



Newsletter

MAY - JUNE 2021

PO Box 14453 Tauranga 3143
www.u3atauranga.kiwi.nz

2021 GENERAL MEETINGS

- TAURANGA** 3rd Friday of each month
Tauranga Yacht & Power Boat Club, Sulphur Point, Tauranga.
- BEACHSIDE** 1st Tuesday of March, May, July, September & November.
Arataki Community Centre, Mt Maunganui.

All General Meetings commence at 10.00 am and conclude at 12.00 noon
Entry Fee is \$5.00.

TAURANGA - May

Friday 21 May 2021

Guest Speaker: Dan Allen-Gordon Founder
& Regional Manager of The Graeme Dingle Foundation

Dan is a local icon and legend who has spent over 25 years working with youth in the Tauranga area. He will explain how the organisation works, with the help of many dedicated people and his own drive to improve the lot of young people in need of help in Tauranga.



TAURANGA - June

Friday 19 June 2021

Guest Speaker: Jennae O'Donnell - Comvita

Jennae is passionate about delivering natural innovative solutions with health benefits and keeping up to date with the latest advances in food and supplement ingredients, technologies and formats. Jennae has an Honours Degree in Food Technology from Massey University in New Zealand and more than 10 years' experience in technical and scientific roles within the food and beverage industry.



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QUIZ CORNER

Test your general knowledge with these questions. Answers on page 15

1. How many days did the Arab-Israeli war of 1967 last?
2. Which country owns Greenland?
3. What is the atomic number of hydrogen?
4. What does USB stand for when used to describe the connection between computers and other devices?
5. Which fictional detective made his first appearance in A Study in Scarlet?
6. Which European capital has an airport named after a famous artist?
7. What did Oscar Wilde supposedly tell New York Customs was all he had to declare?
8. Which item of clothing appeared in posters advertising the film The Devil Wears Prada?
9. The Beaufort Scale ranges from zero up to which number?
10. For which king did Handel write The Water Music?



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members,

It seems we are steadily moving from the calm and beauty of Autumn into the cosy season of Winter. I do hope you are in good health and continuing to practice the Covid hygiene measures which proved very effective in keeping winter ailments at bay last year.

The Beachside General Meeting at the beginning of March saw us in Covid Level 2 which created a few difficulties and restricted numbers to 50 people. However, we worked with the restrictions, and those who did attend enjoyed the programme. The insight given by local entrepreneurs Sam Vye and Cam Baker into the development and use of their drone technology here in NZ and Internationally was extremely enlightening. *(See more on Page 4)*

Thank you to everyone who attended the General Meetings in March and April at the Yacht Club. As Mini Speakers, Margaret Shields and Roland Edwards provided knowledge and entertainment with confidence and humour. In March, Pim de Monchy from the Regional Council gave such an interesting talk on the restoration of the Maketu Estuary, while In April Ron McQuilter entertained us with stories of his experiences as a Private Investigator. *(See more on Page 5)*

In May we can look forward to our main speaker telling us about the work of the Graeme Dingle Foundation BOP Trust.

While speakers are an important aspect of our General Meetings, let's remember the great benefit to members of gathering socially. Remember too, that all members are welcome at all General Meetings whether held at Arataki or the Yacht Club. If any members would like to volunteer to coordinate carpooling on both sides of the harbour please let us know.

Lastly, but by no means less important, we would love one or two volunteers to help digitize valuable U3A Tauranga historical information. Please contact any member of the Executive if you are willing to help with this project.

Kind regards,

Anne Withy

President U3A Tauranga

BEACHSIDE MARCH GENERAL MEETING

Anne, our President, welcomed everyone and explained that the Swipe Cards were on a trial basis for Beachside and the Executive need feedback. The barcode contains only the name and no other details.

Anne Briggs gave the Coordinators' Report. She also explained a Coordinator's tasks, new groups and groups with vacancies.

