005.

"Move Over, Beyoncé," *The Guardian* 25 November 2005.

UK CHARTS: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/top40/index.shtm>

international charts and lyrics: <http://www.abcmusiques.net/rihanna1010.php>

BUSINESS & MEDIA NEWS BRIEFS

By Pauline LAVAGNE D'ORTIGUE

On Fake Santarchy in New Zealand, the (un)reliability of Open Source Information, Zimbabwean Presidential Speeches as Home Entertainment and Unpaid Royalties.

Pseudo-Santarchy in New Zealand

A week before Christmas, 40 to 50 men wearing ill-fitting Santa Claus outfits went on a rampage in downtown Auckland, throwing beer bottles, urinating on cars, attacking security staff, and looting stores. A spokesman said they were part of a global movement called Santarchy which allegedly protests against the commercialisation of Christmas.

However, the official Santarchy website strongly denies these claims and explains that « Santarchy is not a movement, that's what you do in the bathroom. In addition to that, the annual Santacon events are not a protest against Christmas or commercialisation. Really, it's just a bunch of Santas getting together to have a good time.[...] We do not condone or encourage any kind of vandalism or violence at a Santacon event. Our Santas do not destroy property, steal merchandise or do harm to others. » Santarchy was created in 1994 in San Francisco.

Sources : « Police Hope Santa Mayhem a One-Off, » *The New Zealand Herald* 19 December 2005 ; « Bad Santas Rampage in Auckland, » *The Sidney Morning Herald* 18 December 2005 ; <http://santarchy.com/>

(Un)reliability of Open Source Information

Wikipedia which began in January 2001 is now the biggest encyclopedia in the history of the world with close to two million articles, and as many as 82 languages. The site receives 2.5 billion page views a month; a figure which is said to double every four months. It is a non-profit enterprise that depends on its users for its system of checks and balances. The fact that most things on the Internet are traceable is another safeguard as a recent incident demonstrated.

John Seigenthaler Sr., 78, former editor of *The Tennessean* in Nashville, was most annoyed to find out that someone had kindly peppered his Wikipedia biography with a (baseless) rumour of alleged involvement in John and Bobby Kennedy's assassinations. Given the public uproar which followed Mr Seigenthaler's discovery, the mischievous biographer did not remain anonymous for long. He eventually came forward and duly made amends. This misadventure has revived the debate on the value of online information, but also on the accountability and freedom of the internet.

Sources : « Snared in the Web of a Wikipedia Liar, » *The New York Times* 4 December 2005; « Author Apologizes for Fake Wikipedia Biography, » *USA Today* 11 December 2005.

Presidential Speeches as "Home Entertainment"

Zimbabwean company Gramma Records has decided to put President Robert Mugabe's oratory skills on tape for "good home entertainment." Some of the speeches recorded on *Mugabe Speaks* date back to the late 1970s.

Source : « Mugabe Speaks – on CD and Cassette, » *The Mail & Guardian* 15 December 2005.

"Money (That's What I want)" (© The Beatles, 1963)

Apple Records, owned by Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr and the estates of John Lennon and George Harrison is suing EMI for £30m in allegedly unpaid royalties.

Source : « Beatles' Lawyers Sue EMI Over a Matter of Money, » *The Guardian* 17 December 2005.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

[The new frontier: India's booming computer market and American IT firms](#)

By Aure CAPLIEZ

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American software and computer giants are investing massively in India, where they face strong local competition.

Following in the footsteps of Cisco Systems Inc., Intel and many other IT companies, Bill Gates embarked on the Indian adventure trail last month. He announced that over the next 4 years Microsoft would invest \$1.7 billion and add 3000 jobs to its the existing workforce of 4000.

With more than 35% of its population being illiterate and 400 million people earning less than \$1 a day, India was traditionally classified as a developing but irremediably poor country. However times are changing. Western companies and investors have come to realise that its 1 billion inhabitants are not only a major potential outlet for consumer goods, but that they also provide a very cost-competitive workforce. As far as computers are concerned, the Indian market is not virgin territory but it does look like the land of plenty.

As most Indians cannot afford PCs at the same retail price as in the West, IT firms figured that the way forward was to create "low-cost computers". They started to design simpler, cheaper and more personalized products. For example, last December, Intel launched a computer costing less than \$220 aimed at the Indian farming community. The device is dust proof, insect resistant, built to withstand India's hot climate and can run using 80V car batteries overcoming problems with an irregular power supply. The company is planning to invest more than \$1 billion in India over the next five years.

