

SLASHER

NEWSPAPER OF THE FORESTRY COMMISSION



No. 307

SPRING 1981.

LOCHAWESIDE CABINS OPEN



Photos by Douglas Green.

Two of the new cabins.

THE FORESTRY Commission's newest forest cabin holiday scheme, which lies in Red deer territory in the grandeur of Scotland's Western Highlands, has opened its doors to holidaymakers.

Financed by the Crown Estate Commissioners and built to the Forestry Commission's design on Lochaweside in Argyll, this is the fourth forest cabin development to be managed by the Commission. In the spectacular West Highland setting of Dalavich Forest Village near Taynuilt, the 44 cabins have been ingeniously tucked into the edge of Inverliever Forest, some cleverly built into banks or streambanks, others perched on stilts at the very loch edge. Each cabin imparts a sense of adventure and wherever you are on the site the loch, the forest and the mountains are on the doorstep.

This is a holiday for lovers of peace and quiet and the great outdoors. Loch Awe is well-known for its trout and salmon fishing which is free and although the Commission has rowing boats and outboard engines for hire, holiday-makers may bring their own and moor them alongside the small jetty on site. There is a small boat launching area and although speed boats are prohibited, owners of boats with small outboards, sailing dinghies,

small yachts and canoes will find the 24 mile loch offers very scenic sailing. There are horse-riding and trekking centres within an hour's drive and again if a visitor's own horse needs a holiday, Chief Forester, George Francey, will find parking space for horsebox and grazing in the forest.

At certain times of year sportsmen may enjoy rough shooting or deer stalking on day permit if arranged in advance and for the less adventurous there are attractive walks along lochshore and through birch, alder and conifer woods as well as hillwalking and bird-watching.

Holiday-makers will be able to meet the Commission's forest workers and their families over a quiet drink in the new village hall where there is also table tennis, badminton, billiards, darts and carpet bowls.

The site is an ideal base from which to tour the West Highlands and to visit Oban, the popular tourist centre with regular boat trips to Mull and the Western Isles.

Great care has been taken with the design of the cabins themselves and the landscaping of the whole site. The cabins of 5 different styles are suited to particular surroundings and the variety of setting and cabin type adds an informality to the clusters of holiday homes. Some cabins have been adapted for the disabled and will accommodate wheelchairs.

The Commission's 3 other forest cabin developments have come in for public acclaim. The pioneer development at Strathgairn, Perthshire, won a Come to Britain tourist award in 1973 and both Deerpark Forest Cabins in Cornwall and Keldy Castle Cabins in Yorkshire were singled out for Civic Trust awards for environmental merit in 1978 and 1980. Architects for the cabins are Messrs Hird and Brooks, Architects, Cardiff.

Responsible for the overall layout of the site was the Commission's senior landscape architect, Duncan Campbell, Head of

Design and Recreation Branch, and the site engineer was Bob Watson.

Says Duncan Campbell, "It was at Dalavich, one of the first forest villages built by the Commission in Scotland in the early 1950s, that the idea of using vacant forest workers' houses for self-catering holidays first started in 1970. It was an immediate success, not only as a holiday venture, but also in helping to diversify and improve the quality of life in the village. The success led to the development of the Commission's first purpose built forest cabin scheme of 17 log cabins on the shores of Loch Lubnaig in Strathgairn Forest in 1973.

Survey

At the same time as the Strathgairn development, a firm of management consultants was commissioned to survey the potential of the Commission's forests throughout Britain for self-catering holiday accommodation.

This survey indicated that the potential for self-catering holidays in our forests was considerable and led directly to the development of the present generation of forest cabin schemes — Deer Park in Cornwall in 1976 was followed by Keldy Castle in the North York Moors National park in 1978 and it was very fitting that the latest development at Lochaweside could be located in the place where the idea of self-catering holidays in forests first started.

SEARCH TO FIND IDEAL LOO!

THE search is on to find Scotland's perfect rural lavatory! An Edinburgh firm of design consultants have been asked by the Countryside Commission to design the perfect public convenience. And to help them, the firm has launched a competition inviting members of the public to vote for their favourite loos.

Admiration

Interviewed on Radio Forth, architect John Spencer paid tribute to the Forestry Commission's public toilets. "I have the utmost admiration for the Forestry Commission. They have devised their own pre-fabricated timber lavatory which fits quite beautifully into their forest areas. Built largely of timber you would think that it wouldn't stand up to the use — but it does. It also smells nice, looks nice and is properly maintained."



Head Forester Tony Burns of Glenorchy enjoys the pleasure of sailing on Loch Awe in his Mirror dinghy. The new cabins are in the background.

FOREST WORKER'S TRAGIC DEATH

WE regret to report the tragic death of forest worker, Mr Alistair MacDonald, who was killed during felling operations in the Glen Duror section of Glencoe Forest on 4th March. Mr MacDonald died instantly after being struck by a 100 foot tree.

Mr MacDonald (50) had worked for the Commission for 33 years at Glencoe. Our sympathy is extended to his widow, Barbara.

Axeman's Log

PRIVATE SECTOR EXPRESSES ANXIETY

TIMBER Growers England and Wales, the organisation representing the interests of private woodland owners has expressed anxiety concerning the Forestry Commission Consultative Paper which seeks to reduce the cost of administering the system of felling control and the grant-aid schemes which are required to ensure a continuing expansion of forestry.

Among the general comments submitted to the Commission were:

"The Government Statement on 10th December 1980 confirmed the importance of forestry as a strategic resource and as an asset of increasing value in a period of projected timber shortage. As a result of the policies of successive governments the forest estate has been able to recover from the very extensive depredation caused by the last two wars.

Effective lead

That this has been possible is in large measure due to the effective lead given by the Forestry Commission and the partnership between the Public and Private Sectors which has been created through a variety of mechanisms and commitments.

While there is always room for administrative improvement and we welcome the intention to achieve it, the principles underlying the arrangements which have proved successful should be retained. It would be folly if the required expansion was put at risk for reasons of short-term financial expediency.

The Government Statement with which, on this point, we entirely agree, emphasised that "the main basis of policy for the future must remain the successful and harmonious partnership between the private sector and the Forestry Commission."

Qualified staff

We therefore welcome the confirmation in the Consultative Paper that the "responsibility for administering statutory controls will continue to rest with the Forestry Commission which has the qualified staff and countryside organisation to apply a fair and consistent policy

It is our experience that the necessary expertise and consistency are not to be found among a large number of Local Authorities. We are therefore strongly opposed to any suggestion that the Forestry Commission should withdraw from its responsibility and jurisdiction in a situation where timber or woodlands, however small, may be involved.

Although Amenity is a consideration of major concern it is not the sole or overriding one, even in small woodland areas which comprise in total a significant proportion of the nation's hardwood resources. The Forestry Commission must, in our view, retain its authority

as the final arbiter where growing timber and silvicultural matters are concerned.

We question most strongly the intention to withdraw "Dedication." As a contract between woodland owners and the Government, Dedication is the foundation upon which post war private forestry expansion has been built.

The protection which Dedication provides against increasing pressure from other potential land users and the indiscriminate imposition of Tree Preservation Orders must, in any event, be continued under the new Grant Aid Scheme.

Investment

Dedication has been fundamental to investment confidence. It is an essential part of the partnership contract between the Forestry Commission and the woodland owners who joined Dedication believing they would be secured by the consistent policies essential to an industry involving very long term investment for at best a modest return.