Dianne Gibson is interested in forming a new group to attend the Universal Cinema at Bayfair. If you are interested, phone Dianne on 022 161 5969.

Anne then spoke briefly on U3A's presence at Bay Arena at the Seniors' Travel Expo. Saturday a lot of interest was shown, but Sunday was quiet. However, two people who had been to the Expo attended our General Meeting on 4 March.

Sheila Riddel Harvey introduced our speaker Sam Vye and gave little background history about Sam and how his company ECT started. Sam and his friend Cam Baker were working in the Galapagos Islands helping to eradicate rats for Yamaha but their ideas were not appreciated by this company so they decided to form their own company. Environmental & Conservation Technologies Ltd was formed in 2018 here in Tauranga.

The Galapagos Islands were being affected by fewer tourists due to their rat problems. Helicopters were too costly, restricted by weather and often areas were missed. A drone meant they were easily transportable, low costs and more accurate. Their GPS programme meant they could easily find targets, were safe and could fly from a boat, even when the sea was rough. They had two multicopter drones which needed batteries and these batteries had to be shipped commercially as dangerous goods which was costly. It was decided to use petrol which was lighter to transport and meant the drones could take heavier loads.

Before the drones started, a grid of the island was set up and a drone with a bait dispenser, dispersed the bait. Traps were set up around the coast to stop any rats from ships coming ashore. Sam and Cam achieved a total eradication of rats. The project was so successful they have picked up projects worldwide.

The company provides professional services using drones for environmental projects around the world. It assists with a range of scientific projects providing more efficient solutions than traditional methods. The company comprises of 8 members - scientists, engineers and drone experts all of whom are passionate and dedicated. They have completed over 400 projects using drones and with a slide show and short videos, he showed us some of the work they do. They do their work as a love for conservation and are not in it for money.



TAURANGA APRIL GENERAL MEETING

Ron McQuilter Speaker 16 April 2021

Ron was a most engaging speaker. From the outset he wanted for the audience to interact and to ask questions that they really wanted to know about, which led to a truly diverse presentation with pertinent answers to members' questions.

The first question for Ron to answer was about marital infidelity, which he answered with humour. He assured us all that neither he or his staff sat shivering in a car outside buildings waiting for wayward husbands or wives to incriminate themselves.

His company was more involved working with Government and alongside Police. This included responsibility to work with the Police to uplift confiscated items from gangs. On a serious note, when asked about the criminal gang members being deported back from Australia, he said they are making a significant impact in our communities.

Working in the commercial field was generally related to industrial theft and fraud, an area difficult for Police to investigate.

When asked, Ron told us that women were a strong part of his team and had a valuable place in the industry. There was much humour in his accounts, plus he gave us an insight to what is going on in our communities which we might not have been aware of before, including apprehending scammers.

A question was asked on what his wife thought about his work he admitted after more than thirty years, just like himself, she took it all in her stride.

Finally, one lucky member won his book, 'Spies, Lies and Disappearance' that records how he, among other things, solved the disappearance case of Kiwi Lee Shepard, who you may recall went missing in London.

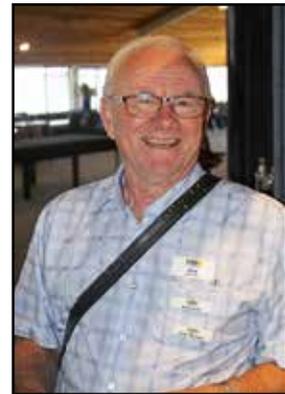
All in all, it was a satisfying presentation for Ron and his audience.



TAURANGA MARCH & APRIL GENERAL MEETING PICS



Happy March Meet & Greeters



Jim the IT man



Pim de Monchy



Our President



Ron McQuilter



Mini Speaker



April Meet & Greeters



The Money Takers

COORDINATORS REPORT

Suggested New Groups:

Scrabble: 6-8 confirmed applicants, looking to appoint a convener before formally starting group sessions.

