

A HANGANYAG SZÖVEGÁTIRATA

1. feladatsor

Task 1 – The tallest man

Track 3

How tall are you? Well, I am 180 centimetres, and this is considered pretty tall. But, compared to some basketball players we are just dwarfs! I can still remember that a few years ago there was a player in the Russian team who was 239 centimetres tall, and any professional team today will have a few players who are above 200 centimetres. Modern opinion is that the tallest recorded man of whom there is irrefutable evidence was Robert Pershing Wadlow. This giant of a man was born in 1918 in Alton, Illinois, a normal, healthy baby boy weighing 3.8 kilos. But at the age of two, after an operation, young Wadlow began to grow at an abnormally rapid rate. At the age of five he was 163 centimetres tall and at the age of nine he was so strong and big that he was able to carry his father up the stairs of the family home. On his 10th birthday he was 195 centimetres tall, and at the age of fourteen, 226 centimetres. Four years later, at the age of 18, Robert Wadlow stood 234 centimetres tall, and still kept growing. By his 21st birthday he had reached a height of a little more than 272 centimetres and was the tallest man recorded in medical history. His weight was 222.7 kilos, and he wore 47 centimetre-long shoes and his hands measured 32.4 centimetres from the wrist to the top of the middle finger. Wadlow's rapid growth caused a problem with one foot on which he had to wear a heavy metal support or brace. Unfortunately, the brace caused an infection of his right ankle which eventually led to his death in 1940, at the age of 22. If he had lived longer, he would probably have reached or surpassed the height of 274 centimetres in a year's time!

Task 2 – Interview with Fenella

Track 5

Announcer: ... and I've got a letter here, and very nice, too, from Evelyn Ogleby, from Gateshead. "Hello, Happy New Year to you. As I don't have a fax or e-mail, Royal Mail is my way of correspondence. Please, if possible, can we know a li ... small amount about Fenella?"

Fenella: Oh, no!

Announcer: Are you ready?

Fenella: Aren't they nosy?

Announcer: Yeah, they are nosy. Eye colour?

Fenella: Greeny-brown.

Announcer: Hair colour?

Fenella: Sort ... reddish, ...ish.

Announcer: Shoe size?

Fenella: Umm, I've got shoe size 10, I think.

Announcer: Ooh, big girl. Height?

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- Fenella:* Five foot five and a half.
Announcer: Hobbies? Um, um... Go on.
Fenella: Hobbies, um, roller blading.
Announcer: Ooh, dangerous woman on skates.
Announcer: ...there was something else ...
Fenella: I just ...
Announcer: Pets?
Fenella: Um, not at the moment.
Announcer: Can you knit?
Fenella: A scarf, yes I can knit a sca
Announcer: Education?
Fenella: Oh, very, very minimal.
Announcer: Terribly, terribly bright. You're let off the hook. I think we know enough now.
Fenella: Oh, thank God, is that enough?
Announcer: Oh, joy, what's your favourite drink?
Fenella: Oh, anything, I like, I'll drink anything, I'm afraid, absolutely anything.
Announcer: Fine. What a girl! Right, said Fred and Deeply Dippy. I think we should dedicate this to Fenella having survived the Spanish Inquisition ...

Task 3 – Left-handed people

Track 7

We are born with two hands: a right hand and a left one. But only about fifteen percent of us are left-handed, or lefties. Everyone else is right-handed. They use their right hands much more than their left.

Scientists do not know why there are so many more right-handed people than lefties.

Some very famous people have been left-handed. Alexander the Great was a lefty, so was Napoleon. Other famous lefties in history include Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Queen Victoria of Britain. In the twentieth century, famous lefties include American President Gerald Ford, tennis player Martina Navratilova, singer Paul McCartney, and the great Brazilian soccer player, Pele.

These people demonstrate that lefties are just as intelligent and talented as the right-handed majority. However, lefties have had a difficult time throughout history. The Roman word for left, for example, was the same word used to describe someone who was evil or untrustworthy. The German word for left, "linkisch", also means someone who is unskilled.

The French word, "gauche", can also mean a person who does not know how to act socially.

