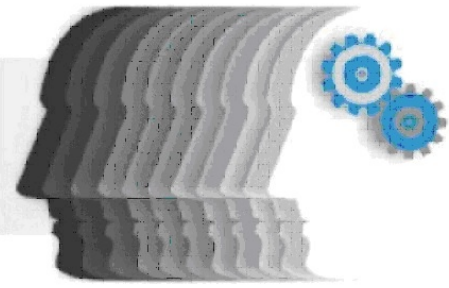


# MInd



*Mensa India Magazine, Sep-Oct 2022*



In this issue:

Puzzles, Crosswords & Quiz Corner	3
Writings & Meanderings	6
Pages from MWJ	7

Dear Mensans,

The cover photo the town of Annecy in France by – Rupesh Sangoi from Mensa Mumbai.

From the MWJ section, there is an interesting article about Graham Stremes from Mensa Germany; the 100-year-old man is perhaps the oldest Mensan.

We are continuing to have shortage of submissions for the magazine. Please continue sending your contributions.

Send in your articles and contributions in plain text format and pictures in high resolution .jpg format to: [editor@mensaindia.org](mailto:editor@mensaindia.org)

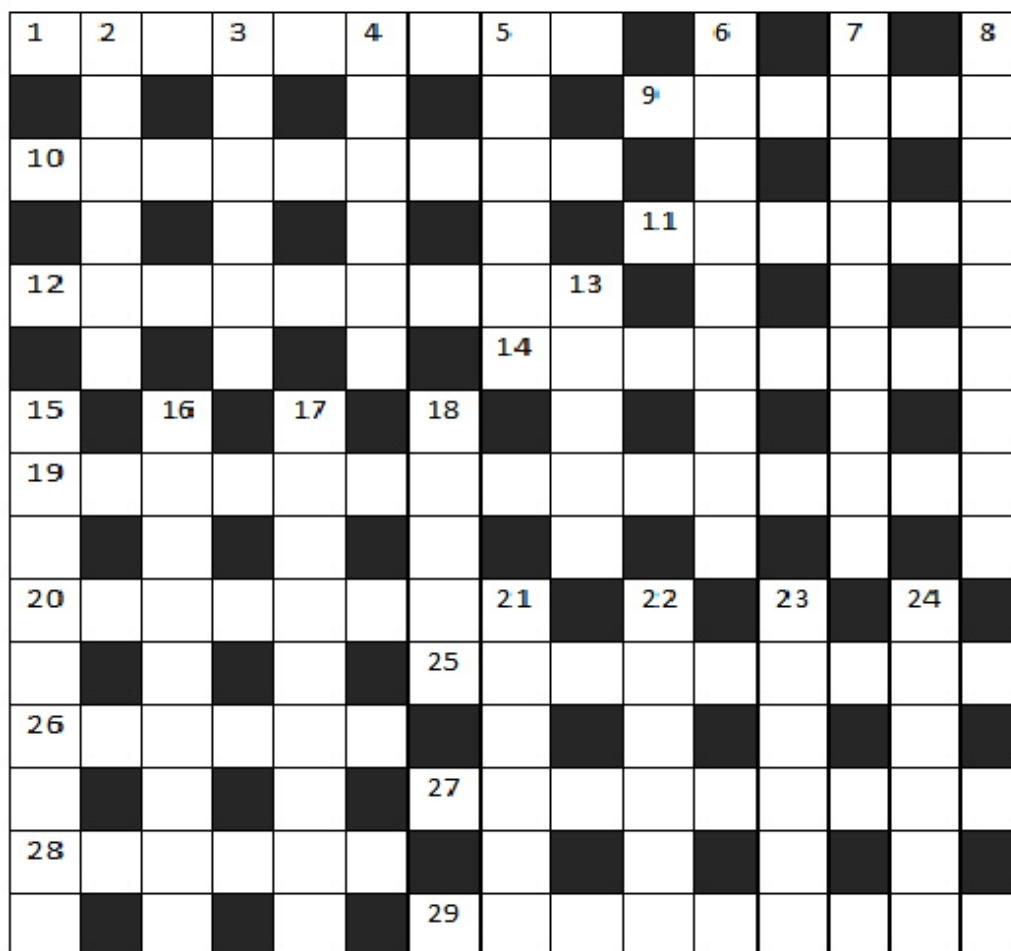
Krishnan V. Iyer  
Editor-in-chief, MInd

