

ITN breaks into radio

ITN has started the countdown to its entry into radio news. From March, ITN Radio News will be producing a news service for a growing number of "new-wave" radio stations such as London Jazz FM.

Mervyn Hall, the editor of the new service, said: "It seems to me that radio is the most natural development that ITN has ever made. The more you look at it, TV and radio news complement each other. Having a strong radio arm actually strengthens your television news gathering."

ITN will be providing national news coverage for the new "incremental" radio stations. These are the small, specialised stations, created by the Independent Broadcasting Authority to offer an alternative to the existing radio network. They include ex-pirate operations, community radio projects and new licencees such as London Jazz FM.

ITN's first bulletin, on March 4, coincides with the launch of London Jazz FM. Hall explained: "Jazz FM is the largest to sign with us so far. It has a potential audience of eight million but some of the stations will be very small with only an eight- to 10-mile radius." More than 200 stations will be created during the next two years and Hall hopes that many will take up the offer of the ITN news service. Unlike other commercial stations, the incrementals only have to provide a national news if they included one in their application for a franchise.

Recruitment for the ITN radio team is already underway. The eight journalists will operate out of the newsroom, repackaging and reworking existing ITN material to produce two- or three- minute bulletins on the hour, as well as one minute of headlines on the half-hour.

"There will be two journalists on duty at any one time and they will use the same editorial policy as the rest of ITN," added Hall. The sound recording area on the second floor is being converted into a radio studio at the moment.

Hall will supervise the launch but after the initial stages Charles



Hall: "TV and radio news complement each other"

Morrissey, who is moving from Forward Planning to the radio unit, will assume day-to-day control. Hall will then concentrate on ITN's ambitions to win a franchise to produce the first national "speech-only" radio station.

"Under the Broadcasting Bill, one FM and two medium wave frequencies, currently used by BBC Radios One and Three, will be allocated to independent radio. ITN would like to win one of those contracts to provide a news, information and current affairs, "talk" service," said Hall.

"The fact that we will be producing a news service for the incrementals will provide a perfect showcase for what we can achieve."

He is also hoping that once the news bulletins are established, the radio unit will expand into current affairs. "I would like to see, in 12 or 18 months, us offering syndicated radio programming. We could have a world round-up of events from our

I N S I D E

RAFFLE: News of the success of the ITN charity fund-raisers for the Middlesex Hospital. **PAGE 3**

ROMANIA: Paul Davies remembers some of the behind-the-scenes events during the people's revolution. **PAGE 5**

WEATHER: The weather unit celebrates its first anniversary. **PAGE 6**

SMOKING: An update from Lezley Clark. **PAGE 7**

DECADE OF AWARDS: Look back at ITN's honours during the past ten years. **PAGE 8**

PROFILE: Sue Cameron talks about life at the House of Commons. **PAGE 10**

ITN CLUB: Everything you ever wanted to know about the ITN club. **PAGE 11**

COLOGNE: News of the ITN trip abroad. **PAGE 12**

GRAY'S INN ROAD: A look at what is available near the new building. **PAGE 13**

PLUS... sport, news and pictures of ITN events over the past few months.

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ITN welcomes new recruits

As usual ITN has had its fair share of new recruits over the past few months. Mary Breen joined as secretary to Terry Shore. She had previously been secretary to the head of production at Thames Television. She has also worked as a secretary / computer operator at Charing Cross Hospital and as a secretary and a wardrobe assistant at the BBC. Her hobbies include swimming, reading, music, the theatre and photography.



Hazel Tansley

Another theatre-goer is Malcolm Taylor who has started at the company as a computer technician. He has spent the past four months working as a support specialist on a Computer-Aided Software Engineering tool. Previously he had spent six years teaching in Lancashire, beginning as an English teacher but ending up as head of the computer department. Apart from the theatre, Malcolm also enjoys mountaineering, camping and skiing.

Martin Black has become head of financial accounts. He trained at Peat Marwick McLintock - qualifying in 1988. He then moved into PMM's specialist media and entertainment unit before coming to ITN. Martin is

a keen athlete and photographer. A new recruit to the graphics department is Antonio Pepe. He had previously been a freelance designer at Conde Nast publications. He likes music and all sports especially rugby and football.

After two years as a district reporter with the Wolverhampton-based Express and Star, Tim Evans joins as a journalist. He has previously worked on the Nottingham Evening Post and the Northampton Chronicle and Echo. Tim enjoys going to the theatre and cinema and reading modern literature. Another new face in editorial is Tim Burkham who becomes an editorial admin assistant. Tim moves from a similar position at the BBC and has also worked as a programme researcher on Watchdog. Meanwhile the security department welcomes Nigel Markham to its ranks. Nigel was previously a security officer for Garrard in Regent Street. In his spare time he goes marathon running.

Other new people include Ruth Silverston as secretary in electronic maintenance; Hazel Tansley, finance assistant; Nicola Grant assignments assistant; Tom Gill, Channel Four Daily input co-ordinator; Jackie Watson, graphic technician; Philip Long, graphic technician; Nicola

Boseley, graphic designer; Kaye Coleman, Channel Four Daily input co-ordinator; David Biddle, writer; Mark Adams, writer; Aileen Hopkins, secretary to the head of engineering projects and communication; Paul Marchant, driver / mechanic; Karen Torevell, graphic technician; John Ryley, television journalist; Ian Foster, computer technician; Veronica Chappel, engineering secretary; Margaret Enefer, television journalist; John Vaughn, admin assistant bureaux; Justyn Jones, environment correspondent; Ann McGuire, television journalist; Mark Baker, computer technician; Nick Napier, computer support supervisor; Philip Woolas, television journalist; and Geoff Wiggins as an operations engineer.



Justyn Jones

Among those leaving were Caroline Burrell, Lisa Garside, Caroline Hendry, Beverley Clarke, Cathy White, Harry Jones, Len Frisby and Jane Whitfield.

ITN's 55 Plus Club

Several ex-ITN staff have formed a club for the company's founder members.

The club will be known as the ITN 55 Plus Club. "That covers founder members and any ITN staff who retire or have retired with 20 or more years service with the company," says Jo Redding, who urged people to contact her if they were interested in joining a special club for ITN stalwarts in a recent article in The Lens.

