

My Somerset Life

A diary by Brian Snellgrove

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The American Museum, Bath, Heritage Day free entry – a pictorial visit

Highly recommended Museum open most days between February and November.



strange cloud effect. A chem trail shading a real cloud from sunlight early on the Sunday morning



a view down the valley from the American University

Bees

The white boxes in front of you are beehives that were put in place by Somerset Bees. These are an important part of the American Museum & Gardens sustainability initiatives. We have established a number of colonies of these amazing creatures and if you look carefully, you will see them industriously visiting our flowers and trees collecting pollen and nectar. There are also wild colonies of bumble bees nesting in the woodland - usually in holes in the ground or tree cavities as well as various solitary bee species.

Why do we need bees?
Hard working honey bees and their close relatives, the solitary bees have been around for millions of years, pollinating our plants and - honey bees anyway - producing the sweet golden syrup we call honey. However, bees are increasingly under threat and these important insects are in severe decline.

Types of Bee
Not all bees are the same. There are over 20,000 species of bee globally with about 270 species of bee recorded in the UK including our friend the honey bee (*Apis Melifera*) as well as 25 bumblebee species and more than 220 types of solitary bee.

Why are Bees under threat?
Bees are surrounded by threats, especially habitat loss, pesticides, climate change and the extreme weather as well as invasive species, parasites and diseases.

How you can help bees
Luckily, it's not too late to help save the bees. There are lots of things you can do to help - most of which can be done from the comfort of a garden or outdoor space.

- If you have a garden, you can fill it with bee-friendly flowers and trees
- You could also provide shelter for many species of solitary bees by building a 'Bee Hotel' - just hang it up in a sunny sheltered spot in a garden and watch bees filling the tubes during the spring and summer months.

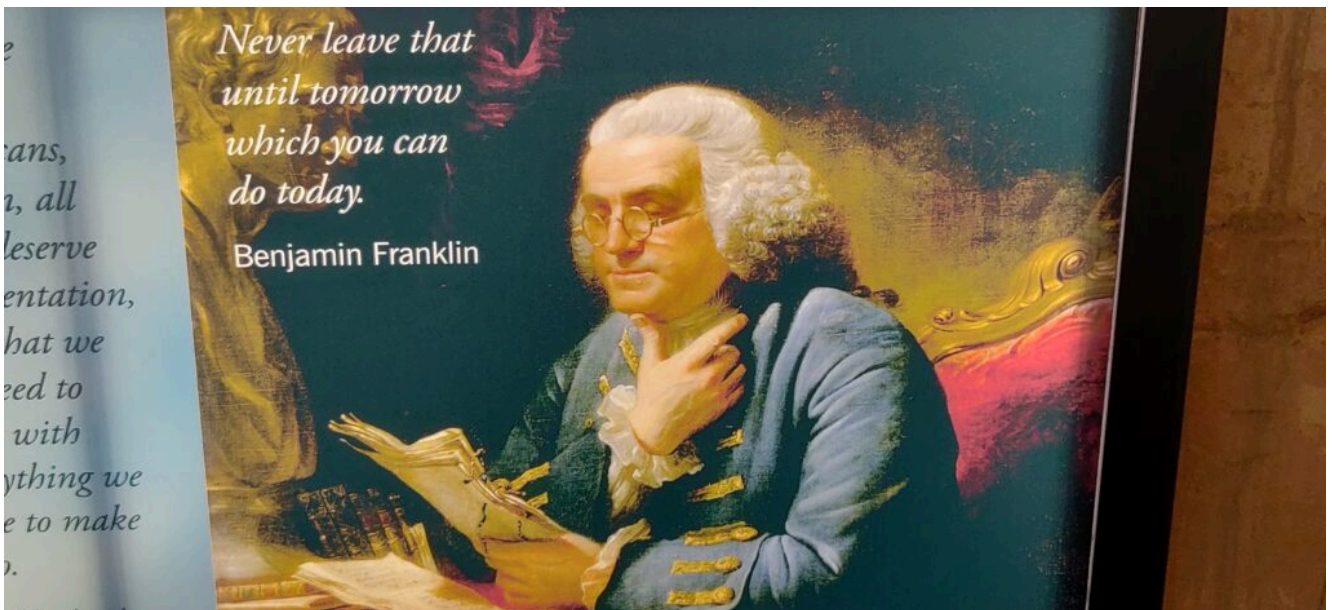
Did you know there were 20,000 species of bees around the world.