On the cover:  
The beautiful town of Annecy in France  
By Rupesh Sangoi, Mensa Mumbai

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# Puzzles, Crossword & Quiz Corner

## Crossword



## Puzzles, Crossword & Quiz Corner

### Clues

#### ACROSS

- 1) A set of five similar things considered as a unit.
- 9) Reddish brown organ; about the size of a fist.
- 10) One who prevents enlightenment or hinders the progress of knowledge and wisdom.
- 11) To help.
- 12) A firm durable fabric with a twill weave.
- 14) Make complaining remarks under one's breath.
- 19) Tour the country in order to solicit votes for an election.
- 20) Popular dance music of Brazil.
- 25) A person with the same name as another.
- 26) It stands on the River Thames in south-east England.
- 27) A unit for measuring the speed of a computer system.
- 28) Of or relating to the nervous system.
- 29) This spice is widely used in food preparation in India.

#### DOWN

- 2) The central, completely dark part of a shadow.
- 3) The back of the neck.
- 4) It was considered an appropriate celestial punishment for high sins and misdemeanors in Bible.
- 5) The way an instrument is tuned.
- 6) Runways
- 7) Opposed to citizenship.
- 8) Interpretation of mysteries.
- 13) A relative on the mother's side.
- 15) Low land that is seasonally flooded.
- 16) Used in nuclear reactors as a neutron absorber.
- 17) Unaffected by time.
- 18) Broadcast again, as of a film.
- 21) A long piece of cloth, worn by Hindu women.
- 22) Favor
- 23) A young eagle.
- 24) To put things in a pile.

Rashmi Garg  
Mensa Delhi

# Puzzles, Crossword & Quiz Corner

## Solution To Previous Issue's Crossword

<sup>1</sup> T	B	S	<sup>2</sup> P		<sup>3</sup> A			<sup>4</sup> B		<sup>5</sup> O	D	D	<sup>6</sup> S
O			<sup>7</sup> A	F	T	E	<sup>8</sup> R	C	A	S	T		H
R			R		T		A		C		I		I
<sup>9</sup> Y	<sup>10</sup> U	L	E		<sup>11</sup> U	Z	B	E	K		<sup>12</sup> C	X	<sup>13</sup> X
	F				N		B		U			Y	
<sup>14</sup> Z	O	M	<sup>15</sup> B	I	E		L		<sup>16</sup> P	U	<sup>17</sup> R	P	L
	L		E				E				Y		O
	<sup>18</sup> O	M	E	G	<sup>19</sup> A				<sup>20</sup> A	M	O	N	G
	G		C		A		<sup>21</sup> A				T		R
<sup>22</sup> W	I	T	H	E	R		N		<sup>23</sup> Y	E	S	M	A
	S				D		G		A				P
<sup>24</sup> P	T	A	<sup>25</sup> H		<sup>26</sup> V	A	L	O	R		<sup>27</sup> M	P	H
Y			O		A		I		D		E		E
R			<sup>29</sup> N	O	R	M	A	L	I	S	E		E
<sup>30</sup> E	D	G	E		K				E		<sup>31</sup> K	A	U

## Writings & Meanderings

### Trivializing the Epic, Dumbing Down Reality

Social media has brought us to a time when someone in the audience gets a big applause for just walking to the stage, helping the emcee in some minor task and walking back.

Now in public discourse, we hear 'amazing!' for things such as a good looking plate of food, 'awesome' for a mediocre piece of art and 'wow' for out of tune singing.

I realize that these expressions are meant to encourage others. However, the depreciation of such expressions has led to trivializing the truly epic. It also reduces our ability to discriminate between the really 'great' and the just 'nice'.

If you look at the majesty of Mt. Everest and use the same expression as you use when you look at a plate of food, it is trivializing the epic. If you use the same expression when you watch a volcano spewing lava or a dolphin elude a shark as you use when you watch someone decorate a room, you are trivializing the epic. So many other such cases.

The reverse is also true. Is a bad Whatsapp post characterized as 'shit' really equivalent to fecal matter? Does it literally stink?

And this brings us to the misuse of the word 'literally'. So often it is used to emphasize something rather than to describe something that actually happened. Think of the words you may have heard at some time; "Oh my God! I literally jumped out of my skin." If this was indeed so, one can expect the speaker to stand there skinless, showing his or her muscles, veins etc.

