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AUTUMN 1994

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Quarterly Journal of the Central Council for British Naturism

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BRITISH NATURISM

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BN is sent to all full members as one of the benefits of their subscription. It is not on sale to the general public, but back numbers can generally be purchased from our Archivist. We will be happy to supply free copies to any public library wishing to put it on display.

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We can accept contributions for BN 122 up to 7 October 1994, but please help the editor by sending in your material as early as possible, preferably typed with double line spacing on A4 paper. Contributions on word-processor disks are welcome, but please contact us first to check compatibility.

Whilst this magazine is concerned with CCBN activities, it also affords a platform for wider views. Opinions expressed editorially or by contributors do not necessarily represent the views of CCBN, nor is CCBN responsible for claims made in advertisements or advertising insets.

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We do not normally publish contributions that do not carry the author's name, but we are prepared to withhold this if really necessary. Contributions sent anonymously or over false names will be ignored. The editor reserves the right to shorten or amend any item and to refuse or modify any advertisement without giving reason. No guarantee is given that any advertisement will be inserted in a specified issue, or at all, though every effort will be made to meet advertisers' wishes.

Whilst we are always pleased to receive comments on readers' letters, with a view to publication, for organisational reasons it is not always possible to forward mail to our contributors.

If you intend to submit material for publication, please ask for a copy of our 'How to do it' sheet, which sets out a few simple rules for preparing your manuscript to make life easier for the Board.

Peter Fauvel-Clinch

It is with the deepest regret that it is necessary to report the death of Peter Fauvel-Clinch on Friday 9 July 1994 at the age of forty-six years. Peter had been in poor health for some time, but it was a great surprise to those who knew him that he was taken from us so suddenly. Typically he had just got into his car to begin his journey to Watford Naturist Swimming Club.

Peter had been a committed naturist for approximately twenty years when he joined the Sunfolk Society, near St. Albans. In his early period with Sunfolk he was part of a family unit with his wife and baby son. He continued his membership when his marital relationship broke down and in fact became even more involved with the affairs of the Society. He worked tirelessly on various building maintenance and improvement projects and current members are still benefiting from the enormous contribution he made. He became a trustee and for fifteen years or so was a committee member as well as having periods as treasurer and secretary.

However, Peter's involvement with the naturist movement extended beyond the Sunfolk Society. He served for a number of years as treasurer and secretary of the Watford Naturist Swimming Club and pioneered the highly successful monthly events at Watford Springs. He played a leading part in persuading the Sunfolk Society to join CCBN, which led to his becoming involved with the Eastern Region of CCBN. At the time of his death he was acting chairman. His partner for a number of years, Ann West, is secretary.

In normal circumstances it would not be unreasonable for Peter to have been very active in the naturist movement for another quarter of a century. Unfortunately this is not to be, and so we have all lost out.

Our sincere sympathies go to his parents, who both survive him and to his companion Ann, with whom he formed such a strong naturist partnership.

Graham Jones

Peter Fauvel-Clinch

I did not meet Peter until 1987, when Sunfolk Society, of which he was chairman became a member of CCBN. It did not take me long to realise that he had many capabilities and was already a tremendous asset to his club. From the start he encouraged Sunfolk to put all it could into its support of the movement and its service to naturism. He played a full and active part in the administration of Eastern Region and his opinions were widely respected. His behind-the-scenes support was valuable to me during my time as chairman. Peter had the knack of spotting areas in which he could speak to authorities and gain knowledge which would result in material benefit. In turn he could pass this on so that others derived benefit from his efforts.

Peter had a warm personality which attracted others to him. Proud of his involvement in naturism, he will be missed by so many friends.

It was a privilege to know you, Peter.

John Rowland

EDITORIAL

Naturism is a way of life in harmony with nature, characterised by social nudity, leading to self respect, respect for others and the environment. This is the definition that appears in the International Naturist Federation handbook and I often quote this definition when speaking with the media. To me this means that naturism should be about honesty, openness and trust. Within naturism there is a strong sense of community. Rather idealistic perhaps, but without ideals where would we be in today's society where so much is destroyed.

But is this the reality? I was very much saddened when I attended the funerals of two well known (well known to us), naturists and found there was no mention of the contribution they had made. I know of clubs where the members are still only known by their first names. There are still naturists who make up two separate holiday photograph albums - one for their non-naturist friends and work colleagues and the full set for their naturist friends.

Why this secrecy? For secrecy is what it is. It is easier to find out about freemasonry than it is to find out about naturism! Research shows that a significant number of people are introduced to naturism through family and friends. Perhaps some prefer to remain part of an exclusive group with a certain amount of mystery. Others perhaps fear ridicule or intolerance, but the reality when people do 'come out' is that it is a five minute wonder, no careers are damaged and quite often they will discover another naturist or even spark off interest.

If we are not honest and open about our naturism are we perhaps denying the spirit of this lifestyle that is so precious to us? By keeping naturism to ourselves are we being selfish and denying others the chance to experience the sense of relaxation that being a naturist brings?

I do not ask that you go about declaring yourself and becoming a naturist bore. By sharing with your friends and colleagues your experiences you will do more to progress the acceptance of naturism in this country than all the television and radio programmes we can make. Be honest with yourself. Think of why you avoid being open about something that is a part of your life.

Suzanne Piper

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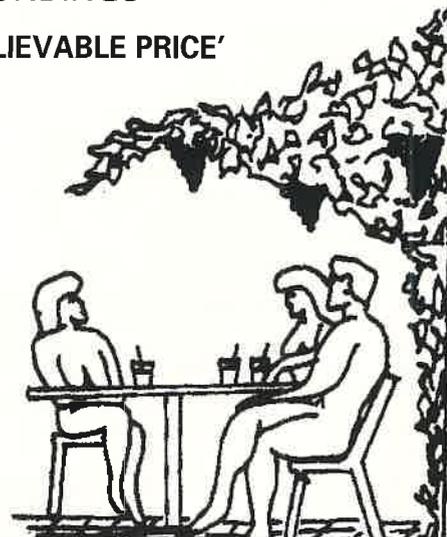
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End of an era – Marguerite closes after 28 years

by Margaret and Roy Cobb

It is with great sadness that we have to announce to our many friends, members and visitors the closure of Marguerite Sun Club at the end of August after 28 years of operation. The entire property including our house has been sold. We tried very hard indeed to find a naturist buyer to carry on the club but although a great deal of interest was generated, all efforts failed. Age, health and financial problems forced us to dispose of the property, although at the beginning members were given the chance to purchase or rent on a long-term lease. In the end, we were left with no alternative but to put the property on the open market.

A brief history of the club – we bought the property in 1966 with the express purpose of creating a naturist club. Why? Because nearly forty years ago, when we first took up naturism, we were turned down for membership of the local Leicester club and so we joined Woodlands at Fillongly where we found, much to our surprise, that a large proportion of the membership were Leicester people in the same boat as us. Thus began the germ of an idea of starting a club for Leicesterians. A friend of ours, Eric, had the same idea. Quite by coincidence Eric obtained land almost on the same day as us. His became Charnwood Acres and ours became Marguerite. Charnwood was eventually bought, much to our delight, by one of our members, Peter Beckerton.

Although Marguerite was officially classed as a proprietary club, we ran it from the start on a non-profit basis and were able to provide naturist facilities on a very economical level. It would be quite wrong for us to pretend everything has been 'roses' all the time but we have said many times that of the twenty-eight years we have been running the club, twenty-five have been wonderful years. The last three years, were it not for the loyal members who stood by us through thick and thin, would have been classed very differently.

The peak of our pleasure during those wonderful twenty-five years was when all the members, completely unknown to us, subscribed to a collection throughout the summer and then at the Christmas party made a quite formal presentation to us of a trip on the Orient Express, followed by a weekend at a top London hotel and a West End theatre show, plus ample spending money. The presentation was recorded on video and during these past three years whenever we were really unhappy and depressed we watched the video yet again, and wallowed in the nostalgia of those lovely days.

During the time we were trying to sell Marguerite as a naturist club, one sad fact emerged – the old pioneering spirit seems to have disappeared, to be



Roy and Margaret on The Orient Express.

replaced by a very monetary attitude and a desire to upgrade everything overnight. We have to ask who eventually pays for all this – the dear old club member who probably does not want to visit 'Butlins' every weekend, but merely to enjoy the odd game of miniten, have a 'cuppa' at the tea bar and relax in the sun. A friendly word of advice to would-be club founders – 'make haste slowly'.

No doubt we shall still see you all around as, obviously, we do not intend to give up naturism – merely to enjoy it, as our members did, in a more leisurely sort of way.

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1994

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 11 September | CCBN AGM at TANDO. |
| 10 – 11 September | BDOC Volleyball Tournament. |
| October | Frank Haynes – Figure Exhibition (see advert) |
| 7 October | Press date: BN122 |
| 7, 8 & 9 October | Take a break Holiday Exhibition – Birmingham |
| 15 October | Southern Region – Sponsored swim in aid of Leukaemia Research |
| 22 October | INF Swimming Gala in Leeds. |
| 19 November | Aylestone Leisure – Leicester Sports fun night |
| 30 November | Closing date for the BN photo competition |
| 18 December | Pendale Christmas Fun Gala open to CCBN and Club Members, Elland Swimming Pool from 12.45pm |

1995

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 18–26 February | Boat, Caravan & Leisure Show – Birmingham |
|----------------|---|

In the Winter issue of BN

The \$100m, 900-passenger, 537 ft Crown Jewel cruises the Caribbean – clothes free. Gourmet dining, sauna, Olympic spa, nude island destinations, roulette, shopping mall – this really is something different. Paul Taylor was aboard and reports for BN.

It seemed such a good idea!

– by Ian Slater

1994 will be a year long remembered at Blackthorns Sun Club. It saw the death of one of the Club's founders, Harold Pegrum. It marks 25 years of ownership and occupation of Pippin Wood. It has seen the introduction of the very ambitious, and successful, RSVP socials (perhaps worth an article on their own). And it saw a good idea almost flounder in a small pool of bureaucracy at the Town Hall.

The children have always been important at Blackthorns. Over the years they have been encouraged to become involved in the running of the club and in the provision of the facilities they wanted. Even the youngest child is likely to turn up one weekend with a fund-raising suggestion, and sponsored this or that. Junior raffles, competitions with an entry fee, etc. have all happened at the suggestion of the children. They almost have more funds than the adults! Over a number of years, at least three attempts have been made to give the children accommodation they could call their own. On each occasion, a caravan, increasingly larger, was located away from the centre of the Club's activities, giving the children of all ages a chance to 'do their own thing'. Others can advise on the success of each attempt, but it has to be admitted that the caravans were near to, if not passed, their use-by dates.

Following yet another fund raising effort, and with the flush of enthusiasm new members can always bring to projects, in 1993 it was decided to do something better for the children. Blackthorns had the chance of a sectional building of almost any size it cared to name, and it was decided that a central location as part of a gradual refurbishment/redevelopment of the pavilion complex would allow 'discreet' supervision and the provision of a power supply for lighting, hi-fi, television, etc, if these were required. A scheme was produced, and the cost was going to be £120 for the building itself – have I said that it was a very good deal? – plus a base, modifications to the roof, and power supply. A total cost for the project was put at well under £1,000 including all fees.

We do like to do things properly at Blackthorns, and our resident town planner saw no problem with getting the necessary planning permission, other than that he was too busy to get it. The planners did visit the site to check on the effect on trees, and whilst on site congratulated the club on its woodland management work. The planning permission duly arrived, however, with conditions Blackthorns could easily live with. By now, the building had been purchased to ensure the 'deal' did not disappear. The site was pegged out, and the children started digging out the base – they did volunteer.

Then the Council struck again. The construction details were very simple, and the application for approval under the Building Regulations seemed more of a formality than the planning permission had been. The warning signs appeared when we were advised that the fee for determining the application and for the first inspection had to be based on the full cost of a new building erected by a builder, and that the Building Inspector reckoned this cost to be £15,000 – £20,000. The fees together would exceed the cost of the building quite a few times! We obtained formal estimates from a competent local builder – who happens to be a member – to show that even if done professionally the total cost would be less than £4,000, but the Council would not accept that the building had cost just £120 to purchase. Even the receipt for £120 did not move them. We pleaded poverty and remarked on the effort that would be required if the children had to raise several hundred pounds more. To no avail.

The Building Inspector advised there would be a limit on the number of people who could occupy the building at any one time of 15–20 because of fire regulations. This is probably fair, but we do have over 70 children. We will have to live with such a restriction.

The Council then played their trump card. What about access for the disabled? Those who know Blackthorns will recall the total absence of surfaced footpaths around the club grounds which are, when all's said and done, a semi-ancient woodland. We have had members with disabilities, but wheelchairs, as one of our Directors can confirm almost as I write, cannot easily cope with the unmade road and muddy paths. The junior pavilion was to be only 16' square. We were now told that to get Building Regs. approval we would have to provide ramped access to the main entrance and the fire door, that if the ramp exceeded a certain height a handrail would be required, that there had to be a level surface at the doors large enough to turn a wheelchair around on, and, obviously, that the doors had to be wide enough for a wheelchair. Needless to say, this was wider than the doors supplied with the building. To provide space for ramps, the 'ice cream kiosk' would have to be both moved and reduced in size, the patio would have to be altered, and the excavation to provide an adequate ramp from the fire door would extend into the area eventually required for the extension of the pavilion. And then there is the additional cost of these changes.

Blackthorns is adamant that its junior pavilion *will* be built, eventually! After almost 9 months of negotiation, a new planning permission in respect of the



Bags my Dad goes first!

Photo: Ian Slater

changes to the building, the ramps, etc, has been granted. The new Building Regs application is with the Council, but we cannot get anything like agreement with Council officers on the true cost of the building. Until that is achieved the fee for determining the application cannot be set, and although technically there is nothing wrong with the application it cannot be approved and work allowed to progress. Negotiations are continuing.

The problems with such an insignificant building have now led to a rethink on plans for the rebuilding of the pavilion, more in the context of any limitation that may be put on numbers occupying a new building. Equally, however, as a club that has always relied on the efforts of its members to build facilities, charging Building Control fees on the full market rate for the construction of a building will increase the cost of even small projects by hundreds of pounds.

The story continues to unfold. It all seemed so simple in 1993!

EX-BN MAN SENTENCED

A former Editor of BN magazine appeared for sentence at Southampton Crown Court on 5 August.

Clifford Luton, 59, had been found guilty at an earlier hearing in Bournemouth of importing more than 500 photographs, some of which were indecent.

Judge John Beashel told Luton, 'These photographs are not pornographic but they are indecent. You used your position as Editor of a naturist magazine to gain access to young people.'

Luton was fined £500.

What you tell us . . . Letters

Disabled requirements

In almost every edition of BN someone is writing and saying what should be done to attract membership to the naturist movement. Reference is made to the tradesmen, professionals, the single man, single woman, how to keep young people interested, so on and so on. But little reference is ever made of the need for making provision for the disabled whether they are man, woman or child. All may have different needs.

Looking at the symbols used in the CCBN handbook, they refer to almost everything that would interest the able bodied but absolutely no reference at all to the disabled.

How many sun clubs cater in any way for the disabled? There are a few who provide special parking places, others have incorporated special facilities in new buildings. But, in the main, little is provided and, where it is, little publicity is given to such facilities.

A few things which would be a great help to the disabled are:

- special parking places;
- ramps where there are steps;
- hand rails on each side of a toilet cubicle
- lighter springs on doors and gates and some possible help with indoor games and outdoor sports.

Not all disabilities are caused by accidents or the like. Many who have been club members for 30 to 40 years, often serving their club well, find themselves in difficulties and it would seem, very often, the attitude of younger members is if one is sixty years old or more, then they should not be naturists, particularly if they have become disabled.

Remember! Disability can creep up on anyone, whatever their age and so let all organisations within the naturist movement give some thought to providing facilities for the disabled and make it known in their publicity.

Cliff Cooper

Too nude

I wish to register a strong protest about the cover photo of BN120. A deliberate exposure of female genitalia and fancy shaving has no place in naturism, especially on the front of BN. At the very least, one can comment that the rationale behind it is curious seeing that H&E is berated on page 7 for exactly that kind of material and pages 20 & 21 have close links too. Why did you not use the lovely picture of the little girl or the couple on page 13? I agree with Brian Topliss's point regarding a greater use of beach and resort photographs. There are many naturist clubs and holiday centres in Europe with spectacular views, old mansion houses and artistic events.

Marion Harris

Fun to look back

Reading the article 'Forty years on' by John and Dulcie Newell in BN120 gave me enormous pleasure. Their account of Spielplatz in the '50s accords completely with my own memories. I would welcome more articles about the old days.

Julian Haddon

Cor-phew!

We visited Myrtilotissa beach, Corfu, in May. The temperature was 90°F and the beach well populated. Corfu is a beautiful island, the people friendly and cuisine to suit all tastes and pockets (when you have pockets). We can recommend Myrtilotissa to all readers.

Ian & Pauline Patrick



Pauline Patrick enjoys Myrtilotissa Beach.