The Government's readiness to break the contract is resented in many quarters and the damage to mutual confidence between the Private Woodland owners and the State will be immense if Dedication is not retained or at least replaced by a new scheme giving both adequate protection and a clear intention."

Children plant avenue of trees



IN 1892 one of the disasters which have plagued mining in South Wales occurred in the Park Slip Colliery not far from Bridgend. An explosion ripped through the underground workings and the final toll of the disaster was 112 lives.

Modern methods of opencast coal working have enabled the NCB to recover coal left unworked when the colliery closed. In the process all traces of the former Park Slip Colliery have been obliterated.

The site is now being restored for agricultural and forestry use, with the Forestry Commission carrying out the planting as agents for the NCB. Meantime, Mid-Glamorgan County Council considered it would be appropriate to leave some mark on the land to commemorate the disaster of 1892. They persuaded a Quarry Company to provide a limestone boulder, the opencast contractors were cajoled into setting it up on site, and the Forestry Commission agreed to provide an avenue of trees.

In the middle of February a bus-load of schoolchildren descended on the site, and over the next few days, 112 red oak were well and truly planted. The proceedings culminated with a ceremony when the last 4 trees were planted by the schoolchildren, and a plaque was unveiled by Councillor Phillip Squire, Chairman, Mid-Glamorgan CC Education Committee.

Join the commission's cave men

EARLY in 1965, deep in the depths of Hamsterley Forest, two forest workers and a forester discovered the mystic attraction of spelology (potholing to the uninitiated). From this small group a caving club was founded, and, over the years many forest staff have been introduced to this sport.

Although the name of the club (Bishop Auckland Caving Club) does not have a "ring" of Forestry about it, it does enable

an exchange of inter-Conservancy news to take place regularly.

Members are drawn from S(S) NW(E) NE(E) E(E) & W(S) which gives a fair indication of the keenness and determination of members to travel to meetings. As well as exploration of caves and potholes, photography of the many varied formations is carried out.

Potholing is a team effort with everyone playing a part. Safety is foremost, for one unguarded move may create a chain of circumstances with unpleasant results.

Members may be called upon to help on major incidents either in a surface support capacity or to assist underground.

Properly planned and coordinated, a days potholing can be exhilarating without being strenuous, and will provide lasting memories of underground beauty which is seldom seen by many people.

We would like to hear from, or exchange information with, anyone — ladies included, who would be interested in joining our club. Meetings are held on a monthly basis throughout the year (weather permitting).

Contact Brian Spencer, R&D Work Study, Ae Village, Parkgate, Dumfries, or P. Priestley, Bowland Forest. — NW(E).

THIS poem was written by Shona Ogilvie, the 12-year-old daughter of Mr J. Y. Ogilvie, Assistant Conservator H&M, South Scotland. Shona composed the poem as a homework task. The family moved from South Wales six months ago and she was influenced by the prolonged period of fire danger experienced there last year. Shona's present ambition is to be a forester.

I AM FIRE

*I am Fire,
I roll savagely along,
Taking all that I desire,
Nothing can stand my force,
Nothing can stop my course,
For I am Fire.*

*I am Fire,
As I enter in the forest,
The damp undergrowth suddenly crackles drier,
Before me squirrels and mice are scurrying,
Before me rabbits are burrowing,
All fear me, for I am Fire.*

*I am Fire,
As I swallow up fresh young trees,
I throw them out as blackened briar,
The forest is quelled beneath my lead,
Neither foam nor water can quench my speed,
For I am Fire.*

*I am Fire,
I roar as, in my prime,
My flames leap higher,
I leave behind no equal balance,
Just a scene of desolate silence,
I am the Forest Fire.*

SHONA OGILVIE.

HONESTY BRINGS REWARD

THIS story starts very early (about 1.30 am) on a September morning last year. There was a break-in and burglary at the Post Office in the village of Broughton, some 5 miles west of Chester. The thieves obviously found the four bags each containing £250 in 50ps a little heavy, and after carrying them across the field at the back of the Post Office they hid them on the embankment of of the new Chester southerly by-pass.

No rubbish

Later that morning, however, a small gang (of three!) from Clwyd Forest working on the by-pass on agency for the Department of the Environment had a few corners of weeding to finish. At about 10.30 they came across a plastic bag, containing other cash bags, somewhat different from the nefarious items of rubbish they usually find. The

police were called and were very quickly on site.

Forest Craftsmen Nigel Beales, Philip Lloyd and Dave Williams duly made statements to the Police and forgot all about the incident.

The Managing Director of Posts however, thought that their honesty and integrity in returning Post Office property should be rewarded and at a little "ceremony" recently District Officer Euros Jones, accompanied by Head Forester F. A. L. Hytch and Foreman Ifor Peters, presented all three with a cheque and a letter of appreciation from the Local Head Postmaster.

At the end of the ceremony Mr Peters was presented with the consolation award of a second bar to his 5-year Good Driving Medal.



Thornthwaite forester, Chris Ross, in Grange Rigg Pot, deep under the West Yorkshire Dales.

-THE GOSPEL- ACCORDING TO GEOFF SOUTHGATE

IT is no good letting one's troubles get the best of one. Even in the current financial and political climate a sense of humour keeps one sane and enables one to enjoy life.

This obviously applies in Kings Forest, Thetford where the on-going battle of supervising piecework operations on the forest floor finds expression occasionally in a little repartee on the men's work sheets. We give below a few examples with forester Geoff Southgate's replies.

From a pre-COND student: —

Monday: Recovering from a near-fatal knee injury sustained whilst carrying out technically difficult Forestry operations in hazardous conditions.

Tuesday: Hiding from rain — 4 hours, colouring planks — 2 hours, beating the daylight out of a defenceless piece of wood which hadn't lifted a branchlet to justify such brutal treatment — 2 hours.

Wednesday: Travel — 1 hour, collecting dye — ¼ hours felling cpt. 51 — 6¼ hours.

Thursday: Travel — 1 hour, felling — 6½ hours, obtaining supplies — ½ hour.

Friday: Holiday, greatly need to recover from the stress and strains of such a highly skilled and physically demanding job, and to reflect on the ceaseless verbal wit of the felling gang, the supplies officer and my supervisor.

Reply by G. Southgate: Bearing in mind the high quality of the literary masterpiece, brilliantly composed during the official working period allotted to the working class, who constantly sweat blood and tears to earn the proverbial crust, it has been decided, by those who walk on water, after the most careful consideration that the agreed piecework price, that has been calculated by an exceptionally sophisticated mathematical process, should be subsequently reduced on the assumption that the pen is mightier than the Chain Saw.

A recitation by G. Southgate to a recalcitrant chainsawyer who complained about the piece work rate: —

What thou a man be money poor,
There's honeysuckle by the door;
There's plenty cheese, and plenty bread,
And russet ale and apples red.

So put your shoulder to the wheel,
And show that you're a man of zeal;
Knuckle down, complete the chore,
Great joy is your's, *though you be poor.*

A comment to the forester from a sober and stalwart member of the production gang who felt the price was tight: —

He which soweth sparingly, shall reap also sparingly,
And he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully;
Every man according as he purposeth in his heart,
So let him give not *grudgingly* or of necessity,
for God loveth a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians, 6-7.

