

The background of the cover is a photograph of a winter forest. The trees are bare and their branches are heavily laden with snow. In the foreground, a dark metal park bench is partially covered in snow. The overall atmosphere is quiet and serene.

fao Casa gazette

JANUARY 2012

**On the Edge of the Ancient
World-Hanging Out with
Hercules**

Fire Alarm

FAO Staff Coop Pet Group

**Postcards – Windows on
History and Society**

UNWG

FAO Staff Coop Library

Essay Competition News

Something for you to Know

Remembering Daniela Moro

Recipes

Mensile - No. 1 2012 - Reg. Trib. N. 554 del 8/10/1994

fao Casa gazette

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Typewritten electronic contributions for the FAO CASA Gazette are welcome. These can be in English, French, Italian or Spanish - articles, poems, drawings, photographs, etc. in fact anything interesting that staff members and/or their families in Rome or the field may like to contribute. No anonymous material will be accepted, and the Editor reserves the right to choose and/or reject material that is not in keeping with the ethics of the Organization. Send contributions electronically to the Editor at jill.stevenson@fao.org or leave signed copies with the COOP Office on the ground floor of Building E. The deadline for editorial material is due on the 1st of the month preceding the date of issue. The Editor may schedule articles according to the priorities and editorial requirements of the FAO Staff COOP. The FAO CASA Gazette is published every month.

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On the Edge of the Ancient World - Hanging Out with Hercules

by Peter Steele

It sounds like a question typical of Trivial Pursuits: 'Name the last colonial outpost in Western Europe - home to 30 000 mainly English-speaking people who live on a patch of land less than 7 km² in area and dominated by a mass of Jurassic limestone 426 metres high. Here is a hint: the modern name is a corruption of the original Arabic name 'Jabal Tariq' meaning 'Mountain of Tariq'. Now that's an easy one - you only need to say the name out loud - but it's a deal more fun to go there and wander the narrow commercial streets and 12 km of coast-line, catch the cable car to the peak and look across to Africa 15 km away from the vantage of the peak road. There is a sense of being on top of the world - well, a Mediterranean one anyway - appreciate the view that Hercules created.



Rock. Gibraltar Rock in all its magnificence on a gorgeous early evening in late summer with the airport in front and main town to the right, and with La Linea in Spain in the foreground; and you can just see Africa in the distance - a panorama of Hercules country in all its glory.

History in context

Choose a clear day - for the point where the seas meet is notorious for sea mists - and you can enjoy the view of the mountain from 50 km away as you drive the coastal road from Malaga. Gibraltar is well sign posted by the Spanish road authorities, but then you could hardly miss it - it dominates.

Catch the mist, by contrast, and you can drive right up to the entrance of the immigration office, park in front of the McDonalds opposite - and *still* not see it.

The European Union has changed the way that most people in Europe see themselves in the world - with the porosity of

international borders that has less to do with national economic development, language, investment, social-services and more and, in the modern world, probably have greater meaning for those who follow the European Cup (*i.e. the UEFA soccer competition for those of you reading this in Indonesia – which is fanatically nationalistic here*).

Thus it is that the reality of Francisco Franco's claim to the 'Rock' from the 1950s-on was soundly thrown out by >99% of Gibraltarians in their national referendum of 1967, prompting Spain to close the border and sever all communications and services. It remained closed for more than 15 years – and opened just prior to the modern Spanish state's accession to the European Union.

Almost thirty years on it's sometimes difficult to appreciate what all the fuss was about – but there is this thing about each generation and the narrow political visions of the time, with all those antiquated military technologies that made Gibraltar such a key fortress for so many years. And not just between the British and the Spanish, but from Roman times and earlier. You don't need to be a historian to enjoy the movements of people that have travelled back and forth from Africa to Europe – crossing that short stretch of turbulent water in their sail-boats or those with a couple of hundred oarsmen on board. Today it's the haunt of the car ferries, the coastal traders and the smugglers in their high-speed Zodiacs running cigarettes, people and drugs in the dark.