Tan-through costumes

It was with great interest that we read the brief note on 'cheating textiles' in BN120. Living in Coronation Street type houses with gardens to match makes nude sunbathing very difficult. Does any reader know whether such costumes are available in this country?

Harold & Marie Everitt

The things we do in clubs

CCBN is losing respect as it appears more and more to fail to reflect naturism as a natural lifestyle and treats it as a 'thing we do in clubs' which, like getting drunk, is not illegal but might be criticised by others. There is increasing public acceptance of naturism and recent media articles, broadcasts and films have been favourable or at least neutral. CCBN should capitalise on this and attack the bigots.

The fact that CCBN cannot give me the name of a sympathetic MP indicates a serious failure to live in the real world where contacts in Westminster are essential.

E.R. Kermode

(Perhaps the more favourable media attitude is the result of CCBN's efforts? - Ed.)

Insurance agents

I found the article 'Affordable travel insurance for the over-60s' in BN120 very informative. It is particularly interesting to compare it with clause 5 of Peng Travel's contract which states, 'We regret we cannot accept any alternative cover.' I am the holder of year-round travel insurance and find that requirement unacceptable. As a result, Peng Travel refuse to accept my bookings.

It is time that travel agents accepted their role as just that, agents for the customer and arranged their travel.

E. Ellerby

Martin Dyke Recital

At the recent South West Region AGM, it was agreed that we deplored the tone of the letter in BN120 suggesting that the audience at any future Martin Dyke Recital should attend 'as naturists'. In reply we would say that this would be totally alien to our code of practice.

*Sue Sands
Hon. Sec., SW Region*



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Letters

Who remembers Woodside?

You say BN wants letters, memories, comments, etc, so here goes!

Re Derek Morgan's article in BN120, I quote from his last paragraph – 'Until we do (have the courage to stand by our beliefs) we will be forced to go on "hiding ourselves away" in the most remote and inaccessible places we can find. . . . He talks of ' . . . social prejudice which makes it necessary. . . . Rather unfortunate phrasing which could cause wonder as to what needs such secrecy.

I cannot agree with him. I've been a naturist since 1940 in England, France and Corsica. Over all those years my husband (known then as Watty) and I have made no secret of our nudism among friends and workmates alike and have never met any prejudice. At worst the comment has been 'Well, it's not my cup of tea, but good for you if you enjoy it'.

It makes me wonder whether we protest too much about the anti-reactions from others. Perhaps we are showing the prejudice! Rather too smugly conscious of the superiority of non-textile over textiles – maybe? Live and let live works both ways.

My husband and I are retired and no longer active members of our old club 'Diogenes' – (Illness and the wheelchair have claimed me). Our last naturist holiday was a return visit to Corsica in 1982/3 – a wonderful nine months in the 'Corsicana' complex.

As to memories – here are a few. I had a small part in catering for visitors to Woburn Abbey during the International Naturist Congress there in 1958. Who still remembers it? I wonder how many of the older members of Diogenes can recall the previous site near the 'Black Boy' pub, or the little club called Aesculapius where I hosted and worked at Cricket Wood Station. Anyone remember Woodside l.o.w. with Arthur and Jean Critchard and later the starting-up at Southview? Can't be many of the old 'uns of those days still around.

Well, Mr. Editor, you wanted memories – you've got them! Hopefully this letter will stir up a few more amongst your readers.

Edith Watkins

Nude Millennium

We held a Sports Officers meeting in the Spring and I brought forward various matters to the M.R. Committee last Sunday. It was felt that one idea merited a wider airing.

We are fast approaching the year 2000 and it would be good to consider a way of using that auspicious date to celebrate naturism. The idea that was proposed was a *Naturist Olympic Games* that could be held in a suitably warm centre that could cope with the event.

It would provide an opportunity for naturists from all over the world to gather for an international sporting event which would not only broadcast the healthy nature of our movement but would also bring people together to promote naturism.

The events would comprise of the traditional Greek games – open to both men and women, together with other sports that have found favour with naturists in recent generations.

I look forward to hearing observations from fellow readers.

*Gordon Clark
(M.R. Sports Officer)*

(At the original Olympic site in Greece? – Ed.)



Edith Watkins, Spielplatz, 1950.

Film onto Tape?

In common I suspect with many naturists of my generation my wife and I have a quantity of standard 8mm film that we would like transferred onto video, if possible with added title and background music.

Whilst it is possible to do this using home equipment this does not produce a really satisfactory result as the image is grainy and has areas of 'burn out'. The only really satisfactory answer is to have it done professionally using a 'flying spot' telecine system, the cost of this equipment putting it out of the amateur range. This is where our problem arises.

We have tried to get our films copied and whilst professional companies are willing to transfer our non-naturist stock they are not anxious to transfer our naturist footage, most of which was taken at our sun club and at Montalivet. We are also a bit concerned about the possibility of multiple copies of this footage being made without our permission. We would therefore be pleased if you or one of your readers could tell us where we can get this type of transfer work carried out as so far no one has advertised this service in your magazine.

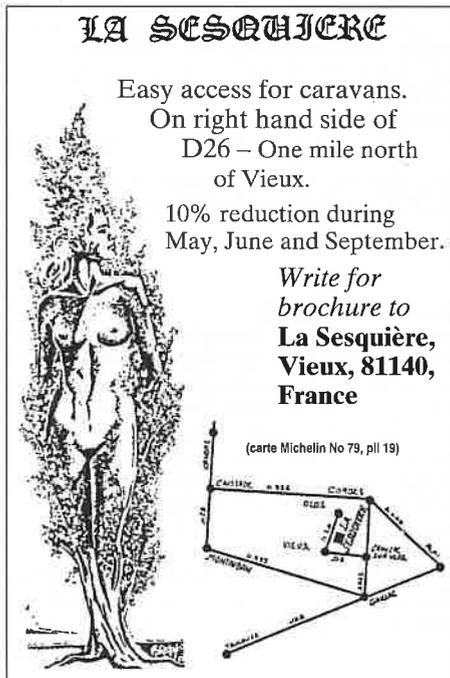
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Going to The Gambia

Recent correspondence has revealed an inexpensive guest house in The Gambia being run by a couple, formerly members of Invicta Sun Club. Needless to say it is in a naturist friendly environment – rare for Africa.

If anyone is planning to go to The Gambia in the near future and wouldn't mind making a small investigative diversion for the benefit of other members by improving my 'database', please get in touch with me for details.

If any readers already have experience of it and would let me know their findings, that would also be greatly appreciated.

*Lawrence Thorington-Jones
(Holiday adviser – 'all other countries')
(Stamps always appreciated.)*

Praise – and ideas

What a good issue BN120 was! Lots to read, some of it controversial – just as it should be. Congratulations to the Editor and team.

Nice also to have a few comments on my 'Time for a change' article (BN119) and many of them constructive. I'm not interested in the wailings of the Abominable No-Man ('We've never done that – it won't work!') You may be 'happy with BN', anonymous writer of the long letter on page 10, but I wrote from the heart, not 'tongue in cheek'. I agree with you that BN is a house journal, but given that the public voice of naturism in this country, H&E, (not CCBN!), has made the decision to go 'top shelf' (according to Kate Sturdy, quoted on page 33 of BN120) then the time for BN to go on public sale has arrived.

Full marks, then, to Robin Summerhill, whose well argued article on pages 20–22 parallels my thoughts exactly. CCBN is Britain's spokesperson for naturism, not today's H&E, the FBN, or Starkers or anyone else. Or if not, it deserves to be replaced. I applaud the 'word of mouth' approach lighted by Derek Morgan, articles like the one in a recent 'Yes' magazine endorsed by CCBN, but I do believe strongly in my original premis, that our best organ of communication should be via the national organisation's own publication.

How I see it is this . . . BN in two parts, the major one being the 'glossy' publicity for naturism: clubs, beaches, swim-sessions, lifestyle, psychology, etc. This is where the adverts go. This is what goes on public sale. CCBN-subscribing members get an insert as well which contains the in-house information like 'What happened at the AGM,' etc.

At one time the French Nat'Info was a bit like BN (though much less interesting). It had a lot of input from the FFN but little from members or clubs. It was not on public sale. What sparked the revolution, I don't know, but suddenly a quiet little in-house quarterly went public and quickly became a very interesting and informative read. I'm a bit of a hoarder, so if BN editorial want to look at back numbers of Nat'Info, La Vie au Soleil, etc., mine go back quite a way!

To be honest, I see very little in BN now which I wouldn't want the public to see. The cover would have to change, though. It should show groups, families, etc., rather than single females, pleasant as they are. Montages, long shots, the naturist in the countryside, at the seaside, in the club, etc.

Show it how it is, and discreetly. That first point of contact is so important, for several reasons. It should encourage the potential purchaser to pick it up and pay for

it without embarrassment. It should 'say' to the shopkeeper 'don't put me on the top shelf', but in travel, health, etc. Talk to W.H. Smith - get their opinions.

Inside, it needs to continue its intelligent approach, with information and stimulation. More copy than pictures, as at present! Attractive and readable.

Could CCBN afford to pay for some of its articles, or try commissioning them?

Send out reporters (that's us, by the way!), searching for news and information from a personal perspective. Let's go one better than the French and include information for the British naturist (including foreign centres, etc.) as well as about British naturism. Eventually produce it in other languages! (!! Ed)

Perhaps 'The Naturist' would make an effective title, or 'Naturism today', or...? Whatever the strategies involved, I see the aim of it as essentially twofold.

Continuing to perform the information/education/entertainment functions to all naturists, including CCBN members, and informing those who know little or nothing about naturism outside today's H&E, and who might be converted. I'm not seeking an increase in membership, but an increase in awareness and acceptance. If this could be made to happen, think of the benefits.

Frank Haynes

No infants

We are a family of beach naturists. For a few years we were club naturists but we became disillusioned by the enclosed secrecy and the power struggles which would have done any boardroom proud. So we went back to the beaches. Recently, we were attracted by a holiday in the Cotswolds and sent away for Tara Club's brochure. We were disgusted to discover that no children under five years old are accepted in Tara's holiday homes. This club makes a special point of stating that it is family owned and family run with bookings taken from couples and families only.

We all know the textile world is full of racial and religious discrimination but at least it does not discriminate against the youngest and most innocent of us all. Can naturism really flourish with this contradictory attitude to family naturism?

Keith & Linda Warbrick

BN asked Tara to comment on this letter. They told us that children of all ages are very welcome on the site in tents and touring caravans. However, their experience with very young children had led them to impose a ban in the holiday homes - Ed

Low flying aircraft

RAF helicopters, Tornados and trainer planes always seem to fly low over our garden whilst we're outside sunbathing. Abbots Farm is the only house for hundreds of yards in any direction, so there must be a good reason why they aim for us.

Should I - (a) Complain to the Squadron Leader; (b) Invite the pilots to tea to discuss the matter; (c) Wave cheerily to the crews as they fly past.

Through these pages in BN, I would be grateful for any comments or suggestions from yourself, from the RAF, or from BN readers, on how they would view the situation.

Marion Shaw

Write to BN

The letter pages of BN are the forum of the people - naturist people. Ideas, comment, criticism, all are read with interest by the Editor. The best go into BN. Get your point across - get your point in print.

What the papers say - by Bernard Scott

It seems that the Media is not happy unless it can turn the most innocent news into a sly, nudge-nudge item whether it be sport, politics, leisure or whatever. They would have us believe that they are the 'Guardians of Public Morals and Wellbeing', gleaning all sorts of shady news and paying large sums of money for them, to the embarrassment of the victims and the financial gain of the offenders.

We naturists suffer the indignity of being told that 'This is a family beach', many local parish councils appear only to listen to objectors and dismiss applications out of hand with the most lame explanations and excuses.

Television advertisers spend many millions portraying their products in the most blatant manner, showing all types of people cavorting in the nude, whilst the sponsors say 'The adverts are very tastefully done, they reveal a very British approach to nudity. It is a pity that the 'British approach to nudity' does not apply to the naturists themselves.

Holiday officials at Southport are most upset that their beach at Ainsdale is portrayed as the 'World's bawdiest naturist beach' by the Planet Sex Diary.

The Hampstead Pond continues to provoke controversy, with the changing area being divided into nude and non-nude sections. The objectors as usual being in the minority, consider this 'Outrageous and against the interest of the Pond'. So much for Democracy.

Nude swimming at Colchester Leisure World Pool has found favour with some councillors, who have decided to investigate the cost of screening the pool from prying eyes. Naturists argue that Leisure World should cater for them as they are trying to dispel the myth that nude swimming is 'Rude and Indecent'. Is there any

reason why nude swimmers should have to pay for screens to be installed?

What a different story we hear from other countries. In Australia a magistrate dismissed a prosecution of 30 nude bathers at Beef Beach, Sydney, ruling that bylaws in use since 1919 to charge skinny dippers only applied to their beach clothing. The order stipulated that beach wear not be 'indecent, inadequate, in disrepair or too thin. There was no actual decree on nudity.

An apartment block in Oakland California has been designated nudist only. Clothes are banned unless the tenants are off to work. However in the ski resort of Crested Butte in Colorado nude skiing will not be allowed again. It happened when about 40 men and women celebrated the end of the ski season, and the beginning of spring by skiing down the slopes naked on Easter Sunday. After the usual complaints from parents with children, and talking with the local police, officials decided that next season's skiers will have to keep their clothes on.

Traffic cops in Nevada, USA, have found a novel way of slowing down speeding motorists. They have put a traffic sign outside Warm Springs: 'Caution Nudists Crossing.' As one would expect the traffic has slowed down.

Plans are afoot to have a number of official naturist beaches in Eire, there are about 25 beaches being used around the coast and it is hoped that the councils will allocate clothing-optional beaches. Many Ulster naturists use these remote beaches each summer.

Finally, at Travemunde on the Baltic coast, the town council says that the best holiday makers are naturists because they leave the beaches clean and take their litter home with them.



Tea's up! (See Marion Shaw's Letter.)

CCBN DIRECTORY

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All other countries: Lawrence Thorington-Jones, 22 Hazelwell Fordrough, Birmingham B30 2RU.

The British Isles, (holiday advice for visitors to this country): Ken and Sheila Watkinson, 15 East Parade, Skelton, Cleveland TS12 2BJ. Tel: (0287) 652858.

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Western European Federations meet in Utrecht

Within the membership of the INF there are 31 Federations as full members. They meet every two years at the INF Congress to debate naturism and the management of the INF. Every year there are meetings of more 'local' groupings of federations. The Western European meeting is possibly the most influential within the INF as it comprises the three largest federations (French, Dutch and German). The meeting for 1994 was held in June at the offices of the Dutch Federation in Utrecht and British Naturism was represented by Suzanne Piper (President) and Ron Twining (Overseas Secretary). The weekend, apart from the formal meeting is also an opportunity to discover more about naturism in the host country.

The Dutch Federation (NFN) is possibly the fastest growing federation in the world with growth of 8% per annum (UK 4% per annum whilst the FFN and DFK are seeing a reduction in members) with 55,000 members from a total population of 15 million. They have large offices in the centre of Utrecht staffed by 8 permanent staff. The office is also the base for three associated companies. The NFN is an umbrella organisation for 60 associations including 50 clubs with their own land. Because of their strength of numbers they have a sympathetic government ear.

The main topic of the business meeting was the formation of a European Naturist Union (ENU) and the effect that this would have on the future of the INF. The idea of an association of European Naturists was first raised two years ago at the Interfederation meeting in Switzerland. At that time questions were raised regarding the future of the INF, the fact that the Western Federations meeting does not include all the European Federations and the possible division of the INF into Continental Associations. These ideas have been further progressed at the subsequent Interfederation meeting in Belgium and at the FFN annual general meeting in Verdun in 1993. Informal meetings have taken place both within the individual federations and between the constituent federations.

It was felt that the ENU would be the vanguard of non-political organisations within the European Union and that it is important for the European Federations to connect into the dynamics of Europe. Because young people, culture, sports and education are all subsidised within Europe we would gain the recognition necessary to obtain assistance. There are also possibilities of enabling changes to legislation in some countries where that legislation would be disadvantageous to naturists. Ways of financing the ENU whether within or outside of the INF were discussed and Philippe Cardin (FFN) and Carl Dreßsen (INF) were given the responsibility of drawing up a constitution within a month for circulation to federations.

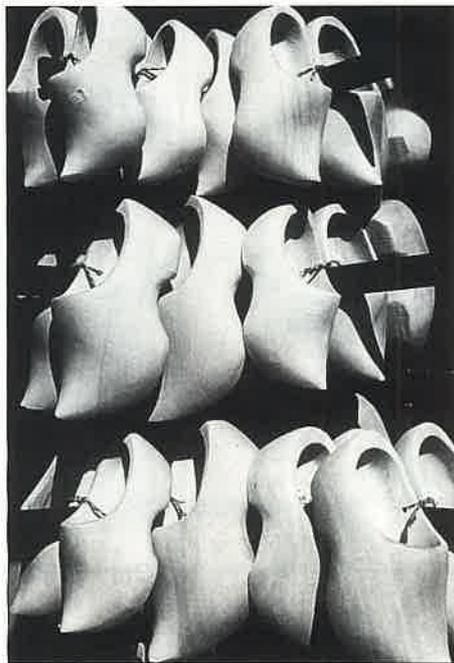


Photo: Suzanne Piper

It is obvious that the role of the INF will change with the formation of the ENU especially with regard to financing and this would have to be taken into account when formulating a constitution. The constitution of the INF would require amendment which would be tabled at the 1996 Congress.

