



# UP2DATE



ISOLATION SPECIAL NUMBER 6

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## Welcome to Edition Number 6.

The flower in the left hand corner is another member of the Regal Pelargonium family, this one named “Lord Bute”. I love this type of Pelargonium, they have a range of different, multi-coloured petals and quite sculptured leaves. I bought a beauty at Tesco last week, which although the flowers were going over will be something to look forward to in the future. I think this one is called “Chocolate”, no name provided by Tesco.

I have had quite a few e-mails thanking me for the special editions of the newsletter produced during lockdown. This “Thank you” I am passing on to all the people who have contributed over the last four months. When I started out with the first edition I never believed I would get to number 6 and obviously could not have done it without all your contributions. So please keep them coming, as I have said in the past and will carry on saying I will continue to produce these special editions of the newsletter as long as you send me the content.

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Finally, **Everybody Take Care**

## FUTURE LEARN

As I have been shielding since March like many members, a few weeks ago when I had had enough of reading, gardening, sunbathing etc, I picked up the Spring edition of TAM. I noticed a tiny article that was headlined 'Keep Learning Virtually' p 7, promoting the Future Learn website. I investigated and found that 623 short courses of varying lengths and subjects were on offer, most of them free unless you want to upgrade for accreditation purposes or extra time. The subjects included Science, History, Literature, Maths, Creative Arts and Media, Law, Health, IT, Nature and Environment are provided by UK and International Universities. They range from 2 to 8 weeks and from 1 hour to 6 hours a week.

Here are just a few of the courses on offer.

How to Make a Poem; Working Lives in the Coal Mines; Mindfulness for Wellbeing; Climate Change; Beyond the Ballot: Women's Rights and Suffrage; Literature of the English Country House; Peterloo to the Pankhursts; Start Writing Fiction; A History of Royal Fashion and Shakespeare Print and Performance.

I chose to study Working Lives in the Factories and Mills: Textile History and Heritage which is 2 hours a week for 4 weeks. It is from the University of Strathclyde and is extremely interesting. I have found that it takes a lot longer than the stated number of hours as there is a lot of additional optional material that is well worth investigating.

I have just finished week 3 and it has helped me with my motivation which seemed to have vanished during the lockdown. Check it out, the website is <https://www.futurelearn.com/> . I am planning to try the 'History of Royal Fashion' after I have finished with the Mills!

Doreen Woodhouse



# Christmas Fruit Cake

## Recipe

### Ingredients:-

1 cup water	8 oz mixed nuts	1 cup brown sugar
1 cup sugar	1 tsp salt	2 cups dried fruit
4 large eggs	Juice of 1 lemon	1 tsp baking soda
1 bottle whisky		

### Method:-

Sample the whisky to check quality.

Take a large bowl.

Check the whisky again to be sure it really is top quality.

Pour one level cup and drink.

Turn on the electric mixer, beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl.

Add one tsp. sugar and beat again.

Make sure the whisky is still OK.

Cry another tup.

Turn on the mixerer.

Break two eggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the dried fruit.

Mix on the turner. If the fried druit gets stuck in the beaterers, scrape it out with drewscriver.

Sample the whisky to check for tonsiscency.

Next sift two cups of salt, or something. Who cares.

Check the whisky.

Now sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts.

Add one table. Spoon. Of sugar or something. Whatever you can find.

Grease the oven. Turn the cake tin to 350 degrees.

Don't forget to beat off the turnerer, and throw the bowl out of the window.  
Check the whisky again and go to bed.

Sent in by Judith Sumner, and I hope you get as much of a laugh from it as I did.



### HOW'S YOUR MEMORY?

Cost each item so the bill adds up.

£      s      d

HEADGEAR

STONE

HAIRCUT

TRANSPORT

UNDERWEAR

PIG

SINGER

SUN MOON STARS

LEATHER WORKER

\_\_\_\_\_

£ 26      7      8

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( Answers late in this edition )

## WILL OF GEORGE WOOD 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 1799

In the Name of God Amen I George Wood of Worth in the County of Chester Farmer being somewhat indisposed as to my Bodily Health but of sound and perfect memory and Understanding praised be God for the Same to make and publish this my last will and Testament in the manner Following. That is to say First.