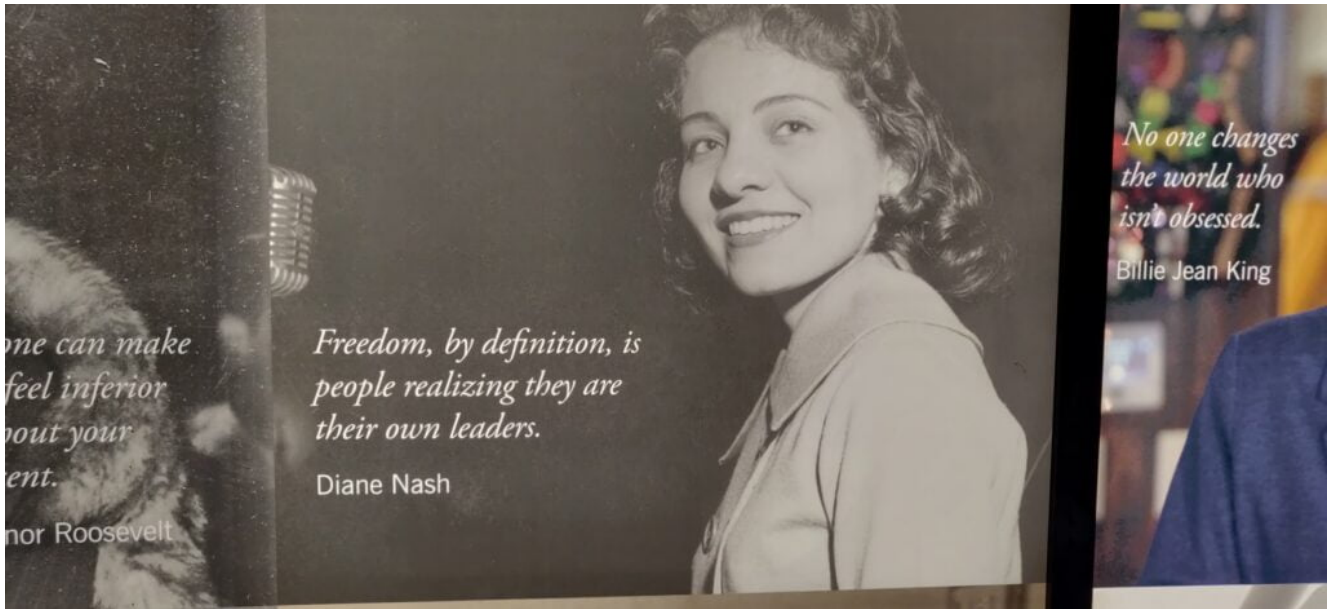


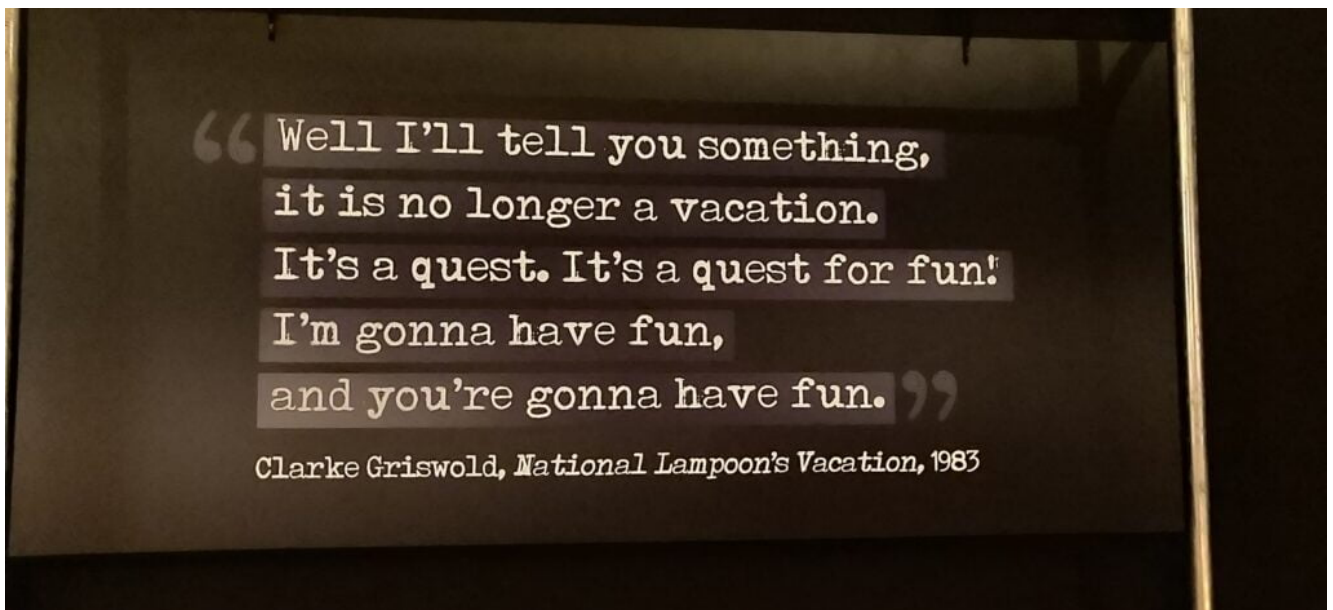
southern ssection of the USA – tribes pre columbus



