The Seven Seas Tattler Issue 3.9 - February 2020



Welcome to the February 2020 edition of Tattler

As always any comments, critique, suggestions and contributions are welcome. These can be emailed to jonathanagolding@gmail.com

Club Manager's Report

Birthdays

We take this opportunity to wish all of the following a very happy birthday and blessings for the year ahead!

Cdr O Pfuhl (Ret) – 01 February
Mrs A. Palmer – 01 February
Mr P. Berrange – 01 February
Maj Gen P. Rast (Ret) – 02 February
Dr J.W.J. Van Wyk – 03 February
Mr W. Fourie – 03 February
Mr R.W. Firth – 07 February
Lt Cdr K.W. Baker (Ret) – 09 February
Mr E.J.P. Fenech – 09 February
Mr P.V. Dines – 13 February
Mr E.J. Smith – 14 February
Capt R.H.L. Harrison (Ret) – 15 February
Mr T. Van Zyl – 17 February

Capt G. Filmalter (Ret) – 18 February
Capt G.G. Schlemmer – 19 February
R Adm (JG) E.T. Beddy – 20 February
Mr C.T. Tosio – 20 February
Mr D.J.M. Bruce – 21 February
Cdr L. Van Zyl – 23 February
Capt W. Stassen – 26 February
Capt D.P. De Wet (Ret) – 28 February

100 Club Winners Dec 2019 and Jan 2020

December 2019
Cdr P Pysden (Ret) – R300
Capt K.B. Wise (Ret) – R300
Mr E. Smith – R300
Mr M. Nixon – R1000

January 2020 Mr P. Horwill – R300 Lt J. Payne (Ret) – R300 Mrs I. Porter – R300 Mrs I. Porter – R1000

New Member

We welcome Mr **Nathan Blumenthal** who resides in Runciman Drive Simon's Town. Nathan is a keen sailor and is also a Member of the False Bay Yacht Club.

As 2020 is a leap year this month has the extra day.

When asked how many days in a year, the common answer is 365 days, but in actuality the Earth actually takes more than 365 days to complete a rotation; it takes about 365.2422 days. This translates to every year actually being a year and one quarter days. To account for this problem, every four years an additional day is added to the calendar. In the traditional Gregorian calendar adopted by a the United States and many other areas of the world, this day comes in the form of February 29. Years containing this extra calendar day are known as leap years. Since they only happen once every four years, people have long associate leap years with special traditions and customs. Below are five interesting things about Leap Years.

1. Women Can Propose to a Man on February 29th

Since the 19th century, tradition has stated that women have the right to propose to a man on February 29th. In times where gender roles were more concrete than today, this was considered a very unique and bold thing to do. The practice dates all the way back to 1288 where the tradition was first observed in Scotland. In recent years, the tradition has become more playful with the concept of the Sadie Hawkings Dance, where young girls ask boys to accompany them to the event.

2. Other Calendars Add a Month for Leap Year

The Chinese calendar, Hebrew calendar, and Hindu calendar all add an additional month or embolismic month to their calendar in accordance with the leap year. The Hebrew Calendar adds their leap year month, Adar Alef, seven times every 19 years. The Hindu calendar adds their extra month, Adhika, every two to three years to compensate for the 10-11 days that their calendar is off line with the actual solar year. The Chinese leap year month does not have a name and instead can be taken at different times in accordance with the winter solstice.

3. Many Major Events are aligned with Leap Years

The UEFA European Football Championship, Summer Olympic Games, United States Presidential Election and Winter Olympic Games (up until 1992) were all held on leap years. While there is no definitive reason why these events happen to only take place during leap years and it may be solely due to coincidence, they all help to make leap years particularly special.

4. Leap Day goes back to the Roman Empire

Julius Caesar declared that the last day of February to be Leap Year Day. He also declared that the day would be skipped three out of every four years. This was about the same time that Julius Caesar added the month of July to the original Roman calendar in his own honour.

5. Leap Years have to be Divisible by 400 at the end of the Century

The year 1900 was not a leap year, but the year 2000 was. This difference comes from the need to account for the slight rounding error that occurs by counting each year as 365.25 days when it is actually 36.24. By skipping leap years on turns of the century that are not divisible by 400, the Gregorian calendar is able to compensate for the 11 minute loss of accuracy each year.

