



High heels for fashionable babies

Popular Australian website www.girlygadgets.com.au is providing fashionable babies with their first pair of *high heel shoes*. The fun soft heeled *bootees* are for non-walking babies only. Called Heelarious the booties were recently *launched* by two women in the USA and are *reportedly* selling well. Dressing babies in high heels has attracted some criticism as psychologists *claim* it sends the wrong message to children, encouraging them to grow up too quickly.



<i>high heel shoe</i>	une chaussure à talon
<i>bootee</i>	une bottine
<i>to launch</i>	lancer
<i>reportedly</i>	apparemment
<i>to claim</i>	dire haut et fort



Fashion fights gun crime

The *wealthy* elite of South Africa now have a new *weapon* against *gun crime*. Columbian fashion designer Miguel Caballero has opened a boutique in South Africa to sell his unique *range* of *bullet-* and *stab-proof* fashion clothing. The expensive range of clothing, which includes shirts, jackets and trousers, can withstand a *shot* from an AK-47. Miguel has been making his protective clothing in his hometown of Bogotá since 1992. The designer has an impressive client list, from Hollywood stars through to Presidents and royalty. He even sells in the prestigious London store Harrods.



<i>wealthy</i>	riche
<i>weapon</i>	une arme
<i>gun</i>	une arme à feu
<i>range</i>	une gamme
<i>bullet</i>	une balle
<i>stab-proof</i>	qui protège des coups de couteau
<i>shot</i>	un tir



White tattoos for discreet rebels

The latest *fad* among fans of tattoo art is to have a discreet *white-ink* tattoo, so subtle that they can only just be seen. White tattoos use top quality *thicker* ink designed to *stand out* on the skin. The tattoos are so subtle that on *fair skinned* people they can look like *scar tissue*. Tattooists *warn* customers that the tattoos are *painful* to have done and that they must be kept out of the sun to *avoid* them *fading* away completely. Despite these *drawbacks* the discreet tattoos are proving popular among 'A' listers with celebrities such as Lindsay Lohan and Kate Moss rumoured to be fans.

<i>fad</i>	un engouement
<i>white-ink</i>	à l'encre blanche
<i>thicker</i>	plus épais
<i>to stand out</i>	être en relief
<i>fair skinned</i>	à la peau claire
<i>scar tissue</i>	un tissu cicatriciel
<i>to warn</i>	prévenir
<i>painful</i>	douloureux
<i>to avoid</i>	éviter
<i>to fade</i>	passer
<i>drawback</i>	un inconvénient



Upcycling is the new trend for Canadian green

Trendy Montreal shop 'Il était deux fois' is leading the way in the new Canadian trend of upcycling. Upcycling takes *rubbish* and makes it into something new and more desirable. Among its unusual stock, the shop sells handbags made from footballs and clocks made from *vinyl records*. The store itself is an upcycled shipping container. The shop brings together the work of progressive designers from all over the world and encourages customers to think of rubbish in a new way.

trendy à la mode
rubbish les déchets
vinyl record un disque vinyle



Credit crunch revitalises the turnip

As the *credit crunch* takes hold in the UK and families look for new ways to cut back on *spending*, the humble *turnip* has become a fashionable vegetable, with *sales* up 100%. The turnip has for many years been ignored in favour of more exotic choices like *peppers* and courgettes. In some European countries, the turnip isn't even sold as human food, but kept to feed animals in the fields. *Cash-strapped* families are now adding turnips to *stews* and cutting back on expensive meat, realising the potential of this forgotten vegetable. A plate of carrot and turnip *mashed* together with butter and black pepper is appearing on dinner tables all over the UK – lovely!



credit crunch un effondrement du crédit
spending les dépenses
turnip un navet
sales les ventes
pepper un poivron
cash-strapped à court d'argent
stew un ragoût
to mash écraser

Numbers talking

In a recent survey, **77%** of American consumers think that an energy efficient or green operational model is the single most important quality of a corporation trying to be an environmental leader. However, **54%** could not name a company who supplied renewable or otherwise 'green' energy.

Per-capita spending for health care in the US was **US\$6,401** and **US\$3,326** in Canada in **2005**.

Visits to attractions in London showed an overall increase of **5%** in **2007**. The British Museum remains the most visited free attraction with **5.4 million** visits, an increase of **11%**, making it the third most visited free attraction in the country.

Among American coffee drinkers, the average coffee consumption is **3.1** cups of coffee per day.

According to the most recent census, **40 million** people in Great Britain (nearly **seven in ten**) described their ethnicity as white and their religion as Christian.

Each year, American diners give **\$42 billion** in tips to the nation's **2.6 million** waiters, most of whom count on tips for the majority of their income.