Bayfair United Cinema: Convener: Dianne Gibson

Video Creation Content:

“Want to learn how to create an excellent video, edit it and produce it?” We are looking to start a group interested in learning how it all works. If you are a keen photographer or are an amateur keen to take the next step into the ‘Video World’ this could be the group for you.

Contact Graeme Wilson on 02102019998 or 07 5742392 for further information

Mini Hikes 3:

Several people have indicated an interest in re-starting Mini Hikes 3. There will be a start up group meeting at Arataki Community Centre on Monday 10 May at 10.30 for those interested. Details of days of the month for the group to be active, times etc will be

discussed then. We have members who are prepared to assist with convening this group.

Contact Steve Hayles 574 1190, Mob 021 133 2911

or Anne Briggs, I-P Coordinator 975 1888, Mob 021 0243 2073

Groups seeking New Members:

Current Events D and Current Events A: Weekend Walkers: Garden Ramblers 4

New French Conversation 3

Acoustic Music Performers: We are taking new members who are accomplished singers and in playing the ukulele, guitar, banjo or mandolin. We are doing a few performances but mainly concentrating on our Tuesday jam sessions which are great fun. We encourage small clusters of our members to perform outside the main group as performance venues rarely can accommodate more than 10 or 12 musicians.

Cafe Book Lovers 1: Our meeting was on the 26 April and we did ANZAC stories from our families in WW1 and WW2, and of course our book swaps too.

New Members' Meeting

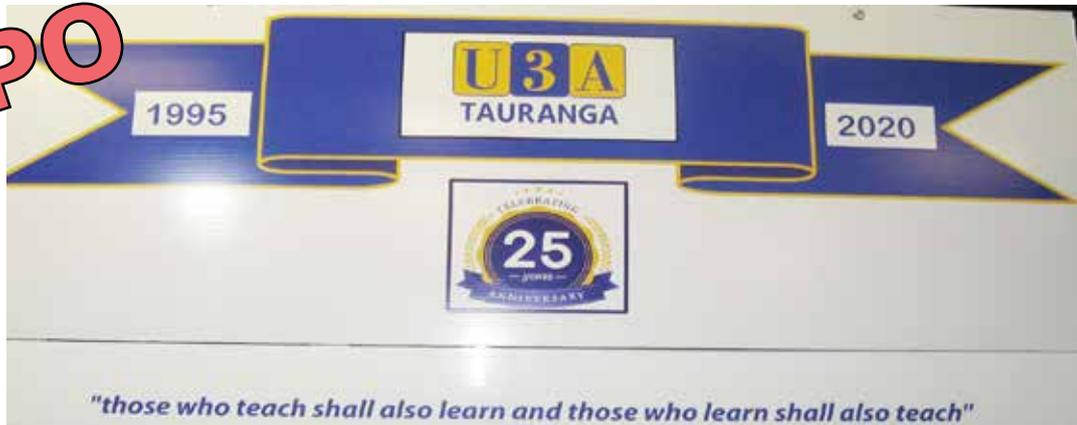
New Members' Meeting held at the Wesley Church on 18 March was well attended.

Conveners' Meeting

The Conveners' Meeting held 30 March at the Arataki Community Centre was successful in clarifying many of the points of the revised Guidelines for Conveners and Coordinators. It was a good forum for Conveners to be able to engage with the Coordinators.

Number of Groups:	A-C	25 Groups	
	D-H	22 Groups	
	I-P	24 Groups	
	R-Z	18 Groups	TOTAL: 89

EXPO



U3A Tauranga

U3A is a world wide movement bringing THIRD AGERS together

Inspiring those over 55 to follow new interests

Meet new people and make new friends, and have fun while learning new skills at our interest groups

U3A could be just the thing for you!

