

Thursday, July 29. 2010

### **Some lizard...**

How would you like to find one of these lizards nosing around your tent in the morning?

Komodo dragons can grow to a length of ten feet, although they average around 8 feet. They are the world's heaviest lizards at 200 lbs for the average male.

And they're quick: they can climb trees as well as swim, and they regularly hunt down pigs and deer.

Fewer than 3,000 to 5,000 now exist in the wild, in a habitat restricted to the Lesser Sunda Islands of Rinca, Komodo, Flores, and the smaller islands of Gili, Montang, and Padar.

Posted by Green Man in Environment at 03:33

Tuesday, July 27. 2010

### **Where is the Mercury Coming From?**

According to the Blacksmith Institute, artisanal mining releases over 1,000 tons of mercury into the environment each year. From artisanal mining.

This type of mining uses crude methods to extract precious metals such as gold.

Over 25% of the gold mined is from artisanal mines. Most artisanal mining is done in developing nations.

The miners use mercury to draw out the gold from silt. The mercury combines with the gold, then it is heated and evaporated, leaving the gold behind.

But the evaporated mercury settles back into the environment where it is absorbed by living organisms that make up the food chain.

And at the top of the food chain? All of us, of course.

Posted by Green Man in Environment at 13:31

Sunday, July 25. 2010

### **Full Moon - Blessing Moon**

July's Full Moon is called the Blessing Moon. At this time of year, corn and tomatoes are ripening, along with many vine plants such as squash and cucumbers. As we enjoy the early harvests of Mother Earth's abundance, we also reap our own personal first harvests. The energies of this Full Moon are those of success and appreciating our own accomplishments. This is the perfect time to look at all the good things we have and all that we have accomplished and to "count our blessings".

This moon is also known as the "Wort Moon" (from the Old English word "wyr" meaning "plant"). Herbs have been growing in abundance over the past few months and those which flower have likely already done so. They are ready to be harvested. The herbs you harvest at this time can be dried to last through the winter months.

Other names for this moon are "Ripe Corn Moon", "Hay Moon", and "Meadow Moon". The corn and hay in the fields are ready to be harvested and the meadows are at their greatest point of growth.

Posted by Dryad in Moon Talk at 14:11

Thursday, July 22, 2010

**New T-Shirt Design: Numbers**

Posted by Green Man in T-Shirt Information at 22:21

Tuesday, July 20. 2010

## **July 20, 1969 - Man Lands on the Moon**

It was 41 years ago today that man first landed on the moon.

Command module pilot Michael Collin had these words to say: "I really believe that if the political leaders of the world could see their planet from a distance of 100,000 miles their outlook could be fundamentally changed. That all-important border would be invisible, that noisy argument silenced. The tiny globe would continue to turn, serenely ignoring its subdivisions, presenting a unified facade that would cry out for unified understanding, for homogeneous treatment. The Earth must become as it appears: blue and white, not capitalist or communist; blue and white, not rich or poor; blue and white, not envious or envied."

One of the key words Collins uses to describe Earth is "fragile" and he said that 40 years later it is still fragile "and growing more so."

"When we flew to the moon, our population was 3 billion; today it has more than doubled and is headed for 8 billion, the experts say. I do not think this growth is sustainable or healthy. The loss of habitat, the trashing of oceans, the accumulation of waste products - this is no way to treat a planet."

He's right, don't you think?

Posted by Green Man in Moon Talk at 07:00

Monday, July 19. 2010

**New GMTS T-Shirt Design: Zebra Cave Art**

Posted by Green Man in T-Shirt Information at 08:16

Sunday, July 18. 2010

**New GMTS T-Shirt Design: Curl**

Posted by Green Man in T-Shirt Information at 07:49

Thursday, July 15, 2010

### **Greenman Crashes the Threadless Party!**

The great folks at Threadless came to San Diego yesterday and of course we crashed the party, along with several hundred others at the Station Tavern and Grill, checking out t-shirts, drinking beer, and eating the famous awesome burgers and more. Threadless fans will no doubt recognize long time Threadless guru Charlie in the photo above. He's the one with the beard and graphic t-shirt. On the left.

Threadless, as everyone knows, is the leader in original graphic art t-shirts and they have set up a crew that tours around in a wicked silver Airstream trailer. We had a chance to meet and greet, and the Threadless guys couldn't have been more cool. What a gig, though, eh? Getting paid to travel the U.S. and talk graphic design and t-shirts....we can't imagine it gets too much better than that.

Being the notorious cheap bastards we're known for, we took a gander at winning free stuff by spinning the Threadless Wheel-o-Fortune. We won a copy of the new Threadless Book coming out later this summer, and it will feature the history of Threadless and the graphic work of hundreds of T designers from all over the world.

Those readers who have suffered through any of the GMTS video t-shirt reviews on YouTube might recognize some of the Threadless designers we've given shout outs to.

On the Threadless website they post a schedule of the tour; check it out to find when they'll be in your area.

