

Knowsley Libraries Big Lock In

Hi All

While we're all still having to adjust and **stay safe** at this worrying time we thought we'd bring you another issue of **Knowsley Libraries Big Lock In**. Lots of us are missing our family, friends and especially going out to our favourite places like the Library ☺ We decided that we'd put together this little newsletter with lots of bits and bobs in such as recipes, book recommendations, and we've even included a quiz to help ease the boredom.

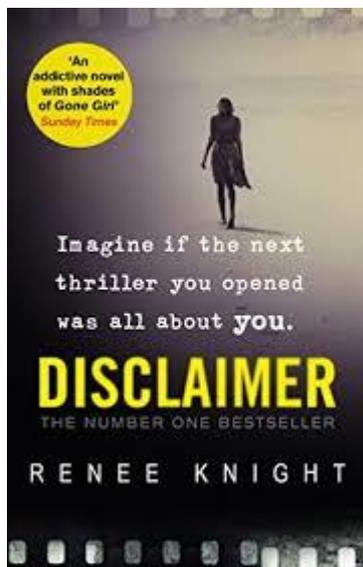
So, a little bit of homework for you while you're unable to go out and about. I was wondering if you'd share with us 'What You're Reading in Lockdown', or your favourite book/author that you'd like to recommend to others.

I've asked friends, family and colleague's to share with us what they're reading and it's quite a mix!

What are people reading?

Review by Michele, Casual Library Assistant

Disclaimer by Renee Knight



Because of its unassuming cover, it would be easy to overlook it as a psychological thriller.

Think 'Gone Girl' and 'The Girl on the Train' then up your expectations and you will be led into an atmospheric and twisty plot that will keep you reading until the very end, as the main character is pushed to the very edge of her sanity, taking you with her.

Imagine having a secret that you have kept for over 20 years, and has consumed you with guilt ever since, then what would it be like if you picked up a book and found yourself and your secret at its very heart?

And the only people, who supposedly, know the details are you and a person who is now dead!

Catherine Ravenscroft has just moved house to an apartment with her husband and her son has just got his first flat.

Catherine, is an award winning filmmaker at the top of her game and is always seen to be in control. But one night she cannot sleep and picks up a book called 'The Perfect Stranger' which she finds on her bedside table. It has the usual disclaimer - 'Any resemblance to persons living and dead

As she begins to read, she realises with a sickening feeling that the book is about herself and her guilty secret. The details, even including what she was wearing, are all correct. She begins to unravel as she tries to find out who wrote it and how it came to be forwarded on

from her last address.

Then other copies of the book, along with some incriminating photographs, are delivered to her husband, her son and her work colleagues. And this is where the rollercoaster really begins. Her husband believes the worst of her and her marriage hits the rocks.

Someone has an obsession for revenge and is out to destroy Catherine. Who is it and how do they know so much?

She could have easily told the whole story and put an end to this nightmare but unfortunately she is consumed by the guilt that she nearly caused the death of her toddler son all those years ago. This all-consuming guilt stops her from seeing the bigger picture. Just when you think it cannot get any worse, the author drops in another piece of information which gives the story a new twist, keeps you hooked and throws the story hurtling in a different direction.

The final revelation is cleverly withheld and I didn't see it coming! But it is too late, lives have been destroyed and the only thing salvaged is Catherine's reputation.

This book is clearly written, with mostly alternating viewpoints between two main characters and the author has kept detail to the minimum, which ups the tension and gives the story so many layers of twists and turns that will keep you engrossed to the bitter end!

This debut novel is something special and embedded in it is the premise or moral that nobody is entirely good or evil and many people are messed up by guilty secrets in their past, hopefully not as destructive as the one at the heart of this very clever book.

Read it if you dare!