all USA tribes before Columbus – now mostly disappeared

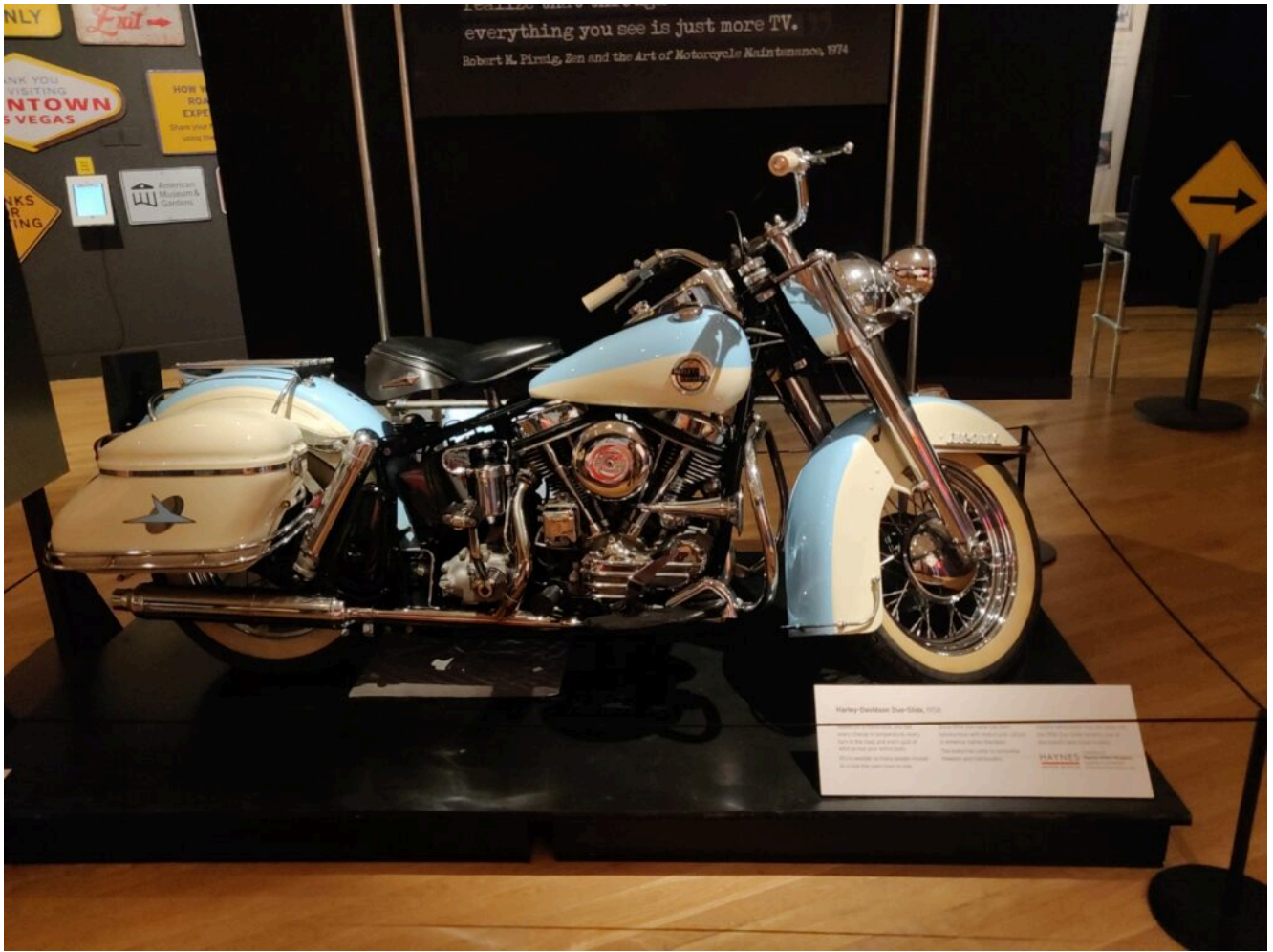








**THELMA
&
LOUISE**



apple espalier in the American gardens



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Pictorial adventures in London part 4

I came downstairs for breakfast amongst considerable activity. I noticed that there were many young ladies of a slim build and they looked very athletic types. Little did I know that there was going to be a preparation and final selection for the Paris Olympics with respect to the 10,000 meter runs. This was to take place at Parliament Hill with the best athletes from the country competing. The proceedings started at 2:30 with the first 10,000 meter race for men and then proceeded through the women and under 13 boys and girls though they only had to run 800 meters.

Regrettably I could not stay for the whole thing but I was very inspired by the enthusiasm and the combination that I experienced. The title of the event was rather mysteriously and imaginatively the night of the 10,000 meter PB's (personal bests). It was but a short walk from the hotel to Parliament

Hill Fields

On the way I had one of these weird events that seems part of my guidance system. Someone has left it's more number of books outside their property. They were just sitting there. One of them called me. It was a book written by a Roman Catholic writer called Lost Souls?



I picked it up at glanced at it and realized that the style, direct and personal, was exactly my type of book so I took it. Thank you god for guiding me in this direction. As if I haven't got enough books to read already but I'm obviously ready for this one.





Those who live around Hampstead Heath are very proud of their heritage and there is great emphasis on rewilding or restoring the heath to what it was. The pictures above illustrate this.

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...tting up for the day for what were obviously going to be large crowds. I know that prices have gone up but I thought these prices which you can see if you look very carefully were towards the exploitative end of the spectrum



It's difficult to capture the whole event without having a wide angle lens but these were the key runners being prepared or shall we say psyched up by the promoters and going for short runs around the adjacent field. I only wish I could have stayed longer but my three pm coach will not wait

The journey home

A few final images to end what has been a very successful time. Thank you Gregory my host for making my stay possible and for inviting me to the wonderful meal on the Thursday night.



The area adjacent to Euston Station has been purchased at great expense and used for HS2 building. If this white elephant ever comes to into existence I shall be surprised. I think it is slated to start running in 2034. The talk is that the last stage right into the center of London is too expensive to complete and so the service will start at Old Oak Common so people have to trek all the way there thus cancelling out any savings in time. Who has the courage to scrap something which is already over budget and consumed millions of pounds.



I love it. A mural going up the whole height of a building



This is the snuggest car parking I have seen for many a year. It JUST about keeps to the right side of the law.



This looks very suspicious to me. It's one of these ideas that may sell to American tourists but I don't know how they can maintain themselves over the lean period in the winter.

Our Homeward journey was eventful, let's put it like that. We were due to leave at 3 o'clock and actually left out 10

minutes past three and were warned that there would be delays due to a closure on the M4 between junctions 12 and 13. We had to do a 40 mile detour which I laughingly called a free tour around the countryside. We actually went via Basingstoke. We arrived an hour late but then with the M4 closed there's not much the driver could do.

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Pictorial adventures in London part 3

A free day. I decided to take the bus number one which goes from Hampstead Heath to Canada Water. I have never been there before but I know it has something to do with the docks. I took advantage of my Freedom Pass to get my free ride. The London readers in the bus cab do not recognize the Freedom Pass, you just wave it and get on the bus. The driver scarcely looks up.



The No 1 bus passing the southern end of Kingsway at Aldwich. Interesting to see an uncultivated area just leaving nature to itself. May is the key month for growth so dont chop it down.



this was fun. A tree in full fresh leaf was right outside the window of the upper deck of the bus on which I was traveling. Intimate, almost.



So this is Canada Water itself surrounded by a rather empty shopping mall. They are endeavoring to rewild it and the notice below – if you can read it – gives some indication of what they are doing. I love the openness of the statement. They are not talking at people they are talking to and with people.



worth reading use Ctrl and the + key to enlarge.



An outdoor plant stall.



