

mensa world journal

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The screenshot displays the Mensa SIGHT map interface. On the left, a 'Welcome!' section explains the service and includes a 'Create your host profile' button. Below this are sections for 'Hosts' and 'Coordinators' with toggle switches. The main map area shows a detailed profile for a host named 'Henkhenk & Esperanza Broekhuizen/van de Laar' from the Netherlands. The profile includes details about the number of beds (2), max nights (depends), contribution to costs, spoken languages (English, Dutch, German, Frisian, French, Danish, Spanish), and children accepted. A map of Europe is visible in the background with various host locations marked.

The new Mensa SIGHT map where you can place your preferences for how you'd like to participate!

Full directions and information on p5

MENSA INTERNATIONAL

TO READ OUR WELCOME LETTER OR TO ACCESS LINKS TO USEFUL
INFORMATION & SERVICES FOR NEW MEMBERS,
PLEASE GO TO

https://bit.ly/MI_welcome

from the editor...



Hi All,

- Our Chairman's column, giving us some detail of the 2023 IBD meeting is on p3, continued on pp 9 and 10
- on p4, there is a report of a wonderful event in Serbia, the 6th International Scientific and Professional Conference: Working with the Gifted: Methods and Programs
- have a look at p5 for the latest SIGHT map, while on p6, New Zealand Mensa Taryn Dryfhout writes about Leadership Beyond Intelligence: The Critical Role of Emotional Intelligence in Leadership
- as usual, our monthly Member Profile is on p7
- p8 brings us news of a group of international scientists who has mapped the genetic, cellular, and structural makeup of the human brain and the nonhuman primate brain
- our latest science snippets are on p11, the Officer Directory is on p12 and Therese's (Brain)Teasers are on p13

Happy New Year to you all!

Kate

Log in to www.mensa.org to read or download the MWJ in full colour

Australian Mensa's Diamond Anniversary

Save the date: October 18-20, 2024!

Australian Mensa will be celebrating its 60th birthday in October 2024 in Sydney on the weekend following the International Board of Directors' meeting (which is also being held in Australia in Perth). We would love to see as many visitors as possible!



Australian Mensa 60th Diamond Jubilee

Official Conference

Pre AMC
17 - 18th October 2024
Optional Tours

AMC
18th October 2024
AMC Icebreaker
Adults and Kids 5 - 9 pm
on 'James Craig' alongside Darling Harbour
1874 Clipper Ship, one of only 4 originals in the world
Free kids' Pirate Treasure Chest Hunt & tour of ship

19th October 2024
AMC Conferences
Adults and Kids separately 9 am - 5 pm
at Rydges World Square
Keynote Speaker: Peter Shann Ford
Talks, interactive programmes and catering included

AMC GALA DINNER 7 - 11.30 pm
Entertainment, dancing, prizes

20th October 2024
AMC AGM 9 am - midday

Post AMC
20th October 2024
Yum Cha lunch
Optional Tours
Free Mensa testing for relatives of members

Updates, registration links and fees to be posted soon!



For the latest update:
info@mensadiamond.org
www.mensadiamond.org

from your executive committee

*from the Chairman,
Björn Liljeqvist*

Eclipsed: A summary of the IBD meeting in Dallas

Saturday, October 14, midday. A shade was cast upon the International Board of Directors, the IBD. It was the moon passing in front of the sun, making us all drop everything we were doing, leave the meeting room and walk out to the parking lot to watch a stellar spectacle unfold above our heads.

"Can this not wait", I thought to myself, "we're not finished ...".

But celestial bodies wait for nobody; of course we were finished. Once the meeting resumed after our ecliptic lunch break, it was already time for the next item on the busy agenda.

How else do you run a meeting on time? The chairman often has to interrupt people, tell them their time is up and to yield the floor to the next person on the electronic list of speakers. We are on a clock with decisions to be made.

50 people around a big table the shape of a horseshoe, deliberating for two and a half days. If we can achieve a fraction of the discussions we want, that is a success.

Linguistic and cultural differences create a unique blend of obstacles and opportunities. Yet it is always stimulating and invigorating and a way for the federation of Mensa to come together as one and plot the



path ahead.