From the Treasurer

Having been away on leave when last month's Tattler was issued, I was unable to give any comments on the Club's financial performance for the month of November. So here it is now:- As predicted, November turned out to be a bumper month, exceeding all expectations. With bar sales topping R85 000 an all-time record for a month was set, which is an extremely exciting achievement. It appears that all the encouragement your committee has been giving members to make use of the Clubhouse for private functions is paying dividends. Each Saturday in November was booked out, entertaining very successful events. Long may this last.

The month of December, we know, is usually very quiet and so it was this year. In fact, bar sales was significantly lower than forecast, which naturally reduced income. However, lower expenditure in the month, helped reduce the impact of the lower sales resulting in the budgeted deficit being matched.... another pleasing result.

Cumulatively, for the 10 months to-date, we are well on our way to beating the budget. The budget was set at the beginning of our current financial year and was based on the performance of the previous year. This presented a very negative outlook with a huge deficit for the year being expected. I am pleased to report that a surplus (although small) is now expected for the year.

That's it for now.....see you at the Club!

Quizzes

As a proud club member, a committee member, editor and "quizmaster" I write this with a heavy heart.

The Club Quiz night was introduced early last year. Our objectives were to arrange a function for members that would do all of the following:

- o Provide a fun evening for club members
- Have no additional costs
- Attempt to lay on a function that will appeal to members and their guests and possibly attract new members
- Do it well by utilising appropriate technical aids, friendly approach and run it to a strict timeframe

I think we have achieved all of our aims. With the assistance of the very able Euan Smith all the questions, answers and scores utilise the big screen and we are punctual and effective. Whilst our first few attempts may have erred in posing questions that were a little difficult, we have adapted and believe we have the right balance.

So, why are we "fortunate" to host just a handful of participants? Why have we had days with (literally) a zero turn-out? Our January quiz had all of FIVE participants.

A great deal of effort goes into these quizzes. Those that do attend have been most complimentary about the questions, the smooth-running, the time-keeping and the quality of the technology employed. The absence of support is pretty sad.

We have decided to make one last attempt. If there is poor support we will cease to have guizzes.

As a taste of what we offer I include the 10 questions under the heading "Sport - involving items of clothing" from the last quiz.

- 1) South African rugby prop forward with Afrikaans shirt!
- 2) An Australian rugby union player who plays at prop. He currently captains the Queensland Reds, making his debut during the 2010 Super 14 season. In June 2010 Slipper came on as a substitute in Australia's victory over England, earning his first international cap. (Night time apparel)
- 3) An American professional boxer who competed from 1930 to 1953. He held the world heavyweight title from 1951 to 1952, and broke the record for the oldest man to win the title, at the age of 37. The item of clothing kept him warm?
- 4) Also a generic term for sportsmen, what comes before Hobbs, Turner, Ross and strap
- 5) A British Formula one driver (world champion in 2009) Okay, not an item of clothing, but present on many!
- 6) William Lee "Bill" xxxxx was an American jockey. For 29 years he held the world record for total professional jockey victories. Who is this?
- 7) An American former professional boxer who competed from 1985 to 2005. He reigned as the undisputed world heavyweight champion and holds the record as the youngest boxer to win a heavyweight title, at 20 years, four months, and 22 days old. A bit of licence here for some neckwear?
- 8) Former Bafana Bafana midfielder John Moshoeu . Capped 73 times for South Africa. Retired in 2008. What was his nickname?

- 9) A thin woollen vest, worn by women, shares its name with a mercurial All Black fly-half, more rently the coach of the EP Kings
- 10) A "dry" Zimbabwean-South African rugby union coach. He served as head coach for the Springboks during the early 1990s.

And the answers?

- 1) Hempies du Toit
- 2) James Slipper
- 3) Jersey Joe Walcott
- 4) Jock
- 5) Jenson Button
- 6) Bill Shoemaker
- 7) Mike Tyson
- 8) Shoes
- 9) Carlos Spencer
- 10) Ian McIntosh

Easy? Challenging? Fun?

This is an earnest plea to support this event! A decent turn-out in February will change everything! The date will be published shortly

Navy News

Pakistan navy pays courtesy call to Naval Base Simon's Town

Article by Chief Petty Officer Jean-Pierre Grant Photos by Chief Petty Officer Jean-Pierre Grant and Able Seaman Samantha Erasmus 18 December 2019

Two Pakistan vessels arrived at Naval Base Simon's Town on 18 December 2019 for a short port visit. PNS ASLAT (F-22P), a Zulfiquar-class guided missile frigate and PNS MOAWIN (A39), a fleet replenishment tanker were greeted by three South African Naval Tugs who safely brought them alongside.



