

# **mensa world journal**

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**NOVEMBER 2023 | EDITION | 130**



***Inventor  
Peter Shann  
Ford  
p5***

**MENSA INTERNATIONAL**

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

**[https://bit.ly/MI\\_welcome](https://bit.ly/MI_welcome)**

*from the editor...*



Hi All,

- *this month's issue is 16 pages due to including the abridged financial accounts for 2022*
- *on p3, our Treasurer Jacek Cywinski outlines our financial position; you'll find the abridged accounts for 2022 on pp10-13.*
- *a report of Mensan Peter Shann Ford's life's work and inventions is on p5*
- *sadly, our Honorary President Udo Schultz passed away in August. A tribute to him from Mensa Germany is on p6*
- *elections for our Executive Committee (ExComm) are coming up next year. The official notice inviting nominations is on p7*
- *our Member Profile is on p8, and on p9 we have a report of a glorious time in Copenhagen written by American Mensan (and Profiles Editor), Susan Jensen*
- *John Blinke's Supplementally... is on p14, the Officer Directory is on p15, and Therese's Teasers are on p16.*

Happy reading!

*Kate*

Log in to [www.mensa.org](http://www.mensa.org) to read or download the MWJ in full colour

## Silvensa 2023 Belgrade, Serbia

Silvensa is an international New Year's Eve event for members who want to celebrate December 31st (New Year's Eve) together!

Silvensa has existed since 2014 and so far has been organised in Warsaw, Vienna, Maas-tricht, Bratislava, Marseille and Cluj.

Every year Mensans from Europe come to spend time with other Mensans and take part in planned activities.

This year, it will be held in Belgrade, Serbia, from **December 28th, 2023 to January 1st, 2024.**

**Program:** NYE Party, Ice Breaker, Farewell Brunch, museum visits, sightseeing tours etc. More activities will come later; follow us on our networks!

More info about the program, activities, prices and accommodation on:

- our website: [www.silvensa.org](http://www.silvensa.org)
- by email: [2023@silvensa.org](mailto:2023@silvensa.org)
- our FanPage on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/silvensa/>
- WhatsApp, Telegram, Messenger, Facebook group

**articles - poetry - member achievements**

**Send your submissions**

**to the Editor at**

**[mwjeditor@mensa.org](mailto:mwjeditor@mensa.org)**

*Please send your contribution as an MSWord file and please include a hi-res photo to accompany the article. The photo must be sent as a separate file and not embedded in the text.*

*Deadline for each issue is the 1st of the month two months before publication. Eg, the deadline for the January issue is November 1.*

from your executive committee

from the Treasurer,  
Jacek Cywinski

Hello! It is me again with an update on Mensa International finances. I want to focus on the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022, as a final version of the budget for 2023 will be available after the 2023 IBD meeting in Dallas.

Moreover, I would like you to come to Australia in October 2024 for two amazing events – details at the end of my column.

**2022 Financial statements**

Independent auditors issued their opinion that they are satisfied that our financial statements were prepared in accordance with required standards and legal requirements, and that they represent a true and fair view of the state of Mensa International Limited's fiscal affairs as at 31 December 2022, and of its profit for the year then ended.

That essentially means that someone independent, who is suitably qualified and experienced, audited our financial statements and they did not identify anything concerning. By the way, it never means full assurance. I will share with you the most important highlights.

Firstly, let's focus on our Profit and Loss. The income statement for the year ended 31 December 2022 shows a healthy surplus of 58,883

GBP, with revenue sitting at 371,802 GBP and costs at 312,919 GBP. Although our component income has increased by 7% in comparison to the 2021 financial year, we have earned less money from our trademark, due to expiry of the Hasbro contract.

On the expenses side, the highest cost is running the Mensa International Office (36%), followed by legal and name protection expenses (30%) and organisation of the IBD meeting (21%).

Secondly, let's discuss our balance sheet. Our net assets increased by 7%, which is mostly reflected in growth of balances of our bank accounts. As of 31 December 2022, Mensa International had 1,055,414 GBP in bank accounts (almost double the amount we had on 31 December 2019), which shows that we have accumulated a healthy level of reserves over the last three years.

