

11. CRAZY BUT TRUE

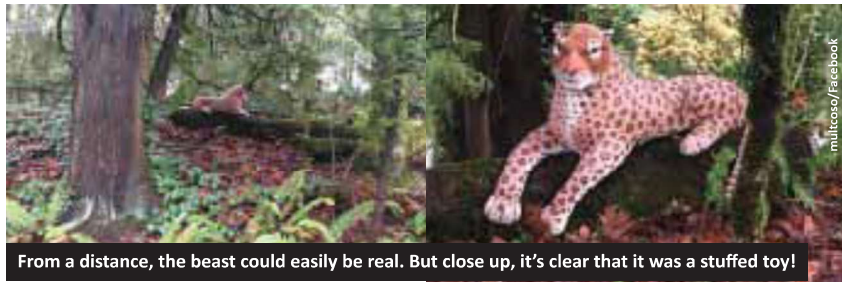
SPOTTED BIG CAT SPOTTED

REPORTS of a big spotted cat led to an odd call-out for US police.

A concerned resident in Multnomah County, Oregon, called the police after seeing a suspected cheetah lying in a wooded area.

Deputy Raymond Sullivan, who investigated, said: "I used my ninja-like skills to sneak up on the beast. Of course, it sat there dumbfounded that I was able to get so close for a couple of photos. Turns out it was a stuffed animal!"

The police had their suspicions. Although big cats like cougars have been spotted on occasion, they've never dealt with a wild cheetah before. They also called the nearby Oregon Zoo first to see if they were missing a cheetah, but all their animals were present and correct.



120-YEAR-OLD CHOCOLATE!



A 120-YEAR-OLD box of chocolates has been found by staff at the National Library of Australia.

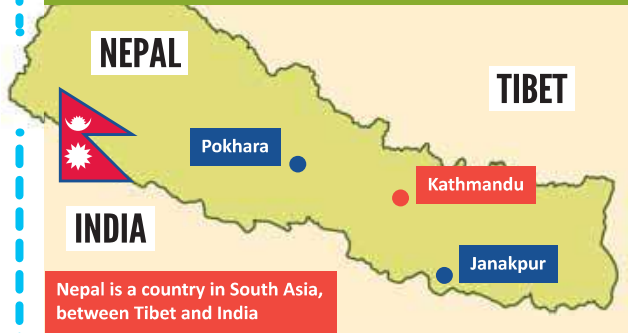
The chocolate belonged to a poet and journalist called AB 'Banjo' Paterson, and was found among his papers.

The tin chocolate box was one sent to soldiers in South Africa during the Boer War around 1900. It was a gift to the troops ordered by the UK's Queen Victoria.

Jennifer Todd, from the library, said: "There was quite an interesting smell when they were unwrapped." We bet there was!

What do you think 120-year-old chocolate tastes like?

FLIGHT FARCE!



A "COMMUNICATIONS mix-up" led to a Nepalese flight landing 250km (155 miles) away from its destination!

The flight left the capital of Kathmandu and was supposed to fly south to the city of Janakpur. Unfortunately, the plane flew west, ending up 250km away in the city of Pokhara. That's like if you were flying to Edinburgh but ended up in Belfast!

Luckily, the Buddha Air flight was allowed to take off again, dropping its 69 passengers off at the correct destination... a few hours late, of course.

GRENADE FISHING



A UK magnet fisher has pulled 19 grenades from the River Tame, just outside of Birmingham.

Magnet fishing is like metal detecting on land, except fishers throw a magnet into the water to see what they will find.



We doubt Che Williams expected to pull out a bunch of grenades though! Likely from World War Two, two of the grenades still had their pins in.

Thankfully, police used X-rays to test the grenades and none of them had explosives in them. Phew!



Written and illustrated by Paul Palmer



FOLLOW TOMAS ON HIS FINAL EPIC JOURNEY!