PNS Moawin coming alongside



PNS Aslat heading toward the Naval Harbour

On the same day, Commodore Abdul Munib and the Captains Shafiq Ur Rehman Ti and Muhammad Zeeshan Nabi Sheikh of the respective ships, sat down for a courtesy call with DFHR, Rear Admiral (Junior Grade) L.N. Metu. The ships' visit was a routine port call however this also helped maintain the Pakistan Navy's international contact with the South African Navy.

South Africa and Pakistan have shared interest in the welfare of the African continent. Pakistan has conducted anti-piracy patrols near the African coast and is the third largest contributor to the UN peacekeeping operations in Africa. In March 2017, Defence and Military Veterans Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula visited Pakistan where she signed a government-to-government defence cooperation agreement which includes co-operation in research and development, technology transfer and co-production/joint ventures for both the public and private sectors. Earlier this year, Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa, visited South Africa and met his counterpart, Chief of the South African Army, Lieutenant General Lindile Yam. Pakistan has also trained some South African personnel in Special Forces roles. The Chief of the Pakistan Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan, paid a friendly visit to CSAAF, Lieutenant General Fabian Msimang. In order to discuss matters of mutual interest including support in the field of training, amongst others.

During their stay in Simon's Town, the ships' companies were treated to a cocktail function, a tour to Cape Point, visits on board the South African frigates and a farewell lunch on board SAS AMATOLA. The visiting ships stayed four days and now head for Mozambique to offer humanitarian assistance. Prior to arriving in South African waters, the two vessels visited Morocco for the same reasons. PNS Aslat is the fourth ship of Sword Class frigate project. It was built at Karachi Shipyards and commissioned On 18 April 2013. She is fitted with the state of art weapons and sensors, capable of undertaking a wide range of maritime operations in multi-threat environment. PNS Moawin is the largest warship ever built in Pakistan. She was designed by the Turkish firm, STM and built by KESW Ltd. in Pakistan. She provides fuel, water, and ammunition to the Pakistan military's combat and auxiliary units as it is also equipped with state-of-the-art medical facilities to support the Pakistan Navy during potential war and disaster relief missions.

The Royal Navy and its Continuous At Sea Nuclear Deterrent (CASD) - four nuclear submarines armed with Trident missiles - are vital to UK's survival

By

Max Channon



Vanguard-class submarine HMS Victorious

The Royal Navy and its Continuous At Sea Nuclear Deterrent (CASD) - four nuclear submarines armed with Trident missiles - are vital to UK's survival, a US defence analyst has said.

The comments come after an official report slammed the Ministry of Defence's management of the £31bn replacement of CASD. While the UK's Trident missiles are leased from and maintained by the US, the warheads they carry and the submarines they are launched from are UK owned. Writing for US foreign policy analysis website National Interest, Kyle Mizokami said: "London might not be willing to spend a ton of money on a large, high-tech fleet but it still has boomers. These nuclear submarines are vital to ensuring the survival of the United Kingdom.

"The United Kingdom maintains a fleet of four ballistic missile submarines with the ability to devastate even the largest of countries.

"The introduction of the third generation Dreadnought class will provide the UK with a powerful strategic deterrent until the 2060s and possibly beyond."

The new Dreadnought class, which will replace the current Vanguard class submarines, are expected to enter service at some point in the 2030s.

Featured Vessel - Gotland-class submarine

The Gotland-class submarines of the Swedish Navy are modern diesel-electric submarines, which were designed and built by the Kockums shipyard in Sweden. They are the first submarines in the world to feature a Stirling engine air-independent propulsion (AIP) system, which extends their underwater endurance from a few days to weeks. This capability had previously only been available with nuclear-powered submarines.



Sweden manages an long-ranging coastline bordering the Gulf of Bothnia and the Baltic Sea to the East with access to the English Channel (and then the Atlantic Ocean) in the West. As such, it behooves the Scandinavian power to keep an all-modern navy service and, among the inventory of warship available are five diesel-electric submarines belonging to two distinct classes, the Gotland-class and the older Sodermanland-class. Three boats currently make up the Gotland-class, launched in the mid-1990s, and two make up the Sodermanland-class, appearing at the end of the 1980s.