Do read the minutes on the website which include summaries of all presentations and discussions.

We were served presentations on, to name a few, the vital provisional Mensa Indonesia, the Mensa News Team and their channel on Workplace, the Constitution Review process, Mensa Germany's regional organisation and the Mensa Foundation, mixed with small-group discussions on national Mensa challenges and successes, member rights and volunteer awards.

The social program arranged by American Mensa was a welcome balance to the busy work days. I particularly liked the visit to the Texas State Fair, complete with corn dogs and alligator jerky.

Summary of decisions made

- **Next IBD.** The 2024 IBD meeting will be in Perth, Australia. The 2025 meeting will be in Germany and the 2026 meeting will be somewhere in Europe to be decided later.

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The Sixth International Scientific and Professional Conference: “Working with the Gifted: Methods and Programs”

The Sixth International Conference “Working with the Gifted: Methods and Programs” was held in Novi Sad from September 29 to October 1, 2023. The conference organisers were Mensa Serbia, the Higher School of Professional Studies for Educators in Novi Sad, the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Novi Sad, and the National Centre for Talents.

The conference, which gathered 123 participants from six countries, was held at the University of Novi Sad Rectorate amphitheatre, with financial support from the Provincial Secretariat for Education of AP Vojvodina.

After five conferences whose themes related to defining giftedness, recognising the gifted, the role and importance of a stimulating environment for the development of the gifted, different social systems important for creating an ambiance in which the gifted develop, and the development of giftedness throughout the life cycle, this year we wanted to deal with specific methods, programs, and procedures that are stimulating for the development of giftedness and creativity in various fields and for the needs of different generations.

Believing that we had already gathered a significant number of experts who recognise and work with the gifted over the past years, we wanted to open a space for exchanging knowledge about techniques, methods, procedures, and programs that emerge, develop, and show results visible in the lives of gifted children, youth, and adults, and



which help them discover, develop, and realise their talents. Our expectation was that by professional exchanges and discussions on these topics, we would be strengthened for their application, thereby contributing to the visibility of good practices for working with the gifted.

Participants presented various ways in which they implement original, alternative teaching methods in kindergarten environments or schools, trying to engage students and children showing exceptional abilities. There was discussion about the profile of a teacher/educator needed to be a good mentor to a gifted student. There was also much talk about creativity and whether and how it can be stimulated and developed. Several participants covered the topic of modern technologies and artificial intelligence in teaching.

Workshops were designed for participants to get a little exercise – there was physical warm-up through a body

music workshop - and brain teasers for solving Escape Room and other logical tasks. One workshop also touched on the impact of modern lifestyles on the human body and its close connection with human productivity. State and other funds and initiatives were introduced, which have been supporting students with special abilities and interests for years – the Petnica Research Center and the Mihajlo Pupin Regional Talent Centre from Pančevo.

A particularly ceremonial moment was the awarding of the first “Gifted friendly” plaques, which the organisers intended for educational and other institutions that have been providing great support to the gifted for years, as well as those institutions that sent to the conference five of their employees who have at least one presentation at the conference. The plaque was awarded to the Regional Centre for Talents “Mihajlo Pupin” Pančevo, as well as the primary school “Jovan Sterija Popović”

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Travel with SIGHT

by Henkhenk Broekhuizen, International SIGHT Coordinator

As you probably know, SIGHT is for both stay-home members and travelling members.

SIGHT is the **S**ervices for **I**nformation, **G**uidance and **H**ospitality for **T**ravellers. Stay-home members can offer one or more services for members who travel, ranging from supplying (travel/local) information, via meeting for coffee or drinks and perhaps a meal, up to perhaps offering a place to sleep.

Travelling members in lots of cases like to get such information, meet with local people and perhaps also dive into the customs and habits of the population. For both groups it is very nice to meet with new people and meet more members. Lots of participants became - and stayed - friends.

To help travellers plan their trip, for a long time there has been a world map with hosts who volunteered to be on the map. It was started a long time ago by Göte, and in the last five years we have expanded the map more and more.

BUT, that map had a lot of disadvantages and shortcomings. The access control was not good enough, editing with multiple people was troublesome and one mistake could take out the whole map. And editing the map with just a handful of people became more and more a burden.

