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Date	From	To	Subject	Class	Secret
18/03/1999	SS/CMS	ms/cabinet office	Millenium Presentational Roundup	R	0
18/03/1999		EA/PS	Letter from Laura Hester, Honours re: Millennium Lecture on Wealth	C	0
19/03/1999	HA/PS		Letter to Jennie Page, NMEC re: Millennium Experience	C	0
19/03/1999	Cab Off	PM	The Millennium Experience: Progress Note	C	0
19/03/1999		HA/PS	Regional Press Coverage: Millennium Experience	C	0
19/03/1999	ms/cabinet office	PM	The Millenium Experience: Progress Note	C	0
22/03/1999		SPad/PM	Public Nomination Scheme - Dome opening celebration	C	0
24/03/1999	Cab Off		Saatchi & Saatchi's proposal for a millenium Live-Aid style concert in	U	0
26/03/1999	SOC	PM	London and the millenium	U	0
26/03/1999	ms/cabinet office	PM	The Millennium Experience: Progress Note	C	0
26/03/1999	DCMS	SS/CMS	Millenium Presentational roundup	R	0
26/03/1999	DCMS	DCMS	House of Lords Millennium Reception	U	0
29/03/1999	HA/PS	Cab Off	Millennium Update	U	0
29/03/1999	SS/SO	LP	Ministers Information Requirements over the Millennium Holiday Peri	C	0
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30/03/1999	M/MAFF	LP	Ministers information requirements over the Millennium Holiday perio	U	0
30/03/1999	SS/DfEE	LP	Ministers Information requirements over the Millennium Holiday perio	U	0
30/03/1999	DCMS	DCMS	Back to the Dome : CMS Committee Report	U	0
31/03/1999	HS	LP	Ministers Information requirements over the Millennium Holiday Perio	U	0
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31/03/1999	SS/CMS	LPS	Opening Celebration at the Millennium Dome	U	0
01/04/1999	ms/cabinet office	PM	The Millennium Experience: Progress Note	C	0
07/04/1999	HA/PS	Cab Off	Millennium Update	C	0
08/04/1999	SS/CMS	PM	Millenium Celebrations	U	0
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12/04/1999	HA/PS	HO	London and the millenium	R	0
12/04/1999	PU	PM	Letter from Zahida Manzoor	R	0
13/04/1999	DCMS	SPad/PM	Dome opening celebration - guest list	C	0
13/04/1999			Jennie page - NMECG Briefing Meeting : 13 April	R	0
15/04/1999	DCMS	SS/CMS	Millenium presentational roundup	R	0
15/04/1999	DPM	SS/CMS	Progress on planning for the UK Millennium Celebrations	U	0
16/04/1999	DCMS	DCMS	The Millennium Celebrations : A Progress Note	R	0
16/04/1999	DCMS	DCMS	Information Bulletin on the UK Millennium Celebrations - Countdown	U	0
16/04/1999	ms/cabinet office	PM	Millenium experience - progress note	C	0

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16 April 1999

Dear Colleague

**INFORMATION BULLETIN ON THE UK MILLENNIUM CELEBRATIONS -
COUNTDOWN TO THE YEAR 2000**

As the responsible Ministerial team, we have been very pleased by the good progress which has been made in planning for the UK's Millennium celebrations and particularly pleased about how the pace of work has picked up during the first months of this year. Our team plays its part in explaining and promoting the plans which have been made: Chris Smith supported by Janet Anderson in the Commons and Charles Falconer, with Andrew McIntosh in support, in the Lords.

We appreciate that the set-piece opportunity to pass on new information which is provided by occasional oral questions in both Houses can only partly satisfy the continuous appetite for new information. There is much to say, both about the Millennium activities across the whole of the UK, many of them being supported by the Millennium Commission, and about the work being done to create the Millennium Experience, the Dome and its associated National Programme. For that reason, we have commissioned the attached Information Bulletin exclusively for dissemination to Members of both Houses. It provides a factual account of the background to what is being done, and bullpoints which cover the most recent events and project progress. We anticipate circulating updates of this Bulletin from time to time throughout the rest of this year.

We want Members on all sides of both Houses to feel that comprehensive and reliable information is being made available to them. If the Bulletin provokes question and comment, so much the better: we look forward to hearing from you. With less than nine months to go until the year 2000, we hope that as many of you as possible will wish to get involved in helping to secure the best celebrations in the world here in the UK for everybody who wants to take part in them.

Yours sincerely,
Chris

CHRIS SMITH

CHARLES FALCONER



Millennium Celebrations in the United Kingdom

An information bulletin for members of both Houses of Parliament, April 1999



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Introduction

- A great many Millennium projects in the UK are being supported by the **Millennium Commission**, which was established under the National Lottery etc Act 1993 to assist communities to celebrate the year 2000 and the start of the Third Millennium. The Commission receives 20% of the net proceeds of the Lottery, and has no other income. During its lifetime its total income will exceed £2 billion. This is supporting:

1. CAPITAL PROJECTS, LARGE AND SMALL, THROUGHOUT THE UK;
2. A PROGRAMME OF MILLENNIUM AWARDS TO INDIVIDUALS;
3. A MILLENNIUM FESTIVAL IN THE YEAR 2000 (with other Lottery distributors);
4. THE MILLENNIUM EXPERIENCE AT GREENWICH AND ITS NATIONAL PROGRAMME.

- Information about projects can be found on the Commission's website: www.millennium.gov.uk. "Voyager", the travelling exhibition which promotes the Commission's Awards schemes and capital projects, is embarked on an eight-month tour of UK cities, drawing thousands of people wherever it goes.
- Information about the Dome and the Millennium Experience National Programme can be found on the Millennium Experience website at www.dome2000.co.uk.

Section 1: Capital Projects

- To date the Commission has awarded grants totalling **£1.26 billion** to **188 capital projects** at around **3,000 sites** across the United Kingdom, ranging from landmark projects to new halls and community greens in country villages. It provides funding of up to 50% of the capital costs of projects.
- All projects will be accessible to the general public, and each is linked to one or more of the five broad themes that emerged from the application process. Some examples follow:

"Encouraging Environmental Sustainability" (Total grants £346m)

The Sustrans Millennium Cycle Route, a 6,500 mile cycle route throughout the UK (£43.5m);
The Eden Project in Cornwall, an international centre exploring the relationship between humans and plants in the world's largest greenhouse, built in a worked-out china clay pit (£37.2m);
The Millennium Link, re-opening the Forth & Clyde and Union Canals to provide a navigable link between Edinburgh and Glasgow and the East and West coasts of Scotland (£32.2m);
The Millennium Seed Bank at the Royal Botanic Gardens' Sussex site, which will store frozen samples of 25,000 species of UK and foreign fauna for conservation and study (£29.9m).

"Revitalising our Cities" (total grants £301m)

Millennium Point, a world-class centre for technology and learning which will regenerate the Digbeth area of Birmingham (£50m);
The Earth Centre, a state-of-the-art world centre for environmental research in the former coalmining area of Denaby near Doncaster (£50m);
The Odyssey Project, a major development on the East side of the River Lagan in Belfast, providing a mixture of education, entertainment and sporting activities (£45m);
The new, international standard **Scottish National Stadium** at Hampden Park, Glasgow (£23m).

"Promoting Science and Technology" (total grants £274m)

@Bristol, a landmark project for the South West, regenerating a derelict site with the Science World and Wildscreen attractions (£41.3m);
X-site, a new science centre for Glasgow which will incorporate a planetarium, interactive theatre, exhibition galleries, a Millennium Tower, an IMAX cinema and civic works (£35m);
The International Centre for Life in Newcastle, a landmark project for the North East combining a high-tech visitor centre with a world-class genetic research facility (£27m);
The National Discovery Park, Liverpool, which will bring the latest innovations in IT and communications to the general public in an entertaining way (£27m).

"Investing in Education" (total grants £224m)

The Tate Gallery of Modern Art, a new national art gallery housed in the old Bankside Power Station in London (£50m);

The University of the Highlands and Islands, electronically linking research institutions and colleges to create new learning opportunities for people in North and West Scotland (£33.3m);

New Technopolis, an educational complex in Norwich city centre including a Millennium Library, business and learning centre, auditorium and heritage attraction (£30.1m);

Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff, providing a lyric theatre, performance space for the Welsh National Opera, museum, IMAX cinema and HQ for the Welsh Academy of Writers (£27m).

"Supporting our Communities" (total grants £115m)

21st Century Halls projects to build or refurbish Village Halls and Community Centres across the UK (£28.2m);

Changing Places, a Groundwork Foundation project to reclaim wasteland at 21 sites in England and Wales, thereby enhancing the environment and benefiting local people (£22.1m);

Millennium Greens – 250 new Village Greens throughout England, all designed by local communities and incorporating a variety of uses (£10m);

New church bells to Ring In the Millennium, rural churches adapted for community use, church floodlighting.

Section 2: Millennium Awards

- Millennium Awards are small Lottery grants, averaging about £2,000, to enable individual people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to put their own bright ideas into action, fulfilling a personal goal and in doing so enriching their communities in the new Millennium.
- The Commission has allocated £200m for Millennium Award schemes. £100m of this will be invested permanently to carry the work of the Awards forward into the new century.
- Awards are made to individuals through grant-giving organisations – Awards Partners – which run individual Award schemes in partnership with the Millennium Commission. Awards Partners contribute partnership funding of a minimum of 10% towards the cost of the scheme.
- 57 organisations have so far been identified as Awards Partners. These organisations will receive over £56 million in total, covering grants to over 18,000 individuals. By the early years of the new Millennium, 40,000 people will have received Awards.
- So far the youngest award winner is 12 years old and the oldest 92.

Current Awards Partners include:

Community Service Volunteers (Award total £1.6m) 300 Awards to young people aged 14-25 years for projects which forge new partnerships between schools, colleges and universities and their local community.

Prince's Trust (Award total £2.7m) 2,500 Awards to excluded young people, encouraging them to create and implement local projects such as community cafes, helping them to develop new skills and improve the quality of life of local people.

Raleigh International (Award total £1.9 m) 360 Awards to young people from three UK cities, enabling them to work together on community and environmental projects in their home cities and in developing countries such as Malaysia, Chile and Uganda. For example, 112 people from Leeds received an Award of around £4,500 each to travel to Malaysia in Autumn 1997. On return the recipients used their newly acquired skills to work together on a local community project.

Help the Aged (Award total £2.5m) 1,250 Awards to people over 60 living in remote rural areas, enabling them to share their talents, experiences and enthusiasms with others living locally, for instance by producing a local news magazine.

- On 21 January, the Prime Minister launched the Millennium Commission's Awards Fellowship. This will confer a unique accolade on people who have successfully completed their Millennium Awards projects.
- Millennium Fellows will form a network through which they will continue to share the experience and expertise developed during and since their participation in the scheme, to the benefit of the whole community, well into the third Millennium.
- Information about the Millennium Awards Fellowship can be found on the fellowship website at www.starpeople.org.uk.

Section 3: Millennium Festival

- A **£100m Millennium Festival** will fund national, regional and local celebrations in the year 2000.
- All the National Lottery distributing bodies, except the new Opportunities Fund, are co-operating in the Festival and contributing funds. The New Millennium Experience Company – NMEC, the organisation responsible for the creation, building and day to day operation of the Millennium Experience – is channelling private sector sponsorship into the Festival.
- A huge variety of sporting, artistic, religious, heritage and charitable projects and community celebrations will qualify for Festival awards. To receive grant, projects should in one way or another celebrate the new Millennium, encourage activity in the community, develop an understanding of our heritage or culture, promote sport, educate for the future or encourage international links.
- The Festival is application-driven, with two application rounds: large-scale projects over **£5,000** (now completed) and community-based projects between **£250** and **£5,000**.
- In Birmingham on 22 February, Chris Smith announced the award of grants totalling **£53.7m** to larger projects in England. Donald Dewar, Kim Howells and John McFall made similar announcements for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. In all, more than 1,000 grants were announced, covering an extraordinarily diverse and imaginative range of celebrations.
- Festival events and activities will be funded over the First Weekend of the year 2000, including New Year's Eve, in the centres of 21 major towns and cities around the UK.
- No further large applications are being considered, but the second funding round – Millennium Awards for All – opened in April 1999.

Millennium Festival projects announced in the first round include:

2,500 Millennium Beacons across the country, to be lit on New Year's Eve;

Millennium Youth Games: the potential to involve every 11 to 16 year-old in the country, a quarter of a million talented young people expected to take part in county games, best young sporting hopes representing their home areas at the national finals in 2000;

Celebrate your Environment, a chain of 'green festivals' in communities across England and Wales: involving local people in making improvements to their surroundings, encouraging respect and support for the environment, bringing communities together to pledge its protection for future generations.

- Anyone interested in the Millennium Festival can register an interest by calling the **Millennium Festival Awards for All helpline** on the following numbers: 0845-600-2040 for England, 0645 700 777 for Scotland, 0345 273 273 for Wales and 01232 526 690 for Northern Ireland.

Section 4: Millennium Experience

- The Millennium Experience comprises the Dome at Greenwich, situated on the Prime Meridian and home of Greenwich Mean Time, and its associated National Programme of events across the UK. It will be the centrepiece of the UK's Millennium celebrations in the year 2000, and the greatest Millennium event in the world.
- The project has progressed rapidly and remains on time and on budget.

Major Milestones before 1999

June 1994 – the Millennium Commission announced the concept of an exhibition to mark the Millennium;

February 1996 – the Commission selected the Greenwich peninsula site;

January 1997 – the previous administration announced, in agreement with the opposition of the day, the basis on which the Millennium Exhibition project would proceed;

February 1997 – the operating Company for the exhibition came into being;

May 1997 – the new administration carried out a thorough review of the exhibition;

June 1997 – the new administration gave their full support to the project, and work began on site;

February 98 – the Prime Minister announced initial details of Experience content and the first £59m in sponsorship commitments;

June 1998 – Marks and Spencer announced as fifth £12m Official Sponsor, Dome external structure completed, with the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Chris Smith, Peter Mandelson and Michael Heseltine attending the topping-out ceremony;

July 1998 – first meeting of the Millennium Youth Council, announcement of innovative water recycling scheme for Dome, supported by Thames Water;

August 1998 – first tranches of auditions to recruit young performers for the Millennium Show;

November 1998 – Boots announced as £12m Official Sponsor supporting the Body zone, McDonald's announced as £12m Official Sponsor supporting Our Town Story, GEC and British Aerospace announced as joint sponsors for the Mind zone, new details of designs for Body zone and Mind zone published;

December 1998 – details of Spirit Zone announced, with the support of the Christian Churches and other faiths through the Lambeth Group, first phase of marketing strategy launched with "Imagine" advertising on TV, billboard and national press to raise awareness of the Millennium.

- Lord Falconer of Thoroton is the sole shareholder of NMEC, and as such is accountable to Parliament for the work of the Company. He is also responsible for ensuring that the Company meets the Prime Minister's five commitments for the Millennium Experience:
 - it will result in no extra burden on the public purse;
 - its content will entertain and inspire;
 - it will be a truly national event;
 - it will provide a lasting legacy; and
 - the management structure of its operating company will be made up of the best business and creative talent.

