



HAPPY NEWS



LITHUANIA

A soup-er celebration!

Lithuania's capital, Vilnius, was turned pink last weekend as thousands celebrated the third annual Pink Soup Festival, honouring the country's beloved cold beetroot soup, šaltibarščiai (shahl-tee-barsh-chay).

Fountains and buildings were lit up in pink, while residents in fancy dress joined a "Pink Parade" and slid down a giant pink slide into a soup bowl! The chilled dish, made with beetroot, kefir, cucumbers, and dill, is a summer staple across Eastern Europe and a point of pride in Lithuania.



JAPAN

New plastic dissolves in sea water

Scientists in Japan have created a new kind of plastic that can completely dissolve in seawater in just two to three hours. Unlike most biodegradable plastics that leave behind harmful microplastics, this one breaks down without a trace. The special material is strong and flexible, but disappears quickly in salty water and even in soil. Experts hope it could help reduce plastic pollution in the future, especially in packaging.



AUSTRALIA

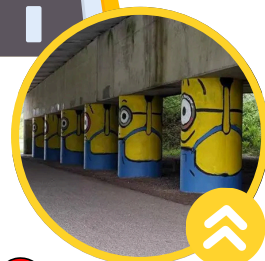
A happy tail!

A dog who was trapped in a mineshaft for four days has gone viral after he couldn't stop wagging his tail during his rescue. Ted was so happy to be saved, that he wagged his tail all the way up the 26-foot deep shaft, and then even faster when he was out! Ted has since been reunited with his overjoyed family in Victoria, Australia.



Out on a 'Lego' limb!

Tobi, 8, from Portsmouth has a brand-new prosthetic arm, and it's made with Lego! Born with a limb difference, Tobi helped design the colourful arm with the Portsmouth Enablement Centre, which creates prosthetics suited to each person's unique personality. He can even build and customise his robotic arm with Lego pieces. Tobi's mum says it's not just helpful for everyday tasks, it has also brought him lots of joy and confidence too!



UK

Minion motorway mystery

An unknown artist is delighting residents in Burnley, Lancashire, after transforming dull motorway pillars into cheerful Minions. The eight stanchions painted to look like the yellow cartoon characters appeared underneath the motorway over the weekend and look like they are holding up the bridge! Locals have nicknamed the mystery painter the "Burnley Banksy," praising the artwork as "brilliant." One child was even spotted giving each one a hug!