To ameliorate this, the first plans were presented to the IBD in 2019. A long list of required and desired

functionalities was drafted, looking at General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) policies and with safety in mind. Through a call here in the *MWJ*, a volunteer came into the picture, Emmanuel (Manu), a French member, with experience in such projects. After many months of work, the result is there - a better, much improved and safer new map for **SIGHT** hosts. A big thank you to Manu!!

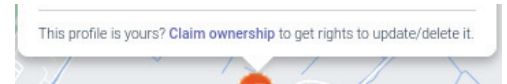
As was already pointed out in the newsletter, the new map is located at <https://thesightmap.org>. There you will see a login screen. You currently can use three ways to enter the map:

- 1) You have (or create) a profile at mensa.org and use the vanity address (first.last.countrycode@member.mensa.org)
- 2) If you have a National Mensa email address of any of the recognised formats (such as member@mensa.nl), you can use that too.
- 3) And if you were already listed on the old map, you can use the contact email address listed there. You can peek at bit.ly/sightmensa to see which address is listed in your profile.

You type in one of the above addresses and click. Next you will receive a magic link in your email to prove you are in control of that email address (valid for 20 minutes). Now with another click you login (for two days) and can look around on the new map. After two days you have to enter the

email address again and use the new magic link.

If you were on the old map, you are also on the new map. But, in order to make sure it is you, you can find your icon on the map, click on



it, and next click 'claim ownership'. Again a magic link is sent and when you click it in your email program, you have successfully claimed your profile.

Next you can edit your profile after selecting the icon on the map,



at left: 'edit this profile'.

In case there is an email address listed you do not control (anymore), or it is a **SIGHT** coordinator's email address, please contact your national **SIGHT** Coordinator. They can change the registered email address and make sure you now can login and edit the profile with the new address.

We hope the new **SIGHT** host map with enhanced security will lead to more people who would like to be on the map. If you have an email address as mentioned in 1) or 2) you can, after entering the map, create your host profile (round button left), with the details you'd like to share such as an approximate location, first name, and way to contact you as the minimum (such as email address).

And for looking and making contact, please do not forget the Mensa **SIGHT** Program Facebook group, founded by Andrea Schwelm: now with 5655 members.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/176942022394979>

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from Belgrade. The plaque was also awarded to the gold sponsor of the conference, Klett Publishing House, which, with its modern digital textbooks and other educational content, greatly supports educators who want to include modern teaching methods in their work.

At the very end of the conference, the issue of supporting the gifted was illuminated from the perspective of the gifted themselves – in the panel “Our Angle”, scholars from the University of Novi Sad participated, sharing their impressions of how even better support could be provided to students with exceptional abilities. The enthusiasm and extremely positive energy of these young people have encouraged participants and conference organisers to persist in their long-term struggle to create a more favourable environment for the gifted in Serbia, the region, and beyond.

The conference organisers are grateful to their partners – the Faculty of Education of the University of Belgrade, LINK Educational Alliance, UčenIQ association, Association of Educators of Vojvodina, and the Rectorate of the University of Novi Sad for supporting the realisation of the conference.

Special thanks go to the volunteers from Mensa Serbia and the Higher School for Educator Education in Novi Sad, who made sure the entire event was realised to the satisfaction of the participants. We also thank the official conference photographer Zorana Radosavljević for the wonderful photos that testify to the excellent atmosphere that prevailed in the Rectorate of the University of Novi Sad during the conference.

Aleksandra Borović

Photo: Zorana Radosavljević

Leadership Beyond Intelligence: The Critical Role of Emotional Intelligence in Leadership

by Taryn Dryfhout

Though leadership may be thought of as a role that requires traditional markers of success such as a high IQ, emotional intelligence plays a role that is far more compelling.

While a high IQ undoubtedly opens doors to leadership roles and the success that a person may have in the role, it is only when leaders embrace emotional intelligence (EQ) as a primary tool in their leadership, that they can understand what a pivotal role this plays.

Emotional intelligence is comprised of four core competencies. These are self-awareness, as well as an awareness of the emotions of others, self-management, and the ability to manage relationships. These skills equip leaders to foster genuine connections, lead with empathy, navigate interpersonal challenges with grace and resilience, and ensure that conflict resolution is carried out quickly and efficiently. Emotionally intelligent leadership also contributes to an environment where individuals can thrive and flourish as they carry out their tasks.