When did 'nice' become 'amazing'? When did 'good' become 'awesome'? When did 'terrible' become 'shit'? When did applause become trite?

These may appear minor matters but they say something about how we are evolving towards a reduced power of expression and a warped sense of appreciation or disgust. It is a depreciation of language and a sign of an arid vocabulary. It is our collective loss.

*- Kishore Ashtana  
President - Mensa Project Dhruv  
Former President - Mensa India*

## Pages From Mensa World Journal

### From The ExComm

I had a struggle deciding what to write about this month, given all the activities currently underway.



I could talk about the project to develop an adaptive IQ test for Mensa entry qualification - a test where each candidate gets an individualised sequence of problems, bringing significant benefits over current 'paper' tests. Put on hold during Covid lock-downs, this is now back on track. Then there's the Global member directory, and CRM system, Mensa International is planning to implement. Having surveyed National Mensas to identify the range of different systems currently in use, we have been reviewing our functional requirements with an external consultancy, specialising in systems for not-for-profit organisations, to shortlist a technology partner to work with.

However, you will hear plenty more about those as the projects progress, so I will talk instead about members and events (and a conversation I had recently with a couple of Chief Executives).

In common with many Mensa groups around the world, my own national Mensa, British Mensa, runs a varied programme of events in addition to supporting members with creating their own. There are, of course, our Annual Gatherings, which take place in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales and provide an extensive timetable of activities for attendees to participate in.

Always thoroughly enjoyable, these provide a wonderful opportunity to catch up with other Mensans and have some fun in the process.

Mensa at Cambridge is a four-day conference, attracting members from various countries, where high-profile speakers are invited to present on a pre-selected topic. The subject this year is "The Affects and Effects of the Virus" and our stellar line-up of speakers includes representation from academia, law, finance and education. Based in the scenic surroundings of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, it is sure to be a fascinating event (and speakers are warned in advance they will face some searching and insightful questions from their audience).

Designed for our younger members, the "Future Paths" Conference provides young Mensans with expert advice on the Oxbridge admissions process, as well as motivational speakers talking about various professions. Participants in the event, taking place at Worcester College, Oxford, should find it incredibly useful as they explore their university options.

Returning to that conversation I mentioned - not an event that we run, but one we both sponsor and enter a team into, is the CGI UK Challenge. Described as the "World's leading team building event", this annual event, in which up to 130 teams compete, provides a platform through which individuals can develop valuable skills and delivers lifelong memories and a strong sense of achievement for the participants. During seven stages, over three (long!) days, teams are presented with a series of serious mental and physical challenges

## Pages From Mensa World Journal

(running, swimming, cycling, kayaking, combined with a range of intellectual tasks to solve en route). This year's challenge took place on the Isle of Man, whose terrain provided a beautiful, natural, adventure playground.

For one of the stages, chief executives of the companies and organisations participating are invited to join their teams, so I joined Team Mensa tackling the challenges in that stage. That evening Cath Hill (CEO of British Mensa) and I were chatting with other CEO's. The 'Mensa' name was well recognised, and respected, by them but the first two we talked with both, independently, suggested 'You will surely do well on the intellectual challenges [quite right!] but won't your team struggle with the physical challenges?'. We very quickly disabused them of the idea!

One of the great things about Mensa is the variety in our membership. Yes, we have in common an IQ measuring in the top 2%, but aside from that members bring an enormous spread of skills, interests, and backgrounds. Between them our six team members had interests including performance arts and putting on improv shows, cooking, astronomy, philosophical debate, but also running half marathons, hill-walking, martial arts, cycling, competing in triathlons – and the team certainly proved that Mensans can combine both brains and brawn.

To quote one of the team talking right after the event "Physically, mentally, emotionally, gruelling, but I had such a great time; I felt I had learnt so much, and such a great opportunity to bond with such a great group of people from really different backgrounds, but we are all Mensans and that has been the main thing that brought us together and allowed us to go on this great adventure".

Mensa provides plenty of opportunities – be sure to join us in some of the adventures...

Chris Leek

### What's In The MJW This Month

- on p03, British Chair, Chris Leek, gives us an insight into some of the events back on this year in the UK.
- ever wondered why you feel emotional when you read poetry? The latest research into this is on p04.
- on p05, Swedish Mensan, Vendela Normark Granetoft, tells us how SIGHT made her dream come true.
- Irish Mensans had been waiting a long time to have their 2020 Annual Gathering which finally took place this year!
- our Member Profile this month on p07 features Polish member Kasia Przybyla who has invented a unique, inexpensive way to provide potable water to the many parts of the world which lack sufficient clean drinking water.
- on p09, a new model sheds light on how we learn motor skills.
- Supplementally is on p10, the Officer Directory is on p11, and Therese's Teasers are on p12.