For more information - please check out our website ...

www.U3ATauranga.kiwi.nz

GROUP NEWS

French Conversation Group 2 (for Intermediate Grade)

A group for enthusiastic learners of the French language at Intermediate Grade. An opportunity to revisit previous learning and work towards growing oral fluency.

Convener: Darien Cunliffe 027 3765 513
Venue: The Boardroom, Raft Café, Chapel Street
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month.
Time: 10.15am – 12.15

French Conversation Group 3 (for absolute beginners only)

This is a new group to introduce interested people who have not previously learnt French, to experience the pleasure of learning a new language.

Convener: Linda Kennedy 027 280 3670
Sub-Convener: Carlene McCarthy 021 140 8701
Venue: Members' homes
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month
Time: 10am

Please contact Linda if there are any issues/questions about this.

LONE RANGERS 2

On 23 March Lone Rangers 2 were lucky enough to have Mike O'Brien talk to us about his fascinating life.

Tragedy struck suddenly one day when he awoke to find himself unable to walk – he had developed Guillain Barre Syndrome, a condition in which the immune system attacks the nerves.

This wonderful man decided to seek sponsorship to build a boat which 4 paraplegics could power with their arms. They started out on the New Zealand lakes and then came their voyage across Cook Strait which had to be zigzagged due to currents and winds.

Their next adventure was to navigate from Victoria Island to Vancouver and then the English Channel. Finally their most memorable trip was down the River Nile. Wives, friends and relatives accompanied them travelling on a beautiful Nile River boat.

Mike shared his story and showed us his photos and we were filled with admiration that to get up and down into their boat they were, in turn, hoisted over the side of the boat by rope and pulley. Nothing seems too hard for Mike, helping his father-in-law build his house, pouring concrete and gardening. We wonder what he will attempt next.

He was accompanied by his wife Joy who also added to his anecdotes and memories. It was a treat to meet them both.

Please contact Linda Kennedy 027 280 3670, if there any issues / questions about this.



GARDEN RAMBLERS 4



Appearing here are some photos from our Garden Ramble through McClaren Falls Park.

We are based in Papamoa and currently have vacancies. If you are interested please contact me ...
Jennifer Harrison on 0275105097



GEOLOGY



Geology Field Trip 18 March

The photo shows some of the group at the crater lake of Rainbow Mountain. The trip visited a number of locations, some of which were the Domain Road interchange, the construction of which encountered ice age gullies, which had very soft soils. Also the Okere geothermal field, Ngakuru crustal extension cracks (photo below), mud pools at Waiotapu and sites where evidence of Lake Rotorua once being 90m deeper than present. Not to be all geological related, we visited the controversial sculpture in the centre of the roundabout near the Hemo Gorge, on the south side of Rotorua city.

The group delved into the Kermadec and east coast subduction earthquakes in March and are looking forward to more detail being released.

*Earthquake
flat surface
cracking*



It was with sadness that the former convener of the group, Robert Turnbull, passed away late last year. Robert was Convener for eight years and had a wealth of geological information. The group has appreciated Rolland Edwards taking over the convener role in the short term, and Terry Boyle is now the group Convener. Terry is a recently retired roading engineer with local knowledge of the Bay of Plenty. Also about to join the group are two members of the Gem and Mineral club. So some diverse experience has been brought to the group, which now has its membership full. Appreciation also to our faithful back stop, our Coordinator, Jocelyn Hooper.

GROUP NEWS

Do we owe Shakespeare's plays to a drunken fight?

A drunken swordfight outside an inn late on a summer's evening may have given William Shakespeare his big break into the world of theatre.

The deadly quarrel broke out between two actors belonging to the Queen's Men – a theatre company touring the countryside around London – sometime after 9pm on 13 June 1587.

One was William Knell, a fiery young man noted for his performances as the dashing prince Hal. The other was an actor named John Towne, and they began quarrelling after giving a performance in the Oxfordshire market town of Thame.

In the words of the coroner at the time: "John Towne was in a close called White Hound in Thame when William Knell came and had in his right hand a sword, and jumped upon John Towne intending to kill him."