Emotional intelligence is now considered one of the most sought-after skills in the workplace, as research has shown that it is the strongest indicator of performance in leadership positions. In 1998, American psychologist Daniel Goleman told the Harvard Business Review that “The most effective leaders are all alike in one crucial way: They all have a high degree of what has come to be known as emotional intelligence. It’s not that IQ and technical skills are irrelevant. They do matter, but...they are the entry-level requirements for execu-

tive positions.” Whilst having a high IQ is helpful, and may help to secure a seat at the table, leadership qualities extend beyond the confines of a strong intellect, and IQ is by no means the sole determinant of successful leadership. Rather, it is EQ that is the cornerstone of exceptional leadership.

Leaders who lack emotional intelligence are more likely to find themselves at the centre of misunderstandings, and conflicts. Leaders who are emotionally intelligent are more self-aware, and use reflective practice to manage relationships and social situations. This equates to strong, collaborative teamwork, and a workplace, or team environment, where all employees feel heard and valued.

While a high IQ and technical expertise are important factors, there is also a growing consensus amongst experts and top leaders that EQ is crucial for leadership. In a class with MBA students in Florida in 2019, Warren Buffet stated that getting the highest grades in the class would not set them apart, as much as being a leader who embodies integrity, introspection, and empathy.

Similarly, Richard Branson argues that “being emotionally intelligent is more important in every aspect of life - and this includes business. Being a good listener, finding empathy, understanding emotions, communicating effectively, treating people well, and bringing out the best is critical to success. It will also help you build a business that really understands people and solve their problems, and it will make

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member profile

by Susan Jensen

American Archibald Hovanesian, Jr. has packed a lot into his 82 years of life, moving on to new experiences as soon as he masters the latest challenge.

Raised in Connecticut, in an Armenian-American family of bright, hard-working people, Archie's parents encouraged him to share his opinions. This quality got him into chronic trouble in school, landing him in the principal's office for contradicting teachers and 'showing off'.

Skipping two grades in elementary school tempered his boredom, but was a social disaster. Always the youngest, and unwilling to keep quiet, he was marginalised until attending Princeton University. At Princeton, he met many intellectual contemporaries but spent most of his time playing poker and winning bridge tournaments.

Withal, he became fluent in German and French and conversant in other languages, graduating *cum laude* with a dual major in Sociology and American Civilization.

After college, Archie entered Columbia Law School and hated it. He dropped out after one year and joined the Navy, following the path of his favourite uncle, a career Navy officer. Officer Candidate School felt like the first place he was allowed to think anything he wanted, so long as he was in uniform and marched without tripping.

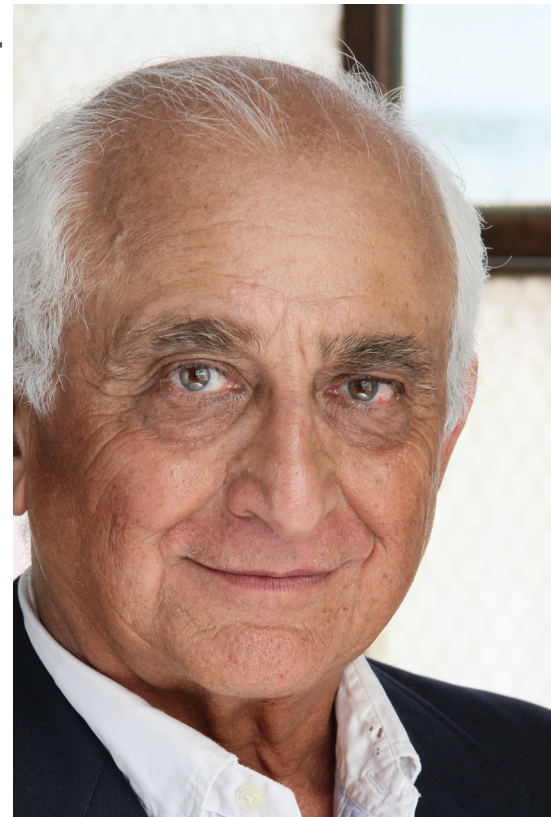
OCS was followed by Navy Justice School and a stint on an admiral's staff.