Happy reading,  
Kate

Read /download the full-colour MWJ at [www.mensa.org](http://www.mensa.org)

Kate Nacard, Editor

## Pages From Mensa World Journal

### **SIGHT - a 'flower-power' experience**

*For years I had dreamed of going to the Netherlands during the 'tulip bloom'. To see those fantastic, sumptuous fields in all their magnificence of colour, and being completely surrounded by flowers; to glide on a bicycle at a slow rolling speed along the canals, and embrace to be overwhelmed... it was time for me to put dreams into action!*

I contacted SIGHT in the Netherlands and asked if there might be any local Mensans who wanted to hang out for a bike tour or meet for a chat. And maybe if there were suggestions on good accommodation. I had discovered with dismay how Easter-celebrating tourists made the hotel prices rise to a level that jeopardized the entire trip.

Henkhenk (co-coordinator of the Mensa International SIGHT programme) responded very promptly to my email and extended my request to SIGHT volunteers. How lucky I was!

Daan lived in a tenant-owner association and suggested a stay in the guest apartment in his house that could be rented for a very reasonable amount of money - perfect! He also helped me with where I could rent a bike and with invaluable information on how I should behave along the bike paths in the Netherlands.

In total, I met four different Mensans of varying ages that really gilded my journey. Imagine the luxury of having the city explained to you in a lasting city walk, and being able to pay a visit to a farm (running their own cheese production) where one of the Dutch Mensans worked. Generous people who shared their company and time!

Even though these persons were previously completely unknown to me, the feeling of affinity soon appeared in the meetings. Different life stories and different conditions, but that red, Mensan thread was so clear. 'How very Mensan of you' became a frequently used expression when we laughed at recognition factors.

Heading home, I brought memories for life and a slight exercise pain in my arms from manoeuvring the heavy bike in the intersections to be able to follow another flower field, another canal. I just could not get enough of all the beauty.

SIGHT is a valuable benefit we have within Mensa, and I would like to recommend it. Maybe something you want to use when you travel yourself? Or do you want to contribute with local knowledge for those who visit your country? This is enriching from both perspectives with the opportunity for exciting meetings and new friends.

Vendela Normark Granetoft,  
Mensa Sweden

SIGHT IS AN ACRONYM MEANING SERVICE FOR INFORMATION, GUIDANCE, AND HOSPITALITY TO TRAVELLERS. SIGHT CONNECTS MENSANS WHO WANT TO MEET OTHER MENSANS. SOME TRAVEL THEMSELVES WHILE OTHERS GIVE ADVICE TO TRAVELLERS.

## Pages From Mensa World Journal

### **The Long-Awaited Irish Mensa Annual Gathering**

*After two cancellations due to the Pandemic, organiser Anthony Phelan breathed a sigh of relief when IMAG 2020 in Waterford finally took place in 2022. Many of the IMAG regulars from both Ireland and abroad attended, along with several new IMAG-ers for some of whom it was not just their first IMAG but their first Mensa event.*

While during the weekend many social events were held, the Financial and Committee reports were made available to members and an open Q & A session was held at the end of the meeting.

All in all it was a very positive meeting, and “we were delighted to be able to recognise our members who undertook volunteer activities in the organisation throughout the year.”

The activities started on Friday morning with a tour of Viking sites within the city, while a guided walking tour in the afternoon introduced us to the main part of the city centre, taking us to the less well-known locations, up side-streets and behind more modern buildings.

Next was Reginald’s Tower, a structure that has had many functions over its 800 year history, including a mint, a prison and family home. The craft beer event that followed turned out to be, not just a beer-quaffing session, but an educational tour with explanations of the processes, the history of brewing in the area, and the ingredients.

The Friday night Icebreaker featured the traditional Icebreaker game, designed to get people to meet one another and encourage new participants to meet those who have been attending IMAGs for rather longer. The game this year was based on the current Wordle craze and helped by generous Guinness consumption, caused much hilarity. Late night poker followed and continued well into the early hours.

