

# GAN ISLAND POST

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A H A P P Y

N E W      Y E A R      H A V I N G

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## STOP PRESS

"Say, 'When!'"  
"Why?"

Editorial

And so Christmas 1967 came to pass and the usual hectic time was had by all. The celebrations started with the Mammoth Gan Island Gala Night, and apart from the present respite, which after all is only temporary, will no doubt continue into the not so early hours of 1968. The 180 Club venture was a terrific social (if not such a financial) success-even though the ingenious fair ground stalls, the excellent fish and chip bar, Honest Gerry's tote and the Marine Bar detachment all contributed to the Christmas Appeal Fund.

On the second day of Christmas, SHQ clinched the Eagle trophy, the VVIPs returned and the Hermits had their first Christmas Dinner. The inter-denominational carol service on Christmas Eve was the outstanding event of the day there being an excellent turn out both for the service and tour of the island and the entertainers enjoyed their reward for those hard working practice Sessions.

The Sergeants' and Officers' Messes engaged in their traditional yuletide joust at each other's bars on Christmas Day and then adjourned to the Airmen's Mess, where they had the honour of waiting on their dear friends amongst the junior ranks. The billet bars were in full swing at this stage, and the task of selecting the winning entry was a very difficult one. Congratulations to Workshops and indeed to all Sections for their excellent efforts.

Boxing (or should it be bathing) Day was of course Ceylinco Day, and the round the island bicycle race was thus accompanied by beer, curry and hospitality that only the Imps can give. And so back to work for a few days. It's difficult to appreciate that its all over. What about the appeal fund? Any figures quoted at this stage can only be approximate ones, but thanks once more to the increasing efforts of the Radio Gan staff who have really excelled themselves; a Children's Hospital in Surrey are going to have a very happy New Year.

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HAVE YOU HEARD

1. That the sex kitten scooped the pool and still complained?
2. That Wally Sang in the choir, found his lighter and bought a new coat?
3. That Felix was trapped between the Laka Nuki and the Stagger Inn?
4. That the deputy admiral did a hompipe, and a certain Movements Officer was up and dressed very early in the morning?
5. That 205 had a merry crimble?
6. That Jack kept the lights on, and Joe stole the show?
7. That a certain SAC from SHQ prefers to drink horizontally, and Jinx went looking for a bar?
8. That the SMO had a quiet Christmas and the Director of broadcasting played I'm in charge?
9. That the Vicar has taken the purple?
10. That James Mackay held the fort and Eddie has two weeks of the dry season left?

THIS WEEK'S THOUGHT OF 205

"HAPPY MAHOGANY"

CSE WHO'S WHO

MICHAEL COX was born in Liverpool, is 6' 2" tall, has blue eyes and brown hair. He first entered Show Business in Jack Good's "OH BOY!", then appeared as a regular in "BOY MEETS GIRL" and "WHAM". His first chart success was "Angela Jones", which was No. 3 in the charts, followed by "Along Came Caroline" and "Sweet Little Sixteen", both of which reached the Top Twenty. He has had several numbers in the Swedish charts, "Stand Up", which was No. 1 for five months, "Honey", "Cause I Love You", and "I've Been Thinking" EP which reached No. 3 in the charts.

BARBARA LAW was born in Warrington, Lancs, where she started singing at the age of fifteen with local bands. At Seventeen, Barbara passed her B.B.C. audition, her first broadcast being "What Makes A Star", in which she was acclaimed by the panel of well-known critics. To date she has over 200 broadcasts to her credit. Barbara has been guest star on numerous T.V. shows including "The Ken Dodd Show", "Morecambe and Wise Show", "Des O'Connor Show", "Blackpool Night Out", and in 1964 won the "Viewer TV Magazine" award as TV Personality of the Year.

GEORGE TRUZZI was born in Leningrad, Russia, and performed as a child in Circuses all over the Soviet Union. He started off in Show Business as a Coasack Rider, Juggler, etc. at the age of seven. By the time he was fourteen he had performed with the famous Truzzi family in every European capital.

PETER ROBINSON..... "ALMOST TOO HUMOROUS TO MENTION"

BORN: Yes. At Warrington, Lancashire.

OCCUPATION: COMEDIAN. Previous Occupations: Engineering Design Draughtsman -  
10 years : Insurance Broker 4 years.