The Gotland-class is led by HSwMS Gotland (Gtd). Built by Kockums AB shipyard of Malmo, Sweden, she saw her keel laid down on October 10th, 1992. The boat was launched on February 2nd, 1995 and she was formally commissioned for service in the Swedish Navy during April of 1996. She remains in active service as of this writing (December 2017) and fights under the motto of "Gothus sum, Cave Cornua" meaning "I am a Gothlander, Watch out for the horns". She homeports out of Karlskrona, Sweden.

As built, the boat displaces 1,380 tons surfaced and 1,600 tons when submerged. Dimensions include an overall length of 198.1 feet with a beam measuring 20.3 feet and a draught of 18.3 feet. Propulsion is by way of 2 x German-originated MTU diesel engines outputting 1,300 horsepower with 2 x Stirling AIP engines of 101 horsepower each and 1 x Electric motor of 1,800 horsepower. The diesels are used for surface-running while the electric motor is used in submerged travel. The boat can make headway at 11 knots surfaced and 20 knots submerged and range out over fourteen days with its crew of twenty-two. The hull has been tested to depths of 500 feet.

Aboard is a standard Swedish armament fit of 4 x 533mm (21") torpedo tubes with 2 x 400mm (16") torpedo tubes. Twelve reloads are carried in 533mm caliber and six in 400mm caliber. The boat can also serve as a mine dispersing platform and carry up to 48 naval mines externally.

As an all-modern design, the Gotland features a blunt bow section with flat top hull. The sail is of a slim, low profile and is seated slightly ahead of midships. The dive planes are affixed to the forward section of the sail. The tail planes and rudder control are arranged in an "X" pattern as opposed to cruciform.

HSwMS Gotland is joined in service by two sister ships of same design, HSwMS Uppland (Upd) and HSwMS Halland (Hnd). All are in active service as of December 2017 and all are assigned to the 1st Submarine Flotilla of the Swedish Navy.

In service, HSwMS is prized for her silent operation, agility and capability in intelligence-gathering as

well as Anti-Submarine/Anti-Ship and mine warfare. Her value is such that she was used in war games with the United States to test out the services effectiveness against modern diesel-electric-powered types - to which Gotland managed to succeed against the American carrier group centered around the USS Ronald Reagan. In another earlier exercise against American forces, the boat "sunk" USS Houston, a highly-touted Los Angeles-class submarine.

The Gotland-class is set to be succeeded by the in-development, next-generation A26-class to come online in, or around, 2022. In the meantime, the class is scheduled to be modernized from 2017 to 2019 (by Saab Kockums) to keep them viable for the near future - particularly as Russian submarine activity increases in the Baltic Sea. The class will also be fielded side-by-side with the new A26-class at least for a time.

Featured Naval Personnel

This edition relates a story of bravery during WW2

Perhaps one of the most famous stories involving the heroism and love of military chaplains is that of the Four Chaplains.

Methodist minister Rev. George L. Fox, Reform Rabbi Alexander D. Goode, Catholic priest Fr. John P. Washington and Reformed Church in America minister Rev. Clark V. Poling died aboard the SS Dorchester during the Second World War. On Feb. 3, 1943, the ship was hit by a torpedo from a German U-boat.

These four men helped other soldiers onto lifeboats and when the ship ran out of life jackets, they gave their life jackets to those around them. As the ship sank, the chaplains joined arms, and survivors recounted hearing prayers and hymns in different languages from the chaplains, including Jewish prayers in Hebrew and Catholic prayers in Latin.

An interesting article- If a battleship fired forwards would the muzzle blast have enough force to damage the deck under the gun?

I came across this recently. I cannot vouch for the info, but feel it make interesting reading. If a battleship fired forwards would the muzzle blast have enough force to damage the deck under the gun?



Yes it could, and on a number of occasions, Yes it did.

The image below from a US lowa class battleship shows you the sort of pressure wave created by the firing of a large calibre naval rifle.



While I am unsure of the actual values the overpressure wave was considerable. So much so that exposed crew members had to be evacuated when the main guns were to be fired. At fine angles, over the structure of the ship itself, this could cause damage.

Two of the worst offenders for this type of damage where the two Royal Navy battleships HMS Rodney and HMS Nelson.



For example during the conflict between HMS Rodney and the Bismarck it was the guns of Rodney herself which caused by far the most damage to the British battleship. The following is a snippet from a USN CPO aboard as an observer:

"Tile decking in washrooms, water closets and heads were ruptured throughout the ship. . . Longitude beams were broken and cracked in many parts of the ship having to be shored. The overhead decking ruptured and many bad leaks were caused by bolts and rivets coming lose. All compartments on the main deck had water flooding the decks. . ..Cast iron water mains were ruptured and in many instances broke, flooding compartment. . .Bulkheads, furniture, lockers, and fittings were blown loose causing undue damage to permanent structures when the ship rolled."