Reply by G. Southgate: —

The sweat from the brow blindeth the eye, for a cheerful giver is not always an abundant giver. Soon you will see the glory of the coming of Cpt 49 and let not your hand rule your heart, and tempt you into another hassle over piece work rates.

Southgate Friday 10/48.

Another comment from the same man: —

Give, and it shall be given unto you, good measure pressed down, shaken together, and running over.

Luke 6/38.

Reply from G. Southgate: —

Five days shalt thou labour, and it has been given abundantly according to the piece work rates. On the 6th and seventh day shalt thou rest, thus enabling you to enter the battle again, on the first day with renewed vigour, and a joyous heart.

Southgate Friday 10/30.

POSTBAG

Will anyone team up with Ray?

Dear Editor,
DURING the last 4 years while employed by the Department of Health and Social Security and the Department for National Savings, I have participated in several athletic events organised by the Civil Service Sports Council either as an individual or part of a team.

These have included several Cross-Country races, track events both at Meadowbank and Grangemouth Sports Centres, and road races. The events have all been well-organised and enjoyable, and have catered for all athletes regardless of standard.

Now that I am with the Forestry Commission, and having looked back at the various events, the absence of athletes from the Forestry Commission whether it be in an individual or team basis, has now become apparent to me.

Therefore as I hope to compete in further events, will anyone interested in athletics please contact me with a view to forming team(s) in the future.

RAY CAMERON,
Private Woodlands Section,
W(Scot).

Gwent bowmen on target

ROBIN HOOD would be proud to go down to the woods of Tintern Forest today, where he would discover his ancient skill is being kept very much alive.

The woods echo to the sound of bow strings twanging as the Gwent Bowmen wing their arrows through the trees.

Up to 40 archers compete on alternate Sundays, their skill ranging from young beginners to a British Olympic team reserve and the Ladies National Champion.

These enthusiasts, who come from all age groups, shoot on a special Field Archer's Course in Colonel's Park. The course is laid out among the open, semi-mature broadleaves, where the forest floor is fairly clear.

Two archers shoot against each other as they make the round of the course, accompanied by a marshal who ensures it is safe to shoot at each stop and keeps score. Another official is on hand to spot any arrows which miss the target.

The targets are so arranged that the archers always shoot downhill. This way, if an archer misses, the wayward arrow should go into the ground within two or three metres of the target.

The course, which can have up to 50 shooting

The name game

Dear Editor,

Mr Arnold Grayson, "What's in a Name?", is following a long forestry tradition.

A plaque in Romsey Abbey, erected in 1658 to commemorate the deaths of John and Grissel St Barbe (ancestors of Richard St Barbe Baker of "Men of the Trees" fame) ends thus:

An anagram on their names, John and Grissel St Barbe, "Be in Shares, in Best Glorie."

The plaque is on the wall

directly above the tomb of Lord Mountbatten.
E. G. RICHARDS.
(former Director, Land Use).

Dear Editor,

While I enjoyed Arnold Grayson's article in the Slasher on anagrammatic names, I wonder if he is aware that his own name is an anagram of — An Old Sorry Nag!

ANDREW BEARHOP,
Principal Land Agent (HQ).



New viewpoint-- a 'must' for visitors

A NEW Forestry Commission Viewpoint which affords magnificent views over the new Kielder Water has been opened to the public.

Conservator for North East England, Mr J. A. Spencer, introduced the Rev. J. T. Spence, Chairman of the Falsone Parish Council, who performed the opening ceremony before a number of invited guests.

Mounces Viewpoint, which lies approximately mid-way along the south shore of the reservoir, is a convenient stopping point for visitors travelling on the C200 road and

this outstanding viewpoint will become a 'must' for all who come to see Kielder. On a hill top, which was once part of Mounces farm, the Commission has erected two indicator boards, one facing north and the other south east. These boards, set into cairns made from local stone and designed in sympathy with the landscape, identify the places of interest in a panorama which includes the Kielder Dam, Yarrow Moor, Pithouse Crag, Deadwater Fell and views extending into Scotland.

Coupled with the viewpoint is a car park, landscaped into a

hollow, which is hidden from both the main road and the reservoir. The park has a capacity of 50 cars and can accommodate coaches. The associated toilet block is built from local materials to resemble a Northumbrian farm building and has facilities for the disabled. Beside it a sheltered information board pinpoints the views and details places of interest and things to do in the Kielder area.

In addition to seeing the hill-top vistas, visitors can walk, or travel in wheelchairs, beyond the toilet block to obtain a low level view of the reservoir.

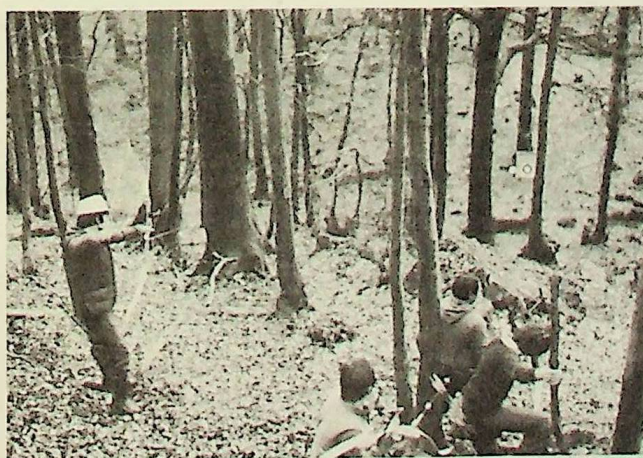
PHOTO FEATURE CLICKED WITH JUDGES

THE SLASHER has won an award in the 1981 Scotsman / British Association of Industrial Editors' Competition.

The centre spread in the Autumn 1980 issue, "Life Before Life on Earth," on the Silurian fossil discoveries in Mortimer Forest, won second prize in the Best Feature section.

Senior photographer, Douglas Green, and editor, Gordon MacNeill, were presented with a suitably inscribed copper plaque to commemorate the award.

points, has been established for six months. This followed over a year's discussion between Head Forester Roy Lewis and the Bowmen to find a suitable area and to ensure there was little risk to the public. When the archers are competing, warning signs are posted at all public footpaths into the woods.



The Gwent Bowmen in action.

GO AHEAD FOR QUEEN'S HOUSE RESTORATIONS

THE FORESTRY COMMISSIONERS have agreed to go ahead with plans for the restoration of the Queen's House in Lyndhurst. This decision follows their acceptance of a report by Chartered Architects, the Burford Marlow Carden Partnership of Winchester who were appointed after the survey carried out by Messrs Hugh M. Thomson in 1979 on the structural condition of the House.

Restoration work is expected to begin later this year and is likely to take about 18 months. The Burford Marlow Carden Partnership, who have experience of rehabilitating notable old buildings in Hampshire, have been retained and will be associated with Messrs King Summers and Partners of Salisbury, Quantity Surveyors, and Structural Engineers Messrs Rose and Watkinson of Lyndhurst.

No previous survey has disclosed the full extent of struc-

tural weaknesses that have developed over centuries and restoration work will be complicated by the many alterations and additions undertaken piece-meal.

Apart from making the building safe for use, the inadequate and worn out services will be replaced and it is intended to restore the interior sympathetically, retaining all the important historical features. Externally the appearance will be unchanged.

