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ANOTHER COUNTRY?

Then just write to:
DA Tales Of Tross,
 GPO Box 37, Sydney
 NSW 1028 or email us
 at: disneyadventures@acp.com.au and tell us where you'd like Albert Tross to go!

ITALY

Population: Approx 85 million

Ahoy there mates!
 Come aboard Albert Tross, the enchanted pirate ship/albatross, and join us for another adventure as Albert sails us to Italy...



Admiral George Tuckers



Italian for 'hello' is 'buon giorno'.



The average Italian eats around **25kg** of pasta per year!

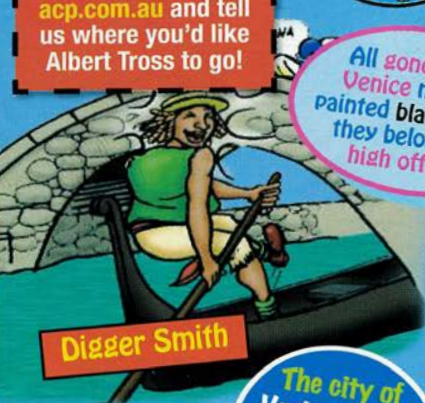
Italy has over **3000** museums!



The Italian painter Michelangelo is widely regarded as the greatest artist the world has ever known!

Mt Vesuvius in Naples is the most active volcano on the European mainland.

All gondolas in Venice must be painted black unless they belong to a high official!



Digger Smith

The city of Venice is built on **117** islands and has **150** canals!

OH PINOCCHIO I THINK YOU'RE TELLING LIES AGAIN!



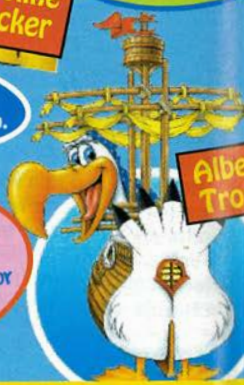
Adeline Tucker

The story of Pinocchio was written by an Italian.

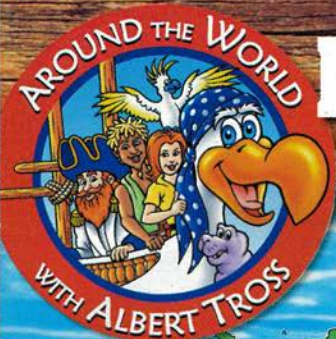
Bocce is a popular sport in Italy. What the point is to roll the ball as close to a target ball as possible.

Leonardo da Vinci was an awesome artist, inventor and engineer! He painted the world's most famous portrait - the Mona Lisa!

Michelangelo painted a massive mural on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel that took him four years to complete!



Albert Tross



INDONESIA

Population: approx 242 million

Welcome to Indonesia, my hearty travellers! First stop is Jakarta, which has a population of nearly 10 million people.



Admiral George Tucker



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Sumatra is the home to the world's **LARGEST AND STINKIEST FLOWER** - the *Rafflesia Arnoldii*. It's nicknamed the 'corpse flower' 'cos it's taller than a man, and smells like dead animals. Ewww!

From Indonesia's **400 VOLCANOES**, about 90 are still active!

The biggest lizard in the world comes from Indonesia - the **KOMODO DRAGON** - they grow over three metres long, and can run as fast as a dog!

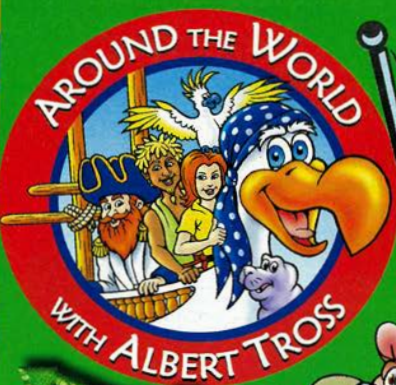
The world's **SMALLEST FISH** lives in the swamp lands in Sumatra - it's only 7.9 mm long. Tiny, huh?

A male orangutan's arms can span over **TWO METRES**.

There are stacks of **COOL ANIMALS** in Indonesia including rhinoceros, tigers, elephants, wild pigs, orangutans, proboscis monkeys, and the sun bear, which is the smallest bear of all!

While the fried rice dish **Nasi Goreng** is a popular dinner, some Indonesians also love to eat **RAW MONKEY BRAINS** - yuck! This is one for all you banana brains!