Review by Aimee, Library Assistant

The Donor (Quick Reads) by Clare Mackintosh

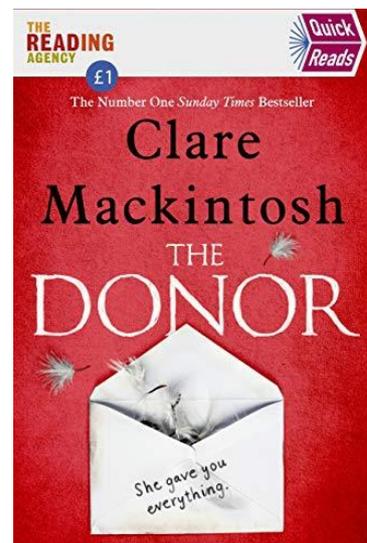
When Lizzie's daughter Meg is given a life-saving heart transplant, Lizzie feels hugely grateful to the nameless donor. Then she receives a letter from the donor's mother, Karen, asking to meet, and it seems like the least she can do.

But as soon as Karen is welcomed into their lives Lizzie feels something isn't right. And before long she can't help but worry that by inviting Karen in, she might have put Meg in danger.

I really enjoy reading Clare Mackintosh books and this short story is no exception. I was drawn straight into the story and when things developed I was racing through the pages to find out happen next.

It was a great read, I finished it in half an hour. I thoroughly recommend this author, her storytelling has not disappointed me yet.

To find out more about this author click here www.fantasticfiction.com/m/clare-mackintosh



I hope these snippets help, if you'd like to tell us what you're reading we'd love to hear from you, and also if you've read any of the books recommended and what you thought of them. Please email yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk and we'll post your book recommendations.

Lockdown Quiz:

As we have all been spending so much more time watching the soaps, let's test your memory with a Coronation Street quiz

Lockdown TV Quiz – courtesy of: **Hilary, Library Assistant**

The first episode of this UK iconic soap opera began 9 December 1960, over the years has seen many faces come and go. In this quiz rearrange the letters to find soap characters names from throughout the decades.

1. WINKLE ARENA
2. BAD MILK WINE
3. MAD ZINC DOLL
4. BIKER NEW VEST
5. HANGED IDOL
6. DEER TO FILL
7. SHAPERS LANE
8. BROKEN LAW
9. REP CRY POOR
10. A FOUL CHAIR GRIT

I'll add the answers next week, good luck!

½ lemon juice only

1 tbsp pre-mixed BBQ seasoning

¼ tsp smoked paprika you can use chilli powder or normal paprika if you don't have this

1 tbsp balsamic vinegar

2 tbsp Worcestershire sauce

2 tbsp white wine vinegar

1 tsp mustard powder

Method

Take each chicken breast, wrap the bacon around the middle

Set the chicken aside, then add all of the remaining ingredients into an oven-proof dish with a tight fitting lid

Place the chicken on top and replace the lid. Cook for 1 hour at 180°C

When the time is up check that the chicken is cooked. Remove it from the dish and set Blitz the sauce with a stick blender until smooth



Place the cooked chicken in an ovenproof dish

Pour the sauce over the chicken breasts and top with cheese. Divide the cheese equally between all for chicken breasts

Place under a hot grill until the cheese is melted and a nice golden colour

Well done Sam, mmm that looks delicious. I'm going to give it a try. 🍪

Another quick and easy recipe, this time it's a dessert.

Aimee, Library Assistant

With lockdown happening one thing myself and my family have missed is going out for afternoon tea. So here is a scone recipe for you to try. Why not have your own afternoon tea at home.

Ingredients

75g of butter (cold)
6 teaspoons of baking powder
450g of plain flour
50g of caster sugar
2 large eggs
200ml of milk
100g of sultanas (optional)
Pinch of salt



In a large bowl add the baking powder, sugar and salt to the flour.

Add the butter and rub together until you get fine breadcrumbs.

Mix the milk and eggs together and gradually add to the breadcrumb mixture until it all comes together.

Add the sultanas (optional) and fold into the mixture.

On a floured surface, gently knead the dough until it comes together.

Wrap in cling film and allow to rest in the fridge for 20 minutes.

Flour a flat surface, put the chilled dough on to it and roll out until about 2cm thick.

Put a sheet of baking paper onto your baking tray.

Using a circular pastry cutter, cut out 12 scones and place on the baking paper roughly 2cms apart.



Loosely cover the tray with cling film and place the tray in the fridge to rest for 10 minutes.

Preheat oven to 220 degrees (gas mark 7)

Place your scones in the oven and bake for 10-12 minutes.

Remove from the oven when they have risen and are golden brown.
Allow to cool.