Funding

- The Millennium Experience has an overall cash budget of £758m to meet the costs of the creation, building and operation during the year 2000 of the Millennium Experience.
- Those costs will be partly covered by a grant of £449 million (gross) in Lottery proceeds from the Millennium Commission (representing about one fifth of the Commission's grants across the UK). This grant recognises NMEC's cashflow requirements in advance of the Experience opening and operating income being received.
- The remainder of NMEC's forecast income, totalling £359m, will derive from sponsorship, commercial activities, visitor revenues and disposal income.
- £142m of sponsorship has now been committed to the Millennium Experience – well over twice as much money as has ever been raised in any private sponsorship initiative in this country. NMEC's £150m target is now well within its grasp subject to further, final negotiations.
- BT, Manpower, Tesco, BSkyB, Marks & Spencer, Boots the Chemist, Ford and McDonald's have been announced as Official Sponsors. Each is contributing at least £12m. Other sponsors announced and committed at Board level are the Corporation of London, BA, BAA, GEC, BAe, Camelot, Walls, and L'Oreal and Roche (in association with Boots).
- The Company held a highly successful event in the new Preview Centre at the Dome on 5 March, marking 300 Days to Go until the Dome's opening. A live message of support from the Prime Minister was relayed to the Dome, highlighting the £50m National Programme which is now involving hundreds of businesses, thousands of schools and many thousands of people. At the event, Ford was unveiled as a major new sponsor, committing £12m to the Journey Zone.

Dome Contents

- There will be 14 Zones in the Dome, with the working titles: Body; Work; Learn; Transaction; Play; Journey; Local; Living Island; Communicate; Faith; Global; Rest; Mind; and National Identity. Work on the installation of their content is progressing on time. In addition, a 500-seat theatre will host Our Town Story, and Skyscape – a new multi-use entertainment venue with the biggest cinema screens and the largest theatre stage in the UK – is being built alongside.
- Rock star Peter Gabriel is assisting Mark Fisher – a British architect with a track record for creating spectacular concerts – in the production of the Millennium Show in the central area of the Dome. 12,000 visitors will be able to watch the show several times each day.

National Programme

- NMEC's National Programme is made up of a series of UK-wide events, activities and initiatives running from mid 1998 to the end of 2000. It will make the Millennium Experience accessible and inclusive to people all over Britain.
- The National Programme includes the Learning Experience – a range of education projects designed to ensure that the Millennium Experience makes a practical contribution to education across the UK as well as within the Dome, not just in the year 2000 but beyond. Teams from NMEC

are working to bring National Programme activities to voluntary groups, schools, churches, local authorities and businesses. People interested in participating should access the NMEC website or contact their local NMEC office on the following numbers:

West Midlands	0121 2366 4210	East	01223 366 818
East Midlands	01536 41 2000	Yorkshire & Humberside	0114 263 4282
North West	0161 236 0866	London	0171 808 8247
North East	0191 261 0203	Wales	01222 228 224
South East	0181 407 1362	Scotland	01259 219 905
South West	0117 929 2124	Northern Ireland	01232 526 313

National Programme initiatives include:

Children's Promise – supported by Marks & Spencer, this is set to be one of the largest appeals ever seen in Britain. Everyone in the UK is being asked to donate the value of their final hour's earnings of this Millennium, to benefit the children of the next. Also part of this programme, **Voices of Promise** is a competition for children across the country to write a song for the Millennium, which may be performed in the Dome;

Manpower's National Skills Festival – in partnership with the Prince's Trust and UK SKILLS, aims to raise the profile and standard of skills throughout the UK; **BT Future Talk** – will involve thousands of schools and workplaces across the UK, and provide opportunities for everyone to improve their communication skills;

Tesco's SchoolNet 2000 – children will capture life in their communities through pictures, words, poems and interviews, to form a new Internet 'Domesday Book' website. 13,000 schools have already registered;

MacDonald's Our Town's Story – a key link between the Dome and communities around the country, allowing 211 towns to take their place on the Our Town Story stage in the Dome;

BSkyB Reach for the Sky – an inspiring initiative to help young people discover their talents and expose them to the opportunities and career choices open to them in the new Millennium; and

British Aerospace's Engineering Our Future – through science events, teaching materials and engineers' visits, this project aims to enthuse young people to become engineers and scientists.

Economic Impact

- As a direct result of the Millennium Experience **2,000 construction jobs have been created or protected, and 5,000 jobs will be created during the year-long operation of the Experience.** In addition, an estimated 3,000 further jobs should be produced in secondary markets.
- The new operator of the Dome after 2000 is expected to provide new employment opportunities in Greenwich, and the Millennium Experience workforce will provide a pool of highly-trained employees for the expanding tourist industry.
- The British Tourist Authority has estimated that the Millennium Experience will bring in **£300-500m additional overseas tourist revenue, and between 10,000-15,000 tourist related jobs.** The 'halo' effect of this influx could mean an extra **£1bn to the UK economy.** The Millennium Experience is a catalyst for the regeneration of the wider Greenwich peninsula. A 32 acre Millennium Village of 3,000 new homes and 50 acres of new public open space is to be created on the peninsula, combining state of the art design with the highest environmental standards.
- **Substantial improvements** are being made to **public transport systems** to and from Greenwich. The new station for the Dome at **North Greenwich is the largest underground station in Europe.** Travel time to North Greenwich on the Jubilee Line Extension from Waterloo in central London will be only 13 minutes.
- **£21m is being allocated to boost new passenger transport systems on the Thames** as part of the Thames 2000 initiative. **New vessels, new services and new and upgraded piers** will help to transform the capital's river. 1 million people are expected to travel by boat from central London to the Dome using the new river services.
- These improvements in Greenwich will help to continue to attract business into the Thames Gateway area, leaving a **lasting economic legacy** from the Millennium Experience.

Ticketing

- **Up to 1 million school children will have free admission to the Dome** as part of the **Education Tours Scheme** announced by the Prime Minister on **17 March.** Schools will be able to take part in a series of draws for free education visits for up to 100 children per school. Details of the scheme will be announced to schools in June.
- On **18 March** ticket prices for the Millennium Experience were announced, with attractive discounts for families and groups. Full details are given in the following table:

Group Rates	£	Individual Rates	£	Education Rates	£
'Family Five' ticket (2 adults + up to 3 children, or 1 adult and up to 4 children)	57.00 (@11.40 each)	Single adult	20.00	Students/college visits	14.50
Senior citizens (groups of 15+)	12.00	Children under 5	Free	School visits (all ages)	8.00
Adults (groups of 15+)	17.50	Children ages 5-15 inclusive	16.50	Education tours (ages 8-16)	Free
		Students	16.50		
		Senior citizens	18.00		
		JSA40 holders	12.00		

- The ticket prices have been set at a level to encourage as many people as possible from across the UK and abroad who wish to visit the Experience to do so. They will offer very good value for money compared to other major attractions, and enable the Company to meet its budget. The standard adult price for the Experience (£20) is similar to the Lisbon Expo (£18 in 1998) and more affordable than the Hanover Expo 2000 (£23.50).
- **Tickets will be on sale from September onwards** at any National Lottery outlet, from a call centre and from the NMEC website (www.dome2000.co.uk). NMEC is working with rail and coach operators to develop and implement attractive travel packages. For example, **National Express** is proposing to offer a lead package price for return coach travel and admission to the Dome for **£29.99 inclusive from anywhere in England, Scotland or Wales.**
- The travel trade is already reporting heavy demand for accommodation and travel packages.

Long-term use of the Dome

- **The Dome itself is built to last – it could be standing for decades into the next century, and possibly into the one after that.** NMEC's decision to switch from PVC to PTFE-coated glass fibre for the roof covering means that the roof material would last for at least 25 years without any major refit. The steelwork has a design life of at least 60 years.
- **On 4 March, Charles Falconer and Nick Raynsford hosted a press conference to launch a competition to find a sustainable alternative use for the Millennium Dome when the Millennium Experience finishes at the end of 2000.**
- Initial expressions of interest from organisations with a serious interest were due by 26 March. Outline proposals are to be received this autumn, followed by financial offers in the winter from short-listed bodies. A winner will be selected by spring 2000.

Section 5: Latest News

- A one-off, additional **Bank Holiday** has been announced for Friday 31 December 1999.
- The Government is working closely with the Christian Churches on a series of **Millennium Church Services** in the four capitals of the UK on the afternoon of Sunday 2 January 2000.
- The Millennium Commission has announced that it will provide £5 million to towns and cities across the UK, including the four Home Countries' capitals, to ensure that fitting public celebrations can take place to mark the beginning of the year 2000.
- NMEC has released the first details of its Opening Night event at the Dome. A majority of the 10,000 invited guests will be members of the general public. Buckingham Palace has announced that the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the event.
- On **24 March** the New Millennium Experience Company launched the **Work and Learn Zones within the Dome**. The zones will occupy the same building, which will feature exterior walls made from the largest revolving panels in the world.
- The Work Zone, sponsored by Manpower, will highlight the new world of work, and further details of the zone will be revealed shortly. The Learn Zone, sponsored by Tesco, presents the new world of learning in an unusual and imaginative way accessible for all ages.
- On **26 March** Chris Smith opened Phase One of the Earth Centre, a state-of-the-art world centre for environmental research and sustainable technology near Doncaster.
- The Millennium Commission's capital projects are now opening at the rate of around one a week, and will continue to do so until the end of the year 2000.
- On **29 March** NMEC announced **Skyscape**, the UK's biggest cinema screen and London's newest state-of-the-art entertainment venue. Previously known as Baby Dome, this prestigious venue will be located next to the Dome. The estimated 50,000 visitors to the venue every day will be entertained by a diverse programme of events encompassing the best in film, live comedy, music, dance, opera and cabaret.
- On **12 April** Chris Smith launched the Millennium Festival Awards for All in England. By the end of April, Lottery distributors in all four countries of the UK will be considering applications for grant between £250 and £5,000. Those wishing to register an interest should telephone the numbers given above.

PERSONAL

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Minister of State
Cabinet Office

Prime Minister

The opening of stage 1 of the JLE at the end of this month / beginning of May is good news, and we should play it up. But you should still write to John Reid to maintain the pressure on stages 2/3. ✓

On ticketing, NMEC's claim that reducing the trigger for senior citizens' discounts from groups of 15 to groups of 5 wouldn't encourage many more visitors seems a bit dubious. I agree.

David
16/4

PRIME MINISTER

cc David North
Peter Hyman
Alun Evans

THE MILLENNIUM EXPERIENCE: PROGRESS NOTE

Construction

Project still within budget. No problems to report on construction.

Contents of Dome

Before Easter the hope was that four new external producers, recommended by Matthew Freud, would be recruited to spice up 4 key zones - Body, Global, Living Island and Local. In the end, only one of them, John Hackney, has been willing to join the team. He should be signing on the dotted line today (Friday), to become executive producer of the 4 zones. He will be able to tap into creative talent in the advertising industry. Given that the superstructures are finalised, he will focus on key elements: e.g. the inside of the main Body structure; the "Bladerunner" set in Local; the entry tunnel and games in Living Island; and the films in Global. A brief is being drafted to set the parameters of his involvement, and the extent to which the elements of each zone can be changed. He will work to Michael Grade and Jennie Page, not the existing team.

Jennie Page has become increasingly embattled. While her forcefulness and persistence have undoubtedly been assets in driving this project forward, now is the time for a more user-friendly approach - and to go on the offensive in selling the Dome (and the wider Millennium related projects) more generally. I have discussed this with Bob Ayling, Sam Chisholm, Simon Jenkins, Matthew Freud and Michael Grade. They broadly agree with this analysis. Bob Ayling has given Jennie that steer.

Jubilee Line Extension

Bechtel are aiming to open Stage 1 (Stratford to North Greenwich) some time between Friday 29 April and Tuesday 4 May. I think we should be aiming for a

PERSONAL

fairly high profile opening. They are now - privately - amending their plans and merging Stages 2 and 3, in order to complete the entire line, including the connection at Green Park, regardless of progress on some of the difficult stations. These can then be tackled individually, without holding up the opening of the line itself. The tunnelling and track are already completed. The only thing - save the stations - left to do is the Neasden control centre (which has been plagued by Marconi software problems). Bechtel and DETR are keeping the pressure on Marconi, but clearly this remains a significant problem. The internal target for completion of the line is the end of October. The question arises of how we deal with what then might be seen as the failure to hit the original end August opening date for Stage 2.

I am seeing Malcolm Bates and Denis Tunnicliffe on Tuesday, with John Reid and Jennie Page, to discuss progress and impress on him (Bates) the importance of sorting out the JLE. Following my previous note, you proposed to write to John Reid expressing concern that DETR and London Underground did not see Stage 3 (Waterloo to Green Park) as a priority. I will provide you with a draft once we have had the meeting, which will give me the chance to investigate the above.

Ticketing

You will recall that I was looking again at whether we could widen the availability of the senior citizen discount ticket to groups 5 or more (rather than 15 as originally announced), because this was the one area on which we faced criticism. I have accepted NMEC's advice that lowering the group size would not encourage a significant additional number of visitors and might undermine the coach operators' efforts to sell Dome packages to larger groups of senior citizens, which is obviously something we want to encourage. However, NMEC has accepted that the discount should be available to any group of senior citizens, rather than just formally constituted affinity groups as previously suggested.

Churches and the Opening Night

I met the BBC to discuss how to reach an agreement with Dr Carey on his involvement in the Opening Night. Lambeth Palace are difficult to tie down. Understandably, Carey is pressing for as much as he can get, namely a church service earlier in the evening - which might involve the Queen and you - as well as saying prayers in the Dome in the final 5 minutes before midnight. The BBC would cover the church service and are willing to include Carey in the final 5 minutes - which would be a montage of shots from around the UK - so long as it meets their remit of inclusivity. The solution looks as if it lies in including a short prayer in the 5 minute sequence at the end in the Dome, but not as part of the main ceremony. I will be discussing this with the BBC and NMEC next week.

Media strategy

*I will go
to
church
service
or take the
idea*

PERSONAL

We have a better story to tell both nationally and regionally than we are generally getting across. I have had an initial meeting with Peter Mandelson, Sholto Douglas Home (NMEC's marketing person) and Alun Evans to consider how we can improve promotion of the Dome generally and in the regions. I am having a further session with them shortly.

Legacy

The Preliminary Information Memorandum has been sent to 54 potential bidders, mainly UK-based, but also from Europe, USA, Far East and Africa. The bidders were taken to the Dome this week, and also travelled on the JLE between Stratford and North Greenwich. At this stage no information about intended use has been requested - this will follow later - however, the track record of the companies includes a wide range of experience in developing leisure, sports, conference, educational and entertainment facilities. All the companies will now be asked to demonstrate in more detail their capacity to take on such a large and prestigious development. Following this, a short list will be invited in June to submit their specific proposals. I am proposing a meeting with John Prescott and Chris Smith shortly to make sure that English Partnerships (EP) - who are managing the sale - are given a consistent and clear steer on our sale objectives. I want to keep our options open for as long as possible, but, as soon as the bidders start to incur significant costs, they will legitimately put EP under pressure to clarify the Government's priorities.

Sponsorship

NMEC is aiming to close deals on the final £8m in the next 4 to 6 weeks.

*Why not start taking
down to the
Home selected
editor from the
regions. DM went & came back
enthusiased.
we must keep up total
pressure on JLE*

CHARLES FALCONER
16 April 1999

RESTRICTED

f

To Secretary of State
Lord Falconer

From Clare Pillman

Date 16 April 1999

cc Lord McIntosh
Janet Anderson
Robin Young
Brian Leonard
Paul Bolt
Andy McLellan
Clare Salters
Rod Watson

David North
Peter Hyman
John Newbiggin

THE MILLENNIUM CELEBRATIONS: A PROGRESS NOTE

Millennium Commission

Nothing new to report.

Millennium Experience

Content/construction/operation

2 Ken Robinson gave a presentation on NMEC's plans for recruitment and training of staff at this week's NMECG. The pre-employment training scheme was launched.

Sponsorship and budget

3 NMEC have submitted the second draft of their corporate plan to the Millennium Commission and us for comment. A revised draft will be put to Commissioners and the Shareholder in due course (maybe next week). NMEC are hoping to be in a position to announce £150m in early May.

