

New Books for Royal Doll House

Queen Mary's Doll's House is 100 years old this year! To celebrate, its library has been updated with a collection of miniature books written by some of today's most famous authors. The initiative, led by Queen Camilla, has created a modern-day miniature book collection within the doll house's library. Twenty authors, including Sir Tom Stoppard, Dame Jacqueline Wilson, Sir Ben Okri, Bernardine Evaristo and Julia Donaldson, contributed to the project by each producing a 4.5cm high mini handwritten book to add to the library. The Queen has even penned one herself! The books are on display, alongside the scaled-down replica of an Edwardian-style royal residence, at Windsor Castle throughout 2024. The doll house that was gifted to Queen Mary has electricity, running water and even working lifts. All the books in the original miniature library, around 175, are real books, handwritten by leading authors of the 1920s such as A.A. Milne, Sir Arthur Conan-Doyle and Vita Sackville-West. The Queen called the library, 'the most breath-taking space in the house', adding, 'These new books highlight the incredible richness of twenty-first

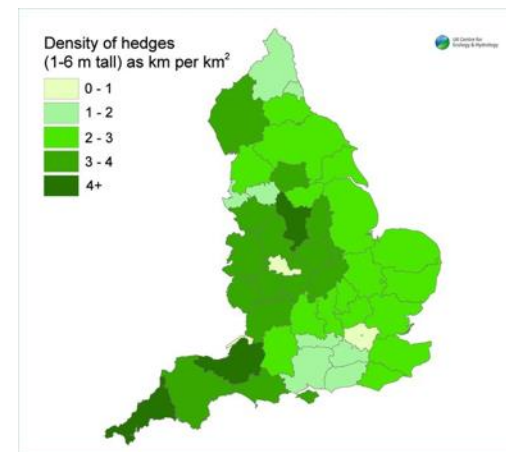


Pictured: Books from the new miniature book collection and Queen Mary's Doll's House. **Source:** Royal Collection Trust @RCT X page.

century literary talent - and demonstrate how fortunate we are to have access to so many outstanding writers, whose work brings joy, comfort, laughter, companionship and hope to us all, opening our eyes to others' experiences and reminding us that we are not alone.'

Historic Hedgerows

A new map has revealed that there are enough hedges in England to reach around the world ten times! The hedgerow map was created using low-flying aircraft that scanned the ground with sensors that emitted pulses of light to create 3D images, providing precise information on the quantity, length, and height of hedges below. The whole of England was scanned between 2016 and 2021 to produce the map. Scientists at the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (UKCEH) announced that there was a total of 390,000km of fully grown field hedges in England. The information gathered has been used to provide the first accurate map of the hedgerow network across the country. The highest density of hedges are found in Cornwall, Somerset, and Derbyshire. Dr Richard Broughton, leader of the project said, 'The new map enables us to see where hedgerows are sparse and identify sites for targeted planting and restoration efforts, linking up habitats and improving the hedgerow network. It can also be used to estimate the potential amount of carbon that hedgerows could remove from the atmosphere and store.' Researchers believe that the map will help focus efforts to restore the country's hedges – it is estimated that there were twice as many in the 1940's. They say this is important to increase biodiversity, as



Pictured: Map of England showing hedgerow densities by area. **Source:** UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology @UK_CEH X page.



Pictured: A view over fields in Widcombe in the Moor, England. **Source:** Canva.

hedges contain many different kinds of plants. Hedges also provide a home for many species of wildlife and aid in the fight against climate change. Furthermore, they can reduce air pollution and even improve soil quality! **Do you know any other benefits of growing more hedges? Alternatively, can you think of any drawbacks?**

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

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Jumbo Jump

Jumbo Jump in Karachi, Pakistan, is now officially home to the largest inflatable castle in the world! The massive bouncy castle measures 1,421m² and an astounding 200 people can jump on it at once. Jumbo Castle, as it is named, is part of the popular tourist attraction that also contains other inflatables, including another smaller bouncy castle with ball pits, hoops and climbing towers, and an assault course over 30 metres long. There are also 'jaw-dropping' 12-metre-high slides and a photo booth. Karachi is the capital city of the Pakistani province of Sindh. Over 20 million people live there, and it is the largest city in Pakistan. The brightly coloured bounce house only takes ten minutes to fully inflate but it took six months to plan and design, ensuring it met safety guidelines and had record-breaking dimensions. Safer Khan, Founder of Jumbo Jump, said, 'We believe in creating moments that go beyond the ordinary and breaking the world record for the largest jumping castle at Jumbo Jump is a testament to our commitment to delivering unparalleled joy and entertainment in Pakistan. Our success is not just measured in numbers but in the smiles, laughter, and shared experiences of the communities we serve. Jumbo Jump is not just an event; it's a celebration of the extraordinary, and we look forward to continuing our journey of breaking records and creating memories that last a lifetime.'



Pictured: Jumbo Jump in Karachi, Pakistan. **Source:** Guinness World Records @GWR X page.

Have you ever bounced or played on a bouncy castle?
Would you like to go on one this large?

Last week's topic: Is fashion important?



What's the point in fashion? It DOES make people look good though. But the money used could go to other things, better things ...(I am not a fan of fashion).

Daniel

No, I can wake up and be in my PJs and be beautiful, so yes, I think fashion is not important.

Hollie

I don't think fashion is important very much to me.

James

I think that fashion is not that important because everyone is perfect just the way they are.

Lyla

Let us know what you think about this week's news?

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