There are still many details to be dealt with and there was concern that the unity that currently exists between federations and within the INF is not compromised. In principle both the Central Committee of the INF and all the federations present, including British Naturism support the formation of the ENU.

Suzanne Piper & Ron Twining

Notes from the EC

At the June 1994 meeting of the Executive Council members remembered the contribution made to naturism by the late Jim Miller. Newly appointed Regional Councillors Hugh Beaumont and Richard Thornton were welcomed.

Work is continuing on the computer and plans were made for a hand over when Nick Birkett retires from his position as Chairman in September. Work had begun on the constitution and it was appreciated that the review would take a long period of time and should be taken step by step. Some anomalies were noted and the necessary resolutions would be put to this year's AGM.

Discussions had taken place with Telford Club regarding subscriptions and the EC agreed that the present subscription policy is a true reflection of the

costs of maintaining each membership unit. More banks had been approached regarding a credit card with negative responses. Caravans and chalets permanently sited on club grounds can be insured through the CCBN insurance policies. The levels of expenses allowable for those travelling on CCBN business was reviewed and the mileage allowance increased to 17 pence from 1st July. It was also agreed to allow additional officers to hold cash floats.

Previous negotiations for office premises had fallen through but another premises had been found and visited by several members of the Executive. It was agreed that the management team proceed with offers and survey. Some minor work would need to be done before we would be able to move.

Further discussions took place regarding the Childrens Act and the implications for naturism. It has been suggested that a study be made relating to children and young people within naturism. Discussion took place regarding representations made to several MPs and the Home Secretary's office regarding the implications of amendments to the Criminal Justice and Public Order Bill: Obscene Publications Act 1959. Whilst assurances have been given (as they were when the Public Order Act 1986 was passed) concern was expressed.

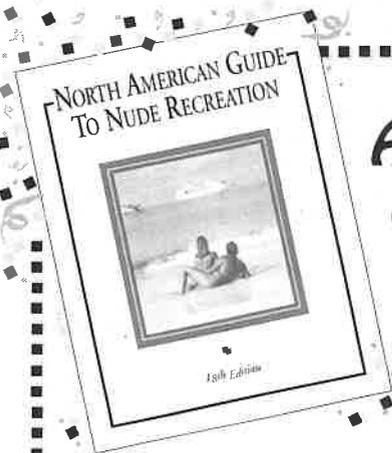
It was agreed that the role and structure of the Future Strategy Group be revised and that it would have two permanent members who would coordinate tasks set by the EC on an annual review basis. The permanent members would work with up to three others, appointed by the EC to make up each working party. Outside expertise would be called upon when the need arose. They would report back to the EC who would decide on further action to be taken.

Whilst it has been compulsory for photographs on membership cards when travelling abroad, members are requested to have photographs for use in the UK. Many clubs have requested this.

Letters had been received from several people regarding the editorship of BN. It was agreed to interview and appoint a new editor within a month. Typesetting and printing will remain with our current companies as they have shown a great deal of loyalty through some very difficult times. It was agreed that photographic coverage of nationally sponsored events would be coordinated through Bill Richards, the official photographer.

The 'Welcome Book' designed for new members will be published shortly using the existing logo which, after consultation it has been decided to retain for the immediate future.

A report on the Interfederation meeting will be found on this page.



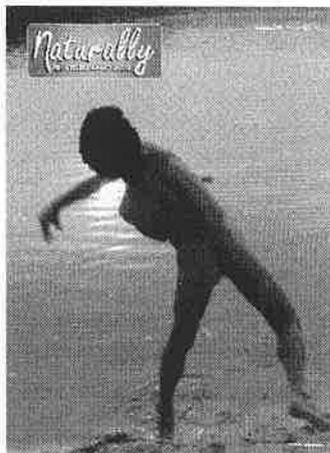
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NATURIST TEENAGERS – a contradiction in terms?

by Helen Clark

When did you decide to become a naturist? For the majority of people, it was a rational decision, made as an adult. You realised that you would be more comfortable without clothing, in suitable circumstances, and that sensible human beings could, or at least, ought to be able to, behave in a socially responsible way, without subscribing to the nudity taboo.

Small children are generally happy naked. To them, clothes have practical uses. If you want to pick blackberries, you put your trousers on. However, as a child grows older, he or she becomes more and more aware of the world around, and not only the world of the club, or the beach. Clothes begin to mean a great deal. To have the right clothes ensures acceptance by the child's peer group at school, and by the time a child reaches the age of ten or eleven, he will usually have become adept at coaxing his parents to buy the kind of clothing and footwear (yes, my children want Doc Martens boots too), that is generally worn by his friends.

If a teenage child has the wrong clothes he has no 'Street Cred.' He becomes an object for contempt among his friends. If he has the right clothes he can be Top Dog. When you take him to any naturist environment, you are asking him to give up his armour, and he is only too aware of being young, and vulnerable, even with the armour on!

It's difficult for parents to strike a fair balance between the activities any teenager child wants to be involved in, and family activities, including naturism. Some families live near large clubs, which offer many exciting things for their children to do, on site. Many families, including my own, have only small clubs with limited facilities. My two teenage children feel that sunbathing is all right occasionally, but they have other things to do. They like to go to the swimming pool with their friends, they like to go skating, they like to go out in the evenings. They're old enough now to be trusted to behave themselves (I hope), so they don't always accompany us to the club. They still enjoy the club swimming nights at a local pool, and although they don't always undress in the club grounds, they do for the swimming.

A teenager is not a naturist. He's a large child who may or may not accept your values to the extent of being willing to do what his family does, some or all of the time. He's too big to be pushed or lectured into doing what he doesn't want to; and any intelligent teenage child is going to suspect the motives of anyone who continually urges him or her to remove clothing, when he or she would be happier dressed. A child brought up as a naturist is very unlikely to actually feel ashamed of his body,



I want Doc Martens too!

and as soon as he has gained enough experience of the world to give him a bit of self-confidence, will most probably be happy to be a naturist in his own right.

My youngest child, at four years old, already recognises that whether to wear clothes or not should be a personal decision, though she has not yet grasped the parameters of acceptable naturism. If she is hot, she undresses, at the club, at home, and once in the High Street. She doesn't care what other people think yet, but the day will dawn when she will stop and think: 'I wonder what my friend Sam would think of that? Perhaps he wouldn't like it. Perhaps I'd better not? I don't know...' And she will keep her clothes on in front of her friends, and ask me to buy her some Doc Martens boots.

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DANGER AHEAD

by Gerry Ryland (President of CCBN 1970-1990)

The summer issue of BN arrived appropriately enough during a spell of warm sunny weather, so I sat in the sun and read it. A few 'letters' set me thinking.

Margery and me are now into our fortieth year of club membership and I have held club, regional, and national office for 38 of those years. Currently I am listed as the delegate representing the outdoor recreation of naturism on the Governing Body, and the Recreational Development Committee of the South West Council for Sport and Recreation, so I can claim to have served a good apprenticeship. During this time I have seen naturism grow, and change. The big change was adding the new dimension of indoor swimming with the use of public facilities which extended our activities to 12 months of the year. Furthermore, our commercial value is being recognised, so too is our conduct and we are now in contact with those who can grow naturism for us. From my experience the 'swimmers' are extremely loyal, recognising the need for an active national body to extend their facilities and safeguard what they have. They have naturist holidays, but not many are sun club members, or indeed wish to be – they are contented with their weekly 'dip'.

At this point, I must have dropped off to sleep, it could have been the sun, could have been thinking of contentment, and I clearly saw a gateway to a sun club. Hanging from it was a notice with the words 'Please do not disturb – we are sunbathing'. And why not, that is what they are formed to do; they are at peace with the world – sad the world is not a peaceful place – but they too are contented with their few hours of sunshine. They won't rock the boat. Then I heard music. I was in a large room, very much like the Kensington Library. I overheard somebody say it was another Martin Dyke Recital, but to my horror, everybody was naked. This was no ordinary dream, this was a nightmare, this was extremist nudity. In all my promotional endeavours I've pleaded that *if it does not make sense, it does not make naturism*, but this, this wanton nudity was a disaster for naturists. The tabloid press was having a field-day, so too

were the sceptical public. Over-night we had lost what credibility we had ever gained. We are geared to public opinion; what progress could we make now? Then I saw Prince Charles on the TV, it was his documentary, and I heard him say that he did not object to the 'avant garde' but would not wish to see them become the establishment. 'How true your Highness', I heard myself saying – 'how true'. How could this happen to us, what went wrong I was repeating. Then way in the distance a voice was calling. 'It's the vote – the vote'. I regained consciousness in a cold sweat – of course, the vote: one member, one vote. We had all been caught napping. While the naturists were enjoying their naturism, a handful of the 'avant garde' had become the establishment.

Margery brought me a cup of tea, (she looks after me very well) but she said she'd heard me snoring my head off. Of course I didn't believe her. I returned to my reading. The letter headed 'Official Beaches' caught my attention. It is not a question of how many new beaches have been designated since 1989. As far as the South West is concerned, there seems to be no intention to designate any. I can only hope that other regions will have some success. In my Sports Council meetings, I seize every opportunity to engage District Councillors and Tourist Officers in informal beach chat. They will talk

freely of a 'contain and control' policy. They favour it, but no way do they have the courage to designate a beach. They would not get the backing of the electorate if they embarked on such an adventure, and we have yet to gain the backing of the public. All too often where there has been some 'blind-eye' consent, maverick

nudist have caught the attention of the press, and antagonised the local people. A loss to naturists is the result. The too broad minded nudist is a menace to our progress.

As long ago as 1977 we were informed that South Hants Council will not make popular Pilchard's Cove official, but they do not prohibit naturist bathing. The nearest we get to 'official' is a line, 'Mostly for naturists' in the local Guide Book. Ask for official designation, and the chances are we would lose what we have. I recall a Councillor 'warning' me. 'They'll come crawling out of the woodwork to oppose you'. North end beach Perranporth has a local 'Guide Book' consent. We also know the beach belongs to the Duchy of Cornwall, and is not leased to the local council as part of the main beach. The Steward of the Duchy is aware of the situation – he is more concerned with good behaviour than our state of undress, but no way will you get any official recognition.

The only certainty is the commercially owned Polgaver beach in Carlyon Bay. There is no virtue in asking for beaches we are not going to get. Refusals and the publicity does not contribute to our progress. The situation requires some 'insider dealing'.

We need to convince the public of our integrity, we need to observe our Code of Conduct, and I believe we need a prolonged heatwave resulting in mass nudity beyond the control of the authorities. That could motivate them into some sort of legislation that could be 'contain and control', that'll be the day.

Martin Dyke Recital

With reference to your article on the Martin Dyke recital at Kensington Library I was there, and enjoyed it very much, I would welcome another similar event.

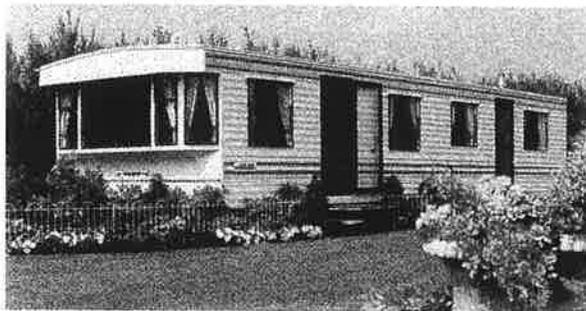
However, I do have one comment, as we are all naturists, should it not have been a *naturist* concert instead of a textile one? Any textiles who might be put off by this would not have to come, as there are numerous tea concerts and recitals to amuse them.

I did notice at Kensington that the heating system appeared to be quite capable of supplying the few extra degrees needed.

Geoff Dunn

'This was extremist nudity ...'

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World Naturist Day launch for Colgate Palmolive

Clubs throughout Great Britain organised a wide range of activities, from open days, 'Its a Knockout' type competition, fun days, sports, barbecues and themed social activities to celebrate World Naturist Day. 29 May, the designated Day, again coincided with the date for the members rally which was this year held at Ashdene Club in West Yorkshire.

A couple of weeks earlier we had received enquiries from the public relations firm responsible for a new Colgate Palmolive advertising campaign. Our media release was sent out about ten days before the event whilst the Colgate Palmolive one was sent by Fax on the Friday. Both the week before and the days after were an extremely busy period for naturists throughout the country as enquiries were coordinated by the Public Relations Officer and then passed to local contacts. In some cases, mainly television, we were unable to find a venue at short notice (one hour in one case) and another company pulled out at the last minute due to their own problems. Representatives did appear on Sky Television World News. There was also a listing on Teletext.

As in previous years we were extremely successful with local radio programmes with enquiries being dealt with from Radio 5 (two programmes), Three Counties Radio (two programmes), Radio Norfolk, Radio Derry, Radio Mercury, Radio Newcastle, Radio Hereford & Worcester, Radio Broadlands, Radio Belfast, Radio 4, Radio Cleveland, Radio Sheffield, Radio Derby, Radio Ayr, Radio Oxford, GWR Bristol, CWR Coventry, Radio Berkshire, Radio Cambridgeshire, Radio 1, BBC North of England, Radio Guernsey, Radio Gloucester and Radio Surrey.

The Press Association were in touch and short pieces appeared in the Daily Mail, Daily Telegraph, Herald Express Torquay, Bournemouth Evening Echo, Independent on Sunday, The People, Sunday Mail and the Brentwood Weekly News.

Generally media coverage was fair, much better than it would have been even a few years ago and there is the possibility of articles appearing in Cosmopolitan, ME and the Mail on Sunday as well as further television time.

On the beaches

BN would like to publish more beach news. Where you go, what you do, what you think about beach naturism. This is public naturism - is this the future? BN welcomes your views: your letters, articles and photographs.

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Autumn in the Dordogne

by Merlyn Morris

Many of us spend our summer holidays in France. The climate and large numbers of suitable sites, of varying size and type, are highly conducive to Naturism. Indeed the French government's publicity material and official naturist beaches show a very enlightened attitude that is lacking in Britain. However, what many may not realise is just how beautiful France can be off season and how, even in October, an all over tan is still possible and a lot cheaper than in the height of summer, not to mention the lack of tourists in usually popular places. My qualifications for the above statement? Ten wonderful days spent at the beginning of October at Cro Magnon in the Dordogne.

We left a cold, wet Wales on the 3 October, heading south for Portsmouth with caravan in tow. An overnight stop en route and we were in ample time for the night ferry to Caen. A luxurious crossing with a good night's sleep meant we were fresh for the journey south. At first the weather was not inspiring. We encountered some of the heaviest rain we have ever driven in, but heading southwards the sky brightened and as we approached the Dordogne a definite change was in sight. Dusk was falling as we pulled into Cro Magnon to the warmest of welcomes. An hour later dinner was cooking and a fierce thunderstorm, the first of several, was lighting up the night sky. The storm was short lived and the next morning we awoke to discover the magic of this site.

We walked to the view point to watch the sun creep over the mountains and disperse the morning mist, revealing the Dordogne valley in its

autumn magnificence. The scenery and colours were sublime as was the total silence, save the chatter of the birds. A tour of the site showed just how much care has been taken in setting it out. Each individual pitch is cut out of the woodland and screened by trees and bushes giving privacy, but at the same time a network of gravel paths off the main tarred road give easy access. Electric points, water and toilet blocks, which can only be described as superb, the best we have ever seen on any campsite, are all within easy reach. There is no doubt that this site has been created for naturists, by naturists and its very layout and position enhances and complements the naturist ideal. It lacks any of the pretentious commercialism of some naturist sites and yet in a totally unassuming way offers a full range of facilities.

The weather was variable, but at no time did it stop us enjoying ourselves. Many of the normally crowded attractions were open and sightseeing on empty roads was a pleasure. Cycle rides in the surrounding country were enjoyable – the hills, short and steep, ensured that the weight gained from superb local food and restaurants was quickly lost. From midday till late afternoon we were able to sunbathe and sun cream was required, something quite unthinkable at home. The pool was refreshing, the swims being brief and energetic. The naturist walks cut out of the forest led to the discovery of many plants, dragon flies and butterflies, not to mention the mushrooms, many of which are edible delicacies, but be warned – expert guidance is essential for accurate identification. Some are deadly. However the local pharmacy is qualified to advise. The Sunday market in St. Cyprien, again lacking tourists, was fascinating with many autumn foods, chestnuts, walnuts, edible fungi and some excellent bargains in winter clothing.