Trading nations trading shots

The Anglo-Spanish contretemps had much earlier origins, however, and it arose from the seven centuries of occupation and control that the Moors once enjoyed across the Iberia Peninsula. This ended during the mid-Fifteenth century when Spain and its allies pushed the Moors back into Africa. Wander across Southern Spain today, and marvel at the elegance of the heritage



Wildlife. Don't call them apes – they are, in fact, Barbary macaques and the only wild monkeys in Europe. There are an estimated 250 of them in the nature reserve on top of the rock. Not to be trifled with either – for they are as large as a school kid, agile and fast. You don't snack when the monkeys are around.

architecture that remains from this period. Gibraltar came with the package, as-it-were, and it wasn't until the War of the Spanish Succession in the early Eighteenth century that a combined Anglo-Dutch force captured the fortress on the rock and it was abandoned by its inhabitants.

And here is that key date – 1713 – and that key treaty – the Treaty of Utrecht – in which the Spanish Government of the day ceded the rock and surrounding areas to Britain; in perpetuity. As recently as 2004, Gibraltarians celebrated Tercentenary Day (on 4 August) – 300 years since the capture

(continued on page 8)

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(continued from page 6)



Sky view. From the slopes above the siege tunnels with modern apartment blocks and the airport runway in the foreground, and Algeciras Bay, the Spanish coast and La Linea further back. More modern gun emplacements immediately below – but as obsolete as the canon in their tunnels.

of Gibraltar. Watch this space for much of the same in a little less than two years time.

The modern day traveller is a tourist

Visit the country – as more than ten million do each year, and wonder at the anachronism of this little patch of land and just how different it is from its neighbours in Spain and Morocco. This really is a ‘Little England’ (similar to a handful of others that remain from that Nineteenth century British Empire that once coloured 30% of the world in pillar box red). Tourism is big business – with queues of day visitors on foot or in cars crossing from La Linea in Spain, those taking a four-hour whistle-stop tour from a cruise ship or flying in from the UK on one of those long week-end breaks that have become the mainstay of the low-cost budget airlines. In fact, Gibraltar Airways, which became GB Airways (to smooth the political waters of earlier

times), which three years back then became EasyJet, is almost a lone-flier such has been the relative lack of interest from regional carriers.

Gibraltar Airport is a treasure in its own right. There is a new terminal under construction, but the current one is vintage 1960s (and straight out of an old British movie), and with it will go the ‘*adventure walk*’ into the territory. Whether flying in, on foot or by car, you enter the territory from Spain by walking or driving across the single runway – it intersects the main north-south entry road. Everywhere is within walking distance of the main terminal – and you see people towing luggage, holding their kids by hand and pushing others with cars and buses trundling past; and there is this enormous vista of mountain, sea and sky with concrete in all directions and, fortunately, no planes. Lights and

barriers stop the traffic for the handful of flights each day. New roads and tunnels are scheduled soon and will quickly relegate this novel experience to history.

Don't miss the Rock

But it's the mountain that dominates the visit and there is no better place to look back over the airport into Spain than the view from the gun tunnels on the northern face of the rock. This is where the British and Spanish (and French) faced off for the Great Siege of Gibraltar which, originally scheduled for a few months at most (according to the Spanish), but eventually lasted 1779-1783 without changing the status quo. It was the longest siege ever endured by the British military. Such had been the confidence of the Spanish military for the 'Grand Assault' of 13 September 1782 that extensive areas of observation platforms were constructed on the hills behind the Spanish lines and the people of the day were encouraged to visit and watch the war games. Estimated 80 000 people turned up.

The Great Siege proved the value of tunnelling and gun positioning, and it is from the museum that has been created from the fighting and warfare of the day that modern tourists capture that vista back across La Linea into Spain. Troops entrenched facing the rock had none of the advantages of height, had to advance across open land – narrowed by the sea on both sides, and left themselves exposed and with few options with which to protect themselves from the 25 metres of tunnels and well-placed cannon. By the time of the Second World War, more than 50 km of tunnels had been constructed – the rock had become that proverbial 'Swiss Cheese' with its military depots, hospitals and observation, accommodation and communication centres and more.

And that reference to Hercules?

Gibraltar became one of the legendary



Spanish workers. And, if you can't take things by force in the modern world – well, you can't – then you can always put up a statue to celebrate partnerships and contributions. You pass the worker and his bike as you enter Gibraltar. Paradoxically, he's in front of Burger King and McDonalds – the latest in that long line of colonists to capture the world.

