

MIKE
BARFIELD

THE WORLD'S FIRST

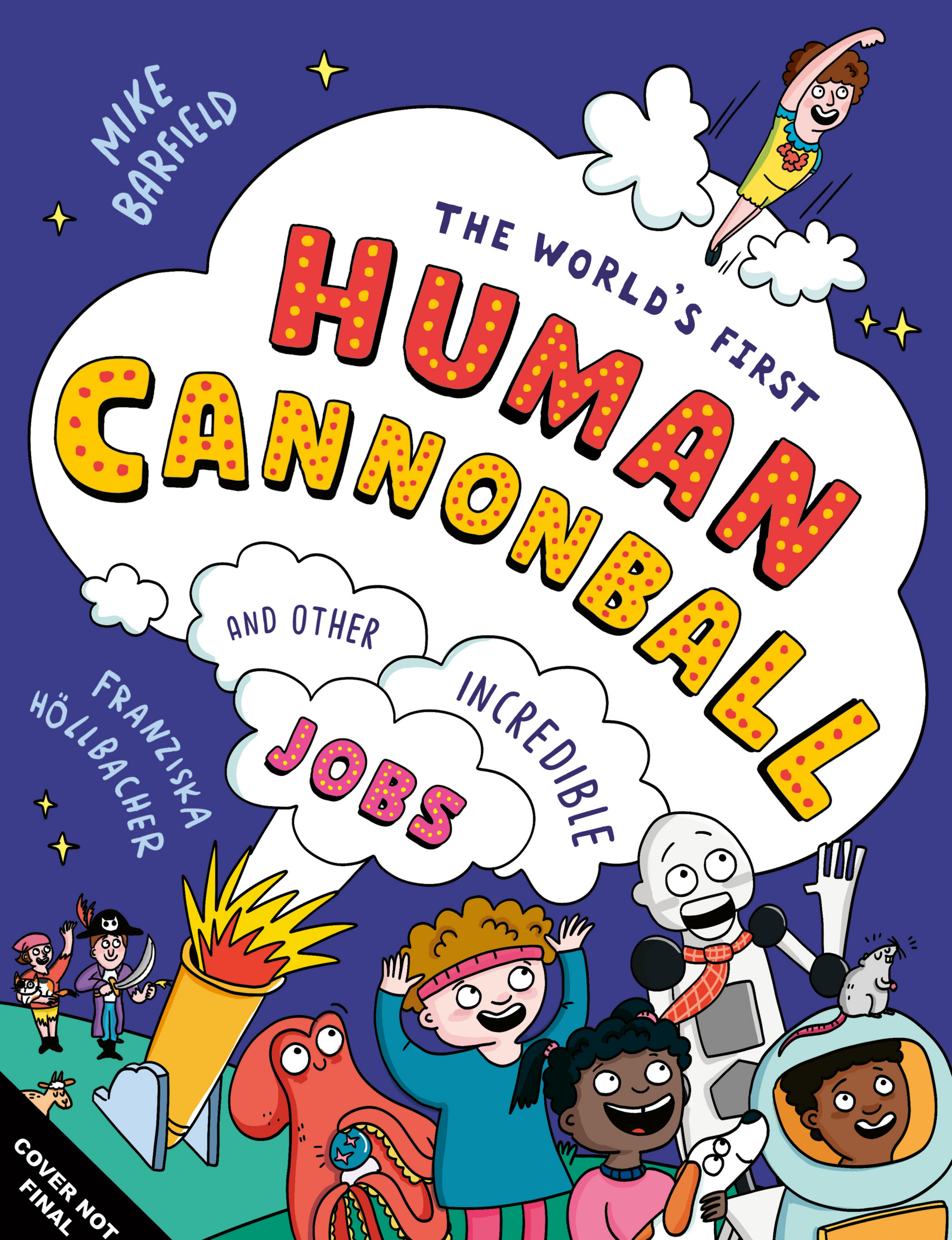
HUMAN CANNONBALL

AND OTHER

JOBBS

INCREIBLE

FRANZISKA
HÖLLBACHER



COVER NOT
FINAL

INCAN MESSENGER

Hi! I'm a piece of string in the Incan Empire some 1000 years ago!

The Empire is vast. Over 3000 km long on the coast of South America.

We help the Incan ruler in Cuzco send important messages - but first we have to get knotted!

ME TOO!
AND ME!



WHAT?
HOW RUDE!

KNOT!
TWIST!
TIE!

SEE? OUR KNOTS CONTAIN CODED INFORMATION

WE'RE PART OF A 'MOP' OF LOTS OF STRING MESSAGES CALLED A QUIPO...

THIS GETS CARRIED BY A MESSENGER CALLED A CHASQUI - CHOSEN FOR BEING SPEEDY...

HOW! REALLY!
COOL!

WHAT A LOT OF KNOTS!
KNICE!