Guidance

The Local Planning Authority will be consulted before work starts and throughout the period of restoration the expert guidance of the Historic Buildings Council will be called upon. By its nature the cost of this kind of project is difficult to forecast but is likely to be in the region of £½ million although this may be offset by grants from the Historic Buildings Council and other authorities.

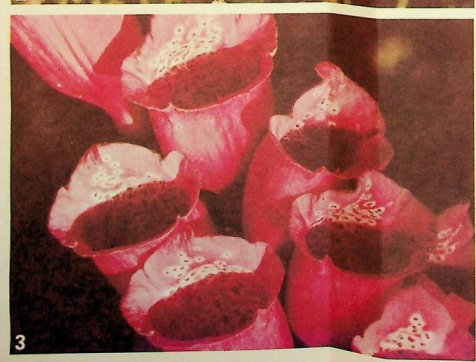
When completed, The Queen's House will be re-occupied by the Forestry Commission's staff and the Verderers' Hall will once again be brought into full use for the business of the Court.



1. Primarily a bird of the open moorland, the Hen Harrier suffered a drastic decline as a result of persecution by gamekeepers last century. Happily harriers are now breeding regularly in and around upland forests attracted by the plentiful supply of small birds and rodents.
Photo by Don MacCaskill



2. One of the largest and most dramatic of the moths, the Emperor has a wingspan of 7.5 cm. It feeds on heather and the adult caterpillars are bright green with black rings and gold or purple spots. Moths and other insects like beetles, midges and ants make a fundamental contribution to the living forest.
Photo by George Heddon.



3. One of the commonest wildflowers of restocked areas, the Foxglove produces large amounts of small seed, easily spread by the wind. A few will manage to flower in relative shade but will seed and spread in profusion once a cleared, open site becomes available.
Photo by Don MacCaskill.

4. The Roe Deer declined with the loss of woodland cover. Afforestation and the lack of natural predators has greatly increased its numbers. Uncontrolled population growth is destructive and numbers must be kept to acceptable levels to protect the young forest.
Photo by Desmond Dugan.

5. The Short-Eared Owl is attracted in large numbers to the young plantation. Its main source of food is the field vole, often present in plague proportions. shrews, mice, small birds and insects.
Photo by Desmond Dugan.

6. A common and fascinating bird of coniferous forest the Crossbill is dependent on tree seeds. Its unique bill with crossed tips is specially designed for extracting seeds from spruce and pine cones.
Photo by George Heddon

THE LIVING FOREST

THE THEME of this year's Forestry Commission Exhibition at the various Agricultural Shows throughout the country is 'The Living Forest.'

The exhibition, produced by Information Branch, describes the wildlife and plant life found in the various stages in the development of coniferous plantations from establishment to maturity.

Although foresters recognise that the richest wildlife is to be found in native woodland — the old pine forests of the north or mixed deciduous woodland of the south — coniferous plantations do provide an important new habitat for wildlife. These new forests could well become in the next century the greatest reservoir of wild plants and animals in the country.

The exhibition will be mounted at eleven agricultural shows by the Commission's show unit, Head Forester Brian Edwards and Forester Ian Embrey. With the cut-back to a single touring exhibit this year, the number of shows attended has been reduced, but the Forestry Commission presence is being retained at all the main events.

Successful conservation

The display draws attention to how managing forests for timber and conserving wildlife is being successfully achieved by the Commission today. The first section describes the Plantation stage, how it is established, how its landscape plan enhances the plantation for wildlife, and draws attention to the ways foresters improve the forest habitat.

Colour photographs and drawings illustrate the flora and fauna found in the new plantation,

such as short-eared owl, field vole, hen harrier, red grouse, meadow pipit, siskin and emperor moth.

The thicket stage provides suitable conditions for a range of species. Under the tree canopy can be found wrens, chaffinches, robins, redpolls, coal-tits, goldcrests, blackbirds and thrushes. Afforestation has greatly increased the numbers of roe deer, and the thicket is also ideal habitat for shrews and tree wasps.

Increased species

The new panel of colour photographs illustrates how successive thinnings make the forest even more attractive to a wider range of species. The open and lighter conditions encourage ground vegetation and the contrast of sun and shade attracts a variety of plants.

Butterflies and moths flutter between the trees and feed on the wild flowers, and in the tree tops larger birds like the sparrowhawk, buzzard and long-eared owl move in as nesting species.

The abundance of seed-bearing cones attract red squirrels and crossbills, and holes in old trees provide nesting sites for woodpeckers, squirrels, even pine martens, or roosts for bats.

The exhibition concludes with a section on the Second Generation Forest. We draw the public's attention to the way in which the forester uses his harvesting programme to enhance the appearance and to improve the conditions for wildlife.

Phasing the harvesting programme over a number of years transforms the even-aged first generation forest into a patchwork of felled and restocked plantations, thickets and mature.

Whatever their special needs, birds, animals, plants and insects will always find a suitable habitat.

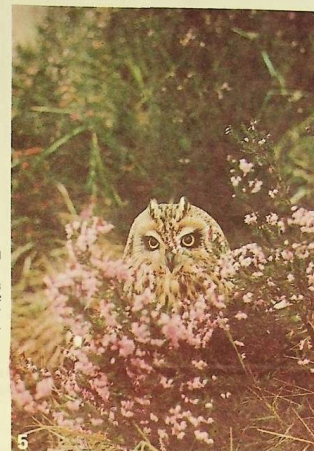
'THE LIVING FOREST' TOURING EXHIBIT will be on display at:

Shropshire	20-21 May
West Midlands	27-28 May
Royal Bath & West	3-6 June
South of England	11-13 June
Three Counties	16-18 June
Royal Highland	22-25 June
Royal Norfolk	1-2 July
Royal	6-9 July
Great Yorkshire	14-16 July
Royal Welsh	20-23 July
Came Fair	30 July - 1 August



Left: Usually found in maturing conifers with plentiful supply of cones, the Red Squirrel has been largely replaced by the introduced grey squirrel in southern Britain. The red squirrel builds its home in the branches of trees or in hollows in the trunk. It will also eat beech and hazel nuts, birds' eggs, and young berries and fungi.
Photo by Don MacCaskill

A SPECIAL Wall Chart on 'The Living Forest' has been produced by Information Branch in conjunction with the Touring Exhibition. Lavishly illustrated with line drawings, the chart will be a colourful souvenir of the exhibition and a lasting reminder of the conservation effort made by foresters. It will be of particular interest to teachers, and should help dispel the myth that wood production and nature conservation are incompatible. The Living Forest wall chart will be on sale from the touring show, and from all Commission sales points. The price is 50 pence, plus postage.



Nature News

End of a prickly problem in Devon?



Photo courtesy of Edinburgh Zoo

In late 1969, two Himalayan porcupines, *Hystrix hodgsoni*, escaped from a Wildlife Park in Devon. In 1973 considerable damage was being done to woodlands and farm crops by a number of beasts which appeared to be porcupines and almost certainly more than two individuals. The matter was taken seriously by local FC staff, MAFF officers, farmers and naturalists, and their concern was quickly taken up at headquarters level in the Commission and MAFF.

A 'final' report on the porcupine in considerable time and energy to the Okehampton area of Devon has now been presented. Stan Forester, PFO, Neath comments on some of the points of interest.

"Between the time of the original escape and March 1979 the final score is: —

- 1 possibly killed by a car.
- 1 killed by a terrier.
- 1 found dead in a badger earth.
- 4 trapped live by MAFF staff, and sent for study by research staff.

