

The Nexus No Name Newsletter

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Your Attitude is like a box of crayons that colour your world.

Constantly colour your picture grey and it will always be bleak.

Try adding some bright colours to your picture by including humour.

and your picture will begin to lighten up.

Allen Klein



As some of you know the Hub was originally the entrance to the old Ashford swimming pool, our back door originally was the entrance to the changing rooms and underneath the carpet in the computer area you can see the shape of the toilet cubicles in the tiled floor.

We thought it would be nice if we could find a photograph of the entrance to the pool as it was originally but the only one we could find was of the actual swimming pool which of course was an open air one.

We know that our building is now only a small part of the original one and we are not sure if the building in the background of the photograph is part of our building as most of it was demolished and the actual swimming pool is under the builders yard next door.



We also found this photograph of the cinema that was built opposite the Hub

The Royal Cinema de Luxe was opened on 24th June 1912 with "Christopher Columbus". Seating was provided in stalls and circle levels. It had a shell-shaped roof to improve acoustics. In 1917 a 3 Manual 'straight' organ with 18 speaking stops was installed. In 1935, architect A.E. Jackson was engaged to remodel the cinema, and it was given an Art Deco style both inside and outside. The side splay walls beside the proscenium were painted with a foliage design. It re-opened on 14th January 1936 as The Cinema. It was re-named Picture House. In 1985 and had closed by 1999. After it was demolished the building which is now the large furniture store opposite the hub was built.

Can you take your dog to the polling station?

As the UK's general election draws closer, we thought it would be interesting to take a look at some of the facts about general elections and the voting system.

1. You don't have to vote with an "x."

Although the official guidance is to place an "x" in the square next to the name of the candidate you wish to vote for, you can cast your vote with a tick, a number, heck, in theory even a smiley face. The Electoral Commission says papers will not be voided, and will go toward the final count as long as "the voter's intention is clear on a ballot paper."



2. Why are elections held on a Thursday?

It's just tradition that general elections are held on a Thursday, they could be held on any day of the week. One theory suggests that in the past Friday was pay day, so Thursday votes ensured a good turnout as people weren't too drunk. The last general election not to be held on a Thursday was on Tuesday Oct. 27, 1931. In recent years, the Electoral Commission has suggested making polling day at the weekend to improve turnout.



3. Four-legged friends

You can take your dog to the polling station as long as Fido doesn't "disrupt the vote." The Electoral Commission gives furry friends the thumbs up in an "accompanying" role. Anyone with two or more dogs can ask polling station staff to look after them during the voting process. If you're planning to ride to cast your vote, please note horses and ponies do need to be secured *outside* the station.



4. Tied results

What happens if there is a tied result? It's pretty unsatisfactory actually. "Where there is a tie between two or more candidates receiving the same number of votes the Acting Returning Officer will decide the result by lot." So for example, the names of the tied candidates could be written on paper and drawn out of a hat, or a coin could be flipped. "It is a matter for the Acting Returning Officer to determine the method to be used."

5. Turnout

The lowest turnout at a UK general election was at the end of World War I when the polling stations saw just 57.2% of eligible voters cast their ballot. Between 1922 and 1997 turnout was 71% and above, with a high of 83.9% in 1950. In 2001 turnout was 59.4%, in 2005 it was 61.4 % and in 2010 it was 65.1%. It's estimated that around 7.5 million people are missing from the electoral register, hence the reminders the UK population is currently seeing about registering to vote.



6. Constituencies

The UK is divided up into 650 parliamentary constituencies, each one represented by a member of parliament in the House of Commons. 533 are in England, 59 in Scotland, 40 in Wales and 18 in Northern Ireland. The largest in terms of area is Ross, Skye and Lochaber, measuring approximately 12,000 square kilometres. At just 7.35 square kilometres Islington North is the smallest, although at the time of the last general election had 16,283 more potential voters than Ross, Skye and Lochaber.

7. Inebriated electors

Apparently having a few jars before you head to the polling station is acceptable. polling staff can't turn away drunk voters. Don't get absolutely hammered though — if you appear incapable of casting a vote, you will have to answer a series of questions in order to prove you *are* capable. If you fail, apparently you'll be told to come back when you've sobered up.

8. Cost



Democracy costs serious money. The the estimated cost of the 2010 general election was an astonishing £113.2 million (\$174 million). This breaks down to £28.6 million (\$44 million) for the cost of distributing candidates' mailings and £84.6 million (\$130 million) to carry out the voting process.

9. Can the Queen vote?



Yes, but she doesn't. Although the law relating to elections does not specifically prohibit the Sovereign from voting in a general election or local election, it is considered unconstitutional for the Sovereign and his or her heir to do so. As Head of State, The Queen must remain politically neutral, since her Government will be formed from whichever party can command a majority in the House of Commons.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH



Nutella Crumble Slice

Ingredients

- 450g plain flour
- 270g rolled oats
- 55g light brown soft sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 375g butter melted
- 600g Nuttella or Hazel nut spread

Method

Prep:15min > Cook:20min

Pre heat the oven to 180c and line a 23cm x33 cm baking tray
Stir flour, baking powder, salt, oats, and brown sugar together well in a bowl stir in the melted butter.

Keep back 2 cups of the mixture and press the remainder into the baking tray

Heat the Nutella in the microwave for 1 minute and spread over the mixture in the tray

Bake for 25 minutes.

Leave to cool and cut into slices or squares.