Legacy

4 Brian Leonard has put up two draft letters for Lord Falconer to send to the Deputy Prime Minister: one seeking his agreement to establishing the panel of wise persons and one highlighting the need for clarification of the evaluation criteria.

Transport to the Dome

5 The Millennium Access Coordinating Group met on Monday - a generally positive meeting. The first phase of the JLE is still on schedule to open at the end of this month. Lord Falconer is meeting the new Chairman of London Underground, Sir Malcolm Bates next week. We are meeting London Underground and others to discuss transport in London over the First Weekend on Monday.

National Programme

6 We will shortly be providing Janet Anderson with a letter about Children's Promise to send to MPs to follow up on the letter which the Prime Minister sent to all party leaders.

RESTRICTED

Millennium Festival

7 The launch of Millennium Festival Awards for All (ie the small grants programme) on 12 April in Nottingham went well. The first grants from this scheme will be announced in September.

First Weekend

8 I am speaking at a Metropolitan Police conference on Friday. We aim to make an announcement about the Dome Opening Celebration before the end of the month. An NOP poll conducted for Lambeth Palace found that 68% of those questioned who would be watching television on 31/12/99 thought that there should be a "Christian moment of reflection". The poll received negligible coverage in today's press.

International

9 Nothing new to report.

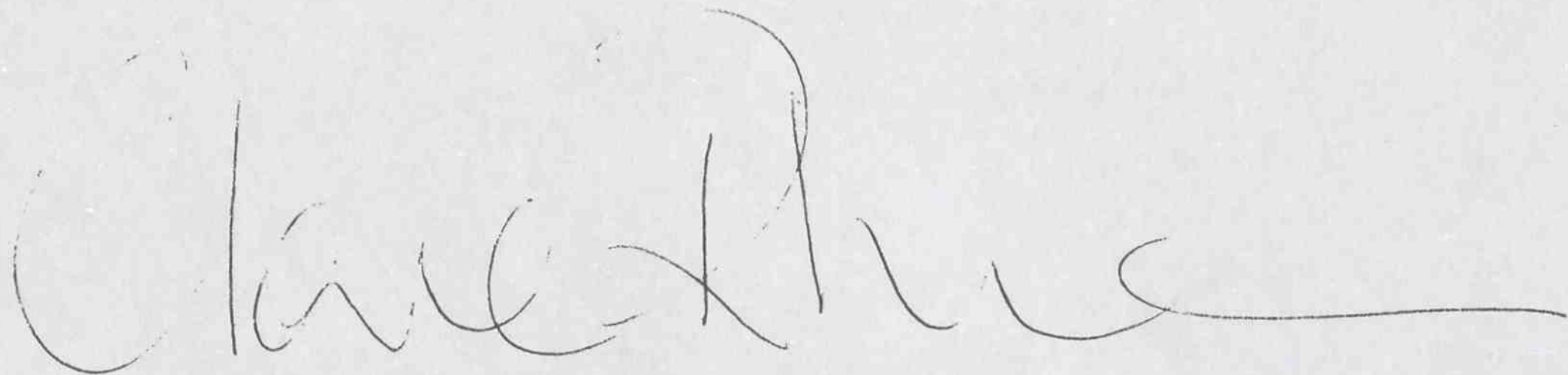
Parliamentary business

The Select Committee

10 Nothing new to report - we are working on a draft Government response (due by the end of May).

P.Qs etc

11 We are up-to-date with P.Qs.



Clare Pillman
Head of Unit

FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

Ed - DN
cc OB
PJ



DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT,
TRANSPORT AND THE REGIONS

ELAND HOUSE
BRESSENDEN PLACE
LONDON SW1E 5DU

TEL: 0171 890 3011
FAX: 0171 890 4399

YOUR REF: P/10508/99

The Rt Hon Chris Smith MP
Secretary of State
Department for Culture, Media and Sport
2-4 Cockspur Street
London SW1Y 5DH

15 APR 1999

Thank you for the letter from yourself and Charles last month, setting out progress on planning for the UK Millennium Celebrations.

I am pleased to see that considerable progress has been made since last November, including plans for the first weekend celebrations. The Millennium Commission's announcement of £5 million to twenty one towns and cities across the UK to ensure that organised public celebrations can take place on New Year's Eve 1999 is especially good news. In respect of the longer term legacy of the Dome, I understand that English Partnerships have now received many expressions of interest from possible users.

You mentioned encouraging colleagues to get out into the country and identify themselves with all the good work being done. As I have indicated before, I and my colleagues here will be very happy to be associated with events throughout the country as the Millennium draws closer.

I look forward to hearing from you again in due course.

JOHN PRESCOTT

* I am also copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Members of HS Committee, Robin Cook, Clare Short and Sir Richard Wilson.

P

COVERING RESTRICTED

To	1. SECRETARY OF STATE	c c	Lord McIntosh	Mike Ricketts (CO)
	2. MINISTER OF STATE (CO)		Janet Anderson	Barry Sutcliffe (CO- IG)
			Robin Young	Tim Hunt (CO - IG)
			Brian Leonard	David North (No 10) <i>cc PU</i>
From	Rodney Watson		Clare Pillman	Peter Hyman (No 10) <i>press</i>
			Paul Bolt	Angela Salt (MC) <i>SCU</i>
			Iain Hepplewhite	Deborah Oliver (NMEC)
Date	15 April 1999		John Newbigin	Gez Sagar (NMEC)
			Andy Burnham	

MILLENNIUM PRESENTATIONAL ROUNDUP

(Copy recipients please note: NMEC circulates lines on all running stories with its daily press summaries. If you do not receive these summaries and would like more information on any particular line, please contact NMEC press office. Lines on Commission business are also circulated as necessary and are available from its press office.)

Recent Media

A quiet week.

Channel 4 News broadcast a six minute film about the Millennium celebrations on Friday night. (See below).

Mike O'Connor had a letter published in Saturday's Express drawing attention to the Commission's funding of projects which promote the spiritual dimension of the Millennium.

The Sunday Express carried a good photograph of the Dome illustrating its size in comparison to a Routemaster bus.

The Independent on Sunday carried a broadly sympathetic profile of the Hinduja's.

Monday's Telegraph carried an article and leader about the alleged contents of the Dome's Spirit Zone. NMEC issued a quick response and the story died.

Recent Events

John Prescott turned out in support of the launch of another section of the National Cycle Network last Friday in Hull. The event drew good regional media coverage and a front page treatment in the Daily Star.

Handwritten initials and number: JH 1574

The Channel 4 film about the Millennium celebrations and Lord Falconer's role as shareholder ran on the main evening news programme last Friday. It was an excellent platform for promotion of our Millennium messages and was widely viewed as a success (although the producer's "tone of voice" was occasionally a little cynical.) We will meet the Channel 4 team to discuss the next film soon.

Chris Smith's announcement of the Awards for All grants scheme in Nottingham on Monday was picked up in some national papers on the day and ran strongly in the regional media.

The Voyager had its press day in Cardiff on Tuesday this week, with rugby international Ben Evans in attendance. There was good local media interest.

The Greenwich Peninsula Marketing Forum met at the dome on Tuesday. A roundup between English Partnerships, DETR and the Millennium Unit was held on Tuesday afternoon.

The Home Office announced on Wednesday that licensing laws for pubs and clubs will be relaxed to allow all-night opening on future New Year's Eves, starting with this year.

NMEC's pre-employment training scheme was launched at the Dome on Thursday, with representatives of local businesses and councils present. This event was picked up by the local press.

The Information Bulletin for Parliamentarians is being copied now and should be ready for distribution tomorrow.

Lord Falconer and Chris Smith have written to Jennie Page and Mike O'Connor respectively concerning the development of a Parliamentary strategy to promote awareness and support for the Millennium celebrations.

Next Week's Media

Newsnight is planning a piece on Millennium projects for tomorrow's edition. An interview with Mike O'Connor about the Portsmouth Harbour Project has been pre-recorded.

The Sunday People is probably going to run a story about potential security problems at the Dome. NMEC is trying to get the paper to drop this on the grounds that it is an old story.

Richard Brooks at the Observer appears to have a line on a cartoon series about the Dome which is scheduled to run from later this year.

The Financial Times is to run an article on Millennium buildings on Monday to mark National Construction Week.

Next Week's Events

The Information Bulletin for Parliamentarians should issue under cover of a joint letter from Chris Smith and Lord Falconer at the beginning of the week.

An event to promote the Manpower sponsored Work Zone of the Dome is scheduled to take place at the Sports Café, Haymarket, next Tuesday.

Chris Smith will visit the Powerhouse project (partly funded by the Millennium Commission) in Manchester when he visits the city next Tuesday.

The "Web of Life", a Millennium Commission-funded project at London Zoo, will be opened next Wednesday.

Lord Falconer will attend the launch of the new Dome Educational Pack, marking National Construction Week, next Wednesday at the Dome Preview Centre.

The media planning group of the London Sub-group meets next Wednesday.

Lord Falconer is giving an interview to the Sunday Times on Thursday about the Dome.

Lord Falconer is making a visit to Northern Ireland next Friday to help promote the National Programme..

Southwark Cathedral's fundraising appeal (in support of its Millennium Commission-funded project) will be launched next Friday with guest speaker Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

The Voyager reaches Caernarfon next week.

Tomorrow, the Princess Royal is launching the Pickaquooy Project, a multi-purpose community centre on Orkney funded by the Millennium Commission. Also tomorrow, the Glenmoriston Millennium Hall (near Inverness) is opening with Charles Kennedy MP in attendance.


Future Opportunities

Among the short term opportunities being worked on at present:

- * a regional visit for Lord Falconer to the South East (probably Brighton) is being put in hand;
- * a joint regional visit (perhaps to Scotland) for Chris Smith and Lord Falconer, possibly associated with developments on "Our Town's Story" and/or an education theme;
- * visits for Janet Anderson and Alan Howarth to coincide with future stops by the Millennium Voyager and to visit other Millennium projects - the Unit is talking to the Commission and diary secretaries to try to find dates which coincide with planned regional tours by both Ministers.

Purdah Period

The purdah period on media activities during the Scottish, Welsh and local government election campaigns began on Tuesday. It extends through until 6 May. We are evaluating areas of possible difficulty on a case by case basis in consultation with the designated adjudicators on purdah matters in the Cabinet Office.



RODNEY WATSON
Millennium Unit Communications

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
6/04/1999	To be confirmed			BT ad campaign to be launched				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
6/04/1999	Glenmoriston	20:00	Glenmoriston Millennium Hall	Opening	Charles Kennedy MP to attend.	The Millennium Commission is supporting our local communities by investing lottery money in Glenmoriston Millennium Hall. TA: Local council, general	Local, regional media.	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
6/04/1999	Orkney		The Picaquoy Project	Launch of this multi-purpose project centre	The Picaquoy Project recieved a grant of £3, 700, 000 from the MC. Centre to be opened by the Princess Royal.	The Millennium Commission will be supporting our local communities by investing lottery money in the Picaquoy Project. TA: VIP's, media, general public	Regional, local, media	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171880 2002
7/04/1999	Tewkesbury		Ringing in the Millennium	Ringing World Roadshow	A UK wide project	The Millennium Commission is supporting our local communities by investing money in churches and other important buildings. The bells will ring out to mark the passing from this millennium to the next. TA: general public	Regional and local media	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
7/04/1999	Hurstborne Priors	17:30	Ringing in the Millennium	Dedication of the new bells	A UK wide project	The bells will ring out the close of the 2nd millennium and the start of the 3rd. TA: general public	local and regional press	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
7/04/1999	To be confirmed			International Childrens Day (possible Childrens Promise)?				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
3/04/1999	Ealing, London	10:30	St Barnabus Church Hall	Opening	This project received a MC grant of £425, 357 to rebuild the existing hall built in 1949. Bishop of London attending	The Millennium Commission is supporting our local communities by investing lottery money in this church hall. TA: VIP's and general	MC Press office to liaise with project Regional and local press	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
9/04/1999	UK		National Construction Week	National Construction Week will spotlight the benefits and significant progress it has made in the UK	Hanson PLc & Blue Circle sponsoring event	MC is investing £1.26 of lottery funds in a wide range of of construction projects TA: clients, young people, opinion formers and the industry itself		
9/04/1999	Dome			Site visit of European Bank for Reconstruction & Development	Meeting sponsored by FCO			NMEC Jan Anderson 0171 808 8304
9/04/1999	Birmingham	11:00	Quest Millennium Award Scheme	Presentations to award winners	Lord Mayor of Birmingham to attend	The Millennium Commission is investing in ordinary people doing extraordinary things. TA: VIP's, award winners, general public	Regional and local press	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
3/04/1999 postponed	To be confirmed			Our Town Story Scotland launch - Stirling				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
3/04/1999	TBC			Manpower Skills Festival 2000				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
3/04/1999	Sports Cafe, Haymarket			Manpower Work Zone event				NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8235
3/04/1999 tentative	South Africa			South African Childrens Promise announcement				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
1/04/99 - 2/04/99	London Arena			Thames Gateway Conference		Contribution of Dome to regeneration of Thames Gateway & inward investment TA: Regional media		GVC Andrew Parry 0181 305 3403
1/04/1999	Regent's Park, London	08:30	London Zoo Millennium Conservation Centre	Press launch	Mike O'Connor and Angela Salt to attend.	The Millennium Commission is investing money in education by investing in this conservation and education centre. TA: National, local media press, general public	MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
1/04/1999	London, House of Commons	16:00	Peabody Trust	Awards for Achievement	Lord Dalkeith and Erica Roberts to attend.	The Millennium Commission is investing lottery money in ordinary people doing extraordinary things. TA: MP's, award winners, general public.	Local, regional and specialist press	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
04/1999	University of Aston	12:00	Birmingham Mentoring Consortium, Millennium Award Scheme	Launch of this initiative	Ranjit Sondhi CBE will be speaking.	The Millennium Commission is investing lottery money in ordinary people doing extraordinary things. TA: MP's, award winners, general public	Local, regional and specialist press	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
04/1999	Dome Preview Centre			Schools Curriculum Pack launch - second educational curriculum pack in association with McDonalds				NMEC Libby Fordham 0171 808 8638
2/04/1999 3/04/1999	Caernarfon	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Millennium Voyager Launch	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects and Award schemes.	Voyager will take the message around the UK that the Millennium Commission Projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 22/04/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
2/04/1999	London	12:30	Age Concern Millennium Awards	Award winners to lunch, and photocall.	Lord Dalkeith to attend for a short time.	The Millennium Commission is investing lottery money in ordinary people doing extraordinary things. TA: award winner, general public	local media	Mill. Comm Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
2/04/1999	Madrid			BTA visit to Madrid				NMEC Jacinta Johnston 0171 808 655

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
04/1999	Southwark Cathedral	16:00	MC grant of £3.9m to Southwark Cathedral	Launch of public fundraising appeal	Archbishop Desmond Tutu will attend	MC grant will place Southwark Cathedral at the heart of redevelopment plans along the South bank. Will involve the creation of a visitors centre incl. a permanent exhibition telling the story of Southwark TA: General public and specialist media.	Regional, and specialist media	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2007
04/1999	Northern Ireland			Lord Falconer to visit Northern Ireland				NMEC Libby Fordham 0171 808 8638
04/1999	Peterborough	10:30	Peterborough Greenwheel project	"sod" turning on bridge and photocall	Project received grant of £5, 554, 881)	The Millennium Commission is encouraging environmental sustainability, one of our key themes.	Regional media	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
04/1999	Guildford			Photocall with Roger Black at Spectrum Sports Ground, Guildford to promote Childrens Promise				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
04/1999	To be confirmed			Week commencing 26th April Voices of Promise Musicians into schools for workshops				NMEC Libby Fordham 0171 808 8638
04/1999	To be confirmed			Voices of Promise song writers into schools launch				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
04/1999 tentative	N/A			JLE trains run (Stratford - North Greenwich) - provisional				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
04/1999	110 Buckingham Palace Road			Monthly Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
04/1999	Leicester			Leicester Mercury Dome Visit				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
undated April	London		Dome Opening Event	Announcement of guestlist details for 31 December 1999 Dome Opening event		Majority of invited attendees will be ordinary people/a strong creative team is in place TA: National/local media, general public	Press Notice - NMEC Press Office (NMEC will hold a briefing for national media)	NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8325
undated April tentative	East London			Lord Falconer to visit East London) at invite of Jim Fitzpatrick MP (Canning Town)	Lord Falconer's office is arranging			DCMS Duraid Silarbi 0171 211 6413
undated April tentative	tbc		Millennium Seed Bank	Topping out ceremony		TA: National, regional, local and specialist press.		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
Spring 1999 tentative	tba		JLE	Jubilee Line Trains run Stratford to N Greenwich				

