



Colin's Blog

Friday 24th November 2017

It was Monday morning, I woke up to listen to the usual dose of doom and gloom on the news, however, life is for living, so, rather than take on the woes of the world on my shoulders, I settled for a Marmalade sandwich, the magical powers that transmitted from the sheer heaven of marmalade were unbelievable. Golly-gosh, this was once a familiar sight, on most breakfast tables, and as a child, I used to collect the tokens off the jars, and send them in exchange for some lovely little badges, (with no politically correct thoughts or undertones, in my head). Sadly, there can be no such innocent pleasures today.

Both I, and indeed, my children and grandchildren, have always been a great fan of the little bear called Paddington, and his adventures. Having seen the first Paddington film on the big screen, my grandchildren have just seen the latest one at the cinema, when Nanny and Grandad couldn't join them. My marmalade sandwich, inspired me to book tickets for my wife and I, to go and see the latest offering at our local cinema, later that day. It was interesting to note that there were no children at our showing, just a handful of senior citizens, like ourselves.

It was a really fantastic, feel good film, with many laughs, and moments of drama, but, wow, what a contrast to the news from the outside world and indeed, the constant political antics, that we hear about from around our country!



The film even featured the magnificent '**TORNADO**' steam loco. I will not give anything else away, but, recommend, that, if, like me, you are fed up with all the politics and other news stories from around the world, make yourself a marmalade sandwich, and treat yourself to ninety minutes of Paddington Bear, at your local cinema!



Now, back down to the real world, I read recently that the police in Durham, will not be prosecuting those caught using or selling illegal drugs, so perhaps we should suggest, that we tell our local druggies and pushers to move up there? Whatever next?



Fly-Tipping update

From next April, criminal gangs and others, who litter our countryside and urban areas, by illegally dumping waste will be hit with having to pay a landfill tax (which they should have paid if they were disposing of the litter or waste legally), on top of any

finances or sentences imposed by the courts. I'm in favour of any such punitive measures, but, do they go far enough?

Here's the latest from Action Fraud: -

It's the thought that counts: Buyers urged to think as Christmas shopping fraud reports rise

Posted 21st November 2017

- Action Fraud Christmas shopping reports rise by over a quarter in 2016
- **15,423** people reported being a victim of shopping fraud
- Online auction fraud accounted for **65%** of reports
- Victims reported losing over **£16 million** in total, 45% more than the year before
- Men aged 20-29 most commonly fall victim

This Christmas the **City of London Police**, who run Action Fraud, and supported by police forces across the country, are launching a campaign to help prevent people from becoming victims of shopping and auction fraud, as well as other types of fraud which people fall victim to during the seasonal period. From today and throughout the Christmas period, the City of London Police will be reminding Christmas shoppers that *'It's the thought that counts'* at Christmas time and the importance of thinking about potential fraudsters and how to avoid them.

New figures released today show that last year, victims reported losing nearly £16 million to Christmas shopping fraudsters, increasing from £10 million lost the year before. Action Fraud reports rose by 25% when comparing the Christmas period in 2016 with the same period in 2015. Analysis of last year's crimes also shows that **65% of crimes at Christmas were linked to online auctions sites**, with the average loss for these reports coming in at £727. **Trending items victims reported losing out to fraudsters on included Yeezy trainers, Kylie Jenner make-up, hair dryers, drones and Fitbit watches.** Mobiles phones continue to be the most likely thing that people try to buy from fraudsters, with clothing and accessories second on the list and footwear shooting up from sixth to third place. Watches have also over taken jewellery and are now more commonly offered by fraudsters, although it is possible for anyone to fall victim to Christmas shopping fraudsters, last year over 13 percent of reports were made by men aged 20-29.

https://actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud

ActionFraud Keep Alert, Keep Secure, Keep Safe, and have a good
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