That makes the organisation well-cushioned in case of any unexpected "turbulences" and prepared for major projects, such as the CRM



or adaptive testing.

**2023 – the year in progress**

There is still a lot of uncertainty regarding the 2023 financial year, which should be partially resolved by the time you will read this information in the *MWJ*. Mainly, we are unsure about the cost of travel to the IBD meeting in Dallas. I'm sure you are aware that cost of travelling has skyrocketed, which doesn't help with making predictions. Additionally, some delegates cannot make their travel arrangements early due to a variety of other commitments, which increases the uncertainty. While the majority of the travel expenses claims are received by the

Continued on p04

end of October, some delegates will file their reimbursement claims in December 2023. Just a bit of trivia here – we will not accept any late claims (the cut-off date is 15 January 2024).

**2024 IBD meeting in Perth**

Next year’s IBD meeting will be organised in Perth on 10-13 October 2024. As an across the ditch neighbour (that’s how New Zealanders refer to Australia), I would like you to pencil in this event. You can combine it with the Australian Mensa 60th Diamond Jubilee hosted in Sydney on 18-20 October 2024. I guess any reason to visit Australia is a good reason, but I can assure you that you will have an amazing experience. I have been to Australian Mensa Conferences multiple times, and they are always well-organised and planned, and reasonably priced. I just got back from the conference in Melbourne and it was so worth it, even if I was just there for a weekend.

Local Mensans are very friendly and you definitely can count on interesting discussions or a party, whatever rocks your boat.

Thank you for your time. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Have an amazing day!

**Your Treasurer**

**Jacek**  
[treasurer-mil@mensa.org](mailto:treasurer-mil@mensa.org)

**NB Please find the abridged accounts for 2022 on pp10 -13**

**There Was an Old Woman**

*There was an old woman who lived near a zoo  
With critters in cages from aardvark to zebu.  
The noises they uttered with their caterwauling  
Were loud and annoying and truly appalling.*

*She frequently wrote to the district zoo board  
Complaining to them of the din she abhorred.  
Her letters deplored the sounds there emitted  
Which led them to think that she was half-witted.*

*She went to a lawyer and soon after sued them.  
Her unforeseen lawsuit really unglued them.  
She got an injunction to oust noisy critters  
And now she no longer suffers the jitters!*

*Arthur J. L. Salvas  
Mensa Canada*

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**in full colour**

*what’s on...*



**Mensa Slovenia Ski Weekend**  
**January 19-21, 2024**  
**Pohorje, Slovenia**  
**Information:** [ski@mensa.si](mailto:ski@mensa.si) or join our Facebook group: Ski Weekend Mensa Slovenia Pohorje 2024 (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1322122435371630>)

**Far and Bright 2024**  
**Benin and Togo**  
**January 21-24, 2024**  
21-27 January 2024 (with optional Togo add-on 28-30 January 2024)  
Fun trips with your favourite bright friends in unique destinations not typically accessible through mainstream tour companies.  
Website: [www.farandbright.org](http://www.farandbright.org)  
E-mail: [info@farandbright.org](mailto:info@farandbright.org)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/773366004379015>  
WhatsApp: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/HBTS7xvYwrrAJVG1kirssp>  
Telegram: <https://t.me/+1BmFOcX3hIVhNmY0>

**IBD Meeting**  
**Perth, Australia**  
**October 10-14 2024**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/858384491516657>

**Australian Mensa Conference**  
**Sydney, Australia** on the following weekend (October 18-20), when Australia will celebrate its 60th Anniversary.

## The Gift of Communication

*Have you ever wondered what it would be like to lack the means of communication and to be unable to interact cerebrally with the world around us? Imagine having no means of self-expression: not being able to communicate the most basic facts about yourself: 'I am too hot', 'I am hungry' or about your environment: 'I hate this TV show I am put in front of every day', or 'I wish you hadn't painted my room this painful pink'. Imagine being unable to convey your deepest feelings: 'I love you'; 'I appreciate all you are doing for me.' It would be a dark and dreary, empty world. Such isolation is hard to imagine.*

And yet Mensan **Peter Shann Ford** did imagine it, and proceeded to do something about it.