There are currently 25 members of the new club with Frank Miles as secretary, Alfie Wilson as treasurer and Jo Redding as chairman. The annual subscription will be £5. "Anybody interested in joining should contact me," added Jo. Her address is

Flat 38, Camberley House, Redhill Street, London NW1.



Jo Redding: chairing the new club

Contribution to The Lens

More people are offering articles to The Lens these days. Do you have any ideas or subjects that you think ought to be in the magazine, or would you like to volunteer to write something for a future edition?

If you have any comments please send them to Susan d'Arcy in the press office or telephone on extension 2475.

We would also welcome letters and photographs.

Charity success

A grand total of £2,100 was raised between the prize draw at ITN Club's Christmas Dinner Dance and the New Year Raffle.

Among the lucky winners were Tim Friend (who's currently working for C4 Daily) who won a weekend for two in Paris or Amsterdam and Nigel Baker (Editor, C4 Daily) and Nick Dodd (Library) who each won a case of champagne.

All proceeds are going to the Middlesex Hospital to help purchase equipment for a unit being built especially to care for teenagers with malignant disease. Due to open in April 1990, this is the first unit of its kind in Great Britain and it is hoped that it will help relieve the immense pressures experienced by patients and parents of teenagers who are too old to be looked after on paediatric wards and do not fit easily into adult medical wards.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say a big "thank you" to everyone who donated the wonderful prizes and to those who bought and helped to sell tickets. We've had a long association with the Middlesex and I'm particularly glad we've been able to help them in some way before moving to Gray's Inn Road. Thanks again for all your support.

Nina Bialoguski
ITN Club

Letter to the editor

Although typing is rather an impersonal medium for private letters, I feel in this case that it is not only appropriate but necessary! The typewriter was an ideal gift and, coupled with the answering machine, provides a good basis for our rest home office. I found my years at ITN enjoyable, interesting and fulfilling - I don't think one can ask for more from a career than that.

Peter Hubbard



ARISE, SIR DAVID!

Sir David Nicholas, pictured with his wife, Juliet, receiving his knighthood at Buckingham Palace at the end of last year. Sir David said: "It's a great honour for me, and particularly for ITN, which I have been privileged to be part of for 30 years."

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correspondents, and specialised programmes on Asia for Asian stations, for example. We could also provide a teleprinter service. This is valuable groundwork should we win the national franchise."

The other major advantage for ITN from its current radio commitment is that the company has gained a first

foothold in advertising. Hall explained: "The unique part of this deal is that we will sell our own advertising. It has given ITN what it has always craved, absolute access to directly benefit from our service."

ITN has won the prime-time 30-second slot around the 8am news bulletin. In a separate deal with individual stations, ITN will waive its fee, 1.5 per cent of the projected net

advertising revenue, in return for the 30-second ad break around the 9am news. The advertising sales will be handled by Broadcast Marketing Services which is the only all-radio advertising sales house in the country.

"This service will provide the essential groundwork for radio ambitions as well as being a challenging and profitable venture for the company," concluded Hall.

Layman's guide to technical terms

MARTIN UREN continues his vocabulary guide

GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS — D

(Terms used in definitions, and defined elsewhere in this glossary, are marked with *)

- DAC** Digital to Analogue Converter. A device which converts a **digital*** signal into a continuously variable voltage or current.
- dB** Decibel. A unit usually used to give a measure of relative levels of intensity, power, or voltage, although it may refer to any other quantity.
- DBS** Direct Broadcasting by Satellite. A technique of transmitting several television channels to viewers over a large geographic area by using a single **geostationary*** satellite and a small exterior receiving aerial (dish) and set top tuner / adaptor at each viewer's home.
- dbx** A type of audio noise reduction system. The audio signal is processed before recording, the original signal being recovered on playback by complementary processing circuits. This gives less audible **noise*** than would otherwise be the case.
- Decoder** A device used to recover a signal in one format from a processed version in a different format. A **PAL*** decoder is used in television picture display equipment and in video processing equipment where **component video signals*** are required for display or further processing from a **composite colour signal**.*
- Definition** See also **resolution**.* A description of the sharpness or clarity of a television picture. High definition pictures portray a lot of **detail***, while low definition pictures look soft and less clear.
- Detail** The smallest elements in a television picture which are distinct and recognisable. Similar to **definition*** or **resolution**.*
- Digital** Processing of signals in the form of a series of coded pulses.
- Digital Components** **Component video signals*** in which the values for each **pixel*** are represented by a set of numbers.
- D-MAC** D-format Multiplexed Analogue Components. The particular form of **MAC*** signal format recommended by the **EBU*** for European **DBS*** services. It allows improved picture quality, wide-screen picture format, and up to 8 **digital*** sound channels to be received. The signal is divided into sections. One contains the sound channels and extra data signals, the others contain the **component video signals**.*
- DLS** Digital Library System. A device which stores many television pictures as still images on magnetic or optical disc units using **digital*** computer data storage techniques.
- Dolby** Dolby Laboratories, named after the founder Ray Dolby, have invented and given their name to a series of noise reduction and **surround sound*** systems. The A, B and C types of noise reduction systems are found in professional and domestic audio and video recording equipment and process the sound signal before recording and during replay to give less audible **noise*** than would otherwise be the case.
- Dolby SR Doble*** Spectral Recording. A type of sound recording process which combines the attributes of the A and C type noise reduction systems with other processing. It is used in the highest quality professional **analogue*** audio and video recording equipment.
- Dolby Stereo** A system for **encoding*** and recording four channels of sound information (left, right, centre front, and surround) onto two tracks of a film recording. These can be **decoded*** and sent to multiple speakers in a cinema auditorium for dramatic sound effects. Dolby Surround Sound is the domestic version of this system which allows sound tracks recorded in Dolby Stereo to be heard in **surround sound***, using fewer loudspeakers and simpler signal processing.
- Dolly** A type of movable film or television camera platform.
- DOS** Disk Operating System. A computer program providing the **software*** interface between machine level computer instructions and the user of a personal computer system. It allows the user to perform complex computer and disk operations using simple command words.
- Downstream Keyer** A captain superimposer on the output of a vision mixer. It allows titles to be added to the mixer output picture, and is not affected by the mixer controls.
- DPC** Digital Production Centre. The name given by **Quantel*** to the combined operational assembly of its **Harry***, **Paintbox*** and **Encore*** graphics products. This electronic graphics system of unprecedented power allows the graphics designer a greater artistic expression, particularly in respect of animated sequences. A possibility not economically viable by traditional means.

