

# CONTENTS

## INTRODUCTION 4

## LIFESTYLE

- |   |  |    |
|---|--|----|
| 1 | How often do you touch people?<br><i>'What do Puerto Ricans do 180 times an hour?'</i> | 8  |
| 2 | You are what you drink<br><i>'What your choice of coffee says about you'</i>           | 10 |
| 3 | Things you love the most<br><i>'A Valentine card for the dog ...'</i>                  | 12 |
| 4 | Going bananas<br><i>'Yes, we have bananas - 30,000 of them'</i>                        | 14 |
| 5 | Too much TV?<br><i>'How to ration the time your child watches TV'</i>                  | 16 |
| 6 | Shopping with Big Brother<br><i>'The shopper snapper'</i>                              | 18 |
| 7 | The computer games addict<br><i>'Gameboys and girls stay in to play'</i>               | 20 |
| 8 | Glasses for your dog<br><i>'For the pet whose sight has gone to the dogs'</i>          | 22 |

## MORAL ISSUES

- |    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 9  | Helping the homeless<br><i>'From a Consul house to an Estate home / The police have a duty to every householder'</i> | 24 |
| 10 | Compensation culture<br><i>'Safeway leaflet crippled my dog / Writs a mad, mad world!'</i>                           | 28 |
| 11 | Free money<br><i>'Villagers strike it rich as they discover cash machine is doubling their money'</i>                | 32 |
| 12 | Starting again<br><i>'The man who swapped lives'</i>   | 34 |
| 13 | Money matters<br><i>'Pizza man gives away his millions / Lonely Beckham runs up a £433,000 hotel bill'</i>           | 36 |
| 14 | Charities<br><i>'RNIB: Helping you live with sight loss'</i>   | 40 |
| 15 | Disciplining children<br><i>'Should smacking ban get backing?'</i>   | 42 |

## WORK AND EDUCATION

- |    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 16 | International companies<br><i>'Hangin' on the Delhi Phone / Ain't life brand'</i>  | 44 |
| 17 | From teacher to plumber<br><i>'Biologist abandons vital research to double his salary fitting boilers / Skint boffin quits to be rich plumber'</i> | 48 |
| 18 | Does punctuation matter?<br><i>'Never mind the punctuation, look at our low price's'</i>   | 52 |
| 19 | Does prison work?<br><i>'Italian crooks are helping with Inquiries'</i>  | 54 |
| 20 | The island doctor<br><i>'A new life on Jura is just what the doctor ordered'</i>   | 56 |
| 21 | A man's job?<br><i>'Gondoliers sink hopes of first woman driver'</i>   | 58 |
| 22 | The school day<br><i>'Lessons leave no time for play in Seoul'</i>   | 60 |
| 23 | Bullies at school<br><i>'12 ways to beat bullies'</i>  | 62 |

## FOOD AND HEALTH

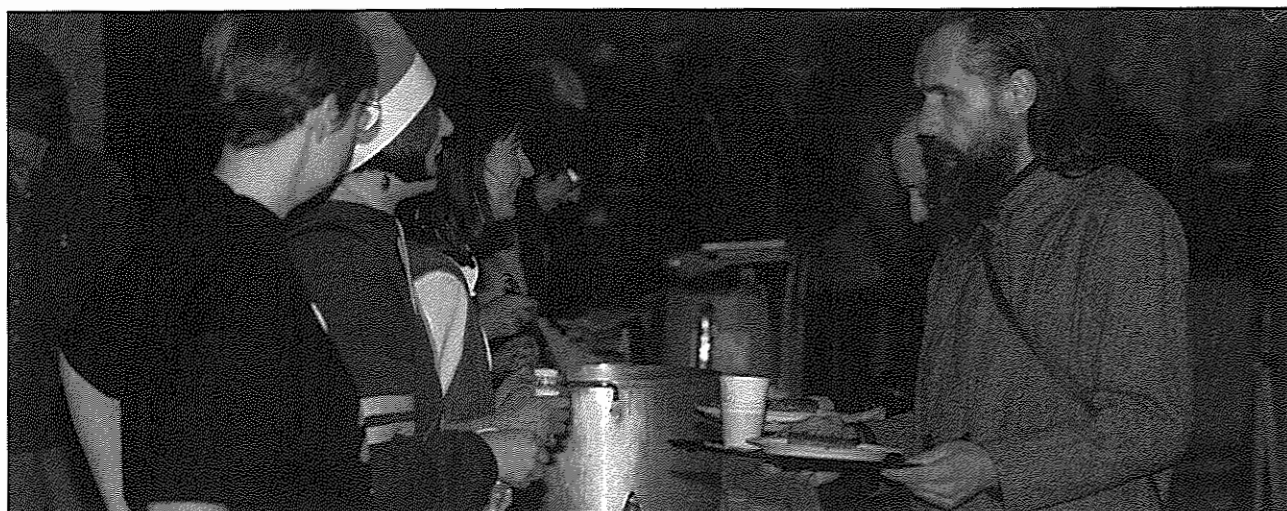
- |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| 24 | New foods<br><i>'Sweet strawmato is pick of the crop'</i>       | 64 |
| 25 | Too old to have children?<br><i>'Older Mom not so bad'</i>      | 66 |
| 26 | How deep can you go?<br><i>'The human submarine'</i>            | 68 |
| 27 | Better school meals<br><i>'iPod lure to cut down junk food'</i> | 70 |
| 28 | The 12-year-old alcoholic<br><i>'Binge drinker aged 12'</i>     | 72 |

