

## 3 WALES THE PARALYMPICS Page 40



### **Sir Ludwig Guttman**

Sir Ludwig Guttman, or “Poppa” as his friends called him, was born in Germany in 1899. He founded the Paralympics and died in Britain in 1980.

The Paralympics started in 1948 when Sir Ludwig Guttman started using sport as part of the rehabilitation programmes for soldiers who had been injured in the second world war. He set up a competition with other hospitals to coincide with the London Olympics in that year. In 1960, the Olympics were held in Rome, and Guttman brought 400 wheelchair athletes to the Olympic city to compete. The modern Parallel Olympics (or “Paralympics”) were born. The Paralympics were not always held in the same city as the Olympics until 1988 when Korea hosted both the Olympics and the Paralympics since then both games have always been in the same location. Currently there are 25 sports in the Paralympics (20 in the Summer Games and 5 in the Winter Games). Most of these sports are shared with the Olympics but some, such as Goalball, are exclusively Paralympic.

## 5 IRELAND ON THE ROAD Page 56



### **Tom Murphy**

Tom Murphy is an Irish Traveller. He was born ‘on the road’ in 1942 and has been travelling since.

The first big change for the Travellers was when people started buying daily newspapers. Before that they used to rely on Travellers to tell all the news from around the country. People used to look forward to the Travellers coming because they had news and information.

We used to travel by horse and cart. When cars came the roads were more dangerous and noisier and it was more difficult to find a safe and quiet place to camp. Travellers don’t travel so much nowadays because its much harder to find a quiet, safe spot to camp.

Then plastic was invented. Everything was made in plastic and nobody wanted the tin buckets and cans that we used to make. And that meant we didn’t make any money

As for unemployment benefit . . . You needed an address in order to get the benefit so Travellers had to move into houses if they wanted to get the benefit money. They couldn’t keep travelling.

## JOE'S STORY Page 63



Northern Ireland during The Troubles.

### Joe Mahon

Joe Mahon is 52 years old. He has always lived in Derry, in Northern Ireland.

January 30th, 1972

Sixteen-year-old Joe Mahon saw soldiers appearing at the top of Glenfada Park. He thought they were going to arrest him so he ran towards the exit leading to Abbey Park. Two other people were running beside him. He saw the soldier lift his gun and then he heard a shot. Joe fell in the middle. To his right was Jim Wray and to his left William McKinney. McKinney was an older man wearing thick glasses and a heavy coat. He looked at young Mahon and said: "I'm hit! I'm hit!"

Joe was very afraid but he lay absolutely still and pretended he was dead. He could hear Jim Wray speaking to people in hiding.

Mahon then heard the soldier walking towards them. Casually the soldier walked past him and fired two bullets into Jim Wray's back. The soldier continued walking and Joe heard more gunfire.

Young Joe recognized a Scottish accent when the soldier said: "I've got another one." Then he heard another soldier call from behind: "Okay Dave, we're going."

"Before leaving "Dave" walked towards Joe and the now dead Jim Wray again. Joe saw him remove his helmet to wipe his brow. Above a blackened face, Joe could see fair hair. Joe listened as the soldiers left. He waited for what seemed like an eternity to be sure the soldiers had all left Glenfada Park. He then made a near fatal mistake. As he turned his head to check he saw the soldier called 'Dave'. Dave saw him too and lifted his gun to shoot. Mahon turned his head away, sure that he was going to be killed.

Just then a young female nurse arrived and ran into Glenfada Park shouting: "Don't shoot - First Aid".

Dave turned his gun in her direction and shot before running towards the army tank. The young nurse jumped back and the bullets missed her. Her name was Evelyn Lafferty - and Joe owes her his life.

Evelyn ran back into Glenfada and took Joe to hospital. In 1973, Joe and Evelyn began to see each other on a regular basis. In March 1974, they married. Now they have five children, ranging in ages from 25 to 16.

