



E

entertainment

M

memories

B

Brain Teasers

R

Reasons to smile

A

Articles of Interest

C

Creative Opportunities

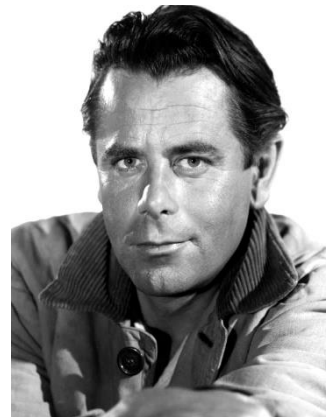
E

Enjoyment

New Year Edition

Famous Faces

Can you name these famous people?

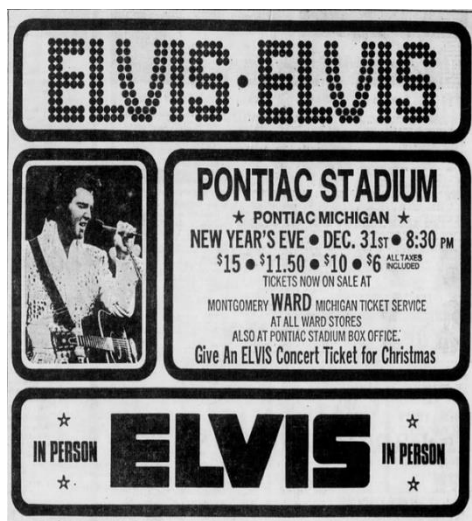


Born on New Year's Eve



Born on New Year's Eve

Sharing a Memory



For devoted fans of Elvis, their dreams came true with a rare New Year's Eve concert in 1975. Elvis fan Wendy recaps what she describes as "the best night of her entire life".

At the time, the Silverdome was one of the biggest and most unique stadiums. I remember it was huge and cold, and the sound wasn't the greatest; but none of that mattered in the least to me. I was about to be in the same room (okay, super huge room) with my idol.

I remember when the strains of 2001 (Space Odyssey) started, my heart pounded with every beat of the drum. Everyone searched the stage wondering from where Elvis might enter. When he did--I believe coming up from under the stage somewhere, and in all his glory--the lights from the flashbulbs on the cameras (which is what we used back then) was like a lightning storm that lit up the entire place. I wasn't even close to the stage. I was very high up and far away, and had to use binoculars to see him, but there he was!



From the first note to the last, I felt every song and every note was sung to me. That was the magic of Elvis. Everyone felt that way. I remember him saying something such as, "We're gonna do some old songs and some new songs, and we hope we do something that you like." There were the old hits in medley form. I especially remember him doing "My Way" and saying, "I don't know the words, ladies and gentlemen, so I have to read it if you don't mind." But he really didn't need the words and tossed the lyric sheet across the stage within seconds.

One of the highlights for the fans, and perhaps lowlight for poor Elvis, was that this was the concert where he split his jumpsuit pants. He explained to us, "I'm in front of the biggest audience of my life and I split my pants.... the Stamps will sing for you, ladies and gentlemen, and I'll be right back."

As I recall, he was back in another suit before the song ended, saying, "You didn't know I was a quick-change artist, did ya'?" I thought it was great that we got to see him in two different jumpsuits--the Rainfall and the V-neck--in one night. Bonus!

When it came time for the countdown to midnight, he did the countdown with us. He wished us all a Happy New Year (which was about to be the bi-centennial year), and then introduced us to his dad and Lisa Marie who were in the audience that night. He then raised a glass to us all and sang "Auld Lang Syne" as the balloons dropped. My most vivid memory is of him standing on the stage, in the spotlight alone, singing that song as the audience was hugging and kissing their loved ones. It made me incredibly sad. He just looked so alone in that huge crowd. Perhaps, he often felt that way.