To see France in autumn and enjoy a naturist life style at the same time, in comfort and warmth, was for us a most relaxing holiday. The advantages of going off-season, peace, quiet, low costs are obvious. Whilst this is not possible for everyone with family and work commitments it is something well worth doing, not to mention the beneficial effects of some late sun before the winter starts. Cro Magnon was sheer magic for us; it is not a regimented commercial site, it offers simple quality off season with the opportunity to do a lot of things if you are prepared to organise your day yourself. Ed and Liduin Beitsma, who created this site, will give you any advice and help that you may need. The office is well stocked with brochures for all the local places of interest. Both speak fluent



English so it is easy to phone them to book a holiday or to enquire about anything. They went out of their way to make our stay enjoyable and yet left us to please ourselves. Their commitment to the naturist ideal is obvious from the pride they take in the site and its facilities. We feel that with Cro Magnon they have captured something unique. As we said in their visitors' book when we left, being the last visitors of the season, 'the world does not know what it is missing'.

For those thinking of an off season holiday the information below may be of some interest and help.

Ferry, ten day off season, return for car, caravan and two adults with luxury cabin, (an extravagance we allowed ourselves):

Car, caravan, 2 adults	£147
Luxury cabin	£91
Caravan Club insurance	£51

Site per night, including electricity, hot showers: FFr70, (approx £8.50). This is the off season discounted price.

Local restaurant prices: fixed menu from FFr80 to FFr150. The FFr90/100 menus were good value.

The journey south: Caen, Argentan, Le Mans, Tours, peage Tours to Poitiers, (cost FFr150), Limoges, Perigueux, St. Cyprien, approximately 415 miles, taking eleven hours with caravan in very poor weather conditions, including stops. The route Poitiers to St. Cyprien was the slowest and hardest part of the journey. The site is very well signed from all directions to St. Cyprien.

Returning home, an alternative route was used and was a much easier drive as it cuts out the difficult Poitiers to St. Cyprien leg. The journey north: St. Cyprien, Bergerac, Bordeaux, peage Bordeaux to Tours, (cost FFr191) Le Mans, Argentan, Caen, approximately 460 miles, taking nine hours.



IT HAPPENED THIS SUMMER . . .

Honeymoon at Roselan

Norman Sands and Sue Stevens were married on 18 June. The bride is Secretary of the South West Region and the groom is a SW Region Representative. After catering for fifty guests at an afternoon reception and 120 guests in the evening, both report that they were exhausted when they left for their honeymoon at Roselan. Sue says that they soon revived with good food, sunbathing, a massage with aromatic oils and superb accommodation. They recommend Roselan to everyone, whether on honeymoon or just in need of a break in a delightful naturist environment.



Above: Sue in wedding dress and centre left: Sue in normal dress.

Top right: Skin Deep dived off Studland in May from their live-aboard ketch. In June they joined the D-Day review in the Solent.

Centre right: July was a month to remember. No hosepipe ban here!

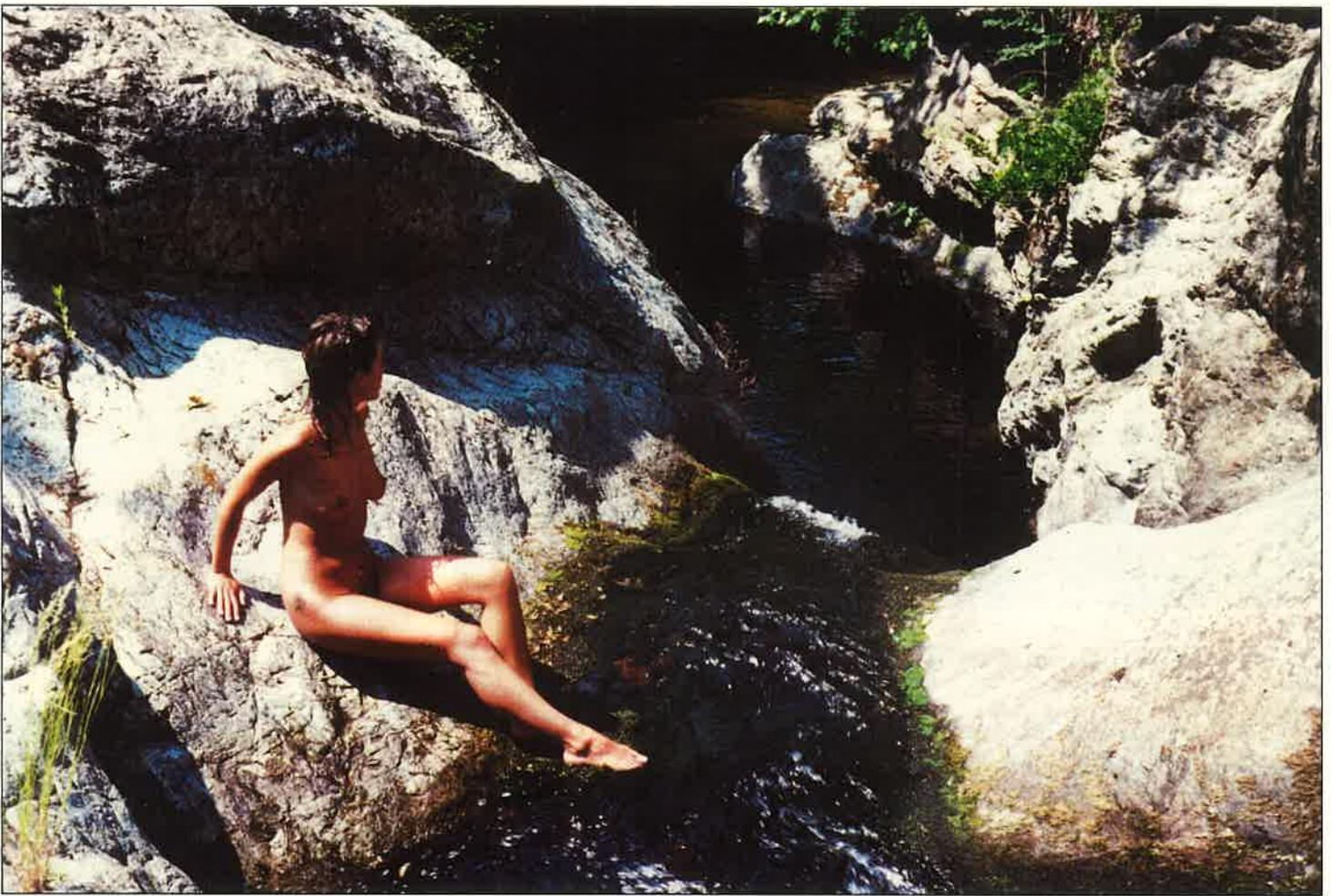
Bottom centre: CCBN President Sue Piper, Vice-Chairman Richard Daniels and Treasurer Mike O'Neill joined members of Valerian for the opening of their new pavilion in July.

Bottom left: Midland Region sports were held at Oakland in June. Harry Mills (Oaklands) received the Volleyball Trophy from Sports Officer Gordon Clark



Photo: Christine Holden





An attractive waterfall

Photo: Bill Richards

LA CLAPERE 'A little gem' in the Pyrenees

by Bill Richards

La Clapere, situated in the foothills of the Pyrenees, is one of the more distant sites as far as the francophile naturist camper is concerned. However, leaving the autoroute at the 'Le Boulou' exit we soon discovered the site's first attraction – it is only ten minutes away from this busy route into Spain and that was really very welcome after such a long drive. Ten minutes in time but leagues away in everything else, for La Clapere really is a delightful spot and we thoroughly enjoyed our two weeks there.

I should, I think, mention that Marion and I tend to holiday at the end of June before the main rush begins and our experience of French naturist sites is coloured by the fact they are then half empty and, for us, much the better for it. We did, then, see this comparatively young site at its best – late enough for the shop and restaurant to be open but early enough for there to be just the right number of people to satisfy our particular needs when it comes to holiday contact with our fellow man.

We pitched our tent among some plum trees (shade giving but frustratingly laden with unripe fruit) and waited for the hot Mediterranean sun we had

driven some nine hundred odd miles to enjoy to put in an appearance which, after a couple of cloudy but warm days, it did, happily to remain with us for the rest of our stay. La Clapere, we quickly found, has all the ingredients we look for in a holiday site including a wide choice of campsites, a superb swimming pool and a shop and restaurant which are both of a high standard. Also, equally important for us, there is space to walk, nude, for a kilometre or two along the valley of the small stream which runs through the site. This has the odd rocky pool where hot bodies can be dunked and one of these (pools not bodies), situated beneath an attractive waterfall, proved to be some six metres deep and provided for instant refreshment on the hottest of days.

Each Wednesday morning there is an organised ramble and we joined one of these during our second week. Reporting to reception at nine thirty on the morning in question complete with flask of water (good tip), I was mildly surprised at the number of people waiting there but a fair number of these didn't last the course, significantly none of those with young children. Walking unclad along the narrow

paths among the scrub in the hot sunshine was very pleasant indeed but it did get progressively hotter and, just as I was beginning to feel that enough was enough, we came upon the rocky stream at a point where a gloriously cool pool awaited our parched bodies and, with total abandon, we threw off our sandals and plunged in. The walk back to civilisation after this treat was by a more relaxing route through the taller trees that border the stream and this rounded off an unusual and enjoyable morning perfectly.

One facility that deserves special mention is the bloc sanitaire which is about the best I have encountered anywhere with plenty of solar heated showers, rows of smart pink sinks and no shortage of English type loos. It was from one of these latter that Marion fled in some agitation one morning gasping that there was 'an alligator down the loo'. On fearlessly investigating, I found a foot long, emerald green, lizard whose four legs were racing in a blur as it vainly tried to escape from the smooth sided pool it had found itself in. Hooking it out with a squeegee, I watched impressed as it rivalled my wife in the haste with which it left the building. As speedy



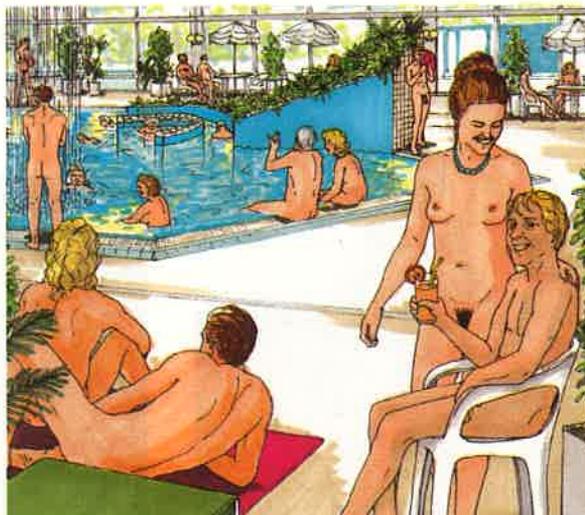
*With total abandon we threw off our sandals and plunged in . . .
Photo: Bill Richards*

an evacuation as any that morning I reckoned.

La Clapere is run by Roger and Claude Quenot with their charming daughter Laure and, as I said before, has all the features we look for in a holiday site and at a high standard. This does, though, come at a price, for the charges here are at the higher end of the price scale for naturist France. As for the surrounding area, we found

it a bit touristy and lacking in the charm we have enjoyed in other regions such as Provence or the Massif Centrale. That is, of course, a subjective criticism and, in any case, doesn't apply to the nearby town of Ceret which is very charming with an excellent market on Saturday mornings. All in all I would have no hesitation in describing La Clapere as a little gem in the foothills of the Pyrenees.

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It got hotter and hotter . . .

Photo: Bill Richards



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BN PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 1995

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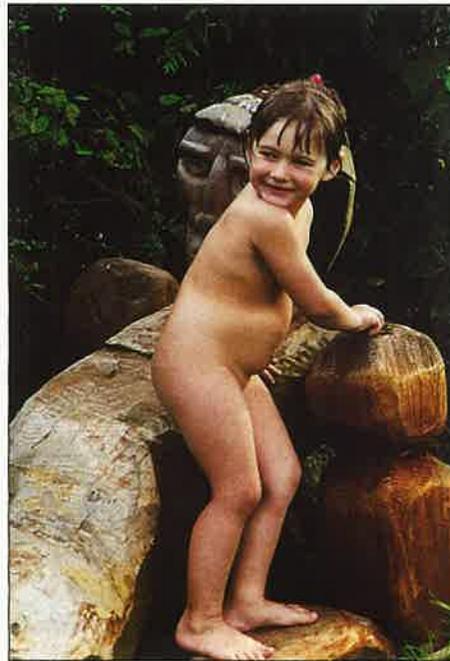
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Joanne sand-skiing

Photo: Nigel Clarke



Anita at Western Sunfolk

Photo: E. T. Bruce



Natalie looking for butterflies at Le Cro Magnon

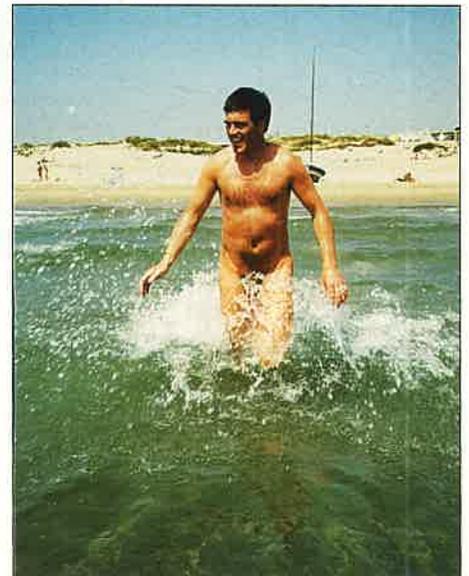
Photo: J. E. Hall



Phil at Euronat

Photo: K. S. Kirby

The photographs on this page caught the judges' attention in the 1994 competition. Can you do better – and win in 1995? That's the challenge to all naturists with a camera. Closing date 30 November. (Remember that all photographs must be accompanied by permission to publish in BN.)



Cooling off at Agde

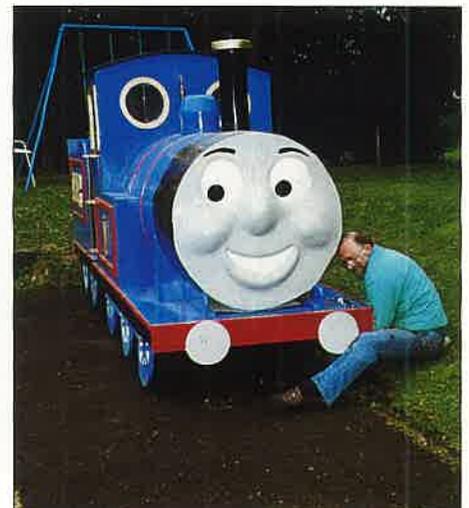
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On the footplate
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I awoke at the sound of a baby crying. As I lifted my head I realised that I had been sitting awkwardly and that my neck ached. I was on the coach to Cap d'Agde, where I would have the luxury of sun, sea and good food for two whole weeks.

'Good morning ladies and gentlemen, I hope you all had a good night. The time is seven-thirty and we will be stopping soon for breakfast.'

Mum woke up and rubbed her eyes. It's all right for some, she had fallen asleep at five last night and hadn't woke up until our tea-time stop at eleven. After that she fell asleep again. I only got two hours sleep, when I finally dozed off at five and I don't think dad did much better!

When we pulled into Cap d'Agde we had to sit sweating in our clothes while

Well the funny thing is that her doughnuts were two francs more than the Frenchman's and dad still insisted on buying hers and nearly every day too. It was his special treat you see having this beautiful French woman leaning over his sun bed and saying, 'Dix francs s'il vous plait'!

The next day I went to the club house at nine for the volleyball. We walked down to the volleyball net to find that it had been 'stolen' by a group of Germans who thought they had the right to use it. We went to the other net instead and I got talking to a man called Mark who was a DJ. He told me about his 2000 CD's and I was thinking crikey I haven't even got a CD player yet. We met every morning at nine and managed to improve our skills. (Me especially as I had no skill in the first

'Celle la cher!, Celle la cher!', said the waiter pointing to the lasagne he had put in front of me. Well I could see it was hot, it was bubbling, what did he think I was going to do, put my whole face in it? When we had finished we decided on our sweet. Mum had her usual strawberries and cream but dad and I chose a 'Gymnos special' which said it served two.

'What is it?' Dad asked the waiter.

'Ahh! it tiz a little bitz of everythinz.'

Five minutes later he came in with the biggest dish I had ever seen piled up with ice cream, sundaes, strawberries, fruit cocktail. In fact everything! 'Ses petits!' laughed the waiter as he placed it in front of us and saw our faces. Everyone in the restaurant turned around to watch us eat it. The cook stopped to watch us and people passing the window stopped and pointed at us. Well with such an audience what could we do but eat it? Dad gave up half way through. I thought it would be a waste not to finish if off so I did - much to the amazement of our onlookers! The only problem I had was that I couldn't stand up and had to be practically carried out of the restaurant to our apartment!

The next day it rained so we went out in search of an umbrella but there was not a shop that sold umbrellas on the complex. We went out into the other Agde where we bought one from the market. That afternoon we sent dad out to the corner shop to get us some crisps. He went out carrying an umbrella and wearing only a smile but had no sooner got to the gate when there was a loud clap of thunder which sent him back to the apartment at Olympic speed. It was very entertaining to watch!

'Bridget Bardot, . . . Bridget Bardot,' called the voices. We were walking around Port Ambonne and the voices were the shop owners.

'Who are they talking to?' I asked.

'You, stupid.'