The Saturday morning parkrun to blow away the previous night’s excesses saw a small group running the picturesque course through the Waterford Nature Park, returning to the city centre in time for the Waterford Crystal tour. Here the glass is made, blown and cut on the premises and the glassware is exquisite. A lecture on Waterford history and the now-ubiquitous Escape Room visit rounded off the morning.

Waterford Treasures of the Viking Triangle, the Medieval Museum and Bishop’s Palace started Saturday’s afternoon programme, followed by a treasure hunt to locate features around the city. IMAG’s trademark pubcrawl then took us to several excellent establishments, after which a quick change into glad rags for the Gala Dinner prepared us for the evening’s festivities. Sunday’s coach tours included a trip on a heritage railway, a visit to a former copper mining area and a guided tour of an Irish country house.

In the evening, there was a choice of three restaurants for dinner, after which a light-hearted quiz awaited us back at the hotel. Monday saw visits to two new museums in the city, then it was lunch and farewells.

Huge thanks to Anthony and all his helpers for the weekend – it was worth waiting for!

IMAG happens on the May Bank Holiday weekend and next year we have the 50th anniversary of the founding of Mensa in Belfast to celebrate – do join us!

Judy Hewitt, Irish Mensa

## Pages From Mensa World Journal

### Recruiting Expertise

**Australian Mensa has a proactive recruitment programme, which encompasses marketing and testing. It is headed by Teresa Wong, who is based in Sydney and has developed an initiative called Australian Mensa School Affiliate (AMSA), where schools can become affiliates after approval of their objectives in fostering intelligence and giftedness. AMSA schools also encourage their students to apply for testing at a discounted rate, so Australia has enjoyed renewed success in recruiting eligible candidates.**

From attendances at European Mensa Annual Gathering (EMAG) development committees, Teresa learnt of other Mensa nations' efforts in school recruitment. As the Australian membership is comprised of approximately 30% child members, she was keen to promote to schools.

Australian Mensa (AM) believes that traditional advertising is no longer very effective, so developing brand awareness at grass roots is essential. Expanding Mensa membership now requires innovative online strategies.

Having negotiated and promoted Mensa in the Australian TV series, Child Genius (initially a British initiative), Teresa was shocked that 70% of parents of Child Genius applicants were totally unaware of Mensa's existence. Commercial programmes may not always reflect Mensa's objectives, but they do enliven public interest.

Crimson Global Academy (CGA) is an international online school for high achievers, and became an AMSA affiliate in 2021 because some Australian Mensa students were already attending, and its founder was a New Zealand Mensan. CGA promotes Mensa to their students on the 'About Us' page [https:// www.cga.school/au/our-school/](https://www.cga.school/au/our-school/) and in their blogs.

Parents were delighted as a good number of our students have since taken up courses and CGA's 10% discount on their highly-regarded courses. The CGA webinars are well received via AM's Parents Facebook pages.

Recently Teresa was instrumental in securing a total of AUD100,000.00 in scholarship funds, which CGA is offering for free tuition to some 20 students. Courses are worth around \$5,000 each and candidates apply to CGA directly. There are no conditions attached, other than candidates being current members of Mensa.

Should the results of this scholarship be successful, CGA is willing to roll out scholarships worldwide to Mensa nations! Contact Teresa if your nation is interested.

It was MIL's LEAP (Leadership Exchange Ambassador Programme) initiative that inspired Teresa to become Australian Mensa's Recruitment Officer.

She also grew to appreciate how other nations used technology to reach remote members. So Zoom was introduced to AM, long before it was needed for social distancing!

If you wish to know more about the AMSA recruitment initiative, and the potential CGA scholarships for your child members, please contact Teresa Wong: [recruitment@mensa.org.au](mailto:recruitment@mensa.org.au)

## Pages From Mensa World Journal

### From The ExComm

#### Pandemic consequences



In the May 2021 issue I wrote about pandemic challenges and at the end I concluded “For the longer term I sincerely hope that we all can soon have our old good life back and leave the pandemic behind.” That, unfortunately, was a bit overoptimistic. I have meanwhile had four vaccinations and I am planning on getting a fifth by the time you read this and the virus shows no signs of slowing down the process of mutation.

Mensa International is preparing for their first in-person IBD meeting in Montenegro after three very impersonal online meetings, and everyone I spoke to is very much looking forward to meeting again face to face. These real life events have definitely another quality than on-line meetings with many valuable informal talks during coffee breaks and meals. I am sure that I am not the only one who was seriously missing these personal quality contacts. There will finally also be the precious chance to get to individually meet the new representatives around the table.

