

# Odd News

*On the next page there are some news items and short reports. In which of them can you read about the following things?*

**Fill in all the boxes using the letters A–H.**  
*Remember that most letters should be used more than once.*

**Example:** An animal that can't see very well

A



- 1 Two people wanting the same pet
- 2 Making it easier to walk
- 3 An animal famous for its size
- 4 Jumping to get away
- 5 Risks for people who stay up late
- 6 An animal running to win
- 7 Animals that were difficult to handle
- 8 Someone taking legal action
- 9 Solving a problem for busy people
- 10 Many different ways of getting about in a city
- 11 A person who didn't want his animal back
- 12 A family giving away their small pets
- 13 A scientific test used on an animal
- 14 Something that might cause illness in the future
- 15 Good and bad things about being small
- 16 Transport ideas to improve the environment

Points

16

### **A** A Dog's Tale

A man who owned a short-sighted racing greyhound couldn't understand why it always came in second in its races. The vet told him that, since the dog couldn't see very well, it needed another dog to follow. The owner had his pet fitted with contact lenses and now it wins all its races.

### **B** The Fast Track

Operation Tugboat aims to do away with London's growing problem in the streets and help people who get elbowed out of the way or held up by dawdling shoppers. The Tugboat group's spokeswoman says, "On motorways you can overtake slow drivers so why not make fast lanes on the pavements. You could have one-way, fast pedestrian lanes with regulations like a minimum speed limit of 3 mph, no eating, no map-reading and no cameras."

### **C** It's a Dog's Life

Baldy ran away from home and was found by Jenny Brown, who took care of him for several months. Now Baldy's original owner, Mary Clarke, has traced the dog and wants him back. Jenny thinks the dog had been neglected and doesn't think Mrs Clarke is Baldy's real owner either. Mary Clarke is now taking the case to court with her dog's DNA analysis to prove that she is the real owner of Baldy, the Chinese Crested dog.

### **D** On Your Bike!

Eco-freak Brady Blade opened his speech on Car Free Day by asking, "Does your town look like Los Angeles on your way to work in the morning?" He advised the audience to "go green" and use electric powered vehicles. Or maybe try two wheels instead of four. According to Mr Blade, pedal-pushing could become the 'in' thing. "There's nothing like a flashy mountain bike to draw attention. Or inlines! Or skates!"

### **E** Portrait of a Pet

When the Anderson family take their pet Whitney for a walk they have to be careful to keep her away from cats because she is scared stiff of them. Whitney only weighs 740g and is under 15cm tall and 23cm long. The family have to be careful too because the dog was flattened last week by a thick envelope that came in through the letterbox. But being the world's certified smallest dog has its advantages—she is quite a celebrity, has appeared on talk shows and even has her own agent.

### **F** Monkeying Around

Two rampaging marmosets have finally settled down and started a family at Cricket St Thomas Wildlife Park, near Chard. The wildlife park offered a home to the mischievous little monkeys in the spring when the Bristol family that owned them decided they could not cope. Josh and Cruella, who are only seven inches tall, had terrorised their owners when they became aggressive and territorial at the family home.

### **G** Bluebell in the Wood

Bluebell took one look at the lorry that her owner was trying to coax her into and decided that this was definitely not for her. She took off at great speed, crossed a busy road, and with one leap she was on the other side of two barbed wire fences and disappeared. "I've never seen a cow take off like that," said Mr Macy, her owner. "We told the police our cow had done a runner and they just laughed." Bluebell was later found by an animal charity in a wood and Mr Macy has decided to let them keep her at their animal sanctuary.

### **H** Seeing the Light

Are you a nightowl, watching videos or sitting at the computer or maybe drawn to the nightlights, living it up? Be warned. Your brain is programmed for darkness during the night. People who get a lot of bright light at the wrong time of day could be storing up trouble for themselves. Some experts have found that those people are more likely to have serious health problems later in life.

## Odd News – bedömningsanvisningar

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(1 poäng/riktigt svar)

1 C

2 B

3 E

4 G

5 H

6 A

7 F

8 C

9 B

10 D

11 G

12 F

13 C

14 H

15 E

16 D

(Max: 16 poäng)