'Oh!' I paused. 'Who's Bridget Bardot?'

Dad let out his breath and drew the shape of a shapely body in the air with his hands. I got the picture! Why they thought I was like Bridget Bardot I didn't know!

'Pomme, chocolat, abricot!' - Yes, you've guessed it, doughnut time!

'Pomme, Chocolat, Abricot'

- by Lucy Treagus, aged 13

we listened to a long and boring speech by Aubrey, most of which we had heard before!

Dad went to collect our keys. When he came out he had a broad grin stretching from ear to ear. Kind old Maurice had given us a four man apartment for the price of three and we hadn't even bribed him!

As dad was struggling to get the apartment door open I was sweating. I decided I would sweat no more and stripped my clothes off. Mum followed suit which left dad, expecting to find us annoyed at the delay, but found us sitting on chairs enjoying the hot sun!

The next day we went to the eleven o'clock meeting, not because we didn't know what was going on but simply because you get a free glass of wine and dad never turns anything down if it's free and certainly not alcohol! I decided I might join in the volleyball, and dad and I put our names down for the boules tournament. We had never played before but I was assured that there were other beginners and anyway everyone's got to start somewhere!

In the afternoon we went to the beach. A Frenchman walked down the beach selling delicious looking doughnuts and I asked dad if I could have one.

'How much' he asked.

'Eight francs.'

'Eight francs? Certainly not, that's far too expensive.'

The next day as we were sunbathing on the beach the man walked past again. Only five minutes later an extremely attractive French girl glided by who wore bells all over her and was chanting in a beautiful melancholy voice.

'Pomme, chocolat, abricot, abricot, chocolat, pomme.'

'Do you want a doughnut?' He asked me!

place!) After a week I made friends with two really nice girls from Derby whom I'm still in touch with and am hoping to go to Cap d'Agde with this year. I managed to persuade one of them - Charlotte - to join in the volleyball. Ayesha preferred to sit on the beach gazing at all the good looking men playing, of course, I didn't notice them!

Dad and I lost our boules match and were out in the first round. The following week dad partnered mum at boules so I went off in search of Mark - after all there must be a use for the man somewhere. He told me he was supposed to be partnering Alister but he would sort it out. He did. The first match went in our favour and we were in the second round, we were told that the people we were playing were experts but we won and went into the semi-finals. We lost because Mark had never played before, and I had only played the one game with dad in the last tournament. But we were thrilled to have got so far, especially as mum and dad got knocked out in the first round!

The first Saturday we were there we went to our favourite restaurant, Gymnos. We went 'Au Natural' as dad says! We sat down at a table and were brought a drink which I think is supposed to make you hungry, it was quite nice. The waiter came over with our menu which we didn't need as we always have the same. The waiter gave us our bottle of wine. He is incredibly handsome, just like something out of a magazine, he opened the bottle in a second. We watched the cook who's an incredible show off, if he knows you're watching you get flying pizzas everywhere. I ordered lasagne and watched him put it in the oven which is a wood-burner and after ten minutes remove it using his shovel.

Books Galore

Naturalists who are lovers of books relating to naturism and attitudes towards clothing and nudity will be pleased to know that the stock of titles held in the office is increasing. If the title you are interested in is not listed in the 'GIFT LIST' in this edition of BN why not give the office a ring to check if any new titles have been received. Remember all of our prices include postage and packing and are often cheaper than elsewhere.

Did you know that some book shops are also stocking books on naturism. If you live in London, The Travellers Bookshop, 25 Cecil Court, London WC2N 4EZ, telephone 071 836 9132, is the place to visit.

CCBN CLUBS

SCOTTISH & NORTH OF ENGLAND (Inc. Northern Ireland)

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| * Forth Naturist | Edinburgh |
| Greenacres | Durham |
| * Highland Sun | Moray Firth |
| Lakeland Outdoor | Millom |
| * Northern Outdoor | Belfast |
| Scottish Outdoor | Loch Lomond |
| Solway | Carlisle |
| * Solaqua | Belfast |
| Sunnybroom | Aberdeen |
| Tando | Newcastle upon Tyne |
| Tay Valley | Perth |
| Three Rivers | Tyne & Wear |

* Xanadu

Information

Tel: Celia Prentice (0324) 485485

YORKSHIRE

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Ashdene | Elland |
| Hallam | Sheffield |
| * Leeds Naturists | Leeds |
| Pendale | Halifax |
| * Ryedale | Malton |
| Valley | Harrogate |
| White Rose | York |
| Yorkshire Sun | Hull |

Information

Tel: Mike Philips (0924) 871263

MIDLANDS

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Avon Outdoor | Stratford-upon-Avon |
| Charnwood Acres | Leicester |
| Croft End | Camb |
| * Derwent Leisure | Derby |
| * Desford Swim | Desford |
| * Northampton Sun | Northampton |
| Group | |
| Nottingham Sun | Nottingham |
| Club | |
| Oaklands Club | Leicester |
| * Sleaford | Sleaford |
| * South Yorkshire | Doncaster |
| * Spectrum | Birmingham |
| * Spireoaks | Chesterfield |
| Sungrove | Grimsby |
| Woodlands | Coventry |

Information

Tel: Mike Berridge (0673) 878233

NORTH WEST

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| * BMW | Newcastle under Lyme |
| Lancashire | Rufford |
| Liverpool Sun | Liverpool |
| Manchester Sun | Knutsford |
| Mancunian | Manchester |
| Morecambe Bay | Heysham |
| North Western | Macclesfield |
| North Wales | |
| Naturist Group | Bangor |
| Phoenix | Macclesfield |
| Ribble Valley | Blackburn |
| Telford | Telford |
| * Wirral | Merseyside |
| Wrekin View | Shrewsbury |

Information

Tel: Brian Williams (0299) 878556

KENT & SOUTH EAST

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| . Adventurers | Maidstone |
| Apollo | Brighton |
| * Ashford Swim | Ashford |
| Aztecs | Crawley |
| Brighton | Haywards Heath |
| * Eastbourne | Eastbourne |

Four Seasons

- Invicta
Millbank
Orchard
Sunglen

Information

Tel: Eric Holmes (0424) 812909

Worthing

- Dover
Pevensey
Rye
Ashford

SOUTH WEST

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| * Aquasol | Bristol |
| Avonvale | Ringwood |
| Bournemouth | |
| Outdoor | Ringwood |
| * Cotswold Swim | Gloucester/Cheltenham |
| * Far West | Cornwall |
| * Gloucester & | |
| Tewkesbury | Gloucester |
| Isis | Cowbridge |
| Larches | Taunton |
| Pickwick | Corsham |
| Pines | Gloucester |
| Ridgewood | Clevedon |
| Roselan | Newquay |
| * Skin Deep | Gloucester |
| Southleigh Manor | St Columb |
| South Western | Dorchester |
| Sunrise | Tiverton |
| * Sunwest | Plymouth |
| * Swansea | Swansea |
| Tara | Chipping Sodbury |
| * Torbay | Torbay |
| Tything Barn | Pembroke |
| * Western Swim | Chepstow |
| Western Sunfolk | Monmouth |
| * Wimborne | Wimborne |
| Wyvern | Ledbury |

Information

Tel: Gerry Ryland (0242) 527338

EAST

- | | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Arcadians | Billericay |
| Blackthorns | Bedford |
| Broadlands | Norwich |
| Cambridge | Ely |
| * Far East | Diss |
| Meadowlands Leisure | Ipswich |
| Oakwood | Romford |
| Springwood | Colchester |
| Sunfolk | St Albans |
| * Watford Swim | Watford |

Information

Tel: Kelvin & Gill Roffe (0502) 512497

SOUTH

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| * Bracknell | Bracknell |
| Diogenes | Rickmansworth |
| Haslemere | Hindhead |
| * Halcyon | Chichester |
| * Halcyon (Southsea) | Southsea |
| Heritage | Crowthorne |
| * Noahs Ark | Chertsey |
| * Oxford | Oxford |
| * Reading Swim | Reading |
| Shabden | Coulsden |
| * Slough Swim | Slough |
| * Southampton | Southampton |
| South Hants | Fareham |
| Surrey Downs | Guildford |
| Valerian | Ryde |

Information

Tel: Peggy Grahame (0344) 428930

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

- British Naturist
Amateur Radio Soc. National
Singles Outdoor National
Suntreckers National

Information

Tel: c/o CCBN (0604) 20361

* Only indoor facilities at present



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October 29th 1994

November 26th 1994

December 10th 1994

January 14th 1995

February 18th 1995

March 11th 1995

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For further information:

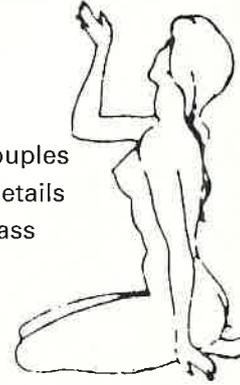
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ROUND AND ABOUT

- news from the Clubs and Regions

Chainsaw precaution

The potential dangers of chainsaws wielded by unskilled hands has been acknowledged by **Springwood**. The decision came after notification from CCBN insurers that, as a result of recent accidents, in future those undertaking forestry work in clubs will need to be suitably qualified in order to be covered by them.

Springwood's two site wardens both hold chainsaw certificates, and the club has decided that this qualification will be required in future - at the club's expense!

Long-term building requirements are currently being investigated, including what is needed, types of construction and prices. . . It has proved a valuable exercise although the high costs have come as a bit of a shock. But it has underlined the need for clubs to plan ahead in order to raise money for projects.

Last October Springwood tackled the problem of severe compaction of its main sun lawn by bringing in a digger to relay and reseed. Fortunately the new grass became established in time for the start of the 1994 season in June.



Wimborne Sun Club

Formed in 1977, for all but two years, it has been based at the Leisure Centre at Wimborne, Dorset. It swims there every Sunday 1630-1800 hrs, from mid-September until mid-April. CCBN card holders and members of other clubs are welcome to the swims. The club also enjoys the close proximity and use of Studland beach during the summer months, and, with BUGS, meets there each Boxing Day for a swim.

On Target

At **Croft End Country Club**, the new swimming pool is in use just six weeks after digging the hole. Recent events included a pig roast, children's weekend, archery and a medieval evening complete with costumes and authentic medieval menu.

Membership enquiries continue at a good level and we have been pleased to welcome several new members and plenty of visitors. With swim nights resuming in late September, and Christmas and New Year celebrations already planned, there's always plenty of going on at Croft End.

Nude anglers

The weather, as I write, is hot and sunny here at **Broadlands**. It was a much different picture in the winter and spring when we had the wettest time for some twenty years and the roadways and some of the grassed areas became deep with mud. However, after much sterling work by members, the roadways and touring sites are now returned to normal.

The much talked about new Laundry Room is now in operation with all the washing facilities required by both members and holidaymakers. This means that all the previous laundry equipment has been removed from the toilet block, giving an increased undressing/dressing area for showers, and no danger of falling over possible trailing wires.

The fishing season has now begun and there were many members and holidaymakers ready for the 'off' at the first fishing competition of the year at the club. We hold four fishing competitions for both seniors and juniors and, although our lake is relatively small, it is well stocked with bream, tench, roach and even goldfish! Many a pleasant restful hour can be had fishing here and it is a sport in which both members and visitors regularly participate.

We have planted many and various trees since the hurricane of 1987 and it is now intended that a formal plan of woodland management be made in conjunction with the main committee and the council forestry officer. To further this, a sub-committee has been appointed with the sole aim of caring for the woodlands.

These are well known throughout the movement and it is our intention to return them to their former glory. They are an asset which few other clubs enjoy and are not only pleasant to stroll through but are the home to varied flowers and wildlife. In many areas their natural habitat has disappeared but it is the intention it never happens here.

K. Healey

Happy landings

After a traumatic winter that nearly saw the demise of **Surrey Downs**, we have successfully fought through and, subject to the dotting of the i's and crossing of the t's, the future for the next ten years is secured. We have reached an agreement with our present landlord to use part of our old land, together with additional land currently outside our present boundary.

In all, this will give us a similar area in size to that we have had, and part of the deal is that we have until the autumn of 1995 to vacate our present site, allowing ample time for the move. So now it's all forward moving at Surrey Downs, writes Phil Hudson.

As a result of this we have embarked on a major membership drive which included broadcasts on both Radio Mercury and BBC Radio Surrey and it is a pleasure to report that many new members have already applied.

We held a fund-raising 'fun day' to mark World Naturist Day with numerous side shows and games set up in our grounds. The weather was kind to us, thankfully, and an enjoyable weekend was had by all.

More families wanted

The Sun-Folk Society continues to flourish between Watford and St. Albans in Hertfordshire. Much work to the existing facilities has been carried out over the winter and spring months by the enthusiastic membership and, following the planning permission recently granted, work will soon be in hand to construct a sun lounge which will replace an existing old section of the main clubhouse and be greater in size. A sauna has also been recently purchased and, when fully installed, will form another focus of attention for members, John Hale writes.

The recently published Summer edition of the quarterly Sun-Folk Newsletter *The Spinney Speaker* is packed full of many items of interest and entertainment for Sunfolkers and continues to be extremely popular with the membership. It contains profiles of members, a holiday information exchange, sports and social reports, news, controversy and not forgetting the Children's Corner which even the adults like!

A member has been busy constructing extra facilities for the safe entertainment of children including a Flying Fox aerial ropeway which will doubtless be very popular during the weekend of 9 and 10 July which Sun-Folk have designated Family Open Weekend. It is hoped that the friendliness of the club, together with its fine facilities, will encourage membership growth, particularly of families with youngsters which in recent times have unfortunately declined.

Travellers head for pastures new

At last **Telford** have a small, temporary swimming pool on site, completed just in time for the hot June weather and the youth rally in July. It's so nice to hear the laughter, splashing, and squeals of delight (that's just the adults) plus happy naked children.

We were told 'they' would be camped for four to six weeks. In the event it was eighteen months. 'They' being the new age travellers who had parked along our boundary and who often trespassed into our woodlands and occasionally on site. After High Court injunctions and several appeals they were finally sent on their travelling way on 5 July, much to our relief. We have had to mount a costly security operation for all that time to protect our club facilities, members caravans, etc.

The long awaited arrival of our full planning permission means we can be more positive about future developments at INC.

Geoff Brooke

Live Group

Apollo has completed the building of an additional shower and toilet block, built in cedar wood in keeping with the beautiful surroundings of the club. Highlight of the season has been the annual barbecue and ox-roast which was cooked on a motorised-spit oven. Members, visitors and friends enjoyed the group 'Lilac Wine' playing live on stage. Hon. Sec. John Smith reports that membership has again increased through advertising in the local paper.

Year of Achievement

Basking in the midst of this wonderful summer and with another very successful Children's Sports Day and Midsummer Event behind us (this year it was a hoe-down on the lawn) it seems an opportune moment to reflect on the year's many achievements at **Diogenes**.

During the winter a team set to work to reclaim our 'jungle' area by erecting new fencing along a 500 ft boundary. This enabled an environmental corridor to be created linking natural walk-ways along the entire perimeter of our grounds. Bird boxes made by the young people of Diogenes were placed strategically around the grounds and have already given homes to blue tits and pied wagtails. Bat boxes made by our young members will be installed in an effort to establish one or more colonies. Much ground clearance work had to be done and more than 50 new trees and shrubs were planted. Members gave a lot of thought to choosing those plants which provided decorative screening but which were also beneficial providers of food for wildlife.

In recent months the children's area has been refurbished with new swings and climbing frame and now a brand new GDR train has been unveiled. This Great Diogenes Railway engine is already proving to be a great attraction to children and adults alike!

With the refurbishing of our kitchen and utility room completed last year members' attention turned to the toilet and shower block and whether a total rebuild could be done in time for the 1994 season. A 'loo' team took up the challenge and demolished and rebuilt our new block in just six months!

When one group of our regular foreign visitors was asked what they thought of the new Diogenes, they replied in unison, 'Magnifique!'

Doug bows out – at 72

Fifty plus **Suntrecker** rallies have been well supported this year. One in particular, our first invitation rally proved to be a great success; twenty-eight Suntrecker plus five invited non-Suntrecker units attended and four of our guest units have now joined Suntreckers. The invitation rally could become an annual event.

As usual we have been made to feel most welcome by the members of the Clubs we have visited and we are all most grateful for their invitations.

This will be my last Suntrecker contribution to Round and About. I have been PRO for four years and at the age of 72 feel it is time for an even younger person to take over. On a more personal note I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the naturists who have entertained Glenis and I and the friends we have made. There is no question about it, naturists are the friendliest people you can meet.

Doug Taylor

Successful launch

Cast Offs, the new naturist sailing group, reports great interest in the idea. Rallies and a newsletter are planned. With many members in the Solent area, a link is being discussed with Valerian SC on the IOW. An SAE to Graham Wright, Squirreltops, Pool Hill, Newent, Gloucestershire GL18 1LL will bring further information.



Hoe-down at Diogenes

AGM in Ulster

The high point of life at **Solaqua** in recent months was to act as host for the SANER AGM, this being the first time that a Regional AGM has been held in Northern Ireland.