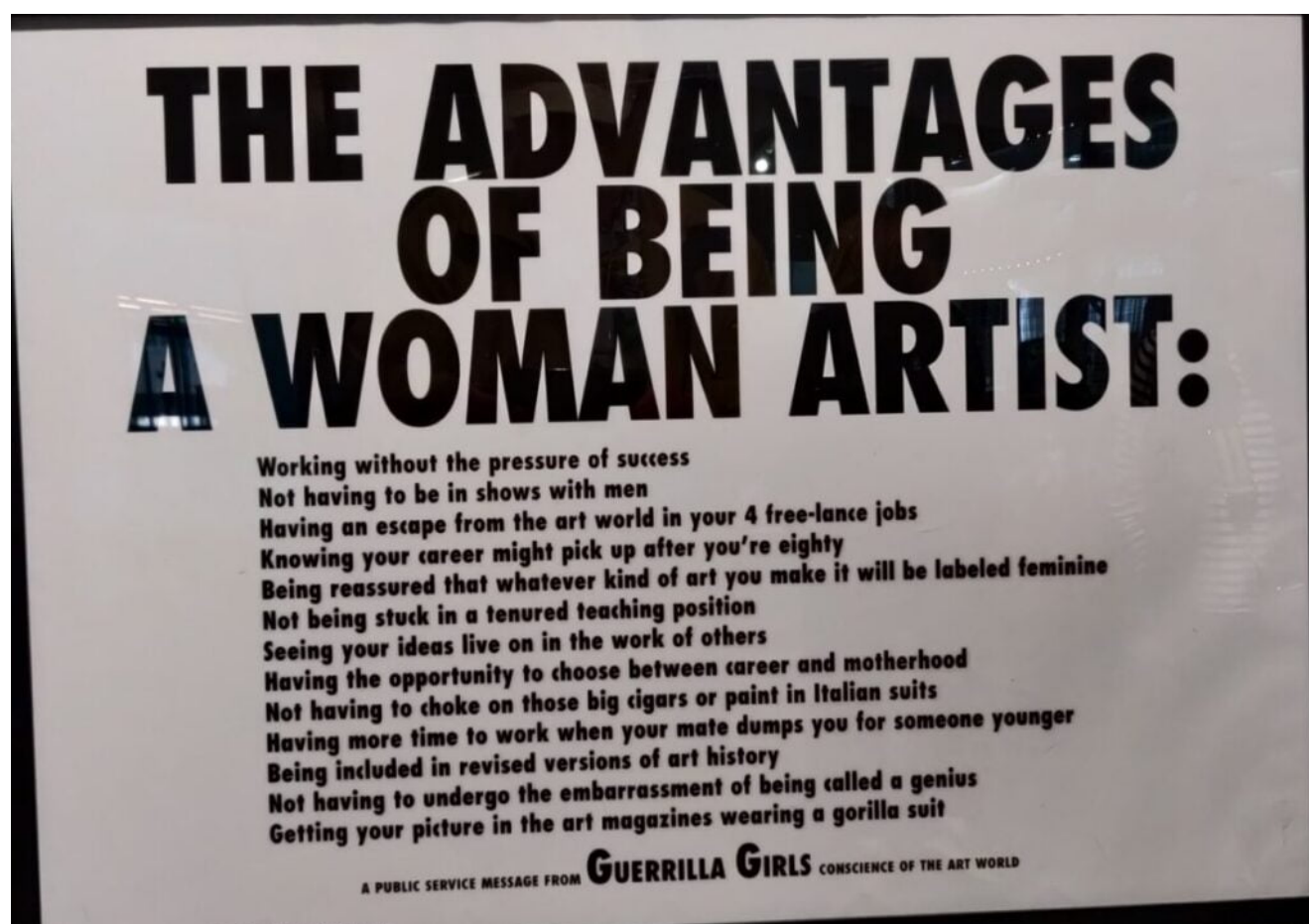
This is an 'empowering women' idea. Quite good.

On to Canary Wharf. I have so many photographs of this business centre that I don't see anything to excite me so back on the Jubilee line tube to Southwark from where I intend to walk to the Tate Modern.

The Tate Modern never ceases to inspire me. With thousands of images with a fairly good turnover you will never be disappointed. People reading this from other countries should definitely come along and give it a go. It is free of charge for the most part.



This is outside the rear entrance of the Tate Modern. I love the liberal use of wood chip. It's lightens the whole area is specially when the sun is shining



I don't agree with all the content here but at least the person has had a go and makes a few valid points. There are

obviously some humorous ones.



there is some adult stuff always with a warning at the door and people use their own bodies to make points of a sexual nature and why not I say



This is where you can write your wishes or your prayers or your concerns or anything you like and tie them on the tree. Who knows what wandering spirit will read them and respond?

Further along from Tate Modern there was a lovely chap selling the idea of flower arrangements



He was explaining his services in a wonderful way to this young lady pictured. However she walked away with no card or any information in her hand. I immediately spotted this lack and said to Freddie, how is she going to remember your services or know where to find you to which his answer was 'we are trying to go paperless'.

I said 'you're going to lose 90% of your potential customers unless you give them something to remember you by'. He thanked me for this but I don't know how much notice he took but someone has to say something I felt. Anyway I looked him up on Google and sure enough there he was.' Fresh Flowers Subscription Service – Freddie's Flowers UK

Camden Market

By the way, they make travel very easy in London. You don't need to buy a ticket. You just use any old credit card or debit card and use at the gates in and then use your card the other end. If you forget to sign out for whatever reason you will be charged the price for the full single journey. You can also buy an Oyster card which is a type of top upable debit card.

There is a price cap on the day depending on which zone you travel in and you will never be charged more than the cap no matter how often you travel

Anyway, I ramble on. Enough of the South Bank which on this sunny day is getting somewhat crowded so I jumped on the northern line and a light at Camden Town famous for its market environment. The scale has to be seen to be believed.

My advice to all visitors is start from Camden Town subway (tube), walk up the west side and enter the market, make sure you don't get lost, and then return to Camden down walking along the other side of the High Street. If you have not been before allow at least two hours. You can trust the local food cause competition keeps the prices reasonable. Traders have to work long hours probably six days a week so I don't envy their lifestyle but the pickings are there because the tourist trade can always be relied on year-round. 'All human life is there'

Dear Stranger, 😊 🔄

Hi! My name's Jay. I'm a traveller wandering from city to city, country to country, writing little letters to the people of the place to let them know they are not the only ones who feel like a Stranger. Now I'm in ~~London~~ ^{London} ~~Amsterdam~~ ^{Amsterdam} ~~Brussels~~ ^{Brussels} ~~Chert~~ ^{Chert} ~~Brussels~~ ^{Brussels} I'm speaking to you 😊

If you feel like a Stranger, too complicated to be understood, too romantic for your own good, a true believer in your dreams, a lonely soul wandering around an overpopulated world. I want to say hello friend. There's more of your people out here. There's one behind this letter.

A Stranger. - Jay

Have a lovely day, fellow Stranger

@Jaytheauthor

^ you can find more letters on my Instagram

PS. Never give up on your dreams, no matter how hard the world beats you down for believing!
Rock on wild child x





This may not seem like the most exciting photograph on the planet but it has a story. This is Haverstock Hill just north of Chalk Farm Underground station. They have removed parking from the entire east side of the road and replaced it with a cycle lane. This is to put it mildly inconvenient to those wishing to park their car in the very precious parking spaces. People have made their views known by running over the cones.

Return to base

Back to the hotel for a meal at the Premier Inn Hampstead. They do a special deal in that if you have purchased breakfast they give you a two course meal plus a drink for 17 pounds which you will recognize as a bargain if you are the slightest bit aware of London prices. Just to remind you, you can't get a glass of wine for less than about seven pounds.

I met my all-time favorite waitress, Luce, from Brazil. She is better than any public relations agency. She remembers names, she loves people and they love her back. Although it was three years ago since we last met she remembered every detail of our conversation which I think is pretty good.