I CAN RUN AT A RATE OF KNOTS!

CHASQUIS RUN IN RELAY BETWEEN SHELTERS CALLED TAMBOS, KEEPING THE QUIPO MOVING QUICKLY BETWEEN THEM...

RUNNING IN THIS HEAT!
YES, I'M HOT FOOTING IT!
HURRY UP!
I'M WRITING!

BLOWING A SEA SNAIL HORN AS AN ALERT, A QUIPO CAN COVER OVER 200 KM IN A DAY BETWEEN CHASQUIS...

EVENTUALLY, THE QUIPO REACHES ITS RECIPIENT AND GETS DECODED...

WHAT DOES IT SAY?
SEND MORE STRING - HERE RUNNING OUT!

PAAARP!
WORLD'S FASTEST MOVING SNAIL!

HERE YOU GO
OOH POST!

JUST THE JOB: GET THE MESSAGE

WINGING IT

Winston the pigeon became a celebrity in South Africa in 2009 when he flew home 96 km with a 4GB memory stick faster than the data could be downloaded online. Cool!

HIGH OFFICE

The China Postal Service runs the world's highest post office at Base Camp on Mount Everest. Climbers can send postcards in warmer months. Wish you were there?

DRONING ON!

Drones are already replacing delivery drivers in hard-to-reach places around the world. In Rwanda, Africa, they carry medical supplies - just what the doctor ordered!

DON'T MISS THE BOAT!

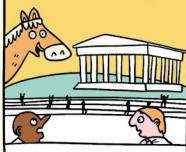
A mailboat on Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, USA, keeps moving slowly along the shoreline, while young 'mail-jumpers' jump off and on stuffing mailboxes on piers. Sometimes they fall in!



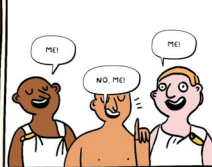
CHARIOT RACER



IT'S 336 BCE WELCOME TO OLYMPIA, HOME OF THE ANCIENT GREEK OLYMPIC GAMES.



HERE, MEN - AND ONLY MEN - GET TO SEE WHO IS FASTEST AND STRONGEST.



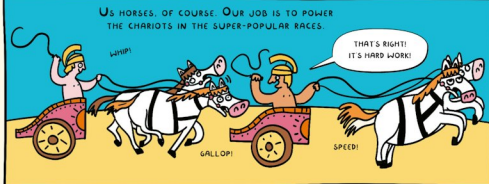
WOMEN ARE BANNED FROM EVEN WATCHING, LET ALONE COMPETING.



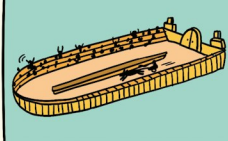
BUT, DO YOU KNOW WHO ARE THE FASTEST AND STRONGEST COMPETITORS?



U.S. HORSES, OF COURSE. OUR JOB IS TO POWER THE CHARIOTS IN THE SUPER-POPULAR RACES.



WE RACE TWELVE TIMES ROUND A LONG COURSE CALLED A HIPPODROME.

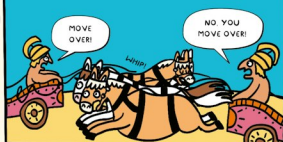


YOU CALLED!

NO GO AWAY HIPPO IS GREEK FOR HORSE



IT'S A DANGEROUS JOB. EACH TIME WE TURN SHARPLY, ACCIDENTS CAN HAPPEN.



MEANWHILE, OUR OWNER, PRINCESS KYNIKA OF SPARTA, GETS FAME AND SOME FAB PRIZES!



KER-ASH!

ALL THERE - AND WHAT DO WE GET FOR WINNING?

A WOOLLY HEADBAND!

IT ITCHES!



JUST THE JOB: HORSE POWER!

HORSEING AROUND

Legend has it that crazy ancient Roman emperor Caligula made his horse, Incitatus, a judge and fed him oats mixed with gold. Neigh! Surely not?

TAKE A BOW

A horse called Trigger was a world famous film star in the 1940s. Owned by US cowboy actor Roy Rogers, Trigger could bow to applause and sign his name with an 'X'!



BLACK BEAUTIES

The horses used by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police - nicknamed the Mounties - are all black because someone decided that it best showed off the red tunics of their riders.

SMALL WONDERS

Miniature horses can replace dogs as guides for the visually impaired. Unlike dogs, horses' eyes face sideways and they can spot potential hazards over a much wider area.

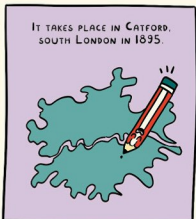
PICK UP AFTER YOUR HORSE!



RED FLAG LAD



Hi! I'll come to the point. I'm a pencil, and this story is true.



It takes place in Catford, South London in 1895.



This innocent-looking boy is working as a look-out...