As a latecomer to this increasingly competitive market, Microsoft wants to specialise in software that is affordable and addresses India's specific needs. It is about to launch a special version of its low-cost operating system "Windows XP *starter edition*" which will be available in nine Indian languages. This is not an innocent move: a lot of Indian companies use open-source operating systems such as Linux, as a low-cost alternative to Windows. Microsoft is also creating an Innovation Centre in Bangalore which will develop local partnerships.

But the race to lure Indian customers is going to be very tough. American multinationals started late and they face strong competition as India's biggest IT firms —TCS, Infosys and Wipro— have recently each been recruiting more than 1,000 new employees a month.

Sources: « Microsoft to Invest \$1.7-billion (U.S.) in India, » *The Washington Post* 7 December 2005.

« The Next Wave, » *The Economist* 14 December 2005.

<http://www.channelnewasia.com/> 7 October 2005.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY NEWS BRIEFS

By Pauline LAVAGNE D'ORTIGUE

On American Universities and Saudi Patrons, the End of Heat-Stroke, Evidence of Human Activity 700 000 Years Ago in Suffolk.

Academic Relationships between American Universities and Saudi Patrons

5,000 full four-year scholarships, complete with living allowances in the US were offered by the Saudi Arabian government to students willing to study in the US. The program is designed to reverse a major drop in Saudi student enrolments. In 2001 more than 4,000 in 2001 education visas were issued to Saudi nationals compared to a low of 1,008 in 2004, while the total number of Saudi visitors fell from 46,636 in 2001 to about 12,000 in 2004.

Hoping to foster a better understanding between the two cultures, Prince Alwaleed bin Talal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, a Saudi businessman and member of the Saudi royal family, gave \$20 million to Harvard University and to Georgetown University to finance Islamic studies.

Sources: « Saudi Prince Gives Millions to Harvard and Georgetown, » *The New York Times* 13 December 2005 ; « Thousands of Scholarships Lift Saudi Enrolments in U.S., » *The New York Times* 18 December 2005.

The End of Heat-Stroke?

For those able to spare \$3,295, heat-strokes should become a thing of the past thanks to 'CoreControl'. Two American inventors have created this new body-cooling device that cools the blood vessels in the palm of the hand and relies on the heart to send the refreshed blood throughout the human body.

So far, only large institutions like college and professional sports teams, hospitals and the military can afford buying such units.

Sources: « Getting a Grip On Being Cool On a Hot Day, » *The New York Times* 13 December 2005 ; « Scientists Develop Body-Cooling Device, » *The Times of India* 14 December 2005.

The Cradle of British Civilisation

32 stone tools discovered near Lowestoft in Suffolk show that humans lived there 700,000 years ago, i.e. 200,000 years earlier than has generally been thought. This is the earliest evidence of human activity in northern Europe. The British climate was much warmer then than today and these early human beings most probably lived with mammals such as hippopotamuses, bears, lions, rhinos, giant deer, mammoths and elephants.

Source: « Lowestoft Man Rewrites History, » *The Times* 15 December 2005.

ENVIRONMENT & TRAVEL

Is Dumbo dangerous or endangered ?

By Anne-Laure COZANNET

<alaurecoz@hotmail.com>

Some elephants in South Africa's Kruger National Park might have to be culled.

Marthinus Van Schalkwyk, the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism has to decide whether or not to kill between 5,000 and 7,000 elephants in the Kruger National Park.

The Kruger Park is the largest of South African National Parks. David Mabunda, SANParks chief executive, says culling is most urgent. A recent study has shown that elephants damage the biodiversity of the park and destroy the habitats of endangered animals such as the rare black rhino and the roan antelope. Each elephant eats 170 kg of plants per day, which explains why the herds are quickly modifying the vegetation of their own habitat.

This is not the first time this problem is being debated : between 1967 and 1994, as many as 14,562 elephants were culled in SANParks. The Kruger park, which has an area the size of Israel, is entirely fenced off. The elephants cannot migrate as they normally would and are confined in the park as if it were a very large pen, but not quite large enough. The culling was stopped in 1994 and a moratorium was put in place.

The pro-culling supporters say the moratorium badly needs to be lifted. The South African people are divided. Those living in the Western part of the country are strongly opposed to the elephant massacre, whereas people in other parts of the country are either resigned or very much in favour of the culling.

Obviously activists and animal rights defenders strongly oppose the lifting of the moratorium. In November, they met with Mr Van Schalkwyk and proposed several alternatives to avoid the culling. Contraception and transportation are the two other options, but contraception would be too costly and difficult, while transportation is out of the question since all other parks have already reached their elephant quotas. To animal rights defenders, the environmental issue is nothing but a pretext. According to them the government wants to kill these elephants for financial reasons. It would benefit from the various permits they would sell to hunters willing to pay to take part in the culling, and it would also benefit from the consequent increase in ivory sales. South Africa is one of the main ivory exporters in the continent.