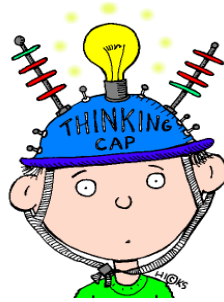
During "How Great Thou Art", he did the ending twice saying, "Let me do that again, ladies and gentlemen, I can do it better." And of course he did. His vocals soared right to the ceiling. He said it was the best night he'd ever had. I think he was just being kind, as later reports would tell us that it was freezing cold on that stage and he couldn't hear the band because of the odd set up; but the truth of it is, it WAS the best night I ever had, before or since. No other New Year's Eve has ever compared, and likely never will.

Thank you, Elvis, as always, for bringing so much magic to so many. The building may be gone but Elvis never really left it.

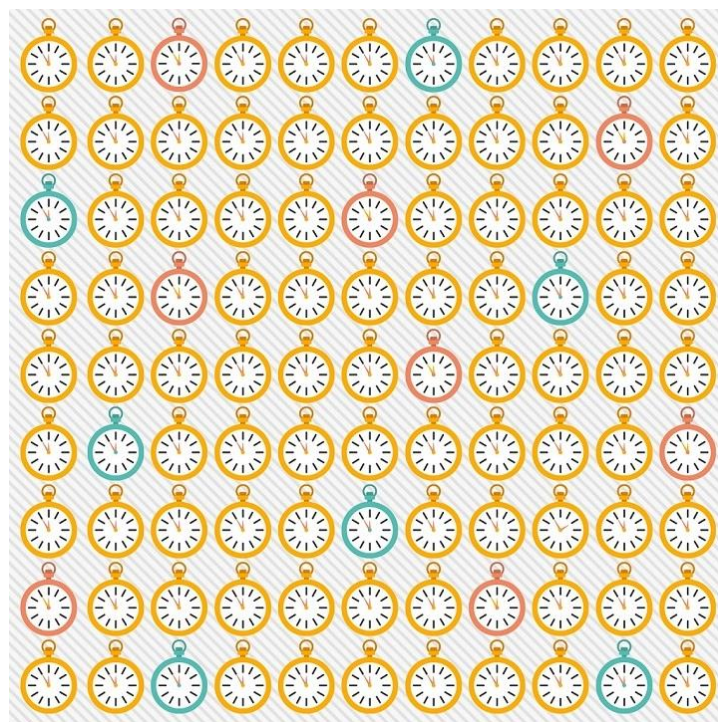
Wendy King

Carolyn MacArthur, Sideburns The Ultimate ETA Fan Magazine, 31.12.17,
'Wendy King's New Year's Eve Story', 30/12/20
<<https://www.sideburnsmagazine.com/blog/2017/12/28/wendy-kings-touching-new-years-eve-story>>

Brain Teasers



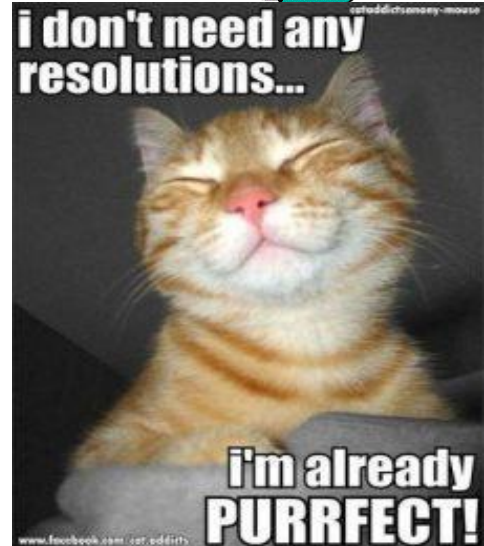
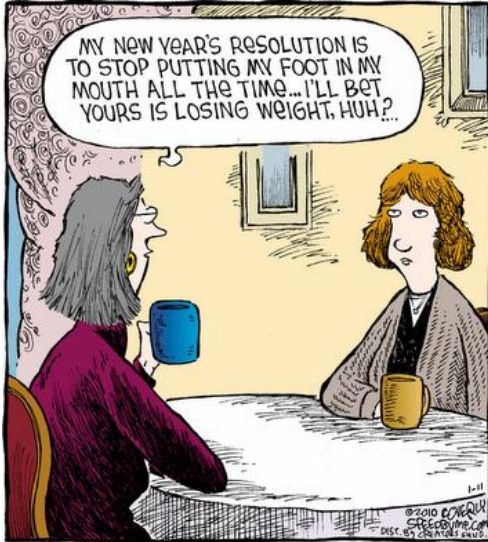
- ✿ Row upon row of pocket watches show the time as five minutes to midnight. While it may seem like they are all identical, hidden amongst these clocks is just one telling the wrong time. Can you find it?



