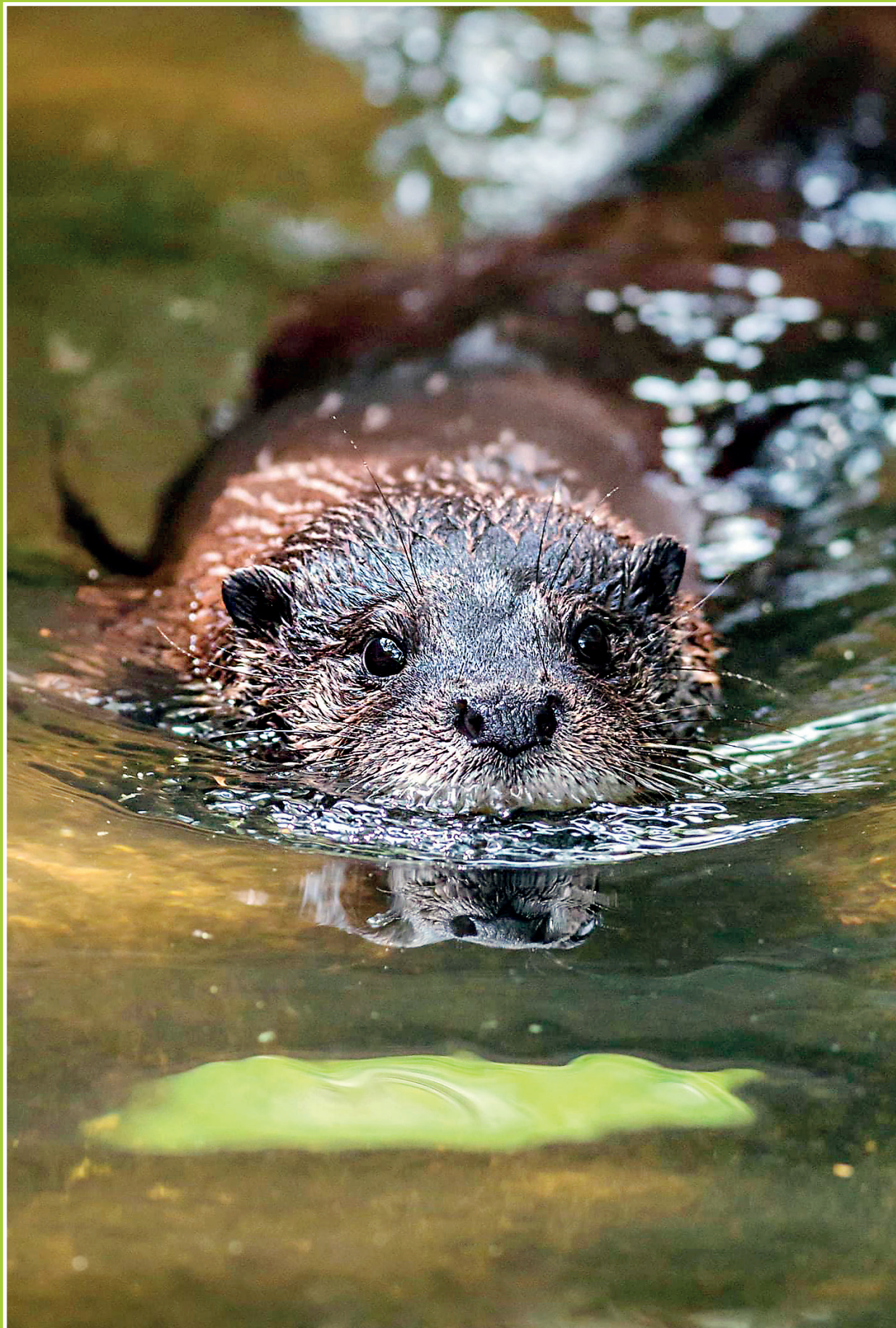




FUN DAY TIMES



An otter taking a swim at the zoo

Pic. by
Nadeera Udayanga



COMPETITIONS

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PAGE 3



REPORTS

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Please send competition entries to:
Funday Times
 C/O the Sunday Times
 P.O. Box 1136, Colombo.
 Or
 8, Hunupitiya Cross Road,
 Colombo 2.

Please note that competition entries (except Reeves Art) are accepted by email.

Please write the name of the competition and the date clearly at the top of your entry and include the following details:
Full Name (including Surname),
Date of Birth, Address,
Telephone No. and School.