V for Victory

PAUL DAVIES recalls behind-the-scenes events in Romania.

It must be the moment every ITN family dreads. The telephone call just two days before Christmas and the apologetic voice: "I hate to ask this but . . ." You think of the disappointment you will be causing at home; about the unworkable roster system that already owes you several dozen so-called protected days. One and a half seconds later you say yes, as they always knew you would.

With conversations like this reenacted in just about every department of the company, ITN launched its coverage of the Romanian revolution.

In all more than 30 brave souls (reporters, crews, editors, producers and the satellite dish team waved goodbye to their Christmas turkey and all those unopened presents and embarked on a journey into an unknown country at war with itself.

The achievements of the ITN operation have been listed elsewhere, even Fleet Street has acknowledged its success, so I will concentrate here on giving just a few examples of the courage and ingenuity that led to so many firsts and exclusives.

building to feed an edited package showing the fighting around the TV station earlier in the day. A kind but firm army officer ordered us under his tank. "International transmissions have been interrupted for the time being," he said as another volley of automatic fire smashed into the building above our heads.

There were similar scenes in Timisoara as Colin Baker and the satellite dish presented the Securitate with equally inviting targets. Rumour has it the failure to hit either reduced morale among the secret police snipers to an all-time low, although they almost took their revenge when a stray round came within a whisker of removing one of rigger Steve Holland's ear lobes.



Paul Davies (fourth from the right) with two of his team and some troops

Unashamedly I begin with my own team. I don't think Sam Gracey, Paul Douglas and Peter Wallace will ever forget the night we spent in the freezing mud beneath a Romanian army tank, pinned down by the battle raging around us as the secret police launched what was to be their last serious attempt to put the Bucharest television station out of action.

We had been trying to get inside the

By then Penny Marshall had already made an impression both on the story and on an unfortunate camera which collided with her head when the car in which she and her crew had been travelling crashed off the road just inside the Hungarian border. Ms Marshall, head stitched, returned to the fray a few days later to produce some of her best-ever work. The camera sadly may take a little longer

ITN FIRSTS

- The first British TV Reporter in Bucharest.
- The first British Reporter in Timisoara.
- The first current affairs programme: special edition of Channel Four News.
- The first documentary "Romania - The People's Revolution."
- First live link-up with Romania.
- First interview with new prime minister.
- Exclusive report from airport under siege.
- Exclusive report of Ceausescu's last days.

to recover.

Brent Sadler, Mike Nolan, Phil Bye, Steve Padwick and James Nicholas set the new world record for talking their way past armed roadblocks, charming their way through 46 separate checks on the long journey from the Hungarian border to Bucharest.

Perhaps the real hero was cameraman Peter West who was trapped inside Bucharest airport for two days while the secret police tried to gain control of the runways. He not only captured exclusive pictures of the fighting but, in a show of obstinacy quite out of character, refused to join the majority of journalists who decided the most prudent course was to flee the country when it was considered safe enough for a plane to take off. Peter stayed on to play a significant role in the coverage of events in Bucharest.

The search for the missing Peter West produced two other memorable moments. First Mike Nolan, trying to locate his cameraman, drove into one roadblock too many. The local militia, convinced he was a foreign agent up to no good, held him at gunpoint. When Nolan failed to return that night, Vernon Mann took it upon himself to rescue both his missing colleagues. It was a brave attempt but ended predictably at the same roadblock with a pistol at Mann's head. "I really do think they mean business," he told Nolan as he was ushered into the same

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Tomorrow's summary: a bright future for the weather service

In February 1990 the ITV National Weather celebrates its first birthday, and celebrate is the key word, millions now tune in to see what the weather has in store for them.

We aim to bring in more than just what is happening for that day, but also an outlook for the weekend on Fridays, and on Monday we take a look at the coming week.

“Trying to make something of very hot and dry weather for two minutes for weeks on end is a challenge”

The weather unit is made up of two companies: INTV, International

JAMIE LANGTON, producer and director of the ITV Weather Service, reviews what's happening in the department one year on.

Weather Productions, and Vanishing Point which provides the graphics.

At first as you can imagine things were a little hectic. The first ITV National Weather presenter to be seen was Alex Hill, soon to be followed by Trish Williamson and Martyn Davies.

Ever since these presenters first trod the boards of the chroma key world of weather forecasting it's gone from strength to strength. There have been a couple of changes along the way. Do you remember there used to be a two-camera opening shot with a walk-on?

I joined the weather unit as producer /director in July of 1989 from the BBC, and I remember thinking what a challenge it would be to come up with enough different ideas to keep the viewers interested. But at the end of the day it's all down to the weather and the forecaster. Trying to make something

of very hot and dry weather for two minutes for weeks on end is a challenge. If we go to the other extreme of very wet and stormy weather, like that just before Christmas, where you have so much information, how do you cram it all in in such a small amount of time? And there's always somebody who'll complain that you haven't mentioned their area, or the fact that it's raining there already when we said it wouldn't be until later that evening.

But what about the future? The outlook does look bright, with a few moderate changes in the way of a new opening title sequence, and a couple of new charts, the team's spirits are high and we never allow ourselves to become complacent, there is always stiff competition and the chance of getting it wrong.

LENS CONTRIBUTIONS

More people are offering articles to The Lens these days. If you have any ideas, comments, features or photographs you would like to see appear, please contact Susan d'Arcy in the press office.

ITN's top ten stories of the year

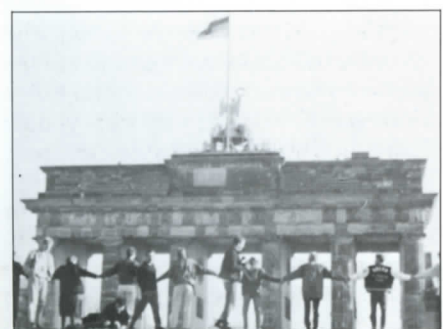
As you would expect events in Eastern Europe dominated this year's survey of the top stories during the past 12 months. Many questionnaire's were filled in before the revolution in Romania and so the opening of the Berlin Wall dominated the replies, although most people qualified their first choice with a general statement on the move away from communism in the Eastern bloc.

Close on its tail was the student uprisings in China, but after these two major events the list was more varied with many putting the rise of the Green Party near the top and Princess Anne's separation even got a mention.