I give and bequeath unto my son George Wood the Sum of Ninety Pounds which with the Ten I have given him makes One Hundred pounds also I give and bequeath unto my Son James Wood the Sum of Twenty Pounds also I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Esther Priestnall the Sum of Ten pounds which with the Fifty she has received will make Sixty to be paid unto them respectively at the end of Twelve Months next after my decease also. I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Miriam Wood the sum of Sixty pounds to be paid unto her at the end of Twelve Months next after my decease or day of Marriage which shall first happen also I give unto my Daughter Miriam that Bed and all belonging to it which stands in that Room called her Room also I give unto my Son Samuels three children one Guinea each to be paid unto them at the end of Twelve Months next after my decease also I give unto my Son James that Bed and all belonging to it which my Wife and me nowly in – then after payment of my Debts Legacies before given Funeral expenses and charges of the Probate hereof I give and bequeath unto my wife Betty all my Monies, Securities of Money Household Goods and Furniture of all sorts except those before given and all other my Personal Estate whatsoever and wheresoever and of what nature, kind and Quality soever the same may be for and during her Natural Life And Further my will and mind is and I do therefore direct , that from, and after my Decease, my Wife Betty Wood, and my Son Samuel shall have, Occupy, and enjoy the said Farm where I now live, in the same manner, and proportion, as my Son Samuel and me

now hold it for and during her Natural Life, If the Term therein granted to me by the said Indenture of Lease shall so long last and my Will Further is and I do hereby Direct that my Son Samuel Wood his Executors or Administrators shall well and truly pay unto my Wife Betty or her Assigns the yearly Rent of Sum of Eighty four Pounds a year of lawful money of Great Britain by even and equal Portions of the Days and Times appointed for payment thereof in the said Indenture of Lease and also at all shall and will pay and discharge his share of the Window Duty yearly and do and perform his share of the Statute Work in the Highway in each Year and also shall and will from Time to Time and for at all Times after my Decease behave himself towards his Mother during her Natural Life and all the Rest of the Family shall live there in a decent and Orderly manner or in Default thereof upon reasonable request and due Notice given him in Writing shall and will deliver peaceable and quiet possession unto my Executors hereafter named of these premises which he now holds and provide for himself elsewhere, All the rest and the residue of my personal Estate whatsoever and wheresoever and of what nature kind and quality soever the same may be and not before given and the benefit of the remainder of the Term in my Farm if any, shall be valued by two sufficient Persons chosen by my Executors hereafter named, at my Wife's Decease or the decease of the longest Liver, I give and bequeath the same unto my Sons James and George Wood and my Daughters Mary, Ann, Betty, Esther and Miriam to them and their respective Heirs share and share alike, and further my will is that the Decease of my Wife or the Decease of the longest Liver that my Son Samuel and my Son George shall have and enjoy the said Farm in the same manner as we now do During the Remainder of the said Term, If any. And lastly I do nominate constitute and appoint Peter Brooks of Adlington Farmer and Henry Ardern of Disley Butcher Executors hereof hereby revoking all former wills by heretofore made and declaring this

to be my last In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the ninth Day of May in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Nine.

Signed sealed Published and Declared by the said Testator George Wood as and for his last will and Testament in the presence of us who are at his request and in his presence and in the presence of one another have hereunto subscribed our Names as Witnesses to attest the due Execution thereof the several alterations being first made.

George Wood

John Howarde

Wm. Clayton

Ralph Clayton

(The word processor accepted this Will with no corrections, though if you have some time on your hands you could always spend five minutes punctuating it.)

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### **BOOK GROUP AND TRAVEL**

One of the book groups has met recently using Zoom. The book we discussed was “Death at La Fenice” by Donna Leon. As background for the book Joan Davies went on a virtual walking tour of Venice on YouTube. This led her to investigate other walking tours of towns she has visited in past holidays, including Sorrento. This tour didn’t have a narrative but had captions to tell about points of interest.

Ann Daniels, travel group, has also pointed out that by searching for certain destinations on the computer it is possible to access travel videos. So, although we may be unable to fly to our preferred destinations, we can still enjoy memories of them.

## CORRAN, THE END OF THE ROAD



In February 2019 we were invited by our daughter and son-in-law to spend ten days with them at Corran which is by Lake Hourn opposite to the Isle of Skye. We travelled by car via Inverness, Sheil Bridge, Mam Ratagan, Glenelg and Arnisdale. The day was sunny with lots of snow on the ground and lying on the tree branches. The road was tree lined and the bright sunlight filtered through the trees creating a winter wonderland, it was quite magical. Then on to Corran using single track winding roads over the mountains. Corran is literally at the end of the road. The scenery was spectacular.

**Sunday.** A quiet day with a short walk along the loch and some time looking for otters. Since reading Henry Williamson's "Tarka the Otter" I have developed a love of otters but not seen any in the wild, hence otter watching.