Please underline the name most commonly used.

All competition entries should be certified by a parent or guardian as your own work.

Competition entries without the full details requested above, will be disqualified.

Closing date for weekly competitions:
August 10, 2022

Telephone: 2479337/2479333
Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com

KIDS IN COLOUR With REEVES

Kids in Colour together with Reeves Art Competition is conducted monthly. A topic is given for each month. Three winners from three age groups will be selected. Winners will be announced on the second Sunday of each month and all winners will receive an attractive gift pack from Reeves.

Please note that all paintings should be certified by a teacher or parent, refer page 2 for further details.

All paintings should be on A4 size paper. Please write Reeves Art Competition at the back of your entry, together with your name, date of birth, address, telephone no., and school.

Topic - Perahera
Closing Date : July 31, 2022

Mail to:
 Kids in colour with Reeves Art Competition
 Funday Times
 C/O The Sunday Times
 8, Hunupitiya Cross Road, Colombo 2
 P.O Box 1136 Colombo

Winners of Reeves Art Competition please contact us in order to collect your prizes!

Wax Crayons • Oil Pastels • Paint Sets • Colour Sets • Water Colours • Oil Colours • Poster Colours • Powder Paints • Brushes

Ninehearts (Pte) Ltd. 758/1, Baseline Road, Colombo 09. Contact: 0112 663500 / 2 687541 / 077 387039. Email: photoproducts@ninehearts.com

Happy Birthday



Chaniru Abeysooriya
13 years on July 25



Tisha Gonagala
4 years on July 23



Mithila Jayasekera
7 years on July 19

NOTE

Please log on to the Funday Times website on www.fundaytimes.lk or check out the Sunday Times epaper on www.sundaytimes.lk for additional pages of this week's Funday Times.

Book Competition

9 years and below

My father
Esandi Ranasinghe
 Musaeus College,
 Colombo 7

10 – 12 years

Celebrating Father's Day
Nivethikaa Yogendran
 St. Bridget's Convent,
 Colombo 7

13 – 15 years

The best gift you could give your father
Nisma Nauer
 Fathima B.V., Puttalam

Win super books from VIJITHA YAPA BOOKSHOP

Age: 9 years and below
Word Count: 150
Topic: Eating healthy
Win: Look Out Secret Seven by Enid Blyton

What would the Secret Seven do without Scamper the spaniel? First he discovers an unwanted visitor, then he protects the gang when a spying mission gets dangerous.


Can the Seven track down some missing war medals on their latest adventure? Not without their trusty spaniel, that's for sure!



Age: 10 – 12 years
Word Count: 150 – 200
Topic: Gardening as a hobby
Win: The Street Child by Berlie Doherty

Jim Jarvis is a runaway. When his mother dies, he is all alone in the workhouse and desperate to escape. But London in the 1860s is a dangerous and lonely place. Jim faces a constant battle to survive.

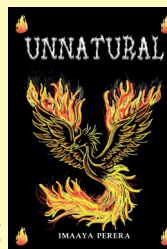
Jim's gripping adventure is based on the true story of the orphan whose plight inspired Dr. Barnardo to set up his famous children's refuge.



Age: 13 – 15 years
Word Count: 200 – 250
Topic: The scene at a bus stop
Win: Unnatural by Imaaya Perera

Life is full of surprises and you never know what's going to happen next. Adam sets off on a journey to find his best friend but uncovers so much more in the process.

Adam however is something else entirely and has captured the attention of an organization set on learning and experimenting on Earth's newest evolvement. Adam's whole reality is rapidly changing and it's up to him to decide whether to run or to adapt to it.



Write at the top of your Essay
 ■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic

Growing food at home

By Cecilia Hewavitharana

Growing food at home is much easier than most people think, whether you have a large garden or a tiny windowsill in a flat. And you don't necessarily have to buy seeds or plants – you can cultivate using leftovers from produce brought for day-to-day use.

Seeds

Scattering seeds in a bit of soil and watering them regularly could give you a plant. Some seeds produce shoots in a matter of days, while others may take weeks, so patience is key.



Cuttings

Greens such as kangkong (water spinach) can be propagated by planting the stems in soil and watering them regularly. After a week or two, they are likely to take root and sprout new shoots, which can then be cut and used for cooking.



