



## Job For The Boys - What A Bunch Of Bankers



STAFF at Lehman's New York office who helped to cause the world's biggest corporate bankruptcy are to share in a \$2.5 billion bonanza. The bonus, which has been described by London staff as a "scandal" has been pledged by Barclays Capital, the British-based bank that last week acquired Lehman's American operation and took on 10,000 staff.

The \$2.5 billion (£1.4 billion) pot, which has been ring-fenced as part of the acquisition, has caused huge resentment among the 5,000 staff in the firm's European and Middle Eastern operations who are not guaranteed to be paid after this month. There are, however, hopes that half the jobs in Lehman's Canary Wharf office could be saved by either Barclays or Nomura. Bids are being submitted for its UK equities and investment-banking business. A Chapter 11 bankruptcy document filed by Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc says that Barclays has identified eight individuals out of the New York staff of 10,000 who are vital to make the deal succeed and a further 200 who are identified as "key". It is thought that these eight directors will be locked into two-year contracts worth between \$10m and \$25m a year.

The \$2.5 billion had been accrued as part of the contribution to Lehman's group profits for the first nine months of the year. Barclays said there is no obligation to pay it out but analysts say the competitive pressure to keep key staff means they will have to. Bob Diamond, president of Barclays Capital, said: "You can expect us to manage this with the same discipline and performance terms that we have at Bar-

Cap". The biggest bonuses are likely to be for Michael Gelband, the bank's global head of capital markets, and Eric Felder and Hyung Soon Lee, global co-heads of fixed income.

One London-based Lehman employee said: "It's an absolute scandal. I will never work for an American firm again. It looks like they are prepared to cut you off at the knees. Nobody from America has been in touch since we went into administration on Monday." Another said: "Every other financial institution has been saved, including Lehman Brothers in the US, but it's another story for the employees in Europe."

Lehman has attempted to demonstrate in recent years that it is a global united company. Its mission statement says: "We are one firm."

Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC), the administrator to Lehman's European operation has demanded that the firm repay £4.4 billion that was transferred from the UK to Lehman's US holding company just hours before the firm collapsed. This left London with no money to pay staff.

*Ed: Absolutely typical. The Yanks have done it again with little or no redress. Banking --- what a shambles. Pay them f\*ck all !!!!*



### In This Issue:

Ungulate In Trouble	2
Dickie Fruitcake	2
Travelling Gnome	2
Dutch Phallus	3
Atomic Bunny	3
Picture Gallery	4
Pantsdown Pub	4

## Visitors From Bangkok

Dropping into Pattaya for a couple of days, Tom and his partner Nim stayed at Lakeside Lodge whilst exploring the facilities of the Ocean Marina off Sukhumvit Road. Travelling around in a smart new red and white Mini Cooper 'S', they checked out properties in Bangsaray and Jomtien. Tom is hoping to find suitable berthing for his 70' charter fishing boat which is undergoing refurbishment in Sydney, Australia.



William, Nim and Tom

## Stop Assing Around

An Egyptian donkey has been jailed for stealing corn on the cob from a field belonging to an agricultural research institute in the Nile Delta, local media reported last week.

The ass and its owner were apprehended at a police checkpoint that had been set up after the institute's director complained that someone was stealing his crops, the state-owned Al-Ahram daily said.

The unnamed ungulate was found in possession of the institute's corn and a local judge sentenced him to 24 hours in prison. The man who had his ass thrown in jail got off with a fine of 50 Egyptian pounds (nine dollars or six euros). *Oh dear me*

## This Month's Celebrity Birthday

Happy Birthday

Where am I?



In the maternity wing of Bangkok Pattaya Hospital, again !!

Dickie Fruitcake



## Geography Notes



For all our overseas supporters and other interested readers, this is the longest name in Wales. It is shown at the Railway station.

**LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLLGOGERYCHWYRNDROBWLLLLANTISILIOGOGOGOCH.** *Ok, Try saying it !!!*

## Garden Gnome Goes On World Tour For 7 Months

They say travelling does wonders for your elf.

But Murphy the Gnome has been on a world tour to dwarf all others.

He was snatched from owner Eve Stuart-Kelso's garden - and returned seven months later with 48 photos of his adventures. They show the 10-inch leprechaun abseiling and hiking in New Zealand mountains, posing by Sydney harbour and taking a dip in Thailand.

With them was a letter to gran Eve explaining his absence. It read: "Whilst surveying your front garden one summer morning, I began to get somewhat itchy feet.

"There is more to life than watching the daily commuter traffic and allowing passing cats to urinate on you. So I decided to free myself from the doldrums of the Shire and seek



*Murphy On Tour*



adventure."

