



Merry Christmas, Glad Tidings Of Great Joy!

There has been some confusion on how much is in the BMHUG fund for Slough and some gossip on why the funds could not be accessed. I decided it would be in the interests of my fellow mentalists of Slough that I should investigate and establish the truth of the matter. So Dynamite Dan, Man of Mental, put on his cape, pulled his underpants over his trousers and headed off in the Danmobile to the December BMHUG meeting in Newbury.

Our story begins with SMHUG's last meeting:

Their funds then were about £9000. £1000 went to Sunrise Members Fund, £1000 went to Slough Manic Depressive Fellowship, £3000 went to SPACE Counselling. The balance of about £4000 was frozen in the SMHUG account until it could be transferred to BMHUG as a ring fenced fund for Slough. It is not often we hail the heroes of book-keeping and accountancy but if SMHUG treasurer Angela had not done this then our funds might well now belong to the bank, so she deserves our gratitude and recognition for the professional way she handled this.

When Mike Paxton died the frozen bank account meant SMHUG could not contribute to the memorial fund. It also meant that Angela could not reclaim the catering expenses for Mike's memorial ceremony but the fund was safe.

The first piece of good news I have is that the fund was £4454.17 when SMHUG folded, £454.17 more than expected (£4000 to the nearest 1000).



I checked the books to see if there were any transactions after SMHUG folded, there were no withdrawals but a cheque had been returned uncashed so the final balance was £5380.66.

BMHUG now has a bank account and the SMHUG funds will be transferred in the new year.

This was supposed to be a quiet investigation, a couple of emails a meeting, a quick look at the books, mystery solved. Due to circumstances beyond my control other people sent emails and things became a bit noisier than anyone would have liked.

This was essentially a Slough matter as the funds were in the SMHUG account and should not be seen as evidence of any 'split' between BMHUG and Slough.

Those who started the gossip have the right to remain silent. I suggest they do so.

So to summarise we now have £1380.66 more than we thought we had. The bank account is open and we will soon be able to access the funds. The good people of SMHUG and BMHUG have handled our finances with honour and professionalism.

What more can we ask but a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Wildlife Special Owl Spotted in Langley

I was out in the garden the other day and heard a twittering noise coming from the trees. I thought perhaps it was some kind of small noisy finch but when I looked up I saw this chap staring down the lens at me. He obviously knew I was there but was very relaxed and not at all camera shy. The strange thing was it was broad daylight and we are all told that owls come out at night.

Has anyone else seen some unusual wildlife in Slough?
Send photos and stories to:

Editor@sloughmental.co.uk



To The Unknown Story

We dedicate this column to the unknown story no-one told us about, to the view unexpressed, to the unsent poem, to all that would make this paper a greater thing. If we've missed anything that's going on out there please let us know. The more of you who write in the more we all know and Knowledge is Power.

Sayings of Bush And Buddha

I just want you to know that, when we talk about war, we're really talking about peace.

I know the human being and fish can coexist peacefully.

They underestimated me.

Rarely is the questioned asked: Is our children learning?

Our enemies are innovative and resourceful, and so are we. They never stop thinking about new ways to harm our country and our people, and neither do we.

George W. Bush

The gift of Truth excels all other gifts.

If you find truth in any religion, accept that truth!

In this world hatred can never be appeased by hatred. Hatred can be appeased by love. This is the eternal law.

The fool who is aware of his foolishness is wise at least to that extent. But the fool who thinks himself wise is a fool indeed.

Buddha

News From The Day Service Project Group

Martin Lower, Contracts Manager for Slough Borough Council explained the tendering process for the new day service and how long it might take.

The process typically takes 9 months without unexpected delays so if it were to start in January we could expect a decision by September at the earliest.

The details of the process are as follows:

Service providers are given 4-6 weeks to express an interest then 6 weeks to cost their tenders. Then it takes a few more weeks to analyse the tenders. Then presentations are made and finally the Council Cabinet makes it's decision. Under EU regulations there is a 10 day standstill after the decision before the winning service provider may take over.

We asked who would be running the service between March 2010 and September 2010 and Susanna Yeoman agreed the most likely course of action would be to further extend Mind's contract. It was also established that the process could not be completed until the

maximum service budget was known. To know this it is necessary to know the budget required for personalisation as Budget = 174,000 - Personalised.

The Personalisation sub-group now have an assessment tool for assessing personal budgets. The next step will be test it on a small group of 5 volunteers. The test group have not yet been chosen yet.

The drop-in sub-group was attended by Slough Councils Buildings Manager who showed us a map of possible drop-in venues. There were a couple of new and refurbished ones, plus the ones we visited before. The West Wing still faces an uncertain future with the football stadium plan looking almost certain to go ahead. The council is considering either keeping it as is or demolishing it and rebuilding it as part of the stadium complex. Demolishing the current Arborvale School site will increase land values when sold off for housing. A smaller dedicated arts centre will not have as many extra rooms, may be more expensive to hire and so may not be viable.

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

Love is grand;
Divorce is a hundred grand.

Anonymous

And Now...

It's...

The Top Ten Cat Names
Wordsearch!

MOLLY
 TIGGER
 OSCAR
 CHARLIE
 FELIX
 MISTY
 SOOTY
 POPPY
 SMUDGE

One of our pussy cats is missing - but what's his name? Think Cartoons...

Fascinating Facts

In England middle names were once illegal.

Halley's comet takes seventy-six years to travel once around the sun.

A fly's tastebuds are in its feet.