The person of the year was Mikhail Gorbachev - for the second year running. Mark Beech from Oracle summed up the general consensus for the Gorbachev vote with his: "For being the man who made the change in Eastern Europe possible."



China



Berlin

1. Berlin - change in Eastern Europe
2. China - Tianamen Square
3. Hillsborough footballing disaster
4. The Marchioness disaster
5. The resignation of Nigel Lawson
6. Ambulance dispute
7. M1 crash
8. Release of the Guildford Four
9. Satanic Verses
10. Deal barracks bombing

To smoke or not to smoke

A year after the voluntary no-smoking ban was introduced at ITN, LEZLEY CLARK reviews the situation.

"No smoking preferred" . . . that was the message from the health and safety committee survey carried out more than one year ago. This was closely followed by our first information campaign using posters, leaflets and a video. Smoking cessation classes were also on offer. Although we achieved our aim of greater awareness leading to some people giving up smoking and others being more considerate in their habit, the smoking sub-committee decided that more could be done. So we start this decade with renewed vigour. New posters are appearing and the video, *Confessions of a Simple Surgeon*, has been playing on our closed circuit TV for a couple of weeks now. A lunch-time seminar presented by the company's Doctor Kotowski has been arranged for those of you who need help, and information packs are also being prepared.

If smokers think they are being harassed by the anti-smoking tidal wave think again. A voluntary restraint on smoking could be seen as one of the more liberal acts of our time. Seventeenth-century Russia and Persia took a much harder line - smoking was punishable by death. The Turkish Sultan Murad IV is reported to have executed as many as 18 smokers per day - another two and he could have been regarded as the first 20-a-day man.

"The issue is not going to go away and we have to consider what should happen when we move to the new building"

Whilst these measures were undoubtedly successful in showing a sudden decline in smoking, these days an appeal to the smoker's understanding is what is called for. With the overwhelming evidence currently being produced about the effects of passive smoking or Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) to otherwise healthy people and unborn children, smokers can make an important contribution in maintaining the health of those who choose not to smoke directly.

Evidence

The last 10 years has produced a steady outpouring of medical and statistical data. In America, from where much of the early information stems, the Surgeon General's report of 1984 listed, officially, the dangerous chemicals produced by cigarettes (over 15 in the gasses and more than 28 in the tar alone) and revealed that as much as 85% of the smoke in a room came from the burning cigarettes not actually being smoked.

In 1985 the Health Education Council (as then was) produced a booklet entitled *Action on Smoking at Work: a Guide to Good Practice* which was followed up some two years later by *Smoking Policies at Work* (published by the Health Education Authority). The latter came out in the wake of a study published in the *British Medical Journal* in November 1986 by Professor Wald and others called *Does Breathing Other People's Tobacco Smoke Cause Lung Cancer?* The conclusion the study came to for this long-winded title was yes, "breathing other people's tobacco smoke is a cause of lung cancer", and it went on to say that "about a third of the cases of lung cancer in non-smokers who live with smokers, and about a quarter of the cases in general, may be attributed to such exposure".

Other factors to be aware of are the supposedly less-harmful effects ETS has on non-smokers such as irritability, sore eyes and throats and a loss of concentration. Headaches are also known to be caused in this way. Employers who have already instigated no-smoking rules have reported a widespread change in their employees attitudes to work; morale was higher and the environment

cleaner. Every week more and more companies are announcing schemes, the latest is car giant Ford Motors which plans to introduce its smoking policy in 1991.

"As much as 85% of the smoke in a room comes from the burning cigarettes not actually being smoked"

Ironically, consideration has been given to justify every facet of smoking cessation except for that faced by the smoker. In reading all the success stories you may be forgiven for thinking that smokers can stop as quickly and as easily as turning off television. Smoking is addictive. The Americans pull no punches when attempting to classify tobacco. The National Institute on Drug Abuse recommended that "cigarette smoking should be considered a form of addiction" and that tobacco, when smoked, "... an addicting substance". In another report of the wordy *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association*, they list tobacco dependence as a "Substance Abuse Disorder". Clearly, they're not in the habit of beating around the bush.

A voluntary smoke-reduced environment is within our grasp if only smokers are prepared to give it a chance and non-smokers, in their turn, are prepared to understand the very real problems smokers have trying to control what, for many is a long-term addiction.

The issue is not going to go away and we have to consider, in the light of the survey which indicated a huge opinion in favour of restrictions, what should happen when we move to the new building.

If you have any suggestions or comments or if you are interested in attending Doctor Kotowski's seminars or would like to receive an information pack, please contact Lezley Clark in the personnel department.

THE EIGHTIES - A DECADE

The Eighties was an eventful decade for ITN. During the 10 years transmission times rose from less than 10 hours a week at the beginning of 1980 to more than 27 hours a week as the decade drew to a close.

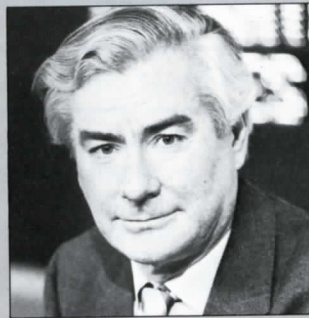
The number of programmes also increased from the basic three news programmes to a 24-hour news operation including among others Channel Four News, the Into the Night programme, the breakfast-time programme, The Parliament Programme, and a variety of special programmes ranging from royal tours to the People's Revolution in Romania.

The one thing that remained constant was ITN's ability to win awards. Many of the honours for 1989 have yet to be decided, but in this issue of The Lens we pay tribute to the people who, during the past 10 years, have brought back trophies to ITN.

1980

**RTS Judges Award
Alastair Burnet**

"In recognition of the work of a man who for many years has honoured the profession of journalism by the integrity and professional skill, authority, erudition and wit with which he has performed a great variety of tasks; who is held in respect and affection by his fellow professionals as by millions of ordinary viewers."



1981 / 1982

**RTS / BAFTA awards
Jon Snow**

"Jon Snow's report on a guerilla camp in El Salvador was a piece of difficult, original and exclusive reporting of a little understood subject, which combined truthfulness, and a rare authority on the part of the reporter with equally high standards from the cameraman and the sound recordist."