The elephant culling conundrum is not an easy matter to solve. If it were to take place, its impact on tourism might be devastating. For instance seal hunters in Canada are said to have deterred numbers of wild-life loving overseas visitors from spending their holidays there. Would tourists continue to visit an elephant-killer-country ? Mr Van Schalkwyk's decision will be a particularly painful one to reach since he is in charge of both the Environment and Tourism !

Sources:

« Plan to Cull Kruger Elephants is Deeply Flawed, » *The Mail and Guardian* 28 November 2005.

« Does it Make Sense to Cull Elephants ? » *The Guardian* 24 September 2005.

« Don't Shed Too Many Tears For The Elephants, » *The Guardian* 22 September 2005.

« Mulling a Cull, » *The Economist* 17 March 2005.

ENVIRONMENT & TRAVEL

Canada: the blackest sheep of the environmentally unfriendly family ?

By Caroline ADAM

The idea of Canada being an environmentally friendly country is long-lived but simply wrong when it comes to greenhouse gas emissions.

Between November 28th and December 9th 2005, environmentalists from 189 different countries gathered in Montreal for the United Nation Climate Change Conference, to discuss the progress, or lack thereof, made by the Kyoto Protocol signatories. With Chinese and Indian economies booming, the world's carbon dioxide emissions may be up 60% by 2030. So the question remains stubbornly the same : how to control and eventually reduce greenhouse gas emissions, given that the industrialized countries are responsible for about 35% of these.

For the time being, Canada is listed among the worst countries when it comes to curbing its gas emissions: they have been increasing continually and rose by 24% between 1990 and 2003, according to an alarming US environmental report released just before the Montréal conference. By contrast, Britain (-13%), Germany (-18%) and even the US (+13%) have done better !

The Canadian Environment Minister, Stéphane Dion, claims that Canada's increase is partly due to the country's economic growth, and more specifically to its booming energy industry.¹ Unconventional resources hidden in the oil sands of Alberta have recently transformed Canada into the home of the world's second biggest proven oil reserves after Saudi Arabia. It is currently the biggest supplier of oil and natural gas to the United States, and its exports to China have soared.²

Obviously Mr Dion made a public pledge that Canada would soon start to make amends : “ At the end of the day in 2012 [when the Kyoto Protocol ends], we'll have far less emissions and also much more economic efficiency.”³ Mr Dion later added “The Kyoto Protocol isn't a Bible, we can improve it.”

Yet, it will take more than words to put this well meaning declaration into practice. With new international talks on climate policy and new targets in the air, it looks as if Canada will have a lot of catching up to do.⁴ The fact that the country is undergoing a deep political crisis will not help. As Canada braces up for its second general election in less than two years, environmental issues might very well slip down the political agenda and it is unlikely that much significant progress will be made in the near future.

¹ « Dion, Environmentalists Hang Tough at UN Talks, » *The Globe and Mail* 29 November 2005.

² « Stormy Canada, a Survey, » *The Economist* 3 December 2005.

³ « UN Poised to Launch Fresh Talks on Climate, » *The Globe and Mail* 10 December 2005.

⁴ « Conference Delegates agree to Post-Kyoto Talks, » *The Globe and Mail* 12 December 2005.

ENVIRONMENT & TRAVEL NEWS BRIEFS

By Pauline LAVAGNE D'ORTIGUE

On Fancy Prison Hideaways, the Passing Away of the London Routemaster, and the Digital Dump Time-Bomb.

Fancy a Stay in Prison?

If you fancy a luxurious holiday in Oxford, you can choose between staying in an old parsonage, an old bank and now an old prison : The Malmaison Oxford which operated as a detention centre as late as 1997, has recently reopened its doors to a new kind of residents. Beautifully renovated, a standard Malmaison en suite room for two is now refurbished out of the rearrangement of three former cells which originally housed three prisoners each. The launch price is £110 per night, room only.

The visitors' room has been transformed into a vast living room with a pool table, comfortable armchairs and designer furniture. The most exclusive rooms are in the wing that used to contain the governor's residence. A sample cell was kept untouched to show tourists the conditions previous inmates endured.

Source : « Go Directly to a British Jail, Do Not Pass, » *The Times* 17 December 2005.