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
05/1999 - 3/05/1999	Liverpool		Launch	Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects and Award schemes.	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and Opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 04/05/1999	Mill. Comm Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
4/05/1999	To be confirmed			Summer School Launch				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
5/05/1999	Dome Preview Centre			Visit of the House of Lords		Opinion Formers		NMEC Deborah Oliver 0171 808 8244
5/05/1999 tentative	To be confirmed			Possible launch of Camelot Citizens Connection				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
3/05/99	Dome			Transport of the Millennium Pier from the River Medway (where it's being welded together) to the Dome on the River Thames				NMEC David Trench
0/05/1999	To be confirmed			Open Dance Auditions				NMEC Gabrielle Owtram 0171 808 8226
1/05/1999 3/05/1999	Belfast			Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects		VIP/Press day 12/05/1999	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
3/05/1999 tentative	TBC			BT Future Talk Launch				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
05/1999	St James's Palace			Manpower National Skills Festival launch				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
05/1999	Brancaster Mill. Centre, Norfolk		Brancaster Millennium Centre (MC grant of £370k) - a residential activity centre to be used by people of all ages and backgrounds involved in conservation	Opening	Graham Savage of MC will attend	MC is supporting our communities		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
05/1999	To be confirmed			Marks and Spencer annual results				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
05/1999	Meanwood Valley Urban Farm, Leeds		Meanwood Valley Urban Farm (MC grant of £175k) - project to develop an environmental centre designed as a local visitor attraction in an inner city area	Opening		MC is encouraging environmental sustainability TA: Regional media and general public		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
05/1999	To be confirmed			Possible Reach for the Sky national launch				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
entative 0/05/1999 28/05/99	Londonderry		Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects			VIP/press day 21/05/99	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
05/1999	Glasgow		Hampden Queens Park Football Club Scotland's 'Field of Dreams', Strathclyde	First Game	tbc	<p>The MC is revitalising our cities with lottery money. This project is one of a range of new initiatives which are developing our great cities.</p> <p>This is a landmark project - 1 of nearly 30 around the UK.</p> <p>TA: National, regional press.</p>		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
05/1999	London		Millennium Bug - NAO Report on public sector and the Bug	Publication of 3rd NAO Report on progress across central Govt. and wider public sector				Cabinet Office Kristian Armstrong 0171 238 0373
05/1999	Edinburgh		Dynamic Earth	Official opening and press briefing	This is a landmark project - 1 of nearly 30 around the UK.	<p>The Millennium Commission is encouraging environmental sustainability - one of our key themes. This project is one of a range of environmental initiatives around the UK.</p> <p>TA: National, Regional Media, specialist press and General Public</p>		Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
dated ay	tbc		Millennium Bug - Year 2000 Validation Exercise 'Operation Hydra'	Civil Contingencies Committee - organised an exercise with Home Secretary's involvement	Lord President's attendance tbc			

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
dated by	tba			Announcement of Year 2000 telethon				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
dated by	Dome			Energise, Childrens TV filmed at Dome		To be transmitted during May - date to be arranged		NMEC Fay Osborn 0171 808 8286
dated by	tba			11th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
06/1999	London Zoo		The Millennium Conservation Centre	Opening		The MC is investing in education by investng lottery money in the Millennium Conservation Centre TA: National, regional, specialist press, General Public		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
06/1999	Dome			Millennium Pier construction complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
06/1999 06/1999	Bristol	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the MC projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and Opinion	VIP/Press day 08/06/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
06/1999	UK		National Bike week					Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
06/1999	tba			200 days to go	Possible Central Show preview material			NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
06/1999 06/1999	Truro	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 17/06/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
06/1999	London		Millennium Greens (Countryside commission)	Parliamentary event	Chris Smith, MP to attend			Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
06/1999 ntative	Yorkshire		Dales Environment	Summer ball	tbc	TA: local media		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0181 880 2007
06/1999	Dome			News Quest Editors meeting at the Dome				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
06/1999 07/1999	Portsmouth	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch Open to the Public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 28/07/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
06/1999	N/A			Festival applications complete	Millennium Commission, Lottery Distributors			NMEC Tim Cattle-Jones 0171 808 8365

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
dated ne ntative	110 Buck. Palace Road			12th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
dated ne ntative	London			Economic Impact Assessment for Millennium Experience	Greenwich Council, English Partnerships & NMEC have commissioned this report	Good news on jobs/regeneration		GVC Andrew Parry 0181 305 3403
dated ne ntative	New Mill. Pier			Travel trade trip to New Mill. Pier				NMEC Jacinta Johnston 0171 808 8655
ne/July ntative	tba			TV and Outdoor advertising	2nd Phase tbc			NMEC Ruth Wicks 0171 808 8320
ummer 99 ntative	tba		JLE	JLE trains run N Greenwich to Waterloo				
07/1999 07/1999	London	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the MC projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 05/07/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
dated y 1999	Co.Fermanagh		Kesh Boat park	opening		The MC will be supporting our communities by investing lottery money in the Kesh Boat park TA: Local media and general public.		Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
dated y	tba			Tickets go on sale				
dated y	110 Buck. Palace Road			13th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8308
dated y	110 Buck. Palace Road			Annual Report and Accounts published			Press conference (tbc)	NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
dated gust	110 Buck. Palace Road			14th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
entative tumn 99	tba		JLE	JLE trains run Waterloo to Green Park				
entative 7/08/1999	Dome			Meridian promenade construction complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
7/08/1999	Glasgow	10:00	Kingdom of Fife	Ribbon cutting				Mill. Comm.
7/08/1999	JLE Line			JLE trains fun (North Greenwich to Waterloo)				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
09/1999	TBA			Awards for all announcement				NMEC Tim Cattle-Jones 0171 808 8365
09/1999	Transit Line			Millennium transit link to rail line complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
09/1999	TBA			Provisional ticket sales to public start				NMEC Sholto Douglas-Home 0171 808 8263
09/1999	tba			100 days to go				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
09/1999	TBA			Consumer ticket launch/100 Days To Go media event				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
pt. - Dec. 99	Nationwide		Millennium Bug	Minimal disruption (public confidence) - Action 2000 TV/press/radio campaign		TA: National/local press		Action 2000 Elizabeth Allen 0171 215 3976
pt - Dec 99	London		Millennium Bug - Seminars by Mike Mahony (HSE) re. Year 2000	Talks on training for industry health and safety specialists				HSE Mike Mahony 0171 717 6282
dated pt.	tba			2nd Granada series begins				NMEC Fiona Cline 0171 808 8314
dated ct. 1999	Nationwide		Millennium Bug	Action 2000 - general advice on domestic appliances, door drop and press		TA: National/local press		Action 2000 Elizabeth Allen 0171 215 3976
dated ctober	HSE		Launch of report of independent assessment by W H Atkins	Publication of 'Major Hazard Sites and the Millennium Problem'				HSE David Wilson 0151 951 4969
entative								

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
dated ct.	tba			Party Conference receptions				
10/1999	Dome			Footpaths/Cycleways complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
10/1999	JLE line			JLE trains run (Waterloo-Greenwich Park)				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
entative 11/1999	Dome			Meridian gardens complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
3/11/1999	London			New Year's Eve event: Advent Sunday				NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8235
5/12/1999	Dome			Meridian point complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
1/12/1999	TBA			DoC				NMEC
ndated ec. entative	tba			Travel Trade previews				
ndated ec. entative	tba			Consumer previews				
ate 1999 entative	tba			South Bank Show on the Central Show				NMEC Ross Cook 0171 808 8308
1/01/2000	Dome			First performance of the Millennium Show				NMEC Gabrielle Owtram 0171 808 8226

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
1/01/2000	Thames River			Full river boat public service				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
3/01/2000	Dome site			Festival "kick off"				
4/01/2000	Dome			Our Town Story - Stirling				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
undated jan. tentative	tba			Multi-part BBC documentary series about project begins	BBC			NMEC Fiona Cline 0171 808 8314
5/01/2000	TBA			Voices of promise Final				NMEC

RESTRICTED

f

Jennie Page
Chief Executive
The New Millennium Experience Company Ltd
110 Buckingham Palace Road
London
SW1W 9SB

13 April 1999

NMECG BRIEFING MEETING: 13 APRIL

You met Lord Falconer today, with Robin Young, Brian Leonard and Clare Pillman.

Construction Week

Lord Falconer agreed to attend the launch of the "construction pack" at the Dome on Wednesday 21 April as part of National Construction Week.

Contents

You said that of the 4 producers put forward by Matthew Freud, only John Hackney remained interested in working on the project, and he was still considering an alternative offer from the BBC. Lord Falconer agreed to speak to Mr Hackney, to encourage him to support the Dome (**action: Cabinet Office**).

Assuming he took the post, John Hackney would contribute primarily to the development of the Body and Local zones, but also to Living Island and Global. Given that the superstructures were finalised, he would focus on key elements: the inside of the main Body structure; the "Bladerunner" set in Local; the entry tunnel and games in Living Island; and the films in Global. A brief was currently being drafted to set the parameters of his involvement, and the extent to which the elements of each zone could be changed. Mr Hackney would operate as an "executive producer", working to Michael Grade and you, alongside the existing team. Claire Sampson would retain responsibility for the contents budget. He would be able to tap into creative talent in the advertising industry. Matthew Freud and Michael Grade were happy with these arrangements.

You said that plans for the Rest Zone, which had been designed by Mike Davies, were being put before the Litmus Group tomorrow. The outside would be painted in all the colours of the spectrum, and the inside would include a light show. Litmus would also consider the Play Zone. Negotiations were continuing with SEGA over possible games for the zone.

RESTRICTED

Lord Falconer said that he was concerned that there was not enough sport in the Dome. You said that the Millennium Experience would include participative and spectator sports. You would provide Lord Falconer with a note on how sport would be included in the Dome (**Action: NMEC**).

The Churches and the Dome

Lord Falconer said that he was seeing Nick Kenyon from the BBC later in the day, to discuss the TV coverage of the Opening Night and how the Archbishop of Canterbury's proposals might be included. He believed that it should be possible to include the Archbishop in the final 6 minutes of coverage before midnight without undermining the BBC's goal of inclusivity. You stressed the importance of those 6 minutes of film, which started and finished with the Dome, as free advertising for the Millennium Experience.

Opening Night and Guest List

You said that ideally the invitations should go out by the end of the month, but thought would have to be given to whether it was appropriate, given the international situation. Clare Pillman said that the guest list announcement was not affected by the rules governing the conduct of Government business during elections. You agreed to clear the final proposals with Lord Falconer before making any announcement (**action: NMEC**).

Sponsorship

You said that Liam Kane was aiming to deliver the final £8m, to hit the £150m target, in the next 4 to 6 weeks. Negotiations with De Beers, Reuters and the City institutions were well advanced. To all intents and purposes, the Transaction Zone now had sponsorship. Plans were still being drawn up for an accompanying National Programme, which would probably be based on a computer game for schools. NMEC was awaiting a clear steer from the City sponsors.

Marketing

Lord Falconer said that he had discussed the marketing plans with Sholto Douglas Home. It had been suggested to him that, as editorial coverage in the second half of 1999 would effectively sell the Dome, NMEC should hold back more of its advertising budget until into 2000, in order to promote the Dome once the initial media interest had worn off. Robin Young said that it was critical to sell tickets in the first months of the year. Not advertising during this year would be too great a risk. You said that the Board, NMEC's professional advisers and NMEC's marketing forum supported the existing strategy, which included holding back money for advertising during 2000.

Senior citizens tickets

Lord Falconer thanked you for your letter of 30 March, responding to his proposal for extending the senior citizen discounted ticket price to smaller groups. He accepted that it would be sensible to restrict the discount to groups of 15 or more.

JLE

Lord Falconer said that the meeting with Malcolm Bates was now scheduled for 20 April. You said that completion of Stage 1 appeared to be on target. Continued pressure was needed on HM Railway Inspectorate to avoid unnecessary delays in the inspection and authorisation process. Representatives of those bidding for the Dome would be travelling on the JLE over the next 3 days.

RESTRICTED -POLICY

Ms Anji Hunter
10 Downing Street
London SW1

(F)



13 April 1999

Dear Anji —

David -
A
13/4

DOME OPENING CELEBRATION - GUEST LIST

Because of the escalation of the Kosova crisis and the unresolved issue of the Archbishop of Canterbury's role on 31 December the decision was taken to postpone the announcement of the Dome Opening Celebration at the end of last month.

NMEC are now hoping to go ahead with the announcement before the end of this month (we have confirmed that it is not affected by purdah) and issue the attached letters to Cabinet members, opposition leaders and other political figures.

As you know the majority of those invited to the opening celebration will be ordinary members of the general public. Originally it was intended to use the regional and national media to seek nominations of "good Samaritans" in the local community. Because of a fairly lukewarm response to this approach following informal soundings with the nationals, it is now proposed to give the media an allocation to distribute to the public either through nominating deserving members of the local community or using competitions and games of chance.

Other "ordinary" people will include members of the local community and some of those involved with Millennium Commission projects. Perhaps we can discuss this together with the Prime Minister's role at the opening celebration and the list celebrities to be invited, at the meeting with NMEC which is being arranged for next week.

what meeting?

A copy of this letter goes to David North and Michael Lockett (NMEC).

Yours sincerely

Clare

CLARE PILLMAN

DRAFT LETTER TO CABINET MINISTERS

You will be well aware that HM The Queen has agreed to open the Dome at Greenwich on the evening of 31 December in the presence of the Prime Minister and an invited audience of over 10,000 people. On behalf of the Board of NMEC I write in confidence to invite you to join us on this historic occasion.

Clearly this is an important event for the company, for the Millennium Commission, which has provided the National Lottery funding to make the Millennium Experience possible, and for the members of Government most closely associated with the project. We all wish members of the Cabinet, their partners and their families to be there also, if this is something which fits with their personal plans.

The majority of people present at the Opening Celebrations on 31 December will be members of the public, but our sponsors, those who built the Dome, the media and many famous people will also be there. We are planning to invite everyone to bring partners and family and we therefore need a process which allows us to establish precise numbers (which will be around 10,000). The information in the enclosed guidelines about your invitation is provided in confidence. Please read it carefully and return your Nomination Form to the given address by [].

We need to know the exact demand before we are able to confirm the total number of guests who may accompany you. We will confirm the number of invitations we can extend to your party by the end of July. Our formal invitations will be sent in November.

I do hope you will be able to join in the celebrations in the Dome; if you have other commitments or plans which prevent you from being there, I do hope we shall have your good wishes for this major event for the UK.

