11th – 17th November 2019

'Monster' fatberg found in sewer

A 250-metre long fatberg weighing 130 tonnes, as heavy as 11 double decker buses, has been found blocking a sewer in East London. The mass was filmed by Thames Water engineers who were removing the obstruction. Fatbergs are created when things that shouldn't go into our sewer systems are put into our sinks and toilets. Blockages are caused when a solid mass of congealed fat, wet wipes, nappies, oil, plasters and kitchen roll etc forms in the sewer. Matt Rimmer from Thames Water said: "It's a total monster and taking a lot of manpower and machinery to remove as it's set hard." You can help make a difference to the health of our sewers by being cautious about what goes down your drain.

Can you think of any good ways to stop people putting the wrong things into our drains?



Pictured: The massive fatberg pictured by engineers taken from the Thames Water's Twitter page.

British car set to break land speed record



Pictured: The Bloodhound LSR pictured in the South African desert between tests, taken from their Twitter page.

A British supersonic car which could smash the land speed record next year has already hit 461mph in tests. Bloodhound Land Speed Record (LSR) is a UK-based project aiming to break the world land speed record using the most advanced straight-line racing car ever built. The tests taking place in a dried-up lakebed in the Hakskeenpan desert, Northern Cape, South Africa, exceeded its target speed of 450mph. The car was then slowed down by using a single parachute to aid braking. The current speed record was set by British RAF wing commander Andy Green on 15th October 1997 in a car named Thrust SSC, when it became the first land vehicle to officially break the sound barrier. Do you think it would be fun to travel this quickly?

The loudest bird ever recorded!



Pictured: A male white bellbird taken from CENTRO EL CAMPILLO's Twitter page.

A team of scientists from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and Brazil's National Institute for Amazon Research in the rainforest have announced that the male white bellbird has the loudest call of any bird species recorded so far. The dove-sized birds were recorded bellowing at levels as high as 125 decibels, that's louder than a pneumatic drill. The white bellbird, which lives in the mountains of the north-eastern Amazon and is three times louder than the next bird in the pecking order, the screaming piha! "We could hear them all over the place, they're kind of the soundtrack of these forests," says Mario Cohn-Haft, ornithologist at Brazil's National Institute for Amazon Research. "They give out these loud ringing sounds that sound like someone banging on metal, like a blacksmith."

RNLI fundraising heroes!

Following our RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution) poster which looked at how some people chose to stop their donations to the charity, the Reception Crew at Stockbridge Village Primary School decided they'd like to help!

Deputy Headteacher Mrs Smyth said the children independently decided to organise and run a cake sale to raise money for the charity and to support the good work they do. Using a real till, the children raised £177.75 with their cake sale!



Pictured: The RNLI cake stall at Stockbridge Village Primary School.





YOUR COMMENTS

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