This month's featured country is.
MEXICO
 POPULATION: APPROX. 105 MILLION

Ahoy there matey! Come aboard Albert Tross, the enchanted pirate ship/albatross, and join us for another adventure as Albert sails us to Mexico...



The Mexican version of the Tooth Fairy is the "Tooth Mouse" which takes the teeth and leaves treasure behind!

Hello in Mexican is the same as Spanish, which is **HOLA**, pronounced **OH-LAH!**

There is 5 times more rats than people living in Mexico City!



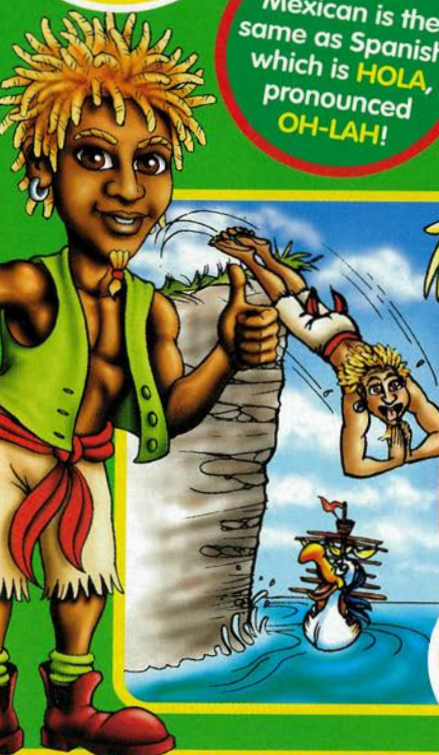
The capital of Mexico is Mexico City which has 18 million people and is the largest city in the world.

The world's highest headfirst dive (35 metres!!!) was performed off a cliff in Acapulco, Mexico!

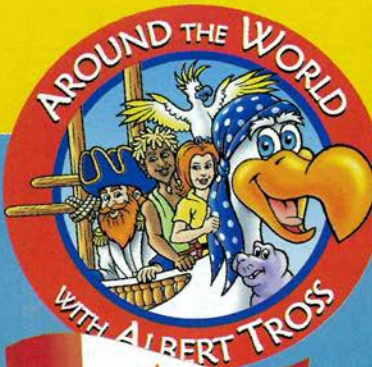
Ever done the Mexican Wave at a concert or sporting event? This cheer got its name when the crowd first performed it at the 1986 soccer World Cup in Mexico!

MEXICO CITY SINKS ABOUT 25CM PER YEAR!

The sombrero was first worn by Mexican farmers and means "shady hat"!



Discover more about Albert and other fascinating characters by visiting: www.talesoftross.com



CANADA

Population: Approx 32 million

Ahoy mateys! This month we sail to Canada, where the capital city is Ottawa and the people eat more Kraft Macaroni & Cheese than anyone else in the world!



Admiral George Tucker



In 1965, the red maple leaf was made Canada's National leaf!

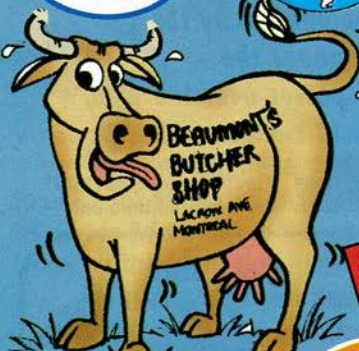
The Canadian \$1 coin is called a "loonie" because it has a loon bird on it!



Mounties have enforced law and order in Canada for over 125 years.



The zipper was invented by a Canadian man called Gideon Sund!



Adeline Tucker

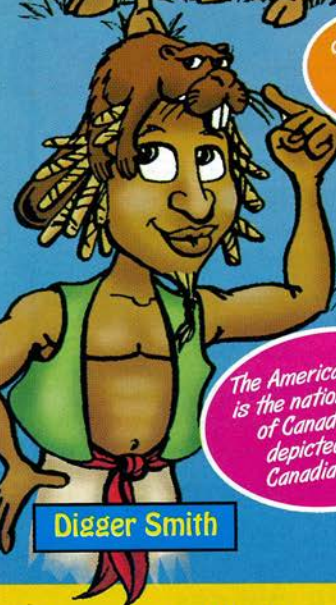
In 1984, a Canadian farmer began renting his cows out as space for advertisements!

The snow mobile was invented by Joseph-Armand Bombardier in 1920.

A Canadian came up with powdered mashed potatoes - go Figure!