Having no grounds of our own, and as the meeting was to be held over a holiday weekend, it has been necessary for us to book our venue and caravan pitches for our visitors well in advance. We then spent some anxious weeks waiting for clubs to respond to the request when the agendas were sent out to let us know the numbers who would be attending. We were beginning to think that the picture of Northern Ireland as put out by the media was discouraging clubs in Scotland and the North of England from sending representatives to the meeting. In the event, however, including ourselves and Xanadu – a new club based in the East of Scotland whose application for membership was accepted at the meeting – we had representatives from eleven of the thirteen clubs who make up the region. Unfortunately Terry Bloomfield, the Regional Chairman was unable to attend through illness.

We were very pleased to see people from so many other clubs in the region and we think that they, from comments made and letters since received, were pleased with what they saw of Northern Ireland.

Tom Maltman

Wild Life

At **Woodlands**, tree management has given the main lawn and pool area many more hours of sunshine. Members enjoyed the Midland Region Sports Day at Leicester, the team events being particularly popular. We hope the Tug o' War will be adopted as an official event on future occasions. Woodlands retained the 'Kath of Woodlands' volleyball trophy after a very close final against our hosts Oaklands.

Barbecues, games evenings and a cheese and wine party are planned. We look forward to welcoming visitors from other clubs on day and weekend visits. Advance notice of visits is always appreciated.

Where there's woodland, there's wildlife. Two abandoned baby hedgehogs are being reared by hand and will be released back into the club grounds. Despite the efforts of the club cat, many small birds were successfully fledged and our tame pheasant Hoppy is thriving on a diet of custard cream biscuits.

Indiaca played here

Pendale continues to build a reputation as being one of the most popular and friendliest clubs in the region. Despite its apparent lack of size and facilities, it is a little club with a big heart. We have welcomed many visitors to the club in recent months and we have been very fortunate this year in attracting lots of new members. Pendale for some reason always seems to maintain an extremely strong presence of children – currently we have twenty-five who regularly attend. This is a large proportion when you consider that our total unit of membership is only forty-eight. The Elland swim and sauna continues to tick over throughout the summer months. It always does better in the winter!

We are holding a Christmas fun gala there on 18 December. Commencing at 12.45 pm this will be open to all club and CCBN members and refreshments will be available afterwards. We last held one in 1992 which proved to be very popular and was extremely well attended.

On 17 July Pendale hosted the first Yorkshire Regional Summer Indiaca Tournament, for a new trophy known as 'The Brookfoot Shield: The trophy was donated to the Region by Pendale. A lot of apprehensive people turned up that day not knowing what to expect. It turned out to be a really exceptional occasion, a day that will be remembered for years to come.

The trophy was eventually won by Pendale (Pendale 2nd team beating Pendale 1st team) in the final, and in third place a combined CCBN team with a member from Ashdene and a member from Leeds. In my dual role as the recently elected Regional Councillor of the CCBN Yorkshire Regional Association it gave me great pleasure to present 'The Brookfoot Shield' to my own club Pendale!

Richard Thornton

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Contact **The Membership Secretary, PO Box 75, Woking, Surrey GU22 7XB** or **TELEPHONE 081 482 7126** for details.

(SDSC IS A MEMBER OF CCBN)

Skin Deep

Our early summer activities had the usual sailing/diving/sunbathing weekends on a live-aboard ketch. The May weekend had splendid weather and the divers had fun. The early June weekend was cursed with bad weather, so much so that it was Sunday before the boat could leave harbour. There was too little time to venture far and so the party joined the ranks in the D-Day review on the Solent. The boat anchored near the submarine HMS Ursula, which had all its uniformed crew on deck, waiting for Britannia. The wicked thought that we should do likewise, in our naturist uniform, skipped through everyone's mind. But with the magnificent sight of the ships and the thrilling flypasts, such thoughts were forgotten.

The late June weekend had the right weather ingredients for sailing, sunbathing and some diving, but the highlight was the barbecue at the naturist campsite of Knitsons Farm near Swanage. The farm campsite was also the setting of the superb après-dive barbecue on our diving day at Kimmeridge in July. Many of the Skin Deep Divers came from all over the country to dive or snorkel at this almost legendary annual event.

Our forthcoming winter activities include SCUBA Try-A-Dives with SWOC, on 12 November at Dorchester in Dorset, and with the Larches, on 26 November at the Strode Pool at Street in Somerset.

Bring your own fish

Adventurers social events have gone well this year. The main item was the August Bank Holiday Tupenny Fayre, a new innovation with Stalls and Side Shows at two pence a 'go' - with modest proceeds being donated to our pet charity, the Kent Air Ambulance. We also modified an event from last year and held a 'Bring Your Own Fish' Barbecue. A very good time was had by all - and these are just two events we will want to repeat again and again.

Improvements to our facilities continue - with many hours being spent in the gradual refinement of Ventura. We all like to think of our Club as a retreat from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

As many clubs find, the season goes too quickly - but our monthly Work Sundays provide an opportunity to get together during the Winter months and also to do some of the jobs which cannot be done in the Summer.

Day Out

The sun shone on **Valerian** in July when CCBN President Suzanne Piper, Vice-Chairman Richard Daniels and their families crossed the Solent for the opening of the club's new pavilion. Treasurer Mike O'Neill had camped overnight. The barbecue glowed all day and home-grown salad, strawberries and home-made cakes were enjoyed by members and visitors alike (reports Hon. Sec. Hilary Bolton). Sue Piper unveiled a plaque commemorating the occasion and in a brief address commended members who had put in so much work to improve the club's facilities. As a member of a small club herself, she appreciated the effort involved.

The red squirrels kept out of sight but on quieter days are often seen feeding on the hazel nuts put out for them. A pair of spotted woodpeckers are regularly seen around the sunbathing lawns.

The club's fortnightly swim, sauna and jacuzzi evenings are increasingly popular with members and visitors. Valerian welcomes visitors to this holiday island and can accommodate tents, caravans and motor caravans. Write to PO Box 21, Ryde, IoW, PO33 4DS.

Sunwest's summer

This year has so far been uncomfortable for **Sunwest**. A combination of rising charges and falling attendances at our venues meant that the committee had to recommend a considerable increase in subscriptions to keep us solvent. This has led to a significant drop in membership, although most of these were 'nominal' members who we hardly ever saw. In addition, the pool we use for our Sunday meetings has been closed until September, at very short notice, for refurbishment. Attendances have stayed low, partly because it has been a reasonably good sunny summer so far, and our beaches are irresistible. On the brighter side, a club camping weekend at Bernard and Judy's Lower Poulza Post Farm attracted nearly 20% of our membership! An event that we will probably repeat.

Our annual pilgrimage in September to the Telford Club's Waterworld is being organised and there will probably be a seat or two available as you read this. We are always ready to welcome new members - just call our secretary to organise the first visit. By the time that this appears in print, our Sunday swimming pool will be better than new, ready to welcome you. Come and join us!

Neil Bowden

Children's weekend

Yorkshire Region's first children's weekend was held at **Valley Club** on 4 and 5 June. There were just over twenty children present for the weekend, writes Youth Officer John Herterick.

On Saturday they were kept busy with miniten in the morning. The evening saw an exodus to the swimming baths for two hours of fun and games organised by Leeds Naturist Group then back to the club for supper. Sunday morning saw a treasure hunt followed by sports in the afternoon. An excellent children's party was arranged and the weekend concluded with the presentation of the trophies and medals that the children had won over the weekend.

Many thanks to Valley for having us and to all who worked so hard to make the weekend a success.

SW AGM

South Western Region AGM was held at Southleigh Manor Club, that little bit of paradise in Cornwall. Twelve clubs were represented, resulting in a very satisfactory meeting. The current serving officers were all re-elected.

The subject of beaches was left in the hands of Gerry Ryland, who will continue to seek out information at Sports Council meetings. Gerry recounted efforts to get Brean and Berrow beaches approved for naturist use. A sympathetic councillor persuaded the Leisure Committee to approve a naturist area. Unfortunately, following this councillor's death and much local opposition to naturism, the full council reversed the decision.

In a 'getting to know you' exercise, representatives of the council were our invited guests at local swimming galas to present the prizes but opposition is still very strong.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to our hosts at Southleigh and our congratulations and very best wishes to Sue (Hon. Sec) and Norman (Rep) on their recent marriage.

Regarding winter swimming sessions, members are spoilt for choice, but it is only by their continued support that this happy situation can continue.



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Publicity works

Although **Oakwood's** Open Day suffered at the hands of the weather, it was an enjoyable day and gave a good impression to our visitors. As well as several prospective members, we were visited by BBC Essex and Chelmsford Hospital Radio who broadcast features about naturism at Oakwood. Our publicity drive for new members has been very successful with lots of enquiries and several new members already. The enquiries confirmed our feeling that there are many people out there who don't know where to look to find out about local naturist facilities. 'We didn't know there was a club near us' was a common theme.

Our annual visit from members of Invicta was enjoyable as always and was blessed by an improvement in the weather.

For further information, contact Jeff Norman on 0277 217847.

No site but all go

A year gone by in no time and **Ryedale Naturist Group** is busy preparing to celebrate its first anniversary at the end of August. A good membership has been built up already, as most of Ryedale's members are naturists who have known each other for years. But it has been encouraging to have a few young families join us recently.

The fortnightly swims held at Malton throughout the year, organised by Ryedale at the local council pool, have proved consistently popular with members and visitors alike. These help everybody to keep in touch with events and to strike up friendships with fellow members.

Other events and activities organised by members include cheese and wine evenings, a Christmas dinner at the famous Yorkshire Tea Rooms in Malton, Spring Bank Holiday Open Day at Abbots Farm for members and their guests and friends, as well as some very enjoyable visits to other clubs, and one or two smaller evening suppers at members' homes arranged on a 'limited numbers' basis. A small profit from some of these events has meant that we've been able to send one or two donations to charities from time to time.

We also had an open air swim and picnic in July at Helmsley swimming pool at the suggestion of the local council pools manageress, who has been very helpful to us. Cooperation like this makes it all so much easier.

We have no definite club site, so perhaps all this could be said to be done on a 'naturism in the community' basis. Long may it continue!

Short and sunny

Hi, here is a short report from **Sunnybroom** in Aberdeen, sunny Scotland! Summer comes to Scotland - just like everywhere else and here on the north east coast we look forward to our share of sunshine and to welcome our share of visitors to our site which offers basic facilities, all of which are now improving, and a warm welcome. Our recent thirtieth birthday was celebrated at the site and we were especially pleased to meet former members who had travelled considerable distances to enjoy the occasion with our present members. As always, we look forward to our visitors during the summer, from many parts of Europe making visits to Scotland and enjoying our site during their holiday.

Dawn of time

For the first time in millions of years a pre-historic creature has staged a come-back in Leicestershire. Emerging from the shadows in the shape of a youth dinosaur, and reliably identified as a Yothacaurus (yes, that's how it was spelt to our reporter), it graced the Jurassic Park float featuring at the recent summer fair at **Charnwood Acres**. This annual fund-raising event set a marvellous record in being the tenth taking place under the general direction of intrepid chief organiser Dawn. The holiday week of which it formed part was enlivened by the usual keen mix of competitive activity between the three teams. This year they were skinheads, punks and rockers.

Children's activity workshops have been another important feature of Charnwood's 1994 programme. Skillfully devised and coordinated by Lesley and Ruth, these have attracted up to fourteen youngsters at a time. Noteworthy for their tremendously creative output, they have shown what can be done with a group with a two to fourteen age range. The youth section has been very active too and enjoyed the summer camp at Nottingham Club.

So many members have been using the club's barbecue area of late that it is proving necessary to improve and extend it. On the sports front, another handsome trophy has been introduced, this time in affectionate memory of the late Don and Mary West, and instituted for the annual crib and pool knock-out tournament. Many readers will remember that Don, a naturist for half a century, was a founder-member of the Amateur Miniten Association.

Dates for the popular 'Winter Warmers' and Buffet Nights are already fixed, and a competitive quiz with the Leicester Club (Oakwood) is scheduled for November.

Alan Smith

Winter blues, feeling claustrophobic. Now that summer is nearly over have you any thoughts on how to pass the winter months enjoying naturist activities.

FAR WEST SUN CLUB

have the perfect answer, throughout the YEAR we hire various indoor venues throughout Cornwall. These include a complete leisure centre offering badminton, squash, swimming, hydrotherapy pool, sauna, volleyball, table tennis, etc.

The club also hires other hotel complexes which offer swimming, sauna and spa bath facilities.

One a month members also enjoy the facilities offered by both Southleigh and Roselan Clubs.

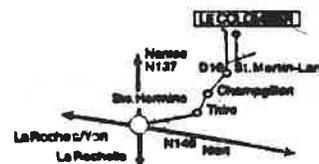
Membership only £12.00 per year for a family unit. For further details telephone the secretary, Jo on 0872 572765.

Visiting Cornwall - families and couples from other clubs welcome at Far West Sun Club gatherings. Details from Secretary on 0872 572765



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4 Quarterly Issues: March, June, Sept, Dec.

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Entrance by Advance Ticket Only

Adult £3.75 Children under 16 - £1.00

CCBN and Club members and their guests.

SAE & Cheque/Postal Order payable to:

Geoff Tate, 3 Devon Road, South Darenth,

Dartford, Kent DA4 9AA

Tel. 0322 864763

If possible, please book early to avoid disappointment.
Please bring your ticket and club card

Volleyball success

A full programme of sport and leisure activities has been organised by **Yorkshire Sun** for the 1994/5 season. The club has also begun producing a regular newsletter to keep members informed and hopefully entertained. As a result an excellent start to the season was made and good attendance at all events has been achieved up to now.

Members have already enjoyed a great range of activities including a darts and dominoes tournament, volleyball, disco dancing, barbecues and petanque. The trophy for the annual regional volleyball at Pendale has been retained by YSS after stiff competition.

As usual the club will play host to overseas visitors, many of them making YSS their first port of call when they alight from the ferry in Hull.

Golden jubilee

As the summer progresses **White Rose** is in full bloom and our lovely grounds are once again a hive of activity, our membership being supplemented by visitors from far and wide, not forgetting another visit from our old friends the Suntrackers.

There has been a marked increase in enquiries particularly for family membership and we look forward to meeting new friends, writes PRO Terry Hardy.

Our volleyball team paid a visit to Ashdene for the regional championships and were well deserved runners up to Yorkshire Sun Society who took the winner's medal.

18 June saw our Golden Jubilee celebrations with a very enjoyable weekend being had by all, we had a full range of activities including 'silly games,' water polo, an excellent barbecue followed by a disco dedicated to the forties era with our members and guests dressing in period costume, and disc jockey Paul playing the good old favourites of the war years.

The new solar heating for the swimming pool is now working and has shown a marked improvement to the pool temperature.

We have a number of social activities arranged for the coming months and look forward to greeting both old and new friends.

Applications for family membership are most welcome.

Security stepped up

The summer started with some disappointments – not because of the weather but because **Shabden Leisure Circle** was visited by thieves who stole all of the picnic and garden benches and many of the tools which were kept on site. Regrettably we are now having to improve our boundary fencing and to put locked gates at the entrance and on virtually everything in sight within the grounds.

'We are sorry that this means that some non-members who have been popping in to use the grounds will no longer have this access, but this, regrettably, is the reason why so many clubs have to have the high fences and locked gates – we are vulnerable, writes Bernard Eade.

Through generous donations most of the tools were replaced fairly soon and we have now constructed some rustic picnic benches partially from wood on site. We have had some lovely days and on two occasions have invited Singles Outdoor Club to our barbecue weekends. We also had a day where non-naturist friends and partners could visit with no obligation to undress, and during the evening barbecue clothing was the rule.

We are looking forward to an Indian summer so that we can continue to use our increasing sports facilities before starting our winter programme of leisure centre evenings at Dorking and Leatherhead.

Site hope dashed

For two years **BWM** searched for an elusive piece of land and finally we thought our prayers had been answered by an offer of a lease on a five acre plot in an idyllic location. Within weeks of this offer our hopes were dashed when someone approached the owner of the land to buy outright the plot we had been offered. On the bright side we have the use of this land until the sale is finalised and it is indeed wonderful to feel the sun on our backs.

A few of us travelled to Lancashire Sun for the boules tournament where once again we had wonderful weather and a warm welcome. We must have been on form to have reached two semi-finals and a final, our best result yet! It was a shame that the form didn't last for the bowls at Manchester Sun and Air, but we enjoyed the day and the hospitality.

OCTOBER EXHIBITION

CCBN will have a stand at the 'Take a Break' holiday show at the Edgbaston Banqueting Centre, Birmingham from 7-9 October 1994. Opening times are 12 noon until 5 pm on the Friday and 10 am until 5 pm on the Saturday and Sunday.

HOLIDAY CENTRE CLOSURES

Members are asked to note the closure of Oléron Nature on the Atlantic coast of France and of three holiday centres in Spain – Las Palmeras, Estrella Azul and El Toro Bravo.