JENNIFER A PAGE

DRAFT LETTERS TO SELECT COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

It is with great pleasure that I write to you about the Dome Opening Celebrations on 31 December 1999. The Committee has, through its inquiries into the Millennium Experience, contributed to the shaping of the project and provided not only necessary public scrutiny but also its own dynamic stimulus to high standards for this unique enterprise. The Board of NMEC join me in hoping that you will be with us when we mark the opening of the Dome and the beginning of 2000.

We plan a celebration which all who are there will remember for the rest of their lives. HM The Queen will open the Dome in the presence of the Prime Minister and we shall welcome the new millennium in style in an event in the centre of the Dome. The following day, 1 January 2000, the whole Millennium Experience will begin and the visitor will be able to see the premieres of the live show and the film, as well as explore all 14 zones in the Dome.

The majority of people present at the Opening Celebrations on 31 December will be members of the public, but our sponsors, those who built the Dome, the media and many famous people will also be there. We are planning to invite everyone to bring partners and family and we therefore need a process which allows us to establish precise numbers (which will be around 10,000). The information in the enclosed guidelines about your invitation is provided in confidence. Please read it carefully and return your Nomination Form to the given address by [].

We need to know the exact demand before we are able to confirm the total number of guests who may accompany you. We will confirm the number of invitations we can extend to your party by the end of July. Our formal invitations will be sent in November.

I do hope you will be able to join in the celebrations in the Dome.

JENNIFER A PAGE



DRAFT LETTER TO OTHER POLITICAL LEADERS

You will, I am sure, be aware that HM The Queen has agreed to open the Dome at Greenwich on the evening of 31 December in the presence of the Prime Minister and an invited audience of over 10,000 people. On behalf of the Board of NMEC I write in confidence to invite you to join us on this historic occasion.

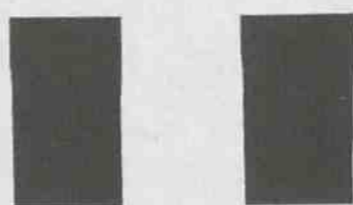
Clearly this is an important event for the company, for the Millennium Commission, which has provided the National Lottery funding to make the Millennium Experience possible, and for those members of this and the previous Government who have been closely associated with the project. We all wish the leaders of the main political parties, their partners and their families to be there also, if this is something which fits with their personal plans.

The majority of people present at the Opening Celebrations on 31 December will be members of the public, but our sponsors, those who built the Dome, the media and many famous people will also be there. We are planning to invite everyone to bring partners and family and we therefore need a process which allows us to establish precise numbers (which will be around 10,000). The information in the enclosed guidelines about your invitation is provided in confidence. Please read it carefully and return your Nomination Form to the given address by [].

We need to know the exact demand before we are able to confirm the total number of guests who may accompany you. We will confirm the number of invitations we can extend to your party by the end of July. Our formal invitations will be sent in November.

I do hope you will be able to join in the celebrations in the Dome; if you have other commitments or plans which prevent you from being there, I do hope we shall have your good wishes for this major event for the UK.

JENNIFER A PAGE



**DOME OPENING CELEBRATION
GUEST MANAGEMENT**

Guest List Categories

The Nation

- Nominations & Competitions via Media
- Millennium Commission Capital Projects/Award Winners
- Local Greenwich, Neighbouring Communities & Officials

The State List

Partner Organisations

- Project Start Up
- Millennium Commissioners
- Sponsors
- Contractors & Suppliers
- Board, Committees & Groups
- Millennium Youth Council

National Achievers

Performers

Performers' Families

Media

Staff

Reserve List

Nominations via Media

Invitees: 750: Optimum No: 3000

ALLOCATION GUIDELINES

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space)
OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion)
OR
- Option to attend on 1 January 2000
- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

NOMINATION PROCESS (likely to be chosen by the regional media)

- The process will reflect an opportunity for members of the public to nominate individuals within their communities who they believe have made a difference.
- Individuals will be people who have given their time and efforts for the benefit of the community; in some way, they will have made an appreciable difference to the quality of life of others. (The criteria may alter for the under 35 category).
- In order to ensure as broad an audience as possible has the opportunity to obtain tickets, there will be two categories - over 35 and under 35.

COMPETITION (likely to be chosen by the national media and local radio)

- This process will also apply to two age categories - Adult and Children
- The children's competition will apply to age 16 and under, and will be of the tick box variety
- The Adult competition will follow the same format as above.

TREATMENT

- Winners will be the responsibility of the newspaper/radio station.
- NB: It is unlikely that newspapers will buy into this and, therefore, there is a need to find an alternative ie a third party/partner eg rail company to 'sponsor' the prize
- Guests will be advised to travel to two locations, likely to be Stratford and Charlton stations, for onward transportation to the Dome by JLE and coach, respectively.
- The IMU will provide current information regarding the Travel Policy with the respective National or Regional Media team

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :
Jan Anderson :
Liam Kane :
Claire Pillman :
David McLaren :
Michael Lockett :

Millennium Commission Capital Projects/Awards Schemes

Invitees: 250: Optimum No: 1000

ALLOCATION GUIDELINES

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion) OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Award winners will have been nominated by The Millennium Commission, and will be drawn from :
 - 190 Capital Projects Schemes
 - 60 Awards Schemes
- Nominees drawn from Capital Projects Schemes will have been selected, as those who represent the five key themes :
 - Investing in education
 - Promoting science and technology
 - Revitalising our cities
 - Supporting our communities
 - Encouraging environmental sustainability
- Guests from the 190 Capital Projects Schemes will be the responsibility of the Project Organisation

TREATMENT

- Individual Award Winners will be the responsibility of the Millennium Commission
- A selection of The Millennium Capital Project Representatives and Award Winners, together with the Millennium Fellowship Awards, will provide the focus at pre-Reception. This will be attended by up to 450 people, include State List/VIPs.
- A selection of the above may also be invited into core hospitality buildings
- Allocated seating in the Central Arena will be prescribed for this group

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :
Jan Anderson :
Claire Pillman :
David McLaren :
Michael Lockett :

Local Greenwich, Neighbouring Communities and Officials

Invitees: 100 : Optimum No: 400

ALLOCATION GUIDELINES

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion)

OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Guests have been nominated by invited Greenwich Council representatives, to be inclusive of officials and local people
- The selection process adopted by the Council must ensure balanced local, political, cultural and social representation

TREATMENT

- Travel will be the individual guest responsibility
- Guests will be advised to travel to Charlton station, for onward journey to the Dome by coach

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :
Jan Anderson :
Claire Pillman :
David McLaren :
Michael Lockett :

The State List

Invitees: 190 : Optimum No: 760

First tranche : 89 Second tranche : 108

ALLOCATION

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion) OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

Guests have been selected, as those who :

- represent the religious, reflective and traditional dimensions of the Millennium
- are representative of the whole country, including all the major faiths
- are representatives of the Lambeth Group
- reflect cross party political representation
- Invitations have been extended to the position rather than the individual, in order to accommodate any changes in office prior to 1 November 1999
- Invitations to this category will not be amended after 1 November 1999
- The Dome Opening Celebration is not a formal State occasion.
- Certain members of the State List (protected Ministers) will not be asked to nominate guests.

TREATMENT (to be expanded)

- Pre-reception attended by up to 450 people
- Special transportation from reception to North Greenwich (JLE)
- VIP Core
- Allocated seating prescribed near VIP Core

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

Local Greenwich, Neighbouring Communities and Officials

Invitees: 100 : Optimum No: 400

ALLOCATION GUIDELINES

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion)

OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Guests have been nominated by invited Greenwich Council representatives, to be inclusive of officials and local people
- The selection process adopted by the Council must ensure balanced local, political, cultural and social representation

TREATMENT

- Travel will be the individual guest responsibility
- Guests will be advised to travel to Charlton station, for onward journey to the Dome by coach

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

The State List

Invitees: 190 : Optimum No: 760

First tranche : 89 Second tranche : 108

ALLOCATION

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion) OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

Guests have been selected, as those who :

- represent the religious, reflective and traditional dimensions of the Millennium
- are representative of the whole country, including all the major faiths
- are representatives of the Lambeth Group
- reflect cross party political representation
- Invitations have been extended to the position rather than the individual, in order to accommodate any changes in office prior to 1 November 1999
- Invitations to this category will not be amended after 1 November 1999
- The Dome Opening Celebration is not a formal State occasion.
- Certain members of the State List (protected Ministers) will not be asked to nominate guests.

TREATMENT (to be expanded)

- Pre-reception attended by up to 450 people
- Special transportation from reception to North Greenwich (JLE)
- VIP Core
- Allocated seating prescribed near VIP Core

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

Partner Organisations

Invitees: 50: Optimum No: 200

ALLOCATION

Attendance on 31 December 1999

Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space) OR

Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR

Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion) OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

Guest, plus partner plus your children OR

Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

Guests have been selected as those who have helped directly with the Millennium Experience:

- NMEC Partner Organisations
- LNYE Partner Organisations
- Other Partner Organisations

TREATMENT

- Guest responsibility, in line with Travel Policy
- Some VIPs within this category
- May be allocated to a Core
- Allocated seating prescribed in Central Arena

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

Millennium Commissioners

Invitees: 14: Optimum No: 56

ALLOCATION

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion) OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

Individuals hold office as current or former Millennium Commissioners

TREATMENT

- Pre-reception attended by up to 450 people.
- Special transportation from Westminster to North Greenwich (JLE)
- VIP Core
- Allocated seating prescribed near VIP Core

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

Sponsors

Invitees: 870: Optimum No: 3480

ALLOCATION

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space)
OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion)
OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

The number of tickets each sponsor will be allocated is based on the following criteria:

▪ Official sponsors (£12 million)	x 8	=	50 named guests
▪ Official partners (£6 million)	x 10	=	30 named guests
▪ Official suppliers (£3 million)	x 10	=	15 named guests
▪ Official donors (e.g. Spirit Zone)	x 4	=	5 named guests

Sponsors' own staff working in the Dome on the night should adhere to the Staff policy of partner only (to be agreed)

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Guests have been selected by our Sponsors through individual schemes, operated by the Sponsor Company.

These include selection by:

- a fair and considered process
- a balanced percentage of senior management, project team staff, staff not working on the night or the project
- availability of guests to attend on 31 December or 1 January 2000
- a competitive process for customers

TREATMENT

- This is the responsibility of the Sponsor, in line with the Travel Policy
- Hosted in Cores by the Sponsor (policy to be determined). Allocated seating prescribed in Central Arena

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :
Jan Anderson :
Claire Pillman :
David McLaren :
Michael Lockett :

Contractors & Suppliers

Invitees: 250: Optimum No: 1000

ALLOCATION

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion)

OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Guests have been selected by independent nominations from NMEC Directors, with specific responsibility for :
 - Design
 - Construction
 - Marketing
 - Zones/Exhibits
 - Operations

- Guests have been selected, as those who :
 - have actually worked on the construction of the Dome
 - have used their skills, knowledge, creativity and enthusiasm in the delivery of one of the above areas

TREATMENT

- It is acknowledged that there will be some VIPs within this category

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

Board, Committees & Groups

Invitees: 100 : Optimum No: 400

ALLOCATION

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion) OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Guests have been selected as members of the following advisory groups :
 - NMEC Board
 - Executive Committee
 - Litmus Group/Godparents
 - Expert Witnesses
 - Advisory Group on Sustainability
 - Advisory Group on Sculpture/Art
- Guests have been selected, as those who :
 - have contributed their time and expertise freely and whose contribution to the development of the Millennium Experience Project has been, and continues to be, invaluable
 - have advised on the design and operation of the Millennium Experience in respect of all aspects of accessibility and special needs in particular
 - have advised the New Millennium Experience Company on coherence, quality entertainment and educational potential of Dome content design proposals

TREATMENT

- Pre-reception attended by up to 450 people
- Special transportation from reception to North Greenwich (JLE)
- VIP Core
- Allocated seating prescribed near VIP Core

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :
Jan Anderson :
Claire Pillman :
David McLaren :
Michael Lockett :

Millennium Youth Council Representatives

Invitees: 15 : Optimum No: 60

ALLOCATION

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner OR

OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner, plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Guests have been selected, as those who :
 - have contributed their time to keep young people informed on NMEC work via various publications and events
 - have updated NMEC on young peoples' views and ideas, eg education, environment
 - have sought ideas and comments from young people and report on NMEC issues
 - have forged relationships with existing youth organisations

TREATMENT

- Travel is individual employee responsibility, in line with Travel Policy
- Allocated seating with members of the public in Central Arena

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

National Achievers

Invitees: 250 : Optimum No: 1000

ALLOCATION

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- Guest, plus partner plus your children (possibly more than two, subject to availability of space)
OR
- Guest, plus partner plus two adults (family members/close companions) OR
- Guest, plus partner plus one child plus one adult (family member/close companion)
OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Guest, plus partner plus your children OR
- Guest, plus partner plus up to three guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Guests have been selected to ensure representation of the optimum balance of nationalities, ethnic status, age, gender and demographic/geographic spread.
- Guests have been selected by independent nominations from institutions across different fields, explicitly:
 - Arts Councils (Chairman); Sports Councils (Chairman); Presidents of British Association and Royal Institution (Scholarship & Science); Presidents of CBI and Design Council (Industry and Invention); Charities; Heritage; CBI
- Guests have been selected, as those who:
 - represent individuals of exceptional creativity, originality and talent
 - have had an impact on UK life
 - are recognised for their achievements in the face of great personal adversity
 - have used their efforts and resources for the public good
 - are household names, who, in their own way, have won a place in the heart of the nation
 - in the case of the business community, represent personal success, allied to a contribution to public life
- Guests who have performed special or heroic deeds in their local community are not represented on this list, as their inclusion in the Guest List will result from the regional nomination process
- Guests with other known engagements are not included

TREATMENT

- A selection of this group will be invited to attend pre-Reception
- Special transportation from reception to North Greenwich
- VIP core, unless allocated to join a sponsor in one of the Cores
- Allocated seating prescribed in VIP "cluster"

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :
Jan Anderson :
Claire Pillman :
David McLaren :
Michael Lockett :

Performers

Invitees: 1000: Optimum No: 1000

ALLOCATION (to be agreed)

- Attendance at the DOC on 31 December, accompanied by their partner only, or
- Attendance on 1 January 2000 with their partner and children or their partner, plus up to three guests.

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Guests have been selected as those performing in the Dome on 31 December 1999.

TREATMENT

- Travel is individual employee responsibility, for London based performers
- Those performers travelling long-distance, who are being accommodated in London hotels will be transported to the Dome for rehearsals

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Rob Warner :

Claire Sampson :

Michael Lockett :

Performers' Families

Invitees: 1000 : Optimum No: 1000

ALLOCATION

Attendance on 31 December 1999

- As partner of Performer OR

Option to attend on 1 January 2000

- Performer, plus partner plus their children OR
- Performer, plus partner plus up to three guests

TREATMENT

- Travel is individual employee responsibility, in line with Travel Policy
- Allocated seating with members of the public in Central Arena

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

Staff

Invitees: 383 : Optimum No: 766 (partner only)

ALLOCATION

- Employees have been selected according to the following groups:
 - NMEC staff not required to work on 31 December 1999
 - Partners of NMEC staff required to work e.g. media/communications teams, sponsorship teams
 - Millennium Commission staff
 - DCMS Staff

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Employees have been invited to record their preferences, against the following three options:
 - Attendance at the DOC on 31 December, accompanied by their partner only, or
 - Attendance at the DOC on 31 December ONLY if they be accompanied by their partner and children, specifying how many children or
 - Attendance on 1 January 2000 with their partner and children or their partner, plus up to three guests.
- Employee preferences have been recorded and presented to the NMEC Board for discussion
- If an NMEC employee leaves before 1 November, they have no entitlement to receive an invitation, unless separately negotiated as part of their departure terms.
- If an employee joins NMEC after 1 August, they will not receive an invitation, unless a director specifically asks for their inclusion.