'Pillars of Hercules' according to Greek mythology when he created the Straits of Gibraltar. After the protected nature of the Mediterranean Sea, the Atlantic Ocean must have seemed like the end of the world to those ancient Phoenicians, Greeks and Romans who dominated the region for >1 000 years. There is reference to Hercules on the national welcome monument on the roadside as you enter the country, and a dedicated stand-alone 'Pillars of Hercules' monument half-way up the rock ■

FIRE ALARM

by Fabio Perfetto

Edimburgo, a causa della cancellazione di un volo dobbiamo trascorrere una notte in un albergo vicino l'aeroporto. Sono le undici di sera, ci siamo da poco coricati, anche perché in Italia è già mezzanotte.

Improvvisamente odo un sibilo della durata di un paio di secondi, forse meno. Lo ha sentito anche mia moglie, non l'ho sognato, chissà cosa è stato. Passano un paio di minuti e il fischio stavolta riparte e continua. Scopro che viene dal soffitto, la spia dell'allarme antincendio si è accesa: ordine di evacuazione.

Dallo spioncino della stanza vedo che anche i vicini sono allertati. Mi vesto rapidissimo (indosso jeans, maglietta e felpa), mia moglie va nella stanza accanto dove sono le nostre figlie, anche loro già vestite. Prendo al volo il borsello con soldi, documenti e cellulare, scendo le scale seguendo il percorso indicato.

Veniamo tutti condotti in un piazzale, non tutti si sono vestiti, abbandonano pigiami, camicie da notte e coperte sulle spalle, non fa freddo, fortunatamente non piove, ma è notte e l'aria è fresca.

Due uomini del personale dell'albergo fanno l'appello, ci siamo tutti meno due, ma stanno rientrando dalla città. Si scusano, non è ancora stata trovata la causa, ma si sospetta il fumo di una sigaretta, vizio proibitissimo in gran parte del Regno Unito.

Mia moglie è sorpresa da come sia le nostre figlie che io siamo tranquilli, piuttosto insonnoliti. La nostra risposta è semplice, abbiamo già sostenuto tante di quelle esercitazioni, loro a scuola, io

in ufficio, che per noi è quasi routine.

Passa qualche minuto, ed arriva un automezzo dei vigili del fuoco che ispeziona l'edificio, la certezza del fumo di sigaretta non c'è, ma il sospetto viene confermato.

È trascorsa poco più di mezz'ora dal suono della sirena quando ci viene dato il permesso di rientrare. Io mi riaddormento quasi subito, mia moglie no, oltretutto già abbiamo avuto il contrattempo del volo cancellato, non è il modo migliore di iniziare una vacanza. Ma il seguito, fortunatamente sarà ben diverso.

Dopo tante prove, stavolta ho sperimentato un'evacuazione non simulata, certo non ho visto le fiamme, la situazione non era da panico, ma è stata più che sufficiente, un'esperienza che durante i viaggi non mi era mai capitata.

Possiamo raccontare anche questa. Soprattutto ai miei colleghi, sia a quelli che come me condividono l'incarico di Fire Wardens, sia a quelli che ogni volta che c'è la prova storcono la bocca, perché perdono venti minuti di lavoro... il tempo di un coffee-break!





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The Life and Times of Daniela Testani: Stories of Love and Rescue as a Foster Mom

by Daniela Testani



Bruno & Lucrezia

I've always been known for saying “no kids, no pets, no plants” and while I keep killing poor defenceless green things and keep away from pooping babies, I finally gave in to animals.

It started with a friend's pug, who was adorable but way too lively and tiresome, so I opted for the lazy and stubborn Bulldog. It was love at first sight and it's been love ever since. I got my first Bulldog puppy in 2003, Ulisse, who died shortly afterwards, probably from poisoning (he used to put his snout everywhere, eating everything). My second baby Bulldog was Lucrezia, who is now 8 years old, beautiful and sweet. I eventually wanted another Bulldog to keep Lucrezia company — and there he was: Bruno, whom I adopted from people who could no longer keep him. He is all white, handsome, majestic, and stubborn to the

point that he looks stupid when asked to do things he doesn't want to do. And who snores like a big fat man all night long.