Top of a fruit

The top of a pineapple can be cut and planted after removing the leaves on the bottom inch of the stalk. (Pineapples thrive in sunny and dry conditions, so they should be watered sparingly.)



Roots

Leeks are the best example of produce sold with the roots. Cutting the stalk around 2 – 3 inches above the beginning of the root and planting it, will produce new leaves. These leaves can then be cut from the same point as earlier and they will grow back again. Be careful not to cut the stalk too close to the base, as that will cause the plant to rot.



Root vegetables

Some root vegetables, such as potatoes and ginger, tend to produce shoots while in storage, which can be planted. In the case of ginger, the portion with the shoot can be planted while the rest is consumed.

Tips

DIY pots – Pots can be made from almost anything: PET bottles, fish tins, paint buckets or even rice bags.

Organic homemade fertiliser – Firstly, the difference between fertiliser and compost is that fertiliser provides nutrients for plants to grow, while compost enriches the soil. Rich soil can also help plants to grow and kitchen refuse is probably the cheapest and most convenient form of compost. The refuse can either be collected in a container or directly put into the plant pot. In the case of the latter, do not concentrate the same kind of refuse into one plant – for example, refuse from lime could be too acidic for the plant, while potato refuse might give the plant a potassium overdose.

Water efficiency – Watering plants with the remaining water after washing clothes is a great way to save water. And if the water is mildly soapy, it's good for plants and keeping pests and diseases away.

Pests to watch out for

Whiteflies and **scale insects** are often found on the underside of leaves or on the stems, where they suck the sap (and life) out of the plants.

Possible remedies: Squashing the insects, cleaning the leaves and watering the plant with a mild solution of soapy water; attracting ladybirds, as they feed on the larvae of these insects.

Leaf miners are the larvae of a variety of species, such as flies and moths, that eat the leaf tissue of plants, especially tomatoes.

Possible remedies: A mild solution of soapy water and/or cutting the affected leaves, depending on the degree of damage.

Any plant that has been badly affected by a pest or disease should be disposed of, to avoid other plants being affected.



Whiteflies



Scale insects



Leaf miners

It has been widely predicted that a food shortage might occur towards the end of this year, so if each one of us can grow food, even on a small-scale and enough for personal consumption, there might not be a shortage. After all, even the ocean is made up of billions of tiny droplets.

From our Young Reporters

Sora Bora Wewa

Location:

- Province – Uva,
- District – Badulla
- City – Mahiyanganaya

Construction:

Sora Bora Wewa was built by Giant Bulatha during the period of King Dutugemunu.

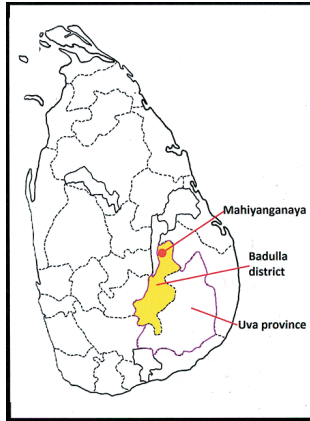
Structure of a tank:

A dam is built connecting two hills across a river. Then the water will be collected on one side of the dam.

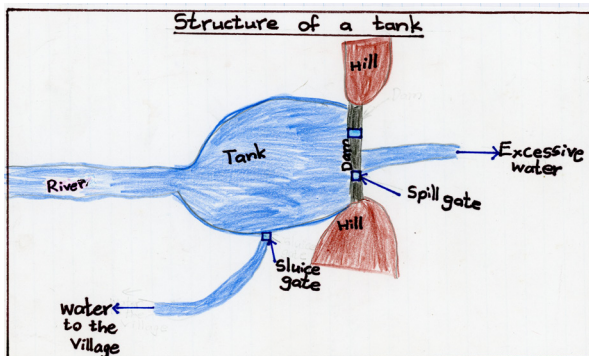
This is how a tank is made.

A tank has two types of gates.

1. Sluice gate – to get water to be used in the village.
2. Spill gate – to let excess water out.



The natural sluice gate.



Special Facts

It is an ancient tank. It is built across the Diyawanna Oya. Sora Bora Wewa has a natural sluice gate made up of two massive rocks. This is the only such type of sluice gate in Sri Lanka.

Mumudi Gajadeera (9 years)
Horizon College Int., Malabe

Eiffel Tower

The Eiffel Tower is a wrought-iron lattice tower on the Champ de Mars in Paris, France. It is named after the engineer Gustave Eiffel, whose company designed and built the tower. It was locally nicknamed 'La dame de fer' (French for 'Iron Lady').