1983

**RTS Journalist of the Year / Variety Club of Great Britain Award
Michael Nicholson**

"We could not and did not want to choose between Michael Nicholson and Brian Hanrahan. These two, night after night, brought the reality of the Falklands War to our screens, and brought it in the most difficult condition imaginable for television reporters."



1984

**RTS Cameraman of the Year
Nigel Thomson**



1985

**RTS Cyril Bennet Award
David Nicholas**



1986

RTS Journalist of the Year - I
RTS Home News Award - I
RTS International News Award - **Jon Snow's r**
RTS Judges' Award -
BAFTA Best News or Outside Broad

1987

RTS Valiant for Truth A
PYE Colour Television Ted Willis Award - to ITN
Golden Nymph Award - Ir

1988

RTS Journalist of the Year - I
Brian Hanrahan (BBC) fo
RTS Special Commendation in
Robert Hammond for
RTS International News A
'El Salvador Shoot o
RTS Home News Award - C
BAFTA Richard Dimbleby Award - **Micha**
UK Video Awards - **Batt**
BAFTA Best News or Outs

1989

RTS International News - **Beirut**
BAFTA Best News or Outside Bro
Variety Club of Great Britain A

198

RTS Cameraman of the Y
RTS News Topical Feature - **Ch**
Broadcasting Press Guild A
Best News or Current
Glaxo Science Writers - fellow
for Channel 4 News
Broadcasting Press Guild Award - to
contribution t

AWARDS TO REMEMBER

1986



**RTS Journalist of the Year
John Suchet**

"For his coverage of the Philippine elections when he was the first British TV journalist to interview the newly-elected president Cory Aquino."

1987

**RTS Cameraman of the Year
Phillip Bye**

"Phillip Bye's portfolio showed his ability to be in the right place at the right time with the skill to capture the dramatic image. He also demonstrated the unusual quality of being able to effectively light the more static subjects a news programme calls on its teams to cover."



1988



**BP Industrial / Television
Journalist of the Year
Ian Ross**

"We note his outstanding contribution in this field over many years. He has consistently achieved a high standard of reporting complex industrial affairs with clarity while paying scrupulous attention to detail."

1980

Journalist of the Year - Jon Snow
 - Iranian Embassy Siege
 - Report on a guerilla camp in El Salvador
 - Alastair Burnet
 - Broadcast - Iranian Embassy Siege

1985

RTS Cyril Bennet Award - David Nicholas
 RTS Journalist of the Year - Ken Rees
 RTS Cameraman of the Year - Sebastian Rich
 RTS Home News Award - Tottenham Riots
 RTS News Topical Feature - Channel 4 News Manchester Air Crash Enquiry
 Silver Nymph Award - Noraid Demonstration in Northern Ireland

1981

Journalist of the Year - Jon Snow
 - ITN for distinguished services to television
 - Iranian Embassy Siege

1986

RTS Television Journalist of the Year - John Suchet
 RTS Cameraman of the Year - Mike Inglis
 RTS Home News Award - Vernon Mann
 BAFTA - Best News or Outside Broadcast - C4 News The Philippine Elections
 BP Arts Journalism - Stephen Phillips of Channel 4 News

1982

Journalist of the Year - Michael Nicholson (ITN)
 - for Falklands coverage
 - in Cameraman of the Year
 - for Falklands coverage
 - News Award - Jon Snow for
 'out on Polling Day'
 - Canberra Homecoming
 - Michael Nicholson and Brian Hanrahan
 - Battle for the Falklands
 - Outside Broadcast - Poland

1987

RTS Television Cameraman of the Year - Phillip Bye
 RTS Television Journalist of the Year - Desmond Hamill
 RTS News Home - Channel 4 News, Kings Cross Fire
 RTS News International - Inside the Bourj Al-Barajneh Camps
 BAFTA - Best News or Outside Broadcast Coverage - C4 News Zeebrugge
 Hansib Community Award - Trevor McDonald

1983

Journalist of the Year - Peter Sutcliffe
 - British Troops Under Fire
 - Broadcast - Lebanon Coverage
 - News Award - Michael Nicholson

1988

RTS Judges Award - Peter Sissons
 RTS Topical News Feature - Channel 4 News for the Bush Tapes
 RTS Home News - ITN, the Andersontown Road Killings
 BAFTA - Channel 4 News Best News or Outside Broadcast
 Broadcasting Press Guild - Channel 4 News,
 Best News or Current Affairs Programme
 Industrial Society / BP Television Journalist of the Year - Ian Ross
 BP Arts Journalism Award - runner-up Stephen Phillips of Channel 4 News

1984

Journalist of the Year - Nigel Thomson
 - Channel 4 News - Shirebrook
 - News Award - Channel 4 News,
 - Current Affairs Programme
 - Fellowship to Lawrence McGinty
 - for science coverage
 - to Peter Sissons for outstanding
 - contribution to television

1989

TV Times, Editor's Special Award -
 - to News at Ten for continuing editorial excellence

Our first lady of politics

Sue Cameron must be the ideal candidate to present a political programme, not only is she married to an MP (Keith Hampson, MP for Leeds North West), but she has also spent 18 months as a "pretend civil servant".

Her experience in Whitehall means she is able to confirm categorically that "the real thing is much funnier than Sir Humphrey". While working as a reporter for the Financial Times covering Whitehall, the paper was approached and asked if anyone was willing to be seconded to Whitehall. Sue volunteered and then spent 18 months from 1982 to 1983 at the Department of Energy where she worked in the policy unit.

Her career as a political reporter took off with the launch of Today newspaper where she held the post of political editor for nine months. "It was a real baptism of fire in more ways than one. For example when we first launched the front page deadline was 2.30pm when the House had only just started sitting," remembers Sue.

Since leaving Today she has worked on A Week in Politics and also on three one-hour programmes for C4 called On Trial which looked at the law and the need for reform. The series included an interviewing first when Sue discussed the law with five senior, respected judges.

Her first involvement with The Parliament Programme was when she started to present the programme on Thursdays and Fridays. She took over as main presenter last autumn, just in time to anchor the programme before the televising of the Commons began.

As The Parliament Programme celebrates its second birthday, The Lens talks to its new presenter, Sue Cameron.



Sue: during dress rehearsals

"The televising of the Commons has made it much more exciting for viewers and us. It makes it come alive which was difficult to do before with little pictures and disembodied voices. Before telly had no advantage over the printed word, the printed word could be wittier. Now the fact that you can see people and expressions, see if people are cocking things up, or shaking their heads is so much more exciting."