It is been suggested that the use of thinner D steel for the hull, and an obsession with weight control that actually saw both his battleships come in approximately 1500 tons lighter than they needed to have done, was responsible for this, relative, fragility. It is hardly worth mentioning of course that "damage" such as this in no way impaired the fighting ability of this particular ship.

It was not only purely structural damage that could be caused, it is believed that the shock of firing her own main armament tripped a circuit breaker aboard the USS South Dakota during the second battle of Guadalcanal, depriving this battleship of radar at what could have been a vital juncture.

Additional damage suffered by the South Dakota as a result of firing her main armament:

"An area of the deck 9 feet wide between frames 72 and 76 was dished to a depth of 4 inches and the starboard longitudinal structural bulkhead of the senior staff officer's cabin on the second superstructure deck was blown in about three inches between frames 72 and 74. The 3/8-inch STS shield around 20mm guns located on the starboard side of the main deck between frames 54 and 64 was blown inboard and torn loose from the deck. Watertight door 1-58 was buckled. Telephone boxes, 20mm ready service lockers, ladders and ventilation closure covers in the vicinity were damaged by the blast."

Just based on the above it seems clear that battleships could, and did damage themselves by firing their own guns.

Ancient Mariners receive their certificates

Photographs of the Chairman handing over certificates to Ancient Mariners Cdr Randy Stone and Capt John Lamont. They both qualified last year, but were not able to attend the gathering in November when the other certificates were presented:





This month 50 years back

February 1970 - General News

February 11 – *Ohsumi*, Japan's first satellite, is launched on a Lambda-4rocket.

February 15 - Dominican DC-9 crashes into sea at Santo Domingo, kills 102

February 17 - MacDonald family massacre: Jeffrey R. MacDonald kills his wife and children at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, claiming that drugged-out "hippies" did it.

February 21 – Construction begins on the Boğaziçi Bridge crossing the Bosphorus in Istanbul.

February 22 – Guyana becomes a Republic within the Commonwealth of Nations.

February 1970 - Sport

The major sporting event in this month was the thrashing of the Australian cricket team by arguably the best SA team ever. After hammering them in the January test, the 2nd test was played in Durban between the 5th and 9th February where SA won by an innings and 129 runs.

SCORECARD SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA 622/9d(167.5 OVERS)

1ST INNINGS

- Graeme Pollock274 (401)
- Barry Richards140 (164)
- John Gleeson3/160 (51)
- Keith Stackpole2/75 (21)

AUSTRALIA 157(48.2 OVERS)

1ST INNINGS

- Paul Sheahan62 (107)
- Keith Stackpole27 (40)
- Eddie Barlow3/24 (10)
- Trevor Goddard2/10 (7)

AUSTRALIA 336 f/o(131.2 OVERS)

2ND INNINGS

- Ian Redpath*74 (236)
- Doug Walters74 (154)
- Eddie Barlow3/63 (31)
- Mike Procter3/62 (18.5)

SA went on to win the 3rd test in Johannesburg, Feb 19-24 1970 in by 307 runs

SCORECARD SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA 279(102.4 OVERS)

1ST INNINGS

- Lee Irvine79 (126)
- Barry Richards65 (74)
- John Gleeson3/61 (21.4)
- Doug Walters2/16 (5)

AUSTRALIA 202(91.2 OVERS)

1ST INNINGS

- Paul Sheahan44 (131)
- Doug Walters64 (136)
- Peter Pollock5/39 (23.2)
- Mike Procter3/48 (21)

SOUTH AFRICA 408(121.3 OVERS)

2ND INNINGS

- Eddie Barlow110 (252)
- Graeme Pollock87 (141)
- John Gleeson5/125 (45)
- Laurie Mayne2/77 (18.3)

AUSTRALIA 178(77.5 OVERS)

2ND INNINGS

- Alan Connolly36 (43)
- Ian Redpath66 (202)
- Trevor Goddard3/27 (24.5)
- Mike Procter3/24 (14)

The fourth and last test played in March also saw the Aussies thrashed by 323 runs

SCORECARD SUMMARY

SOUTH AFRICA 311(123.2 OVERS)