In Spanish, the word for left, "izquierda", means the wrong way; in Italian, the word "mancino", or left, can also mean someone who is dishonest, and we all know the Hungarian word for left, "bal" also has certain negative connotations.

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An organization in the United States, Lefthanders International, is campaigning to give lefties their rights.

Dean R. Campbell in the state of Kansas started Lefthanders International in 1975. His goal was to increase public understanding of the special problems faced by lefties. And he wanted lefties to find and help each other.

Campbell and his organization published what they called, not a Bill of Rights, but a Bill of lefts. This document states that lefties should enjoy the same rights as right-handed people.

Lefties should be free to use their left hand as they desire. They should not have to apologize to others for being a lefty. And they should even be able to shake hands with their left hands when they greet someone.

Are you a lefty? If so, you should be proud! You share a tradition with Mark Twain, John McEnroe, and Benjamin Franklin. Lefties of the world: stand up for your lefts ... I mean your rights!

Bill of Rights

↳ GB: Angliai parlamentum által elfogadott jogokérvény: 1689

↳ US: 1791. alkotmány

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patron = regular

↳ regular

Task 1 – Two Irishmen at the bar

Track 9

There are many jokes about different nationalities, for example the English or the Scottish, and sometimes they tell us a lot about people. Here's a joke about the Irish.

A man stumbles up to the only other patron in the bar and asks if he could buy him a drink.

"Why of course," comes the reply.

The first man then asks, "Where are you from?"

"I'm from Ireland," replies the second man.

The first man responds, "You don't say, I'm from Ireland too! Let's have another round to Ireland."

"Of course," replies the second man.

Curious, the first man then asks, "Where in Ireland are you from?"

"Dublin," comes the reply.

"I can't believe it," says the first man. "I'm from Dublin too! Let's have another drink to Dublin."

"Of course," replies the second man.

Curiosity again strikes and the first man asks, "What school did you go to?"

"Saint Mary's," replies the second man. "I graduated in '62."

"This is unbelievable!" the first man says. "I went to Saint Mary's and I graduated in '62, too!"

About that time in comes one of the regulars and sits down at the bar.

"What's been going on?" he asks the bartender.

"Nothing much," replies the bartender. "The O'Malley twins are drunk again."

Task 2 – Unisex human phantom

Track 11

Ah, and here's an interesting report from Hungary.

After studying anthropological features of hundreds of thousands of people, a team of researchers at the department of anthropology at Budapest University and Simon Fraser University Canada has defined the characteristics of the average human being. The computer-aided readings registered one hundred features of the unisex human phantom. It weighs 64.58 kilos and stands 170.18 centimetres in its socks, somewhat taller than its predecessor may have been a century ago.

- report

- anthropological

- define

- characteristics

- feature

- computer-aided

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Task 3 – Terrorists/Graffiti artists/Single women

Track 13

It's now sixteen minutes to seven.

The arrest of four terrorist suspects and the seizure of chemicals at a flat in a suburb of Paris provide the main story for the Times. The French Interior Ministry has revealed that the group has been linked to three people who have been accused of plotting a gas attack on the London Underground. The Daily Express says that MI5 agents played a crucial role in helping the French Secret Service track down the suspects.

A potentially less menacing problem faces the Interior Ministry in Spain, which has set up special hit squads to tackle organised gangs of graffiti artists. The Independent says that the country's high speed train – the AVE – has been targeted by groups of up to 20 so-called commando artists. They travel on the train and at an appointed time pull the emergency cord to bring the train to a halt, the artists then leap out and film each other spray-painting carriages before running off.

New figures on the growing number of single British women prompt the Times to consider the advantages of adopting the Bridget Jones life-style. The proportion of single women of child-bearing age has apparently doubled in the past 30 years. Among the positives are no queues for the bathroom, no arguments about which TV programme to watch, and fewer domestic rows. If the current trend continues, the paper warns us that we will all be living alone by 2050.

The time is quarter to seven. The Foreign Office minister Mike O'Brien has ...

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Track 15

Task 1 – Simon & Garfunkel: Old Friends

Artie: Paul and I go back to the sixth grade when we grew up in Queens. They cast the two of us in the elementary school graduation play *Alice in Wonderland*. I was the Cheshire Cat, and it's been a lot of laughs ever since. With a few interruptions this would be the fiftieth anniversary of this friendship that I deeply cherish.

