

Crossroads

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter August, 2013

The Future King of

Some US television networks proclaimed the royal baby news by welcoming the arrival of the "future king of England", but they forgot about the rest of the UK!

Some of the biggest names in American broadcasting have overlooked Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland amid the hysteria surrounding the newborn Prince. Star presenters on CBS News and ABC News were among the culprits who referred to the baby as "the future king of England". American talk show host Ellen DeGeneres tweeted: "It's a boy! So happy for my cousin Kate and the future King of England".



But there hasn't been a King of England since William III in the early 18th Century - and there won't be again, unless (or until) the United Kingdom splits up

completely.

The political state of the Queen's home nation is the 'United Kingdom', not England! England is just one region within the United Kingdom along with Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The 'United Kingdom' is shorthand for the 'United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland' and contains the word "king"!

The structure of the English monarchy changed when Wales was incorporated by the Act of Union of 1536. It changed again in 1707 when Scotland was included to constitute the Kingdom of Great Britain.

The Act of Union with Ireland in 1801 necessitated another change of name to The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, which lasted until Southern Ireland was declared a Free State in 1921 and Ireland was removed and instead Northern Ireland was included.

It's a common misunderstanding in the US. The New York Times angered many Scots last month when it marked Andy Murray's Wimbledon triumph with a tweet that said: "After 77 years, Murray and England rule".

Where?



But before Brits get too snotty about Britain and England, it's a pretty complicated business and the English (or British) are sometimes guilty of the same mistake! The United States of America is often referred to as

"America" by British people. The distinction between America and the US is important, because there is another America, Latin America. Not to mention Central America, and the rest of North America that includes Mexico and Canada. So can we legitimately use "American" as an adjective referring to something from the US?

Funnily enough, the British themselves also forget about Northern Ireland by referring to "Great Britain", which is an island, when really they mean the United Kingdom. (The Northern Irish are "British" without being part of Great Britain.)

And remember that the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands are British, but not part of the UK. Do you have a headache yet?

Perhaps the answer is for everyone to be tolerant, to embrace a bit of constructive ambiguity and just toast the health of both the United Kingdom and The United States of America and forget all about Australia.

Article by Matthew

Net News

NET LESSONS: Are you too busy to come to CROSSROADS?....Try our *lessons on the Internet!*

SITE OF THE MONTH:

Here are some interesting facts about royal babies through the ages: <http://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/409739/A-history-of-royal-babies-Top-25-facts>

Some Thoughts for the Month



Joshua Says: This month we will say goodbye to Dylan who is returning home after only a short stay with us. Everyone at Crossroads wishes him the best of good fortune and we all hope he stays in good health into the foreseeable future. “Have a safe trip back to Wales, Dylan, and from time to time let us know how you are getting on!”

Junko Says: Recently I have noticed more than the usual number of students heading overseas for study or work. Some are going to language schools or universities and some are being posted overseas by their companies. I get the impression that this is a developing trend and fits in with the reality of our current economic situation and Japan’s need to reach out to the international community. Let’s all work hard to fit in with this movement.



Matthew Says: This incredible heat has given me the perfect excuse to eat loads of ice-cream – specifically chocolate chip. I know some of you love vanilla but that is considered a boring flavour in the U.K.! We also don’t have ice-cream shops in England so I love going to the many ice cream shops in Matsuyama! Enjoy your summer!

Dylan Says: It is difficult to know exactly how many separate languages there are in the world. Most experts agree that the number is probably between 4000 and 4500. Some languages, like English, are spoken all over the world, by millions of people. Others, like some of the languages of Southern Africa, are spoken by fewer than 1000 people. As you know, I am Welsh, and I speak my own language. So, 'HWYL FAWR'. That's good bye.



Cyril Dit: Il était une fois une jeune fille de la campagne qui voulait devenir princesse. Après avoir mis la main sur une fée, elle négocia son souhait. La chirurgicale magicienne lui fit subir une transformation esthétique des plus bouleversantes, jamais on n'avait vu pareil raffinement dans les limites extrêmes de la beauté. Aux anges, la pucelle pu prendre son nouvel emploi au Starbuck.

NOTICE BOARD

This year's roof-top

BBQ

Party



...will be held on Saturday the 7th of September and we start at 6:00pm, here on our roof-top. It will be B.Y.O. (bring your own) and free to attend! All of our students, your friends and families are invited.....

See you there!!



From Takuya Masaoka in England



Dear, Crossroads
How are you Joshua, Junko, and other teachers, Setsuko, Miho, Risa, and other students?

I'm going to INTO (language school) with no problem (^-^)

Newcastle is good. It's a peaceful place. The buildings and streets are also beautiful, and I have already been around to some places by train and bike.

Now, it's very rare in Britain these days, but we've had just a little rain here, so far. And the temperature is very comfortable for me. My flat-mates and classmates are very kind and I'm studying academic writing and basic English.

Recently, I got used to living here, so I can concentrate on my homework and essays. I'm planning to make friends locally and in the language programme at university.

If there are any requests for pictures, please send them to me!!



This is a scene in front of the university.



This is a famous sightseeing spot in Newcastle

Hello! My name is Shiiha Yamamoto. I passed EIKEN Grade 2 in July. I can't believe how! There are two hurdles in EIKEN. One is the writing test and the other is an interview. I took classes at Crossroads because I was not good at the interview. In the class my teacher suggested that the examiner judges you by your knowledge rather than your initiative. This surprised me and I kept his words in mind so I could take the test feeling very calm. This time, I could learn that English is not a subject or knowledge. It is a means of staying alive!

See you!!

Shiiha is a 3rd year Junior High student



Don't forget... Our **SPECIAL 1+1 Campaign offer!** Up to 50% off!!

See our notice board, or ask Junko in our office, for the details.