1ST INNINGS

- Eddie Barlow73 (176)
- Barry Richards81 (178)
- Alan Connolly6/47 (28.2)
- John Gleeson2/90 (32)

AUSTRALIA 212(76.1 OVERS)

1ST INNINGS

- Ian Redpath55 (114)
- Paul Sheahan67 (137)
- Peter Pollock3/46 (14)
- Mike Procter3/30 (25.1)

SOUTH AFRICA 470/8d(121.2 OVERS)

2ND INNINGS

- Lee Irvine102 (146)
- Barry Richards126 (212)
- Laurie Mayne3/83 (29)
- Doug Walters1/14 (5)

AUSTRALIA 246(90.3 OVERS)

2ND INNINGS

- Bill Lawry43 (87)
- Paul Sheahan46 (64)
- Mike Procter6/73 (24)
- Pat Trimborn2/44 (20.2)

February 1970 - Music

The following albums were released

ALBUM	ARTIST
SWEET BABY JAMES	JAMES TAYLOR
BURNT WEENY SANDWICH	THE MOTHERS OF INVENTION
MORRISON HOTEL	THE DOORS
ZABRISKIE POINT	VARIOUS ARTISTS
BLACK SABBATH	BLACK SABBATH
FUNKADELIC	FUNKADELIC
HEY JUDE	THE BEATLES
ATOMIC ROOSTER	ATOMIC ROOSTER
THE GREAT SONGS OF ROY ORBISON	ROY ORBISON
KNEF	HILDEGARD KNEF
THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS WAVE TO EACH OTHER	VAN DER GRAAF GENERATOR
LORD SUTCH AND HEAVY FRIENDS	SCREAMING LORD SUTCH
NILSSON SINGS NEWMAN	HARRY NILSSON
SHAZAM	THE MOVE
UNCLE CHARLIE & HIS DOG TEDDY	NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND

February 1970 - Movies

1 February - The Kremlin Letter

9 February - Zabriskie Point

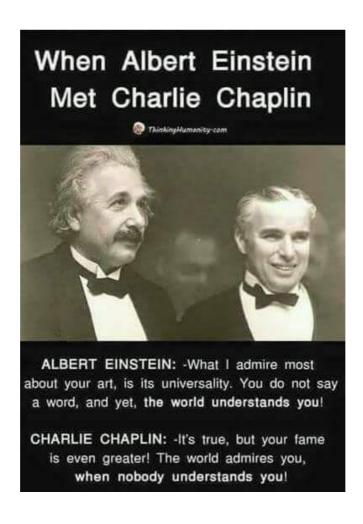
10 February - The Party at Kitty and Stud's

11 February - King of the Grizzlies

This month, a century ago:

On February 1 the South African Air Force (SAAF) was established, the second autonomous Air Force in the world, after the Royal Air Force (RAF).

On February 25, 1920 Hitler presented the Nazi Party Twenty Five Point Program in the Hofbrauhaus. on November 4, 1921 the Hofbrauhaus was also the birthplace of the later feared Nazi street fighting organization, the Sturmabteilungen or SA for short. On that day the National Socialist party held a large public meeting at the Hofbrauhaus and after Hitler had spoken for some time the meeting erupted into a melee. There was a massive fight between the Nazi brawlers and their opponents (the Social Democrats – and Communists). Hitler managed to finish his address, notwithstanding the chaos of smashed tables and chairs and hurled beer mugs all about him.



Women's Ass Size Study

There is a new study just released by the American Psychiatric Association about women and how they feel about their asses.

The results are pretty interesting:

- 1. 5% of women surveyed feel their ass is too big.
- 2. 10% of women surveyed feel their ass is too small.
- 3. The remaining 85% say they don't care; they love him; he's a good man and they would have married him anyway.

Sun-gazing.com

BEST KNOCK KNOCK JOKE EVER...

Three brothers age 92, 94 and 96 live in a house together.

One night the 96 year old draws a bath, puts his foot in and pauses. He yells down the stairs, "Was I getting in or out of the bath?"

The 94 year old yells back, "I don't know, I'll come up and see." He starts up the stairs and pauses, then he yells, "Was I going up the stairs or coming down?"

The 92 year old was sitting at the kitchen table having coffee listening to his brothers. He shakes his head and says, "I sure hope I never get that forgetful." He knocks on wood for good luck. He then yells, "I'll come up and help both of you as soon as I see who's at the door."

That's all for this month. Stay safe......