Today, thanks to conservation and silk hats, beavers are alive and well all over Canada!

One of Canada's official sports is ice hockey - and both the women's and men's teams won gold medals at the 2002 Winter Olympics!



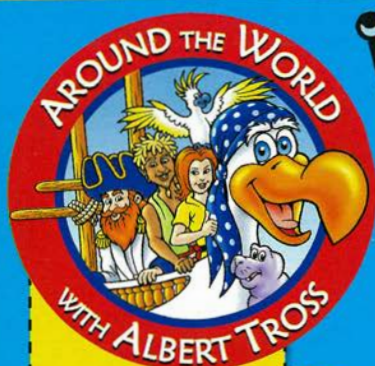
Digger Smith

The American beaver is the national animal of Canada and is depicted on the Canadian nickel!

It has been officially stated that romantic Canadian porcupines kiss one another on the lips!

The beaver was also featured on the first Canadian postage stamp!





This month's featured country is
EGYPT!
 POPULATION: APPROX. 76 MILLION

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THE
 CAPITAL
 OF
 EGYPT IS
 CAIRO.

Most men and
 women wore wigs
 in Ancient Egypt
 'cause it helped
 to protect them
 from sunstroke!

THE ANCIENT
 EGYPTIANS TRAINED
 BABOONS TO WAIT
 ON THEIR TABLES!

In Ancient
 Egypt, wounds
 were sometimes
 dressed with
 mouldy bread!

Ancient
 Egyptians loved
 cats so much
 that they would
 often mummify
 them when
 they died!

Adeline Tucker

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 characters by visiting: www.talesofatross.com

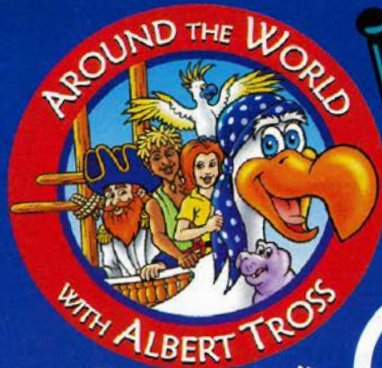


Admiral George Tucker

Hippopotamus
 hunting used
 to be a popular
 sport in Egypt!



Albert Tross



This month's featured country is
GREECE
POPULATION: APPROX. 11 MILLION



Ahoy there!
Welcome to the first
adventure with Albert
Tross, the enchanted
pirate ship/albatross.
Join us as we sail the
high seas exploring
different countries
of the world...



In Greek
the word for
hello is **YA!**
or **YASOU!**:
hello (to you)

The word
"Athlete" comes
from the Greek
word "Athlos",
meaning a
contest!



YUM!

Souvlaki, or pieces
of barbecued meat, is
the most popular food in
Greece. It is served with
tzatziki: a yoghurt
sauce packed
with garlic and
cucumbers!

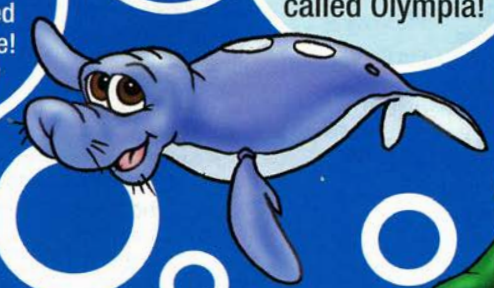


The most
famous Greek of
all, **ALEXANDER THE
GREAT**, was rumoured
to have been killed
by a mosquito bite!
Now THAT really
sucks!



OLYMPIA

The **first**
Olympic
Games were
held in 776BC
in a Greek town
called Olympia!





IRELAND

Population: approx 5.8 million

Did you know that Ireland is split into two countries: Northern Ireland, where the capital is Belfast; and the Republic of Ireland which claims Dublin as its capital.



Admiral George Tucker

Hello in Irish is "Dia duit"!



Ireland has **NO SNAKES**. Legend has it that St Patrick didn't like them so he walked through Ireland banging a snakeskin drum so loudly it scared all the snakes into the sea. Poor snakes!



The official dog of Ireland is the **IRISH WOLFHAND** and if it stands on its back legs it can be over two metres tall, that's taller than Admiral!



It's good luck to find a four-leaf shamrock!

Legend says that if you're lucky enough to catch a **LEPRECHAUN**, they will show you their pot of gold at the end of a rainbow! And leprechauns always wear green to camouflage themselves against mortals!