Ford himself is a great communicator. As a TV personality with Cable News Network (CNN) in America, he brought information and ideas from around the world to viewers, and as a Channel 7 anchor in Australia he brought us news of international and regional events.

From at the forefront of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Ford provided us with insights into the horrors and hardships our fellow humans were undergoing.

As an author, he gave us a deeper understanding of the lifestyle and belief systems of Australia's indigenous people<sup>1</sup>. After covering the NASA Space Program - while working for CNN - for more than a decade, he hosted Neil Armstrong on Sydney Harbour. Ford brought the

legendary Armstrong (pictured at left in the photo), one of the world's greatest aviators and astronauts, to life in a moving tribute<sup>2</sup> for readers of *The Australian* newspaper.

While at CNN, Ford had become a programmer/analyst on the first team developing microcomputers for rehab and communications for the disabled at the US Veterans Administration<sup>3</sup>.

Working with Principal Investigator Gary Kelly, Ford wrote a program which enabled people with neuromuscular disease and spinal cord injuries to replace a computer keyboard with a joystick controller<sup>4</sup> which facilitated communications for thousands.

Peter once addressed a formal Mensa gathering about the potential powers of the then "Information Superhighway". In the ensuing years he has explored those potential powers, not only with regard to general communication, but with a particular regard to its function as a medium for self-expression.

On meeting the late Stephen Hawking, the British physicist who suffered from Motor Neurone Disease, Ford was struck anew by the tragedy of a great mind being trapped within the physical confines of Hawking's body. How could



Ford's own digital explorations facilitate or enable a physically restricted person to release the wealth of knowledge and emotion and memories stored within? Always ready for a mental challenge, Ford grappled with the problem and – amazingly – found a specific digital solution!

Ford invented the *NeuroSwitch* - an electromyograph-based communications and control system - which allows people suffering from profound disabilities such as Locked In Syndrome and Motor Neurone Disease to use the brain's EMG signals to control their computers.

And eventually Ford founded the software company, *Control Bionics*, a neural systems technology company<sup>5</sup> which has continued to explore ways of enabling and facilitating communication for those who have had to go without.

Ford was named NSW Senior Australian of the year in 2014. The following year he was a winner of *The National Disability Award for Excellence in Accessible Technology*, for his outstanding efforts to

*Continued on page 11*

## Vale Udo Schultz - may you rest in peace

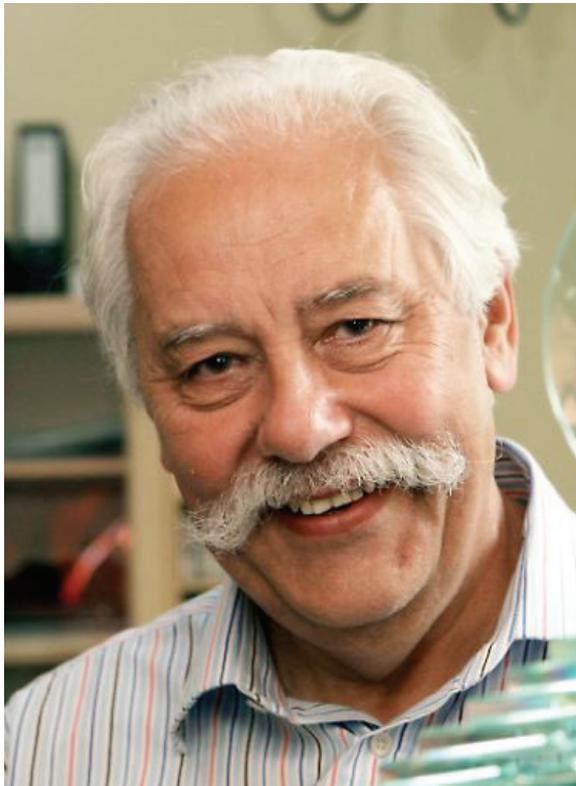
*We are mourning the loss of our much-loved member Udo Schultz, who passed away on August 15. He died peacefully surrounded by his family.*

Udo was a headstone; a human of the very first order. Since 1982, he had been a member of Mensa - no. 81. At that time, the number of members was noticeably only double-digits. Everyone knew that Mensa life was organised by letter and telephone.