Served in the Royal Air Force 1953 - 1955.

MARRIED? Yes, for eight years. Wife's name Joan, and one daughter, Louise, aged 6. Plus a dog called Fred.

Graduated from Boys Club Pantomimes to Concert Party on to Theatres (remember them?) Clubs, Cabaret, Radio and Television.

PAUL MAGUIRE young, good looking exceptionally talented and extremely wealthy.

BOBBY ADRIAN started drumming in 1948, armed with only a pair of sticks and an instruction book. By playing in London pubs over the weekend he was able to finance himself enough to buy his own drums and attend the Central School of Dance Music for two years, where his panel of learned instructors were all agreed that in a very short while Bobby would rise to the heights.

PEARL FAWCETT was born in Barnsley, Yorkshire. She started playing the piano when she was only eight years old. Now she plays the piano, the accordeon, the cello, and is studying to play the guitar.

MIKE THORN was born at Saltash, Cornwall, and started playing the String Bass at the age of seventeen, in Devon.

He first worked in an Insurance office but left this to appear in a Musical Season at the Prince's Hotel Torquay. Here he met Musical Director Don Franklin, was auditioned by him, and was booked to work on an Eastern Steamship Corporation liner cruise of Miami, the West Indies, Nassau, Bermuda and New York. This was during 1961/1962.

### THE OCEAN WATERS

The ocean is important not only because it covers so large a portion of our planet; it is also the most complex chemical substance known to man, and may even hold the secret of life itself. If sea water were found only in some small, remote lake, chemists and biologists would doubtless study it intensively as a most precious liquid.

Sea water is known to contain seventy-five of the ninety-two elements that occur in nature - excluding a small number that have been made in the laboratory, some of which have existed for only a fraction of a second. It is likely that all of the naturally occurring elements will ultimately be found in the sea. It would indeed be difficult to understand why they should not, for all rivers, as they move toward the sea, bear with them all the substances they have garnered from the land.

Water is partially a universal solvent. When we say that a substance is insoluble in water, we generally mean that it dissolves so slowly that for practical purposes we can disregard its solubility. Thus we can store water in glass bottles for years on end, knowing that the water will not eat holes in the glass, and that it will remain reasonably pure. But distilled water kept in a glass bottle for a year will not be actually, chemically pure; it will contain traces of substances dissolved out of the glass-silica, borates, phosphates, and so forth, depending on the composition of the glass. Thus it need not surprise us that such unlikely elements as silica, aluminum, tin, lead and nickel occur in measurable quantities in sea water.

Even such rare metals as gold and silver, which we commonly regarded as completely immune to the solvent action of water, occur in the ocean - in minute quantities per cubic meter, but in an aggregate amount that staggers the imagination. In 1911 a British chemist, L.S. Blackmore, calculated that a cubic mile of sea water contains more than \$ 93,000,000 worth of gold and \$ 8,500,000 worth of silver. Since the oceans of the world contain some three hundred million cubic miles of water, the total value of the gold and silver in the sea is in excess of thirty billion times a million dollars - far more than the total gold and silver reserves of all the nations on earth. The difficulties of obtaining this wealth are made clear, however, by Blackmore's statement that it cost him four to five thousand dollars over a period of several years to extract about five dollars' worth of silver and gold from sea water.

Salt, we know, is in plentiful supply in sea water; more prosaic than gold and silver, still it is not merely seasoning, it is an important and necessary chemical in body fluids. Man has always gone to great lengths to procure it. Naturally occurring deposits have been mined or dug from time immemorial. In early English dialects, "which" meant a salt pit, and the word survives in such place names as Norwich, Harwich, Greenwich, and so forth - places where salt could be obtained. Julius Caesar describes a crude method of evaporation used by the early Britons: they would build a fire of charcoal, quench it with sea water, and obtain salt from the ashes. The Vikings secured a concentrated brine by allowing sea water to freeze and then removing the successive layers of ice as they formed. (By an interesting reversal of this procedure, one method of obtaining potable water from sea water is to freeze it and use the ice instead of the brine.)

/ In parts....