The captures and kills covered a triangle of country nearly thirty miles by fifteen miles. Intensive activity by MAFF staff occupied a great deal of time over the years from November 1973 until May 1980.

During that period the equivalent of one man full-time was involved for about 6 months each year. In addition, MAFF and FC staff generally expended

considerable time and energy to organise and maintain the campaign.

We have spent probably more than one man year for each of 4 porcupines trapped, a fantastic expense, but what has been saved?

We do not now add *Hystrix hodgsoni* to the list of introduced pests.

We do not have another problem to add to those of grey squirrels, coypu and mink.

Our expenditure of resources on attempting to control each of these is vastly greater than the whole cost of the porcupine project.

The lessons? Introduced pests are a menace. We must take them seriously. The 'authorities' are not too bound with red tape to act when necessary. And it is a weary slog dealing with the problem on the ground.

Hopefully there are none left. Possibly one man full-time was involved for about 6 months each year. In addition, MAFF and FC staff generally expended

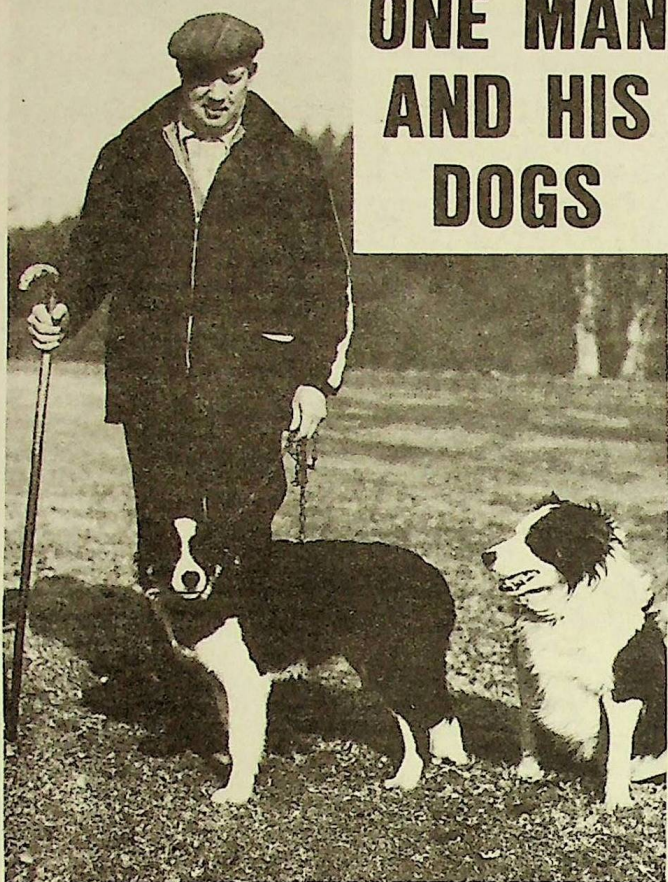
Around & About

Around & About

Around & About

NORTH WALES

ONE MAN AND HIS DOGS



JOHN EDWARDS retired in January after more than 40 years' service with the FC. He started his career with the Commission in October 1939 when nearly all the work centered around the establishment of the Coed y Brenin forest.

In 1957 he was transferred to the "Roads" Department where he became expert at building cattle grids. He was also a dumper driver for a time but his first love was trees so he returned to forest duties in 1960.

Trial winners

John's hobbies include gardening, fishing and sheepdog training. Some of his dogs have been sold to well known personalities in the world of sheep dog trials and have gone on to win at National events.

John had to undergo major surgery in December 1979 and although he is not yet fully recovered he is making good progress.

On his retirement the Conservator presented him with a cheque and a Long Service Certificate and his colleagues presented him with a barometer.



FORESTER R. O. L. Thomas has retired after 35 years with the Commission at Hafren, Dyfnant, Kerry, Llangollen and Coed y Brenin. In 1975 he received an award through the Staff Suggestion Scheme in recognition of his work on a project on Line thinning with skylines in unbrushed plantations.

During the war years he became a gunnery officer serving on board the battleships Renown and Duke of York during the first and second encounter with the German battleship Scharnhorst.

Bob will long be remembered around Dolgellau as the one who organised the annual expeditions to the summit of Cader Idris (2927 feet) by parties of blind ex-servicemen from St Dunstan's.

To quote one St Dunstaner, "half a million boots went marching through hell" to enjoy the magnificent views that were actually denied to them, but the atmosphere was there. Our photograph shows Bob Thomas and his party on "top of the world" with a celebratory bottle of rum.

Diolch am dy adnabod di Bob.

SEM'S PICNIC SITES WERE SPOTLESS

NORTH EAST ENGLAND

HARRY HOLDS ON

FOREST Craftsman Sem Roberts retired at 65 after 38 years' service at Gwydyr Forest.

Chief Forester W. Taylor presented him with a cheque from all his friends at Gwydyr, and a Long Service Certificate on behalf of the Conservator.

Sem worked at the Penmachno slate quarries before joining the Commission. He was

then sent to work in the coal mines at Wrexham until 1947. After Harvesting work during the 1960s and 70s, he then went on to be responsible for maintaining the high standards, cleanliness and tidiness at the Gwydyr picnic sites. A conscientious worker, Sem will be missed by his colleagues, who wish him a long and happy retirement.

MR HARRY TODD, Foreman with Durham Engineers has retired after 42 years' service. He began work with the Commission in 1939, as a forest worker and lived on a holding within Hamsterley Forest.

Harry served with the RASC during the war and after returning to his holding he resumed as forest worker, driver and clerk. For the last 17 years he was a Road Foreman with a brief spell as temporary Superintendent of Works for Roads Branch.

At an informal occasion in the Information Room Hamsterley, Conservator, Mr J. A. Spence presented Harry with a long service certificate, a cheque and a colourful flowering plant for Mrs Todd from well wishing colleagues who had gathered for the occasion.

Harry will be missed from the day to day scene at Hamsterley but will continue with his hobby, looking after his holding.

NORTH SCOTLAND

HIS CHEQUE WILL BUY A NEW FRONT DOOR

DAVID WOODBURN, District Officer, Inverness, was presented with a substantial cheque by Mr Cathie, Conservator N(S) on the occasion of his retirement after 35 years' service with the Commission. A presentation lunch attended by over 70 friends and colleagues from near and far was held in an Inverness hotel.

David joined the Commission in 1946 having been a POW in Singapore for 4 years. He was first posted to Lochgilphead and spent some time in both Perth and Dunkeld before going to Inverness district where he has been for the last 15 years.

The cheque, from contributions by David's many friends, will be going towards the cost of a wooden panel door for the new home in Lossiemouth where David and his wife Scilla will be retiring.

David, apart from refurbishing his new home, will still retain a keen interest in forestry as secretary of the North region of the Royal Scottish Forestry Society.

EAST ENGLAND

Harry will never be lost for words

AFTER serving the Commission for more than 39 years at both Thetford and Rockingham Forests, Harry Seymour has retired. Far from "hanging up" his planting spade and weeding hook, Harry will continue in forestry on his own piece of land.

Some years ago he acquired a stretch of disused railway line which he is now planting with a variety of species, many of which he has raised from locally collected seed.