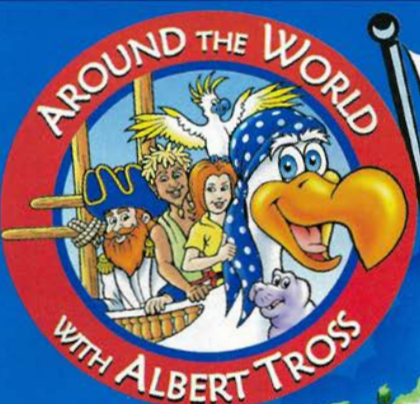


In 1897, Irishman **BRAM STOKER** wrote the infamous book about the legend of Dracula. The name Dracula comes from the Irish word "Droch Shula" (pronounced Droch'ola), which means bad blood!

In Ireland people speak: Irish English and Shelta.

In the late 1700s the average Irishman ate approx. **4 KILOS OF POTATO** a day! To make peeling easier, men grew their fingernails longer!





This month's featured country
JAPAN
POPULATION: APPROX. 130 MILLION



Ahoy there!
Come aboard Albert
Tross, the enchanted
pirate ship/albatross.
Join us for another
adventure as Albert
sails us to the land
of the "rising sun"...



It takes
5000 litres of
water to produce
1 kilo of rice...
enough to fill a
small swimming
pool!

Hello or
Good afternoon:
KON NI CHI WA
Goodbye:
SA YA NA RA



Japanese monkeys
are nicknamed "snow
monkeys" because they
are the only monkeys that
live in the snow! When snow
monkeys grow up to be
adults, their faces and
bottoms turn red!

SNOT RIGHT!

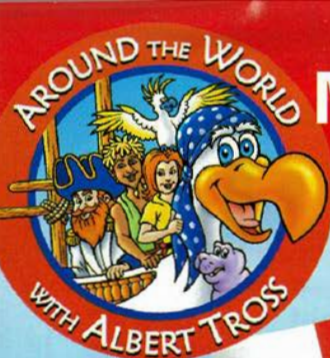
In Japan it is socially
acceptable to pick your
nose in public, but not to
blow your nose in public!

Japan
has about
three minor
earthquakes
per day!

Many
Japanese
homes have
heated
toilet
seats!

Japan has
approx 200
volcanoes!





MADAGASCAR

Population: approx 18, 040, 341

Madagascar is the fourth largest island in the world and the capital is Antananarivo.



ADMIRAL
george TUCKER

Lemurs got their name from the Latin word for **GHOST** because of their pale faces!



MADAGASCAR

The word "**MADAGASCAR**" means "the land at the end of the Earth."

Madagascan "**HISSING**" **COCKROACHES** make great pets!



Take the ears of a bat and the teeth of a rat, add bony hands and huge eyes, and you have yourself the **Aye-Aye**. This nocturnal lemur lives in the rainforests of Madagascar.



Madagascar is home to over half of the world's **CHAMELEON** species. Did you know a Chameleon's tongue can be up to twice the length of its body?!

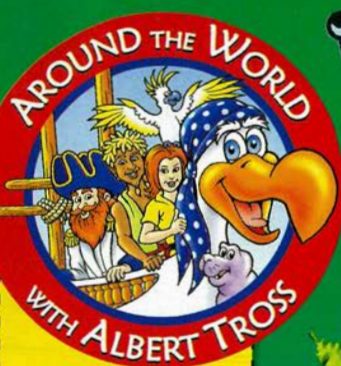


Do you like ice-cream? Well, you can thank Madagascar for providing us with 2/3 of the world's **VANILLA!**



THE BAOBAB tree is Madagascar's national plant. It has a fat trunk that can hold water and it can live to 3,000 years old!





This month's featured country is...
New Zealand
POPULATION: APPROX. 4.1 MILLION



Ahoy there
mateys! Come aboard
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enchanted pirate ship/
albatross, and join us
for another adventure
as Albert sails us
to New Zealand...



Admiral George Tucker

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NEW ZEALAND

bungee
jumping
was
invented
in NZ!

NZ's famous
flightless bird,
the kiwi, lays eggs
that are six times
bigger than those
of any other birds
its size! Ouch!

The
North Auckland
earthworm glows
in the dark! Locals
say that the worm
is so bright, it's
possible to read by
its light!!

The rat-sized
'weta' reaches up to
15cms in length and is
the heaviest insect in
the world!

The
largest living
'Kauri' tree is over
2,100 years old and
has a 4.4 metre
diameter - that's as
wide as a two
lane road!