Posted by Green Man in T-Shirt Information at 07:12

Monday, July 12. 2010

**New T-Shirt Design: Trouble in the Forest**

Posted by Green Man in T-Shirt Information at 05:10

**New T-Shirt Design: Celtic Disc**

Posted by Green Man in T-Shirt Information at 04:42

Sunday, July 11. 2010

## **New Moon**

No, I'm not talking about Team Edward vs. Team Jacob!

I'm talking moon phases here. The new moon occurs when the sun and moon are in conjunction, occupying the same part of the sky as viewed from the Earth's surface. At this time the moon doesn't reflect the light of the sun and so cannot be seen. The new moon phase is from the day of the new moon to three days after.

The new moon is the time of the Maiden Goddess and new beginnings. The appearance of the new crescent moon was celebrated in days of old as the moon coming back to life. This is a time of newness and growing energy. The moment of the new moon is the moment when the old passes away and the new is not yet here. It is a great time to make changes in your life, like ending bad habits or relationships, and for setting intentions for things you would like to create and manifest in your life. Job hunting, business ventures, love and romance, health - this a powerful time for starting something new.

Posted by Dryad in Moon Talk at 01:00

Saturday, July 10. 2010

**New T-Shirt Design: Travel**

Posted by Green Man in T-Shirt Information at 02:12

Friday, July 9, 2010

## **Aboriginal culture threat from drought**

The drought that has affected the Murray-Darling basin in south-eastern Australia for several years has not only been a disaster for farming. The indigenous communities have also seen changes in the environment that endanger their ancestral customs, and though the rain has returned, concern for the future has taken hold. In a documentary made by Aboriginal youths, trained to use a camera by director Carl Kuddell, the elders of the Ngarrindjeri indigenous community explain their fears for the survival of traditions that are deeply rooted in the land and its rivers. The film, *Nukkan.Kungun.Yunnan (See, Listen, Speak): Ngarrindjeri's Being Heard*, was shot in 2009 and has been selected for this month's Human Rights Watch International Film Festival in New York. For the community, which regards itself as a "freshwater people" and lives on the shores of the Lower Lakes and Coorong area, near Lake Alexandrina, the documentary is a chance to get a hearing. "By freshwater people we mean that traditionally we find our food in the lakes. It is still part of our culture. But the shortage of water is gradually upsetting these habits," says Edie Carter, a youth worker at Meningie, who took part in the film. The older people at Camp Coorong have never seen anything like it. As Tom Trevor, the head of the Ngarrindjeri Lands and Progress Association, recalls, they were brought up as children in a semi-traditional lifestyle. It was still possible to go fishing because the river was alive. He cannot remember ever seeing a drought like the present one. The poor rainfall since 2006 has reduced rivers to a mere trickle and made the water at the mouth of the Murray river too saline to drink. Berries on trees are increasingly scarce. "Before we used to pick berries, but it's less and less common," Carter said. Cultural practices such as basket weaving are affected too. "It is no longer possible to obtain the necessary rushes. Until recently we could find them near Meningie, but now it takes two or three hours," she added.

The elders are deeply concerned. "In Ngarrindjeri belief we say that the lands and waters is a living body and that we are a part of its existence. If our lands and waters die then we will die," Trevor said. According to Ngarrindjeri lore the land and the rivers were created in the "dreamtime". A specific myth explains the birth of each mountain or stream. When rivers or animals disappear it is part of the infinite spiritual cycle that is lost. This story was first published in *Le Monde*. Australia Australia Drought guardian.co.uk © Guardian News & Media Limited 2010 | Use of this content is subject to our Terms & Conditions | More Feeds

Posted by Green Man in Environment at 05:44

Wednesday, July 7, 2010

### **I Want My Life Back T-Shirt**

BP CEO Tony Hayward might be forgiven for his famous "I want my life back" line; after all, everyone says things they regret and Mr. Hayward knew immediately he gaffed and apologized profusely.

But still, it was an extraordinary thing to say. Especially given that the environmental tragedy was precipitated by the 11 tragic deaths of the oil rig workers aboard Deepwater Horizon.

Of all the comments, however, from all the experts, environmentalists, politicians, and others involved in this unbelievable event, the "I Want My Life Back" comment defines the tragedy in so many ways we had to memorialize it on one of our organic cotton t-shirts.

Posted by Green Man in T-Shirt Information at 05:02

Tuesday, July 6, 2010

## **India fury over US 'double standards' on BP and Bhopal**

by Jason Burke. Indians have reacted with fury to President Barack Obama's tough stance against BP, accusing the US of double standards over industrial accidents after the failure to convict Americans involved in the Bhopal disaster of 1984 or to obtain what many view as adequate compensation for victims. The anger goes beyond that of campaigners or activists with some of India's best-known writers and journalists weighing in. "It looks like Indian children's lives are cheaper than [those of] fish," Chetan Bhagat, the country's best-selling writer, said. "Obama should bang his fist on the table. If he can do that for fish, how about our kids? Or are they only Indians?"