Bruno and Lucrezia are my beloved pets, who have seen other Bulldogs come and go: Miss Piggy who died tragically in an accident, Cesare, 10 or more years of age rescued from a shelter in the north of Italy, Mandolino, abandoned at 9 in a shelter after a career in dog expos, and Romolo, the ugliest Bulldog in the world, completely devastated by mange and dermatitis. I am still healing him and trying to make him look like a Bulldog. Last year in June I got my fourth Bulldog, a girl I named Griselda. She was eight years old and completely deformed by arthritis, but who wouldn't be when weighing 33 kgs (a female Bulldog should weigh 22-25 kgs). She's on a very strict diet for arthritis and is hungry like

you wouldn't believe, but she manages to take little steps here and there (especially where the food is)!

Since last October, I started a new career as a foster home for dogs taken from the streets or from difficult situations and, well, I can't seem to stop. It started out with a friend of a friend calling to ask if I could take in an Italian hound that they found on the street. I accepted and this sweet, tall, brown Bracco, stayed at my home for two days, until his owner was found (after ads on the internet and Facebook) and he went back home.

The same day he left, they called that they had found a box of 4 puppies by the garbage can — could I say no? There they were, three little black things hardly moving and opening their eyes. They stayed about two months in my “dog room” and then they found three beautiful homes. In the meantime, someone found a Yorkshire in a park, and of course he ended up in my home, for less than a week, sexually harassing my old and out-of-business Griselda, who let him do his business with the patience of a saint. Eventually, he was adopted by a volunteer at one of Rome's shelters who had just lost his own, very old Yorkie.

What happened next? Some rest and relaxation? Of course not!

The same man who found the three black puppies had found a little female Breton, that of course needed to find a new home: so there she comes, just sterilised, photos taken, ad put out on the internet and a lovely home found within less than a month.

Then word starts to spread: Daniela does fostering.

Beginning of November a girl calls: she found puppies in a field by a busy road, in the rain. They are scared and it's really difficult to try and get them, but if she manages, can she bring them to me? I

replied with a big angry NO and of course the same evening the puppies arrived, all shaky and shy. They were then adopted by Maria Teresa Formica, who provides a wonderful loving home.

In the meantime my friend Nicola tells me about a relative of his in the countryside who had this very old little dog house, which looked old and ruined, so he started wondering if he should ask to have it, fix it and use it for his own dogs. While contemplating this, a dog's face peers out of the old dog house, tied to a very short chain: a spectacular young female English Setter! Well, he thought about it, I thought about it and a couple of days later, in the middle of the night, he rings my bell and comes in with the female Setter, adventurously kidnapped from the unloving cousin. She stayed with me till December 4th, when Nicola and I, after thorough checks, go to Naples to give “Gea” to her new adoring family. They already had a Gordon Setter, so now their family was complete: mum, dad, two kids and 2 dogs!

Note: 99% of the people who know about my love for animals and the fact that I foster, ask: “But how can you possibly give them away, after you've had them and loved them?”

The answer is easy: for each dog I foster, care for and find a loving home for (this I couldn't do without the precious help of Loredana: cuoredicane@gmail.com because she does the pre/post adoption checks), TEN more show up from the street, from desperate situations, from desperate volunteers who rescue them all. Since the ones I send to a happy forever home, I really have no problem “getting rid of them” to make space for new ones who's turn it is to find a happy home. It's quite simple, isn't it?

Well then, where was I?

Those 2 puppies find a happy home, I drive



them to Maria Teresa's home and on my way there I receive another call: 2 puppies found near the garbage can and could I maybe possibly take them in? So I meet this guy in a parking lot and take over the two tiny puppies who barely move. I take them to the vet to check that they are ok and take them home. It's November 20th. These two puppies will stay with me, growing and chewing on anything available till the beginning of January (as they were really small). In the meantime three Labrador puppies need to be taken in, and I can't put them in the house with the other two, so I keep them in the wooden house in the garden where I keep the tools. They stay from end December to beginning of January.

After that I took a month off fostering and went on holiday, leaving my babies to a friend's care.

Too soon after I come back from my holiday and start again: in April, a female Breton is found in a field with her two puppies, too weak to be able to stand on four paws, dragging herself on two. She was skinny beyond imagination, while her puppies were young, strong and vigorous as puppies

should be. The mummy gets worse and a volunteer takes her in because she needs drips and constant care which I can't supply being at work all day. Unfortunately she didn't make it, but her puppies found loving families.