This is really nerdy. My patented quick method for drying socks is to find a hair dryer and simply blow the socks dry. Don't put it on high heat otherwise the thermostat will cut out. Allow about 5 minutes so if you have forgotten and adequate supply of socks that is my tip of the day.

The modernisation of the Premier Inn has included new showers. In my time I have stayed in many hotel rooms and sometimes the shower procedures are very difficult to work out but this one was not too awkward. You turn on the rain shower by pulling up the plug over the normal spout and then direct the stream with a small lever to the rain shower instead of the normal spray shower





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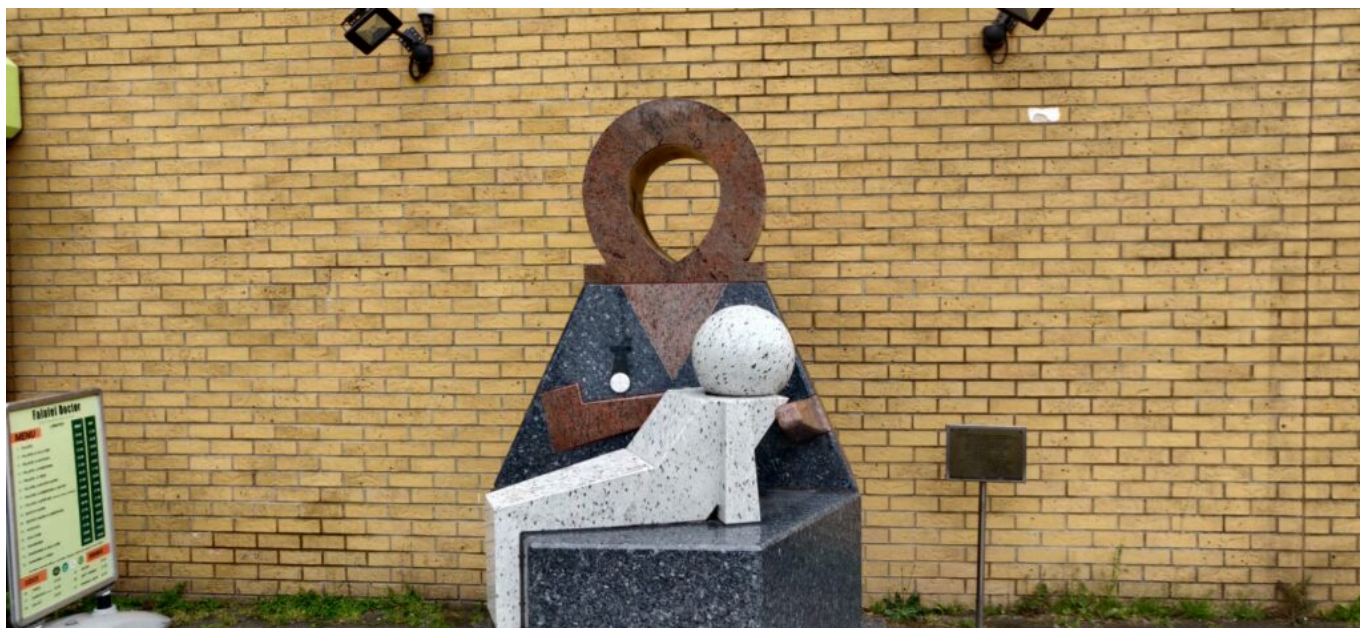
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▪ Will the truth survive?

Pictorial adventures in London part 2



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At large in North London. I visited Whittington Hospital and saw a rather strange sculpture in the forecourt. Not sure what the plastic domes are about. Is it for people who smoke or is it a residue from the covid times when everyone thought they had to keep distant from others



Decided not to enter Highgate Cemetery which has been privatised and which will cost you 10 quid to get in. I don't particularly want to see Karl Marx's grave and I find the whole place a little bit creepy at least seen from the outside.



The good news is that there is a very large park adjacent, map featured above, where you can stroll to your heart's content and it seems like you are in the country. Sample below, map above



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KIDNAPPED Elad Kattar 47 years old Israeli Bring Them Home NOW.	KIDNAPPED Aviram Cooper 85 years old Israeli Bring Them Home NOW.	KIDNAPPED Chaim Peri 79 years old Israeli Bring Them Home NOW.
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KIDNAPPED Gadi Moses 89 years old Israeli Bring Them Home NOW.	KIDNAPPED Gil Bibas (32) & Hani Bibas (34) Israeli-Argentinian Bring Them Home NOW.	KIDNAPPED Ariel Bibas 4 years old Israeli-Argentinian Bring Them Home NOW.
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MURDERED Eitan Levy 82 years old Israeli Bring Them Home NOW.	MURDERED David Katz 51 years old Israeli Bring Them Home NOW.	MURDERED Bring Them Home NOW.
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.Well there are two sides to every situation and these are pictures of Israelis who have been captured by Hamas.



Back to the hotel and picked up by my friend to be taken to what I discovered was an extraordinary buffet patronized almost entirely by Indians and Pakistanis. It is part of the Hoover Building in West London and is called **the Royal Nawaab**. We did stand out as the only white people there but these staff were friendly enough so it didn't matter. The atmosphere was very noisy indeed and I could hardly hear what my four companions, fellow guests, were saying though catching the odd word it was very interesting and controversial



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The cost per head is about 27 pounds. Pakistanis are meat

eaters and they were very few vegetarian and fish dishes. You have about 50 main dishes to choose from, a substantial starter and huge amount of very colourful sweets all of which looked delicious. Expect to spend a couple of hours there to do it justice. They do not serve alcohol but made up for it with a number of fruit juices and drinks which were quite delicious.



It is difficult to describe the size of the place . While we were there, about 50 men walked in and was seated at a long table . They do things on a big scale here .



Our motley crew. Eastern Europeans (My hosts tech. employees) think in a different way, more tough, more survivalist but then they have had to go through more than we can imagine. 'Only the fittest survive'. I am seated on the right



I get the impression that the children are spoiled. This was a

young lady being left to look at a cartoon featuring people wearing pink and she was dressed entirely in pink. I don't think this behavior was conducive to socializing but then I do not understand the culture of the country.

I was chauffeured home, we wizzed around the North Circular Road. It was a very nice birthday party and our host was generous. While we were there, I recalled that 'Happy Birthday' was sung three times so there were at least three separate birthday parties going on. I have not been to a restaurant like it nor do I expect to do so again. Maybe I should visit Pakistan or India.