Mick Ayres, our holiday advisor for Spain, has further information on centres in Spain. Relax Nat near Girona is suitable for the touring caravanner and camper. Club Vera Playa offers hotel and apartment accommodation whilst the nearby Almanzora offers camping facilities when open. Costa Natura offers apartment holidays. El Portus near Cartagena caters both for campers and caravanners as well as offering a range of accommodation. To the north is Can Vells which is a small camping and caravanning centre. He has not received any information from Nas Pericot or Las Rosas this year. He also advises that part of the Dutch owned textile caravan park, Quinta dos Carricos in Portugal has been set aside for naturists.

For further information on Spanish holidays please contact Mick Ayres and for France Paul Kirby.

When writing to CCBN officers and representatives, remember always to quote your membership number.

What BN wants!

Your articles, your letters, your pictures are what other naturists want to see in BN. We welcome contributions – particularly articles with photographs.

Action shots, family scenes from resorts at home and abroad, cameos of club life. Make sure to write permission to publish on the back of the photographs, with your address and membership number.

If you've been to somewhere great – everyone wants to know!



South of France

New naturist camping in the midst of the wild and mountainous Cevennes, 55 miles n.w. from Nîmes.

Terrain with age-old woods, sunny meadows, tiny tinkling streams (swimming at 3 miles); 150.000 square yards and only 30 places.

Miles from nowhere, peace and quiet, lots of space.

No luxuries (except for the well-equipped sanitary building), no organised entertainment and not easy accessible for caravans. English rather fluently spoken.

Singles (f/m), couples, one or more parent-family's as well as cats and dogs are welcome, provided they are well-behaved.

Brochure: Linda Hill, 081 363 3712

Unia, Lisa Leyten, 48160 St. Michel-de-Dèze, France. Tel. (-010-33) 66 45 52 43

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Sports Notes – Edited by Stephen Hodge, BN Sports Officer

I have requested in past sports notes that members send me their sports news and articles on naturism and sport. I am sad to say that I have received very few and it is becoming more and more difficult to produce Sports Notes due to lack of input by members. It is not possible for me to visit every naturist sporting event and report on it myself so without your input Sports Notes will cease.

National Pétanque Tournament 1994

This year the National Pétanque Tournament was hosted by Charnwood Acres, near Leicester and the central location attracted a large number of entrants. The forty-one pairs from clubs around the country contested some hard fought matches in the first round leagues of the competition. The day was concluded with excellent live music and dancing laid on by the host club.

On Sunday the last sixteen went into a knockout competition to find the tournament winners. The Plate competition for those not reaching the second round of the main tournament was well supported with twenty-one pairs electing to play. The finals of both competitions were again supervised by the national B.P.A. umpire and the event which had enjoyed excellent weather drew to a successful conclusion with the presentation of the prizes by BN Chairman Nick Birkett.

From this competition is selected the British team who will play at the INF Tournament in Stuttgart on 13 and 14 August.

Main tournament results:

1st Frank & Sylvia Hiscox, 2nd Alan & Valerie Samuel, 3rd Dennis & Rhona Meredith.

Plate results:

1st Richard & Lesley Chaplin, 2nd Richard Stranger & Karen Stanford, 3rd Cliff & Marion Francis.

Sport for Fun Night

There will be another Sport for Fun Night this year at the Aylestone Leisure Centre, Knighton Road East, Leicester on 19 November 1994. Swimming pool, teaching pool, indiana, badminton, volleyball, fitness studio (weights room), snooker room, archery, bouncy castle, Tai Chi exercises for all ages and aquarobics.

The bar will be open and snacks available. Doors open 6.30 pm. Admission: Adults £4.00, Under 16 years £1.00.

INF Swimming Gala 1994

This year we are acting as host nation for the INF Swimming Gala. This all day event will take place on the 22 October at the Leeds International Pool and it will be opened by the Mayor of Leeds and provides us with the opportunity to forge and renew international

naturist friendships. Anyone wishing to attend this event and support our British team please contact National Sports Officer Stephen Hodge on 0326 40799 after 19 Sept for further details.

MIDLAND REGION SPORTS

The summer sports of the Midland Region were held on Sunday, 19 June at the Oaklands Sun Club (Leicester).

Though the day was somewhat overcast and not as warm as other years, we had probably the finest day's sports seen at this event for many years.

Oaklands gave us an exceptionally happy day with a very warm welcome, excellent facilities and a happy atmosphere that was in the highest traditions of our naturist movement. All the members worked hard together to ensure that the day went smoothly and that every guest was made to feel particularly and especially at home. The continuous mounds of excellent food that were piled onto our plates was further testimony of the excellence of this homely club.

We also went there for the sports!

Volleyball After some well contested rounds, the final was truly outstanding. A titanic battle between two evenly matched, very fit and skillful teams ended with Woodlands (Coventry) narrowly defeating Oaklands in the third and deciding set.

Pétanque We have become accustomed to tight matches on the pétanque pitches and this year the competition was as close as ever. Final results were as follows:

Men's Doubles: Northampton Sun Group beat Oaklands; Joint third, Sungrove (Grimsby) and Sleaford Swim.

Ladies' Doubles: Oaklands beat South Yorks; Joint third, Northampton and Marguerite Sun Club (Rutland).

Mixed Doubles: Charnwood Acres Country Club (Leicester) beat Oaklands; Joint third, Sungrove and Sleaford.

Miniten Once again we had some outstanding matches with nailbiting finishes. At the end of the day, the results were as follows:

Men's Doubles: Marguerite beat Oaklands; Joint third, Charnwood Acres and Sungrove.

Ladies' Doubles: Oaklands beat Sungrove; Joint third, Northampton and Charnwood Acres.

Mixed Doubles: Oaklands beat Marguerite; Joint third Charnwood Acres and Sungrove.

Tug o' War This was a new event tried out this year as an experiment. It could well be included in future years as part of the Percy Wilford Trophy Competition. The event was a huge success and generated an enormous amount of excitement – and noise! The final result was a win for Oaklands who won a 'three horse play off' against South Yorks and Woodlands.

All eight clubs that took part picked up points for the Percy Wilford Trophy which will be presented at the conclusion of the Indoor Sports which are being held at the Desford College when the Desford Swim (Leicester) will be the hosts.

Points so far:

Oaklands	17 pts
Charnwood Acres	7 pts
Sungrove	6 pts
Northampton	6 pts
Marguerite	6 pts
South Yorks	3 pts
Woodlands	3 pts
Sleaford	3 pts

Gordon Clark

(Midland Region Sports Officer)

ALTON SPORTS EVENINGS

organised by Southampton Naturist Group and CCBN (SR). You are invited to a fully naturist sports evening at the Alton Sports Centre, Chawton Park Road, Alton, Hampshire

on

Saturday 3rd September 1994
Saturday 15th October 1994, hosting the sponsored swim in aid of Leukaemia Research. Please either swim (sponsor forms available from the Freepost address), or sponsor one of our swimmers, to help us to raise funds for this worthwhile cause.

Saturday 12th November 1994
 Please note: the December Alton Evening will be cancelled due to refurbishment of the changing rooms and maintenance of the pools

Saturday 11th February 1995

Saturday 18th March 1995

Saturday 22nd April 1995

7.30 pm to 11.00 pm

facilities:

Badminton Courts	Squash Courts
Tennis Courts	Table Tennis
Volleyball	Skittles/carpet bowls
Trampoline	Racket ball
Fitness Room*	Short tennis
Pistol shooting	Archery
Swimming Pools	Sauna
Splash dance	Steam room/Jacuzzi
Cafeteria	Bar

* (must have user cards)
 Admission £4.50 per adult, £1.00 children under 16 years (prices subject to change).

All CCBN and Club Members welcome, no need to book.

Enquiries to:

CCBN (SR) FREEPOST, Southampton SO9 1BD
 or Tel: (0703) 632199

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1994



INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING GALA OCTOBER 22nd LEEDS INTERNATIONAL POOL

This year CCBN plays host to the 25th INF Swimming Gala. This all day event will take place at the Leeds International Pool on October 22nd commencing at 9.45 a.m. with an opening address by the Lord Mayor of Leeds. CCBN members are welcome to attend as spectators.

TICKETS

Adults £2.00 Children £1.00

For advance tickets apply through CCBN, 35-41 Hazelwood Road, Northampton, quoting your CCBN number.

Tickets on the door on production of your current CCBN card.

No cameras allowed, official photography only.



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Great Bowden
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Tel. 0858 464862

ART and CRAFT

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In the **New Gallery** you'll find my *pottery*, decorated with naturist themes, *paintings & drawings* by many new artists, *sculpture* in several materials, and *photography* by Robert Townhill (see article) and others.

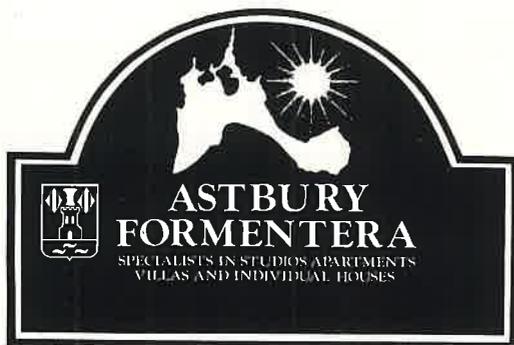
Also, *studio ceramics* in the **Pottery Shop**.

OPEN Thursday to Sunday, 10am to 5pm.

Coach parties must notify their visit well in advance, please.

Frank Haynes

5% DISCOUNT to naturists with this advert.



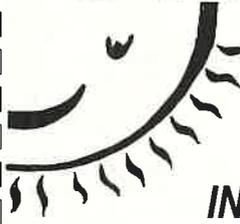
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2130, Swim 2030-2130
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Reading Naturist Swim: Arthur Hill Baths,
Kings Road; Thurs.; 2000-2130
Tel: (0734) 264624
- Slough**
Slough Swim Club: Centre Pool, Farnham
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Tel: (0628) 603921
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Sats.; 1830-2200
Tel: (0942) 720141/492977
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Newquay
Far West Sun Club: St Bannocks Hotel; 3rd
Tues; 1900-2200 (except July & August)
Tel: (0579) 62580/(0872) 572765
- Redruth**
Far West Sun Club: Penventon Hotel; 4th
Sats; 1900-2200 (except June, July &
August)
Tel: (0579) 62580/(0872) 572765
- St Austell**
Far West Sun Club: Polkyth Leisure Centre;
2nd Sats; 1800-2100
Tel: (0579) 62580/(0872) 572765
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Tel: (0246) 863344
Spireoaks Leisure: Manor School Baths;
Swimming alt. Fri.; 2100-2200 (No session
during school hols)
Tel: (0246) 863344
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Derwent Leisure: Heanor Leisure Centre;
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Tel: (0332) 883002/382481
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Larches Club: Pyramids Swimming &
Leisure Centre; Sats; Monthly 1900-2030
Tel: (0392) 215585/437124
- Ivybridge**
Sunwest Club: South Dartmoor Leisure
Centre; 3rd Sats; 1900-2200
Tel: (0752) 336038
- Paignton**
Torbay Sun Club: Torbay Leisure Centre;
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Tel: (0626) 832694/833536
- Plymouth**
Sunwest Club: Ballards Activity Centre;
Suns; 1200-1300
Tel: (0752) 336038
- Torrington**
Sunrise Club: Torrington Swimming pool
Tel: (0237) 478397
- Totnes**
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Tel: (0300) 320861
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Info. write to: Arcadians c/o CCBN
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- Stanway**
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Tel: (0255) 221106
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Tel: (0473) 728219
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1900-2130
Tel: (0531) 821532 or 821519
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Gloucester & Tewkesbury: Cascades; 2nd,
4th, 5th. Suns.
Tel: (0242) 510257
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Alton
Alton Sports Centre; Suns; 1930-2130
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Southampton Naturist Group: Alton Sports
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- Southampton**
Southampton Naturist Group: Bitterne
Leisure Centre; Suns; 1800-2000 (Sept. to
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Grange Country Club; Fris; 1900-2230
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- Pershore**
Wyvern Sun & Swim Club: Leisure Centre;
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- Worcester**
Wyvern Sun & Swim Club: Citizens Pool,
Lower Wick; 1st Suns; 2030-2130
Tel: (0684) 564082
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Watford Naturist Swim: Central Baths; Fris;
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Write: Richard Kennard, Freepost SL827,
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Watford Naturist Swim: Watford Springs;
See advertisement
- ISLE of WIGHT**
Shanklin
Valerian Sun Club: Alt Sats; 1900-2200
Tel: (0983) 296966
- KENT**
Ashford
Ashford Swim Group: Stour Centre; Wed.:
2100
Tel: (0233) 629886
- Rochester**
Upnor Adventure Centre: Suns; 1700-1830
(Sept. to April)
Tel: (0636) 222261
- LANCASHIRE**
Kirkham
Kirkham Pool, Alt. Thurs; 2030-2200
Tel: (0253) 853135 or 356934
- Manchester**
Mancunian; Worsley Pool, Walkden; Alt.
Suns; 1800-2100
Tel: (0706) 54568
- Morecambe**
Morecambe Bay Naturist Club: Ocean Edge,
Heysham; Alt. Tues; 1900-2100
Tel: (0259) 828674
- Oldham**
Mancunian: Royton Sports Centre, Royton;
Alt. Suns; 1900-2200
Tel: (0706) 54568
- Ormskirk**
Wirral NC: Park Pool; 3rd Suns.; 1630-1800
Tel: (0942) 492977
- LEICESTERSHIRE**
Desford
Desford Swim: Bosworth College; Suns;
0930-1100
Tel: (0533) 871008
- LINCOLNSHIRE**
Sleaford
Sleaford Swim; Alt. Sats; 1930-2130
Tel: (0476) 78263
- NORFOLK**
Diss
Diss Swimming Pool, Victoria Road; 1830-1930
Tel: (0502) 512497
- Kings Lynn**
Lynnport Leisure Park: 1st Sats; 1800-2200
Tel: Clive (0553) 829444
- Norwich**
St Augustine's Swimming Centre; 1830-2000
Tel: (0502) 512497
- NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**
Northampton
Northampton Sun Club: Mounts Baths;
Suns; 1830-2130/2230
Tel: (0604) 753072
- NORTHUMBERLAND**
Cramlington
Three Rivers Outdoor Club: Concordia; 3rd
Sun.; 1645-2100
Tel: (0207) 232275

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**Nottingham**

Singles Outdoor Club: Portland Leisure Centre; Alt. Fris; 2015-2115
Tel: (0602) 864626

Sutton-in-Ashfield

Nottingham Sun Club: Leisure Centre; Alt. Suns; 1730-1830
Tel: (0476) 63575

OXFORDSHIRE**Abingdon**

Oxnat: Old Gaol; Next event Saturday 19th November 1900-2300
Tel: (0491) 837717

Didcot

Oxnat: The Wave; Sats; 1930-2030
Tel: (0491) 837717

Oxford

Oxnat: Peers Sports Centre; 4th Suns; 2015-2215
Tel: (0491) 837717

Wantage

Oxnat: Leisure Centre; Sauna; 1st Suns; 1830-2130; Fun night 17th Sept. 1900-2300
Tel: (0491) 837717

SHROPSHIRE**Telford**

Telford Naturist Club: Oakengates Leisure Centre; Sats; 1945-2115
Tel: (0785) 840079

SOMERSET**Burnham-on-Sea**

Larches: Burnham Pool; Sats; Monthly; 1900-2000
Tel: (0392) 215585/437124

Street

Larches: Strode Pool; Sats; Monthly; 1900-2030; Scuba Diving try with Skin Deep - 26th November
Tel: (0392) 215585/437124

STAFFORDSHIRE**Newcastle under Lyme**

BWM: Jubilee Baths; Alt. Suns; 1800-2100
Tel: 051-356 5161/(0782) 723287

SUFFOLK**Hadleigh**

Springwood Sun Club: Hadleigh Swimming Pool; Tues; 2100-2200
Tel: (0206) 824113

Ipswich

Meadowlands Leisure Club: Suns; 1600-1700 (Oct. to April); Mons; 2130-2230 (Term time only)
Tel: (0473) 726012

SURREY**Dorking**

Shabden Leisure Circle: Dorking Sports and Swimming Centre
Tel: (0737) 557715

Haslemere

Halcyon Sun Club: Haslemere Recreation Centre; Suns; 1700-1815 Oct-May
Tel: (0428) 683846 (Daytime);
(0428) 685541 (Evening)

Leatherhead

Shabden Leisure Circle: Leatherhead Leisure Centre
Tel: (0737) 557715

Lightwater

Kingfisher Private Naturist Sauna
Tel: (0276) 452598

Tolworth

Noah's Ark Club: Tolworth Recreation Centre; Fullers Way North, (Just off A3)
Sats; 1830-2200

Tel: (0784) 257027

Walton-on-Thames

Noah's Ark Club: Walton Swimming Pool; Kings Close (Just off Kings Road);
Suns; 1630-1800
Tel: (0784) 257027

SUSSEX**Brighton**

Four Seasons: Prince Regent Swimming Complex; Suns; 1730-1830 (Oct. to May)
Tel: (0903) 245537

Eastbourne

Eastbourne Naturist Swim Club: Motcombe Swimming Baths; Suns; 1800 (Sept. to May)
Tel: (0323) 410897

