

This is my last English News of 2022. Did you have a good year? What memorable<sup>1</sup> things happened? Don't worry. If you didn't have a good year, then I'm sure 2023 will be better and if you did have a good year, then I am sure that 2023 will be even better! Christmas vacation starts at the end of this week. Are you excited? And Christmas is on Sunday! Is Santa going to visit you? Have you been good this year? In the UK, if children are bad, Santa puts a piece of coal<sup>2</sup> in their stocking. I wonder what you will get. I know what my daughter wants, but I'm not sure if she will get everything she wants. She seems to want every toy that she can see.



10 differences

Last week:

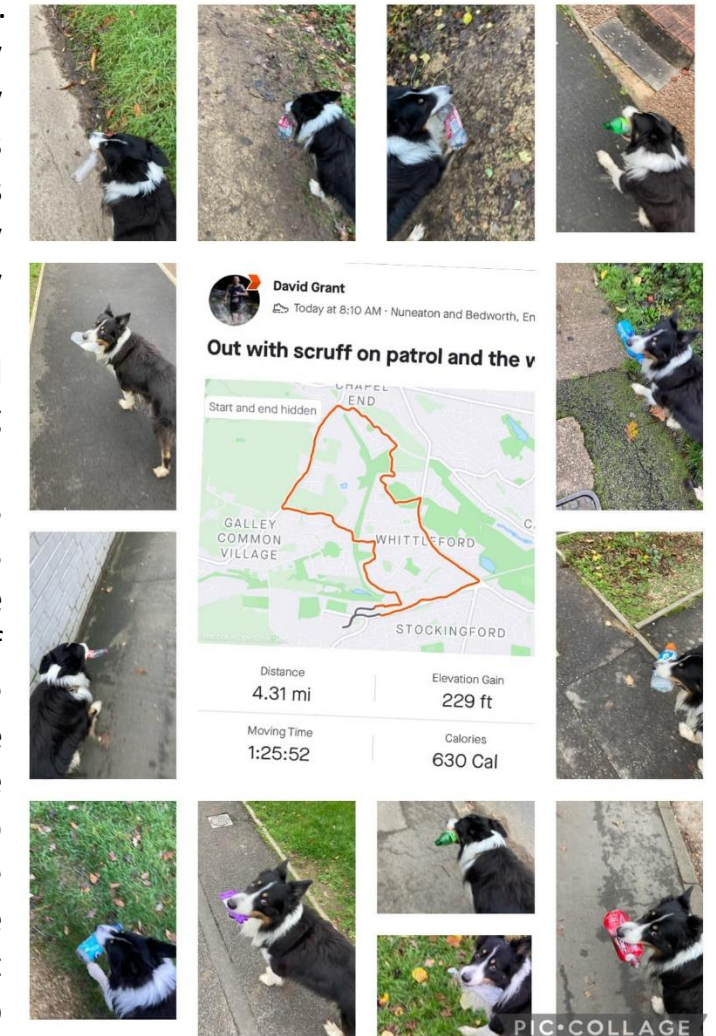


### Something interesting: Border Collies

1. Romans brought dogs to Britain to herd sheep<sup>3</sup> 2,000 years ago. The dogs didn't like the cold, so the people living there bred<sup>4</sup> their own. These were border collies.
2. The word Collie probably comes from the Celtic word "coolie", which meant useful. They are called "Border Collies" because they come from the border region between England and Scotland.
2. Border Collies are very smart. They can learn over 1,000 words.
3. They are usually used for herding sheep.
4. They like to run a lot.

### Recycling Dog

Do you recycle all of your bottles? I sometimes see plastic bottles thrown in the street. Hokusei students go out and clean up our neighborhood once a month through the year. A dog in the UK has started doing his bit to help with the trash problem. Scruff, a 13-year-old Border Collie, started to pick up bottles about a year ago. He liked playing with sticks, but his owners stopped him after he got splinters<sup>5</sup> in his mouth. So, he started to play with bottles. He started to pick up plastic bottles and carry them until he found another plastic bottle. Before he picked up the new plastic bottle, he would carry the old one to his owners and they would put it in a bag to take home. So far in 2022, he has collected over 1,000 plastic bottles! His owners recycle the bottles once every month. Scruff has become very famous on SNS. He has many followers. I think he has become an influencer<sup>6</sup>! His owners post his walk every day and share how many bottles he has picked up. Sometimes he finds 15 and sometimes only 1, depending on how dirty the streets are. He has become very famous as the recycling dog who is cleaning up the town. Some people have said that Scruff should be paid by the government to clean up the city. It would be great if we could train more dogs to do this, too. But what would be even greater is training people not to drop trash in the first place. We shouldn't have to rely on<sup>7</sup> others to clean up.



- 1.memorable 記憶しやすい 2.coal 石炭 3. herd sheep 羊を集める 4.breed 子を産ませる  
ために動物を飼う 5.splinter トゲ 6.influencer インフルエンサー (人に大きく影響を与える)  
7.rely on 誰かに頼りにする





### World record

Border Colies have some world records. Here are a few of them. A Border Colie called Sweet Pea has the record for the fastest 100m balancing a can on their head. It took her 2 minutes and 55 seconds. Two Border Collies called Wish and Halo have the record for the most tricks performed in 1 minute. They managed to do 28. Wish also has the record for the fastest 5m crawl. It took him 2.57 seconds. Border Collies' shoulders are connected by muscle and not a joint<sup>1</sup>, in the same way as a cat. This allows them to crouch<sup>2</sup> very low to the ground and still run. A Border Collie called Kim has the record for the most expensive dog. She was sold for £ 28,500, which is almost five million yen. 576 Border Collies and their owners got together in a field in South Australia to get the world record for the most Border Collies in one photo.



**If you want to lift yourself up<sup>3</sup>, lift up someone else.**  
**-Booker T. Washington**

### A capital city – Mexico City

Let's look at Mexico City, the capital city of Mexico. Mexico City is the oldest city in both North and South America. It was founded in 1325 by the Aztecs and was called Tenochtitlan. It was built on an island in the middle of a lake. However, people have lived in the area since long before the Aztecs. The earliest human remains<sup>4</sup> found in the area show that people were there from at least 12,700 years ago. Tenochtitlan was a city state<sup>5</sup> and grew until it was the most powerful of all the Aztec city states. In 1519, the Spanish marched on<sup>6</sup> Tenochtitlan. It took them two years, but by 1521 they had captured the city and by 1600, the Spanish controlled all of South America except for Brazil, all of Central America, the area where Mexico is now, and all of the west of North America up into where Canada is now. The Spanish renamed Tenochtitlan Mexico because it was easier for them to say. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the lake around Mexico City was drained<sup>7</sup> to make more space. It also stopped the flooding and got rid of all of the mosquitoes<sup>8</sup>. Mexico City started to grow. In 1808, Napoleon Bonaparte invaded Spain, and the Spanish empire started to fall apart. Mexico got independence from Spain in 1821. Because Mexico City is built on a lakebed, it is actually sinking<sup>9</sup> by 50cm per year. It is starting to cause many problems.



1.joint 関節 2.crouch うずくまる 3.lift yourself up 自分に元気を出させる 4.human remains 古人骨 5.city state 都市国家 6.march on への抗議の行進をする 7.drain 水を流しだす 8.mosquito が 9.sink 沈む