A memorable evening.

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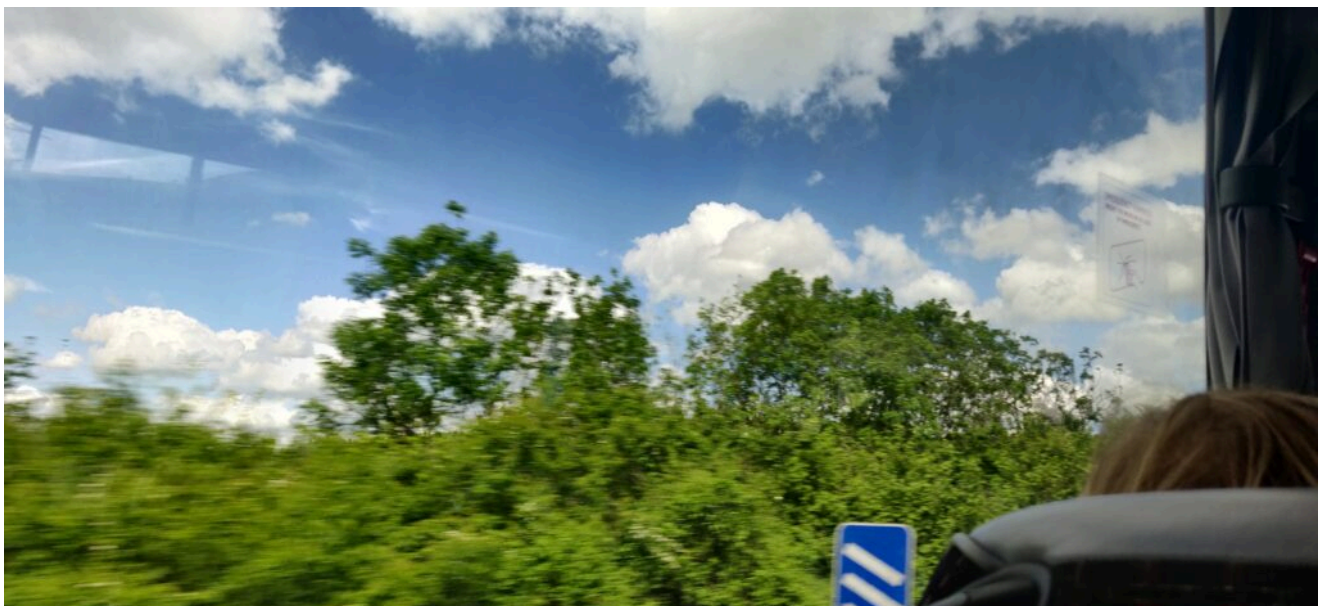
Pictorial adventures in London part 1

Once more I am drawn to London this time to celebrate someone's birthday, that someone being the oldest friend I have going back to 1966. Once again I went the cheapo way via Megabus from Bristol for the princely sum of £2.99 on the outward journey and £3.99 on the return journey. My friend kindly put me up at the Premier Inn in Hampstead about which I have written many times.

This trip I don't want to put too much pressure on myself by describing everything that happened but have decided to confine myself to illustrating the many images that I took.

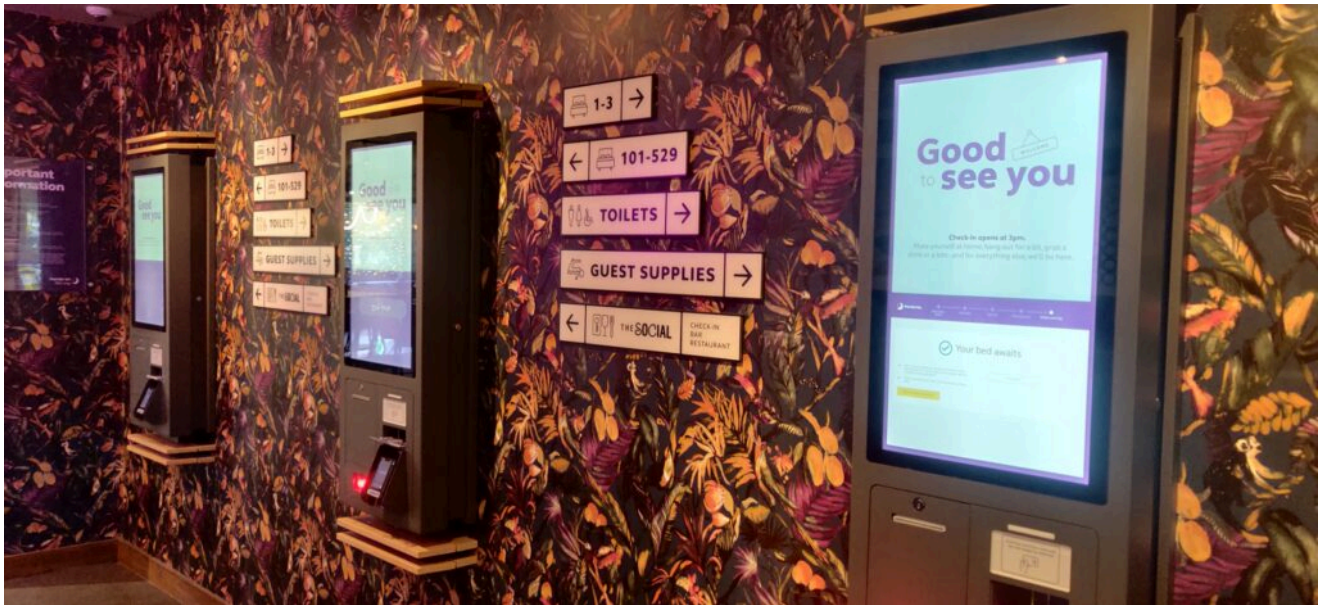


Those of us who are alternative minded, indeed biblically minded, are aware of the mark of the Beast which is 666. I would be careful of this number (joke). This was in the departure zone in Bristol



When choosing your coach seat the trick of getting no one to sit next to you is to sit on an aisle seat not the window seat with your package on the aisle seat. Baggage is seen as easier to move than a person. Sprawling over 2 seats is too obvious a ploy.

We had a flawless outward journey taking somewhat over two hours and I always feel extra smug thinking how little I am paying. To be fair, National Express are also available from this very competitive hub from £5. The weather was beautiful, fresh and sunny and the driver, Martin, was a very jolly man with a sense of humour.