## WORLD ISSUES

- |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| 29 | Opportunities for wealth<br><i>'Chocolate isles struggle to avert the 'curse' of oil / What a difference a day makes'</i> | 74 |
| 30 | The old soldiers<br><i>'Alan Hamilton joins veterans of the South Lancashire Regiment on their return to Normandy'</i>    | 78 |
| 31 | Global warming<br><i>'In the land where life is on hold'</i>  | 80 |
| 32 | Chemical alert<br><i>'The 75 toxic chemicals in our blood'</i>  | 82 |

## ANSWER KEYS 84

# THE POLICE HAVE A DUTY TO EVERY HOUSEHOLDER



Matthew's 21 and has been living in a 'bash' for six months. His parents don't know where he is. His girlfriend, Nicky, is younger and three months pregnant.

The 'bash' is built from planks and crates, roofed with old rugs and plastic sheeting and raised off the ground with wooden pallets. The nearest running water is in a nearby church hall. There's no electricity.

Matthew and Nicky don't go hungry. A mobile kitchen brings soup and rolls every night. Students from King's College, across the river, regularly bring food. On the face of it – a brave face – they wouldn't give up this life for anything.

They don't bother with the dole. Matthew candidly says that it's a waste of time when they can make do by begging in the West End.

It's this that brings them into conflict with us. Matthew talks about Paul and Charlie, both officers at nearby Kennington Road Police Station.

"Paul's caught me begging once, he gave me a warning," Matthew says. "But if he catches me again he'll do me."

Paul puts the other point of view. "Some people think the Vagrancy Act is obsolete and should be scrapped. But while it's there, we have to enforce it. And we have to think of the nuisance to other people."

Indeed, most commuters find the beggars and their dogs frightening. Many think the police should

evict the vagrants and clear away the 'bashes'.

But the fact is that we owe a duty to these citizens too. Our real work with the 'bashdwellers' is not the cat and mouse game of trying to catch them with their palms out. It's the work the public never see: helping to get someone a hospital bed. Encouraging those who need to visit drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres.

Directing newly homeless people to hostels and free kitchens. Putting our heads together with social workers, housing officers, welfare and benefits offices and voluntary organisations.

It's spending hours talking to homeless people finding out about their lives and their problems. Where they've come from. If their families know where they are. And persuading the young ones to return home.

"We'll try to give them the respect that every Londoner is entitled to," Paul says.

Partly as a result of his help, Nicky and Matthew have reached the end of their life on the road. They're moving to a flat before their baby is born.

Reading this you may be in local government, a social worker, architect, counsellor, teacher, or anyone with an interest in the plight of the homeless.

If you would like to know more about how we can work together to ease the problems of homelessness, please call the Metropolitan Police 0800 662244.

Every night in London, hundreds of people sleep outside, using shop doorways, park benches or even the pavement for a 'bed'. Under the railway arches near Waterloo train station, rough sleepers have built temporary shelters called 'bashes' made of wood and plastic. In this newspaper advert, the London police (known as the Metropolitan Police) talk about their work with the people who live in the 'bashes'.