But Udo wasn't just always around. He stepped in and took responsibility. The list of his national and international positions is long: LocSec in Kiel, Ortsblatt-Eddi (MinSH), Test Manager, Honorary President of Mensa International, Ex-MinD Chairman, Honorary Member of Mensa in Germany, Ex-Development Director, Ex-International Chairman.

Also, and Udo put great value on this: Chairman of the church music association of his church congregation and chairman of the Tanzania community partnership group (He was a bass singer in the congregation office and in a gospel choir.)

His family held priority above all Mensa life; wife Sigrid and daughters Megan and Arwen Amelie - all of them also Mensans. Udo was a family person, local patriot (lifetime Kieler) and elected Welshman. His second childhood home is called Abergavenny and it is located in South Wales.



Udo was always approachable and sociable. Whoever put in a request received a prompt and mostly positive response - he was friendly, helpful and attentive. And Udo had a wonderful sense of humour. When he began to tell stories, you had to get ready for a long and fun evening. He could laugh at himself and generally not take himself too seriously.

Udo had to undergo major heart surgery in early 2022. He slowly recovered from this, but as soon as it was possible, he took up all positions again. He turned 80 this year and he celebrated in a quite Udo-like way for three days.

Udo will be greatly missed. Our thoughts are with him and his family.

**Boed iddo orffwys mewn heddwch (Welsh for: "May he rest in peace")**

## Recent Research into Brain Function

### Brain's Weight Switch Found: Eat What You Want, Lose Weight With New Treatment

Scientists have identified astrocytes, star-shaped brain cells, as pivotal in controlling obesity by acting on the GABRA5 cluster of neurons. The novel drug, KDS2010, has been shown to stimulate weight loss in obese mice without impacting their high-fat diet or food consumption, presenting a revolutionary avenue in obesity treatment.

### Bilingual Brain Boost: How Knowing Two Languages Enhances Memory and Prediction

Research shows that bilingual individuals benefit from enhanced memory retention and improved word prediction skills. This is because the brain constantly selects from a larger vocabulary pool in two languages, leading to heightened cognitive functions.

### Gene Mutation Sheds Light on Schizophrenia Mysteries

A newly developed mouse model carrying a mutation in the Grin2a gene has yielded crucial insights into schizophrenia. This model confirms the roles of neurotransmitters like glutamate and dopamine in the disease, offering new therapeutic opportunities.

### Breast Milk Alternative Boosts IQ and Executive Function in Kids

A new study reveals that infant formula enriched with milk fat globule membrane (MFGM) and lactoferrin can significantly improve children's IQ and executive functions.

*Continued on page 11*

# *International Elections 2024*

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## **Notice Inviting Nominations for the International Election 2024**

In accordance with Article X of the Constitution of Mensa, the International Election Committee (IEC) invites registration of Candidates and nominations for the following internationally elected offices:

**INTERNATIONAL CHAIRMAN  
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR-ADMINISTRATION  
INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR-DEVELOPMENT  
INTERNATIONAL TREASURER**

### **Registration of Candidates**

Candidates for the 2024 Election must personally register their interest in being nominated for a specific position and must secure at least one nomination as detailed in the nomination process below to be permitted to stand in the election. Eligible members may register their interest in being nominated by completing the Registration Form and submitting their documentation.

Eligibility criteria and instructions for registration may be obtained from the IEC at [iec@mensa.org](mailto:iec@mensa.org). The closing date for registration of Candidates is 23:59 UTC 4<sup>th</sup> of January 2024.