Harry's friends, past and present, from the forest staff gathered in the "White Swan" at Woodnewton to bid him farewell. Head Forester Keith Wallis

presented him with an Oxford dictionary (whether to help in completing his crosswords or in talking to his trees we are not quite sure!) a cheque, and Mrs Seymour received a bouquet of flowers.

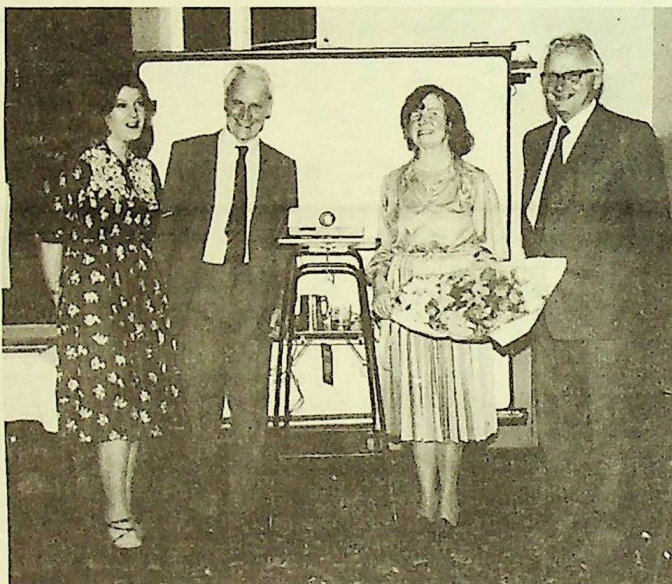
The following morning Harry was presented with his long service certificate by Conservator, Rod Hewitt, who spoke of his dedicated service to the Commission and his continuing work with trees. He then accompanied the Conservator and local staff on an inspection of Southwick Wood, much of which he had planted himself and where he had spent many of his twenty-five years at Rockingham.

Ted plans a "dig in" with his gifts

CHIEF Forester Ted Waddelove, Clocaenog, has retired after 34 years with the Commission. He first arrived at Clocaenog in 1947 as a candidate under the FWTS, and returned after qualifying from Foresters' School at Capel Curig. He was soon to go back there as an instructor and remained for 11 years. Mr Waddelove subsequently served in Coed y Brenin and Delamere NW(E) before returning to Clocaenog as Chief Forester 11 years ago.

A large number of friends and colleagues turned up to wish Mr and Mrs Waddelove a happy retirement. The first batch enjoyed a Buffet/Disco at The Woodlands Country Club at Ruthin on Friday night, and the second party were conducted around Clocaenog by Ted on the following Tuesday — his very last day of service.

Among the many gifts received were an engraved tankard, a framed portrait and



Ted's own choice of photographic equipment, including a telescopic lens, tripod, projector and screen. He will now use this to further his work on Roman archaeology in North Wales.

Contributions and messages of goodwill were received from far and wide and Ted has requested the use of "The

Slasher" to convey his deep gratitude to all concerned.

Pictured above are Mr and Mrs Waddelove with some of their gifts. Miss Carol Hughes, Forest Clerk at Clocaenog presented Mrs Waddelove with a bouquet and Mr Euros Jones, District Officer, made the main presentation.

Bert never left Beddgelert

THE photograph below records the retirement of Bert Callan after 35 years' service with the Forestry Commission, all of it at Beddgelert. He also served for 6 years in the navy during the war.

Bert was presented with a long service certificate by Chief Forester Allan Powell and he also received a silver tankard and other gifts from his friends.



Around & About

Around & About

Around & About

WEST SCOTLAND

CONFERENCES WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN

CSU conferences can never be the same since the retiral in December of Willie McDonald, Forester at Achaglachgach. For many years Willie was branch secretary for 390 members and although always a formidable opponent at the debating table he was also a cheery one.

Willie's service was all in Argyll starting in Glenfinart in 1939. After war service with the RAF he attended Benmore School and served also in Kil-michael, Inverliewer and Inverinan.

A farewell function in Cairnbaan Hotel was attended by Foresters and Conservancy staff and the Conservator Mr David Robertson presented Willie with a cheque and a humorous

résumé of a long career. Tea and refreshments were followed by songs, and outstanding amongst the talent was the redoubtable Willie himself.

At a second function the staff at Achaglachgach presented a crystal whisky decanter and a watch, marking the last day of service in a long career.

Willie is now in retirement in Lochgilphead — we hope it will be long and pleasant.

All round to Nancy's for afternoon tea!



MISS NANCY MACFADYEN, clerkess, has retired from the Forestry Commission at Glenbranter having completed over forty years' service.

She started work in July 1940 and was initially employed hand weeding in the nursery and cutting bracken in the forest.

In September 1940, Nancy joined the Home Grown Timber Production Department and was with this organisation until 1948. During this period she measured and recorded timber stocks and

carried out clerical duties at Benmore and St Catherine's sawmills. Ever since, Nancy has been the clerkess at Glenbranter Forest.

To commemorate her retiral, Nancy was presented with a watch, a teapot, cream and sugar set, a gift cheque and two framed colour prints — one of a wildcat, and the other a landscape from colleagues and friends far and wide, all of whom wish Nancy a long and happy retirement.

EAST SCOTLAND

ECK SCORES A HALF CENTURY

ALEXANDER "ECK" WHITTON has retired after completing almost 50 years at Montreathmont Forest. This period included war service first with the Home Grown Timber Control and then with the King's Dragoon Guards seeing action in Egypt, Palestine and Syria.

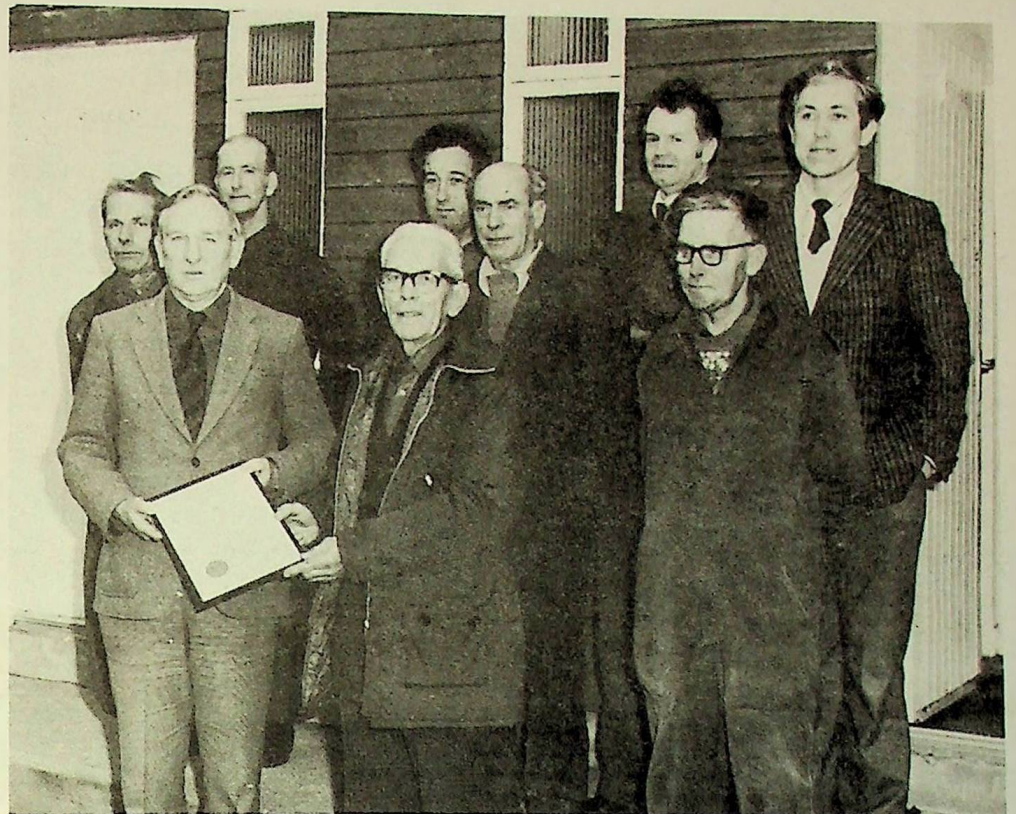
During this time the bond with Montreathmont was strengthened when he married Charlotte Kennedy, the forest ranger's daughter.