Mensa Germany suffered in a similar manner: the AGM in 2020 was cancelled altogether and the 2021 and 2022 AGMs were organized with much effort and at great cost on-line. But the amount of preparation needed and the considerable cost was not the only disadvantage: the meeting length extended both years over two days and we still did not manage to cover all points on the agenda, which means that we are building up a growing pile of issues to be dealt with by future AGMs. While in a real life meeting voting a motion may be almost instantaneous when there is an obvious majority of raised hands, it takes at least three to five minutes in an on-line event. Displaying the text to be voted on, setting up the vote, giving everyone a fair chance to cast their vote and displaying the results takes some time, not to speak of questions and points of order raised during the process.

There is another interesting experience we have drawn from two years of on-line AGMs regarding the number of participants: in “normal” years our annual gathering attracts between 800 and 1500 Ms and 200 to 300 of those typically attend the AGM. With a total of over 16,000 Ms in Germany we had expected a much larger participation in the on-line AGMs as one did not have to travel to the location of the event but could conveniently participate from home. In fact, in 2021 we had initially over 500 registered Ms, but during the course of the two day meeting the number of participants that voted motions and points of order decreased to less than 300. In 2022 we started the meeting with much fewer registered Ms than in 2021 where many had perhaps registered out of curiosity only and then quickly lost interest. Over all we are back down to the typical participation that we have experienced before the pandemic.

On the more positive side of things I am happy to report that Mensa Germany is planning to hold the AGM in April 2023 again as a real life meeting, perhaps with the option of additional on-line participation.

Peter Fröhler  
Mensa Germany

## Pages From Mensa World Journal

### **What's In The MWJ This Month?**

- on p03, ExComm member Peter Fröhler shares his observations on the differences between face-to-face meetings and the online meetings during the pandemic.
- an interesting article on whether 'data is the new oil', written by member Arndt Schmitz, is on p04.
- p05 brings us a report of the 2022 European Mensa Annual Gathering (EMAG) in Strasbourg.
- is 100 y-o Graham Stremes Mensa's oldest member? p06
- on p07, our Member Profile this month is Dan Buck from US Mensa.
- two articles on recent research studies into the workings of the brain are on p08.
- on p09, I've put my pen to paper with another 'Words...' article - the first for quite a while!
- John Blinke brings us Supplementally on p11, and on p12, Therese Moodie-Bloom dazzles us with more brain-teasers.

Happy reading,  
Kate  
Editor, Mensa World Journal

Read /download the full-colour MWJ at [www.mensa.org](http://www.mensa.org)

Kate Nacard, Editor

## Pages From Mensa World Journal

### **EMAG 2022 – in beautiful Strasbourg**

*Under the benevolent eye of the funambulist statue above, we can listen to the sound of a ukulele and the cheerful voices of friends crossing paths. Here is the nerve centre of EMAG 2022. For five days, the Ciarus hostel, located in Strasbourg city centre, will be animated by 735 Mensans from 35 different countries.*

The first major event is the Icebreaker on Wednesday evening at the brewery LeTigre. Groups gather inside the bar as well as in the large inner courtyard. Passionate discussions take place while the cooks prepare hundreds of Flammenkueches until everyone is full and happy. The night will be long and the wake-up call difficult for some the morning after. But once we're awake, we climb stairs to the floor dedicated to the lectures given by our talented Mensan friends - an opportunity to deepen our knowledge, to reflect and sometimes even to change our way of thinking about a subject. Intelligence, languages, environment; the variety of covered topics is wide. And here, rooms are available 24 hours a day. This offers the possibility of a meeting or an improvised workshop.

On Friday, we attend an organ concert and a guided tour of Strasbourg cathedral. The building has the distinction of having been the highest in the world between 1647 and 1874. The place is privatized for us. Sitting in the nave, we vibrate to the regular rhythm of the counterpoint, subjugated by the powerful bass of the instrument.

The next day, the pace of activity slows down as the gala dinner approaches. At around 6:00 p.m., we can see groups of women dressed in gala clothes and wearing sneakers in city buses, because to reach the Josephine Pavilion where the reception will take place, we must first cross the gardens of the Orangerie. Once there, the ladies swap their shoes for an elegant pair of high heels.