The Tower was made a monument historique in 1964 and named a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The tower is 324 metres (1,063 feet) tall, about the same height as an 81-storey building, and the tallest structure in Paris. Its base is square, measuring 125 metres (410 feet) on each side.

During its construction, the Eiffel Tower surpassed the Washington monument to become the tallest man-made structure in the world, a title it held for 41 years until the Chrysler Building in New York City was finished in 1930. It was the first structure in the world to surpass both the 200 m and 300 m mark in height.

Due to the addition of a broadcasting aerial at the top of the tower in 1957, it is



now taller than the Chrysler Building by 5.2 m (17 feet). Excluding the transmitters, the Eiffel Tower is the second tallest free-standing structure in France after the Millau Viaduct.

Criticism was faced during the construction and Gustave Eiffel responded to these criticisms by comparing his tower to the Egyptian pyramids.

"My tower will be the tallest edifice ever erected by man. Will it not also be grandiose in its way? And why would something admirable in Egypt become hideous and ridiculous in Paris?" – were his fierce sayings.



First drawing of the Eiffel Tower by Maurice Koechlin, including size comparison with other Parisian landmarks.

As they say it always rains hardest on the people who deserve the sun.

Udara Weerasekara (13 years)
Ananda Balika N.S.

Charles Darwin: 'Lost' notebooks to go on display after 20 years!

Two of Charles Darwin's notebooks will go on display at the University of Cambridge library after disappearing for nearly 20 years.

The notebooks are surrounded by mystery! They went missing in 2001 and were anonymously returned to the University in 2020! There's still no explanation of where they went or who returned them.

The notebooks are from Darwin's younger years and one of them has his famous "Tree of Life" drawing in it from 1837.

Professor Jim Secord, director of the Darwin Correspondence Project says that these notebooks are the place in which Darwin thought out his evolution theory! The professor added that having the notebooks on display give the public a direct link with the past.

The notebooks also offer a more human view of Darwin, according to Professor Secord and Dr Alice Pearn, who also

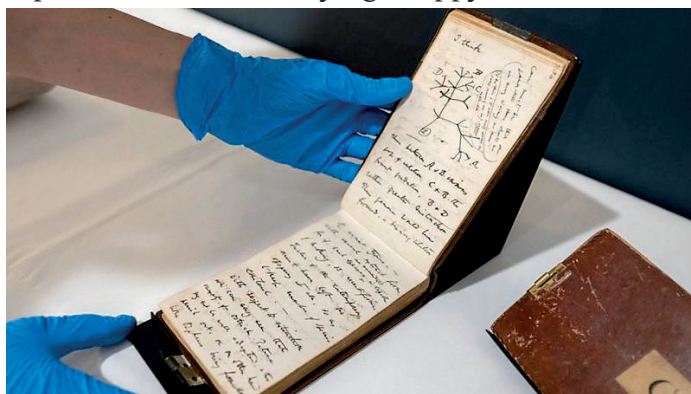
works on the Darwin Project. Dr Pearn said: "We want people to take away that he was human, he wasn't born with a beard. He was a very young man once."

The mystery of where the notebooks have been, is yet to be solved. They were reported as missing in 2001 and eventually as stolen in October 2020.

However, on March 9, 2022, the notebooks were left anonymously and without a trace in a pink bag with a note saying "Happy Easter".



Dr. Alison Pearn said that she was "overwhelmed with relief" when the notebooks were returned and that they are safe now!



This drawing called "The Tree of Life" is very famous.



The notebooks were returned in a pink gift bag with a note saying "Happy Easter" earlier this year.

Source: CBBC Newsround

July is National Ice Cream Month!

July is National Ice Cream Month in the US. The fun tradition was started by former US president Ronald Reagan, who issued Proclamation 5219 in honour of the "nutritious and wholesome food" in 1984. The decree urges Americans to mark the month, or at least July 17 — designated National Ice Cream Day — with "appropriate ceremonies and activities."

Here is some fun ice cream trivia to keep you entertained while enjoying the creamy dessert.

Origin of ice cream

The first records of milk-based ice cream, made using heated fermented milk, flour, and camphor, come from China's Tang dynasty (618 – 907 AD). But the Arabs are credited with inventing the modern-day recipe, using milk and sugar as the primary ingredients, in the 9th century.

