# The Daily Rigour

Sun 24th February 2019

Issue No. 142

Your free weekly numeracy newspaper!

## Scotland beats February temperature record from 1897

Aboyne has broken Scotland's February temperature record which had stood for more than 120 years.

The highest temperature previously recorded for the month in Scotland was  $17\cdot9^{\circ}C$  in Aberdeen on the  $22^{nd}$  of February 1897.

However, Aboyne in Aberdeenshire recorded a temperature  $0.4^{\circ}C$  higher than this on Thursday afternoon.

What is the new record temperature in Scotland for February?



Cdmasterworks Ltd

## World's biggest bee found alive

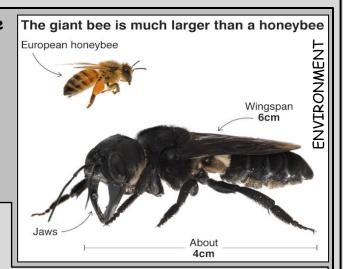
The world's biggest bee has been rediscovered after having been lost for decades. The giant bee was found on a little-explored Indonesian island. It has a wingspan of 6 cm!

A European honeybee has a wingspan a quarter of this length. Calculate the wingspan of a European honeybee.

Give your answer in MILLIMETRES.

#### Did you know bees understand zero?

As we revealed in issue 106 of the Daily Rigour, a team of scientists were surprised to find that bees could discriminate a value of one from zero with moderate ability, and that success increased when higher values were compared to zero.



How well do you understand zero? Try and answer these questions. Will you answer them all correctly or will you get NOTHING?

- 1. 6+0
- 2. 0 × 3
- 3. 2 ÷ 0

## NHS told to ditch 'outdated' pagers

The NHS has been told to stop using pagers for communications by 2021 to save money.

There are around 1.3 million pagers still in use globally and the NHS use around 10% of this amount.



(a) How many pagers do the NHS use?

They cost the NHS about £6.5 million a year, since only one service provider supports them.

(b) How much, on average, does it cost the NHS to run one pager each year?

## Virgin's Unity plane rockets skyward

Virgin Galactic has pushed its Unity rocket plane faster and higher than ever as it gets ready for commercial space travel.

Chief pilot, Scotsman
Dave Mackay, and co-pilot,
American Mike Masucci,
took the vehicle to 57.525
miles in altitude above
before gliding back down
to Earth.



Unofficial data indicates Unity travelled at Mach 3 (three times the speed of sound) on the way up. The speed of sound is approximately 767 miles per hour.

Assuming the rocket plane travelled at Mach 3, how long did it take to reach a height of 57.525 miles?

Give your answer in minutes and seconds.