**4 Before you read, discuss the following.** How do you think the police and the residents of the 'bashes' get on?

## Glossary

- 1 pallet: a rough, wooden platform
- 2 a mobile kitchen: a food stall run by a charity
- 3 to put on a brave face: to pretend everything is OK when it is not
- 4 the dole: money paid to people who are unemployed
- 5 to make do: to survive, to manage, to just get by
- 6 the West End: an area of London famous for its theatres
- 7 he'll do me: he will punish me/he will arrest me
- 8 the Vagrancy Act: the laws about begging and homelessness
- 9 bashdwellers: people who live in the bashes
- 10 with their palms out: begging
- 11 putting our heads together: discussing and trying to solve a problem

**5 As you read, match the words from the article 1-10 with their meanings a-j.**

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 1 crates            | a) very old fashioned, out of date                 |
| 2 rug               | b) has a right to                                  |
| 3 on the face of it | c) remove, take away                               |
| 4 obsolete          | d) large, wooden boxes                             |
| 5 scrapped          | e) someone who gives help and advice               |
| 6 evict             | f) desperate, difficult situation                  |
| 7 rehabilitation    | g) apparently                                      |
| 8 is entitled to    | h) cancelled, got rid of                           |
| 9 counsellor        | i) a kind of small carpet                          |
| 10 plight           | j) helping people find their way back into society |

**6 Now complete the sentences with information from the article.**

- a Matthew's girlfriend Nicky is three months \_\_\_\_\_.
- b Their 'bash' is made of planks and crates covered with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ sheeting.
- c There is no electricity or running \_\_\_\_\_ in the 'bash'.
- d Matthew and Nicky eat \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ from a mobile kitchen every night.
- e Students from King's College often bring them \_\_\_\_\_ too.
- f They do not apply for the dole because they get enough money by \_\_\_\_\_.
- g Some \_\_\_\_\_ are afraid of the beggars and their dogs.
- h Rehabilitation centres help people who have problems with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- i Paul says that every Londoner is entitled to \_\_\_\_\_.
- j Matthew and Nicky will be living in a \_\_\_\_\_ when their baby is born.

**7 Now discuss the following.**

- a Are there many homeless people in your country? Where do they sleep? How do they survive?
- b Why do people become homeless, do you think?
- c What do you feel when you see someone begging? Do you feel sad or angry?
- d Do you give them money or walk on by?
- e Are you frightened by beggars? Should begging be banned?
- f What can we do to make the situation better for homeless people?

**8 Your local radio station is doing a programme about homelessness. They have asked you to interview someone who sleeps rough to find out how they spend a typical day.**

- a In pairs, write the interview with the homeless person.
- b Now perform the interview for the rest of the class.



# 19 Does prison work?

For Luigi Pagano, the Governor of the San Vittore jail in Milan, a prison is not just a place where you punish criminals for their crimes. He believes that prisoners should work a full day, learning new job skills that they can take with them when they go back into society. In his attempts to rehabilitate prisoners in this way, Mr Pagano has come up with an unusual idea.

## 1 Before you read, discuss the following.

- Should prisoners work seven hours a day like other people?
- Should they be paid for that work?
- What sorts of jobs could they do?

## Glossary

- 1 crooks: criminals
- 2 directory inquiries: a call centre service that provides phone numbers
- 3 daylight robbery: obviously overcharging
- 4 Telecom Italia: a major Italian telephone company
- 5 a pilot scheme: a trial, an experimental scheme
- 6 purpose-built: specially designed
- 7 the takings: the amount of money you earn from selling goods or services
- 8 inmates: prisoners
- 9 Mafiosi: members of the Mafia

# Italian crooks are helping with inquiries

Hilary Clarke, Rome

SOME of Britain's new directory enquiry services may be accused of daylight robbery, but only in Italy are there operators who will openly admit to being a bunch of crooks.

Telecom Italia confirmed last week that callers to directory inquiries may find themselves talking to murderers and armed robbers.

Under a pilot scheme believed to be the first of its kind in Europe, inmates at the San Vittore jail in Milan are being paid up to £700 a month to man a purpose-built call centre in a prison wing.

In seven-hour shifts the prisoners give not only telephone numbers, but also the share prices, cinema and theatre listings and advice on restaurants – the food, not the time of night the takings are counted.

Callers are not told that the people on the other end of the line are in jail; nor are the operators allowed to divulge this.

"A new frontier has opened in

prison labour," said Luigi Pagano, the director of San Vittore. It reflected prison philosophy that inmates should not regard captivity as "an excuse to remain inert", he added.

Thirty prisoners have been recruited to the scheme, which started last month. They underwent a rigorous three-week training course. This included learning how to deal



with the public, perhaps in a less confrontational style than hitherto.

The participants include murderers, armed robbers and drug dealers. Mafiosi and child abusers, however, are call-barred.

Marco Tronchetti Provera, chairman of Telecom Italia, said the inmates' contracts were identical to those of 2,000 other operators at 73 conventional call centres around the country.

"The point is that this is a real job," he said.

Prisoners have welcomed the project, which helps their families financially and gives them contact with the outside world.

"This is an unprecedented opportunity for us," said an inmate named only as Massimo, 25, who is serving four years for arms and drug offences. "We get the feeling of doing the same job as people on the outside."