Serve with butter, jam and cream (my favourite)



FACE MASKS

Following on from last week, the BBC have now suggested that clear facial coverings may be more appropriate for certain members of society, and in certain situations.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-52764355>



[Coronavirus: Call for clear face masks to be 'the norm' - BBC News](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-52764355)

It's now part of daily life now for many of us - struggling to work out what someone in a supermarket or at work is saying when they're wearing a face mask. But for people who are deaf or have ...

www.bbc.co.uk

BIKE WEEK 2020 6-14 JUNE

Cycling UK is promoting the pleasures and benefits of riding a bike. This year they are offering a series of fun bike events online.

<https://www.cyclinguk.org/bikeweek>



CHARITY BAKE-OFF

There is no particular date for this one. The Alzheimer's Society is inviting people to host a cupcake day, whenever and wherever they can, to raise money for this worthy cause.

<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/cupcake-day>



[Cupcake Day | Alzheimer's Society](https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/cupcake-day)

Calling all bakers and fakers! Dust off your baking bowls, whip out your whisks and get ready to bake a difference - it's time to turn up the heat on dementia. Host your Cupcake Day online, at home, or whenever and wherever you can!

www.alzheimers.org.uk

NATIONAL TRADING STANDARDS

There is a useful site offering information and assistance against being scammed during the pandemic.

<https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/>



[Friends Against Scams - National Trading Standards \(NTS\) Scams Team initiative protecting and preventing people from becoming victims of scams](https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/)

Friends Against Scams is a National Trading Standards Scams Team initiative, which aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams by empowering people to take a stand against scams. Scams cost the UK economy £5-£10 Billion a year. 53% of people over 65 have been targeted by scams. Only 5% of scams are reported.

www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk

A reminder about the **KING LEAR PRIZES**

This weekend marked three weeks left to go to enter this competition - closing date 19 June 2020.

<https://www.kinglearprizes.org.uk/>



[King Lear Prizes](#)

Request a paper King Lear Prizes information pack. Some people won't be able to access the King Lear Prizes online or may have problems printing or filling in the application form at home, so we're making it possible to request a paper copy of the information about the King Lear Prizes (information leaflet, application form and rules).

www.kinglearprizes.org.uk

BBC DESERT ISLAND DISCS CHALLENGE

Imagine being marooned on a desert island. Do you know which eight pieces of music you would want to keep to you company? The BBC is offering an online challenge to compose your own personal list, based on the popular long running radio programme. Add a book, and a luxury item. Apparently, it's not as easy as you may think!

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/5q0Ls856XYZ5VzIMQ1Lgjxf/desert-island-discs-challenge-and-how-to-choose-your-list?xtor=CS8-1000-\[Discovery_Cards\]-\[Multi_Site\]-\[SL02\]-\[PS_SOUNDS~C~~P_DesertIslandDiscsChallenge\]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/5q0Ls856XYZ5VzIMQ1Lgjxf/desert-island-discs-challenge-and-how-to-choose-your-list?xtor=CS8-1000-[Discovery_Cards]-[Multi_Site]-[SL02]-[PS_SOUNDS~C~~P_DesertIslandDiscsChallenge])





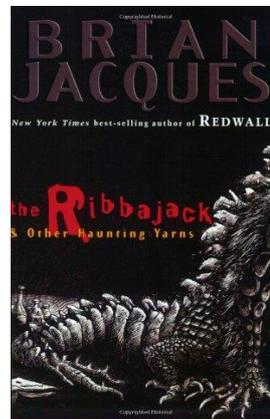
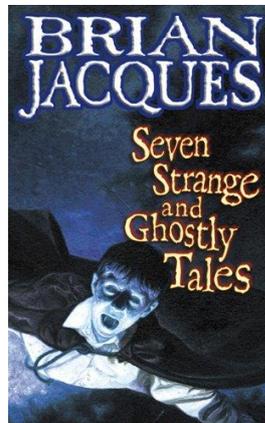
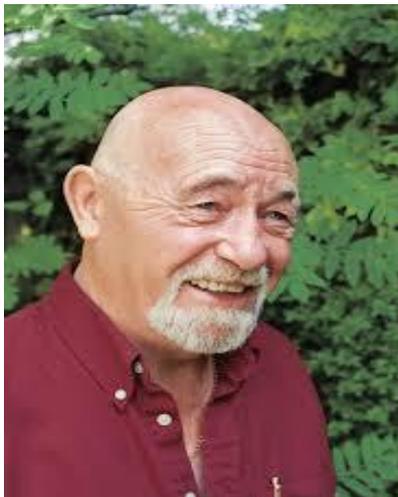
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<https://yourlibrary.knowsley.gov.uk/>

