

Socceroos last chance to advance; Australia on bird flu alert; Bluey makes her indigenous debut; and London's clever beaver solution.

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 Monday, June 22 -

In Squiz Kids Today ... Socceroos last chance to advance; Australia on bird flu alert; Bluey makes her indigenous debut; and London's clever beaver solution.

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

THE LOWDOWN

After a bolt-from-the-blue victory and riding on cloud 9 last week, Australia's Socceroos have tasted the bitterness of a crushing loss against Team USA at the weekend, leaving them with a do-or-die game this coming Saturday to stay in the World Cup.

The American home team proved just too strong for the boys in green and gold, winning 2-0 in a match played before sunrise, Australia time, on Saturday morning.

Spare a thought for Aussie defender Cameron Burgess, who scored an own goal - which is to say he accidentally kicked the ball into the back of his own net - in the first 15 minutes of the game. Ouch. That's gotta hurt. Let's hope his team mates all got around him - because seriously, that's a mistake anyone could make. Imagine the poor guy making that mistake in front of millions of spectators - both in the stadium and watching TV at home.

So what now for the Socceroos? There's still hope ...

They play Paraguay in their final group game this coming Saturday - where either a win or a draw should see them advance to the round of 32 ... C'mon fellas ... you've got this ...

The other big news over the weekend was the arrival on Australian shores of something called 'bird flu'.

Discovered in a sea bird on the coast of Western Australia - it's a very unwelcome development - meaning the virus - which can have a devastating effect on native wildlife - has officially made it to Australia - and in so doing, is now on every continent in the world.

The bad news: its hard to stop and is likely to impact both native and farm animals. The good news: the Australian government has spent years preparing for this, and it poses a very low to non-existent threat to humans.

SPIN THE GLOBE

Each day we give the world globe a spin and find a news story from wherever it stops .. and today we've landed in London - in the United Kingdom - where a family of beavers has been brought in to solve a tube station flooding problem.

Ealing tube station, in London's west, used to flood every time there were heavy rains. And while human engineers proposed digging holes and creating drains - wildlife conservationists had the clever idea of importing a family of beavers into a nearby pond.

The beavers got to work - doing what beavers do - cutting down trees, creating dams - and essentially diverting - in a natural way - a lot of the water that used to flow into the tube station and cause transport chaos.

A clever combo of humans and beavers working together to help each other out. Love it!

SPORT TIME

Sometimes in the world of sport, it's the smallest victories that mean the most ..

Take for instance, Curacao - a tiny island nation off the coast of Venezuela, in the Caribbean Sea.

It has a population of only ` 158,000 people ... and the island is so small, you could fit 17,000 of them inside Australia ...

But that didn't stop them making history in the World Cup yesterday when they drew 0-0 with their much bigger, more experienced and heavily favoured rival on Saturday, the country of Ecuador.

It gave the tiny island country its first ever point in a World Cup .. largely thanks to its goalie, Eloy Room - who made 15 saves in the match - the second highest ever in a single World Cup game ... take a bow Eloy!

POP CULTURE CORNER

How do you say Bluey in Yolnu Matha - the indigenous language of East Arnhem Land .. well, you're about to find out - with news over the weekend the adventures of everyone's favourite Blue Heeler and her family will be screened in the language to celebrate NAIDOC Week.

Four episodes of the stupidly popular animated series will go to air on Sunday 5 July in Yolnu Matha – those episodes being The Beach, The Creek, Sleepytime, Grandad and Rug Island.

Each one has been chosen because they touch on themes of family and country. Perfect for NAIDOC week.

I wonder how you say 'cheese and crackers' in Yolnu Matha?

THE S'QUIZ

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

1. Which team beat the Soccerroos in their game on Saturday morning?
2. Name the Carribbean island nation that just got its first ever World Cup point after drawing with Ecuador?
3. Which animal was introduced to a pond in England to solve a tube station flooding problem?

SHOUTOUTS

It's Monday June 22 – Today is the 40th anniversary of the 1986 World Cup quarter-final between England and Argentina, where Diego Maradona scored the "Hand of God" goal and, just four minutes later, the "Goal of the Century."

And in today's teacher newsletter from our resident primary school teacher Christie, kids are invited to discuss fairness, history, perspective and whether someone can be remembered for both cheating and brilliance.

If you're a teacher and want to receive these and other excellent free resources each week in Christie's newsletter - head to the Squiz Kids website and sign-up to receive it.

It's also a special day for these Squiz Kids, celebrating a birthday today and tomorrow... Amelia from Tanilba Bay, Pearl from Albany Creek, Elliot from Secret Harbour, Bella from Goonellabah, Hillary from Marananga, Amy from Lancefield, Anika from Oran Park, Ollie from Mont Albert North, Toryn from Griffith, Paige from Peechelba and James from Orange.

Belated shoutouts go to... Maxwell from Ballarat, Naisha from Arundel, Evie from Arana Hills, Zoe from Victoria Park and Jane listening over in San Francisco, USA.

Classroom shoutouts go to... year 4 with Ms Kotian (pron Ko-tee-ahn) at Pymble Ladies College, year 4 with Mrs O'Brien at Aria Park Central School, class 5/6B with Mr Blain at Belmont Primary School and class 3/4MS with Ms Scott at Turner School in Canberra.

The S'Quiz Answers:

1. USA
2. Curacao

3. Beaver

Don't forget .. if you've got a birthday coming up and you'd like a shoutout, or if you want a classroom shoutout... drop us a line at 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 with

.

In the meantime ... get out there and have a most excellent day ... over and out.