

## Albert Heap

The child walked by, until he heard an old man on a bench.

“Want to hear a story?” said the man. The boy said okay as the old man was too old to harm him. He sat on the bench to listen to the story.

“Ok,” said the old man. “Here we go...”

My name is Albert Heap. I was born in the year 1900. I am 114, a ripe old age. I had thick brown hair that was always over grown. My skin is pale and I have grey eyes. My parents come from a first class environment so we were well off at the time. My parents were car salesmen. My parents wanted to go to America, where the car selling business was thriving. I am loyal and adventurous. My birthday is 20<sup>th</sup> of January.

When I was 12, my parents finally bought tickets to America. At the time I owned a large playful dog of an unknown breed that loved me. The dog was put into the kennel. We had first class cabins. The ship was a big but slow steamer. The ship was called Titanic.

About four days after leaving Southampton I awoke with a bang. I tried to get back to sleep but my adventurous personality overrid that. I went to the promenade deck. Everyone was enjoying snowball fights. I joined in! It was great fun!

Although the passengers were relaxed, the crew weren't. Titanic was sinking and they knew it. The crew made a feeble attempt to evacuate the passengers. The passengers began to panic as they scrambled into lifeboats and lifejackets. A man ran towards me in a panic. “Give this to the Chef!” said the man, running as fast as he had come. I had to return this to the chef. In the end it was this loyalty that killed my dog and my parents.

I followed the chef. I jumped into his lifeboat. We took on water. Everyone on board tried to remove the water. They did. I handed him the note. The chef looked at it. IT WAS A LUNCH ORDER? I HAD LOST MY PARENTS AND MY DOG TO GIVE A CHEF A LUNCH ORDER? This experience turned me into the hermit I am today. I am no longer an adventurous person. I am a shy and mean person. Although I survived, my soul did not. It has turned me into a mean person.

I moved to Thistle Mountain at age 64. I scraped a living as a fishing man. My black hair started to go grey and it stopped growing. My skin turned a sort of grey and became wrinkly. At age 71, I found an apprentice, a young guy called Homer McLuck. He still is the fisherman to this day, which has been for over 30 years.

As I grew older, I started to get more kind as my mental scars healed. At age 85, I ate lemon cake for the first time in 70 years. My mother always made lemon cake. I became wiser with age. At age 91 I became friends with a 10 year old boy called Liam. Today he is around the age of 30. I had a stroke at age 96. If it wasn't for the friendly Thistle Mountain community, I would have died.

At age 100 I got a telegram from the Queen congratulating me on my old age. As I got older I began to rely on the community alot more. Since I don't have much of a pension, Homer McLuck gives me free fish when times are hard. Liam, who is now a policeman, checks up on me from time to time. Today I live a fairly relaxed lifestyle, enjoying my favourite food of salmon, especially if it's from the river. Although I am old I still cook my own meals.

The boy could not believe this man was so old and wise, nor did he believe Albert had survived the Titanic. He said thanks to Albert for his story and ran to play with his friends, leaving Albert to contemplate.

## Penelope McDonald

My name is Penelope McDonald and I am 39 years old. My hair is ginger and curly and really hard to get into a bun, which is my normal hairstyle. People are always telling me that my eyes are as blue as the ocean. I always wear purple eye shadow and red lipstick to cover my wrinkly spots. My work outfit is a black waistcoat with a purple top and black tights and also some leather boots. I have a husband called Alan and one little boy called Peter who goes to the same primary school that I work in. My best friend Claire comes round for a coffee and biscuits sometimes. I have a St. Bernard's dog called Jake and a goldfish called Goldie

I work as the head teacher at Thistle Mountain Primary School and normally stay late to make sure that all my work is done so that I can organize trips for the classes. Also I my spare time I can go out and take walks. I really like walking and exercising my dog Jake. We walk up and down the mountain seeing the wildlife. I don't like rock music or the smell of fish so I stay away from the river. My hobbies include reading, cooking and cleaning. My personality is a friendly, head teacher that has a very short temper. I am also very chatty because if I EVER get in to a conversation over the phone I will stay on for a long time

I was not born in Thistle Mountain but in Northern Ireland and moved to Thistle Mountain when I had just married because we did not have a lot of money and the house we bought is the same house we live in now. I live near the school. This is an advantage because my son Peter and I can walk there and back easily. I like to visit my mum and dad in Ireland in the holidays especially at Christmas because my mum makes the best turkey ever.

Thistle Mountain Primary School has three green flags and are soon hoping for a fourth one. The only reward I remember getting is a 24k trophy. My star sign is Leo. It is my favourite star sign