Born in June: Brian Jacques



Brian Jacques (born James Brian Jacques) was born in Liverpool on 15th June 1939. He was an English writer and author of many books including his Redwall series of novels and Castaways of the Flying Dutchman series. He also completed two collections of short stories entitled The Ribbajack and Seven Strange and Ghostly Tales. He wrote his first novel, Redwall, for the children at a school for the blind in Liverpool. Since 1986 his descriptive style of writing has captivated readers from age 8 to 80. His books have won international awards and have been made into a TV series.

To find out more about Brian Jacques and his books click here

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brian_Jacques

ANNE FRANK
BORN 12TH JUNE 1929



Annelies Marie "Anne" Frank was a German-Dutch diarist of Jewish origin.

One of the most discussed Jewish victims of the Holocaust, she gained fame posthumously with the publication of *The Diary of a Young Girl* (originally *Het Achterhuis* in Dutch; English: *The Secret Annex*), in which she documents her life in hiding from 1942 to 1944, during the German occupation of the Netherlands in World War II.

Anne was born in Frankfurt, Germany, and was raised primarily in Amsterdam. She received a blank book for her thirteenth birthday that she soon transformed into her now-famous diary.

Her parents, Edith Frank-Hollander and Otto Frank, hid Anne and her sister Margot and themselves in Otto's office building for two years before being discovered. Anne, her older sister Margot, and the girls mother Edith all died during the Holocaust, leaving Anne's father Otto Frank as the family's only surviving member.

For more information about Anne Frank follow the link:

<https://www.annefrank.org/>

A Poem from a Knowsley Resident: Billy d'at

If you were a stranger to Prescott.

If you were a stranger to Prescott.
There was one person you'd be happy to meet.
A shambolic figure with a brush close to hand,
Holding court in Eccleston street.

His kindly face would say "Hiya".
His manner would say I'm a friend.
His smile would make you feel welcome.
You'd feel glad you came in the end.

His mother would have called him James.
But to all he was "Jimmy the brush".
Jimmy had time for the world and his dog.
And he didn't know the meaning of rush.

Jim was one of the life's good guys
Not a bad bone in his body had he.
He was the font of all local knowledge.
And a nature that soared and was free.

Jim really was a true pilgrim.
As honest as the day it is long.
He could see good in all of God's creatures.
And would never condone what was wrong.

Jimmy was the heartbeat of Prescott
His realm was the length of a street.
His role was an urban road cleaner.
But his real job was to meet and to greet.

Well Jimmy the brush as departed.
And Prescott's a much poorer place.
So we all celebrate the life of a Gent
Who lived life with a smile on his face.

R.I.P

Meet the Staff: What are we doing during Lockdown?

Hi! My name's Joe and I'm one of the Library advisors based in Huyton.

Coronavirus has meant that most library staff are now working from home, which is completely new to most of us- including me! It took a bit of getting used to at first, but as you can see from my picture I've managed to create a workspace in the garden to enjoy the weather we're having. I can't imagine the whole summer being like this so I'm making the most of it while I can.



I started working in the library last July and it's been a pleasure since my first day, all my colleagues made me feel extremely welcome and they made the transition from jobs easier than I could have ever imagined. Being a newcomer means I'm still getting to know the customers, and I have to say it's one of my favourite parts of the job. That's the biggest downside to working from home- we don't get to see the customers!

One of my roles working from home is having weekly calls with customers who make use of our home delivery service. It's been wonderful getting to know these customers, ones who I wouldn't otherwise see, and learning about their lives and how they are coping with lockdown.