Continued from page 4

In parts of the world where the climate is favourable, salt has generally been obtained through solar evaporation of sea water, often in large, shallow, man-made ponds. Production of salt by this method is still a thriving industry in Italy, France, Spain, in San Francisco Bay, Baja California, and elsewhere. Not by any means all of the salt produced is refined for human consumption. Great quantities are used in the chemical industries - for example, in the manufacture of chlorine and hydrochloric acid.

Vast subterranean deposits of salt in various parts of the world, as in the United States (particularly New York, Michigan, Ohio, Kansas and Texas), England, Germany, Austria, Poland, Russia and Spain, have been a puzzle to geologists and oceanographers. These deposits are generally agreed to have come from a part of the ocean that occupied these areas in past geological time, some of them as old as the Triassic, Permian or even Lower Carboniferous periods. The layer of salt may be several hundred feet in thickness. It seems unlikely that any large section of the ocean several miles deep should simply have evaporated, leaving its load of salt behind. Much more plausible is the hypothesis that these great salt deposits were formed in broad, shallow seas that alternately evaporated and then were inundated with the not infrequent changes in sea level in geologic time. The incoming water, bearing its own salt, would in time contribute to the deposit.

Less abundant than salt, hydrogen, oxygen, carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus, all of which are basic to organic life, occur in substantial amounts in the sea. There are smaller but significant quantities of iron and copper, which play important roles in the respiration of animals. Hemoglobin, which gives the red color to the blood of vertebrate animals, is an organic compound of iron that has the property of combining with oxygen quickly but loosely, and just as easily separating again. Thus it can pick up oxygen in gills or lungs, carry it to parts of the body where it is needed, and there release it to the tissues. Hemocyanin is a colorless organic compound of copper found in the blood of mollusks and crustaceans, and probably a large number of other invertebrates having colorless or nearly colorless blood; it functions in the same way as hemoglobin as a means of transporting oxygen throughout the organism. It is likely that many of the minutely occurring or trace elements in sea water will ultimately be found to serve some important purpose as do iron and copper.

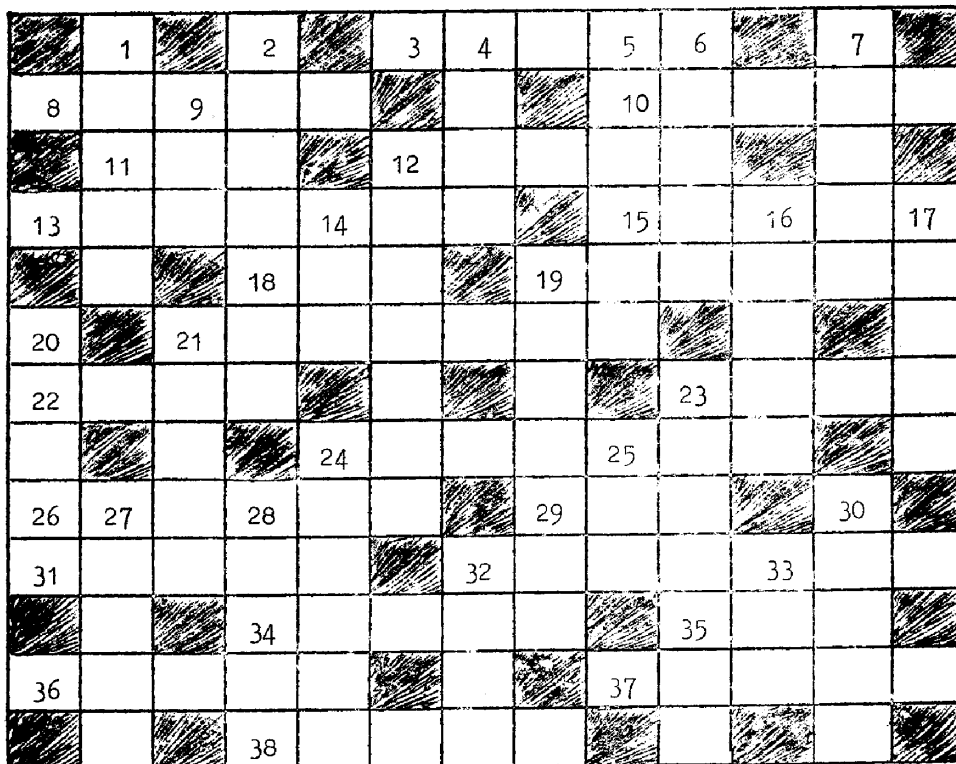
#### THE MOST ABUNDANT ELEMENTS IN SEA WATER

