

# Leeds Skeptics in the Pub

News June 2011

## Increase in MMR Uptake

- MMR uptake is at its highest rate for 13 years.
- Estimated that 90% of children have had the first jab, 95% is target.
- Legacy of Andrew Wakefield: measles is more prevalent today.



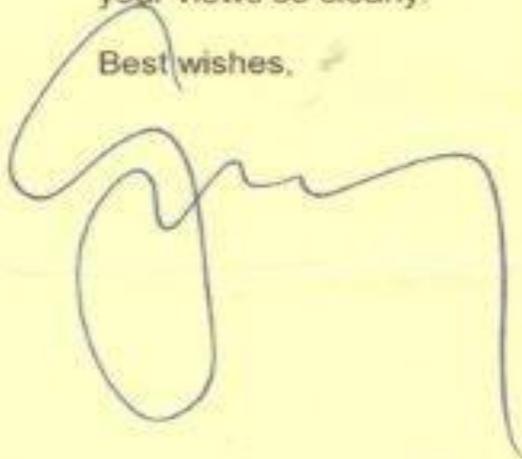
# Gary Streeter MP

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your email of 23 May. We will have to agree to disagree. There are many people who believe that creation is certainly on a par with the theory of evolution, myself included. The claim is often made that there are faith schools in the country that only teach 7 day literal creationism and not scientific evolution, but I have never been able to discover any.

Faith Schools are becoming increasingly popular and I am afraid your views are increasingly that of a narrow minority. I am grateful to you however for setting out your views so clearly.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gary Streeter', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned below the typed text 'Best wishes,'.

# Nuclear Power

- Following Anti-Nuclear protests in Germany, the German government will Decommission all the nuclear plants
- In the UK, plans for a new generation of nuclear power stations to come online by 2025.



## Dog Stoning

- A Rabbinical court in Jerusalem sentence a dog to death by stoning.
- It was believed the soul of a 'secular' lawyer had possessed the dog
- Chief Rabbi said that he was trying to help the unfortunate dog.
- The dog escaped.



# A Field Guide to Bullshit

- In New Scientist, interview with Stephen Law
- He discusses the strategies used by proponent of irrational nonsense and how to tackle them.
- He also has a book coming out 'Believing Bullshit'



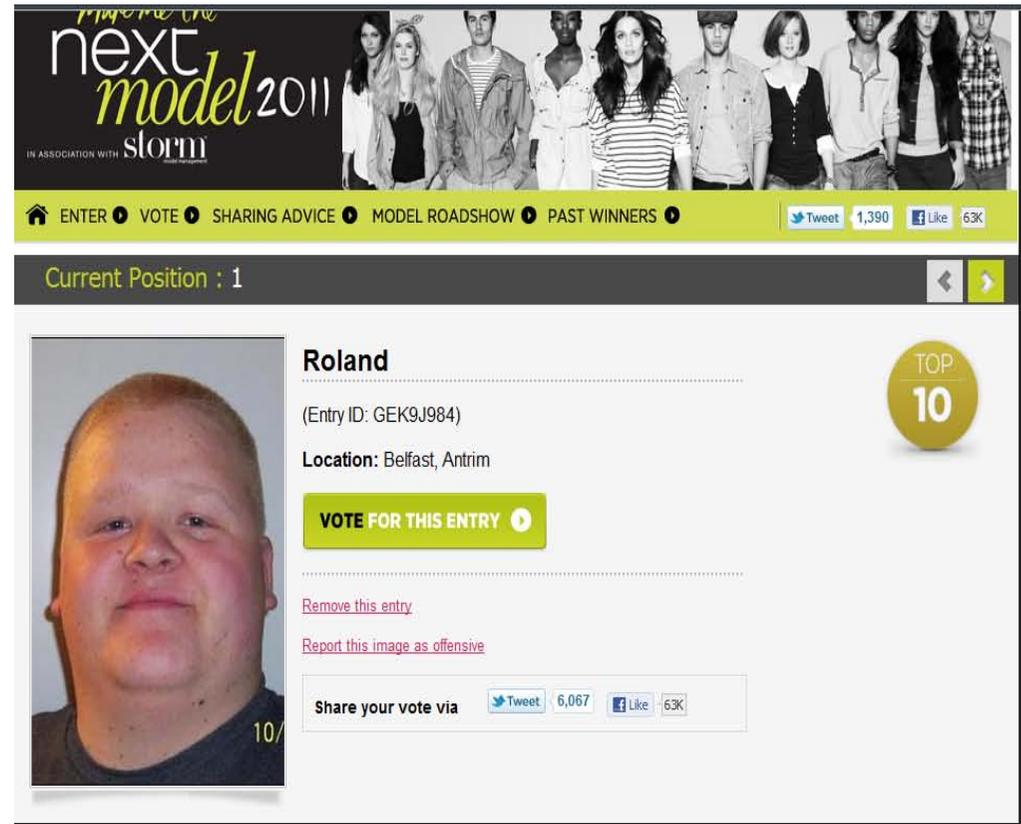
# 'Ugly' people kicked off dating website

- Website was apparently attacked by the 'Shrek' virus
- 10, 000s of new members were admitted many of whom were 'no oil painting'
- Suggestion it could be a publicity stunt.



# The Next Model 2011

- Roland from Belfast still in the lead with less than a week to go!
- Voting still open until Friday.



The screenshot shows the website for 'The Next Model 2011', which is in association with 'storm'. The header features a banner with the text 'Imagine the next model 2011' and a group of models. Below the banner is a navigation bar with links for 'ENTER', 'VOTE', 'SHARING ADVICE', 'MODEL ROADSHOW', and 'PAST WINNERS'. Social media sharing options for 'Tweet' (1,390) and 'Like' (63K) are also visible.

The main content area displays 'Current Position : 1' with navigation arrows. Below this is a profile for 'Roland' (Entry ID: GEK9J984) from Belfast, Antrim. A large green button says 'VOTE FOR THIS ENTRY'. To the right of the name is a 'TOP 10' badge. Below the name are links for 'Remove this entry' and 'Report this image as offensive'. At the bottom, there is a 'Share your vote via' section with 'Tweet' (6,067) and 'Like' (63K) options. A small '10/' is visible in the bottom right corner of the profile picture area.

## BHA president resigns

- Professor AC Grayling has resigned from his position – before he even took office.
- The negative publicity about his private university is the reason behind the resignation.
- Polly Toynbee will continue as president until a new president is appointed.



# Cicadas Ice cream

- Cicadas Ice-cream
- Sparky's an American Ice-cream company have added a new flavour!
- The cicadas make the ice cream crunchy and taste like almonds.
- It was only short term and won't be retuning!



# Faeces Burger

- A Japanese Scientist has a novel solution for Japan's sewage problems.
- He believes there is a lot perfectly good protein going out to sea
- Currently the poo burger costs between 10-20 times the price of a beef burger!
- No shortage of base material!