A Farewell to the Original London Double-Deckers

Chassis-less, fuel and space efficient, the red Routemaster busses were designed in London by Londoners for London more than half a century ago by a team of London Transport engineers. The first prototype was released in 1954 and production models were put in service on the streets of London in 1959. Originally their reign was supposed to last a little less than 20 years. In early December 2005, they were eventually made redundant, except on a handful of "heritage" routes.

Source : « Final Terminus for London's Classic Bus, » *The Guardian* 9 December 2005.

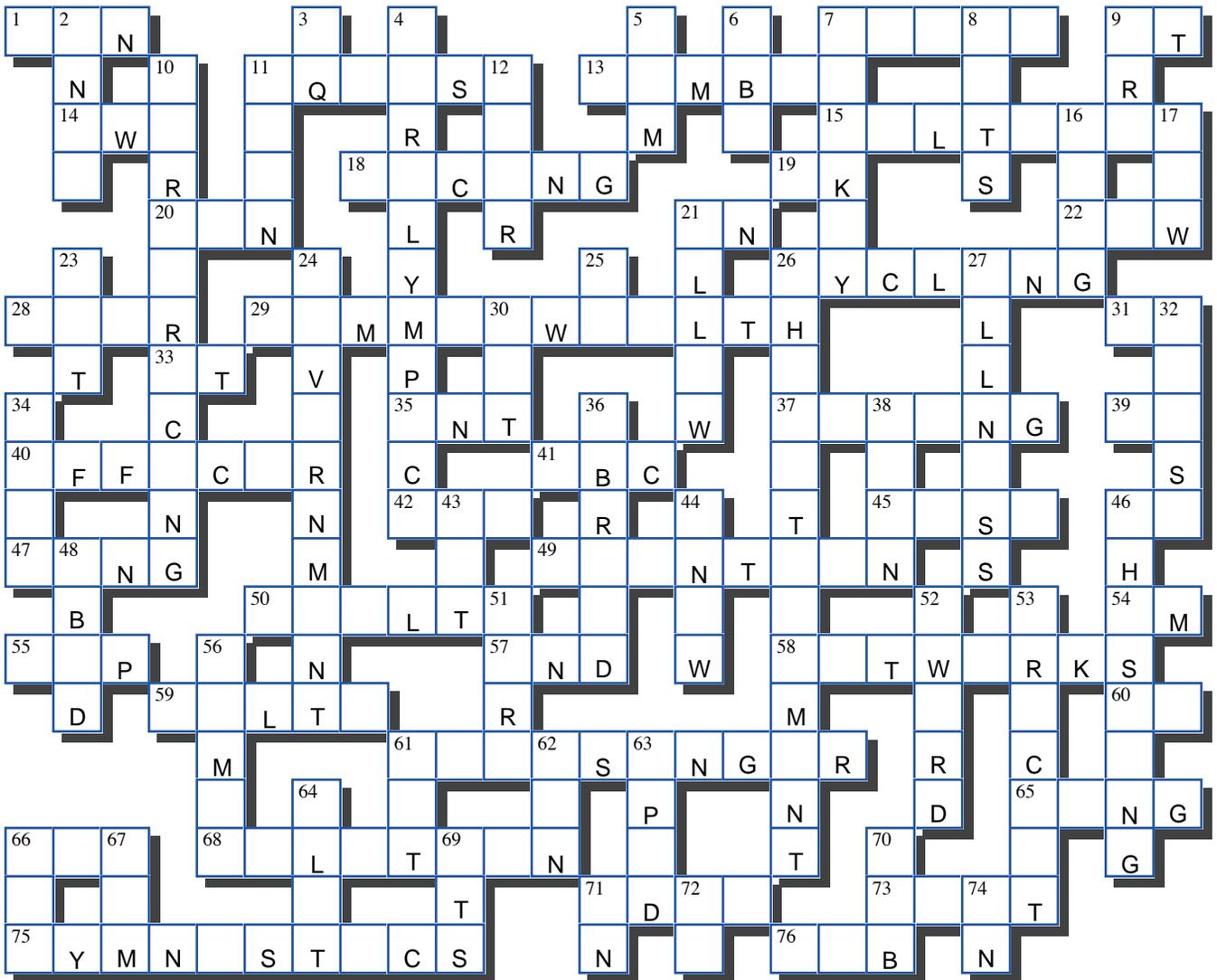
Nigerian Digital Dumps: an Environmental Time-Bomb

According to the United Nations Environment Program, 20 million to 50 million tonnes of electronics are discarded each year, less than 10 % of which gets recycled properly. Lagos, Nigeria is one of the favourite destinations for the world's obsolete computers, televisions and other electronic components. Most of the junked equipment is unusable and ends up in open dumps where it is broken up and burned, releasing a vast array of toxic materials. A good deal of these used electronics come from the US which, unlike the European Union and Japan, has no government-mandated system for recycling them and no regulations to prevent their export to environmentally unsound recycling premises abroad.