Towne was "in fear and despairing of his life and of the mutilation of his limbs," the coroner said.

"To save his life he drew his sword of iron (price five shillings), and held it in his right hand and thrust it into the neck of William Knell and made a mortal wound three inches deep and one inch wide."

What does all this have to do with Shakespeare?

By the time the Queen's Men arrived at their next stop, Shakespeare's home town of Stratford-upon-Avon, one actor was dead and the other was facing arrest for murder.

Paul Chapman, sub-convenor of the Shakespeare Group, believes the man who stepped up, begging for a chance to act, was none other than Shakespeare, the 23-year-old son of a Stratford glove-maker. The rest, as they say, is history.

Paul relates the story in a book he has just had published, *Secret Will: How People, Events and a Dancing Horse Inspired Shakespeare*.

"Without that swordfight, the English language might never have had its greatest poet and playwright," he says. "Then we certainly wouldn't have a Tauranga U3A Shakespeare Group!"

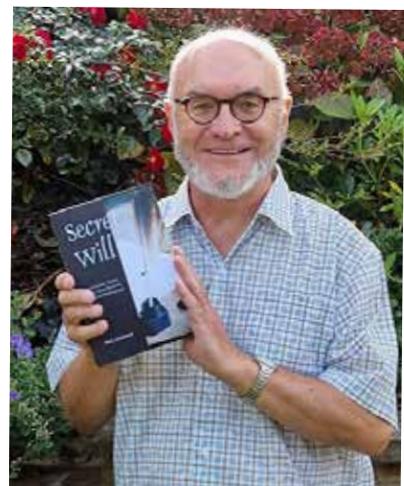
Paul credits the Shakespeare Group with inspiring him to write his book, which took more than two years to research.

"I can honestly say the book would never have been written had it not been for our lively group."

"We have such thought-provoking discussions that I come away from every meeting thinking 'I must look further into that' and the outcome was my book," he says.

"I would like especially to acknowledge the contribution made by Lati Moodie, who founded the Shakespeare Group five years ago."

Paul has created a website at www.secretwill.net for anyone who would like more information about his book.



Paul Chapman, member of U3A Shakespeare Group, with his newly published book.

APPLE MAC SUPPORT GROUP 1



Some of the group enjoying their first meeting of the year. The group meets to discuss Apple Mac computer and mobile phone problems.



MEET & GREET TEAMS

BEACHSIDE - March



Mighty Meet and Greet group made up of members of Garden Ramblers 1 & 3

TAURANGA - March



Book Lovers 2

TAURANGA April



Book Lovers 3

Well, Fancy That!

In this series we take a look at some remarkable but not so well-known facts

Changing ads are a sign of the times

By Paul Chapman

CAUTION: Don't read this article if you are easily offended!

If, on the other hand, you see the advertising industry as an unflinching indicator of each generation's priorities, then read on.

Advertisers are, after all, driven by the profit motive and the messages they send are designed to get us to part with our hard-earned cash. The last thing they want to become is social pariahs.

So what's remarkable, from a sociological point of view, is just how much those messages have changed, even within our own lifetimes.