The restrictions are "a pain", but Sue believes the problems with the rules over televising have been exaggerated. "Although we have to adhere to the rules, they have been interpreted a bit more liberally than many expected."

"The main irritation is that unless a member is referred to by name or

constituency you cannot show them. This makes it harder to give an accurate and sufficiently vivid picture of the House - you can't show people being outraged. I think there is a very good chance that those restrictions will be eased because MPs have been surprised by how good they look on telly."

She thinks that the programme itself is doing well. "We are learning as we go along and as far as news goes there are good days and bad days but there really aren't many bad days," she adds.

"In general terms I think televising Westminster has given it greater prominence in everyday life. And, for the first time, apart from Thatcher and Kinnock, other MPs are becoming more widely known."

Her obvious love of the Commons does not, however, extend to any desire to stand for Parliament. Unlike Sir Robin Day, she does not believe you need to experience a job to report on it. "In fact sometimes it is a positive advantage not to have done the job." Keeping track of what is going on in the House is more than a full-time job by itself. "There is a lot of hanging around and picking up gossip. It is important to keep up with the gossip because very often it influences events."

It has been an eventful time in the Commons recently but one of Sue's regrets is that Nigel Lawson resigned just before the cameras went into the Commons. "It would have been wonderful if he could have waited, very inconsiderate."

FACT FILE: SUE CAMERON

Studied history at University College, London

VSO teaching English for one year in Sudan

Worked on local newspapers in East London and Essex

Reporter / feature writer on Times Educational Supplement

Chemicals and energy / Whitehall reporter for FT

Seconded for FT to the department of energy to work in the policy unit

Political editor of Today

A Week in Politics

The Parliament Programme

"I KNOW WHAT THAT IS..."

Or do you? A discussion on the ITN Club between Ian Searcey and Mike Chandler.

"Of course I know what it is."

"You do?"

"Yeah, course. Everyone knows what it is."

"Okay, tell me, then."

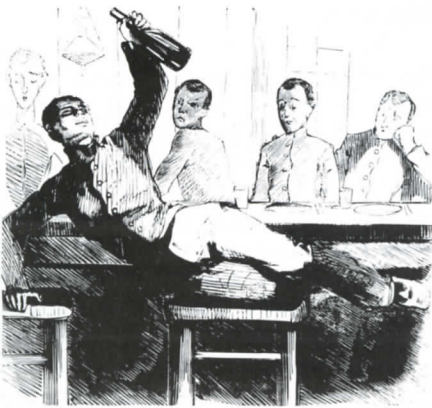
"Well, it's the bar on the seventh floor, isn't it?"

"Yeess. But there's more than that. What else?"

"Else? Wait a minute, don't tell me, I'll get it in a minute. Oh yeah, that dance thing at Christmas, nice venue, good food, entertainment..."

"And?"

"Well, that's it, innit?"



"Not by a long way. What about the children's Christmas outing?..."

"I was just going to mention..."

"The trip to Alton Towers the adults enjoyed as much as the kids?..."

"Yes, yes, there was that..."

"What about the disco dances?"

"Erm..."

"Then there was the darts and pool competition against the ITV companies, the rounders matches against the Buckingham Palace staff, the indoor cricket competition, the ten-pin bowling afternoons, the short-break holidays, the charity events. Even you must have heard of the sponsored leap-frog contest we entered at the Guildhall?"

"The leap-frogging! How could I forget that!"

"Exactly. Don't you see the intext service or read any of the posters that go up all over the place when we've got an event planned?"

"Funny you should say that, but..."

"And there's more."

"There is?"

"Yes, indeed."

"Such as what?"

"The ITN Club operates as the parent organisation for all other clubs running within the company."

"Really?"

"Would I lie to you? There's the Gun Club, Cricket Club, football, sea-fishing, boardsailing, golf, angling, aerobics..."

"Come on, you mean that little chap up in the bar runs all that lot? He must be knackered at the end of the day!"

"Look, the committee organises the funding for the clubs, but they are run by people within the company who are dedicated to their particular sport or interest. They give up their free time to organise things for like-minded people."

"Their own time?"



"That's right. And hard work it is, too."

"Get paid, do they?"

"Not unless you consider having

a good time with people with similar interests payment."

"Pretty exclusive, though. Golf, shooting."



"No, absolutely not. Club activities are there to be enjoyed by everybody regardless of rank. The ITN Club and the clubs run under its auspices are purely for pleasure. All the clubs are ready and willing to take on new members, and don't worry if you're a complete novice at any of the sports. Many of the clubs have qualified instructors among the membership to help you."

"It must be expensive, then?"

"Not at all. The ITN club sponsors the individual groups helping with things such as cost of equipment and venues."

"So where does this money come from?"

"You."

"Gotcha! Found the catch! I bet it's some sort of extortionate charge!"

"If you've got a club card, which you should have if you want to use the bar facilities or join any of the clubs, you've already paid."

"You what?"

"You've already paid."

"I don't remember that?"

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

ITN tours foreign shores

On November 19, 26 members and friends of the ITN Club set off to broaden their horizons with a weekend of culture and fun, taking in the sights of Cologne and Bruges.

Travelling through the plains of Belgium we could just as easily have been cruising the countryside of Sailsbury or even Somerset, save for the unmistakable stepped eaves of the Belgian farmhouses. Of course, travelling on the right was also an obvious giveaway!

We approached Cologne through the old part of the city, the Altstadt, with its stone-faced shops, Romanesque churches and unhurried atmosphere; a stark contrast to the more modern pedestrianised shopping parades which comprise a large proportion of Cologne.



View of the belfry

JO LAURENCE on the ITN Club trip to Cologne and Bruges.

The first impression is one of an obvious pride in the surroundings, not a sweet wrapper or McDonald's carton in sight!

A view you cannot miss, and for which Cologne is most famous, is that of the proud towers of the 13th-century cathedral or Dom. The two spires dominate the horizon, a useful landmark; wherever you are in the city, the Dom is always with you.

Having checked into our hotel and hurriedly refreshed the memory from our German phrase-books, (efforts which I'm told the Germans appreciate, though I suspect they were more good for a laugh - something akin to the French in 'Allo, 'Allo!), we were loose on the streets of Cologne.