I run a creative writing group in the Huyton branch of the library. We have five or six regular writers who come along and share work with each other, and I love being a part of it. With the libraries being closed and everything moving online, I decided I would put together a fortnightly creative writing task on the library website. The tasks are easy to follow and no-one is expecting you to write a novel by the end of it. They're there to help people put pen to paper, and to have some fun creating characters and stories/poems. If you fancy having a go follow the link here: <https://yourlibrary.knowsley.gov.uk/2020/04/30/creative-writing-introduction/>

Another of my tasks is contributing to this weekly newsletter. I help put together film and album recommendations and I get to see what books people are reading and what recipes people are knocking up in their kitchens. I am psyching myself up to finally attempt one of the recipes, I'm just trying to work out which one will cause the least damage to the kitchen!

I'm sure everyone is hoping to get back to normal life when it's safe to do so. We're really looking forward to being able to open the doors and welcome everyone back when the time comes. In the meantime, stay safe and look after yourselves.

See you soon. Joe.

Whilst we're **staying safe** some of us are having a break from reading by listening to music, watching TV and a whole host of other activities. Here are some recommendations:

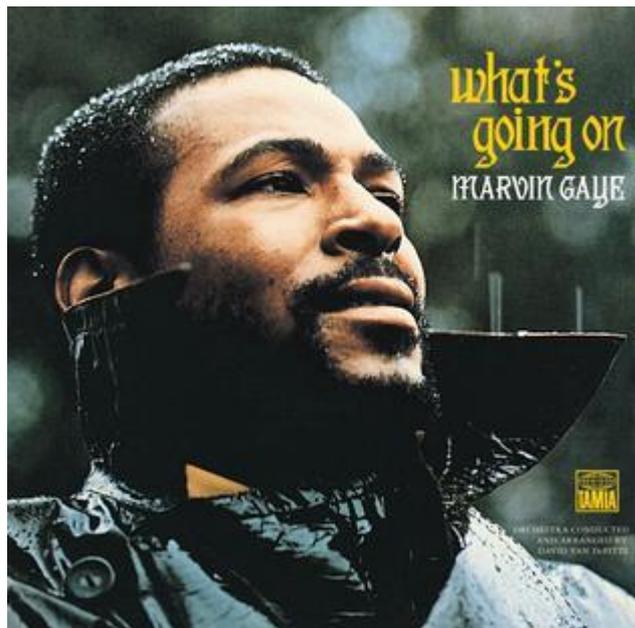
Album of the Week:

What's Going On by Marvin Gaye

Recommended by Joe

In my opinion easily one of the greatest albums of all the time, this concept album from Gaye tells the story from the point of view of a soldier returning from Vietnam, to find his home country in the grips of suffering, hatred and social and racial injustice. It is as relevant today as it was in 1971.

Its non-standard musical arrangement heralded a new sound and image for Gaye, and cemented his place as one of the most important artists of the century.



Here is Marvin Gaye performing the title track:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPkM8F0sjSw>

If you'd like to share your thoughts on this album, we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email and let us know what you think! yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk

Films of the Week:



Monday: The Glass Castle

6.40pm Sony Movies (Freeview 32, Freesat 302, Sky 321, Virgin 425)

Brie Larson stars in this adaptation of American writer Jeannette Wall's profoundly unconventional upbringing.

Tuesday: Logan

9pm Film4 (Freeview 14, Freesat 300, Sky 313, Virgin 428)

Hugh Jackman stars as an ageing Wolverine whose physical weaknesses mirror the mental decline of Charles Xavier, played by Patrick Stewart. This thoughtful, poignant drama subverts the usual superhero film formula.

Wednesday: The Square

9pm Film4 (Freeview 14, Freesat 300, Sky 313, Virgin 428)

Award-winning art world satire that starts Claes Bang as a Stockholm museum curator whose life derails- mainly due to his poor judgement and ego- after his wallet and phone go missing.

Thursday: Fury

11pm ITV4 (Freeview 24, Freesat 117, Sky 120, Virgin 118)

Brad Pitt stars as Don 'Wardaddy' Collier who, during the last gasps of the Second World War, realises the conflict will end with a bang not a whimper. The American tank crews know the odds are against them, but decide to fight on.



Friday: Almost Famous

Sony Movies (Freeview 32, Freesat 302, Sky 321, Virgin 425)

Fifteen-year-old William Miller accompanies Stillwater, a rock band, on their tour in order to write an article about them and learns about relationships along the way. Based on former rock journalist Cameron Crowe's memoir of life on the road with 70s rock bands. Kate Hudson stars in her breakout role.