TREATMENT

- Travel is individual employee responsibility, in line with Travel Policy
- Allocated seating with members of the public in Central Arena

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

Media

Invitees: 300

ALLOCATION

- Media invitation only – no guests

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Nominated via Media team
- Working at event
 - National Press
 - National TV
 - Regional Press
 - International Press
 - International TV
 - Misc

TREATMENT

- Media centre, plus briefing centre
- Allocated seating for writing press (100)
- Food and drink to be provided
- In line with Media Policy (to be advised)

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

Reserve List

Optimum No:

Contingency and Omissions

Invitations to State List – amendments during third quarter 1999

Representative Bodies – ALG elections May/June – post holder may change
Also Cross River Partnerships - nb

Sponsors' staff working on the night

CONTRACTORS (to be agreed)

- Non NMEC staff, eg catering, hospitality

SIGN-OFF

Jennifer Page :

Jan Anderson :

Claire Pillman :

David McLaren :

Michael Lockett :

RESTRICTED

FAXED

*- To Chequers
16/4/99*

PRIME MINISTER

**From: Robert Hill
Owen Barder
Date: 12 April 1999**

**cc: Jonathan Powell
Jeremy Heywood
David Miliband
David North**

LETTER FROM ZAHIDA MANZOOR

Following a discussion you had last month with Zahida Manzoor she has sent you the attached letter and notes on PCGs/PCTs and a Children's Fund for the Millennium.

PCGs and PCTs

Her analysis of where we are with PCGs and PCTs is a fair one. She is right that we must monitor the development of PCGs. We have to get some PCGs through to PCT status next year in order to keep faith with former fundholders who want the freedom to manage and innovate that PCTs will bring. But it is a fine balance. We need to be sure PCGs are up to the job of managing the big commissioning budget we have given them before allocating extra responsibility. DoH see the progression of all PCGs to PCT status taking place over a five year period - that feels right to me.

Children's Fund for the Millennium

Zahida proposes that unclaimed Child Benefit should be paid into a one-off millenium fund, from which charities could bid, or allocated to a key department (eg the Department of Health).

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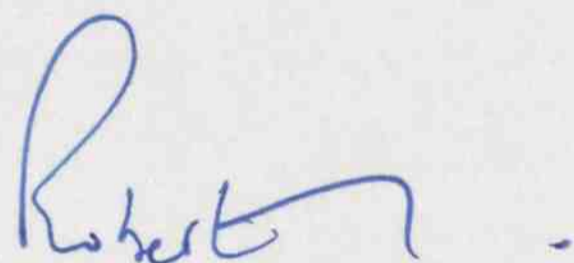
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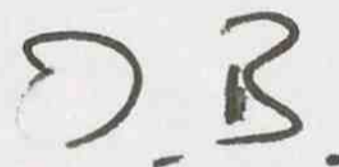
The public spending plans take account of the fact that take-up is less than 100% (it is about 98% in the case of Child Benefit). So the money is not sitting around unused in the way her proposal implies. Paying the unclaimed portion of Child Benefit into a Fund would add £100-140m a year to public spending over and above our existing plans.

While it would be nice to spend £100m more on children, this is a straightforward public spending proposal which would have to be considered as part of the next CSR.

We attach a draft reply for you to send.



ROBERT HILL



OWEN BARDER

RESTRICTED

R617



Executive

**Northern and
Yorkshire**

Department of Health
John Snow House
Durham University
Science Park
Durham DH1 3YG

Tel 0191 301 1300
Fax 0191 301 1403

Mrs Zahida P. Manzoor CBE
Regional Chairman

ZPM/AD

STRICTLY PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

30 March 1999

Rt Hon Tony Blair MP
Prime Minister
Myrobella House
Trimdon Colliery
Co Durham
TS29 6DU

Dear Tony,

(in constituency)

Further to our discussion on Saturday 20 March 1999, I enclose the information you requested on potential challenges facing Primary Care Groups/Primary Care Trusts. Whilst I have highlighted potential risks, they should be seen in the context of the view that things are broadly going very well in the implementation of the policy, in what has been a very challenging timeframe.

You also requested information regarding my idea to establish a Children's Fund for the Millennium, which I believe may be able to deliver the Government's own policy agenda through the NSPCC and other organisations. (You may be aware I am a Trustee of the NSPCC).

Should you wish to discuss these issues in greater detail or indeed any other issues, I would be delighted to do so.

It was good to see.

As always kindest regards and best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Zahida.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

THE POTENTIAL CHALLENGES FOR PCG/PCTs

- There are currently 481 PCGs nationally. Assuming full board membership of 13 would mean there are 6,253 people on PCG boards. There could be some criticism of the management costs of these 481 'new' organisations within the NHS particularly if management costs are not released quickly from HAs. For example, in this region the range is from 56,000 to 206,000 and there may be scope for merging some of the smaller groups (e.g possibly Wakefield).
- There are also some reports of concerns from GPs that they are inadequately remunerated for their involvement in PCG/PCT work, and that the policy is an implied (or even explicit) threat to their independent contractor status. Officials continue to give assurances on this point.
- Some PCG Chairmen have expressed concern that some Health Authorities have not recognised the new agenda and have been less than facilitative in assisting emerging PCGs. Health Ministers have raised this matter directly with HA Chief Executives. There is also a case for strengthening communications on the future, strategic, role of HAs.
- Arguably there are sufficient control mechanisms in place to ensure PCGs and PCTs will commission healthcare services equitably (to avoid allegations of two-tierism) i.e. Health Improvement Programme, National Service Frameworks, National Performance Management Framework, Annual Accountability Agreements etc. However, patients on opposite sides of the same street, that happen to be in different PCG/PCT or HA areas, could, theoretically, still find their access to services differ. This issue will need careful performance management.
- PCT boards demand additional lay members. On the positive side this is about democratic renewal and should ensure local health services are accountable to locally elected people. However, there are issues that could be made about further politicisation of the NHS. There are also logistical issues in actually appointing (and training) these people in their new role.
- The focus has previously been on the role of PCG Chairmen. PCG Chief Executives are potentially an under-used resource and could be used as an important catalyst for change.
- The pace of development of different PCG boards should be closely monitored with targeted investment as appropriate. Too few making early progress could lead to criticism of the policy. Although 50% (28) of the PCGs in the Northern and Yorkshire Region initially expressed an interest in moving to PCT status, following consideration of M(H)'s letter of 19 February, only 6 of these are now actually likely to be established in the first year.
- Much of the supply in the NHS has historically been led by the secondary care sector. The success of PCG/PCT policy is dependent on balanced investment between secondary care services and appropriate investment in primary care.

A CHILDREN'S FUND FOR THE MILLENNIUM

Summary

It is estimated that over 98% of child benefit is taken up by 7 million families and 13 million children. It is not possible to ascertain whether the remaining 1/2% choose not to take up child benefit or fail to do so through ignorance of the benefit.

The estimate expenditure in 97/98 was 7.1 billion, so even 0.5% of that expenditure for a new Children's Fund for the millennium would be extremely significant.

The Government could decide to use unclaimed benefits directed at children to establish a special one off millennium fund.

Charities and other bodies would be able to make bids for funding for innovative projects, say over the next three years, which would make a real difference to the lives of children in 2000 and beyond.

Another possibility would be to allocate these child benefits funds to one key department, say the Department of Health. The DoH could then shortlist key projects to benefit or protect children – say one major project each year for ten years. It would be beneficial if the shortlisting of the projects could involve children. They could be asked to vote for projects via their schools, which they feel, would have most impact on their lives.

This could help raise the profile of the fund and projects supported by it and be good for Government policy too.

A summary of initiatives from the NSPCC campaign "CRUELTY TO CHILDREN MUST STOP – FULL STOP" is attached for your reference.

The Full Stop Campaign to End Child Cruelty

The NSPCC's 'Vision for Children' is a society where all children are loved, valued and able to fulfil their potential. The NSPCC's mission is to end cruelty to children within a generation.

The NSPCC has identified a small number of key projects which can deliver an end to child cruelty (the 'Vision') but which also reinforce specific themes and policy objectives of the New Labour administration.

The projects are innovative - they do not replicate past activities but use new methods for addressing the needs of Britain's children.

To achieve the Vision, a number of policy solutions need to be implemented which have never before taken place in Britain.

As well as being part of the Vision for Children, these solutions will deliver the Government's own policy agenda.

The NSPCC is seeking approximately £50million of Government funding to deliver these key elements as part of the overall Vision.

Whilst this paper is a summary, all projects have been costed in detail.

The five key projects are:

THE SAFETY NET

Britain's first ever on-line interactive child protection Web Site.

- Will offer to children in danger across Britain access to information about what practical sources of assistance are available in the UK. Including web site, help desk and 24 hours a day free of charge on-line assistance.
- Builds on Government's pledge to provide Internet access to all schools

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN CENTRE NETWORK

Britain's first ever national network of drop-in centres for children.

- High street based centres with user-friendly opening hours e.g. after school and the weekends for all children and young people but focused on the 9-16 age group
- Access to on-line information services and advocacy services including welfare rights, health issues, sexual advice.
- Route into all child protection services including peer counselling
- Regular forum for meeting with local and national politicians and key decision makers
- Offers a vehicle for furthering the Government's own review of "Investing in Young People" and will provide information on government policies affecting the young.

REGIONAL INVESTIGATION UNITS

National network comprising 16 regional investigation units - tackling child abuse directly in ways not previously undertaken.

- Addresses findings that to end abuse a new approach to information management and the planning of investigations is required. They will build on the successful pilot services in London and the South East.
- For the first time ever child abuse investigation services will be within 90 minutes travelling time for 90 per cent of the UK's population.
- Reinforces the Government's agenda - it will lead to an increase in criminal convictions and a safer society.

PARENT 2000

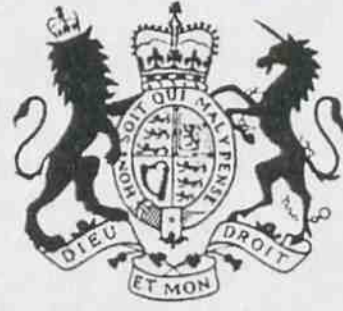
According parents the status and assistance they deserve with the most comprehensive programme of parent support services ever undertaken in the UK.

- The NSPCC Parent Helpline - a single, local innovative pilot project providing a telephone helpline to parents in crisis.
- National Outreach Service - a new NSPCC service on child protection related matters, using volunteers and other workers to develop high-quality parenting to provide support to parents.
- The Birth pack - delivered to parents of all babies born in 2000 and beyond. The pack will give practical child safety and protection information on caring for babies and on sources of help.
- Reinforces the key government policy on the importance of parenting.

THE PROTECTIVE CURRICULUM

Britain's first child protection service for every UK school.

- NSPCC councillors, including mentors and peer counsellors, will be available in schools to listen, provide face to face advice and support, and as appropriate, facilitate access to other services, including child protection.
- A Protective Curriculum is being drawn up for primary and secondary schools, and will identify the key skills that children should have developed at the end of each key year/stage at school to protect themselves.
- Includes development of a syllabus, teaching resources, and training for teachers to be used as a basis for preparation for parenthood education in secondary schools.
- Contributes to the Government's wider questioning of what it means to be a good British citizen.



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

12 April 1999

Dear Hilary,

LONDON AND THE MILLENNIUM

The Prime Minister has considered the proposals in the Home Secretary's minute of 16 March, together with the views set out by the Deputy Prime Minister and other Ministers.

The Prime Minister agrees that a mechanism should be in place to oversee the Government's preparations for the public order and other issues that might arise at the Millennium. He recognises that the issues arise particularly in respect of London, but thinks we need to have a broader focus too, covering, for examples, other major cities in the UK.

Although the Prime Minister is attracted by the Home Secretary's proposal for a Ministerial Group chaired at Cabinet level, he wishes to avoid creating a new Group solely for this purpose. He agrees with the Deputy Prime Minister that it should be possible to extend the role of the Civil Contingencies Committee (CCC), which the Home Secretary already chairs, and which would in any case have the task of managing the response to any major emergency which might arise at the Millennium. Using CCC would therefore have the advantage of ensuring continuity between advance planning and dealing with any adverse events which advance planning could not prevent. In addition, CCC has a UK-wide remit, which will continue after devolution, and would allow the Committee to spread best practice between major cities.

The Prime Minister has asked the Cabinet Secretary to make proposals on revised terms of reference for the Committee and for any changes to the membership; and to take the Home Secretary's views into account in doing so. The Prime Minister thinks it will be particularly important to involve the President of the Council and the Minister for London in the Committee's work,

given their responsibilities for the Millennium Bug, and for Millennium preparation in London, respectively. The Prime Minister also believes that the Committee should not stray into co-ordinating policy on pay for those working over the Millennium weekend. This should remain an issue for local discretion, reflecting local circumstances.

I am copying this to Peter Unwin (Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions), Vanessa Scarborough (President of the Council's Office), Fergus Muir (Department for Culture, Media and Sport) and to Sebastian Wood and Mike Grannatt (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever,

David

DAVID NORTH

Ms Hilary Jackson,
Home Office.

COVERING RESTRICTED

To 1. SECRETARY OF STATE c c Lord McIntosh Mike Ricketts (CO)
2. MINISTER OF STATE (CO) Janet Anderson Barry Sutcliffe (CO- IG)
Robin Young Tim Hunt (CO - IG)
Brian Leonard David North (No 10)
Clare Pillman Peter Hyman (No 10)
From Rodney Watson Paul Bolt Angela Salt (MC)
Iain Hepplewhite Deborah Oliver (NMEC)
Date 9 April 1999 John Newbigin Gez Sagar (NMEC)
Andy Burnham

ccfu

MILLENNIUM PRESENTATIONAL ROUNDUP

(Copy recipients please note: NMEC circulates lines on all running stories with its daily press summaries. If you do not receive these summaries and would like more information on any particular line, please contact NMEC press office. Lines on Commission business are also circulated as necessary and are available from its press office.)

Forward Look Entries

A plea to colleagues making entries on the electronic database for the weekly Forward Look which issues with this roundup: in fixing revised arrangements for meeting to discuss presentational matters so that they represent a less frequent burden, we did ask that contributions to the Forward Look should be made in full by Thursday afternoon each week. The Forward Look is only as good as we make it - please try to make entries on time and providing the fullest possible account of event planned.

Recent Media

Main stories:

Chris Smith's speech at the gala dinner to launch the Earth Centre at Doncaster was well-noticed and there was generally very favourable coverage about the opening of the project's first phase.

The announcement of plans for the River Event in London on New Year's Eve was well-received in the Standard and by regional London television.

The CMS Select Committee Report "Back to the Dome" attracted widespread newspaper coverage following its publication on 30 March. The Committee's anxieties about delivery of the JLE on schedule tended to lead the coverage. (A written government response will follow in due course.)

The announcement of the Skyscape "entertainment venue" on 29 March received very positive coverage in four national dailies, the Standard, the Glasgow Herald, on Sky, London Tonight and Newsroom Southeast. Follow up coverage in the regions (including Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) was very strong.

Chris Smith's visit to Scotland to give the keynote speech at the Edinburgh Millennium Conference was well-noticed, in particular his comments that Scotland had done very well out of Millennium Commission funding. His visit to the North Berwick Seabird Centre got excellent coverage.

Other stories:

The filming of the next Bond film at the Dome received local press and television coverage on 31 March.

David Mellor attacked the Dome in the Sunday People on 4 April. NMEC is replying to the attack.

The Sunday Express the same day reheated the story that HRH Prince of Wales is anti-Dome. St James's Palace denied the story again.

Items about the expressions of interest to purchase the Dome which have been received surfaced in the papers this week, including those from Charlton Athletic and a consortium called SportDome 2001.