Paul: We met when we were eleven years old in *Alice in Wonderland* and I was the White Rabbit – it's a leading role – and Artie was the Cheshire Cat – it was a supporting role, a very important, very important supporting role. Now, we started to sing together when we were thirteen years old, and we started to argue when we were fourteen years old. So that makes this the forty-seventh anniversary of our arguing.

Artie: Now we only argued about one thing if you want to know the truth, from the very beginning, there was only one thing that was the basis of everything else: when we first formed our group I wanted to call us Garfunkel and Simon.

Paul: You should do that. ... Now we don't argue any more. Now we say, ... now we say: that's your opinion and I respect that. ... We made our first record when we were sixteen years old. They called us Tom & Jerry, and our song was called Hey School Girl in the Second Row, and it went like this...

Track 17

Task 2 – The Komodo Dragon

Guide: Welcome to the Nature Reserve of the Island of Komodo. How do you like our pink sandy beaches? My name's Peter Lawrence and I'm here to help you find out everything about our island's most famous animal, the Komodo Dragon. Komodo dragons are the largest lizards still living on Earth, but they are not the largest reptiles. Alligators and crocodiles grow larger and they are more closely related to dinosaurs than Komodo dragons. Our dragons grow up to a little over 3 metres and weigh up to 120 kilograms. The heaviest one ever measured here weighed 135 kilos. They live up to 40 years, and if you are lucky, you might meet Hilda, the oldest dragon on the island, who is 43 years old.

The Komodo dragon is a meat-eater and has a huge appetite. They regularly kill animals as large as pigs and can bring down a water buffalo. Tim, one of our park rangers once saw a dragon eat a 41-kilogram pig in less than 20 minutes. They are excellent swimmers and can run as fast as a dog. Komodo dragons are cannibals so the young ones must spend their early years living in trees to be safe from the older ones. Like other reptiles, Komodo dragons catch the smell of their prey with their long tongues, and can find the dead body of an animal up to 8 kilometres away. Now, let me give you some advice for tomorrow. If you want to see the big Komodo dragons, you should get to the park early, before 6:00 when the first tour starts. Even this early in the morning, the island is hot. You should dress lightly, and bring a lot of

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water. Before the tour starts, you can visit the museum at the park entrance, where you can see an exhibition of the poisonous snakes found on the island.

You'll soon pass the sign that warns, "Dangerous area – watch out. Komodo crossing. Be silent." The park rangers men tell us that silence is necessary not to avoid frightening off the dragons, but to avoid attracting them. You'll soon go down to the river bank where the dragons like to gather to sunbathe. The park has a fenced-in area for tourists to stand in while observing the animals. This is like a zoo in reverse. The people are in the cage and the dangerous-looking dragons that can kill and eat a human being are on the outside.

I've already mentioned Tim, our park ranger. He'll be your guide tomorrow. He has the best tales of dragons eating people. The most famous is the story about the German tourist who went to the beach alone to sunbathe. All that was found of him were his glasses and his camera.

Hey! What's the problem? Hey! Where is everybody going? All these sissy European tourists!

Task 3 – The best beer in the world

Track 19

All countries are proud of their products: the Scottish are proud of their whisky, the Hungarians are proud of their salami. Here's a joke about beer ... or is it about people? After an international beer festival in Britain, the presidents of four famous breweries, a Spaniard, an American, a Belgian and an Irishman decided it would be fun to hit a pub in London and go out for a beer.

The Spaniard sits down and says, "Hey, Señor, I would like the world's oldest beer, a Corona."

The bartender dusts off a bottle of beer from the shelf and gives it to him.

The American says, "I'd like the best beer in the world. Give me 'The King of Beers'. One Budweiser please."

The bartender gives him one.

The Belgian says, "I'd like the only beer made with real mountain spring water; give me an Amstel."

The bartender gives him one.

The Irishman sits down and he orders a Coke. The bartender is a bit taken aback, but gives him what he ordered.

The other presidents look over at him and ask, "Why aren't you drinking a Guinness?"

