



young archer

A Dog is for Life

English people have a reputation for being very fond of dogs, but they need to be looked after properly. Here is some good advice on taking care of your pets.

Dogs need two walks a day, regular meals, and grooming. They like company so should not be left for longer than four hours in an empty house. Cats are more independent. Fresh food each day, a clean litter tray, a cat flap in the kitchen door and a cuddle when they come to you will keep them happy. Consider the cost of keeping your pet. Food, of course, is the first item, then insurance for vet fees in case of illness or accidents. Also the initial vaccinations for puppies and kittens which have to be repeated every year.

My pet is a Shetland collie called Ben. He is 10 years old and still full of beans. He demands two walks each day, the first one at 7.30 every morning in Cherry Tree Woods. He likes barking at trains, rolling on frosty grass, and finding Kentucky chicken boxes. He doesn't like being cleaned when he gets muddy or being fastened outside the library once a week while I



Ben the Shetland Collie

change my books.

Many children have other pets such as rabbits, hamsters or guinea pigs. Their needs are, again, regular food and, if they are kept outside, a secure hutch large enough for them to move about with clean, dry, warm bedding which is changed regularly. Don't for-

get that all your pets need a bowl of water which is washed and changed every day.

In return for your loving care you will receive affection, trust and companionship from your animals.

PS. If you are thinking of getting a pet the decision must be made by the whole family.

British Summer Time

On 30 March our clocks went forward one hour. The evenings are getting lighter and the weather is changing. Here is a poem suitable for this time of year written by Myrto Williams who lives in East Finchley.

Day and Night

Early in the morning
When the dew drops are falling
And the sky is light blue
against the daffodil hue.
In the middle of the day
When the farmer lays out the hay
and the horses go NAY!
Soon the sun goes down
and the lights turn off in town
And the sky turns black
And the moon comes back
to the long lost sky where its light will never die.

Myrto Williams. Aged 9 years. Hertford Road

cartoon time

Jacob E Reynard, age 13, of Fortis Green thought of a different use for a political poster...

If you have any cartoons, jokes and stories, please send them to Young Archer, The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA.



Saint George's Day

By Diana Cormack

April 23rd is the feast day of the patron saint of England, Saint George. He is also the patron saint of several other countries and he probably never came to England. Stories of him were brought back here by soldiers returning from the Crusades at the end of the 11th century. We know little about him. He may have been born in Turkey and he may have been a Roman soldier who was martyred in the third century.



Illustration by Ben Hoare, aged 10, Cherry Tree Road.

Even the reason for him being our special saint is not clear, though it seems that in the past soldiers have felt that he came to their aid in important battles, so they would pray to him for an English victory. In Euro'96 last year he featured in the opening ceremony and we came pretty close to winning the tournament!

In this ceremony the ancient legend of St George killing the dragon was acted out. The story tells of a town which was being terrorised by a ferocious dragon who had eaten all the sheep and cattle he demanded from the terrified townspeople. Now, to keep him satisfied, the king drew a name out of a hat every day and the person chosen had to go beyond the town walls and become a human sacrifice to the hungry dragon. Eventually the awful day came when the king drew out the name of his own child, the beautiful Princess Sabra.

So the poor, terrified girl had to go and wait beside the lake outside the town for the beast to come and devour her. But she was in luck because, just as the dragon rose up out of the foaming water to attack

her, along came the brave St George. He spurred his horse up to the dragon and, after a dreadful fight, he killed the awful creature.

He led the princess back to the town in triumph and the townspeople were so impressed and grateful that many of them became Christians after listening to George's teachings.

The whole point of this story is to show the triumph of good over evil. Nobody knows if it is true nor do we know if St George really was a brave fighter, but he has become the patron saint of soldiers and boy scouts. Scouts, Guides and Brownies will mark his day with a church parade. Churches and important buildings will fly his special flag - a red cross on a white background.

Although St George's Day is not celebrated as enthusiastically as those of the patron saints of Wales, Ireland and Scotland, some people may be seen wearing a red rose on 23 April, though why a flower which is not in bloom at this time of year has become our national emblem is another story.

clever clogs corner

Where in England are these to be seen?

1. Circles of stone found on Salisbury Plain.
2. Sharp rocks called "The Needles" sticking up out of the sea.
3. The highest cathedral spire.
4. A twisted church spire.
5. Where the Romans kept clean.
6. Lovely lakes, mountains and daffodils.
7. Which savoury foods got their name from these English places?

Yorkshire
Lancashire
Cheddar
Cornish

7. pudding, hot-pot, cheese, pasty.
5. Bath. 6. The Lake District.
3. Salisbury. 4. Chesterfield.
1. Stonehenge. 2. The Isle of Wight.

Answers :-