Itching for excitement, Archie volunteered for active duty in Vietnam, where he narrowly escaped death when a Vietcong sniper ambushed him and the sniper's weapon misfired three times.

At 26, back in the States and without direction, Archie finished a law degree at University of Connecticut (making Law Review). Following two unhappy years in a private law practice, Archie did a Harvard Master's Program at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, studying Arabic, Islamic Philosophy, Architecture, and Oil Policy.

For the next seven years he worked in Saudi Arabia, becoming a senior analyst at the Ministry of Petroleum in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and then General Counsel for a powerful private-sector Saudi business house.

Returning to the States, he joined the Capitol Hill Staff of Senator John Heinz. Concluding that politics was both an exercise in futility and kabuki, at age 35 he returned to his Martha's Vineyard Island home, becoming a real estate developer. He married and had two children there. His daughter Lindsay, 41, is a senior bank executive, with two incandescently bright children (who will not be skipping grades) and son Tyler, 41, runs his internet-based company. His former wife is deceased.



Throughout his life, Archie has been athletic, winning trophies in singles tennis, horseback riding, sportscar racing and competitive sailing, and has been very much involved in the arts - acting, writing and directing, mostly in community theatre. He is still involved in local theatre, both acting and directing, still playing tennis, skiing and sailing.

Archie passed the Mensa exam decades ago but didn't become a Mensa member until 2000. He has greatly enjoyed attending local and regional Mensa gatherings. Archie's willingness to try new things and explore new places is partly fuelled by his non-perfectionistic attitude of being happy just to be in the game.

SJ

Scientists Unveil Detailed Cell Maps of the Human Brain and the Nonhuman Primate

A group of international scientists has mapped the genetic, cellular, and structural makeup of the human brain and the nonhuman primate brain.

This understanding of brain structure, achieved by funding through the National Institutes of Health's Brain Research Through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies Initiative, or The BRAIN Initiative, allows for a deeper knowledge of the cellular basis of brain function and dysfunction, helping pave the way for a new generation of precision therapeutics for people with mental and other disorders of the brain. The findings appear in a compendium of 24 papers across Science, Science Advances, and Science Translational Medicine.

"Mapping the brain's cellular landscape is a critical step toward understanding how this vital organ works in health and disease," said Joshua A. Gordon, M.D., Ph.D., director of the National Institute of Mental Health. "These new detailed cell atlases of the human brain and the nonhuman primate brain offer a foundation for designing new therapies that can target the specific brain cells and circuits involved in brain disorders."

The 24 papers in this latest BRAIN Initiative Cell Census Network (BICCN) collection detail the exceptionally complex diversity of cells in the human brain and the nonhuman primate brain. The studies identify similarities and differences in how cells are organized and how genes are regulated in the human brain and the nonhuman primate brain. For example:

Three papers in the collection pre-

sent the first atlas of cells in the adult human brain, mapping the transcriptional and epigenomic landscape of the brain. The transcriptome is the complete set of gene readouts in a cell, which contains instructions for making proteins and other cellular products. The epigenome refers to chemical modifications to a cell's DNA and chromosomes that alter the way the cell's genetic information is expressed.

In another paper, a comparison of the cellular and molecular properties of the human brain and several nonhuman primate brains (chimpanzee, gorilla, macaque, and marmoset brains) revealed clear similarities in the types, proportions, and spatial organization of cells in the cerebral cortex of humans and nonhuman primates. Examination of the genetic expression of cortical cells across species suggests that relatively small changes in gene expression in the human lineage led to changes in neuronal wiring and synaptic function that likely allowed for greater brain plasticity in humans, supporting the human brain's ability to adapt, learn, and change.

A study exploring how cells vary in different brain regions in marmosets found a link between the properties of cells in the adult brain and the properties of those cells during development. The link suggests that developmental programming is embedded in cells when they are formed and maintained into adulthood and that some observable cellular properties in an adult may have their origins very early in life. This finding could lead to new insights into brain development and function across the lifespan.

