



young archer

KIDS TO TEST LAW'S STRONG ARM

Police dogs, horses, all sorts of police vehicles and the police themselves(!) will be on display at Muswell Hill Police Station's Children's Open Day on Sunday September 17.

As part of a major community relations effort, the local police are opening their doors at 115 Fortis Green from noon to 5pm.

All local children and their parents are welcome to come along and see what has already been code-named by the police themselves as "The Bill on the Hill!"

Play bill

As well as seeing the inside of their local police station, children can put their questions. Furthermore, there will be competitions for all ages and the

police will be displaying the best portraits of policemen drawn by local children.

In a letter to nearby residents the policed say, "We will endeavour to keep any disruption to a minimum but please accept our apologies in advance for any inconvenience this may cause you..."

Further information: 0181-340 8055 ext: 2401

The Archer says: Thank you local police. A great initiative! We hope local kids don't test your strength too much!

The Fact is...

Fact 1. Dentists in England and Wales extract 4 tonnes of bad teeth from children each year.

Fact 2. The water pressure inside an onion cell is enough to make a steam engine explode.

Fact 3. A snail can sleep for three years without waking up.

Fact 4. Cats cannot taste anything sweet.

Fact 5. Rainbows are seen as complete circles from aeroplanes.

Fact 6. In the year 1348 in England it started to rain in June and did not stop until December.

Fact 7. In the Sahara Desert, sand dunes can reach heights of 340m. about twice as high as British Telecom Tower in London.

Fact 8. A wren can sing about 130 different notes in just seven seconds

SEND IN YOUR FACT'S.



'Just another peaceful day for Bertie.'

Y.H.A. Getaway by L.A. Welch

Are you fed up spending all your time living, playing and learning in or around East Finchley? Well help is at hand.

About 100 years ago at the turn of the century, a German schoolteacher realised the problem that many city-bound children suffer and decided to do something about it.

His work inspired the British movement known as YHA or Youth Hostels Association. A century on, YHA has over 240 hostels all over England and Wales, and you can find one almost anywhere.

The Association President, the famous environmentalist, David Bellamy, says, "We are

pioneering environment-friendly tourism for young people."

For a fee of between £3.60 and £16.00 per night (depending on where you stay) you can, if you're between the age of 14-17, have a holiday of a lifetime. There are many amenities at the hostels, including full meals, use of linen and self-catering kitchens. The emphasis is always on sharing and meeting other people of the same age. Younger children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian unless they are going with an organised larger group such as scouts or cubs.

There are many activities available including mountain biking, canoeing, abseiling and

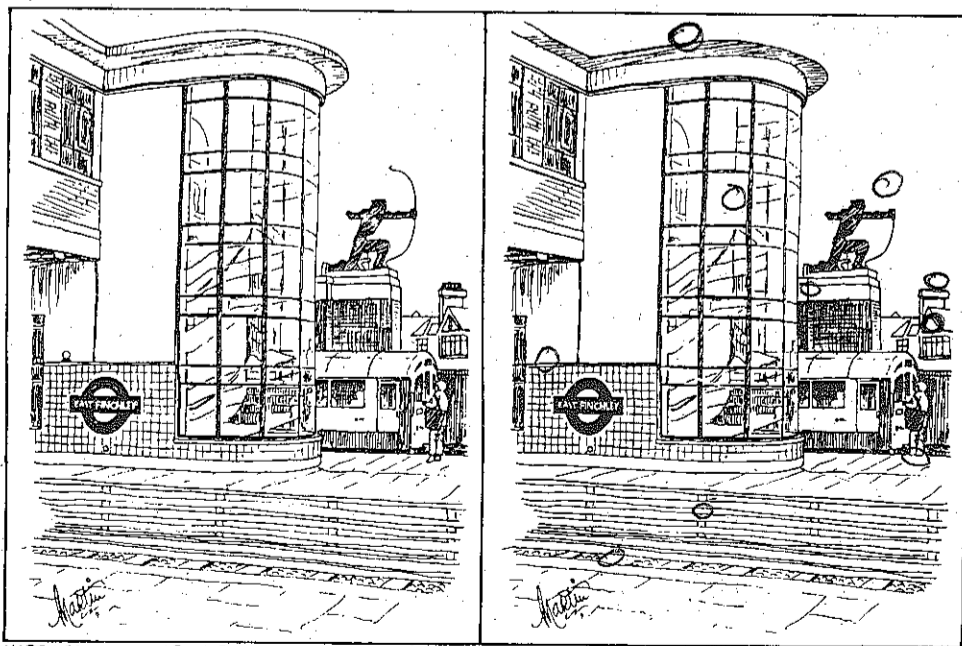
rock-climbing. Whatever your abilities, whether you are disabled or able-bodied, the YHA will help you have a great time.

For a small fee you can become a YHA member and receive a magazine with information on what you can do. If you get bitten by the hostelling bug, you can take your whole family on future holidays. All-in-all youth hostelling is a great way to holiday.

For further information contact YHA's Customer Services Department at Youth Hostels Association, Trevelyan House, 8 St. Stephen's Hill, St. Albans, Herts, AL1 2DY or telephone 01727-845047. Don't forget to ask your parents' permission. Have a great holiday.

COMPETITION

Spot the Difference



MARTIN SANDHILL - ART & DESIGN SERVICES - (0181) 442 1806

See if you can spot the differences in this month's competition. There are ten altogether.

Just ring the ten differences on the right-hand picture and send to The Competitions Editor at The Archer. The lucky winner will receive a sought-after Archer T-shirt, so make sure to send us your name, address and telephone number.

JOHN L. DEARING 75 VICEROY CLOSE
275 EAST END ROAD EAST FINCHLEY N2 8BA

Quick Puzzle

Here are the answers to last month's Quick Puzzle:

- Across 1. Apollo, 3. Lords, 4. Old, 5. Kings Road, 6. Tottenham, 7. River, 8. Soho, 9. Archway, 10. Eastend.

Down 2. Old Kent Road. Well done.

GAMES REVIEW

Virtual Reality

by Archie Archer

This month, by way of a change, Archie has taken a look at the virtual reality concept. It is an amazing world of fun, excitement and learning and is one that should not go untried.

Most of us tend to think of virtual reality as something we would find in amusement arcades or computer shows but, more and more now, it is being used in the business world as a way of showing and selling company products to the general public. Many travel companies now use virtual reality to give people a real taste of a place before they decide to travel there.

Entire factories can be built in 3-D virtual reality so that companies will know exactly what working conditions will be like for their staff before construction actually starts.

Already in some schools, the idea is used to help children with severe learning difficulties. Virtual reality may one day replace classroom books

and children will be able to see rather than just read the subjects they are studying.

Virtual reality can be used in one of two forms: (A) **Immersive** which is used mainly for entertainment, where the user wears a head-mounted display and controls things with a joystick or glove, and (B) **Desktop** mainly used in schools and environments, looking more like a conventional computer.

Virtual reality is truly amazing. With its technology, just imagine what we could achieve in ten years time. We could, in the comfort of our own classroom or home, climb Mount Everest, go deep-sea diving, or even take a walk on the moon. The mind boggles.

Archie Archer