

## **Aussie whistleblower free at last; Blues big win sets up Origin decider; Sudan's enormous antelope migration; and Squiz-E sharpens his pencil.**

### ***INTRO***

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Hello and welcome to Squiz Kids Today ... your fresh take on what's happening in the world around you.

I'm Bryce Corbett

It's Thursday June 27 ...

In Squiz Kids Today ... Aussie whistleblower free at last; Blues big win sets up Origin decider; Sudan's enormous antelope migration; and Squiz-E sharpens his pencil.

That's what's making news, kid's style...

### ***THE LOWDOWN***

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A name you are going to hear a lot today in the news is Julian Assange. And lots of noise will be made about the fact that he is finally home in Australia after more than 2000 days spent in prison and a 14 year international legal tug of war.

So who is Julian Assange - and why all the fuss?

Assange is the founder of a website called WikiLeaks. You've heard of Wikipedia - right? The crowd-sourced online encyclopedia that is full of **mostly** useful information?

WikiLeaks describes itself as a website that specialises in sharing secret or confidential information on the internet ... a place for people called 'whistle blowers' to publish, for all the world to see, information that governments or corporations might not want the world to see.

When WikiLeaks published a whole lot of confidential US government documents and videos fourteen years ago - including secret military reports about the war in Afghanistan - the US government was not happy - and tried to put the Queenslander in prison.

Yesterday - after 5 years in a London prison and 7 years before that living inside the Ecuadorian Embassy in London - Assange returned

home a free man - after the US government accepted what is called a plea deal. That's basically a compromise by both parties. And so - into the middle of horde of Aussie media - Assange flew home last night, landing in Canberra. So now you know ...

## ***SPIN THE GLOBE***

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Each day we give the world globe a spin and find a news story from wherever it stops ... and today, we've landed in South Sudan - on the mighty continent of Africa - where the biggest migration of land mammals is taking place.

Whoa there! Steady on! Break that down for me. Every year, animals on the African savannah move from one part of the country to another - in search of food, following the rains. The migration of antelope this year has seen some 6 million of the creatures take part in the great walk across the plains. A larger number than has ever been recorded before. Joining the antelope on their great landscape lope are herds of elephant, giraffes, buffaloes and lions.

It's a total Lion King, circle-of-life thing. An incredible demonstration of the awesomeness of nature and this remarkable planet we live on. And a sight to behold - which is why I've stuck a photo of the migration in today's episode notes. You're welcome.

## ***SPORT TIME***

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And so all eyes now turn to Brisbane for the NRL State of Origin decider after the NSW Blues smashed the Queensland Maroons in a 38-18 wipeout at the Melbourne Cricket Ground last night.

The Blues burst out of the blocks and by half time, led the shell-shocked Queenslanders by a record 34-0. From there, it was all uphill for the Sunshine Staters, who put in a valiant comeback to score 18 points in the second half - but were seriously never in the running.

Parramatta's Mitch Moses starred for the Blues - earning himself man of the match for the multiple tries he expertly set up.

And so that now means it's one game all in the series - with the decider to be played in Brisbane on July 5.

Bring, It. On.

## ***NEWSHOUNDS***

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Every Thursday, Squiz-E the Newshound sticks his snout into Squiz Kids HQ to report back on fishy things he's sniffed out on the internet -

and his nose is twitching up a treat this week as the United Kingdom prepares to go to a general election.

As we've heard before on the podcast: unfortunately these days, whenever there's an election anywhere in the world, there's generally a whole heap of mis- and disinformation doing the rounds of social media. Those are big words for stuff that's just not true. Stuff that people make up to try to trick us. But luckily, as budding Newshounds, we know to always Stop.Think and Check.

The misinformation in question this week is the claim on social media that pencils are given out for people to mark their ballot papers so that later their votes can be rubbed out or changed. (DA DA DUMM !) Of course, the claim is rubbish. We stopped, thought and checked it out - and the UK Electoral Commission - who are the people who run the elections over there - clearly state on their website that using a pencil or pen is both acceptable - but that they supply pencils at polling booths because sometimes pens run out of ink or leak - which can spoil ballot papers.

He's done it again, that clever Squiz-E. Helping us to understand: just because we see it written on social media - just because someone on TikTok says something: it doesn't make it true.

## ***SCHOOL HOLIDAY CONTENT***

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(SCHOOL BELL RINGS) Ahhh .... yes .... School is almost out, my friends! Which is to say: some of you have been on winter break for a week, some of you finish up tomorrow - and some of you still have a week to go ...

Here at Squiz Kids - we're taking a little school holiday break too - meaning we've got a whole bunch of super-cool school holiday content lined up.

We're talking a couple of Bumper School Holiday Kids v Adults Quizzes - next Monday and the following one. The first on Creepy Crawlies + Slithery Snakes, the second on The Olympics.

And then, Tuesday to Friday of the holidays: we're excited to bring you The Squiz Kids Daily Brain Teaser .. to keep those rusty brain cogs turning. Each morning, Christie will pose a Brain Teaser - then tune in at after 3pm to find out the solution. Genius!

And all of it mind-bogglingly free. You're welcome!

The daily news pod will be back from Monday July 15.

## ***THE S'QUIZ***

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This is the part of the podcast where you get to test how well you've been listening ...

1. Which country is sharpening its pencils in preparation for a general election?
2. What's the name given to someone who publicly reveals information governments or corporations would prefer were kept private?
3. What sort of animal is currently migrating across South Sudan in numbers never before recorded?

## **SHOUT OUTS**

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It's June 27 ... birthday for soccer sensation, Lionel Messi, who turns 37 today. It's also a good day in history for girls ... 14 years ago Julia Gillard became Australia's first female prime minister.

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids celebrating a birthday today ... Elizabeth from Mt Isa, Hugh from Yass, Billy from Rapid Bay, Oscar from Bardon, Stephanie from Forest Lake, Evie from Bulleen, Haley from Googong, Bree from Jerilderie

A belated shoutout goes to... Marie who's listening all the way over there in Switzerland. Bonjour Marie!

Classroom shoutouts today go to... class 5/6 with Miss Schwartz at Maitland Lutheran School, classes 6 gold and 6 blue with Miss Rayner and Mrs Glover at Mt Carmel School in Yass, class 4 blue with Mrs Leask at St Kieran's School in Manly Vale, class 3 / 4 with Mrs Seymour at Poynter Primary School in Perth, class 5 blue with Mr Bazley at St Felix School in Bankstown and class 3 / 4 LT with Mrs Twomey and Mrs Linton at Yinnar Primary School.

And a reminder that if you're celebrating a birthday over the next two weeks when we're on winter break - we'll make sure you get a belated birthday shout out in the week we're back - starting Monday 15 July ..

**\*add a note about any birthdays that fall in the podcast break - will be announced first and second week back when podcast resumes on July 14.**

## **The S'Quiz Answers:**

1. United Kingdom

2. Whistleblower
3. Antelope

Don't forget .. if you've got a birthday coming up and you want a shout out - or if you want a classroom shout out - drop us a line at [squizkids@thesquiz.com.au](mailto:squizkids@thesquiz.com.au) or fill out the form on our website.

Well - that's all we have time for. Thanks for listening to Squiz Kids Today -We'll be back again tomorrow  
In the meantime, get out there and have a most excellent day. Over and out.