### **Nomination Process**

After registration closes, the candidates seeking nomination will be verified by the IEC. After the verification process has been completed, a list of all candidates available for nomination will be published in appropriate channels and available via email from the IEC at [iec@mensa.org](mailto:iec@mensa.org). Nominations may be lodged for any or all positions by National Mensa Groups or by petition from members. The closing date for all nominations is 23:59 UTC 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2024.

Instructions for submission of nominations can be obtained from the IEC at [iec@mensa.org](mailto:iec@mensa.org).

### **Nomination by National Mensa Committees**

National Mensa Committees may nominate a registered candidate or a slate of candidates for any or all offices by submitting the name(s) of such registered candidate(s). A national Mensa group may nominate more than one individual for each office. Instructions for the Nomination process will be provided to National Mensa Committees with the list of verified Candidates.

### **Nomination by members**

Members may nominate a registered potential candidate or a slate of candidates for any or all offices by submitting:

1. the name(s) of such registered candidate(s);
2. a petition signed by at least 100 members who are in good standing as of 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 2024;
3. verification of such good standing.

Contact the IEC at [iec@mensa.org](mailto:iec@mensa.org) for all enquiries regarding the election including registration and nomination. If a communication requires confidentiality use the address [iec-chair@mensa.org](mailto:iec-chair@mensa.org).

# member profile

by Susan Jensen

*Avner Mandelman of Mensa Canada has achieved accolades in three different careers: rocket scientist, financier, and award-winning author.*

Born in Tel Aviv during the Israeli War of Independence, Avner had a bucolic childhood with his two younger siblings (who still live in Israel). He describes a sense of connectedness among citizens, and despite frequent border incidents, the country was safe and children could roam anywhere.

Fascinated by model airplanes at a young age, Avner became Israeli Free Flight model airplane champion when he was 15. He was part of the Israeli delegation to the 1967 FAA championships in Prague when he was only 19. However, Israel had just won the 1967 war (in which he fought), trouncing Arab forces armed with Russian weapons.

So the Soviet Union did not allow the Israeli delegation to participate. This disappointment was Avner's first inkling that politics influence everyone's daily life, a fact that led him to develop a lifelong passion for finding out "how things really work."

Following his service in the Israeli Air Force during the 1967 war, Avner attended the Israeli Technion, earning a BSc degree in aeronautical engineering in 1972. He also began to fly gliders, and, in his spare time, learned to box. From 1972-73 he spent a magical year in Paris as an apprentice engineer and

young man about town.

After a year in the city of lights, Avner moved to Canada, worked first at the TRIUMF particle accelerator in Vancouver, then at De Havilland aircraft in Toronto. He left engineering to attend Stanford's Graduate School of Business, graduating in 1976.

A pivotal business experience was the required Human Emotions lab, where students learned to stand up to their protective brain block that prevents them from taking in information that hurts their feelings. Avner says forcing yourself to think against your own grain is crucial for both good writing and good investing.

After Stanford, Avner went to work on Bay Street (Canada's Wall Street), first in Mergers and Acquisitions, then in institutional brokerages, turning around one brokerage company and helping another become #1 in Canada. After a decade and a half on Bay Street, Avner took some time off to get an MA in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University. He then returned to Canada, embarked on a hedge fund career and wrote a few well received story collections and a novel.



Since retiring 5 years ago, he's been writing fiction as well as books on investing. His thriller *The Debba*, won the Arthur Ellis award for best mystery. His follow up thriller, *The Undertaker's Daughter*, will be published soon.

Avner has two grown sons, and for the last 15 years the company of Marjorie, the love of his life.

Avner's advice for writers is: Ask yourself: *What do I know in my heart to be true, yet keep denying? What do I know in my heart to be false yet keep affirming?*

Write about that. Then get half a dozen creative writing instruction books and practise the basics an hour a day. You'll have an insurmountable edge over those who don't do this.