I arrived at the hotel to find it completely refurbished but was disappointed to find no reception area. Machines can never be friendly but as I was fumbling around a bit a member of staff came to my aid. This is the first time I can remember being asked to scan my own room key but hey, age of technology and all that. so let's go with it. Its not all bad.



I set off for my 'walk around' and found my favourite local supermarket (it used to be called Budgens) and was rudely reminded how prices can be sky high. Cherries at £20.70 per kilogram. What a bargain! If money is no object who cares?



The store had been completely refurbished (I know this will not be much to people who are not Londoners) but when something is redesigned properly you see how tatty and outdated the old layout was. There is an increasing tendency towards check yourself out machines, with human help only required to verify over 18 with regard to alcohol.



I did not feel much like sitting in a restaurant so I decided to have a take away and consume it in my room; it was an excellent salmon salad with a small bottle of wine which cost me about 12 pounds and satisfied me for the evening. Sometimes, less is more.



I love graffiti in all shapes and forms and here was an original graphical one, the style of which I have not seen before. It was on a railway bridge.



On to nearby Hampstead Heath itself which I would recommend to anyone who is feeling in need of a lift for whatever reason. Among these amazing trees, the parakeets have made it their own territory and squawk in their own inimitable fashion



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Octavia Foundation

I just love this poster that I saw in a charity shop. You would only see this type of poster in a fairly sophisticated area such as Hampstead. It would not work in places like Bath



This is the local friendly fox that patrols the grounds outside the Royal Free Hospital. Clearly he regards this as its own territory.



This is a nearby insect hotel on Hampstead Green

Hampstead Green

Hampstead Green is a small open space managed for nature conservation. It is a spring meadow which provides early food for insects as well as a stunning display for passers by.



Primrose

The area has been an open space for many hundreds of years and sits next to St. Stephen's church, designed by Samuel Teulon and built in 1869.

There is a mix of native and cultivated Daffodils and Bluebells, plus Cowslips and Primroses. The site is left uncut until around June when the spring flowers have finished and then the grass is cut regularly throughout the summer.

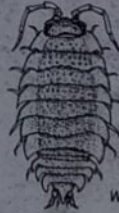
Although Bluebells, as the name suggests, are commonly blue there are also pink and white varieties which you can see on this site. Even though it was once a common British plant few uses are recorded apart from being used as a sticky juice that provided gum for book-binding and as a starch used in Elizabethan times to stiffen ruffles.



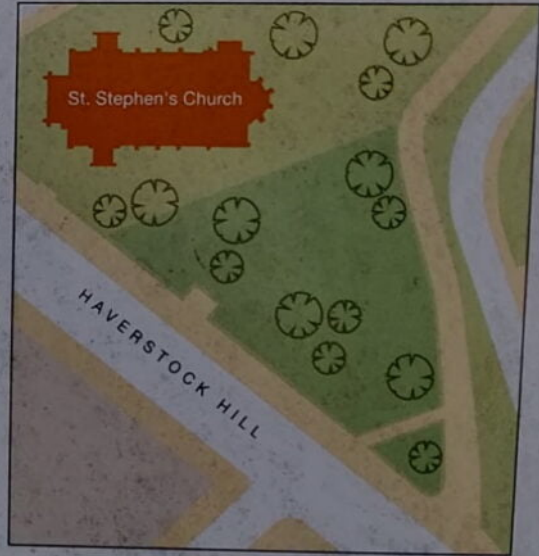
Blue Tit

The mixture of trees on the site, which includes Oak, Sycamore and Poplar, provides good cover for birds, and bird boxes have been put up to encourage nesting. Large logs are left to provide a habitat for many creatures including the woodlouse, spiders and various beetles. Woodland wildflowers have also been planted where there is less light including Wood anemone and Ramsons creating another habitat for wildlife.

We hope you enjoy this small but valuable site.



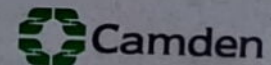
Woodlouse



Anemone

Parks and Open Spaces 020 7974 1693

www.camden.gov.uk/parks • parks@camden.gov.uk



Back to the hotel and a checking out of the TV stations. A pathetic piece from Scotland about a woman who was arrested for praying silently. Are the SNP completely off their rocker?

And so to bed. Fiddle with the air conditioner to keep the room at a constant 20 degrees. You can hardly hear it working. Brilliant.

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Bristol to London for less than a cup of coffee

The satisfaction of advance planning

If there's one thing I enjoy, it is advance planning. I make most of my plans for the main spine of my activities weeks before the event and that includes imagining what might go wrong and making corrections before I ever set foot on public transport or step in my car.

I'm going to visit my sister in Croydon, London, in April and today is the time for booking tickets. We basically have a choice of two modes of travel excluding the car. In the old days – of cheaper petrol – you could park where you wanted in London but now we have a looming 20 mile an hour speed limit based on no evidence, we have ULEZ, basically in London you are taxed even for sitting in a car (joke) never mind driving it. Also the public transport in London is excellent. So for the nerds among you that like detail, these are my calculations

I live nearer to Bath than Bristol but recently Bath has ceased to be a major hub for going to London and most National Express services to London now go via Bristol on the way which adds to the length of the journey. There was a time – last year 2023 – when you could go via National Express from Bath for £5 single but those days are gone. Thank you, National

Express, for (not) giving us advanced warning. Among the few direct buses there is the National Express that leaves Bath at 10:05 arriving Victoria 13:20. The cost of this is £12.40 and that's booking in advance. If you wanted to travel next day that's £19.70.

Bristol vs. Bath

A much better hub where competition prevails is Bristol. Here the fare on **National Express** reflects the competitive nature of the departing city so I can take the 10 o'clock from Bristol arriving 12:50 London Victoria for £5.90 and this is an advance booking rate by the way. If I wanted to go tomorrow Friday by the same bus it would cost me £12.90. If I wanted to go with **Megabus** and take the 13:00 which arrives in Victoria 15:30 for an advance booking on the 12th of April it will be £5.98. If I wanted to take the same bus for a journey tomorrow Friday that will cost me £12.99.