On his return from service he set up house on the forest and was appointed ganger. They have one son Derek now in Australia and a daughter Mary who lives in Brechin.

Part of Eck's responsibilities was running the local forest nursery, now no longer in existence. He therefore had the rare distinction of caring for the woods of Montreathmont from seed sowing through to its destiny in the saw mill.

With the aid of his squad he also often helped out at neighbouring Braes of Angus forest during busy periods. It was then that the true meaning of the psalm "I to the hills will lift mine eyes" became apparent to this staunch elder of the church. He practised leadership by example and even during recent years he refused to allow the steep windswept "Braes" to offer an exception to his dedicated approach.

In 1977 his long and devoted



service was recognised when he received the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal.

The recent creation of Angus Forest which now includes Montreathmont and Braes of Angus was one of the many

changes he experienced.

Fond farewells were made when he was presented with a long service certificate by Conservator Ian Grant at a meeting of worker colleagues at the forest office. Later a dinner and

dance was held in his honour at the Balmoral Hotel, Frickheim, when Eck was presented with a fine pair of binoculars by Chief Forester Robbie Adam and Mrs Whitton received a gold pendant from Mrs Morag Fraser.

SOUTH SCOTLAND



Athole blows 'full time' 45 years

BORDERS Work Study team leader Athole Whayman — renowned throughout the Commission for his ever-present whistle — has retired. Nearly 50 colleagues, past and present, gathered at the Station Hotel, Dumfries, to say farewell.

Athole's career of over 40 years in Forestry was recalled in a humorous 'This is Your Life' — Athole Whayman, MBE, MM, following which he was presented with a crystal whisky decanter and glasses by Mr Gwyn Hughes, Chief Work Study Officer.

He was also presented with a chainsaw carved 'jumbo' whistle by forester Brian Spencer on behalf of the Team, and Mrs Whayman received a bouquet of flowers from clerkess Mrs Kit Howat.

Athole's career began at the Benmore Forestry School in 1936. Two years later he was posted to Clashindarroch and from 1939 to 1946 he served with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, being awarded the MM in France. Athole started Rannoch Forest in 1949 and in 1951 he went to Aberdeen as private woodlands forester. He became District Officer in 1953 and transferred to Work Study in 1965, to set up the Kielder Experimental Team, moving to

Ac last year. He was awarded the MBE in 1974.

Athole has bought a new fishing rod, basket and reels for his retirement, but his immediate task is to tidy up his garage — a job he reckons will take at least 2 years!



DAVE GAVE SPLENDID SERVICE

DAVE PRETSWELL has retired after 41½ years with the Forestry Commission. Despite his deformed right arm, Dave has given splendid service as a Ranger at Cardrona, Eddleston Water and Glentress over the years. At a brief, informal gathering at Glentress recently Dave was presented with a pair of binoculars, suitably inscribed, from all his friends and colleagues in the Tweed Valley.

SOUTH WALES

Alf chose chainsaw as farewell gift

MR ALF BREWER, Executive Officer in the South Wales Conservancy Office, retired at the end of March after 43 years' Government Service.

Alf started his career in 1938 as National Insurance Auditor and after 7 years war service in the Army, returned to his old department, transferring to the Forestry Commission in 1950, serving at Bristol and Headquarters (London) before transferring to Cardiff in 1961, where he remained for 20 years.

Conservancy colleagues gathered at the BP Social Club, Sully, on 4th March for a skittle evening to wish Alf well in his retirement.

The Conservator, John

Zehetmayr, in presenting Alf with an electric chainsaw on behalf of colleagues, paid tribute to his long service with the Commission and referred especially to his wide knowledge of private woodlands which will be sadly missed.

Alf is retiring to Bovey Tracey, Devon, where he hopes to put the chainsaw to good use when he settles in his new home. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

23 YEARS

OLIVER Ienan Roderick, Forest Craftsman at Rheola, retired on 27th April after 23 years' service with the Commission.

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East: Douglas Furneaux
West: Archie Cameron
South: Ben Struthers

RESEARCH:
Alice Holt; Noel Blatchford,
NRS: Fred McLauchlan

STAFF SIDE (Based in Headquarters):
Mrs Jean Thompson

Two get long service awards

DAVID KEARNEY from Glentress retired in February, after 41 years' service, and JAMES HOGGART, Mobile TD, retired in April following 33 years' service. They are both going to be presented with their Long Service Certificates at the Royal Highland Show this year.

focus

THE WOODS WILL RING WITH ARTHUR'S MUSIC

THE woods of Grizedale will ring to the music of Vienna one Saturday evening this summer. And it is appropriate that the leading voice will belong to someone whose life's work has been with trees, Principal Forest Officer Arthur Sutton of Forest Management Division

On Saturday, 18 July Arthur Sutton is appearing as one of The Albury Singers at Bill Grant's Theatre in the Forest.

The concert came about after Arthur and Bill were on the same residential FC course. One evening was spent discussing their mutual interest in music and the theatre, and in the course of their conversation the idea of a concert by the Albury Singers in the Theatre in the Forest emerged. Arthur offered a choice of programmes — and Bill chose "An Evening in Vienna."

This musical extravaganza by the quartet, under Arthur's direction, will include individual items and selections from The Marriage of Figaro, The Magic Flute, The Sound of Music, The Merry Widow, A Night in Venice, and Die Fledermaus.

Scarce commodity

Music has played an important part in Arthur Sutton's life since his earliest childhood. His schoolteacher father taught music and science, and from the age of five Arthur remembers singing songs his father composed. "He tried to teach me the piano, which was a disaster, and I learned to play the violin a bit, but it was not until my voice broke that I really took up music seriously," says Arthur. He participated in university music groups "where tenors were a scarce commodity" and when he joined the Commission in South-East England he became involved with Gilbert and Sullivan

groups. There he met a member of the d'Oyley Carte Opera Company who became his first singing teacher, and Arthur sang many principal tenor parts in Gilbert and Sullivan operas and in oratorios.

In 1964 he moved to Brecon in Wales where — although in the "land of Song" — he found less opportunities for singing. But when he was seconded to the Civil Service College in Edinburgh he met up with Carolyn Coxon, now head of the celebrated St Mary's Musical School, who became his teacher. Under Carolyn's tuition, Arthur virtually had to start from the beginning again, but very soon found himself singing better than ever before.