Telecom Italia is hoping to extend its startling recruitment policy to other jails in the future.

## 2 As you read, match the words from the article 1-10 with their meanings a-j.

- |                  |                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 bunch          | a) prisoners                         |
| 2 a pilot scheme | b) new, happening for the first time |
| 3 inmates        | c) periods of work                   |
| 4 shifts         | d) forbidden, banned                 |
| 5 divulge        | e) testing something out             |
| 6 captivity      | f) reveal (the truth, a secret)      |
| 7 inert          | g) group, gang                       |
| 8 rigorous       | h) inactive, doing nothing           |
| 9 barred         | i) imprisonment, life behind bars    |
| 10 unprecedented | j) hard, tough, difficult            |

## 3 Now circle T (True) or F (False).

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a Murderers and armed robbers are taking part in the project.          | T / F |
| b There are several similar schemes across Europe.                     | T / F |
| c The inmates are not paid for the work they do.                       | T / F |
| d The prisoners work a nine-hour shift.                                | T / F |
| e The service also provides information about cinemas and restaurants. | T / F |
| f Inmates must tell callers they are speaking from a jail.             | T / F |
| g The three-week training course is not that difficult.                | T / F |
| h Some categories of prisoners are banned from the scheme.             | T / F |
| i Thanks to the scheme, prisoners can send money to their families     | T / F |
| j Telecom Italia wants to set up similar projects in other jails       | T / F |

## 4 Now discuss the following.

- 1 Why do we send people to prison?
- 2 Should we use prison to punish people or to rehabilitate them?
- 3 Do prisoners have human rights? Or do you lose your human rights when you commit a crime?
- 4 What sorts of people should not be sent to prison? What about pregnant women, young teenagers or people with mental problems?

## 5 Look at the 'crimes' below. In groups, decide on the best punishment for each crime. Use the useful language and the punishments in the box.

- |                             |                   |              |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| a fine                      | community service | imprisonment |
| the death penalty/execution |                   | acquitted    |

- a dropping litter on the street
- b using a mobile phone while driving a car
- c not paying your fare on a bus or train
- d shoplifting
- e mugging an old lady
- f joyriding (stealing a car, driving it for a while and then abandoning it)
- g drink driving
- h taking drugs
- i manslaughter
- j premeditated murder
- k war crimes
- l acts of terrorism

### Use this useful language.

- to be charged with (a crime)
- to be convicted of (a crime)
- to be found guilty/not guilty of (a crime)
- to be given (100 hours) community service
- to be fined (£1,000)
- to be sentenced to (three years in jail)
- to be given a (three-year) sentence for ...
- to be imprisoned/sent to prison for (three years)
- to be released from prison after (three years)
- to rehabilitate a person: to help a person to return to society
- to be acquitted: to be freed, to be found not guilty

## 6 In groups, think of a recent crime that people are talking about on TV or in the papers, or imagine one of the crimes in exercise 5 above. Write detailed notes about what happened and who was involved.

- a Decide what the punishment should be or should have been.
- b Present the case to the rest of the class.

We've chosen the case of \_\_\_\_\_. He/She was charged with \_\_\_\_\_.

What happened was that he/she \_\_\_\_\_. The victim was \_\_\_\_\_.

We've decided he/she should be/should have been found guilty/not guilty of \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

His/her punishment should be ...

## Do the other groups agree or disagree with the punishment you have chosen?

## 29 Opportunities for wealth

On this and the following pages are two articles about countries struggling against poverty. The tiny islands of São Tomé and Príncipe lie 400 kilometres off the west coast of Gabon. Until recently, their 140,000 inhabitants were among the poorest people in the world. Then, in 2004, scientists made an incredible discovery. Under the

ocean around the islands they found oil worth \$50,000,000,000, enough money to make everyone in this former Portuguese colony a dollar millionaire. This article tells the story of how oil may be about to transform the lives of the people on the islands.

# Chocolate isles struggle to avert the 'curse' of oil



BY TIM BUTCHER IN SÃO TOMÉ

OFF the West African coast, the sharks are circling the sleeping "chocolate islands" of São Tomé and Príncipe, eager to bite of slices of billions of pounds of hoped-for oil revenues.

One of Africa's poorest nations is being spoken of as a new Kuwait following recent surveys showing that up to 11 billion barrels of oil lie under its territorial waters.

Prospects of an oil boom in the tiny former Portuguese colony have attracted a wave of charlatans and swindlers and São Tomé is keen to avoid becoming the next African country to prove that oil can be more of a curse than a blessing.