The Guinness president replies, "Well, if you guys aren't drinking beer, neither will I."

-breweries → brew [brʊ:] egy, több sör
brewer [brʊ:ə] sörfőző

-Spaniard [ˈspænjəd] spanyol ember

-dust off - leporol

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Task 1 – The Winchester mansion

Track 21

There are many famous buildings in the world, like the Empire State Building or the Eiffel Tower, but there are some buildings which are not yet so well known, although they are in some ways just as unique.

One of the most unusual houses ever built is the Winchester Mansion near San José, California. The house began as a modest dwelling in 1884 and grew to be a mansion of 160 rooms, covering six acres of ground. At the time of her death in 1922, Mrs. Sara Winchester, heiress of the Winchester Arms Company fortune, had spent over \$5,000,000 on the bizarre structure.

Mrs. Winchester suffered from an odd fear. She believed that she would die if she stopped adding rooms to her house. For 38 years she kept a large number of carpenters, masons, and plumbers busy expanding her house.

The mansion itself is a confusion of rooms, corridors, and stairways, some of which serve no function at all. Some rooms are only a few centimetres wide. Some stairways go nowhere.

Many of the windows open onto blank walls. There are 2,000 doors, 10,000 windows, and 48 fireplaces in the eight-story house. It also has three elevators, nine kitchens, and many kilometres of secret passages and hallways!

This unique building is slowly becoming a tourist attraction, and is visited by thousands of people every year.

Task 2 – Santa

Track 23

Here's a nice story out of Dallas, Texas.

A Santa Claus in a red suit and white beard was on his way home from a Christmas party when he stopped in a store.

A young man in greasy overalls, Jerry Tobias, walked up to him and said, "Hey Santa Claus. How much would you charge me to come by my apartment – I live about five blocks from here – and say Ho Ho Ho to my little girl and tell her she's pretty?"

Santa, who preferred to remain anonymous, later said he at first thought the man wanted to hire him for a party. "So I told him that on my normal home visits I charge \$75."

"He said, 'Well, \$14 in my pocket is all I've got. But my 7-year-old girl Shea was in an accident and she had 200 stitches taken in her face', and so I told him, I said, 'It won't cost you a dime'."

So Santa followed Tobias to his apartment, where he found the child crying.

"She's got a scar running from her eye to her chin, but she is one of the most beautiful little blonde-headed girls you have seen in your life", Santa said.

After he sang her a few songs, he took Shea into the kitchen for a private chat.

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“I told her ‘when I was a little boy I was involved in an accident with my reindeer’”, Santa said. “I said, ‘I had a scar on my face too, and a lot of people laughed.’ And I told her, ‘I outgrew mine. You’ll outgrow yours, too, honey’.”
“When I came out of that kitchen, I felt 10-feet tall, and I think she felt a whole lot better too”, Santa said.

Task 3 – The Bermuda Triangle

Track 25

The Bermuda Triangle is a stretch of the Atlantic Ocean bordered by a line from Florida to the islands of Bermuda, to Puerto Rico and then back to Florida. It is one of the biggest mysteries of our time – or is it? Legend has it that many people, ships and planes have mysteriously vanished in this area. The size of the triangle varies from 500,000 square miles to three times that size, depending on the imagination of the author. (Some include the Azores, the Gulf of Mexico, and the West Indies in the “triangle”.) Some trace the mystery back to the time of Columbus. Even so, estimates range from about 200 to more than 1,000 incidents in the past 500 years. Within the last century, approximately 800 distress calls have been answered, and more than 50 ships and 20 planes have gone down in the Bermuda Triangle. Over the years there have been dozens of articles, books, and television programs promoting the mystery of the Bermuda Triangle. In 1975, Larry Kusche, a librarian at Arizona State University decided to investigate the claims made by the countless articles and books. In his own book, entitled *The Bermuda Triangle Mystery Solved*, Kusche carefully examined the records that other writers had neglected. He found that many of the strange accidents were not so strange after all. Often a triangle writer had noted that a ship or plane had disappeared in “calm seas” when the record showed a raging storm had been in progress. Others said ships had “mysteriously vanished” when their remains had actually been found and the cause of their sinking explained. He concluded that the number of wrecks in this area is not extraordinary, given its size, location and the amount of traffic it receives. In short, the mystery of the Bermuda Triangle became a mystery due to some unprofessional authors and a willing mass media to uncritically pass on the speculation that something mysterious is going on in the Atlantic. The real mystery is how the Bermuda Triangle became a mystery at all.

