



New portrait of Queen Victoria's goddaughter

A painting of Queen Victoria's goddaughter will soon go on display 170 years after she was released from slavery in Nigeria. In 1843, Captain Frederick Forbes went to Africa to encourage rulers to abandon the slave trade. The king of Benin 'gave' him a seven-year-old girl called Sarah Bonetta as a 'diplomatic gift'. The naval officer brought her back to England and looked after her as his own, even giving her the family name of Forbes. He introduced her to Queen Victoria, who also became very fond of her, paying for her education and adopting her as a goddaughter. Queen Victoria described her as 'sharp and intelligent'. She was also an accomplished musician and linguist. Sarah chose to name her eldest daughter Victoria, after the queen. The portrait, by UK based Zambian artist, Hannah Uzor, will take pride of place in the monarch's seaside home.



Pictured: A portrait of Sarah Forbes Bonetta will go on display at Osborne House on Isle of Wight. Source: @NPLondon

Wheelchair for disabled duck



Pictured: Stumble, the 12-year-old duck is now learning how to use his wheelchair independently. Source: WCVB-TV Boston Twitter feed

Staff at a sanctuary for disabled animals in Nottinghamshire have found a wheelchair to help one of their older residents. Stumble, the 12-year-old duck, lost a leg after an accident with a fishing line and was struggling to walk. But sanctuary carer, Di, has been determined to improve his quality of life. 'He is a big character in a little bird's body,' she said. After trying a prosthetic webbed foot without success, Di found a suitable wheelchair for Stumble online. With the advice of a vet, she has taught him to use the wheelchair, which also relieves his painful arthritis. Di said of her elderly feathered friend: 'He likes cuddles, he likes watching TV. He won't give up, so I won't give up.' He has taken to the wheelchair 'like a duck to water!'



Robot taxis take to the roads in China

A taxi hire company has launched an autonomous taxi service for the first time in China's biggest city, Shanghai. It is one of numerous worldwide vehicle trials, but this is the first time that robot cars have been used to transport the public. Backed by tech company Alibaba, the vehicles operate in a small area outside the city. Drivers sit with their hands off the steering wheel and feet hovering above the pedals to keep passengers safe, intervening only if problems occur. A computer on the roof of each taxi is programmed to detect the proximity of buildings, traffic or pedestrians so it comes to a halt safely. During a trial in the UK last year, a fleet of sixteen miniature cars were programmed to communicate with each other to avoid traffic jams. The tiny cars would stop and block lanes when they did not communicate with each other but slowed down and



*Pictured: The first robot taxis to carry passengers are launched in Shanghai
Source: fronx_the_shanghai taxi*

kept moving when programmed to communicate. If successful, traffic jams could be reduced on Britain's roads by up to 35%.

Your thoughts on the news...

No, because life is not only about winning. True happiness can be achieved by giving not taking.

Fares – age 11

Winning isn't all that matters because he/she earns a lot of respect and praise for his/her work.

Baishta – age 11



What was your opinion on this week's news? Visit our discussion area, found here:

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to share your thoughts!

I think Diego showed amazing sportsmanship and he deserved to win.

I think he deserves a round of applause!

Grace – age 10

I am a goalkeeper for Plymouth. I feel that in a football match you should try to win.

Jack – age 9

I think...



YOUR COMMENTS

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