



D.Y.U. I.L.C. English Newsletter

ISSUE NO. 14

MARCH 2017

Written by Andrew
Christopher Edmunds

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

I.L.C.	1
Winter camp	
2017 Oscars fiasco!	2
History of the Oscars	2
Nintendo Switch	3
Platypus	4



Winter break 2017 saw the introduction of a brand new event on the I.L.C. schedule: Winter camp! A select group of highly motivated and skilled young students from all over Taiwan joined the English teachers of the I.L.C. for three days of intensive English learning, relating to a wide range of academic subjects. Topics discussed include: organization skills for backpacking, climate change, selling green products and Brexit. The meeting of such a great group of bright, highly motivated young people was invigorating for both the students involved and their teachers! At the end of the

I.L.C. Warms things up at Winter camp!!



three days, each student gave a full ten-minute presentation on a topic of their choosing, and it was a very impressive display of talent from these gifted youngsters! Here's hoping that an even bigger and more successful Winter camp can be held next year, and that this experience becomes a dominant fixture at the I.L.C!

**The 1st
I.L.C.
Newsletter
of
2017!**

Amazing drama during Hollywood's big night!

Wrong movie wins best film Oscar!

A very unusual mistake was made at this year's Oscars ceremony: the movie *La La Land* was mistakenly announced as the winner of the best film Oscar, as opposed to the real winner *Moonlight*!

Normally the Academy Awards, better known as the Oscars, is a tightly run and well organized affair. Every big name in Hollywood and the global film industry flocks to this special occasion, knowing that the eyes of millions of people around the world will be watching. The Motion Picture Academy, which hosts the event, spends over an amazing 40 million dollars each year to make sure that this night of glitz and glamour goes off without a hitch... This year, however, they failed!

At first, everything seemed normal. Previous Oscar winners Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway strode confidently onto the stage with the



famous red envelope in hand, ready to announce the biggest award of the night. Little did they know, however, that a mix-up back stage had left them holding the wrong envelope!

Beatty opened the envelope and quickly realized something was wrong, but fumbled on stage, prompting his co-host Dunaway to read out the name she saw on the card: *La La Land*! It turns out, the real winner was actually *Moonlight*, and the card was a spare copy of the last award.

Lets hope things run more smoothly next year, and this mistake is never repeated!



History of the Oscars



- The very first Oscars ceremony was held in 1929, and this great celebration of film has been held in Hollywood every year since then.
- There are 3 movies that share the honour of receiving the most Oscars: *Ben Hur*, *Titanic* and *Lord of the Rings: Return of the King*. They each won 11 Oscars!
- The official name for the Oscars is the Academy Awards. The nickname Oscar was coined in 1931 by Academy librarian Margaret Herrick. She claimed the little gold statue looked just like her uncle Oscar, and the name stuck!
- Meryl Streep holds the record for most Oscar nominations, with 20 nominations, and of these she has won 3.
- Currently, Oscars are awarded in 24 different categories each year.



2 ways
to Play!

Nintendo Switch
is here!



Launching this month, an amazing new entry to the video game scene is here: Nintendo Switch. This revolutionary new device is the first of its kind: a combined TV system and portable gaming device! This hybrid game system combines the amazing HD graphical power of a traditional TV system with the play-anywhere convenience of a tablet screen.

A crucial aspect of the Nintendo Switch are its two detachable controllers, known as Joy-Cons. These dinky little gadgets allow for complete freedom of movement while playing games, as well as immediate two-player fun wherever you go! The Joy-Cons can be used in a number of different configurations, even sliding into a handle to allow for more traditional gameplay styles. The most incredible thing about these cute little controllers, however, is the amazing array of technology inside, including motion control, HD rumble and an IR sensor!



Of course, a brand new videogame system is nothing without some great games to play, and in this regard the Nintendo Switch has a truly great ace up its sleeve: The Legend of Zelda. The latest game in one of the most popular videogame series of all time, The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild, launches alongside the Switch, and offers players the chance to immerse themselves in one of the largest and most beautiful digital environments ever created.

Players take control of Link, the Hero of Time, as they trek through the mysterious and dangerous land of Hyrule. Scattered across the landscape are the ruins of an ancient battle, leaving only clues to the great conflict that once took place. Here, wild beasts and violent goblin bands wait to attack Link. This game has already been heralded as one of the best games ever made, getting perfect scores from around the world, and proves the potential of Switch!

Australia's most unique animal!



Strange animal: Platypus!

Say hello to one of the world's strangest creatures, the adorable platypus! This creature appears to combine features from a number of others, such as the bill and webbed feet of a duck and the body and tail of a beaver. In fact, when the platypus was first discovered and a stuffed specimen was sent back by ship to London in 1799, scientists believed it to be nothing more than a hoax! It was not until some time later that a live specimen was returned to London, proving the animal to be real!

However, it is far more than simple looks that make this creature different! The Platypus is one of only five mammals known to lay eggs to reproduce. Moreover, it is also one of the only mammals which is venomous, defending themselves by using a spur on their foot to deliver a painful venom!

Why are platypuses so different to other animals? One of the reasons for this is to do with where they live: Australia. The continent of Australia is far away from all the other continents, as it separated from them many millions of years ago. This means that the animals living there have evolved separately from those in other parts of the world, and so many of them exhibit features from older animals that in other places have completely died out.

As you can tell from the looks of the platypus, they are aquatic mammals, meaning that they live and thrive in the water. Their thick fur is oily, and perfect for trapping air, which helps to keep them warm as they dive under the water. The main food sources for platypuses are small creatures such as worms, shrimp, insects and small fish, all of which they find underwater. Outside of mating season, platypuses live rather solitary lives, living alone out of burrows on the riverbanks. They have been known to live for up to 17 years!

Platypuses can be found in large numbers up and down the east coast of Australia, as well as in Tasmania, populating all manner of streams, rivers and lakes. Although the creatures were hunted for their fur until the early years of the twentieth century, and often used to accidentally get caught in fishing nets, they have in fact been protected under Australian law for more than 100 years. Lets say G'DAY to this amazing and unique Australian animal!