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Task 1 – Einstein**Track 27**

If you were asked who the greatest physicist of the 20th century was, without a moment's hesitation you would answer: Albert Einstein. Everybody knows that he was the genius who developed the Theory of Relativity, which changed the way that scientists understand space and time. Most people know that the first part of it, his Special Theory of Relativity was born in 1905. It is also a well-known fact that he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1922. Fewer people know that he set sail for America in 1933, and settled in New Jersey to take the position of Professor of Theoretical Physics at Princeton University. He became a United States citizen in 1940.

And only just a handful of people know that after settling down in America, Albert Einstein toured the various universities in the United States, giving lectures wherever he went. He was always accompanied by his faithful chauffeur, Harry, who attended each of these lectures while seated in the back row. One fine day, after Einstein had finished a lecture and was coming out of the auditorium to his car, Harry said, "Professor Einstein, I've heard your lecture on Relativity so many times, that if I were ever given the opportunity, I would be able to deliver it perfectly myself!"

"Very well," replied Einstein, "I'm going to Detroit next week. They don't know me there. You can deliver the lecture as Einstein, and I'll take your place as Harry!"

And so it went... Harry delivered the lecture without a word out of place, while Einstein sat in the back row playing "chauffeur", and enjoying a siesta for a change.

Just as Harry was leaving the podium, however, one of the research assistants stopped him, and began to ask him a question on the theory of relativity... one that involved a lot of complex calculations and equations. Harry replied to the assistant "The answer to this question is very simple! In fact, it's so simple, that I'm going to let my chauffeur answer it!"

Task 2 – Pencil collection / tough swim**Track 29**

And now to a review of the papers. We have some very interesting stories this morning from ... from the United States of America, and the first one is ... is an interesting tale about somebody who had a ... a ... a very odd hobby in Holland, Michigan.

Ask John Horsting for a pencil and he'll have plenty.

The retired Michigan builder is well on his way to collecting 10,000 pencils. He has about 6,500 now, stacked in boxes in his garage.

He's not sure how he started on his hobby. He says one day he looked down and realized he had 50, then 100, which became 1,000.

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The smallest pencil he owns is just three quarters of an inch – about 2 centimetres – long. His biggest is a 3½-foot – almost one metre long – monster pencil with his name on it. It was a gift from Horsting's wife.

There aren't ... there aren't many people with ... with hobbies like that nowadays. Moving on now to ... to a story from the ... the Daily Express about a boy and swimming.

San Francisco: A nine-year-old boy has just finished a pretty tough morning swim – from Alcatraz to San Francisco.

Johnny Wilson, from Hillsborough, made the 1.4-mile swim in under two hours, braving choppy morning waters and rough winds in a portion of the San Francisco bay known to have sharks as well.

Wilson's classmates were waiting for him on shore, cheering as he made it all the way to Aquatic Park.

His effort raised about \$30,000 for the Red Cross Katrina Hurricane Victims Fund.

Wilson said the toughest part of the swim was the beginning, because it was cold and windy.

I'm ... I'm sure it was ... although the waters there are somewhat warmer than they are in ... in Britain or ... or in Ireland.

Task 3 – Lennon's guitar smuggled out of Germany

Track 31

Here's something out of Liverpool, England.

John Lennon's first electric guitar, signed by all the Beatles, was on display on Monday in the rock stars' hometown of Liverpool after being smuggled out of Germany.

The six-string Hofner guitar, which has spent the last 20 years in a bank vault in Hamburg, is owned by Frank Dostal, former lead singer of a German band called "The Faces". The group won the guitar in a talent contest in 1962 at the Star Club in Hamburg where the Beatles began their rise to fame.

Dostal, the last owner of the Star Club and now a record producer, said the guitar was smuggled out of Germany in a car trunk because of fears the government would put an export ban on bringing it to England.