An exploration of the anatomy and physiology of neurons in the outermost layer of the neocortex - the part of the brain involved in higher-order functions such as cognition, motor commands, and language - revealed differences in the human brain and the mouse brain that suggest this region may be an evolutionary hotspot, with changes in humans reflecting the higher demands of regulating humans' more complex brain circuits.

The core aim of the BICCN, a groundbreaking effort to understand the brain's cellular makeup, is to develop a comprehensive inventory of the cells in the brain - where they are, how they develop, how they work together, and how they regulate their activity - to better understand how brain disorders develop, progress, and are best treated.

"This suite of studies represents a landmark achievement in illuminating the complexity of the human brain at the cellular level," said John Ngai, Ph.D. director of the NIH BRAIN Initiative. "The scientific collaborations forged through BICCN are propelling the field forward at an exponential pace; the progress - and possibilities - have been simply breathtaking."

The census of brain cell types in the human brain and the nonhuman primate brain presented in this paper collection serves as a key step toward developing the brain treatments of the future. The findings also set the stage for the BRAIN Initiative Cell Atlas Network, a transformative project that, together with two other large-scale projects - the BRAIN Initiative Connectiv-

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At the 'Round Table' IBD Meeting

- **GLAM.** The inaugural Gathering of Latin American Mensas will take place, with some sponsoring from Mensa International. Host group: Mensa Brazil. Place: Rio de Janeiro. The goal is to kick-start what may become a recurring event just like the EMAG and AMG in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.

- **Expulsions clarification.** The IBD has clarified that local groups (or SIGs etc) cannot expel members from Mensa. Any such action does not carry over to the national or international level. Only national boards (or assemblies, depending on what the national rules dictate) can expel someone from Mensa altogether. Furthermore, expelled members are expressly forbidden from visiting Mensa events even as guests accompanying a member.

- **Unofficial groups on social media.** It was decided that Mensa International, MI, should address the problem of members who use the "Mensa" name without permission in groups on e.g. Facebook. This is very difficult to police in practice, because FB does not always hand over control of groups just because we ask, partly because our trademark is not owned by a single entity. There are, however, things that MI can do internally as well.

- **DIM Sum.** The fee for Direct International Membership was increased by 50% to £30, from



£20. Interestingly, the motion was initially set at £25, but following discussion this was amended by majority vote to £30. This is a nominal sum that can be lowered depending on the economic status of a country.

- **Trademark unification.** There is an agreement between American Mensa, British Mensa and Mensa International, to move towards uniting the rights to the trademark "Mensa" internationally under a single entity. Right now, the rights are split up between MI and a few national groups, for historical reasons, so no single entity can decide to use the Mensa name on a global level, for example in licensing deals. This split makes it harder both to effectively police illicit use of the Mensa brand, and to sign lucrative licensing deals with appropriate businesses (think games, puzzle books etc). The memorandum of understanding has already been in

place for a few years, but this was the first time the IBD formally expressed an opinion on the subject, thanks to a supportive motion from Mensa Germany.

- **Adaptive testing.** £85,000 was allocated for the project of norming the new adaptive online IQ test that will be offered to national Mensas. It is now being normed on a British population, but will offer a more convenient and sustainable way to test candidates for membership, compared to the pen and paper tests which have been the standard since Mensa testing began.

- **Paying for delegates.** From now on, IBD delegates will be required to participate throughout the year by voting on electronic ballots, in order to receive full reimbursement for travelling to the IBD meeting. The three days in October are important – but only a part of the

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actual work, with motions being debated and voted on also between meetings. The national Mensas are ultimately responsible for the conduct of their representative.

- Minimum per-member fee.

National Mensas pay 7% of their membership income to MI, and this is how MI funds its operations, including the office staff, trademark lawyers and the IBD meetings. Starting next year, however, a "floor" is added to the calculation so that the payment to MI starts at 7% of the DIM fee, around £2. To most groups this makes no difference – but it does impose a burden on national Mensas with a fee that is lower than the global median. Also, those who offer free memberships for whatever reasons, e.g. to children.