(Values in grams per cubic meter, approximately equivalent to parts per million)

Oxygen	857,000	Potassium	380
Hydrogen	108,000	Bromine	65
Chlorine	19,000	Carbon	28
Sodium	10,500	Strontium	8
Magnesium	1,350	Boron	4.6
Sulphur	885	Silicon	3.0
Calcium	400	Fluorine	1.3

ROBERT C. MILLER

CROSSWORD



Clues Across

Clues Down

3. Decree of the dictator (5).
8. In which the ship's captain might have more than one log?(5).
10. Race the Spanish boy around (5).
11. Name of the mouth (3).
12. The devil upsets Don and me (5).
13. May stand for years on a cake! (7).
15. Halley's, perhaps, or one of Halley's (5).
18. Grazing-land (3).
19. Great enthusiasm for a warm coat and a mineral?(6).
21. Bottles or bibs (7).
22. Eager to go inside (4).
23. For the players who really are the tops?(4).
24. Possibly claimed a point (7).
26. Many a bird is cowardly (6).
29. Drink a little (3).
31. He gets some lentils from her (5).
32. Waspish?(7).
34. The sort of flavour to be crazy about?(5).
35. A meal of leaves?(3).
36. It interrupts the sunshine (5).
37. Monica Friday's place (5).
38. They never look back (5).

1. Foreign prince (5).
2. Not necessarily the limb of a deer (4,3)
4. They have impressive possibilities (4).
5. To us, a small reptile is a plant!(6)
6. He never sings base-sounding songs(5).
7. Descriptive of weak chains (5).
9. Prohibition of bananas?(3).
12. Are unable to tell tales (4,3)
14. Gypsy general?(3).
16. You may have such a victory without winning (5).
17. Under a strain in the past, perhaps (5).
19. Such weakness may be only human (7).
20. Come out of one's shell?(5).
21. The sort of point to concentrate on?(5).
23. London letter, perhaps (7).
24. Like the covers off (6).
25. Push the wrong way, and so spoil (3).
27. Fishermen's dances?(5).
28. The space traveller might like to visit her (5).
30. She may contribute towards the ear-rings (5).
32. Highlights of a film?(4).
33. Stimulating sort of talk (3).

1967 - 1968

The excitement and joy of Christmas is slowly passing and we now are about the enter 1968. As usual there will be resolutions (made to be broken) which of course we try and make when we're stone cold sober.

The Church does not have celebrations for New Year because it is a purely secular occasion but it is a convenient time to review the past year and look forward to that coming. During the last twelve months there have been many Chaplains on Gan (we don't seem able to last the pace). This has meant many changes in the Church and its worship. We have, however, a very constant band of worshippers and our thanks to all those who help to make the Church on Gan what it is. The choir and the organist and those who help by distributing and collecting books and by making sure that anything done in Church is done without any difficulty. I am particularly grateful to the many who helped with the Christmas Arrangements.

The actual building has changed inside and I hope the new "open atmosphere will be even more improved in the next few months. Spiritually, we have had changes because we have baptised here and prepared many for confirmation, some of whom went to Singapore and others were confirmed in their repat to U.K. I am pretty certain we can't claim a marriage! The most important change of all in 1967 was the formal acknowledging of the new services which were published. We here add one of the many alternatives for the Communion Service and even the most conservative in the congregation can see that with familiarity has come a deeper meaning than at first seemed possible.

It does no harm to consider a change even though we are intent as we are and even if we reject the new alternatives it reaffirms the meaning and personal significance of the old services.

The Christmas attendance here at Saint Christopher's showed that many wanted to remember that it is an important religious festival. In 1968 it would be wonderful to see the church as full on a Sunday as it was for Midnight Communion. We could then feel, in a real way, the point of getting together to think about God's word and about praising him and praying to him.

We hope in 1968 to be able, in addition to modernising the building to finish the job we started, to also provide a friendly welcome atmosphere in Church. God is not cold and unwelcoming but man can be. If there is something wrong with our religion then it is our fault not God's and maybe we can improve.

A happy new year to all.

Yours aye

J.E. Daimond.