Source : « Digital Dumps' Heap Hazards at Foreign Sites, » *The Washington Post* 12 December 2005.

The Angloword Puzzle

"The Angloword Puzzle and Jumble of the Year" Instructions: Fill in each answer by answering the clues below.



Across Clues

1. Prohibit (3)
7. Japanese poem having three unrhymed lines of 17 syllables (5)
9. Extra Terrestrial (abbr.) (2)
11. December 2005: Men's World Team Championships in Pakistan (...played with a racket) (6)
13. Woody tropical grass having hollow woody stems ("All that Jerry's teeth could reach was the stick, and dry and seasoned _?_ can defy the teeth of any dog." - *Jerry of the Islands* by Jack London (6)
14. Fifty-four minus fifty-three plus one (3)

Down Clues

2. Before noon (Latin) (_?_ meridiem) (4)
3. Intelligence quotient (abbr.) (2)
4. May 2005: International athletic competition for disabled athletes held in Manchester, England (Sport: _?_) (11)
5. Meat from the upper part of a pig's leg (salted and dried) (3)
6. Master of Business Administration (abbr.) (3)
7. November/December 2005: Women's Champions Trophy in Canberra, Australia. (played on a field with curved sticks) (6)
8. A set of things (plural) (4)

The Angloword Puzzle and Jumble

"The Angloword Puzzle and Jumble of the Year" Instructions: Fill in each answer by answering the clues below. (Page 2)

Across Clues

15. July/August 2005: Latin _?_ Festival held in the USA. (relating to culture) (8)
18. June 2005: Royal Ascot at York, England (the world's most famous race meeting) (6)
19. Well; fairly healthy; to be in a satisfactory state ("The patients I visited yesterday were all _?_") (2)
20. 'Like father like _?_' (a popular saying) (3)
21. Indefinite article (_?_ hour) (2)
22. "It's _?_ or never ..." (Elvis Presley) (3)
26. August 2005: Road World Cup, England (with bicycles!!) (7)
28. To grin and _?_ something (to accept something bad in a stoical manner) (4)
29. A voluntary association of 53 English-speaking countries (The _?_) (12)
31. For example (abbr.) (2)
33. To laugh _?_ somebody (2)
35. International (abbr.) (3)
37. March 2005: 151st Boat Race in London (Sport: _?_) (6)
39. Concerning, in reference to (prep.) (2)
40. CEO stands for 'Chief Executive _?_' (7)
41. The alphabet ("He learned his _?_(s) when he was two years old") (3)
42. A resort with mineral springs which provides therapeutic baths (a health _?_) (3)
45. Past tense of *to rise* (4)
46. Physical Education (abbr.) (2)
47. Sound of a bell (_?_ -dong) (4)
49. A large heap (a _?_ of laundry) (8)
50. WHO stands for 'World _?_ Organisation' (6)
54. I am (contraction) (2)
55. A type of popular music (_?_-hop) (3)
57. Result of a long process (_?_ result) (3)
58. October 2005: Scotland Yard broke up one of the biggest smuggling _?_ in British history (8)

Down Clues

9. Period of history (3)
10. December 2005: King George VI Chase at Kempton Park, UK. (the sport of racing horses) (2 words) (11)
11. "(...) O, what a scene of foolery have I _?_" (*Love's Labour's Lost* - Act 4, Scene III - William Shakespeare) (4)
12. Prince Charles, who was born in 1948, is the eldest son of Queen Elizabeth II and _?_ to the English throne (4)
16. Past tense of *to ring* ("His mother's voice _?_ out like a warning trumpet") (4)
17. "Swing _?_, Sweet Chariot" (African-American spiritual) (3)
21. To permit (5)
23. Past tense of 'to meet' (3)
24. CHOGM stands for Commonwealth Heads of _?_ Meeting (10)
25. Pronoun (first person plural) (2)
26. Charity + entertainment (a porte-manteau word) (13)
27. A disease (7)
30. Negative ("You know the reason Mother proposed _?_ having any presents this Christmas was because it is going to be a hard winter for everyone ..." *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott) (3)
32. Plural of 'goose' (5)
34. Which is reliable and sure (a _?_ investment) (4)
36. Overseas (6)
38. To notify "(It was) a signal to _?_ them of approaching danger." (*Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson) (4)
43. Domesticated animal (3)
44. As white as _?_ (a simile) (4)
46. A scam to steal social security and credit card numbers over the internet (8)
48. 'Ibidem' (Latin: in the same place) used in footnotes when referring to an article or a book already cited (formal) (4)