The Pioneer and Hindustan newspapers ran headlines last week repeating the charge that the US reaction to the Gulf Coast disaster, which has killed 11 people, and to Bhopal, where at least 15,000 died as a result of exposure to toxic gases leaking from a US-owned pesticide plant, was evidence of double standards. "Everything that Obama has said about BP and the spill was what the US should have said about Bhopal," said Suhasini Haider, one of India's best-known TV journalists who chaired a prime-time discussion comparing reactions to the two disasters. "There is the question of compensation, the way Obama has gone after senior executives personally. This is the exact opposite of what happened with Bhopal." One reason for the anger lies in the timing of the Obama's address to the American nation on the oil spill, which came a week after the first verdicts in a criminal trial related to the Bhopal disaster. Seven Indian managers at the plant were sentenced to two years in prison and immediately bailed by a court in India. Warren Anderson, the then chief executive of Union Carbide, the American firm which owned the plant through an Indian subsidiary, has never faced trial and attempts by Indian governments to extradite him from the US have failed. "It seems ridiculous that there are such small punishments for [Bhopal] and at the same time we are watching the US getting so agitated about the spill," Haider said. Attention in India has focused on continuing investigations by campaigners into the identity of the senior figure who ordered the release of Anderson, arrested when he returned to Bhopal immediately after the disaster. Opposition politicians have sought to blame senior figures in the Congress party, who lead a coalition government in India. There is also a fierce domestic debate about who was responsible for the downgrading of charges against officials investigated after the disaster, the failure to clear the site of the plant of toxic waste and the level of compensation, which has reached only a fraction of the victims. "It's the Indian government that must answer why it allowed the US those actions," Haider said. Local news reports have claimed that senior American politicians put pressure on the Indian government not to pursue claims for further compensation against Union Carbide, which was eventually bought by another US firm, Dow Chemicals in 2001. Bhagat told the Guardian that "nothing [in the US] compared to what had happened in India" where "politicians and industries are much too close".

Bhopal Pollution Corporate social responsibility BP BP oil spill India United States Obama administration Jason Burke guardian.co.uk © Guardian News & Media Limited 2010 | Use of this content is subject to our Terms & Conditions | More Feeds

Posted by Green Man in Guest Articles at 06:08

Friday, July 2, 2010

## **Natural hot reservoirs harnessed by scientists to service Pennine eco-village**

by Martin Wainwright. Warm as bathwater, the first gusher from Britain's new "underground central heating system" showered over a Pennine field today, while scientists and engineers applauded. Tapped a kilometre down, hot reservoirs in granite fissures below Weardale are set to service a new "eco-village" in the valley, and provide the country's first naturally warm spa since the Romans at Bath.

The breakthrough has overcome obstacles dogging other geothermal projects with a twin borehole system which recirculates the water, avoiding costly treatment or polluted run-off. Limitless supplies from the hot aquifers will be pumped up one borehole, piped through the new housing at Eastgate, near Stanhope in County Durham, and then returned down a second borehole for rewarming by low-level radiation in the rocks. "The system works in just the same way as central heating constantly circulates between a home's hot water tank, boiler and radiators," said Professor Paul Younger, director of Newcastle University's institute for research on sustainability, which has designed the scheme. Geothermal energy is a priority of the Department of Energy and Climate Change, but the superficial simplicity of tapping underground springs has met with problems. Aquifers in buried granite "the best rock for high temperatures" tend to be twice as salty as the sea, causing corrosion and pollution problems. "Unless you happen to be on the coast, you can't let the spent water simply flow away," said Prof Younger. "But cleaning it is both energy-intensive and costly. The recirculating system pioneered here in Weardale overcomes these problems. It's an almost carbon-neutral form of energy." A generator priming the pump at Eastgate was the only carbon-user today, with drilling completed on a system which makes maximum use of cracks in the hidden granite. Professor David Manning, a soil scientist at Newcastle University, said: "The water goes back into the rock at a depth of a little under half a kilometre, then works its way through a maze of fissures to the extraction borehole, heating up again on the way." Weardale's granite is particularly effective at heating water, but natural low-level radiation is found in all rocks. Prof Manning said that Eastgate had extra interest as a geothermal prototype whose lessons could be applied to other hotspots found by geologists, where warm aquifers are close enough to the surface for commercial tapping. The valley, now a tourist attraction with a succession of nature reserves, also has a useful legacy of mining. Lee Berry, one of the drilling team, said that quarrying, cement-making and lead-mining had been the local staple for generations. "We've had people coming and telling us about the underground water," he said. "When they dug out rock for the cement works here, they found blind white fish in the caves." WaterGeo-engineeringGreen economyEnergyEnergy efficiencyEnergy monitoringEnergyEnergyMartin Wainwrightguardian.co.uk© Guardian News & Media Limited 2010 | Use of this content is subject to our Terms & Conditions | More Feeds

Posted by Green Man in Guest Articles at 07:01