Earlier I had read an ad about a 16 year old dog that spent over 11 years in a shelter; and I couldn't help it: I adopted him to offer him a golden retirement. He's really old, walking the perimeter of the garden over and over and trying to get out as soon as the gate opens.

Lately he sleeps a lot, falls a lot, eats a lot less and seems very weak. I fear his time is coming.

In the meantime I hear about a Pomeranian being kept for over five years on a small balcony never going out or inside the house, under the rain, receiving food and water from merciful neighbours. The little dog was rescued and came to me very quietly, very grateful and a happy dog from day one. A loving family was waiting for him too and he left at the beginning of May.

A female Maremma shepherd came to stay

(continued on page 16)



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(continued from page 14)



and quickly found a great family in Tuscany with other dogs, donkeys and ducks. A German shepherd also came by and was quickly adopted in Treviso. Stella and Panna came to stay, a Border Collie and Labrador mix who were found on a busy street, both adopted. Beginning of June I answered an ad saying “fostering needed for 5 days, because after that she will be going to Tuscany on a longer foster”, the shepherd/retriever came and stayed for two months in my home where she learned that she didn’t have to defend herself from other dogs and from people. She left at the beginning of August to a wonderful forever home in Rome Eur.

In August I adopted a Pug, as I have a passion for molossers. The poor guy was found a week earlier in the countryside in Puglia, completely dehydrated, skinny and blind. He was brought into a veterinarian clinic where he stayed until I adopted him, so he was brought to Rome and immediately taken in by my vet where he stayed for over 10 days, improving very little but still giving us a hope that he might make it. He stayed with me at home for a couple of happy weeks, then went back for tests, but the

results were worse than the previous time, so he had to stay in the clinic again, which is where he died in September. Poor baby, I’d only had him for a month but I loved him dearly.

In August I heard of this Pomeranian girl, Maddy, whose owner was pregnant, so no more room and time for the 8 kilo dog and out she was and into my home. She stayed three weeks and fortunately found a happy family.

Then I adopted my 6th dog – and I promise that’s it for the next year at least!!! A 14 year old female of 3.6 kilos who’s had two heart attacks, a stroke and has a tumour the size of a tangerine on her belly. She walks in circles until you get her attention and loves to hide in the smallest, most difficult corners of the house. The other day I found her barking desperately in the room where I keep her while she eats. I went in to see what was the matter and realised that she had found a monster that looks just like her... in the mirror!

Early September I also heard about a couple of beautiful English Setters that

were found together with their 11 puppies! They were heroically rescued from the street and taken into a shelter, but soon after the puppies started to get sick and had to be taken to the vet. Seven of them died, one, Paloma, was so weak that she had to stay in the clinic longer and guess where the remaining three went? That's right, they came to my home. All three of them were happily adopted and Paloma was adopted by my friend Nicola. Now the mummy and daddy are left in the shelter, they are young and beautiful and need to be adopted together. When they were found, the daddy was completely skinny and they thought he must be sick, but then they realised that he wouldn't eat so that the mummy could. Breaks your heart, doesn't it? When she was taken to the clinic to be sterilised, he cried the whole time!

After the setters left I said I would need a break for a few weeks because I'm exhausted! With my six dogs, full time job and constant stream of houseguests (rescues), I need to slow down or I'll die and will be of no use for the next emergency.

I finish that sentence and receive a call from

a girl who found a Jack Russell mix who had delivered her puppies in a traffic divider (spartitraffico). She was very fearful and aggressive and no one was allowed to come close. The volunteers bravely stole her puppies so that she was forced to follow them onto the car and be brought, as you can imagine, to my home.

The first three days I could not even come close to her and left her food about 1.5 metres from her, then one day she came growling to me and asked to be pet. It took about two more days for her to trust me and come close and touch her babies. Now she loves me and worships me. The three puppies have all been happily adopted. She's still in my home but should be going to her forever home next week, after which I will REALLY take a break for a few weeks.

If no emergencies come knocking by then, I will foster a couple of dogs from the shelter in Tivoli, the shyest and saddest ones that need to be socialised then prepared for adoption....

Anyone interested in this kind of experience?