Created by GiftsOnline4U

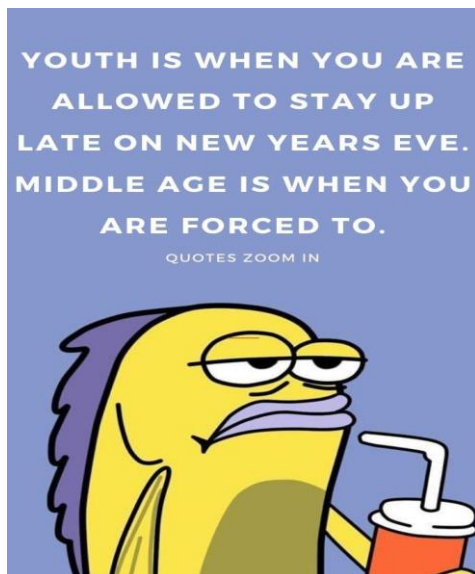
- ✿ Its New Year's Day and a lady pushes her car to a hotel and tells the owner that she is bankrupt. Why?
- ✿ Enjoying virtual drinks with friends on Zoom, a man looks at a nearby photo. His friend asks, "who is it?" The man replies, "Brothers and sisters, I have none. But that man, his father is my father's son". Who was in the photograph?

Comedy Corner



What happened to the man who shoplifted a calendar on New Year's Eve?

He got 12 months!



New Year Customs & Superstitions

First Footing

First-footing as a New Year custom is most common in Scotland and the north of England, but it does have regional, and international, variations. It relates to the first person to enter the house after midnight on January 1. You can be an occupant of the house, but you can't be *in* the house at the stroke of midnight.

A "lucky" 'first-footer' is described in folklore as a dark-haired male. In some places women and fair-haired men are considered deeply unlucky, the latter relating back to blond Viking invaders.

Gifts given by the first footer

There are regional variations and commonalities regarding the gifts given by the first footer and visitors. Gifts include a silver coin, a lump of coal (to keep the fire burning), shortbread, salt, whiskey and a piece of bread. These items are said to represent financial prosperity, warmth, food and good cheer. Other gifts include wood to ensure no deaths in the following year (that you won't take a coffin out of the house in the year), greenery for a long life and a broom to 'sweep away' the old year.

Lucky Rabbits

In Yorkshire, just as the clock is about to strike midnight on New Year's Eve, legend goes that you should say "black rabbits, black rabbits, black rabbits".

When the clock chimes twelve, you should then say "white rabbits, white rabbits, white rabbits" to bring you luck. The origins of this are

unknown though it is thought to relate to the belief that rabbit's and hares are lucky, as demonstrated when people carry a rabbit's foot for luck. It has also been thought to represent jumping into the future, moving ahead with life and happiness.

Hogmanay

Hogmanay is one of the greatest celebrations of New Year in the world with its origins reaching back to the celebrations of the Winter Solstice among the Vikings. Beginning on the 31st December, the celebrations can often go on for another two days.

Fire festivals and fireworks play a big part in Scottish celebrations derived from fires lit by Vikings when they invaded Scotland, thought like the sun to ward off evil spirits and mark the turning point of the season.

Calennig

Calennig celebrations take place in Wales. Meaning 'New Year Celebration/Gift', its literal translation is 'the first day of the month'.