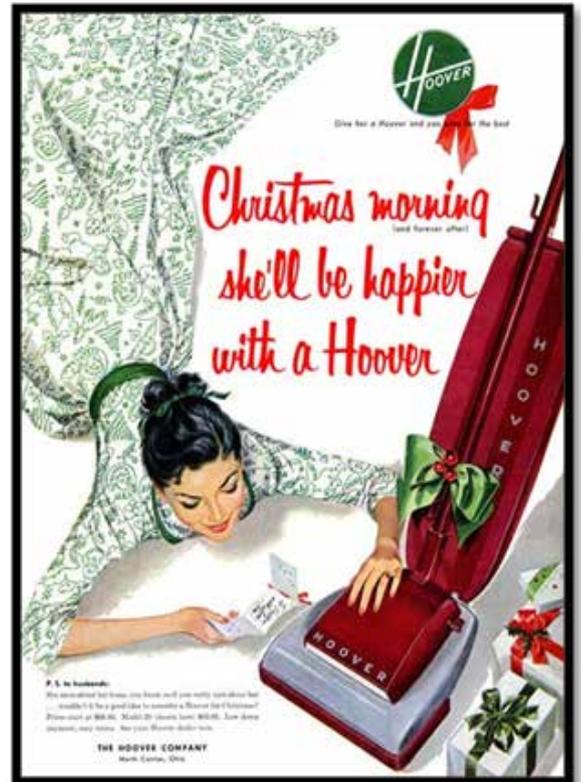
Viewed from our more enlightened age, many of the big-budget advertising campaigns of yesteryear now evoke emotions ranging from a wry smile to outright disgust. Yet in their day, no one saw anything remotely wrong with them. Remember, for example, "Guinness is good for you," which had to be

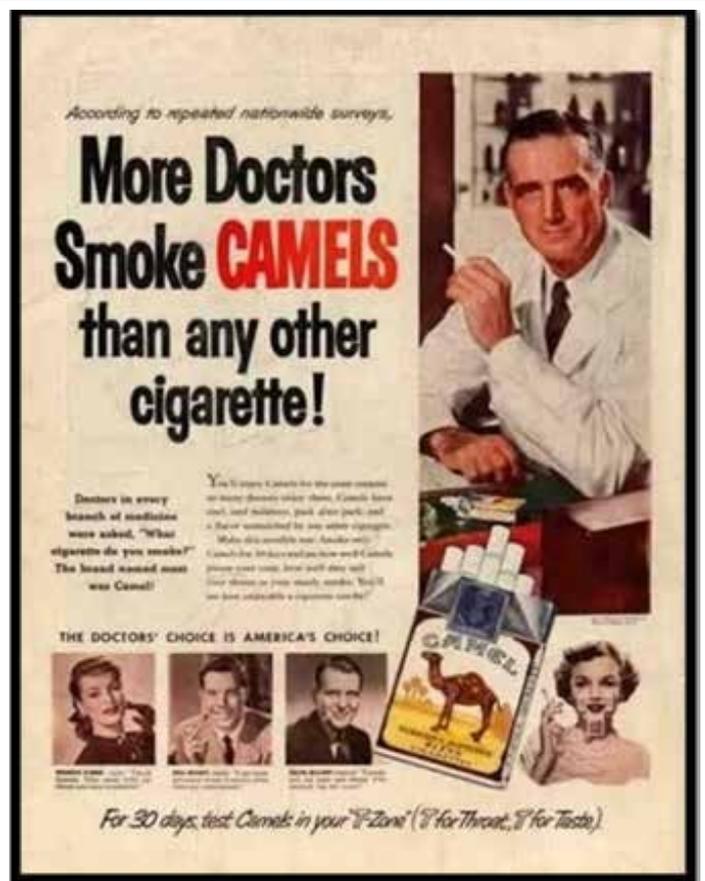
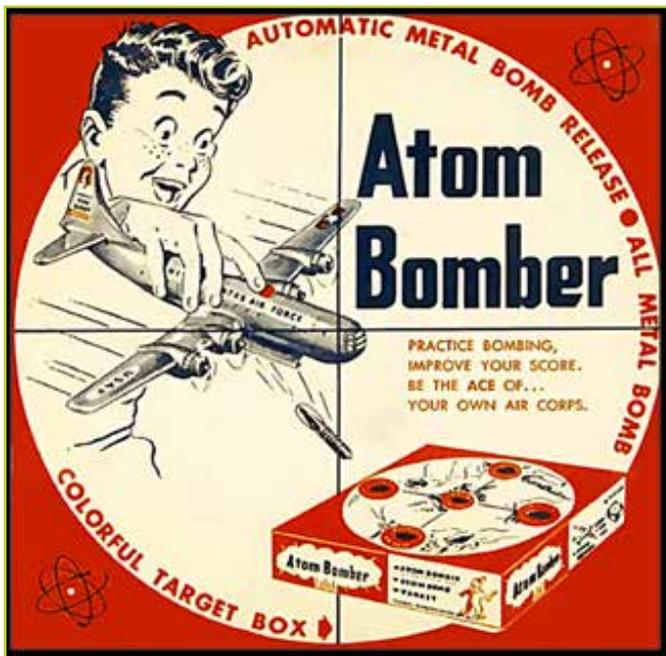
ditched when governments introduced trade description laws outlawing unsupportable claims by advertisers? Or "Heineken refreshes the parts other beers cannot reach" when, in fact, it couldn't and didn't?