CHU! CHU!

I'm a fine looking look-out. If I say so myself, GUV!



He is looking-out for police officers, who are looking-out for motor cars like the one behind him.

HELLO HELLO HELLO!



It belongs to Henry Helmetson who hates going slowly.

I FEEL A NEED FOR SPEED!



But the law says he can't go faster than 2 MPH* in town.

*3.2 KM/HOUR



Plus, you're meant to have someone in front having a red flag to warn people...

HAVE!

SLOW!

WHAT HAVE WE HERE?



So, when the look-out spots the officer, he signals to the car, which slows to let the passenger out, who is carrying... ME!

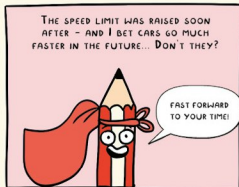


The law does not say what size the flag needs to be!

SAVE!

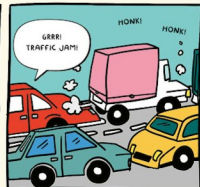
HA!

TYNY!



The speed limit was raised soon after - and I bet cars go much faster in the future... Don't they?

FAST FORWARD TO YOUR TIME!



GRR! TRAFFIC JAM!

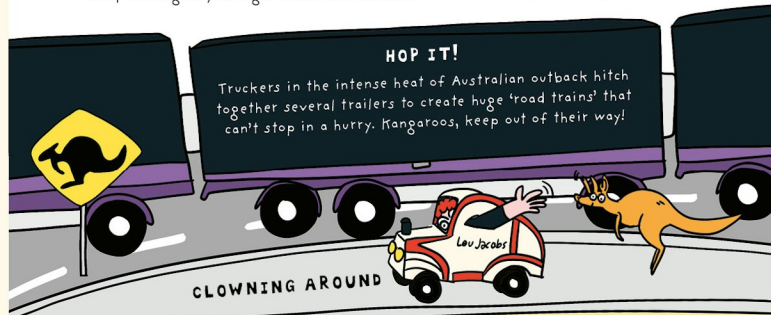
HONK!

HONK!



CHILL OUT!

Truckers supplying mines in northern Canada have to drive over frozen lakes and rivers. The trick is to never stop moving or you might break the ice. Eek!



HOP IT!

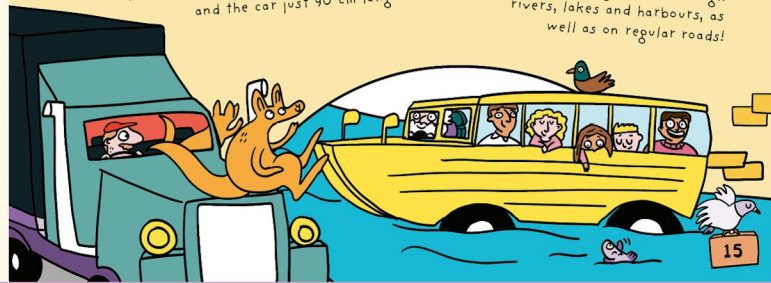
Truckers in the intense heat of Australian outback hitch together several trailers to create huge 'road trains' that can't stop in a hurry. Kangaroos, keep out of their way!

CLOWNING AROUND

German-born Lou Jacobs invented the one-person clown car in the 1950s. He could squeeze inside and drive it around despite being 1.85 metres tall and the car just 90 cm long.

QUACKERS!

Many cities have so-called 'duck tours' where special amphibious buses take sightseers through rivers, lakes and harbours, as well as on regular roads!



THE DAY JOB

AVIATRIX



NAME: BESSIE COLEMAN
NATIONALITY: AMERICAN
OCCUPATION: AVIATRIX

BESSIE COLEMAN

Hi! My name is Bessie Coleman. I was born in Atlanta, Texas, USA in 1892, one of thirteen children. What's an aviatix? Well, keep reading and you'll find out!

In my early 20s, I moved to Chicago and worked in a beauty parlour. The First World War was underway and soldiers back from France told me they had seen something amazing...

women pilots! I was so excited. If men could become aviators, then I wanted to be an **aviatrix** – a female flyer. But no one would teach me because I was black and a woman.

But I showed them. I studied French at night school and in 1921 I took my savings and sailed to France to take flying lessons in Paris. Magnifique!



MY PILOT'S LICENCE

I proved to be a brilliant and brave pilot. I was the first African-American woman to get a pilot's licence, and when I went home in 1925, I was hailed a heroine!

Now I had a new career as a daredevil stunt flyer in public air displays across America. I also had a smart new flying outfit made for me to wear!

I performed loop-the-loops, figures-of-eight and death-defying dives – but only on white folks were not separated in the audience below...

I became so famous, the press called me 'Queen Bess' and now there are roads, schools and airports named after me. You could say that when it came to my job, I was a real high flyer!