Postcards – Windows on History and Society

by Tony Grey

Many people today might see the postcard as simply a colour photo of a place visited on holiday and posted back to family or friends. In reality the postcard was in earlier times much more than this. The earliest postcards were plain or for advertising, pre-stamped and issued by post offices. The picture postcard where the buyer affixed a stamp appeared around 1870. These cards had a picture on the front (often an artist's rendering or black and white photo of a place as a greeting card) while the back was undivided and only for the address. There was no space for a written message. Britain was the first country to approve the divided back card that left half the back free to write a message.

Postcards were not only produced as 'view cards' but often depicted patriotic and propaganda themes and cards of this genre form the basis of my own collection. The earliest depictions of this type included the Russo-Japanese War (1894-5), the Boxer Rebellion in China (1900), the 2nd Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) and the Dreyfus Affair in France. Before the widespread use of the telephone, postcards could be used to send news and make arrangements for meeting someone as there were several postal deliveries a day in the UK for example.

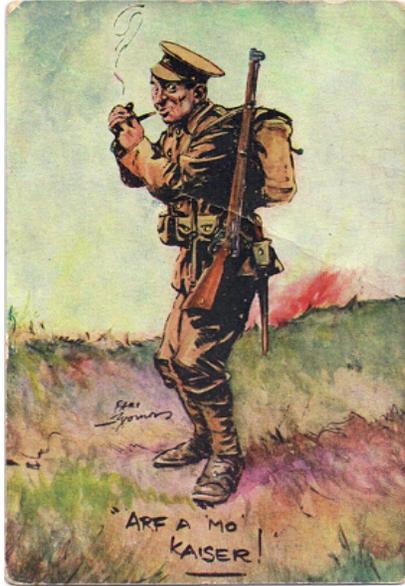
The high point of the postcard was from around 1900-1918. World War I (1914-18) saw huge numbers of cards produced by all sides with themes including cartoon comic depictions of soldiers' life and the enemy, battlefield photos, sentimental and religious

images and heroism. Cards from the front were often sent as military post (stamped Feldpost on German cards). The written messages turn these cards into historical documents of social interest. It can be seen that many British soldiers were poorly educated and not very literate.

Hard core propaganda formed the themes of many postcards during the period of totalitarian regimes after 1918 including socialist realism from the USSR and party propaganda from the Third Reich. The Third Reich produced a massive number of cards (both government and privately printed). Of considerable interest also are cards from Italy, Spain, the USA and elsewhere.

For the collector prices can vary from a euro or two for old black and white photo view cards to thousands of euros for rare and desirable cards such as depictions of the 'Titanic' passenger ship that sank in 1912 (or cards posted from it before the disaster) and cards recovered from the 'Hindenburg' passenger airship disaster (it crashed and burned outside New York in 1937). The genuineness of such cards is of paramount importance as fakes and reproductions are not uncommon.

The view card has continued in popularity up to the present day and the 'saucy' seaside cartoon cards from Britain are still to be found. Why not begin your collection now? See your town or country as it was many years ago or savour the interest of history and society as seen through postcards.



Left: British 1st World War; Dec. 1914, drawn by Mr Bert Thomas for the 'Weekly Despatch' Tobacco Fund, postally used with halfpenny stamp of King George V.



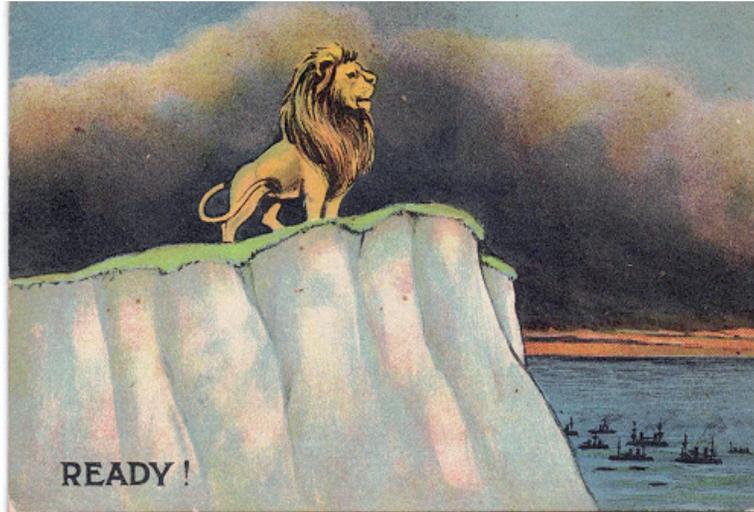
Right: German sailor 1st World War; Red Cross card 'a cigar for the front', postmarked Kiel, charged at 10 pfennigs.