The storks, symbol of Alsace, fly over the roof before coming to land in their huge nest, their majestic silhouettes standing out in the falling night. Then, the façade of the building lights up and the time of speeches has come. Cédric Markgraf, chair of Mensa France and project leader of the EMAG 2022, takes the stage, a little moved, and invites the core team of volunteers to join him, grateful for this year and a half spent working side by side to make it all possible. Then, with a glass of wine in hand, we witness a parade of victuals that we taste with delight.

And it is with a heavy heart that we meet one last time on Sunday morning for brunch. We say a few kind words, we hug, and we tell each other: "See you soon". Until next year. See you in Rotterdam, for a new meeting full of beautiful promises and adventures.

### **Mensa's oldest member?**

*Sometimes 100 years might not seem like enough time to fit in all of the things you want to accomplish in life. Somehow Graham Stremes has managed to fit things in, but still has more to do.*

## Pages From Mensa World Journal

Graham was born on November 15, 1921 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and at 100 years of age, is Mensa Canada's (and possibly Mensa International's) oldest living member - and is still going strong.

Graham's parents moved the family from Saskatoon to Ottawa in 1924. Other than a few years after WWII in Europe, he has lived there ever since.

"Stremes" is a centuries old English name and Graham uses the original spelling (he has, after all, been around for a full one of those centuries), and its meaning is "the rays of the sun". Graham's father arrived in Canada from London, England as a young boy, and presumably was a ray of sunlight like Graham.

In 1941 the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) offered Graham and his classmates a deal: join the RCAF and the final year of their high school would be considered to have been successfully completed. Graham and a number of his classmates thought heading off to Europe to defeat Hitler (and not having to go back to Lisgar Collegiate) sounded like a good deal and headed to the RCAF recruiting station to join up. While some of his peers ended up in the RCAF, Graham wasn't as fortunate – a minor physical issue caused him to fail the medical exam and he was rejected as being "unfit for any service".

That wasn't the end of Graham's uniformed ambitions though. He then went to work in the Ottawa headquarters of the Boy Scouts of Canada. As he was working in the stores department and they published a catalogue, Graham was featured in print that year in Rover Scout uniform.

Having had some minor surgery done, Graham tried to join the RCAF once again in 1943. This time they told him his eyesight wasn't good enough for air crew but he would qualify for ground crew. That didn't appeal to him but he did manage to make it into the Royal Canadian Artillery (RCA) Survey Wing. This was somewhat a privileged group, consisting of recruits who seemingly had higher intelligence (or, at least better than average mathematical abilities).

It took a while to train as an artillery surveyor and by the time he got to Europe with the 1st Artillery Survey Regiment it was the second week of May 1945. May 8th saw Germany's surrender, so the Regiment spent some time in the Netherlands "supervising" German forces' withdrawal through the port of Den Helder to Hamburg and other ports.

With no artillery surveying to be done, the 1st Survey Regiment was disbanded and Graham was posted to the 23rd Field Regiment in the eastern Netherlands. This involved sleeping on straw in a former cattle barn and chatting in German with the farmer's daughter, their common language. After that, Graham was posted to England until mid 1946, when he was shipped back to Canada.



Things progressed for Graham after returning to Canada. He didn't go to university but had a career in Canada's Export Development Corporation (EDC) and its predecessor, the Export Credits Insurance Corporation, through a series of good data and accounting positions, all without a university education.

While working at EDC in 1979, Graham decided to take the Mensa test and was "overwhelmed" by the score he received. As he said at the time, "If I didn't know it was true, I wouldn't believe it". Since joining Mensa, Graham says he has met many interesting people

## Pages From Mensa World Journal

and he has contributed by writing a few articles for MC 2 (Mensa Canada's national magazine) along the way.

He married the love of his life, Amy, in 1950 and had two boys David and Carl, who with their wives Elaine and Joanne, have done much to aid him in his search for longevity.

He had over 70 years of marriage with Amy before she passed away from Alzheimer's in April 2021 as he held her hand for the last time. He had moved into an assisted living residence with her eight years previously so that she would not be alone, and as she needed the level of care they could provide. He wrote an article "My Tribute to Amy" which appeared in the July 2020 edition of MC 2 .

So, at 100 years old what does Graham do for fun? It's true – he does not play a lot of tackle football! He says that he has a great interest in world events and he spends a lot of time keeping up to date with them. When asked what his next goal in life is, he says it's just to keep going and he definitely plans to hit his 101st birthday!



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