If you'd like to read Avner's latest book check out *The Advanced Sleuth Investor* (available for purchase on Amazon):

<https://www.youtube.com/@thesleuthinvestor2251>

## *An American in Copenhagen: my magical time with Mensa Denmark*

*by Susan Jensen*

*Spanish Mensan Jose Beltran Escavy is a master at connecting with other members wherever he travels. He showed me how to meet Mensans worldwide, and it's super easy and effective.*

When he travels, Jose checks the mensa.org website for the names/contact information of the national **SIGHT**\* Coordinator and Mensa officers in the city where he will be staying. He writes to these people with his planned travel dates, mentions some of his diverse interests, and asks if anyone might like to meet up with him while he is in town.

When he visited Southeast U.S.A.



where I live, our local members took him to museums and restaurants, and I hosted a gaming/dinner party for him which was great fun.

While I was in Copenhagen this summer, a dinner party at the Copenhagen restaurant of my choice was arranged. I chose a highly-rated Japanese restaurant - unaware that



our party would be sitting on floor mats around a low table. Several of us had bad knees or backs, and others were so tall (yes, it's a tall country!) that sitting cross-legged at a low table necessitated hunching over. Pernille, an HR supervisor used to quick problem-solving, rearranged the tables vertically so that we could sit sideways with one leg dangling over the seating platform. It was awkward but more manageable than trying to sit cross-legged all evening. There wasn't one word of complaint from the others - another difference between American and Danish cultures.

Pernille, Helle, my daughter Jessica, and I were seated at the same low table. We had a sensational meal and a marvellous conversation that ranged over many things. As I could only chat with the people at my table, the entire group agreed to head out to an open-air pub to continue talking after dinner.

Copenhagen in August reminds me of Hemingway's tales of Paris.

Cobblestone streets lined with open-air cafes, all packed to overflowing. There, we drank outstanding beer and talked about topics large and small. It was so much fun

that I joined them again for their weekly Monday gathering at Cafe Globen and met twelve more Danish Mensans who were as fun and stimulating as the first group. I had several offers to meet up again with some of these folks, but sadly my trip came to an end before we could get together.

Nothing is perfect in this world, but sweet Denmark comes close, and Danish Mensa does, too. I will be returning in 2024 and have plans to throw a gathering at the Bastard Cafe, a gigantic yet cosy gaming club in central Copenhagen that has every game imaginable and "gaming gurus" to help folks learn new games. Meanwhile, I am now in touch with several new Danish friends via email.

If you travel to another city or country and choose to connect with local Mensans, you will likely find your vacation exponentially increases in fun and friendship.

Please write to me ([suejensen57@gmail.com](mailto:suejensen57@gmail.com)) if you try this and let me know about your experiences. I'm writing a series of articles about Mensans connecting around the globe.

**\*SIGHT - Services for Information, Guidance and Hospitality to Travellers.**

[www.mensa.org](http://www.mensa.org)

**Mensa International Limited**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Income and Retained Earnings**  
**Year ended 31 December 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Turnover</b>		371,802	382,160
<b>Gross profit</b>		<u>371,802</u>	<u>382,160</u>
Administrative expenses		312,919	277,217
<b>Operating profit</b>		<u>58,883</u>	<u>104,943</u>
<b>Profit before taxation</b>	7	<u>58,883</u>	<u>104,943</u>
Tax on profit		—	—
<b>Profit for the financial year and total comprehensive income</b>		<u><u>58,883</u></u>	<u><u>104,943</u></u>
<b>Retained earnings at the start of the year (as previously reported)</b>		875,937	833,512
Prior period adjustments		—	(62,518)
<b>Retained earnings at the start of the year (restated)</b>		<u>875,937</u>	<u>770,994</u>
<b>Retained earnings at the end of the year</b>		<u><u>934,820</u></u>	<u><u>875,937</u></u>

All the activities of the company are from continuing operations.