First stop the cathedral, with its elaborate Gothic architecture, every huge window resplendent with its richly coloured stained glass. In every direction sheer beauty on a magnificent scale. All in all a very humbling experience and one I shan't forget.

The shops closed after lunch and as we were nearing tea-time, picking up a few German bargains was not going to be on our agenda (although funnily enough we did find good old Woolworth's open!) We set our minds to more gastronomic delights. Most of the good restaurants, including quite a few Chinese, are to be found in the new part of Cologne but the ale houses and pubs in the Altstadt are where you find the locals - so when in Rome, or even in Cologne . . .!

Sunday morning and we're on the road to beautiful Bruges - known as the

Venice of the North because of its network of canals weaving their way through the ancient, picturesque town.

It is difficult to know where to look first when you arrive; every building is a work of art, be it Roman, Gothic, Renaissance, even the few modern offices are blended artistically with rococo arches and Baroque churches.

You can see the town by foot, water or horse-drawn carriage, which will pick you up outside the 14th-century Gothic town hall.

Around almost every corner, we came across a different museum, exhibiting the works of artists from the 16th to the 20th century, one housing a collection by Hans Memling, a native of Bruges who, locals told me, is also buried in the town.

We made our way to a place called Minnewater where the canal comes to an end and the horses rest and you almost step back in time. Here we found the 13th-century Beguinage, a serene convent still inhabited by the Benedictine sisters. We found lace workers, wool spinners and potters outside whitewashed cottages, happy to let you watch them at work, even happier to sell you a souvenir or two!

I think I can speak for everyone who joined us on this escapade and say that we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. A big thank you to Nina and Mary for organising all this for us!

There is still plenty of uncharted territory as far as the club is concerned; so where are we heading next? Nina Bialoguski (ext. 2241) and Mary Green (ext. 71249) welcome your suggestions.

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"No. Didn't think you would."

"How much was it, then?"

"Three pounds."

"A week! Stroll on! . . ."

"A year. That's less than a penny a day. 0.8219178 pence, to be exact. Not a lot, is it?"

"Putting it that way, no. So, what you're saying is I should be taking advantage of all this?"

"Seems daft not to. In many cases the events arranged by the club are either free or cost you

only a fraction of what they cost to arrange. That's not counting the time and effort people have put in to help you get out there and enjoy yourself. All you have to do is turn up and join in. Is that so much to ask, especially as you've helped finance it in the first place."

"Good point. I shall definitely take you up on that. Now, fancy a pint? All that talking in heavy type must be murder.

"Don't mind if I do."

"So, what's the next thing? A juggling club?"



"Funny you should say that, but . . ."

Getting to know our grey area

In the next few issues of The Lens, we will be taking a look at the Gray's Inn Road area to see what is available in the way of shops and places to eat and drink.

Just a short walk from our new building is Lambs' Conduit Street which used to be a favourite haunt for Sunday Times staff. One of the most popular drinking holes for the old Fleet Street hacks was Vats Wine Bar, a large, cozy wine bar with a welcoming real fire and lots of little corners for those discreet lunch-time rendezvous.

It has an extensive lunch menu (although it is always necessary to book in advance). The food changes every three weeks but includes dishes such as for starters: leeks and ham au gratin (£2.85); prawns and green peppers (£3.25) and homemade coarse pork pâté (£2.75).

Main courses are taken from a selection which includes homemade steak and kidney pie (£6.95); parsnip and cheese roast (£6.95); spinach roulade (£7.50); and tandoori salmon (£8.50). If you're still hungry after that, you can treat yourself with tempting desserts such as Boston baked cheesecake (£2.96) and chocolate and coffee mousse (£2.75).

In the evenings a few of the starters from the midday menu are available but the atmosphere is much more informal and you can ask for a bowl of chilli or a steak sandwich. There is an extensive wine list which even includes Breaky Bottom, an English wine, and Croffta, a drop of the Welsh stuff. Prices start

at £7.50 and a bottle of champagne from £16.95.

If you overspend you could always trade something at the pawnbrokers which is next door but don't over-drink - there is a police station at the end of the road and for those who get really out of it there is also an Alien

Registration Centre.

If you don't want to eat in a restaurant there are a couple of good takeaways in Lambs' Conduit Street, in particular Gamberti's. Sandwiches start at 65 pence and the homemade coleslaw comes highly recommended. Rita's, on the other side of the road, is also good and competitively priced.

The street also has a typewriter shop, an electronic and hardware shop and a good jeweller's. There are also a couple of clothes shops and a bakery. Another useful place here is the dentist's Alan Santaub, who already has many media people on his books from the Sunday Times days, many of whom still make the journey from Wapping to visit him.



Vats: could become a popular place?

V for Victory

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

makeshift cell.

Eventually the two were able to convince their captors of their true identity. Peter West, meanwhile, had found his own way from the airport into Bucharest where he was waiting to greet his two would-be rescuers on their release.

Communications within Romania were always a major problem. Because of this it was only on our return to London that I was able to see the remarkable packages produced by the other ITN teams and hear the stories behind them.

It was an incredible team effort in the most difficult of circumstances. I'm sure nobody regrets saying yes to that telephone call and maybe one or two are now sorry they said no.

But as we quite rightly congratulate

ourselves on destroying our own particular opposition in covering the story I hope we will also remember the price some people had to pay.

Seven journalists and technicians were killed in and around Bucharest. Three were members of TV crews well known to us.

Then there was the price paid by the Romanian television workers. On Christmas morning Paul Douglas, Sam Gracey and myself were reminding ourselves of the festivities we were missing. Instead of turkey and champagne we had dry bread and water to look forward to in a TV studio still under siege.

We came across one of the television workers sitting quietly with huge tears rolling down his face. One of his colleagues told us the man had spent 72 hours inside the studios helping to keep the station and the revolution on air.

He had just learned that on Christmas Eve the secret police and the army had fought a fierce battle near

his home. His wife and two little boys had all been killed.

Suddenly the feast we were missing and the five nights we had spent sleeping on the floor didn't seem to mean that much.

Contribution to The Lens

More people are offering articles to The Lens these days. Do you have any ideas or subjects that you think ought to be in the magazine, or would you like to volunteer to write something for a future edition?

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MEDIA QUOTES

- "Fleet Street is like a football crowd. Nothing they like better than a chorus they all know."

Liz Forgan on rumours she will be the next editor of The Guardian.