The Angloword Puzzle and Jumble

"The Angloword Puzzle and Jumble of the Year" Instructions: Fill in each answer by answering the clues below. (Page 3)

Across Clues

59. The biennial Commonwealth Summit (November 2005) was held in _?_ aka 'The George Cross Island' (5)
60. His/Her Excellency (abbr.) (2)
61. Bono is a famous rock star and U2's _?_ _?_ (2 words) (10)
65. A male monarch (4)
66. Carries passengers along a fixed route (3)
68. The Pacific _?_ is the immigration policy approved by a majority of Australians (8)
71. Thought, notion (syn) ("I have no _?_ how long Lop-Ear and I wandered in the land north of the river." *Before Adam* by Jack London) (4)
73. She was given the Order of the _?_ (dismissed) (4)
75. November 2005: World Artistic Championships in Melbourne, Australia (strength, balance and agility) (10)
76. Freight on Board (Incoterm) (abbr.) (3)

Down Clues

51. Goddess (women, marriage and childbirth); also the wife and sister of Zeus (4)
52. Give merit ("She was _?_ed first prize") (5)
53. This is not moral/honourable/! ("This is not _?_!") (7)
56. April 2005: " There is no better candidate than London to host these Olympic _?_ ." (Commonwealth Secretary-General Don McKinnon) (5)
61. Permit (3)
62. Lair (3)
63. A digital music player from Apple ("Paul, a music lover, declared that the _?_ was the greatest piece of technology since the motorcar.") (4)
64. A measured piece of land (4)
66. A container ('Before going to sleep he was sufficiently wide awake to put a paper _?_ over his head to keep off the flies.' - *The Original Peter Rabbit Books* by Beatrix Potter) (3)
67. To summarise (3)
69. It (possessive form) (3)
70. When the tide moves away from the land ("...the waves should rise and fall, and _?_ and flow unceasingly" - *Moby Dick* LXVIII-CXXXIV by Herman Melville) (3)
71. They live _?_ Republic Street (2)
72. Each (Abbr.) (2)
74. "Stop talking and carry _?_ with your work!" (2)

Puzzle solution

B	A	N			I	P			H	M		H	A	I	K	U		E	T				
	N	H		S	Q	U	A	S	H		B	A	M	B	O	O		I		R			
	T	W	O	E		R	E		M	A		C	U	L	T	U	R	A	L				
	E	R	E		R	A	C	I	N	G		O	K		S		A		O				
		S	O	N		L	R			A	N	E						N	O	W			
	M	E			G	Y			W	L		C	Y	C	L	I	N	G					
B	E	A	R		C	O	M	M	O	N	W	E	A	L	T	H			L		E	G	
	T	A	T		V	P	O			O	A					L						E	
	G		C		E		I	N	T		A	W		R	O	W	I	N	G		R	E	
	O	F	F	I	C	E	R		C		A	B	C			I	A	E				S	
	O		N			N	S	P	A		R	S		T		R	O	S	E		P	E	
	D	I	N	G		M		E		M	O	U	N	T	A	I	N	S			H		
	B				H	E	A	L	T	H		A	O		I		A		C		I	M	
	H	I	P		G		N			E	N	D		W		N	E	T	W	O	R	K	S
		D		M	A	L	T	A			R				M		A		I		H	E	
						M				L	E	A	D	S	I	N	G	E	R		R	C	I
						E	P		E		E	P			N		D		K	I	N	G	
B	U	S		S	O	L	U	T	I	O	N		O		T		E			E		G	
A		U			O					T			I	D	E	A			B	O	O	T	
G	Y	M	N	A	S	T	I	C	S			N		A		F	O	B		N			

ACROSS:

1.BAN 7.HAIKU 9.ET 11.SQUASH
 13.BAMBOO 14.TWO 15.CULTURAL
 18.RACING 19.OK 20.SON 21.AN
 22.NOW 26.CYCLING 28.BEAR
 29.COMMONWEALTH 31.EG 33.AT
 35.INT 37.ROWING 39.RE 40.OFFICER
 41.ABC 42.SPA 45.ROSE 46.PE 47.DING
 49.MOUNTAIN 50.HEALTH 54.IM 55.HIP
 57.END 58.NETWORKS 59.MALTA 60.HE
 61.LEADSINGER 65.KING 66.BUS
 68.SOLUTION 71.IDEA 73.BOOT
 75.GYMNASTICS 76.FOB