Lewes

Mill Bank Swim Club
Tel: (0273) 814008

TYNE & WEAR**Newcastle**

TANDO/Three Rivers: Heaton Baths; Sats; 1730-1930
Tel: 091-286 5804/(0207) 233275

WEST MIDLANDS**Birmingham**

Spectrum Club: Northfield Baths, Bristol Road South; Sats; 1830-2000
Tel: (056) 47 03028 (Answerphone)
Mason Road Baths: Erdington; Thurs; 2045-2200
Tel: (0922) 36947

Stourbridge/Quarry Bank

Helios Leisure Ltd.
Tel: (0384) 896600/891666

WILTSHIRE**Corsham**

Pickwick Club: Springfield Centre; 1st, 3rd & 5th Sats; 1930-2130
Tel: (0249) 712092/(0225) 753901

YORKSHIRE**Bircotes**

South Yorkshire Sun Club: Bircotes Leisure Centre; Sats; 1900-2200
Tel: (0673) 878233/(0302) 851889

Elland

Pendale Sun Club: Elland Baths; Suns; 1245-1400
Tel: (0484) 712761 (Evenings)

Leeds

Leeds Naturist Group: Bramley Baths; Sats; 1800-2000
Write: Leeds Naturist Group, c/o Bramley Baths, Leeds 13

Malton

Ryedale Naturist Group.
Derwent Swimming Pool; Alt. Suns; 1630-1800
Tel: (0653) 694970

Misterton

South Yorkshire Sun Club: Misterton Swimming Pool; Tues; 2000-2130
Tel: (0673) 878233/(0203) 851889

Sheffield

Hallam Sun & Swim: St. James Pool, Doncaster; 2nd Suns; 1500-1800
Tel: (0742) 304915

WALES**Aberdare**

Oasis Leisure Club; Oasis Health Suite. 3rd Sats; 1700-2000 (Sept. to May)
Tel: (0633) 274144

Caernarfon

Plas Menai: 2nd & 4th Suns; 1930-2030
Tel: (0248) 724001
Arfon Leisure Centre: 1st Sats; 1730-1900
Tel: (0286) 830555

Gwent

Western Swimming Club: Chepstow & District Leisure Centre; Suns; 1800-2030
Tel: (0454) 413500/(0633) 274144

Llandudno

Llandudno Naturist Group: 2nd Suns; 1900-2100
Tel: (0978) 751209

Swansea

Pen-yr-Heol Leisure Centre, 2nd Sats; 1930-2130
Tel: (0792) 561037 or 232517

SCOTLAND**Aberdeen**

Sunnybroom, Fortnightly 1800-1900
Tel: (0779) 73803

Edinburgh

Forth Country & Camping Club; 1st & 3rd Suns; 1630-1930
Tel: (0968) 672619 or (0875) 813587

Forfar

Tay Valley: Forfar; 2nd & 4th Suns; (Oct. to March)
Tel: (0382) 65849

Glasgow

Scottish Outdoor Club: Western Baths; Suns; 0930-1330
Tel: (0324) 485485

NORTHERN IRELAND**Belfast**

Northern Outdoor Association: Alt. Sats.
Write: N.O.A. PO Box 10, Bangor, Co. Down BT19 1UX
Solaqua: Alt. Sats.
Write: Solaqua, PO Box 48, Belfast BT16 0XH

Membership of a club or CCBN may be required, and card checks may be made. Please telephone before visiting, using the number given, to obtain information on the facilities offered.

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SATURDAY 3rd December 1994

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Other singles please contact below

For up-to-date information

of WNSC events, phone (0923) 219220

For location map and further details, send SAE to:
WNSC, Freepost SL827, Gerrards Cross, SL9 0BR

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Sussex has many varied & interesting places to visit. Castles, Gardens, Museums, pretty villages, the Bluebell Railway is close by. Brighton with all its shops, entertainments, famous Royal Pavilion, Lanes, naturist beach is only 1/2 an hour's drive.

We welcome couples & families for holidays & membership. For more details send S.A.E. to:

The Secretary Brighton Sun Club, Dept B.N.

Scaynes Hill, RH17 7NP or phone us on 0444-831675

A place in the sun

– by Malcolm Goodwin

Three years ago, my wife Jane and I stayed in a holiday complex near Marbella, on the Costa del Sol. It was noisy – situated by the main autopista – crowded, hot and dusty, and far from the beaches. In fact we felt cured of thinking ever again of living in Spain when the day came to retire. But the one highlight of the holiday was a day trip to Costa Natura, a naturist village on the beach just outside Estepona.

Early retirement came last August. So in October we took the opportunity to spend a long weekend at Costa Natura. Once again we were struck by the beauty of the graceful palms overshadowing the profusion of colourful plants and shrubs set among the well-watered lawns and white-washed buildings.

Built in 1981, the Costa Natura apartments were designed to provide each sun terrace with the maximum sunshine. The second phase followed some years later, and there are now 199 units ranging from two-bedded studios to apartments for up to six people.

The facilities have everything you need for an outdoor holiday. There is a large swimming pool, jacuzzi, sauna and fitness room, as well as volley ball and shuffleboard courts. Morning yoga and aerobic sessions keep you fit, while in the evenings there are fancy dress parties, and beach barbecues. When not playing in the playground, children can take rides on the sausage train off the beach, as well as play pool and table tennis.

A varied programme of entertainment in the restaurant by the pool is laid on by either the residents or the management company. The on-site

supermarket ensures that no one has to leave the village to buy necessities, if they don't want to.

The residents, many of them British, were very helpful with our enquiries. It appeared that, if we wanted to buy an apartment, we had a choice of over forty. As the recession bit deeply into the European economies, many of the owners were becoming desperate to sell. Some of the apartments had been on the market for over a year with no sign of a buyer. Prices tumbled during this period and, as the pound strengthened against the peseta by over 25%, the cost of purchasing a place in the sun suddenly seemed very reasonable.

Jane and I decided to make an offer for one of the larger apartments. From the enormous sun terrace, there are extensive views from Gibraltar in the south-west, to Estepona to the east, with the Sierra Nevadas providing a back-drop.

The Belgian owner accepted our offer and within two weeks the apartment was ours. As we gave the Power of Attorney to a lawyer in Estepona to represent us, the legal formalities were very simple.

The price included electric heaters, fridge, cooker, and all the furniture. The only things left to buy were a TV to plug into the satellite network and a microwave, both bought from the local hypermarket.

Costa Natura is about 40 minutes away from Gibraltar along the coastal road. Malaga is just over an hour away along the fast dual carriageway. Fortunately, the planned extension of the autopista from Estepona to

Gibraltar and Algeciras will sweep inland, well away from Costa Natura.

Work should begin in the autumn on a new indoor leisure area. This will initially consist of a heated swimming pool with a retractable roof, a jacuzzi and a sauna. Later on, a new restaurant and entertainment area, as well as a variety of shops, will be added.

Three-course meals including beer or wine costing around six pounds can be enjoyed in any one of the many restaurants down in the port of Estepona. The inland town of Ronda is well worth a day visit. Although the road is twisty, it is wide and safe with magnificent views en-route. And of course, Gibraltar is full of interest. There is a pleasant drive to the southern tip, Europa Point, facing the north African coast. The cable-car will take you to the summit to see St. Michael's Cave and the Barbary apes – but take warm clothing if the top is covered in cloud.

Our apartment is already a favourite with relatives and friends, both naturist and non-naturist (until now!). Leaves which were hurriedly cello-taped to strategic parts of the body for photographs were allowed to fall back to the ground as the novelty quickly wore off.

So the moral of this tale is . . . if you are thinking of buying a property in Spain do it now while the pound is strong and the choice is wide. We did and still can't quite believe our luck in having a dream home in one of the sunniest spots in Europe.

If any reader would like further information please call in the evening on 0895 636361.

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ACCOMMODATION

- **TENERIFE - SUNNY SOUTH.** One bedroomed bungalow. Sleeps 4. Totally private patio. Near naturist beaches. Beautiful all year round climate. £110 per week for 2. £20 p.p.p.w. extra. Shepard-Smith, Aptdo. de Correos No. 339, 38650, Los Cristianos, Tenerife. Tel: (010 34 22) 176718.
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- **RYEDALE, NORTH YORKSHIRE.** All-naturist non-smoking accommodation in the countryside, with beautiful sunbathing gardens. Farmhouse bed and breakfast, warm hospitality, all year round. Farm cottage with cosy log fire, self-catering for five. Two very comfortable caravans, each just right for a couple. Send stamp for brochures. Bob and Marion Shaw, Abbotts Farm, Ryton, Malton, North Yorkshire, YO17 0SA. Tel: (0653) 694970.
- **COSTA NATURA -** Spacious, luxuriously modernised and equipped ground floor apartment. Sleeps 4. New kitchen, two bedrooms, separate lounge. Large sunny terrace. Quiet position. For colour photo and details. Tel: (0727) 855837.
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- **FUERTEVENTURA.** Lovely Canary Island, where the golden, sandy beaches are almost entirely naturist and sun shines 360 days each year. Choice of villas/apartments. Tel: (0275) 332987.
- **STUDLAND BAY** Fairfield's Hotel (textile). Matt and Niki continue to extend a warm welcome to CCBN family members. Early booking essential. Tel: (0929) 44224 or write to Fairfield's Hotel, Studland Bay, Dorset, BH19 3AB.
- **COSTA NATURA, SPAIN.** Deluxe Phase III ground level apartment; sleeps 4. In quiet area facing south and east; uninterrupted sea view across gardens. Tel: (0628) 471374.
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- **PRIVATE COTTAGES** and apartments for autumn breaks: UK, and France, Dune Leisure, PO Box 29, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9UU. Tel: (0666) 577490.
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CLUBS

- **MANCHESTER SUN AND AIR SOCIETY,** with 17 acre site, welcomes enquiries from couples and families: Heated outdoor pool, playground, volleyball and miniten courts, crown green bowling and petanque. Enquiries by post only to: The Secretary, MSAS, 'Springfield', Sandy Lane, Middlewich Road, Lower Peover, Knutsford, Cheshire. WA16 9JQ.
- **HASLEMERE SUN CLUB** welcomes enquiries from families and couples. Woodland setting, 18m heated pool, kids pool, spacious sun lawns, games courts, boules, well equipped pavilion with members catering facilities. Write to Box No. 517.
- **SHABDEN LEISURE CIRCLE** with 6 acres woodland in Sussex welcomes membership enquiries. Leisure Centre evenings, newsletter. For details send 4x19 pence stamps to SLC, c/o CCBN.
- **SUN-FOLK SOCIETY** welcomes families and couples. Friendly members club in beautiful grounds with all year round sports facilities, swimming pool, barbecue. Regular social events. Enquiries Tel: (0727) 873576 Sundays or (0536) 791208 weekdays.
- **MANCUNIAN NATURIST CLUB** welcomes all genuine naturists especially families and couples. Weekly swim/sauna/sports evenings, special events, club visits, camping weekends, regular newsletter. Postal enquiries to Mancunians c/o CCBN.
- **CAMBRIDGE OUTDOOR CLUB:** A little

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- **BWM** welcomes enquiries from all genuine naturists. For further information please telephone: (0782) 723287 or 051 356 5161.
 - **GLOUCESTERSHIRE NATURIST CLUB** seeks members and invites applications from families and couples. Please write to the Pines Outdoor Club, c/o CCBN.
 - **WHITE ROSE CLUB** near the historic City of York welcomes applications for membership from families and couples. Write to White Rose Club Limited, Flaxton, York, YO6 7QZ.
 - **CLUB NATUREL** is a small friendly club for naturists, run by naturists, who enjoy swims and social events throughout the year. We welcome applications from genuine naturists, especially couples, families, and single ladies in Norfolk/Suffolk. Tel: (0502) 517863 or (0603) 715228.
 - **SUN CLUB,** North Surrey, between Purley and Warringham. Heated swimming pool, tennis, miniten, excellent club house and grounds. Welcomes applications. Box 561.
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- ### FRIENDSHIP
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 - **NATURAL FRIENDS;** Britain's best friendship service for single, non-smokers interested in naturism, all 'green' issues, complementary therapies, outdoor pursuits and much more besides. Very wide nationwide membership. Successful! Reliable! Affordable! Contact Barbara, Natural Friends (BN), 15 Benyon Gardens, Culford, Suffolk, IP28 8EA. (stamp appreciated). Tel/Fax: (0284) 728315 anytime. CCBN. Est. 1985.
 - **MALE 50+** fit, active, personable sun lover unexpectedly without companion for naturist camping holiday in France. Seeks 1, 2 or 3 females or couple to share holiday, car and large tent. Box 554.
 - **SINGLE MALE 50** seeks others in North and Scotland for naturist winter socialising/events or corresponding. Keen swimmer also enjoys massage, bodybuilding, and photography. Box No. 556.
 - **THE NETWORK -** International directory of naturists. Fifty six pages of the worlds naturists. Meet Jim and Carolyn from Hawaii, Dave and Maureen from Shropshire and Gaylene from Australia. Membership details, SAE to 4 Brook Close, North Baddesley, Southampton, SO52 9FJ.
 - **MALE 53,** keen naturist, S.O.H. living Sussex coast, seeks uninhibited female, non smoker, any age, for club and beach visits, companionship and possible romance. Box No. 557.
 - **COUPLE BOTH 47,** North West area. Likes camping and short break weekends. Would like to meet naturists with similar interests. Tel: (0374) 852751.
 - **NORTH WALES BASED,** male naturist. 30, N/S, 6'1" slim, attractive, various interests, seeks female companion for friendship/relationship 18-30, personality more important than looks. Box No. 558.
 - **DAVE, 28,** SEEKS female companion any

age to share holiday to Spain/Greece/anywhere. I live in London. Write soon - photo and telephone number appreciated. Serious replies only. Box No. 559.

● MALE, 36, CCBN member, seeks female for club visits, etc. Grampian/Tayside areas. Box No. 560.

● NATURIST VEGETARIAN, sparky, lissom, active, fun female seeks soulmate or similar (London - living, 40 something, non-smoker), for sharing sun, sounds and serendipity. Box No. 562.

● MALE, 35, seeking lady for country walks and other naturist pursuits. Box No. 563.

● SINGLE MALE, 43, living Cheshire. Keen naturist and anxious to hear from other males or females or couples of any age to make friends. Have good facilities and interested in massage and travel both in UK and abroad. Box No. 564.

● MALE 38 yrs, tall 6'2", slim attractive professional. Seek similar lady. North West/Cumbria area. Photo appreciated. Box No. 565.

● PROBLEM! Me, male, 40, friendly, intelligent, naturist, but my wife isn't. Solution, you female, married (with husband's consent) or single, living in Central or S.E. England, for companionship on naturist outings. Box No. 566.

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● ARE YOU A BEACH USER? - Researchers require current information on British Beaches - location (including OS ref if possible), directions, condition of beach, numbers of users, any problems. Box No. 555.

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Photographs

When sending photos for publication - and that includes Competition entries - make sure everyone recognisable in the picture is willing to see themselves in BN. Write names and addresses on the back of each photograph, together with 'permission to publish granted'. Get your naturist films processed by a naturist dealer (see Spot-on-Ads). If children pictured are not your own, be sure their parents agree to publication.

BARE FOOTNOTE Was Queen Victoria a nudist?

This is the remarkable theory put forward by columnist Andrew Moncur in *The Guardian* on 18 July.

Moncur praises the gallantry of two nude fire-fighters who sprang into action when a bushfire threatened the Royal beach hut on the Norfolk coast near Sandringham. 'By alerting us, and helping to contain the fire, they helped prevent what could have been a real

disaster,' said the local fire chief. Moncur suggests that the two nudists 'should receive the Queen's Medal for Conspicuous Gallantry - no, *Very* Conspicuous Gallantry.'

Then Moncur springs his bombshell. 'I have been working hard to establish my theory that Queen Victoria was a nudist, almost certainly introduced to the German *nacktkultur* movement by Prince Albert.'

Well! Watch *The Guardian*. The whole Victorian era would have to be reassessed if Moncur can justify his astonishing theory. But this is not all. Andrew Moncur poses an even more intriguing question about our present Queen, 'For all I know, *she may have naturist tendencies herself.*'

Ascot would never be the same again. R.W.

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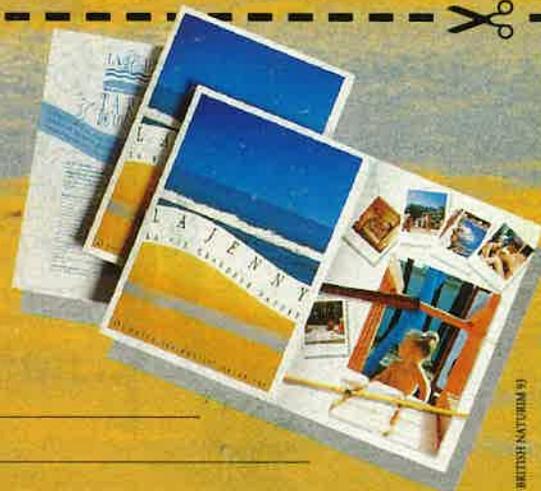
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