**Monday.** We walked against a very stiff wind along Glen Arnisdale following the river and then we were blown back. The river is used by Salmon to access their spawning grounds, it also holds Brown Trout and has a seasonal run of Sea Trout. We saw lots of Red Deer stags, often close to the path. We also saw Golden Eagles high in the sky. The wildlife is quite something.

**Tuesday.** We were taken to see the ruins of two Brochs that were built between 1800 and 2300 years ago. Originally the shape was a conic frustrum 20-25 feet in diameter at the base and perhaps 40 feet high. They were built of stone and had an outer and inner wall with a five-foot cavity,

probably three storeys and a sort of thatched roof weighted down with “ropes” tied to very large stones. There was just one entrance with steps down into



the ground. These were very impressive buildings causing lots of thoughts about lifestyle. We then went to see the ruined Bernera Barracks built in 1712 and used to house troops involved in the Jacobite Rebellions, very formidable.

**Wednesday.** Walked to Arnisdale Post Office which is housed in a shed at the rear of a private property. The opening hours were 1.00-3.00pm three times a week. The population is small, maybe twenty at Corran

and perhaps forty or so at Arnisdale. The only shop stocked is 10 miles away at Glenelg and sparsely stocked. Forward planning is a must!!

**Thursday.** We drove to Mam Ratagan viewing point and looked down onto Loch Druich nestled in the glen, a wonderful view surrounded by mountains with the Five Sisters of Kintail nearby.



We then drove by the loch via a single-track road to a point opposite Eillan Donan Castle, originally built to defend the Isle of Skye. On the way back we spotted an otter frolicking in the loch and ashore which I found fascinating and fulfilling.

**Friday.** We were on the edge of Storm Eric, fierce winds, and horizontal rain. Definitely a staying in day. We are booked in at the local restaurant for an evening meal. The “restaurant” is in a large wooden hut which is simply but nicely appointed. The fish and chips were very enjoyable. Happily, the restaurant was only a short distance

from our cottage, we fought the wind and rain on the way there and then we were blown back.

**Saturday.** Very windy again with varied weather conditions, sunny, cloudy, raining, and sunny all within one hour. Apparently, it is not unusual to experience three seasons in one day. Another day spent quietly with some otter watching through the window.



**Sunday.** The day is brightening and as the sun works its way round the loch the opposite banks gradually change from a dull brown to wonderful golden colour which is quite delightful. We walked down the glen where we saw 25 Red deer down by the river, we walked on a little and looked back and the deer had vanished. They had probably gone across the river and blended into the background. In the evening we put out some vegetable scraps and as it was going dusk we saw four Red Deer hinds enjoying the treat. They were only five yards away.



An early start tomorrow for Inverness Airport and a short flight home. Altogether a wonderful experience with superb scenery and widely varied wildlife.

**Wildlife:** Red Deer, Golden Eagles, Otter, Dolphins, Chaffinches, Dunnocks, Robins, Stonechats, Blue and Great Tits, Cormorants, Oystercatchers, Herons, Indian Running Ducks (kept by one of the locals), Eider Duck, Goosander, Mallards and Mergansers.

Gordon Thompson

All photographs from Google.

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### **ANSWERS TO "HOWS YOUR MEMORY?"**

CROWN	5 Shillings
STONE 14lbs	14 Pounds
HAIRCUT – BOB	1 Shilling
TRANSPORT -PENNY FARTHING	1.25d
UNDERWEAR KNICKER	1 Pound
PIG- GUINEA	1 Pound 1Shilling
SINGER – TENOR	10 Pounds
SUN, MOON, STARS. THREE FAR THINGS	0.75d
LEATHER WORKER- TANNER	6d

**TOTAL £26 7s 8d**

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### **LIBRARIES**

The gradual easing of lock down means that Stockport Libraries are going to begin to reopen. This will include a new way of choosing your books, no browsing of books on the shelves yet. The Libraries will reopen on 13<sup>th</sup> July initially with only four branches open: Hazel Grove, The Heaton, Marple and Reddish. Check on the Stockport Library

Website for much more information, ways of choosing books and collection etc.

Whilst on the subject of libraries Sheila Fleming asked me to mention that there are free on-line magazines available with your library ticket using the RBdigital app. This is well worth checking out, "Radio Times" and "Who do you think you are?" just two of the titles you can access.

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[www.u3asites.org.uk/stockport](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/stockport)

Don't forget you can always keep up to date if you use our website.

Please keep on checking the website, even though now we are understandably not meeting, because there may be information from the many group leaders. Please encourage any members you speak to, to continue checking the website.

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