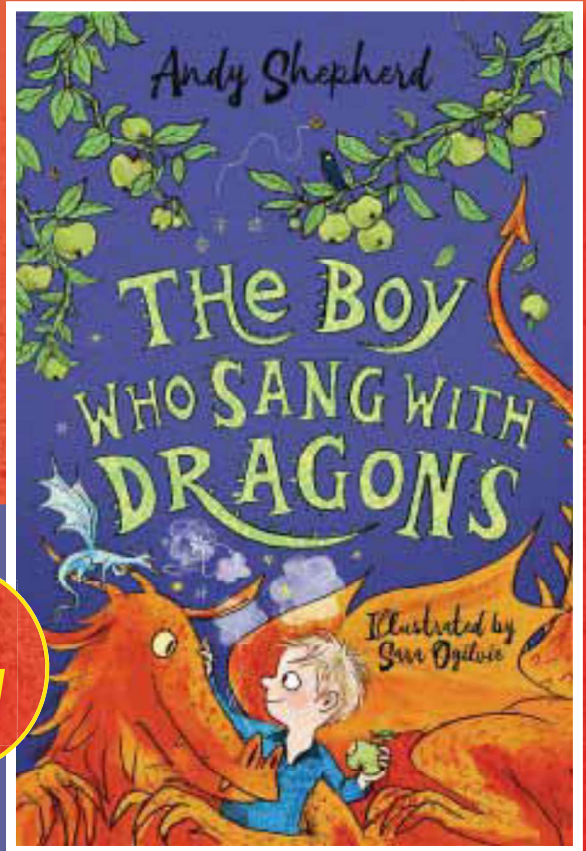
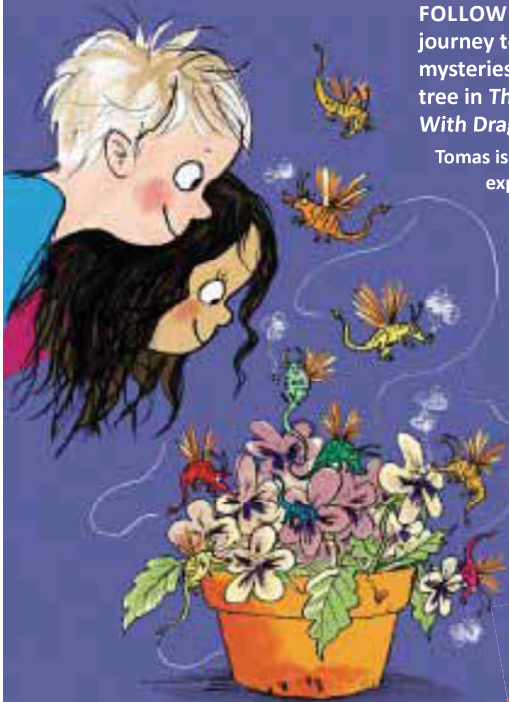
FOLLOW Tomas on his sparkling final journey to unlock the last mysteries of the dragon-fruit tree in *The Boy Who Sang With Dragons*.

Tomas is now a fully-fledged expert dragon grower and protector of the dragon-fruit tree.

But he's not quite prepared for the adventure that awaits him when a huge secret is revealed about his new friend, Aura. A thrilling secret that will take them on a journey of discovery that all the dragons will be in on.

And just what will happen when lightning bolt dragon Zing and storm dragon Flicker get together?

OUT NOW



16 JANUARY IS DRAGON APPRECIATION DAY!

TO show your appreciation for dragons, why not grow your own dragon just like Tomas? Scribble some ideas of what your dragon might look and be like. Have a think about the following:

- What makes your dragon unique?
- Does it have horns or spikes?
- Does it breathe fire or ice?
- Does it have special powers?
- What colour is it?
- Where is it from?
- What does it like to eat?
- What is it called?

Don't forget to check out all the books in the best-selling *The Boy Who Grew Dragons* series!



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