He said, "Some wealthy American Beatles collectors traced the guitar to Hamburg earlier this year and offered me a six-figure sum for it. In fact, it's truly priceless and I'd never sell it."

But Dostal said he did agree to put it on display at Liverpool's "Beatles city" exhibition.

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Task 1 – Joke

Track 33

Equal opportunity – in other words, the principle of giving the same chances of employment to everyone – regardless of sex, colour, age and so on has been an important issue in the US for a long time and now I hear that it is becoming an important issue here in Hungary, too.

Well, if it is an important issue, there will be jokes about it – here's one for you:

A local business was looking for office help. They put a sign in the window saying:

“HELP WANTED. The applicant must be able to type, must be good with a computer and must speak a foreign language. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.”

A short time afterwards, a dog walked up to the window, saw the sign and went inside. He looked at the astonished receptionist, and wagged his tail, then walked over to the sign, looked at it and barked.

Getting the idea, the receptionist called the office manager, Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones looked at the dog and was surprised, to say the least. However, the dog looked very serious, so Mr. Jones led him into the office. Inside, the dog jumped on a chair and looked at the manager.

Mr. Jones said, “Sorry, I can't hire you. The sign says you have to be able to type.”

The dog jumped down, went to the typewriter and typed out a perfect letter. He took the letter and walked over to the manager, gave it to him, then jumped back on the chair.

Mr. Jones was surprised, but then he told the dog, “The sign also says that you have to be good with a computer.”

The dog jumped down again, went to the computer, demonstrated his expertise with various programs and produced a nicely formatted document and presented it to Mr. Jones.

By this time the manager was totally astonished! He looked at the dog and said, “I realize that you are a very intelligent dog and have some interesting abilities. However, I still can't give you the job.”

The dog jumped down, went to the sign and put his paw on the part about being an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Mr Jones said, “Yes, but the sign also says that you have to speak a foreign language.”

The dog looked at him straight in the eye and said, “Meow.”

paw = macs

Task 2 – Interview with Laura

Track 35

Reporter: How do you keep in touch with ... with your family back in Canada these days? What can you do?

Laura: Canada? Well, Rotary says ...

Reporter: Twenty phone-calls a day? Or ...

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Laura: Yeah, well, Rotary says you should phone your parents as little as ... little as you possibly can. You should not keep in too much contact because you're gonna get homesick. Well, in six weeks I've gone through eight hours of phonecards with my family ... (laughs) ...and friends. 'Cause for me, if I don't talk to my family ... I went for a ... one period when I didn't talk to my dad for about five days ..., I get way worse if I don't get a dose of home, and with my mum ...I call her a lot ... just 'cause I like to talk to my mummy ... and my brother, I call him at university, too, so ... it's pretty bad. I call my grandparents in Ontario, I call my aunts and my uncles, and my friends.

Reporter: Wouldn't it have been easier for you to stay there and make phone-calls with Hungarians here ...

Laura: It's ... I'm getting better ... I haven't talked to my mum in two days and I'm ... I haven't bought a phone card so I can't call her. So what I'm doing is I'm gonna start making weekly phone-calls so that ... it's a lot better. It's expensive ...

Reporter: It is expensive I'm afraid ...

Laura: But ... I do phone cards which is a lot cheaper ... it's good.

Task 3 – News report

Track 37

Then on to our last but one story which is ... which is from Australia and – surprise, surprise – about kangaroos.

An Australian man who works for a company that makes road signs warning motorists of kangaroos has been involved in a motorbike accident – with a kangaroo.

"I was riding my motorbike with my mate when the kangaroo jumped straight into it," Australia's Herald Sun newspaper on Friday quoted John Fleming as saying.

"Of course I've got a bit of flak from my mates calling me Skippy, and the guys from work sent me a get well card that's a warning sign for a kangaroo."

Skippy was the kangaroo star of an Australian television series.

Australia's population of kangaroos is conservatively estimated at more than 57 million and pose the biggest animal risk to motorists, accounting for more than 70 percent of animal related accidents in 2004.

Well I can't say we have those stories here in Europe, but (it's) certainly a fascinating one ...