- "The viewer stands to gain a little, and perhaps to lose a lot from the changes that impend in broadcasting in the Nineties."

Jeremy Isaacs

- "I see broadcasting as a great social force. The people who now want to get their hands on it see it only as a market force."

Stuart Hood, author of Questions of Broadcasting and a former BBC controller of programmes

- **David Mellor:** "I was surprised to discover that more than 100 communities cannot receive television at all."

Robin Corbett: "They are among the blessed."

- "I believe Terry Waite is still alive because my rule of thumb with the hostages is that you have to have visual proof of things to tell you otherwise."

Brent Sadler

- "There are too many middle class and upper-middle class people in television which results in less of a mix. There are not enough people with varied social experience."

Paul Hamann, editor of BBC1 documentaries

En route to retirement

On News at Ten that night there were scenes of jubilation as the Berlin Wall started to come down. But at London's Cafe Royal there were very mixed emotions. More than 60 friends, relatives and colleagues attended a superb dinner to mark Len Frisby's retirement after 22 years at ITN.

Len's wife Rene was there, so were their daughters Susan and Sharon and sons-in-law Steven and Tony. But it was difficult to draw a dividing line between family and colleagues. In Sir David Nicholas' moving speech to Len, his driver for 12 years, he said: "Goodbye to a colleague, friend and member of my family." He praised his utter professionalism and thanked him for being a "wonderful and truly loyal friend". Sir David was delighted that Len's last assignment two days before was to take him and Lady Nicholas to Buckingham Palace for the investiture.

Nigel Ryan was at the party and commented on Len's absolute professionalism during the nine years that Len was his driver, and said that

he had always been "the embodiment of style and discretion". And there were more words of praise in a letter from another previous ITN Editor, Sir Geoffrey Cox.

Among Len's colleagues at the party were four secretaries - past and present from the Editor's office. He had worked very closely with all of them: Dianne Patrick who had organised the dinner, Sarah Miller, Annabel Harper and Sue Hill.

It was a splendid event and the evening ended with Len and his family surrounded by his friends and colleagues who showered him with good wishes for a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Scenes from Len's leaving party



Scenes from the "Christmas Dinner Mark II", a traditional meal for those ITN staff members who missed their Christmas dinner because they were covering events in Romania

nobody lacks the co-ordination to learn. Not everybody, of course, finds it easy. For some it's a real struggle, but once the principles of the 'three-ball cascade' have been conquered, there are much greater goals ahead. Three ball tricks, four balls, even five, club juggling, club passing, unicycling, balancing, the sky's the limit (Bruce Block balanced 134 King Edward cigar boxes on his chin for 15 seconds). We don't have that kind of space, though a flying trapeze rig would fit perfectly into the 'atrium' of the new building.

So who's doing it? At the moment, the production department, directors, engineers, editors, technicians and designers are all enthusiastically involved, but so far the editorial side has yet to take up the challenge. I'm sure it's just a question of time. I am haunted by a vision of Jon Snow astride a six foot giraffe unicycle.



Xenophon's banquet by juggling twelve rings. Unfortunately for the woman concerned, the record was not confirmed by the Guinness Book of Records, so it's held now by Albert Lucas (US). Incidentally, when I was new to juggling and particularly

the Shamans and High Priests to juggle at all. They used it as an effect in their rituals to still evil spirits and even predict the future. However, in the dark ages it was thought that the travelling player was possibly on the wrong side of the religious fence and they were often accused of sorcery and consequently suffered for their troubles. In 1860, a "Ball Master" was appointed in the German city of Nuremberg to teach the youths of the day the body and mind developing skills of juggling. Club swinging as a gymnastic exercise was imported in the late 19C via colonial India, but the hippies of the 1960s found the spirit of juggling to be in tune with their own meditative feelings. Some circus performers developed a racy style which lead to a sporting interpretation. Heavyweight jugglers performed with bowling balls. Tony Ferko (Czech) performed seven ping pong balls in the mouth and did you know that the world record for "joggling", that's juggling whilst running, stands at 12.12 seconds for the 100 metres and 4 minutes 37 seconds for the mile?

So juggling can be whatever you want it to be, profession, hobby, exercise or way to spiritual enlightenment, but one thing most will agree on, it's great fun. But be warned if you think to join us on a Friday lunchtime, you could become seriously addicted.



Should you suspect someone near you is secretly practising such black arts, here's some questions to ask yourself:

1. Have you noticed that objects mysteriously gather into groups of three?
2. Does fruit appear more than usually bruised?
3. Do colleagues regularly slip out on a Friday lunchtime but do not appear at the Crown and Sceptre by the time you get there?
4. Have you heard the phrase: "Yes but did you know that Ignatov does it with eleven on top of a twelve foot ladder?"
5. Does your colleague pin you to the wall and mercilessly try and demonstrate the latest three-ball trick (it looks remarkably like the last one) and fail.

The current surge of interest is most definitely an Eighties phenomenon, Nineteen seventy eight saw the first European juggling convention in Brighton. It was attended by eleven people. The twelfth convention was held in September 1989 in Maastricht, Holland with an astonishing 2,000 plus, a welcome revival since the advent of cinema and television in the 20th century wiped out the music hall, confining the art to the medium of the circus.

In the Middle Ages juggling was in the hands of troubadours and magicians, but this is still a long way from its conception. Roman soldiers learnt to juggle with their weapons as part of their training and Greek craftsmen in the 4th and 5th centuries BC threw pots that depicted jugglers in their designs, this at a time when the skill was essentially a leisure activity practised predominantly by women.

The earliest written reference comes from Socrates himself who records a girl amusing the assembled guests at

pleased with myself for having successfully managed four balls, I was told by a dispirited colleague that Sergei Ignatov (USSR) had been quoted as saying: "Real juggling starts at nine." It was some months later that I learned he had referred not to the number of objects but to the time of day.

So there's nothing new about it. Nevertheless, the question I am most frequently asked is how did I get into it and why? Yes it is relaxing (Lens 34) but it can also be physically very demanding, and of course you can amaze you friends, but a word of advice if you want to impress your children: you need to be good, or at least funny if you don't want your child to stare at you after all your efforts and coldly announce: "You're rubbish!" as happened to one recently disillusioned father at ITN.

History throws up more excuses. Originally juggling was a religious activity and because of its magical qualities it was seen as the sole right of