



Law on the beach at the Newcastle Beach Surf Club Pavilion, NSW, Australia.

After these dates the free advice sessions will operate from the University of Newcastle Legal Centre premises in University House on the corner of King and Auckland Streets in Newcastle.

ABA Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants, www.abanet.org/legalservices/sclaid/lsn.html; University of Newcastle Legal Centre, www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/bus-law/news/index.html#beach.

New Words

AS PROMISED on page 125:
Anthropocene (noun) – the current geological age, viewed as having begun about 200 years ago with the significant impact of humanity on the ecosphere: “in this post-human, or as some geologists might call it, post-anthropocene, era, California will again become governed by geologic and climatic processes.” (Trevor Paglin, *Rem-*

nants of California (Autumn 2003). Origin 2000: reportedly coined by chemist Paul Crutzen (1933-) on the pattern of Holocene, Pleistocene, etc.

arctophile (noun) – a person who collects or is very fond of teddy bears.

basket-weaving (noun) – a college course that is thought to be very easy or that imparts mainly useless knowledge.

Foreman grill (noun) – a nonstick electric grill with a grooved heating surface that allows drainage of fat: “nonstick kitchen appliances such as waffle irons, Foreman grills, sandwich makers, and so forth have nonstick coatings and call for preheating prior to cooking.” *Science News* (Aug. 2, 2003). Origin 1990s: after former [editors’ note: will he ever truly be former?] heavyweight boxer George Foreman (1949-), who promotes the product.

full-figured (adjective) – 1. (of women’s clothing) designed for larger women. 2. (of people, euphemistically) overweight: “we have created the perfect home for full-figured Americans who want to find an American partner.” *PRNewswire* (Oct. 3, 2003).

ichthus (noun) – an image of a fish used as a symbol of Christianity: “a Federal judge in Missouri has ordered the City of Republic to remove a fish symbol, known as an ichthus, from its seal because the symbol unconstitutionally depicts Christianity as the city’s official religion.” *NY Times* (July 14, 1999). Origin from the Greek *ikhthus* “fish”: the initial letters of the word are sometimes taken as short for *Iesus Christos, Theou Uios, Soter* (Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior).

kleptocrat (noun) – a ruler who uses political power to steal their country’s resources: “that cynical ring of kleptocrats whose monopoly of the political process has kept them in office long enough to rack up the world’s largest per capita debt.” *Globe and Mail (Canada)* (Aug. 28, 1993). Origin 1960s: from the Greek *kleptes* “thief” + *-crat*.

McMansion (noun) – a large modern house that is considered ostentatious and lacking in architec-

tural integrity: “let’s hope it happens before David Geffen erects cyclone fences on either side of his Malibu McMansion to keep away the riff-raff.” *San Francisco Examiner* (Jan. 17, 2003).

wardriving (noun) – the practice of seeking out and taking advantage of free connection to unsecured wireless networks: “management recently heard about wardriving and is very concerned that corporate information is being intercepted by those who don’t need to see it.” *Network World Fusion* (Oct. 12, 2003). Origin 2003: allegedly coined by Pete Shipley, a San Francisco Bay-area IT consultant, from *war* + *driving*, described by him as “driving around looking for unsecured wireless networks.”



Zorbing in Singapore. See www.zorb.com.

zorbing (noun) – a sport in which a participant is secured inside an inner capsule in a large, transparent ball that is then rolled along the ground or down hills. Origin 1990s: invented word from *zorb* (the name of the ball used in this activity) + *-ing*.

Orin Hargraves ed., NEW WORDS (Oxford 2004).

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