Many of the people of Nigeria, Angola, Equatorial Guinea and elsewhere grew poorer as vast oil revenues were stolen by corrupt regimes and businessmen – a situation that São Tomé's chubby and affable leader, President Fradique de Menezes, says he wants to prevent.

Oil has already led to unrest. It was said to have helped foment an attempted coup last July, when a group of disaffected soldiers temporarily seized power from Mr de Menezes.

He survived and has made progress. He has followed the advice of western economists about how to develop the oil sector, and has presided over a bidding round among oil companies that is seen as the most transparent in African oil industry history.

"This place really is on the up more than it ever has been, but the sharks are already

circling in the water," said the former cocoa trader.

Every few days, charter planes full of businessmen from Nigeria, Angola and elsewhere fly into São Tomé's tiny international airport where the grass grows waist high on either side of the runway.

São Tomé, with a population of only 140,000, is also being wooed by the United States, which had deployed a military liaison officer there as part of its war on terrorism.

In military terms, the country is virtually helpless, with no aircraft or tanks. Its only working naval boat, a small coastguard launch, was recently stolen and ended up in Nigeria.

Until recently, many British diplomats would have struggled to find the islands on a map, but London is now increasing aid money, with £135,000 going to fund a project of public education about how to use oil revenues.

For now, São Tomé's government appears clean, but it also seems somewhat out of its depth and was forced to renegotiate ill-conceived contracts for lucrative prospecting rights owned by a rich Nigerian businessman.

With oil revenues still years away, the country owes £200 million in foreign debt – one of the highest per capita levels in Africa – and remains seriously under-developed.

Out on the *rocas*, the Portuguese-built cocoa plantations – now in decline – thousands live in poverty. High humidity and temperatures have rotted the once-grand plantation houses, and a tangle of jungle has

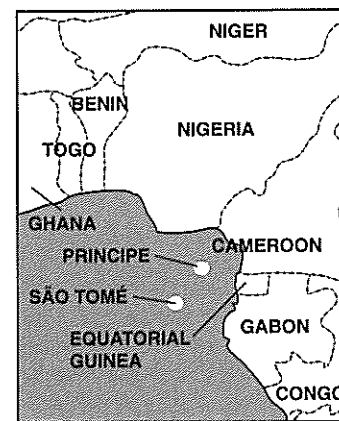
smothered the once well-ordered cocoa fields.

Poverty remains rife for most São Toméans. Cocoa growing might have earned the place the soubriquet of "chocolate islands" as Portugal profited during the colonial era, but it now generates only £3 million in exports.

The rest of the £30 million national budget comes from foreign aid. This seems likely to be dwarfed by oil revenues. The rights to explore just one block of seabed will earn São Tomé £50 million later this year from Chevron-Texaco and there are plenty more blocks up for tender.

"If you have high poverty, high expectations of oil revenues and a low level of capacity to deliver, you might have a bomb on your hands" said Rafael Branco, the suave former oil minister.

"The challenge is to defuse that bomb."



### 1 Before you read, discuss the following.

What do you think happened after the oil was discovered?

Who do you think will get all the money?

Who will lose out?

### Glossary

- 1 charlatans and swindlers: dishonest people who cheat you out of your money
- 2 foment: encourage or cause something bad
- 3 sobriquet: nickname
- 4 a bidding round: when different international companies bid for something
- 5 prospecting rights: a contract that allows you to look for oil or minerals
- 6 up for tender: available to the highest bidder

### 2 As you read, answer the questions to find the meaning to these words.

- a If you *avert* something, do you make it happen or stop it happening?
- b Is a *boom* a period of growth or decline?
- c Is a *swindler* honest or dishonest?
- d Is an *affable* person friendly or unfriendly?
- e If you are *disaffected*, are you happy or unhappy?
- f If you are *out of your depth*, do you know what you are doing or not?
- g Is a *lucrative* business profitable or unprofitable?
- h Which is bigger, a *plant* or a *plantation*?
- i If a bomb is *defused*, is it safe or unsafe?

### 3 Now complete the notes with information from the article.

#### The islands of São Tomé and Príncipe

Location: 400 kms west of Gabon

Size: 5 kms by 7 kms

Estimated oil reserves: (a) \_\_\_\_\_ barrels

Airport: tiny, waist-high grass either side of the (b) \_\_\_\_\_

Population: (c) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of military aircraft: (d) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tanks: (e) \_\_\_\_\_

Outstanding debts of: (f) \_\_\_\_\_

Main crop grown on the plantations: (g) \_\_\_\_\_

Annual exports worth: (h) \_\_\_\_\_

Chevron-Texaco will pay (i) \_\_\_\_\_ to explore one block of the seabed

Now read an appeal by Nelson Mandela.

