

THE MONTHLY GAZETTE

*"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your
one wild and precious life?"*

~ Mary Oliver



Animal of the Month – Rabbit

Rabbits are small mammals that can be found on every continent except Antarctica. There are over 300 breeds of domesticated rabbits, which are used throughout the world as food, clothing, and pets.

They belong to the order Lagomorpha. Contrary to popular wisdom, rabbits are not rodents. Instead, they diverged from their rodent relatives early on and developed unique traits, such as two extra incisors.

Rabbits are social animals that live in burrows. The males are called bucks and the females are does. The European rabbit



was first domesticated in the Middle Ages and has been bred as livestock ever since. Angola rabbits are renowned for their silky fur that's weaved into yarn.

Rabbits have four to 12 kits in each litter and a gestation period of about a month. Like many prey animals, rabbits often sleep with their eyes open.

Special Days

New Year's Day

January 1

Epiphany

January 6

Makar Sankranti

(Hindu Festival)

January 14

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 18

Australia Day

January 26

Tu B'Shevat

(Begins at sundown)

January 27

Flower – Carnation



This month's flower is as rich in history and significance as it is diverse—and with around 300 species, that's saying something! Its genus, *Dianthus*, means "flower of the gods." The flower was a favorite among early Romans, who made them into celebratory wreaths. According to legend, these pretty petals first grew from the patches of earth where Mary's tears fell after Christ's crucifixion. Carnations have come to represent a mother's love and were used in the first Mother's Day celebration in 1908.

Birthstone – Garnet



The birthstone for the month of January is the garnet. This gem is a symbol of friendship, protection, and truth, and also denotes the second wedding anniversary. The name garnet comes from the Latin word *granatum* (which means "pomegranate"), as the stone resembles the rich red color and form of this fruit. Garnets come in a variety of colors, including green, clear, and even black. Green garnets are very rare and thus are the most highly prized. Use any color of this stone in January to celebrate your favorite January birth or anniversary.

January Personalities and Careers

Those born in the month of January are loyal, creative, calm, and attentive. They enjoy both learning and teaching, and they do not mind hard work. They are tidy and respectful of other peoples' personal space.

When around others, they tend to be quiet and reserved. Social skills do not always come easily to people born this month—but math and analytical skills do. They are observers, and they sometimes focus on other people's flaws.

January folks are true

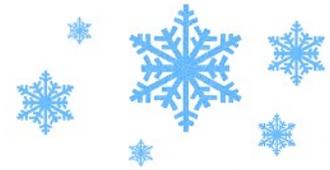
romantics, and they throw their whole heart and soul into relationships. They take pleasure in the simple things in life and love desserts. However, they are also very picky eaters.

Top career choices for those born during the month of January include politician, debt collector, artist, archaeologist, scientist, accountant, writer, professor, inventor, plumber, and jewelry maker.



New Year's One-Liner

May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions.



January Zodiacs

Capricorn (The Sea Goat)
January 1–19

Aquarius (Water Bearer)
January 20–31

January is the first month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars. The month did not exist until around 713 BC, when it was added to the original Roman calendar along with February. January is named after Janus, the god of gateways and beginnings, who is typically depicted as a two-headed man looking forward and backward simultaneously. This is a fitting image for the first month of the year—remembering the past while also looking to the future.

Putting a Stamp on January

A Canadian Bluenose might sound like someone who's been out in the cold for too long, but it's actually the name of a stamp issued in Canada on January 8, 1929. It features an image of the Canadian schooner *Bluenose*, a celebrated racing ship, fishing vessel, and iconic symbol of Nova Scotia. The beautiful stamp is considered one of the most magnificent ever made and is worth a few hundred dollars.

What's Lucky in January?

- Lucky Color: Silver
- Lucky Animal: Kangaroo
- Lucky Letters: J and Y
- Lucky Day: Friday
- Lucky Plant: Delphinium



January Birthdays

- Cuba Gooding Jr. (actor) – January 2, 1968
- Bobby Hull (hockey player) – January 3, 1939
- Greta Thunberg (climate activist) – January 3, 2003
- Joan of Arc (heroine) – January 6, 1412
- Katie Couric (news anchor) – January 7, 1957
- Stephen Hawking (physicist) – January 8, 1942
- Kate Middleton (duchess) – January 9, 1982
- Rod Stewart (musician) – January 10, 1945
- L.L. Cool J (rapper) – January 14, 1968
- Regina King (actress/director) – January 15, 1971
- Katy Jurado (actress) – January 16, 1924
- Édouard Manet (painter) – January 23, 1832
- Virginia Woolf (writer) – January 25, 1882
- Nolan Ryan (ballplayer) – January 31, 1947