DOWN:

2.ANTE 3.IQ 4.PARALYMPICS 5.HAM
 6.MBA 7.HOCKEY 8.KITS 9.ERA
 10.HORSERACING 11.SEEN 12.HEIR
 16.RANG 17.LOW 21.ALLOW 23.MET
 24.GOVERNMENT 25.WE
 26.CHARITAINMENT 27.ILLNESS 30.NOT
 32.GEESE 34.GOOD 36.ABROAD
 38.WARN 43.PET 44.SNOW
 46.PHISHING 48.IBID 51.HERA
 52.AWARD 53.CRICKET 56.GAMES
 61.LET 62.DEN 63.IPOD 64.PLOT
 66.BAG 67.SUM 69.ITS 70.EBB 71.IN
 72.EA 74.ON

The Angloword Clue Jumble

Unjumble each of the words using the clues to help and then use the boxed letters to form the final Jumble word.

Jumble Words

1. SLYPAMAICPR
2. VMERTONNEG
3. ATAML
4. GSAME
5. SOLTIUNO
6. TMNCAAERTHIN
7. SWNOTREK
8. IEERSNGDLA
9. HATELH
10. GIHPNHSI

Jumble Clues

1. May 2005: International athletic competition for disabled athletes held in Manchester, England (Sport: _?_)
2. CHOGM stands for Commonwealth Heads of _?_ Meeting
3. The biennial Commonwealth Summit (November 2005) was held in _?_ aka 'The George Cross Island'
4. April 2005: " There is no better candidate than London to host these Olympic _?_ ." (Commonwealth Secretary-General Don McKinnon)
5. The Pacific _?_ is the immigration policy approved by a majority of Australians
6. Charity + entertainment (a porte-manteau word)
7. October 2005: Scotland Yard broke up one of the biggest smuggling _?_ in British history
8. Bono is a famous rock star and U2's _?_ _?_ (2 words)
9. WHO stands for 'World _?_ Organisation'
10. A scam to steal social security and credit card numbers over the internet

Secret Jumble Clue

A voluntary association of 53 English-speaking countries (The _?_)

Solution:

Michael Riccioli-2005

Jumble solution

Jumble Words

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. SLYPAMAICPR | P A R A L Y M P I <u>C</u> S |
| 2. VMERTONNEG | G <u>O</u> V E R N M E N T |
| 3. ATAML | <u>M</u> A L T A |
| 4. GSAME | G A <u>M</u> E S |
| 5. SOLTIUNO | S <u>O</u> <u>L</u> U T I O N |
| 6. TMNCAAERTHIN | C H A R I T A I <u>N</u> M E N T |
| 7. SWNOTREK | N E <u>T</u> <u>W</u> O R K S |
| 8. IEERSNGDLA | L <u>E</u> A D S I N G E R |
| 9. HATELH | H E <u>A</u> L T H |
| 10. GIHPNHSI | P <u>H</u> I S H I N G |

Jumble Clues

1. May 2005: International athletic competition for disabled athletes held in Manchester, England (Sport: _?_)
2. CHOGM stands for Commonwealth Heads of _?_ Meeting
3. The biennial Commonwealth Summit (November 2005) was held in _?_ aka 'The George Cross Island'
4. April 2005: " There is no better candidate than London to host these Olympic _?_ ." (Commonwealth Secretary-General Don McKinnon)
5. The Pacific _?_ is the immigration policy approved by a majority of Australians
6. Charity + entertainment (a porte-manteau word)
7. October 2005: Scotland Yard broke up one of the biggest smuggling _?_ in British history
8. Bono is a famous rock star and U2's _?_ _?_ (2 words)
9. WHO stands for 'World _?_ Organisation'
10. A scam to steal social security and credit card numbers over the internet

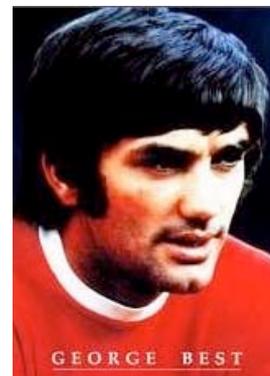
Secret Jumble Clue

A voluntary association of 53 English-speaking countries (The _?_)

SPORTS

George, the “Best” footballer the UK has ever seen.

By Sébastien DEMOUGEOT



The destinies of George Best (May 22, 1946 – Nov. 25, 2005) and Manchester United seemed strangely similar this December 2005.

