

Memory Café Amusement Arcade 13.

As a retired scientist, I'm not superstitious but I remember Apollo 13, I don't walk under ladders, avoid breaking mirrors, putting new shoes on a table (though with lock-down I won't need any) and I haven't seen a lone Magpie in my garden - yet! So, I hope that you find this issue interesting and if you can remember any other myths (sorry beliefs) let me know. But don't take any chances.

We have had a response from Rotarian Neil Heywood for a poem.

It's a sip of fine claret, I think
That gives me most pleasure to drink
But after a few
I forget *premier cru*
And gargle it down like a sink

As we hide away from the virus
To find food for our mind is desirous
Most crosswords are bunk
Daytime TV is junk
But a little more wine might inspire us!

Staying on the same theme, I've just heard an interview on Radio4 who noted that the main difference for him with lock-down is that the evening drinks come a little earlier.

On the poem front, I've also gotten a rather longer one by Pam Ayres which I'll let you have come the next issue.



One place where there is no COVID-19 is Mars!

This is a selfie taken by the Curiosity rover in October 2019 when it had just got to the top of a ridge now called Vera Rubin, climbing out of the Gale Crater where it landed on 6th August 2012. It is investigating Mars climate, geology, whether there are or were favourable conditions for microbial life and the role of water on early Mars. The name Curiosity was selected following a US nationwide student contest. It was won by Ciara Ma, a 12-year-old from Sunflower Elementary School, Lenexa, Kansas. In her essay she wrote

“Curiosity is an everlasting flame that burns in everyone’s mind. It makes me get out of bed in the morning and wonder what surprises life will throw at me that day. Curiosity is such a powerful force. Without it we wouldn’t be who we are today. Curiosity is the passion that drives us through our everyday

lives. We have become explorers and scientists with our need to ask questions and wonder.”

I don't think that Stephen Hawking would argue with that!

David. Still COVID free and I haven't been to Mars – yet.