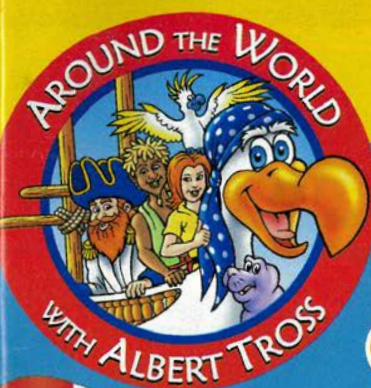
Digger Smith



Albert Tross

35

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characters by visiting: www.talesoftross.com



PERU

Population: Approx 28 million

Ahoy mates! This month we sail to Peru, where most people speak in Spanish. The capital of Peru, Lima, is home to around seven million people!



Admiral George Tucker

The Incas of Peru were the first dudes to grow potatoes!

A drink made with FROGS is drunk in some parts of Peru. YUK!

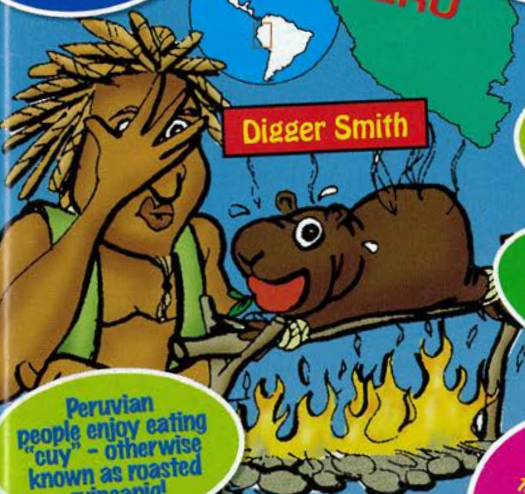


The Amazon jungle covers more than 60% of the country!



PERU

Peru has more birds and butterflies than anywhere else in the whole world! Cool!



Digger Smith

The world's highest railway is in Peru!

Peruvians were the first people to keep llamas as pets!



Hang on! There are no public toilets in Peru!

Adeline Tucker

Peru's most famous tourist spot is MACHU PICCHU or the Lost City of the Incas - a huge complex of shrines, fountains and stairs that was hidden in the jungle for thousands of years, only to be uncovered again in 1911.

The Peruvian Inca Orchid, or the Incan hairless dog, is a rare breed of pooch that hails from Peru!



AROUND THE WORLD

SCOTLAND

Population: Approx 5.3 million

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as Albert sails us to Scotland...



Admiral George Tucker

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Adeline Tucker

Golf was invented in
Scotland but banned in
1457 because it interfered
with the practice of
archery.

There are approx.
450 golf courses
in Scotland!



"Haggis" is a
traditional Scottish
food that includes
ingredients like a
sheep's stomach,
mutton fat and
lamb's liver!

It is a TRUE
Scottish
custom that NO
underwear is to
be worn under
the kilt!

In 17th Century
Edinburgh, bald men
rubbed the burnt
ashes of dove's poo on
their heads to try to
cure themselves!

oops, sorry
must be all
the Haggis!

SCOTLAND



Digger Smith

The Loch Ness
Monster or "Nessie"
is the most famous
CRYPTOZOOLOGICAL
creature in
the world!



Albert Tross





THAILAND

Population: approx 65 million

Ahoy there mateys! This month Albert Tross sails to Thailand, where the capital city is Bangkok.



Admiral George Tucker



Fancy an eight-legged snack? Then you'd better head to the street stalls of Thailand, where you can buy a yummy **STIR-FRIED SPIDER!** EEEK!



The national symbol of Thailand is the **GARUDA** a mythical creature that is half bird, half human.

Thailand is home to the world's smallest mammal. The tiny **BUMBLEBEE BAT** can sit in your hand and weighs less than a 50 cent piece!

In Thailand, it is **RUDE** to touch the top of someone's head or point to them with your feet.

THAI BOXING, or Muay Thai, is Thailand's official sport. Boxers can use both their hands and feet to overcome their opponent.

The world's most expensive **CAT WEDDING** took place in Thailand. Phet and Play, two Thai cats in love, tied the knot at a nightclub. It cost \$16,000!

THE ROYAL DRAGON in Bangkok is the largest restaurant in the world! It has more than 1200 staff members. Some of them even wear roller skates so they can get around more quickly!



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