A declining tradition, children would call from door to door before midday bearing good wishes for the year to come. This was symbolised by usually an apple with cloves, greenery and sometimes nuts, herbs, dried fruit, and glitter skewered with a tripod of sticks. A decoration, it was considered a symbol of luck for the home. Children would sing and be given small gifts of money and sweet treats. It was thought to date from ancient times and represent the sun absent during the winter.

A Spanish Tradition

New Year's Eve in Spain is known as **Noche Vieja** (Old Night). At midnight people eat twelve grapes, one at each stroke of the clock. This is supposed to bring good luck, prosperity, and happiness in el Año Nuevo (the New Year). A century old popular tradition, its origins are debatable. One story goes that there was a bumper harvest in 1909 in Alicante and this was a way to sell surplus stocks. More recently old newspaper articles have been found that suggest the tradition began much earlier, in the 1880s. The bourgeoisie (dominated by the middle class) in Madrid were recorded to have copied the French tradition of having grapes and champagne on the last day of the year. Some people in Madrid adopted the custom who went to the public square, 'Puerta del Sol' to see the bells chime at the turning of the year and, most likely in an ironic or mocking manner, to eat grapes like the upper class.

South American Customs

In Ecuador, South America people set fire to scarecrows filled with paper at midnight on New Years Eve and burn photographs that represent the past year as a way of looking to the future.

In other South American countries like Brazil and Mexico, your fortunes are decided by the colour of your underpants! People who are seeking happiness and good fortune in the new year should wear yellow, those looking for love should wear red, and additional good fortune will be bestowed on the wearer if they are new and were received as a gift!





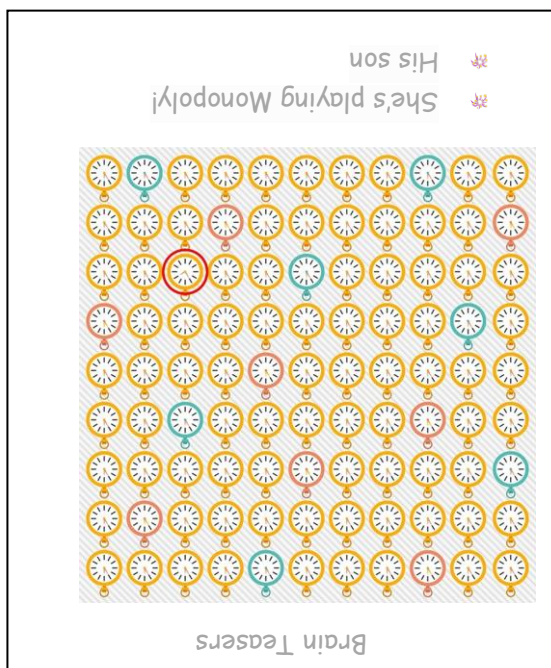
Winter can be a difficult time of the year. Anyone looking for care for themselves or a loved one can enjoy a stay at an anchor care home. We offer home cooked meals, a wide range of activities and tailored care in our friendly homes.

The following offer is available at Elderwood, Middlesbrough Grange and Kirkley Lodge:

This winter we're offering two weeks free for new permanent residents at our selected care homes.

Elderwood, Westmoreland Street, Darlington DL3 0FB	08000854168
Kirkley Lodge, Dalby Way, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough TS8 0TW	08000854172
Middlesbrough Grange, Fosdyke Green, Middlesbrough TS3 0RY	01642 303630
Millbeck, High Street, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees TS20 1DQ	08000854177
Wynyard Woods, Wynyard, Billingham TS22 5GJ	01740 646980

Answers



- Famous Faces
- Answers
- Stanley
- Matthews
- Agnetha
- Faltskog (of Abba)
- Lewis Hamilton
- Jane McDonald
- Terry Wogan
- Glenn Ford
- Donna Summer
- Sir David Jason
- Sir Anthony Hopkins