**The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements.**

# Mensa International Limited

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible assets	8	1	1
Tangible assets	9	3,055	3,594
Investments	10	100	1,667
		<u>3,156</u>	<u>5,262</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	11	91,364	63,748
Cash at bank and in hand		1,055,414	967,844
		<u>1,146,778</u>	<u>1,031,592</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	12	66,892	53,624
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>1,079,886</u>	<u>977,968</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		1,083,042	983,230
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	13	148,222	107,293
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>934,820</u>	<u>875,937</u>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Profit and loss account		934,820	875,937
<b>Members funds</b>		<u>934,820</u>	<u>875,937</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with Section 1A of FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on ....., and are signed on behalf of the board by:

J Cywinski  
Director

Company registration number: 00848100

**The notes on pages 11 to 17 form part of these financial statements.**

**Mensa International Limited**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (*continued*)**

**Year ended 31 December 2022**

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**4. Company limited by guarantee**

Mensa International Limited is a company limited by guarantee where every member undertakes to contribute as may be required (not exceeding £1) to the Company's assets if it should be wound up.

**5. Auditor's remuneration**

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	£	£
Fees payable for the audit of the financial statements	<u>4,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>

**6. Employee numbers**

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year amounted to 2 (2021: 2).

**7. Profit before taxation**

Profit before taxation is stated after charging:

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible assets	<u>539</u>	<u>628</u>

**8. Intangible assets**

	<b>Patents, trademarks and licences £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	<u>10,270</u>
<b>Amortisation</b>	
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	<u>10,269</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 December 2022	<u>1</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>1</u>

**Mensa International Limited**

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 December 2022

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**9. Tangible assets**

	<b>Equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	<u>6,929</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 January 2022	3,335
Charge for the year	<u>539</u>
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<u>3,874</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 December 2022	<u>3,055</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>3,594</u>

**10. Investments**

	Shares in group undertakings £	Loans to group undertakings £	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	<u>100</u>	<u>1,567</u>	<u>1,667</u>
<b>Impairment</b>			
At 1 January 2022	–	–	–
Impairment losses	<u>–</u>	<u>1,567</u>	<u>1,567</u>
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>	<u>–</u>	<u>1,567</u>	<u>1,567</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>			
At 31 December 2022	<u>100</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>100</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>100</u>	<u>1,567</u>	<u>1,667</u>

**11. Debtors**

	<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>
Trade debtors	65,015	48,369
Other debtors	<u>26,349</u>	<u>15,379</u>
	<u>91,364</u>	<u>63,748</u>

## supplementally... by John Blinke

### Sky Time

It's hard to imagine a better night for Perseid meteor watching. Light breeze. No mosquitos. 16 degrees C. Predawn with thin clouds that let bright stars shine clearly. I saw two Perseid meteors, two bright planets, one GPS satellite. Half a dozen fireflies, all in a half hour. What could be better? Well, a dark sky would be better. In my neighborhood, visible stars have to be bright because of light pollution! I can't see anything dimmer than fourth magnitude.

It does not have to be like this. A bit of care in the choice of municipal outdoor lights could reduce the problem greatly. By directing most light downward, dark sky fixtures could make better use of electrical power, spare the sky, and would make life easier for migrating birds, too.

See <https://www.darkskysociety.org>

### Thermal Vision

ScienceDaily, August 1, 2023. "Thermal Imaging Innovation Allows AI To See Through Pitch Darkness Like Broad Daylight." (Nature)

In film photography, the colours yellow, cyan, and magenta, are combined to make full colour images. Scientists at Purdue and Michigan State University have done a similar trick with thermal infrared, but it wasn't easy. They used specialised infrared cameras and a lot of help from artificial



intelligence. The technique is called HADAR, for "heat assisted detection and ranging" and it can see fine detail in total darkness or in bright daylight. Instead of three "colours," HADAR employs many frequencies in the infrared spectrum and relies on AI algorithms to create images useful for robots or self-driving cars. There is plenty of room for improvement as the hardware is bulky and the processing is too slow for real-time use.

### Mammals Strike Back

ScienceDaily, July 18, 2023. "Unusual Fossil Shows Rare Evidence Of A Mammal Attacking A Dinosaur." (Scientific Reports) Dinosaurs dominated the landscape for many millions of years. But mammals got in a few licks now and then. This is seen in a unique Chinese fossil that preserves a battle between a dog-sized mammal named *Repenomamus robustus* and a somewhat larger, parrot-faced reptile named *Psittacosaurus*.