If I wanted to go with **Flixbus**, a bus leaving at 11:25 from Bristol arriving 2:30 p.m. would cost me £4.99 booking. If I had chosen to travel later that day 12 April I could have done it for £2.99. If I wanted to travel tomorrow Friday by the 10:30 a.m. but it will cost me £14.99 but if I wait until 11:25 a.m it will cost me £9.99. Please note that with this service some of the buses terminate at Hammersmith which you may not find very attractive.

Now something which is a bit of a game changer for us, traveling by train. Believe it or not, because of our lifestyle we rarely travel by this mode of transport mainly because of the cost. However, I bought a Two Together travel card which means that when we travel together – as the name implies – we get a third off the price. We are going to take the 11:30 train from London Paddington arriving in Bath 12:44 which takes one hour 14 minutes. The total cost of this for two people is £32.79

I ended up with deciding on Megabus traveling on the 13.00 to London so for the two of us is as below. (The SMS fee is to qualify for being updated on any changes).

Cost and Payment Summary		
Ticket Price:	£	5.98
Booking Fee:	£	1.00
SMS Fee:	£	0.45
Total Paid:	£	7.43

I also booked via TrainLine two tickets for the return journey. No fancy graphics but it was **£32.79** so total return spend £40.22 i.e. £20.11 per person return. Maybe it's the fact that I was born in Yorkshire, an area known for its thrift when spending is concerned but I do love a bargain and this certainly falls into that category. All I must remember to do now is to take my mobile phone with me because without the QR code you can't go anywhere.

The moral to the story is 'book ahead'. Everyone is in the game of making money or making a profit should I say so we have to play the system and beat it. The system is so designed that last minute travelers are penalized so what do you do? You plan in advance. Not rocket science. Just a bit of forethought.

The risks of buying cheap items on the internet

Order dispatched

Order date: 04 Mar, 2024 • Order total: £3.95 • Order number: 12-11264-37224



Dispatched: Est. delivery Thu 7 Mar - Mon 11 Mar

Returns not accepted.

Silver Digital LCD Temperature Alarm Clock

£3.95

Sold by: [mawat_5391](#)

Whilst on the subject of thrift, I ordered a travel alarm / bedside clock from EBay. There is a saying that 'you get what you pay for' with the implication that if you are spending very little money you will not get much in return. I do find that material from China carries a higher risk of variable reliability but what came was a very beautiful aluminium faced alarm clock with all the whistles and bells except an illuminated dial and for £3.95 including post it is not the end of the world if it doesn't come up to expectation. Hey, its little more than a cup of coffee.

You just return it if terms and conditions allow. Having said that I'm not sure what eBay's policy is on this. There are all sorts of reasons why a product can be cheap. Someone may have been on the receiving end of a lot from a company that went into liquidation and they just want to get rid of items as quickly as possible. I suspect this is the case here as no returns are accepted. If the seller has a good reputation and the returns policy is good then what do you have to lose? A little bit of Inconvenience?

Total change of subject now. Try it. What film does this

remind you of... They Live???



A challenge to my body comfort zones



This morning I went to my yoga session. You may say 'so what'? The teaching method of the yoga teacher is fascinating. We never do the same routine twice. There is always a new variation which she thinks up, and this is at a

basic level in our training. Today we were each given a chair and we did our session mostly from a sitting position but boy was it a challenge. I'm not very good lifting up my legs to the level of my head. I'm not very good standing on one foot while facing left with my arm pointing to the sky. Anyway the

teacher says that I'm not doing too badly so I will take her word for it. She can compare my performance with other people of my age. The session lasts for one hour 15 minutes and I reckon that's about right because we spend a good few minutes relaxing, preparing for the session and the same thing at the end, so it's about an hour's worth of core teaching.

Report from Wetherspoons – sticks and stones will break my bones ...

After the yoga session I went to Wetherspoons for a well-earned cup of coffee, actually I had two cups because it is bottomless coffee for £1.56. On the table there are the usual intrusive and rather annoying menus of various sorts but there was also a special edition Wetherspoons “does truth matter?” Tim Martin the owner was taking main stream newspapers to task for making untrue statements, together with their publication of apologies and or corrections from pretty much all the media in this country. On page 18 of this utterance was a heading which I took very much to heart “nothing could prepare me for the online war: Christina Lamb on being attacked by the trolls”.

I have never been attacked by trolls certainly not in the modern age though I have had certain negative comments on my utterances on my websites. I have had no death threats, threats of violence to me or my partner. I have the advantage of not being in a job so have nothing to lose as I am now a pensioner. So social media is full of speculative material and people who have nothing better to do

with their time than be a scourge to others. If you are deeply involved in social media it is difficult to ignore and escalating series of threats and comments from more than one person never mind hundreds. J.K. Rowling is being abused for



saying that there are only two sexes.

To me this is pretty obvious and you just check by looking south. The evermore ridiculous and woke BBC say there are 153 sexes. The article on dimensionality which I wrote yesterday does have a bearing on this topic. If your identity is invested in the third (physical) dimension of life then you will be much affected by negative feedback but if you genuinely dwell in a higher spiritual dimension you will not be so effected though probably saddened. I am glad I'm not political journalist who is covering events in Israel. I would have to put up with being called an extremist even if I was defending people's rights not to be slaughtered in large numbers just for being of a particular nationality.

I'm sure my time will come but if I am abused in public it will be a great test of my character and my objectivity. They say that 'sticks and stones will break my bones but calling names will not hurt us'. That assumes a rather dull level of consciousness so it is not enormously helpful to me. The phrase was first used in an American periodical, the Christian recorder, in March 1862. True courage consists in doing what is right, despite the jeers and sneers of our companions. I agree that may sound a little bit pious but as I say, maybe I've been lucky so far, if it happens to me I can report from the Inside so to speak.

Anyone can be accused of anything

What worries me is that anyone can accuse you of anything and if it does not appear to fit with the agenda then you could be reported or lose your job. There was an article today in the Daily Mirror where a head teacher was sacked for tapping her son's hand in her office when she was trying to get her three-year-old to stop playing with the bottle of hand sanitizer when she used two fingers to attract his attention, leading to

an employee accusing her of assault. She did in fact win her unfair dismissal case. The accuser said that she was hurting her son and filed an official complaint, which led to the head being suspended and the police being called.

Despite the police ruling that her actions were reasonable chastisement by a parent the headteacher was found guilty of gross misconduct and sacked. She is now in line for compensation after an employment judge concluded that there was no evidence that she had committed physical chastisement or an assault her dismissal unfair. She was the head of Northwold primary school in Hackney, East London. UK

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