“We all know that George Best was probably the most naturally gifted footballer of his generation, one of the greatest footballers the U.K. has ever produced” said PM Tony Blair.² On December 3rd, in Belfast it seemed as if all Northern Ireland had gathered near the Parliament Buildings at Stormont, to pay its last respects to one of its *enfants terribles*. George Best’s funeral was the biggest public funeral in Northern Ireland’s history.³ Both Catholics and Protestants stood together to mourn a man who was born 59 years ago in the Belfast estate of Cregagh. Best was one of the first football players to achieve media stardom and cult status. Along with his extraordinary dribbling skills, Best was also famous for his glamorous personal life. His numerous affairs, his drinking bouts and his taste for rock’n’roll soon won him the much coveted nickname of the “Fifth Beatle”. The sportsman cum playboy even went to jail, and eventually became alcoholic.⁴ His excessive lifestyle was a far cry from his beginnings in Manchester United (MU).

George Best signed at MU as a professional when he was 17.⁵ From then on, he impressed many on the field. But what made him a true star in people’s mind was the goal he scored in the UEFA Cup final against Benfica in 1968. Manchester finally won 4-1 and became the very first English team to win a European trophy. Hence he was elected best British and European player of the year. He played 361 matches wearing the Red Devils (MU) jersey.⁶

To the outsider the legendary club’s destiny does look a lot like George Best’s. MU’s fame rose dramatically when they won the Champions’ League in 1999 against Bayern Munich in the last three minutes of extra time (thanks to Teddy Sheringham and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer). MU also won eight Premier League titles since 1992 and seven First Division Championships.⁷ But in 2005, the tables turned and things started going seriously wrong. The legendary club fell into disgrace as fate played a naughty trick on MU during the qualifying round of the Champions’ League : the Red Devils ended up last out of four clubs in Group D, because of a defeat against ... Benfica (2-1).⁸ The club would very much have liked to win the 2006 Champions’ League. It would have been a beautiful tribute to the hero who remains forever in MU supporters’ hearts.

‘MARADONA GOOD, PELE BETTER, GEORGE BEST’ read one of the banners in the funeral procession.

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¹ With kind permission of the webmaster of <http://www.compumart.ab.ca/icorry/BESTPage.htm>

² “U.K. Soccer Star George Best, 59, Dies », *The Washington Post*, November 26, 2005

³ “Tens of Thousands Turn Out For The ‘Special One’,” *The Observer* 4 December 4 2005.

⁴ “U.K. Soccer Star George Best, 59, Dies,” *The Washington Post* 26 November 2005.

⁵ “George Best,” *The Guardian* 25 November 2005.

⁶ George Best’s biography, Manchester United’s website.

⁷ Manchester United website

⁸ UEFA website

SPORTS NEWS BRIEFS

By Pauline LAVAGNE D'ORTIGUE

On Cricket Expansion Plans, Horse Riding in Soweto and The Return of "Superbrat".

[An 80,000-seat stadium for cricket in England?](#)

A couple of shrewd cricket fanatics are lobbying to ensure that the massive stadium in Stratford is turned over to cricket after the 2012 Olympics. Currently the Government plans to transform it into an athletics venue. Despite having large TV ratings and a much bigger playing base than athletics, British cricket sorely lacks adequate grounds as crowds of disgruntled fans unable to watch their favourite sports live frequently testify.

Source: « It Sounds Crazy, But It Just Might Work... » *The Observer* 18 December 2005.

[Horse Riding in Soweto](#)

Enos Mafokate, now 61, was South Africa's first black show-jumper. He was born in Alexandra, one of Johannesburg's slum townships in the north. Thanks to his passion for horse riding and fierce determination, he managed to break through in the elite, white-dominated world of show-jumping. Today after a successful international career, he runs a horse riding school in Soweto. He has 15 students, four of whom have entered riding competitions in Cape Town. The City of Johannesburg wants to help develop his initiative and build an bigger equestrian centre.

Sources: « Showjumping Goes to Soweto, » *The Mail & Guardian* 12 December 2005 ; « Showjump Champ Brings Horse Riding to Soweto, » *Johannesburg News Agency* (www.joburg.org.za) 11 February 2005.

[The Return of "Superbrat"](#)

John McEnroe, aka "Superbrat," "Mac the Strife," and the "Incredible Sulk," has announced that he will play doubles once again on the main ATP tour next year. Aged 46, he is concerned by the way the popularity and profile of doubles has eroded in recent years. His catchphrase "You cannot be serious!" is now aimed at a different target.

Sources: « McEnroe's Return Could Lead to Double Trouble for Wimbledon, » *The Times* 2 December 2005 ; « McEnroe Plans Doubles Comeback, » *The Mail & Guardian* 2 December 2005.