But there was worse, much worse, than those.

How outraged we would rightly be to see a sexist vacuum cleaner ad like the one from the 1950s, which assured present-buying husbands: "Christmas morning she'll be happier with a Hoover."

Then there was the picture of a baby guzzling a sugary fizzy drink from the bottle, put out by Seven Up and headlined: "We have the youngest customers in the business."

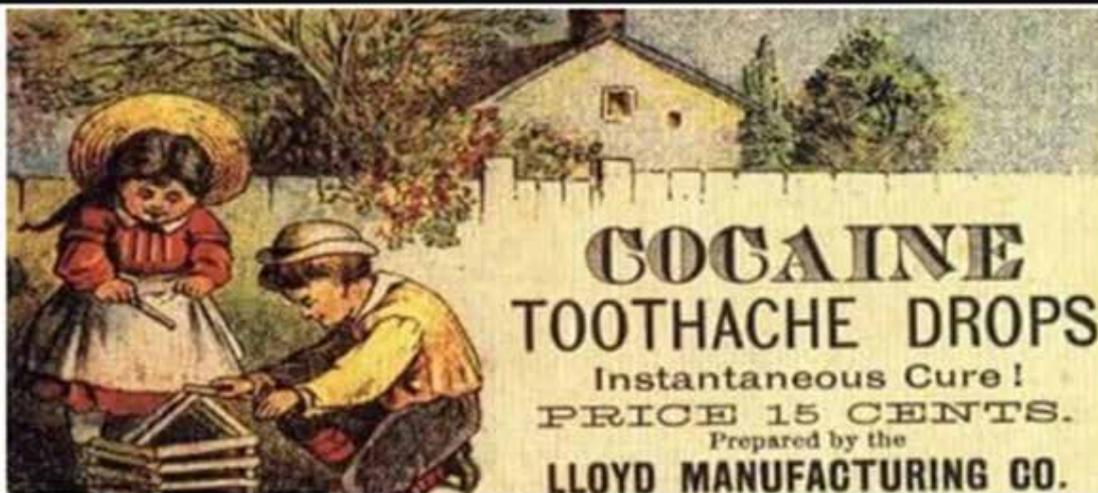




If tobacco manufacturers could even advertise these days, what would we make of one that assured us: “More doctors smoke Camels than any other cigarette”? How times change indeed!

Another horror from the Fifties was a child’s toy called “Atom Bomber,” which invites its young user to perfect their aim at target practice. This in the wake of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, of course, as the Cold War with the Soviet Union raged.

But for utter disbelief, we need to go back to the early years of the 20th century. “Cocaine Toothache Drops” were advertised as an “instant cure, with the accompanying illustration showing two young children happily at play.



Quiz Answers

- 1.Six; 2.Denmark; 3.One; 4.Universal Serial Bus; 5.Sherlock Holmes;
- 6.Rome(Leonardo da Vinci); 7.His genius; 8.A shoe; 9.Twelve;
- 10.George I.

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NEXT NEWSLETTER JULY/AUGUST Deadline for contributions is 26 June 2021

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