A reflection on value for money

The last points were hotly debated, but the majority voted in favour. Every group is supposed to contribute their fair share, and the IBD has to decide what that means. The groups with the highest dues and the most members subsidise, to some extent, the smaller groups and their participation on the IBD. Voting strength is based on the number of members, so from that perspective it makes sense to have a minimum amount per member. At the same time, a negligible amount in a wealthy country can be a cost to reckon with in another.

In any case, it was a discussion the IBD needed to have. Making something more expensive has its risks. Nonetheless, the more we become invested in something, the more we want to make it worth it. Along those lines, I felt there was a



At the Gala Dinner

subtle change of attitude developing at this meeting, summed up in the question: "How do we make sure our members get more value for this money?"

How indeed! The challenges to Mensa in the years ahead require solutions at the international level: adaptive IQ testing, easy member verification and quality online communities, international PR, leveraging the brand, charity and fundraising, advocacy for giftedness etc.

That last topic is dear to me. Yes, Mensa must steer clear of politics and avoid jumping on whatever bandwagon is the current thing. One cause is not like the others, though, for it is plainly stated in our own Constitution of Mensa: intelligence should be used for the benefit of humanity. Intelligence is real. We should go out and find it, and make the very most of it. This needs to be said, so let Mensa say it loudly in the years to come.

Final note

There is an election this year and I look forward to handing over the chairman's gavel to my successor, whoever he or she may be. My work is not quite done yet, but Dallas was my last IBD meeting as chairman. Since I first joined the IBD

as a regular delegate in 2007, there has been an evolution in how we do business, and how we think of Mensa International. Broader issues have come into focus. The organisation is not complacent, but rather impatient and eager to grow and realise its potential. To have played a part in this has been a dear privilege.

Floreat Mensa!

Björn Liljeqvist
Chairman, Mensa International

Would you like to
contribute to the
Mensa World Journal?
Articles, poetry and member
achievements are all
welcome!
Photographs must be
hi-res and sent as separate files
and not embedded in the text.

Send to
mwjeditor@mensa.org

supplementally... by John Blinke

Long Live Lithium

ScienceDaily, September 5, 2023.

“Efficient And Mild: Recycling Of Used Lithium-Ion Batteries.” (Angewandte Chemie)

We are going to be using a lot of lithium for the foreseeable future. We would like to recycle it, rather than putting it in dumps. But dissolving lithium in water is risky, to say the least. Scientists at the Institute of Chemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (ICCAS) are using aprotic organic solutions to do the job because they do not release hydrogen. The process can dissolve most of the lithium out of battery anodes and use the working solution as an ingredient in manufacturing new batteries.

In the Jungle

Science, October 7, 2023.

“Laser Mapping Reveals Hidden Structures In Amazon - With Hints At Thousands More.” (Sciencenone)

We are finding out that the Amazon jungle is not primeval forest. A great deal of it has been modified by human activity. The extent of the activity is not apparent to the eye, so scientists at Brazil's National Institute for Space Research gathered LIDAR scans that had been made for various purposes. They could not look at the entire 6.7 million square kilometers of Amazon jungle, but, extrapolating from the data in hand, they say there are probably 16,000 more earthwork sites to be discovered. One interesting datum is that domesticated plant varieties like Brazil nuts and rubber trees are often clustered near earthworks.



Bumble Rumble

ScienceDaily October 5, 2023.

“Bumblebees Drop To Shake Off Asian Hornets.”

Asian hornets like to hover outside bee nests and munch on returning workers, catching them in mid-air. This works fine on honey bees. But bumblebees are ready to rumble. If a wasp grabs a bumblebee, it will crash to the ground with its attacker and either shake the killer off or sting it. Bumblebees escape 100% of the time, as far as anyone can tell. Even so, their numbers tend to be smaller in areas where the wasps are present. Maybe the constant threat of attack interferes with their foraging.

Nourish the Beast

ScienceDaily, October 10, 2023.

“Powering AI Could Use As Much Electricity As A Small Country.”

Do you worry whether the electrical grid can support battery powered cars? Well, now you can worry about the power consumed by artificial intelligence, too. It takes immense amounts of power to train generative AI systems like Chat GPT. And then it

takes another bunch of power to run them. Of course, such systems become more efficient over time. But they also become more popular, more people use them, and power consumption continues to grow.