If you'd like to share your thoughts on any of the films, we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email and let us know what you think! yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk

Something for the Kids:

If you've missed Joe Wicks exercising in the morning you can catch up with him here <https://www.youtube.com/user/thebodycoach1/videos>

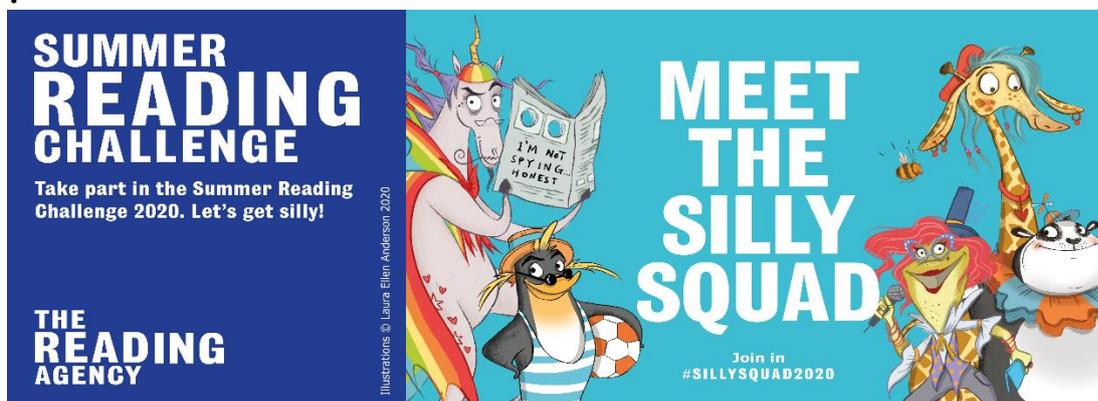
He's keeping kids fit and healthy and lots of the parents are joining in too, looks like lots of fun.



The theme for this year's Summer Reading Challenge is "Silly Squad" - a celebration of funny books, happiness and laughter. A whole host of virtual events with guest celebrities and authors will take place on the Summer Reading Challenge Facebook page on Friday 5 June to mark the launch of the digital Challenge www.facebook.com/SummerReadingChallengeUK.

Sign up for the Challenge at sillysquad.org.uk. The site is free to access and will feature video content, games, quizzes, and digital downloadable activities to incentivise and encourage children and their families to take part in the Challenge at home. It is a place for children to rate and review their books and work towards their reading goal.

Challenge starts on Friday 5 June 2020 and will run until September



9th June 20 150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF CHARLES DICKENS

Charles Dickens is one this country's greatest writers and there are a couple of links to interesting facts about his life and works:-

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000j1xp>



[Homeschool History - Charles Dickens - BBC Sounds](#)

Join Greg Jenner for a fun homeschool history lesson on the life of Charles Dickens.

www.bbc.co.uk

<https://blog.bridgemanimages.com/charles-dickens-150-years-since-his-death-in-june-2020/>

J K ROWLING NEW STORY ONLINE

J K Rowling has started to publish her new story *The Ickabog* online, one chapter per day, ahead of its publication later this year. Aimed at 8-12 year old readers, there is also an art competition in which the chosen winners will have their illustrations of the story published in the upcoming printed edition. Don't worry if you have missed the beginning, all chapters so far are available to read online.

<https://theickabog.com/>

For Harry Potter fans, there is a magical site which has all things wizardry and plenty to do

<https://www.wizardingworld.com/collections/harry-potter-at-home>



QUIZ TIME

1. How many pockets does a snooker table have?
2. Which language is spoken in Australia?
3. What is a baby kangaroo called?
4. What sort of animal is the video game character Sonic?
5. What is the name given to an animal that only eats plants?
6. Which famous building did Guy Fawkes try to blow up?
7. Which ocean is frozen for most of the year?
8. What is the name of the Snowman in the film "Frozen"?
9. In the movie "The Lion King", what kind of animal is Timon?
10. What colour is a giraffe's tongue?

I'll add the answers next week, good luck!

Keep Reading 😊