At least once a year most birds moult - they shed their old feathers and grow new ones. Birds moult before winter so that the new feathers will have grown before the weather becomes colder.

Mozart was only five years old when he wrote the music of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Turkish baths were invented by the Romans.

Rice paper is not made from rice.

Less than half of the London Underground is actually underground.

Venetian blinds were invented in Japan.

Penguins are able to leap over six feet into the air.

The Bridge of Sighs in Venice connects the Doge's Palace with the old state prisons. It's name symbolizes the sadness of the prisoners crossing the bridge on their way to prison.

After the 1745 rebellion, the British Government made it illegal for Scotsmen to wear tartan kilts. The law continued until 1832.

Gorillas are unable to swim.

One Liners

If at first you don't succeed, redefine success.

A thing not worth doing isn't worth doing well.

Hard work never killed anyone, but why chance it?

If at first you don't succeed, then skydiving definitely isn't for you.

The meek shall inherit the earth..... after we're through with it.

Why do bankruptcy lawyers expect to be paid?

A closed mouth gathers no foot.

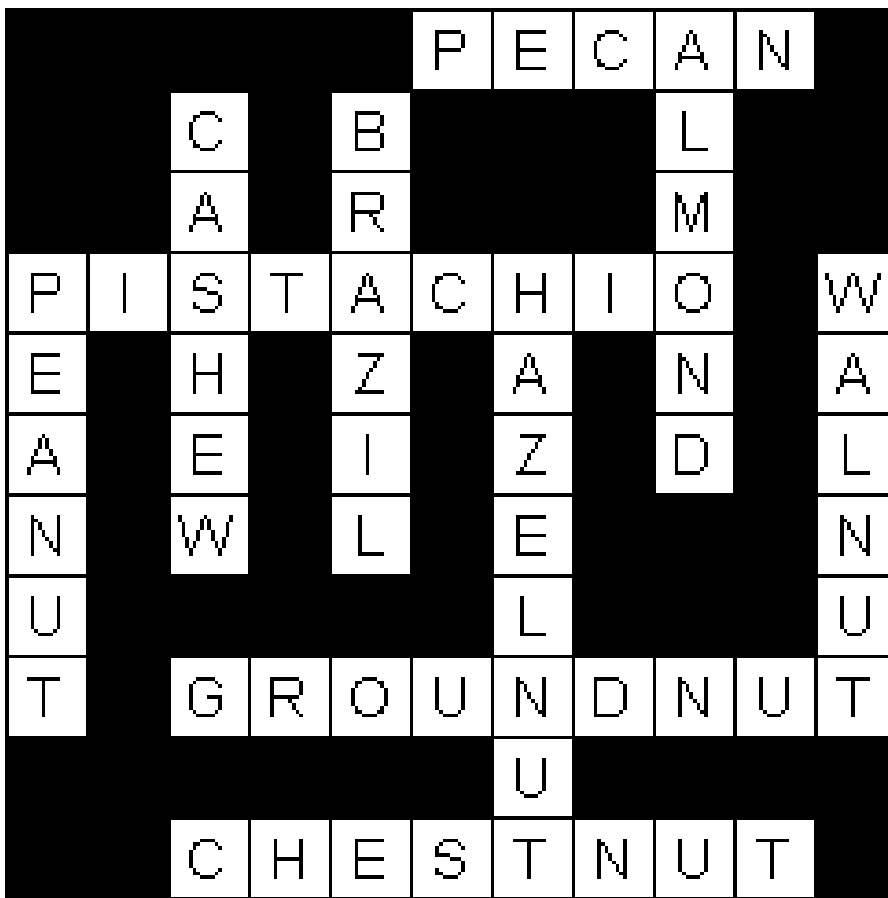
Always try to be modest.
And be damn proud of it!

Energizer Bunny Arrested!
Charged with battery.

Jesus loves you! It's everybody else that thinks you're an arse.

Borrow money from pessimists they don't expect it back.

Nut Puzzle Solution



Cryptic Gooseword Solution

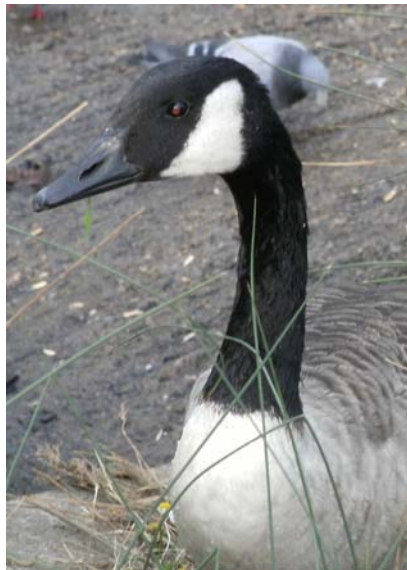


A fancy morose piggy ?

Swap the letters
round a bit
and you get:

African Pygmy Goose

Mystery Goose Solution



Last Month's Mystery
Goose Was....

Canada Goose !!!

**GOT ANY
NEWS**

VIEWS

POEMS

PHOTOS

PUZZLES

GEESE

**ANYTHING ELSE
ON YOUR MIND**

SEND IT TO

editor@sloughmental.co.uk

And we'll tell the world.
(Or some of it anyway)

NEXT OPEN FORUM

Thomas Grey Centre
Friday January 30th, 11am

All service users and carers are invited to attend a sub-group of the monthly LIT meeting. This is a chance to hear up-dates on mental health services and feedback to a member of the senior management team from New Horizons.

Refreshments Provided