

Leeds Skeptics in the Pub

News June 2011

Increase in MMR Uptake

- MMR uptake is at it's 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.



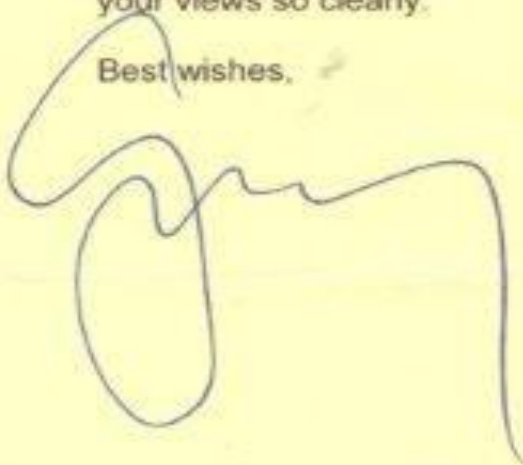
Gary Streeter MP

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 'G. Streeter', written below the typed name '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'



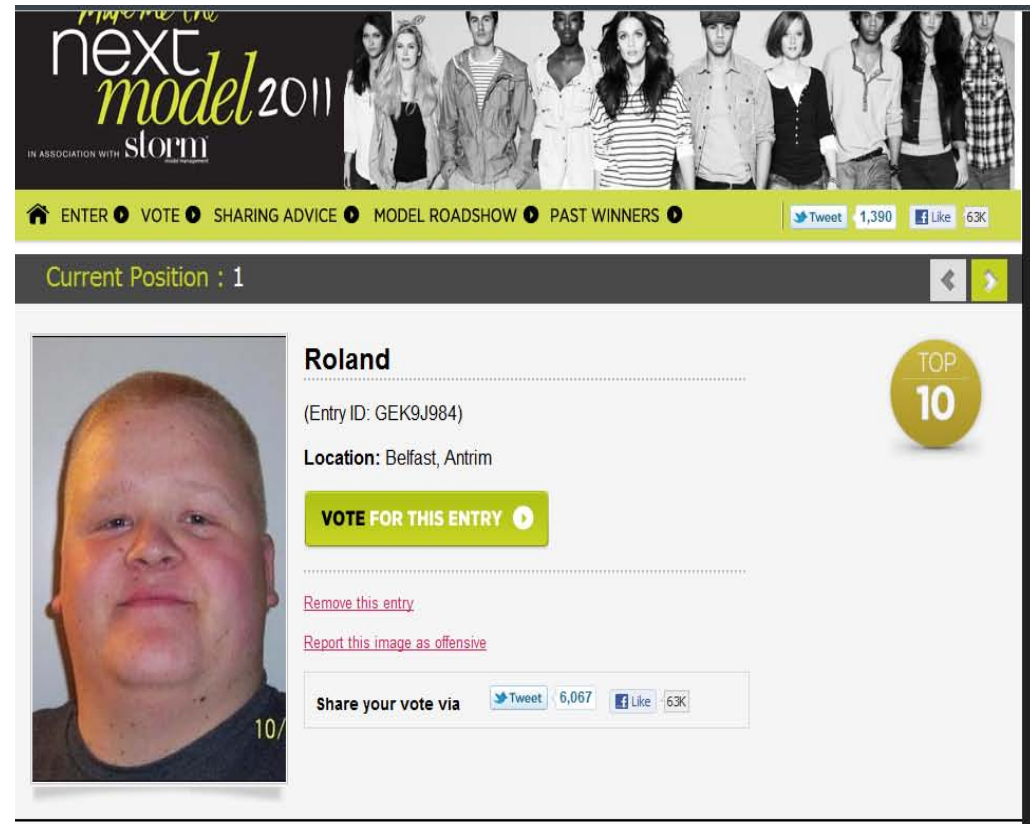
'Ugly' people kicked off dating website

- 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 'The Next Model 2011' website. At the top, there is a banner with the text 'make me the next model 2011' and 'IN ASSOCIATION WITH storm'. Below the banner is a navigation bar with links: ENTER, VOTE, SHARING ADVICE, MODEL ROADSHOW, and PAST WINNERS. There are also social media buttons for Tweet (1,390) and Like (63K). Below the navigation bar, it says 'Current Position : 1'. The main content area features a large photo of Roland, a young man with short hair, wearing a dark shirt. To the right of the photo, his name 'Roland' is displayed, followed by '(Entry ID: GEK9J984)' and 'Location: Belfast, Antrim'. A green button says 'VOTE FOR THIS ENTRY'. Below this, there are links for 'Remove this entry' and 'Report this image as offensive'. At the bottom, there is a section 'Share your vote via' with social media buttons for Tweet (6,067) and Like (63K). A gold circular badge on the right side of the profile says 'TOP 10'.

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!