Lord Falconer's visit to Nottingham to help launch the Children's Promise there was given a very favourable notice with picture in the Nottingham Evening Post. His visit to a nearby Groundwork local regeneration project attracted regional television, Nottingham radio and the Derby Telegraph.

The contents of the Dome's Work and Learn zones were featured on the National Lottery Live on 7 April.

Today's Times and Independent reported that the £15 million Bath spa redevelopment is being held up by a nesting duck.

NMEC also reports good regional coverage, including news that a Doncaster firm is being saved by a Dome contract, the Millennium Youth Games, Children's Promise, the recruitment register for Dome employees, the Millennium Show, "Our Town Story" and ticket prices.

Building Magazine carried a positive article about architecture for the new Millennium last week.

The Commission reports that it got 34 items on regional radio for a syndicated feature it produced to mark National Science Week.

Recent Events

NMEC worked hard to kill or limit several unhelpful press stories over the holiday period, notably a claimed conflict of interest on the part of NMEC board members in relation to the sale of the Dome, an attack on the Dome by a Youth Council member and Church unrest about wars being including in the Spirit Zone.

English Partnerships issued a press notice on 8 April giving a general account of the expressions of interest which have been received from the first round of the competition to sell the Dome.

Lord Falconer's regional visit on 7 April started with a speech at the press launch of the Voyager in Coventry and continued as set out above. The Channel 4 News film crew followed him throughout the day.

Representatives of DCMS, Cabinet Office, NMEC and the Millennium Commission met on 1 April to discuss key presentational challenges for the next few weeks/months.

Next Week's Media

The Channel Four News film about Lord Falconer and the Millennium celebrations is to be broadcast tonight (Friday) on C4 News.

The Guardian is contemplating an article on "ethnic" - led applications for Millennium Commission funding.

Next Week's Events

The Millennium Commission is staging an event to launch the White Rose Cycle route - part of the Sustrans Network - in Hull today, at which the Deputy Prime Minister is expected to be present.

Chris Smith is announcing the next round of "Awards for All" in Nottingham on Monday, including the Festival Fund smaller grants.

Downing Street is providing a statement of support from the Prime Minister for inclusion in the MacDonald's "Our Town Story" pack.

The Millennium Voyager reaches Cardiff next week and has its press day on 13 April with a Welsh rugby international fronting the occasion as special guest.

We are meeting with Lord Falconer on Monday to discuss Dome marketing strategies.

The steering group which is taking forward arrangements for the announcement of the Dome Opening Night event guest list will meet again next week (and in successive weeks).

The Greenwich Peninsula Marketing Forum has its monthly meeting next Tuesday.

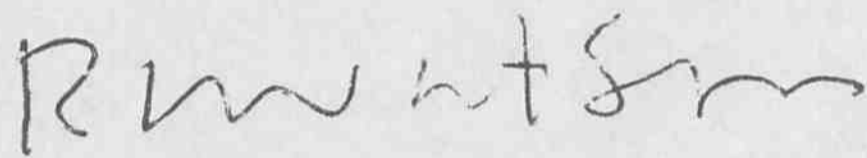
The Information Bulletin for Parliamentarians is nearly ready to be issued. It should be possible to circulate it next week subject to final comments.

Future Opportunities

Among the short term opportunities being worked on at present:

- * further regional visits for Lord Falconer - Northern Ireland and the South East look like being next. NMEC is preparing a draft itinerary for the former;
- * a joint regional visit (perhaps to Scotland) for Chris Smith and Lord Falconer, possibly associated with developments on "Our Town's Story" and/or an education theme;
- * a visit for Lord Falconer to the NMEC regional office in Croydon and an associated Southeastern region visit - a draft itinerary has been produced and a date in May is being sought;

- * visits for Janet Anderson and Alan Howarth to coincide with future stops by the Millennium Voyager and to visit other Millennium projects - the Unit is talking to the Commission and diary secretaries to try to find dates which coincide with planned regional tours by both Ministers.



RODNEY WATSON
Millennium Unit Communications

FORWARD LOOK, THE UK MILLENNIUM - FROM 9 APRIL 1999

RESTRICTED

Page number 1

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
09/04/1999	Hull	10:30	Millennium cycle route is creating nearly 3,000 miles of cycle routes throughout the UK.	Ribbon cutting with majors from cities involved followed by a reception	John Prescott, Deputy PM invited. Mike O'Connor attending	By investing £43.5 million in the national cycle route the Millennium commission is creating a legacy which will provide a cleaner and greener future for us all. TA: TBC		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
10/04/99	Great Baddow, Essex	19:00	Great Baddow Community Centre	Opening	Mayor to attend	The MC will be supporting our communities by investing lottery money in the centre TA: regional, general public	The MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
12/04/1999	Cardiff			Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects		VIP/Press day 13/04/1999	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
20/04/1999								
12/04/99	Nottingham	11:00	Millennium Festival Fund 2nd tranche - Awards for All	Announcement of small grants (under £5,000) for community Millennium activities available from Lottery Millennium Festival Fund	SoS CMS attending	Small grants will be available to community groups to apply for under the banner Millennium Festival - Awards for All. Brings together all the Lottery Distributors under one banner TA: National and regional media.		Lottery Distributors Morag Wood Mill. Comm 0171-880-2002

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
/04/1999	Yorkshire Dales		Woodlands opening ceremony	200 community woodlands throughout England & Wales	tbc	The Millennium Commission is encouraging environmental sustainability - one of our key themes. This project is one of a range of environmental initiatives around the United Kingdom. TA: local, regional and specialist press		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
/04/1999	Dome Preview Centre			PET Launch				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
/04/1999	N Ireland		Sustainable Communities	Open day, raising awareness of scheme		MC is encouraging environmental sustainability by investing Lottery money in the project TA: Local media		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
/04/1999	To be confirmed			South African Children's Promise announcement				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
entative /04/1999	Ealing, London		St Barnabus Church Hall	Opening	Bishop of London attending	TA: local press and general public	MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Press Office

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
1/04/1999	UK		National Construction Week	National Construction Week will spotlight the benefits and significant progress it has made in the UK	Hanson PLC & Blue Circle sponsoring event	MC is investing £1.26 of lottery funds in a wide range of of construction projects TA: clients, young people, opinion formers and the industry itself		
1/04/1999	Dome			Site visit of European Bank for Reconstruction & Development	Meeting sponsored by FCO			NMEC Jan Anderson 0171 808 8304
1/04/1999	To be confirmed			Our Town Story Scotland launch - Stirling				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
1/04/1999	TBC			Manpower Skills Festival 2000				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
1/04/1999	Sports Cafe, Haymarket			Manpower Work Zone event				NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8235
1/04/99 - 2/04/99	London Arena			Thames Gateway Conference		Contribution of Dome to regeneration of Thames Gateway & inward investment TA: Regional media		GVC Andrew Parry 0181 305 3403
1/04/1999	Regent's Park, London		London Zoo Conservation Education Centre	Opening		TA: National, local media press, general public	MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
1/04/1999	Dome Preview Centre			Schools Curriculum Pack launch - second educational curriculum pack in association with McDonalds				NMEC Libby Fordham 0171 808 8638

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
2/04/1999 9/04/1999	Caernarfon		Launch	Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects and Award schemes.	Voyager will take the message around the UK that the Millennium Commission Projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 22/04/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
2/04/1999	Madrid			BTA visit to Madrid				NMEC Jacinta Johnston 0171 808 655
3/04/1999	Southwark Cathedral	16:00	MC grant of £3.9m to Southwark Cathedral	Launch of public fundraising appeal	Archbishop Desmond Tutu will attend	MC grant will place Southwark Cathedral at the heart of redevelopment plans along the South bank. Will involve the creation of a visitors centre incl. a permanent exhibition telling the story of Southwark		Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2007
6/04/1999	Guildford			Photocall with Roger Black at Spectrum Sports Ground, Guildford to promote Childrens Promise				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
8/04/1999 tentative	N/A			JLE trains run (Stratford - North Greenwich) - provisional				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
8/04/1999	110 Buckingham Palace Road			Monthly Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
3/04/1999	Leicester			Leicester Mercury Dome Visit				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
undated April	London		Dome Opening Event	Announcement of guestlist details for 31 December 1999 Dome Opening event		Majority of invited attendees will be ordinary people/a strong creative team is in place TA: National/local media, general public	Press Notice - NMEC Press Office (NMEC will hold a briefing for national media)	NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8325
undated April	To be arranged			Bidding for attendance on opening night will commence				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
undated April	East London			Lord Falconer to visit East London) at invite of Jim Fitzpatrick MP (Canning Town)	Lord Falconer's office is arranging			DCMS Duraid Silarbi 0171 211 6413
undated April	tbc		Millennium Seed Bank	Topping out ceremony		TA: National, regional, local and specialist press.		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
Spring 1999	tba		JLE	Jubilee Line Trains run Stratford to N Greenwich				

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
1/05/1999 - 08/05/1999	Liverpool		Launch	Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects and Award schemes.	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and Opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 04/05/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
05/05/1999	Dome Preview Centre			Visit of the House of Lords				NMEC Deborah Oliver 0171 808 8244
09/05/99	Dome			Transport of the Millennium Pier from the River Medway (where it's being welded together) to the Dome on the River Thames				NMEC David Trench
11/05/1999 - 19/05/1999	Belfast			Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects		VIP/Press day 12/05/1999	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
13/05/1999 Tentative	TBC			BT Future Talk Launch				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
13/05/1999	St James's Palace			Manpower National Skills Festival launch				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
19/05/1999	Brancaster Mill. Centre, Norfolk		Brancaster Millennium Centre (MC grant of £370k) - a residential activity centre to be used by people of all ages and backgrounds involved in conservation	Opening	Graham Savage of MC will attend	MC is supporting our communities		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
19/05/1999	Meanwood Valley Urban Farm, Leeds		Meanwood Valley Urban Farm (MC grant of £175k) - project to develop an environmental centre designed as a local visitor attraction in an inner city area	Opening		MC is encouraging environmental sustainability TA: Regional media and general public		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
20/05/1999 28/05/99	Londonderry		Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects			VIP/press day 21/05/99	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
20/05/1999	Glasgow		Hampden Queens Park Football Club Scotland's 'Field of Dreams', Strathclyde	First Game	tbc	The MC is revitalising our cities with lottery money. This project is one of a range of new initiatives which are developing our great cities. This is a landmark project - 1 of nearly 30 around the UK. TA: National, regional press.		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
26/05/1999	London		Millennium Bug - NAO Report on public sector and the Bug	Publication of 3rd NAO Report on progress across central Govt. and wider public sector				Cabinet Office Kristian Armstrong 0171 238 0373
29/05/1999	Edinburgh		Dynamic Earth	Official opening and press briefing	This is a landmark project - 1 of nearly 30 around the UK.	The Millennium Commission is encouraging environmental sustainability - one of our key themes. This project is one of a range of environmental initiatives around the UK. TA: National, Regional Media, specialist press and General Public		Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
Tentative								
Undated May	tbc		Millennium Bug - Year 2000 Validation Exercise 'Operation Hydra'	Civil Contingencies Committee - organised an exercise with Home Secretary's involvement	Lord President's attendance tbc			
Undated May	tba			Announcement of Year 2000 telethon				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
Undated May	Dome			Energise, Childrens TV filmed at Dome		To be transmitted during May - date to be arranged		NMEC Fay Osborn 0171 808 8286
Undated May	tba			11th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303

Tentative

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
3/06/1999	London Zoo		The Millennium Conservation Centre	Opening		The MC is investing in education by investng lottery money in the Millennium Conservation Centre TA: National, regional, specialist press, General Public		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
3/06/1999	Dome			Millennium Pier construction complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
8/06/1999 5/06/1999	Bristol	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the MC projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and Opinion	VIP/Press day 08/06/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
2/06/1999	UK		National Bike week					Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
4/06/1999	tba			200 days to go	Possible Central Show preview material			NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
17/06/1999 23/06/1999	Truro	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 17/06/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
22/06/1999	London		Millennium Greens (Countryside commission)	Parliamentary event	Chris Smith, MP to attend			Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
25/06/1999 Tentative	Yorkshire		Dales Environment	Summer ball	tbc	TA: local media		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0181 880 2007
26/06/1999 02/07/1999	Portsmouth	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch Open to the Public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 28/07/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
30/06/1999	N/A			Festival applications complete	Millennium Commission, Lottery Distributors			NMEC Tim Cantle-Jones 0171 808 8365
undated June Tentative	110 Buck. Palace Road			12th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
undated June Tentative	London			Economic Impact Assessment for Millennium Experience	Greenwich Council, English Partnerships & NMEC have commissioned this report	Good news on jobs/regeneration		GVC Andrew Parry 0181 305 3403
undated June Tentative	New Mill. Pier			Travel trade trip to New Mill. Pier				NMEC Jacinta Johnston 0171 808 8655
June/July Tentative	tba			TV and Outdoor advertising	2nd Phase tbc			NMEC Ruth Wicks 0171 808 8320
Summer 1999 Tentative	tba		JLE	JLE trains run N Greenwich to Waterloo				
05/07/1999 11/07/1999	London	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the MC projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion	VIP/Press day 05/07/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
undated July 1999	Co.Fermanagh		Kesh Boat park	opening		The MC will be supporting our communities by investing lottery money in the Kesh Boat park TA: Local media and general public.		Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
undated July	tba			Tickets go on sale				
undated July	110 Buck. Palace Road			13th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8308
undated July	110 Buck. Palace Road			Annual Report and Accounts published			Press conference (tbc)	NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
undated August	110 Buck. Palace Road			14th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
tentative Autumn 1999	tba		JLE	JLE trains run Waterloo to Green Park				
7/08/1999	Dome			Meridian promenade construction complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
1/08/1999	JLE Line			JLE trains run (North Greenwich to Waterloo)				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
1/09/1999	TBA			Awards for all announcement				NMEC Tim Cattle-Jones 0171 808 8365
1/09/1999	Transit Line			Millennium transit link to rail line complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
1/09/1999	TBA			Provisional ticket sales to public start				NMEC Sholto Douglas-Home 0171 808 8263
2/09/1999	tba			100 days to go				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEADER ORGANISATION & CONTACT
22/09/1999	TBA			Consumer ticket launch/100 Days To Go media event				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
Sept. - Dec. 1999	Nationwide		Millennium Bug	Minimal disruption (public confidence) - Action 2000 TV/press/radio campaign		TA: National/local press		Action 2000 Elizabeth Allen 0171 215 3976
Sept - Dec 1999	London		Millennium Bug - Seminars by Mike Mahony (HSE) re. Year 2000	Talks on training for industry health and safety specialists				HSE Mike Mahony 0171 717 6282
Undated Sept.	tba			2nd Granada series begins				NMEC Fiona Cline 0171 808 8314
Tentative								
Undated Oct. 1999	Nationwide		Millennium Bug	Action 2000 - general advice on domestic appliances, door drop and press		TA: National/local press		Action 2000 Elizabeth Allen 0171 215 3976
Undated October	HSE		Launch of report of independent assessment by W H Atkins	Publication of 'Major Hazard Sites and the Millennium Problem'				HSE David Wilson 0151 951 4969
Tentative								
Undated Oct.	tba			Party Conference receptions				
29/10/1999	Dome			Footpaths/Cycleways complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
30/10/1999	JLE line			JLE trains run (Waterloo-Greenwich Park)				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
Tentative								
22/11/1999	Dome			Meridian gardens complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
3/11/1999	London			New Year's Eve event: Advent Sunday				NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8235
3/12/1999	Dome			Meridian point complete				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
1/12/1999	TBA			DoC				NMEC
undated ec.	tba			Travel Trade previews				
tentative								
undated ec.	tba			Consumer previews				
tentative								
ate 1999 tentative	tba			South Bank Show on the Central Show				NMEC Ross Cook 0171 808 8308
1/01/2000	Dome			First performance of the Millennium Show				NMEC Gabrielle Owtram 0171 808 8226
1/01/2000	Thames River			Full river boat public service				NMEC Adam Liversage 0171 808 8293
3/01/2000	Dome site			Festival "kick off"				
4/01/2000	Dome			Our Town Story - Stirling				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
undated jan. tentative	tba			Multi-part BBC documentary series about project begins	BBC			NMEC Fiona Cline 0171 808 8314

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANIZATION & CONTACT
5/01/2000	TBA			Voices of promise Final				NMEC

cc:ps

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To Secretary of State
Lord Falconer

(f)

cc Lord McIntosh
Janet Anderson
Robin Young
Brian Leonard
Paul Bolt
Andy McLellan
Clare Salters
Rod Watson

David North
Peter Hyman
John Newbiggin

From Clare Pillman

Date 9 April 1999

THE MILLENNIUM CELEBRATIONS: A PROGRESS NOTE
Millennium Commission

The opening of the first phase of the Earth Centre in Doncaster went well. The DPM rode a bicycle along part of the Sustrans cycleway yesterday. The problems with the Cardiff Millennium Centre have been resolved, but the Rochdale canal project is still in difficulty - Richard Caborn has asked the RDA to sort out their funding position. The Millennium Commissioners cancelled their meeting scheduled for this week.