Although he was "beginning to feel too old to play the dashing hero," Arthur was invited by the Edinburgh Opera Company to play the leading tenor role in The Bartered Bride.

In addition to their main opera productions a group from the Edinburgh Opera Company gave a series of concerts of lighter music and Arthur became a regular soloist in these concerts.

In 1977 they were asked to give a concert of Gilbert and Sullivan music. Surprisingly, none of them knew any Gilbert and Sullivan so they turned to Arthur for help. In this concert and two "repeat concerts" which followed Arthur made the introductions and conducted the choral items — and from then on he became conductor and producer of these lighter concerts.

Within a few years this group of 24 singers acquired an identity and personality of their own and so the Laurieston Singers were born. Most of them remained members of the Edinburgh Opera Company but rehearsed their own concerts from May to September under Arthur's direction.

Festival

Each year they fill one of Edinburgh's smaller halls for five nights during the International Festival and in the ensuing months give concerts in the Edinburgh region and as far afield as Berwick-on-Tweed.

The titles of their concerts, "Cafe Mediterranean," "Songtime in Paris," "Transatlantic Holiday" give some indication of the wide range of their repertoire.

Some of the members were already established soloists when the Laurieston Singers were formed but a policy of developing the talents within the group has resulted in 19 of the 24 members being featured in solo items.

During the last 4 years Arthur has directed the Laurieston Singers in over 40 concerts.

There are however many types of music — and some halls — which do not suit a large group. And so, in 1979, Arthur formed the Albury Singers, a small group which sings a wide range of music in an intimate manner and which is flexible enough to perform in large or small halls. Their aim is to enjoy their singing, and to share their enjoyment with their audiences. The



The Albury Singers, with Arthur Sutton at the rear.

group sang at last year's Edinburgh Festival and have appeared in concert venues in Edinburgh.

Arthur has not confined his singing to lighter music: he has also sung the title role in Faust in Edinburgh's King's Theatre for the Edinburgh Grand Opera Group and the tenor solos in the "Messiah" in St Mary's Cathedral as well as performing many cycles by Schuman and Vaughan Williams.

At home in Carnock, Fife, Arthur Sutton is surrounded by the sound of music. His wife, Pam, has sung principal soprano in Gilbert and Sullivan productions and their four daughters have all inherited their parents' musical talent. Carol has a degree in music, Penelope took singing as one of her teacher

training college subjects and is a member of the Albury Singers, Gillian plays the piano and guitar, and Lindsey plays recorder. Also living with them is Arthur's father-in-law, who was a member of the London Philharmonic Choir during his Civil Service career.

Exercises

"It's just as well the house windows are double glazed," jokes Arthur. "Although, despite the sound-proofing, our nearest neighbours — 100 yards away — say they sometimes hear me practising my scales!"

Arthur spends half an hour on vocal exercises each day. "The human voice is a terribly

unreliable instrument," he explains, "so constant practise is essential."

One place he doesn't sing is — in the bath! But he does sing in the car. Arthur uses the 20-mile journey to and from work to play cassettes of the works he is rehearsing. This way he learns to sing the words and music automatically.

So, if you're stuck at traffic lights in Edinburgh and a quick burst of Faust emanates from the car beside you you can be sure Arthur Sutton is preparing for his next public performance.

● Tickets for "An Evening in Vienna," priced £1 and 50p for children are available from the Box Office, Theatre in the Forest, Grizedale, Hawkshead, Ambleside, Cumbria. Tel. Satterthwaite 291.

"WHERE THINGS STILL GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT"

by Richard Westlake

WHEN you see compartment 62 of the Black Isle Forest on a stock plan it seems just like any other part of the forest, the figures denoting that it consists mainly of Scots pine and sitka spruce.

It is only when one passes this compartment on the adjoining Fortrose to Conon Bridge road that you notice anything different, for there in the branches of the trees hang hundreds upon hundreds of rags. One would be forgiven for believing that this is the work of an avant-garde artist fresh from an exhibition at the Tate, or else that the wood is down wind of a factory dealing in shoddy. However, you would be forgetting that this is the ancient Scottish Highlands, where magic and supernatural powers still abound!

Clootie well

The centre of attraction lies below the rags, where at the side of the road a small trickle of water flows out from the ground, for this is a clootie well. For the majority of the year it is just another spring, but on the Sunday nearest to May 1 it

experiences a strange transformation.

On this day, anyone who approaches the well and after drinking some of the water tears off a piece of their clothing, tying it to the branch of one of the overhanging trees can make a wish. In return, the well makes that wish come true.

Mystical powers

A little while ago I had the occasion to meet a local resident who told me of the well and its mystical powers, of how the water runs ice cold even on the hottest of summer days. I expressed my disbelief in the supernatural and said that I doubted if anyone would believe such a tale today. I was immediately corrected. Did he then believe in the powers of the well? He did. Had he had experience of a wish coming true? Yes, he had.

"Why then," I asked, "Do you believe that if I came and wished for a lot of money, I would become rich?"

"Surely, surely!" he replied, "I once wished for just that and it came true."

"How?"



The Black Isle Clootie Well.

"My farmstock was revalued for accounting purposes," he began, "and the value of it over the previous year increased by £5000!"

I leave you to think it over.

Meantime, there is another clootie well in Culloden Forest, just the other side of Inverness. This is also known by the name of St Mary's Well, although its origins are thought to be before the time of Christianity. The well is situated within a round

stone wall some seven feet high so placed that in the spring the early morning sun shines directly on to the pool and it is at this time that the magical properties are held in the water.

The speciality of this well is in its healing powers. A person seeking a cure to sickness casts silver into the pool and then sips some of the water, making sure to throw some more of it over his shoulder as he does so. He then retires to the nearest tree

and again rips off part of his clothing and ties this rag or "cloot" as it is known to one of the branches. In doing so his sickness leaves him, resting on the rag.

Anyone who removes such a cloot later on from the tree takes with it the ill it represented. A tricky problem for any forest worker trying to tidy the place up!

Witches out

The nicest idea to my mind, however, is the arched rowan tree over the front gate of many a mountain cottage. This was achieved by planting two young rowans on either side of the gateway and tying them at the top, cutting off much of the subsequent upwards growth. This accomplished, witches were unable to enter through the arch and thus cast evil spells over the household.

A fine example of this was to have been seen in front of a Forestry Commission cottage in Glenurquhart, although this was sold four years ago. Regrettably, this extra amenity was omitted from the sale particulars. I wonder if spirits mind being treated as surplus estate?

OBITUARY

MR OWEN EDWARDS

INVERLIEVER forest staff have been saddened by the death of Head Forester, Owen Edwards.

Most of Owen's service since 1950 was in South Scotland Conservancy at Bennan, Garrowrie, Dundee, Glen Gap, Kyle and Kerrourtree. He joined West Scotland in 1976.

At Inverliever, apart from an infectious enthusiasm for his work, he was a stalwart member of Dalavich Social Club and latterly the Club President. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Audrey, and family.

MR HAROLD JONES

MR HAROLD JONES, who, for 37 years, taught botany at the Dean Forester Training School, has died, aged 84. Mr Jones' love for his subject is well remembered by hundreds of foresters, and his funeral was attended by many colleagues and friends from the Commission.

MR J. R. PRICE

IT is with regret that we report the death of Mr J. R. Price, former Forest Craftsman at Coed-y-Rhaiadr. He had retired on medical grounds last April after 23 years' service.