Left: USSR, ? 1960s, capitalists desperately try to block the blinding light of Communism.



Right: USA 2nd World War; April 1945, Buy more War Bonds, posted from airforce base, Tonopah, Nevada from Staff Sergeant John Crawford to Aunt Jessie.



Upper: *British 1st World War; the British lion stands on guard, postally used with halfpenny stamp of King George V.*

Lower: *Tsarist Russia 1st World War; 1916, advertising War Bonds at 5 and 1/2 %, not postally used.*

All illustrated cards shown are from author's personal collection.

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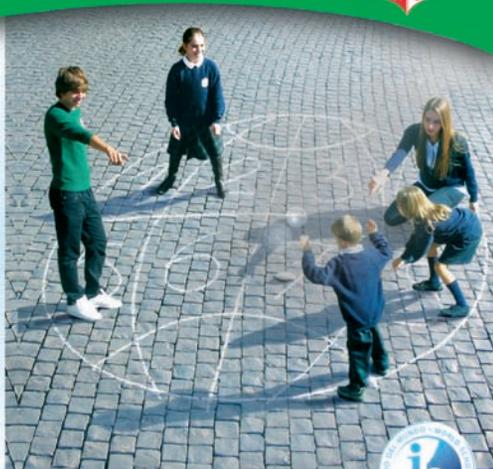
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Due to numerous requests for a postponement in the deadline for receipt of the essays this was extended to 30 November. We are still receiving essays mailed before that deadline, and we want to give everyone a fair chance. Hence the results will only be available from mid-February 2012.



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SOME THINGS FOR YOU TO KNOW



Ants Problem:
Ants hate cucumbers. Keep the skin of cucumbers near the place or ant hole.



To get pure and clean ice:
Boil water first before freezing



To remove chewing gum from clothes:
Keep the cloth in the freezer for an hour.



To make the mirror shine:
Clean with sprite.



To whiten white clothes:
Soak white clothes in hot water with a slice of lemon for 10 minutes.



To avoid smell of cabbage while cooking:
Keep a piece of bread on the cabbage in the vessel while cooking



To get maximum juice out of lemons:
Soak lemons in hot water for one hour and then juice them.



To give a shine to hair:
Use one teaspoon of vinegar on hair, then wash hair.



To avoid tears while cutting onions:
Chew gum



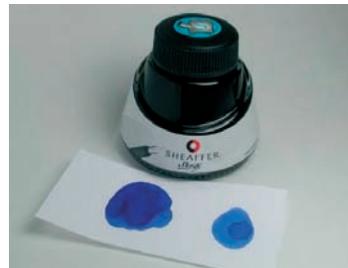
To skin sweet potatoes quickly:
Soak in cold water immediately after boiling.



To boil potatoes quickly:
Skin one potato from one side only before boiling.



To get rid of mice and rats:
Sprinkle black pepper in places where you find mice
or rats. They will leave.



To remove ink from clothes:
Put regular white toothpaste on the ink spots
generously and let it dry.

Daniela Moro

In the early months of 2011 Daniela was diagnosed with a very rare form of tumour; she immediately sought medical treatment and also underwent an extremely complex and invasive operation. Unfortunately the illness progressed rapidly and in autumn she was advised by doctors that there was not much more they could do. She was very brave and spoke openly about it - the usual rational and down to earth person she had always been. She passed away peacefully on the evening of 10 November 2011 with yet so many dreams and goals not realized.



She was well known to the older FAO colleagues with whom she had worked in several departments for over 40 years. Until she retired – and beyond –

she constantly performed with the same dedication and professionalism of when she joined FAO as a young employee full of enthusiasm and expectations. She operated with utmost integrity always bearing in mind the mandate and the interest of the Organization. Most of us recall the period she spent in the Cabinet of the previous Director-General, Edouard Saouma, and afterwards for a long period in the Regional Office for Europe. After retirement she had been doing consultancies in which her institutional memory of the Organization was an asset. These assignments brought her to interact with a wide range of people of all nationalities and at all levels.