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## THE WEST INDIES THE WEST INDIES GUN CULTURE Page 92



### Shanice Mitchell

Sixteen-year-old Shanice Mitchell lives in Bennett Land, in Kingston.

In Jamaica we have a lot of violence. The violence affects me and my community. I'd like no violence in my community and no violence in Jamaica. I just want it to end.

One time me and my friends were playing and a man came with a gun. He shot at us and we had to bend down because if we didn't do that the bullet might have hit us. Although I haven't been shot yet, I think one day I might be.

I know a girl whose uncle was shot dead. The man who killed him was also shot dead shortly after that. And my cousin's father was killed. When someone is killed I always think that it is someone's father or mother or brother or sister who is dead. Someone will be crying because their loved one is dead.

I think to make this stop people have to talk to the gunmen, talk to the people who are stabbing, talk to the people who have the weapons. They need to tell them to stop doing things to other people, because someday it could happen to them. I'd like all the violence to stop and that way we could all live in peace.

## 9 AUSTRALIA FLYING DOCTORS Page 98



### **Doug Dawson**

Doug Dawson is a Flying Doctor pilot in the Australian outback.

A call came in from a station north of Southern Cross - the caller was on his own. He had broken his leg but he had managed to drag himself over 100 metres to his house and to a phone. I was the pilot on duty and I had flown into the station some 3 1/2 years before. A call to the patient confirmed the strip had been inspected in the past few days - "it's in good condition," he said. "But has a few wildflowers on it." With this information the plane was prepared for flight. The crew consisted of Nurse Sue Salter, Doctor Mike Mears, engineer Shane Parslow and myself, Captain Doug Dawson. As the house was about 1-2 kilometres from the strip Dr Mears loaded on a piece of additional equipment: his mountain bike.

The trip was uneventful, until over the top of the strip. There were plenty of wildflowers all right, but no one had mentioned the cows! I decided to fly over the cows in the hope of frightening them off the landing strip. After flying up and down twice, I had managed to clear the strip and we landed. Sue sorted the medical equipment to be taken in, while Shane and I walked through the flowers to check the rest of the strip for rocks and holes. And Mike? Well he had his bike together and was on his way to Station house within minutes.

Twenty minutes later we heard the sound of an approaching truck with Mike behind the wheel. The vehicle had no driver's side door, very little exhaust, and a stock crate for cattle on the back. Dr Mears had driven back to get the medical equipment and us. The gear was loaded in the crate, plus Sue, Shane and myself - there was no passenger seat in the front, and we headed back to pick up the injured man. Once the patient was stabilised, he was placed on a vacuum mattress and carried out to the truck. With some difficulty he was loaded on to the stock crate, and with Mike on his bike, Shane driving, Sue tending the patient, and me holding on, the convoy made their way back to the plane. The wheeled stretcher and the stretcher-lifting device fitted to the aircraft made loading swift and relatively easy. Once the patient (and bicycle) was secured, the aircraft was started and we returned to Kalgoorlie. Something different I suppose, but the sort of task for which we exist. It was good to have all the different trades and professions.

## 11 ASIA RELIGION IN INDIA PAGE 112



### **Neelu Kaul**

Eighteen-year-old Neelu Kaul lives in Mumbai (Bombay) in India.

Diwali is the happiest and noisiest festival of the Hindu calendar. It is the festival of lights, fireworks and sweets. It is one of my favourite festivals because families get together and eat lots of sweets and watch beautiful fireworks displays. Diwali lasts for five days so we get five days off school, and that's not bad either. We do something every day of Diwali.

On day 1 we prepare our houses by cleaning them and then make 'rangoli' patterns outside our houses. On day 2 we have to make sure that we look good. We have baths with oils and then we get new clothes and jewellery from our parents.

Day 3 is the main day of the festival and we go to the temple in the morning with our families. After the temple, we eat the sweets that our mothers have made, and then we light fireworks.

Day 4 is the start of the Hindu new year and everyone dresses in their new clothes and visits the biggest temple in their town or city.

On the last day of the festival brothers give their sisters presents and they go out together.