Artificial Cleverness

ScienceDaily July 5, 2023.

“AI Tests Into Top 1% For Original Creative Thinking.”

There is no escape. AI already knows more than we do. Now, with GPT4, it is also more creative than most of us. Researchers at University of Montana used a standard but proprietary measure of creativity — the Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking — to test ChatGPT along with 2,700 university students nationwide to see who was more creative. The results were scored by Scholastic Testing Service, which did not know AI was involved. The result: ChatGPT scored in the top 1% nationally, along with a few of the students.

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Heavy Metal

Smithsonian, October 17, 2023.

“Did Ancient Egyptians Know Meteorites Came From Space?” (Sapiens) Contributed by Stephen Darnell. King Tut had a dagger made of meteorite iron. Other ancient Egyptian royals owned iron marbles and amulets made from meteorite iron. Did the ancient Egyptians know the iron had come from the sky? Researchers at Harvard claim they did know. They point to references in Pyramid Texts, metaphors in the language, and myths that say the sky was a vessel of iron that held water and occasionally shed pieces that fell to Earth.

John Blinke

Photo (p11) by Dmitry Grigoriev on unsplash.com

Continued from p06

for a happier and healthier team, too.” Branson went on to say that “If I had let my IQ and my school grades determine my success, I certainly wouldn’t be where I am today.”

This new paradigm of emotionally intelligent leadership transcends high IQ. Leaders need to be equipped with both IQ and EQ to create not only organisational success, but to foster authentic personal and professional growth for every individual. Leaders equipped with EQ will steer their teams toward success and transformation by integrating emotional intelligence into the fabric of their leadership, and transforming the outcomes of every person they lead.

Taryn Dryfhout

Continued from p08

ity Across Scales and the Armamentarium for Precision Brain Cell Access - aim to revolutionise neuroscience research by illuminating foundational principles governing the circuit basis of behavior and informing new approaches to treating human brain disorders.

[nimh.nih.gov](https://www.nimh.nih.gov) October 12, 2023

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Therese's BRAIN TEASERS

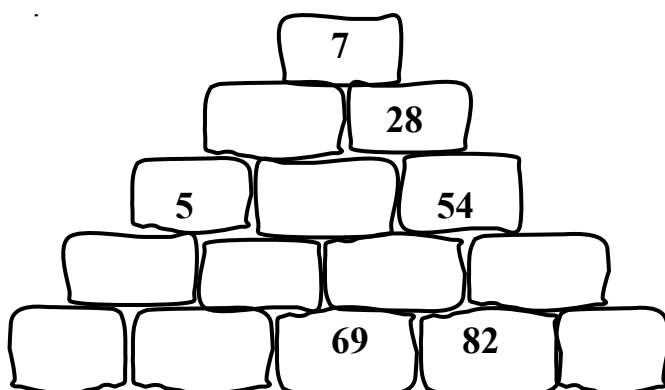
Cryptosum

Each symbol represents a different digit from 1 to 9. The sum of the digits in each row and column is shown. Find the sum of the numbers along the diagonal line starting from the top left-hand corner.

				18
				19
				23
				17
23	18	20	16	?

Cairn

The number on each stone represents the difference between the numbers in the two stones on which it sits. There is a two-digit number in each of the bottom stones, using the digits 0-9 once each.



Rebus

Musical crime?



Anagram Riddle

Seven letters have I, you can change them around, to spell words which vary by more than a sound:

- He lures a girl in, all ready to sin
- Safe and locked up, no danger therein
- Drops down the price to suit bargain bin

Now that you've solved me, which words have you found?

Elemental riddle

Start with aluminium; Add calcium, and phosphorus bold; Then oxygen, nitrogen and Ecstasy –not gold!

To discover the name of a gangster of old.

Crypto-writers

- Poet/playwright moves fruit back and forth before first edition
- Irish poet/playwright floundered as crow lied.

Answers

Cryptosum: 19 (9 + 5 + 1 + 4) **Cairn:** 74 30 69 82 15
Rebus: You're under arrest! **Anagram Riddle:** Seducer
 Secured Reduces **Elemental Riddle:** Al Capone
Crypto-writers: Shakespeare; Oscar Wilde

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