Daniela should also be remembered for her qualities and capacities. She had special coordination skills and the ability to focus on all facts, issues and opportunities concerning her work and projects. Most importantly she respected and cared for the well-being of her collaborators. The times she advised and helped colleagues and friends in moments of difficulty are countless. Her temperance and the capability to carefully evaluate the feasibility and rationality of every project, yet leaving adequate space to fantasy and emotion, are her legacy to those she worked with. Every death should evoke in us a thought; a reminder to help us improve our lives and to live it more consciously.

She is sorely missed by her family, friends and ex-colleagues who are now facing the void she has left ■



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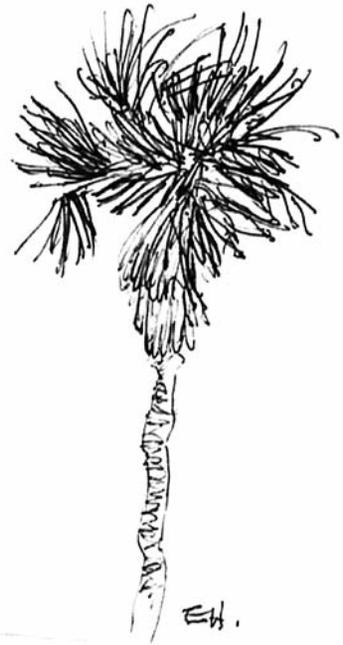
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Perch fillets with Sage

Pesce Persico con Salvia

by Edith Mahabir

Ingredients

2 perch fillets
1 spring onion with leaves
Bread crumbs
Salt, black pepper
Fresh sage leaves
Olive oil
Lemons



Method: Buy the perch already in fillets and cut up in slices as desired – either large or narrower slices as in photo. Wash slices and pat dry with paper towels, place on a large flat plate in one layer. Wash accurately and finely chop the spring onion, both green and white parts. Season the fish with salt and black pepper then add the chopped onion and mix together to distribute evenly. Marinate the seasoned fish for one hour or more.

Heat oven to 180°C (electric) or moderate equivalent for gas oven. Pour a few tablespoons of olive oil in a large enough oven dish to grease it evenly, then place as many sage leaves as needed to flavour all the fish during cooking. Pass the fish slices in the breadcrumbs to coat them lightly, then arrange them in one layer in the dish. Drizzle with more olive oil on top and bake in the hot oven turning the slices once after 12 minutes, bake for a further 12 minutes. By this time the slices should be golden brown.

The fish can be served hot or tepid with slices of lemon. Accompany with sautéed potatoes and sliced champignon mushrooms seasoned with chopped garlic, salt and pepper, garnished with chopped parsley. A tossed mixed salad of your choice will also be fine ... with less calories.

Meat Loaf enriched

(Polpettone arricchito)

Ingredients

1 kg lean minced beef
1 large onion chopped
2 cloves garlic chopped
1 spring onion
celery leaves (from 1 branch)
parsley chopped
2 eggs
3 slices toast bread
100 gr grated parmesan cheese
50 gr mortadella diced
50 gr hot spicy salame diced
salt and black pepper
breadcrumbs
Olive oil
Milk – a little bit



Method: In a large enough bowl season the minced beef with salt, pepper, finely chopped onion, garlic, parsley, celery leaves and green part of the spring onion. Mix thoroughly to amalgamate ingredients. Soak the slices in a mixture of milk and water, then squeeze out all moisture. Add to the meat and work in with a fork. Beat the two eggs and incorporate into the meat mixture, add the grated parmesan cheese, diced mortadella and hot spicy salame.

Grease with some olive oil a long rectangular oven dish (like for baking bread loaves or plumcake), place the meat mixture to fit and smoothen the top, sprinkle with the bread crumbs, sprinkle top with a little olive oil, not excessively. Bake in a moderately hot oven at 170-180 °C for 50-60 minutes. Can be served hot, tepid or cold topped with a simple tomato sauce, accompanied with a tossed combination salad of your choice, mashed potatoes or purée or steamed vegetables. Serves 5-6 persons.