The two were elegantly preserved in the midst of their life and death struggle which both lost to a nearby volcanic eruption. The mammal was on the back of the dinosaur, biting its face and possibly eating it alive as some modern African carnivores still do. The bones of both creatures were so intertwined that they were almost certainly in the same position when they died.

### Dinosaur Race Track

ScienceDaily August 14, 2023. "Scientists Explore Dinosaur 'Coliseum' In Denali National Park." (Historical Biology) Scientists from University of Alaska, Fairbanks, knew that Alaska's Denali National Park was a great place to see 70 million year old dinosaur tracks on the petrified shore of an ancient watering hole. But they did not know how special the place was until they visited with the sun at just the right angle. Then, they could see that generations of

*Continued on p11*

many kinds of dinosaurs had left footprints there. The detail was wonderful, with toe marks and skin textures clearly preserved. Together with fossil plants, pollen, and evidence of shellfish and other invertebrates, the scientists could see the place had been a huge ancient river system. The resident animals were duckbills, ceratopsians, theropods, and wading birds. Plants included ferns, horsetails, conifers and deciduous trees.

(Photo: <https://news.cgtn.com/news/2020-08-13/Live-Perseid-meteor-shower-creates-dazzling-night-sky-SV0Pj5NBy8/index.html>)

John Blinke

Continued from p05

improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Thanks to his own natural communication skills, perspicacity and tenacity, Peter Shann Ford has endowed countless people around the world with the precious gift of communication.

### Therese Moodie-Bloom

1. 'The Keeper of Dreams', Simon & Schuster New York, 2000; 2nd ed. 'Dreaming Country', Amazon 2016.
2. 'One Small Step of a Remarkable Man', The Australian, July 10, 2019
3. VAMC Rehabilitation RD Laboratory, Atlanta.
4. Kelly, Gary W; Ford, Peter C.H.S. (1985) 'The Comprehensive Communication System for Speech Impaired Persons', Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development.
5. [www.controlbionics.com](http://www.controlbionics.com)

Continued from p06

After a year of supplementation, children's IQ increased by 5 points at the age of 5½, particularly in areas like speed of processing information and visual-spatial skills.

([neurosciencenews.com](http://neurosciencenews.com) September 3, 2023)

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# Therese's BRAIN TEASERS

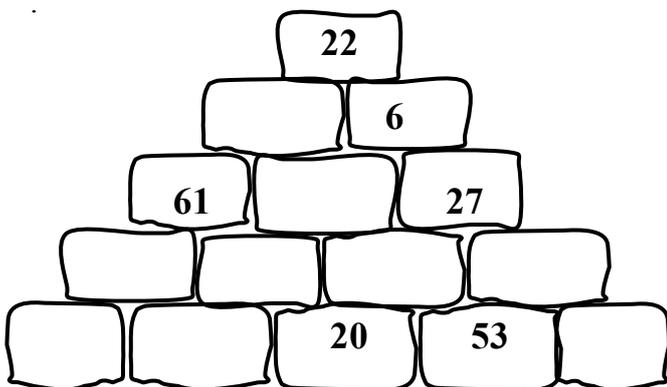
## Cryptosum

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.

				13
				22
				17
				27
17	24	15	22	?

## 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

Decipher the rebus to find a saying:

**FOR IF YOU'RE A P,  
FOR A YOU'RE LB.**

## Crypto-meeting

- Tiny, small reports
- Little applications of salves for specific roles
- Reported to be a gender listing
- Panel said to be feeling the tedium
- Decision about the answer?

## Anagram Riddle

Nine letters have I, you can change them around

To spell words which vary by more than a sound:

- So well arranged; systematic, we deem;
- Pretentious, delusional, or so it may seem;
- Fabrics so fine they could filter steam!

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

## Answers

**Cryptosum:** 19 (6 + 8 + 2 + 3) **Cairn:** 91 86 20 53 47

**Rebus:** If you're in for a penny, you're in for a pound

**Crypto-meeting:** Minutes Appointments Agenda Board

Resolution **Anagram Riddle:** Organised Grandiose

Organdies

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