

Newsletter

Winter 2005

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Mrs H M Strickland of Shipham, North Somerset writes - I would like to warn your other Guest House clients of a scam that nearly caught us out.

We received an email booking from Washington USA for three people for two weeks. Claiming to be from the Living Water Church, they promised to pay the full amount in advance with a sterling cheque from Lee Marley Brickwork in Uxbridge UK.

The cheque duly arrived in a strangely written envelope, with no letter or compliment slip, but made out for £2,000, double the amount! I then received a phone call asking me to cash the cheque, and when it cleared send the balance to an address they would give me, purportedly to pay for a forum.

Feeling uneasy I paid the cheque into an account with a very small balance with no outgoing payments or standing orders. The cheque bounced "Account closed, drawer not known". I emailed Washington to cancel the booking, and have not heard from them since.

The whole story unfolded when I got hold of Lee Marley. The cheques were not stolen but FORGED. So far over 100 have been used in their name. All with the same *modus operandi*. A two week booking is made, then more money than required is sent followed by a request to send the balance elsewhere. Bookings have been made all over Britain from people posing as Catholic Priests, missionaries and charities, with one Catholic Priest having his identity stolen. Lee Marley have closed the account, but I'm sure another company will be found. The Police have been informed but seem unwilling or unable to help.

We take email bookings with a degree of trust, but will be wary in future, especially those from abroad.

Puzzle Corner

Count every "F" in the following test

FINISHED FILES ARE THE RE
SULT OF YEARS OF SCIENTI
FIC STUDY COMBINED WITH
THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS

Answer at the bottom of back page



Property for sale? Just send details and we will advertise it for you free of charge.

Bed & Breakfast

Great Ayton N.Yorks

Elevated 4 bed dormer bungalow, some en-suite, in beautiful village in Captain Cook country. Successful B & B for 18 years.

Mr Petch

01642 722436

Bed & Breakfast

Cheddar, Somerset

Large well appointed 6 bed family house (4 letting rooms). Large landscaped garden & patio area. Well established B&B with further opportunities for development. £475,000

Alun Flinders or Kath White

01934 744317

Bed & Breakfast

Settle North Yorks

Large imposing Victorian residence close to town centre 3 high class guest bedrooms & guest's lounge on 1st floor. 3 private bedrooms on 2nd floor. Large gardens, parking for 5/6 vehicles. £495,000

Mr & Mrs Flitcroft.

01729 823258

Holiday Bungalow

Cornwall

Detached 2 bed double-glazed bungalow. South Cornish coast 800 yards from beach & harbour. Close to Eden Project & Lost Gardens of Heligan. Fully equipped & furnished. £229,000 ono

Sandra

01726 844381

Holiday Flat

Mevagissey, Cornwall

1 bed first floor flat in 4 flat block, in centre of village, off-road parking in allocated space. Fully equipped & furnished. £112,500 ono

Sandra

01726 844381

Guest House

Skipton North Yorks

Well established Guest House, 5 beds plus owner's separate 1 bed apartment. £295,000

Elaine Barton

01756 701609

Liability for Hazardous Trees

The owner and/or occupier of land upon which trees stand is generally liable for any injury, loss or damage resulting from falling branches or the tree itself.

Legislation Under the health & Safety at work etc Act 1974, all occupiers have responsibilities to ensure the safety of those not in their employment. In addition occupiers have duties under the Occupiers Liability Act 1984. This states the occupier owes a “common law duty of care” to visitors, and those who enter his land or premises, this duty of care extends to TRESPASSERS. In Scotland there is no such distinction in law.

Liability of Tree Owners Occupiers must take reasonable steps to manage & reduce risk, by regular inspection of trees to identify those that might cause injury or place property at risk, and to take remedial action to reduce risk when hazardous trees are identified. The courts expect owners’ where the public has access, such as gardens, to take greater control than those in control of remoter woodland. In addition the courts expect occupiers to be prepared for children to behave less carefully than adults, and thus consideration must be given to whether children might suffer injury from climbing trees that might have weak or damaged branches.

Key Action Steps If you are in control of land that contains trees you should secure competent advice, set up a regular programme of inspection and take remedial action as necessary

Inspections It is essential that a planned inspection programme is established, which ensures trees are inspected as often as is necessary. Inspections should only be undertaken by a suitably experienced and competent person. The frequency of inspections depends entirely on the risk. Inspections should concentrate on those areas where there is a significant risk to persons or property, e.g. woodlands containing paths or bordering public highways or thoroughfares.

Risk Assessment The risk assessment should consider the following. The location of the tree in relation to people, property and adjacent thoroughfares. The species of tree – some are better able to withstand decay. The nature and type of decay or fungal attack.

Risk Control There are several control methods that may be used to reduce the risk, such as modifying usage e.g. by re-routing paths & walkways or moving car parks or recreational facilities, tree surgery, bracing or propping, and felling.

Extract from a fact sheet issued by Norwich Union (copies available on request). Norwich Union operates a Risk Helpline during normal business hours for the cost of a local call. The number is 0845 366 66 66.

THE PAOMNNEHAL PWEOR OF THE HMUAN MNID

Try to read this - It's Amazing!

Cduolt blveiee taht I cluod aulacly uesdnatnd waht I was rdgnieg THE PAOMNNEHAL PWEOR OF THE HMUAN MNID. Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe.....Amzanig huh?

Puzzle answer

There are 6 “F”s ... no joke read it again. The reason is the brain cannot process “OF”. Incredible or what! Go back and look again. Anyone who counts all 6 “F”s on the first go is a genius. 3 is normal, 4 is quite rare.

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