The pictures, put in an album, also show him on a Singapore cable car, visiting a temple in Cambodia, on a boat in China and standing in a shark's mouth. Other places he visited were South Africa, Mozambique, Swaziland, Vietnam, Hong Kong and Laos.

Tour guide Eve, of Gloucester, said: "I keep thinking how funny it is. It makes me smile to see all the people he met. The intriguing thing is someone went to such trouble to do this for a stranger."

But killjoy cops were not amused and said yesterday: "What may seem a laugh to one person can cause distress to another."

*Bah Humbug, typical Plod*

**Ancient Relic Due For Timely Makeover**

This historic symbol of infertility in Dorset, UK has suffered from recent heavy rainfall and is in need of restoration. The outline of the hugely endowed Dutch Phallus is made from chalk, but much has been washed away in recent downpours. Apart from the very rude head, most of the outline can be safely restored. Many a virgin come to offer alms, and other things, to this *Homo Erectus*, but none have yet found satisfaction.

*The Trentus Phallusman Erectus with the MWCC Club. Dating back 5 years at least, origins uncertain and location unknown.*



**Atomic Hopper**



Rabbits the size of dustbins are the latest plans by scientists exploring the need for world food. Gigantic bunnies to feed a family for a week are being genetically designed near Sellafield. Glowing luminous green at night, these lovable pets can sustain people on the bread line for several days. Specialist breeders say that the rabbits grow very quickly and can be easily domesticated. Although their warrens would immobilise most 4X4 trucks, the benefits are enormous. Owner of the giant above, Ms Lucy Capon said "They are so sweet. Spitweasel is only three months old and already gets stuck in the catflap. Only the other day, she saw off our neighbour's Rottweiler, Dungeon".

**Short Arm Inspection In Ladies Darts League**

A ladies darts team claim they were kicked out of a league because one of their players is a transsexual. Colliers B ladies have been told they have been thrown out of Cheslyn Hay women's league, near Cannock, Staffs, because of the language they used during matches.

But the players suspect it is because some opponents have complained about teammate Melanie Partlow, who used to be a man. The Sun reported Ms Partlow joined the side two years ago after an operation turned her from a married forklift truck driver called Mick.

She had the sex-change operation in Thailand after she and her then wife Sue won £250,000 on the lottery. The 57-year-old, who lost part of a leg after an illness, proved to be a star player and has helped the team win several cups.

Captain Leanne Gardiner, 29, suspects the team has been ousted because of Ms Partlow's past. She said: "They said there had been a vote by ten of the 12 teams in the league and they didn't want us in it. Melanie is feeling awful as it's pretty clear that it's down to her. The other plays often ignored her, but nothing was said to her face," she told the paper.

"We're all behind Melanie - it's disgusting what's happened." She said: "They all know about me and I answer every question they ask, including the one most people are scared to ask. "Most women are OK with me, but some refuse to shake my hand and won't touch me. It's daft because I feel as much of a woman as they are." A league spokesman said: "Some women do find her a bit off-putting, but it is the team's language that was the problem."

Farming these gargantuan bunnies could prove to be highly lucrative, especially as they can be spotted easily at night. Their coats are also valuable and would enable youngsters to walk home at night without needing torches or illuminated vests.

**Signs from across the World - other people's view on how they see things**



In Malawi, Beware - Dead Herd Ahead



Seen At An American Fitness Club

The Ministry of Agriculture, Farming, Fishing and Silly Walks wouldn't commit themselves, saying, "Its far too early for us to make any rational comment. We are not prepared to make assumptions as the Chancellor hasn't yet found a way to tax the owners. We are keeping an open mind on the project".

Meanwhile Spitweasel continues to enjoy growth in suburbia.



**Gash Galore At Melbourne Party Pub**



MELBOURNE (AFP) - An Australian pub has come under fire for offering free drinks to women who take off their panties and hang them on a rail above the bar.

The Saint Hotel in Melbourne promoted its offer as "No undie Sunday," with a notorious paparazzi picture of US singer Britney Spears getting out of a car wearing no knickers.

The advertisement in an entertainment magazine offers a free glass of champagne to women who "flash bra or undies to bar staff."

Those who go further and "hang your

undies on the line above the bar" win 50 dollars (40 US dollars) worth of free drinks.

Politicians and the hotel industry accused the management of sexism and "inappropriate" behaviour.

"In this day and age, in 2008, to be promoting the drinking of alcohol along those lines, I just think it's part of a bygone era," said Victoria state's acting Misery Guts, Rob Hulls. **Booooo!!**

The same hotel drew criticism in June when it employed a shirtless dwarf to pour shots of liquor down the throats of patrons.



**Off To The Pub**