By the 10th century, the delicious treat, made using milk, cream, flavoured rosewater, dried fruits and nuts, was widely available in Baghdad, Damascus and Cairo.

The frozen treat did not arrive in the US until 1744 when Maryland Governor Thomas Bladen served strawberry ice cream to guests.

Now, Americans are the world's largest consumers of ice cream, eating an average of 48 pints per person every year. An estimated \$6 billion is spent annually on the treat, and the numbers are even higher if restaurant sales are included.

Guinness World Records

The frozen dessert's popularity makes it a favourite for setting new Guinness World Records. The latest one was set in 2021 by the Ice Cream Lab pop-up at the Yas Mall in Abu Dhabi, UAE.



The temporary retail shop offered ice cream lovers 1001 flavour options — setting a new world record for the most flavours offered.

Meanwhile, in 2018, Italian ice cream fan Dimitri Panciera garnered a world record for balancing the most scoops — 125 — on a single cone. His feat, achieved on the set of the television show "La Notte Dei Record," was witnessed by millions.

UK Heatwave: How temperature is measured

July 19, 2022

The UK has experienced its hottest day on record, with temperatures reaching 40.2 degrees Celsius at Heathrow in London on Tuesday, according to provisional Met Office figures.

You will have seen different places in the UK recording different temperatures over the last few days, but how is it measured?

Temperature is a measure of how hot something is and when it comes to measuring the weather, experts usually want to know what the temperature of the air is.

But there are certain rules they have to follow to make sure the temperature measured is accurate.



How is official temperature recorded?

To accurately measure air temperature you must use a special device, called a thermometer.

It measures the temperature in either Celsius or Fahrenheit. In the UK Celsius is used which is often just shortened to a C.

There are many different types of thermometer – one type has liquid in a glass tube which rises as it gets hotter.

The Met Office, the UK's national weather service uses a platinum resistance thermometer (PRT). This has a piece of platinum wire which finds out the temperature by measuring its electrical resistance.

Official temperature records are only recognised by a thermometer placed in a special box elevated above ground called a Stevenson screen.

These weather boxes are placed in the shade above a natural surface like grass. They are painted white to reflect as much of the Sun's heat as possible, and have holes for ventilation.



Katie Martyr, assistant horticulturist, at the weather station in Cambridge's Botanic Garden.

Why do some thermometers show a higher temperature than official recordings?

If you've been in a car recently and noticed the car thermometer shows a higher temperature than official temperatures given, that could be because the car has been sitting in the heat. The car itself has been heating up, so the temperature taken is the car temperature and not the air temperature.



The high temperature in a car is usually because it is recording the surface temperature of the car instead of the air.

How can you check what the air temperature is?

If you have a thermometer, here are some tips for measuring the air's temperature.

- The thermometer needs to be positioned in constant shade**
If it's not in the shade, the sun will warm the temperature of the thermometer and you'll get a reading of the thermometer and not the air.
- Keep away from buildings and concrete**
Different surfaces give off heat at different rates so it's best to keep the thermometer away from buildings.
- Position it about 1.5 m above the ground**
The best place is above grass, as this avoids the warming or cooling effect of the ground below.

Source : CBBC Newsround

July 19

News in Pictures



Summerland, Canada
Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, prepares to pick cherries with Derek Lutz, a family farm owner, at Lutz's orchard in British Columbia.



Cambridge, UK
People under umbrellas being punted along the River Cam in Cambridge, one of the hottest places in the UK. Temperatures have reached 40°C for the first time on record in the UK, with 40.2°C provisionally recorded at London Heathrow, the Met Office has said.



Landiras, France
Firefighters battle a forest blaze.



Kabul, Afghanistan
A pet pelican stands on top of a car in traffic.

July 18

Bangkok, Thailand
A woman takes a picture beside a newly discovered century-old stone sculpture outside the Emerald Buddha Temple within the Grand Palace grounds.



Cebreros, Spain
A firefighter helicopter collects water from a swimming pool to tackle a forest fire.



Peterborough, UK
The Natural History Museum's touring exhibition T Rex: The Killer Question at Peterborough Cathedral.



London, UK
A member of the Queen's Guard receives some water outside Buckingham Palace in extreme hot weather.

Kent, UK
Bison released from a corral at the Wildwood Trust nature reserve. It is the first time bison have roamed freely in the UK for thousands of years.



Source : The Guardian