Millennium Experience

Content/construction/operation

2 NMEC have begun discussions with DfEE about the mechanism for distributing the 1m free tickets to schoolchildren. The Litmus group meet next week.

Sponsorship and budget

3 NMEC have submitted the first draft of their corporate plan to the Millennium Commission and us for comment. A revised draft will be put to Commissioners and the Shareholder in due course.

Legacy

4 EP announced earlier this week that over 50 organisations had registered their interest in the Dome Legacy competition, mainly UK-based but with significant interest from overseas, particularly the US. The majority of expressions of interest have not specified a proposed use at this stage. We are working separately on arrangements for minimising conflicts of interest (real and perceived) in the handling of the competition.

Transport to the Dome

5 The Millennium Access Coordinating Group meets on Monday - no papers have yet been circulated. Lord Falconer is meeting the new Chairman of London Underground, Sir Malcolm Bates shortly.

National Programme

6 We will shortly be providing Janet Anderson with a letter about Children's Promise to

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send to MPs to follow up on the letter which the Prime Minister sent to all party leaders.

Millennium Festival

7 Preparations for the launch of Millennium Festival Awards for All (ie the small grants programme) on 12 April in Nottingham are well in hand. I attach a leaflet publicising the scheme.

First Weekend

8 The conference in Edinburgh on how to put on First Weekend events was a great success. Around 300 people from all over the UK took part over the two days. The agenda was a good mix of the visionary and the practical and it was agreed that it would be sensible to hold two further events (probably in Newcastle and Belfast in June and September). Announcements about the Dome opening ceremony are now likely to take place towards the end of this month.

International

9 Following a slight hiatus, the FCO have provided another secondee to NMEC to take forward their international work. DTI have also appointed someone to work on promoting millennium products and projects as part of internal and external trade missions for Western Europe. The French Millennium Commission are planning to visit London in June.

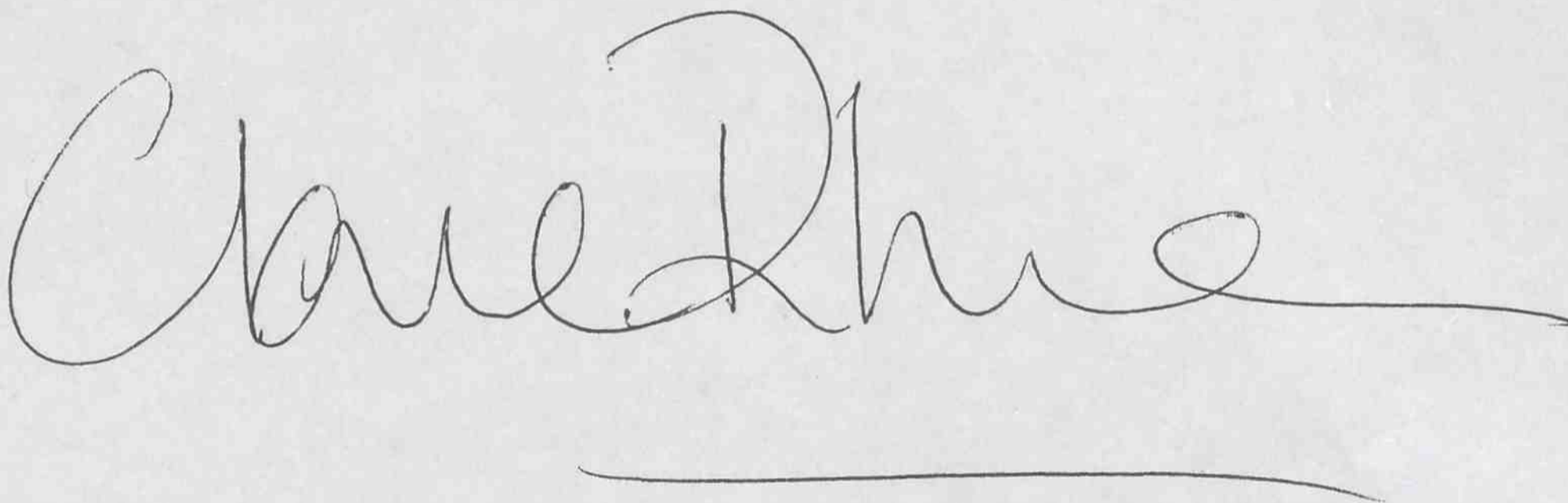
Parliamentary business

The Select Committee

10 The Select Committee published its report before Easter. As agreed, we are working with NMEC, the Commission and DETR/GoL to produce a collective response. The deadline for responding is 31 May.

P.Qs etc

11 We are having a blitz on outstanding P.Qs this week so that all get answered as soon as Parliament returns.



Clare Pillman
Head of Unit

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Lottery Grants for Local Groups



**AWARDS
FOR ALL**



For an application pack ring
0845 600 20 40

Millennium Festival Awards for All

Millennium Festival Awards for All is a new Lottery funding programme to help support local groups. It aims to fund groups which involve people in the local community or which bring people together to enjoy arts, charities, sports and heritage activities and fund projects which celebrate the Millennium.

Small sums of money can have a big impact. In this programme grants of between £500 and £5000 will help groups to do their work better ... to do different things ... to involve more people or new people and to create a lasting benefit for communities.

Millennium Festival Awards for All is tailor made for local groups

- it is open from April 1999 until June 2000
- the application form is simple
- you hear the outcome quickly
- priority is given to local groups with an annual income of under £15,000

We want to fund activities by local groups which

- mark or celebrate the millennium
- bring people together
- increase involvement in a wide range of community activities
- are open and accessible
- are well organised and planned

Millennium Festival Awards for All can be used for a wide range of activities to celebrate the Millennium including arts, sports, heritage and community projects

We would like to fund a range of groups who are planning a variety of activities to mark or celebrate the Millennium. Some requests will be for new work taking place with the Millennium in mind. Other requests may involve developing existing projects for the Millennium. We want to encourage the widest possible interest in the scheme and our priorities are:

Increasing Participation

Millennium Festival Awards for All is keen to offer opportunities to people who may not have had a chance to become involved before.

Funds can be used to provide more chances for people to enjoy a chosen activity regardless of age, gender, disability, race or where they happen to live.

Extending Activities

Millennium Festival Awards for All wants to encourage groups who wish to extend or expand their work in marking the Millennium.

Increasing Skill and Creativity

Millennium Festival Awards for All is interested in helping local groups to raise the quality and improve the standard of their work.

Making a Difference to a Community

Local groups play a very important role in community life. Through the Millennium Festival they can enrich communities by involving as many local people as possible. Millennium Festival Awards for All welcomes applications from groups who have not had Lottery funding before.

Longer Term Benefit

Applications to Millennium Festival Awards for All will mark the year 2000 in some way but it is hoped that many of the projects may benefit communities beyond that time.



Key Dates

Launch April 1999

First decisions September 1999

Last applications to be received by June 2000

Last decisions announced September 2000

You should normally hear the outcome within three months of us receiving your completed application.

If you are successful the award will be paid into your bank account within one month. This means there could be up to four months from when you apply to when you receive the award. Please take this into consideration in deciding when to submit your application.

For an application pack ring

0845 600 20 40

Forms can be supplied in a variety of formats and community languages

Text phone number 0115 948 44 36



Exclusions:

Some items and activities will **NOT** be funded.

These are:

- items which only benefit an individual
- general running, maintenance or repair costs
- promoting religious beliefs
- millennium parties and fireworks
- creating new museums or special places, planting trees, flower displays.
- some capital projects
- repeat funding

More detailed information about Awards for All and further examples of what we can and can't fund can be found in the application pack.

For an application pack ring

0845 600 20 40

Millennium Festival Awards for All is a joint scheme supported by the:

Heritage Lottery Fund
Arts Council of England
Sport England
National Lottery Charities Board
Millennium Commission
in Partnership with
New Millennium Experience Company

C98/40687/C99/00130

(F)



PRIME MINISTER

I am grateful to Jack Straw for copying to me his note to you of 16 March. I have also seen John Prescott's comments.

I agree that Millennium celebrations present us with real challenges in terms of crowd control, transport, logistics, policing and of course the unknown impact of the Millennium bug. Many of the major events organisers such as New Millennium Experience Company and Edinburgh's Hogmanay Partnership are well advanced with their own planning but I think that an overview of the contingency arrangements is needed.

I think John is right that the focus should be wider than London where the Pan London Steering Group is already making good progress. All of the major conurbations in the UK are planning celebrations on 31 December for audiences of hundreds of thousands of people and all face similar logistical challenges. John's suggestion of adapting the Civil Contingencies Committee, to be chaired by Jack Straw, would seem to be a sensible option.

▶ I am sending a copy of this letter to John Prescott, Jack Straw, Margaret Beckett, Frank Dobson, Sir Richard Wilson and Mike Gannett.

Chris

CRS

8 April 1999



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

Mark Langdale, Cabinet Office

MILLENNIUM UPDATE

The Prime Minister was grateful for your Minister's minute of 1 April.

He has noted your Minister's concern about likely progress on phase 3 of Jubilee Line Extension, and in particular his fear that London Underground and the DETR do not see phase 3 as a priority. The Prime Minister thinks he should now write to John Reid to emphasise his own concern and the need to make real progress rapidly. I should be grateful for a draft.

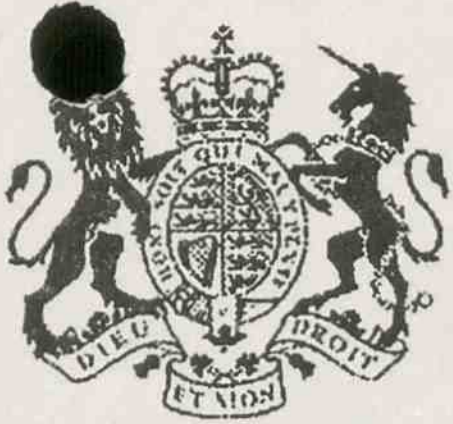
I am copying this to Anji Hunter and Peter Hyman.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David North'.

DAVID NORTH

7 April 1999

AS



Minister of State
Cabinet Office

PERSONAL

(F)

Prime Minister

see note

(a) Phase 3 of the JLE is crucial to our current plan that you should meet the Millennium competition winners in the Houses of Parliament and then leave for the Dome together from Westminster station;

(b) The idea of a 20-second clip of the Archbishop of Canterbury just before midnight is ingenious, but doesn't get over the problem of inclusivity.

But I am less concerned on what David

PRIME MINISTER

cc David North
Peter Hyman
Alun Evans

THE MILLENNIUM EXPERIENCE: PROGRESS NOTE

Construction

Project still within budget. There are two main phases in the construction of each zone: construction (i.e. foundations and general structure); and fitting out (i.e. scenery and contents). The timing for completion of the construction phase varies from zone to zone, depending on size and complexity. Two zones - Living Island and Mobility - have now been handed over for fitting out. The Body and Mind zones are the last zones scheduled for hand-over - in August/September. Nothing to worry about right now, but the tightness of the timetable and the multiplicity of contractors and sub-contractors involved clearly creates the potential for problems. As I mentioned last week, Jennie Page has now brought in a new senior manager to trouble-shoot and oversee the building of the zones.

Contents of Dome

The four new producers have now all had their second meetings with NMEC. I am pressing Jennie to ensure that they are able to start contributing to their zones as soon as possible.

Jubilee Line Extension

Jennie and Alan Cockshaw met Cliff Mumm of Bechtel earlier this week. Mumm says that the electricians' productivity is holding up, and that Marconi are now getting a grip on the software problem. His main concern now is that as soon as London Underground succeed in linking the Dome to Waterloo, the pressure will come off to complete phase 3 (joining Waterloo to Green Park), which is critical to the Dome transport strategy. He is also worried about the time it will take to

PERSONAL

get each phase through the HM Railways Inspectorate process. He is therefore privately proposing to merge phases 2 and 3 and seek to get the entire railway, not including all the stations on it, through the process in the autumn.

His view confirms my own fear that both LU and DETR do not see phase 3 as a priority. While we should still be pressing for completion of the whole line and all the stations in 1999, I think we could live with a completed JLE minus a handful of non-interchange stations. The HMRI is the potential show-stopper in all this. John Reid assures me that he is aware of this problem, but I am going to keep pressing him. I may need your help shortly to put greater political pressure on DETR.

Ticketing

Very little media focus on tickets now. I am awaiting a response from NMEC on my proposal to extend the discount for groups of senior citizens to groups of 5 or more (rather than 15 as originally announced).

Political

I had a further discussion with George Carey about the Opening Night. One suggestion is for a 20 second clip of him in the Spirit Zone, to be shown in the last 5 minutes before midnight, during which the TV coverage will involve roaming round the UK, taking in snapshots to give an inclusive picture of the UK. The BBC is concerned that having just the Head of the Church of England would not meet their remit of inclusivity. As long as the snippets provide the inclusivity, I think it would be ok. Jennie Page is not very happy about it, but her objections appear to be based on a desire to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the BBC. I agree with her that we must not fall out with the BBC. I will speak to the BBC to try to broker a way through.

The Culture Select Committee has published its latest Report. They were highly critical - rightly so - of London Underground over the JLE; and also attacked the Government's handling of the sale of the Dome, on the basis we should have started the sale process earlier. On Dennis Stephenson's advice, we waited before we started the process until the Dome was up. I am sure this was the correct approach. The press have not picked up the criticism save in the most minor way.

Media strategy

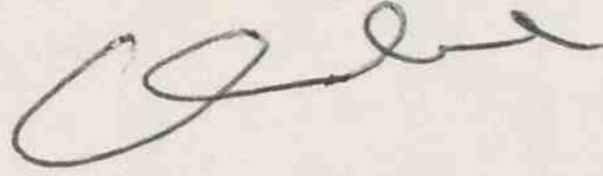
My meeting with Peter Mandelson and NMEC to discuss the marketing strategy will now take place after Easter. I also want to discuss with the SCU how we can get our message across more effectively in the regions.

Legacy

*I still feel
John a noble warrior
say it loud I am.*

PERSONAL

The Preliminary Information Memorandum is being sent out on Tuesday next week to the 54 bidders.



CHARLES FALCONER
1 April 1999



Richmond House 79 Whitehall London SW1A 2NS Telephone 0171 210 3000
From the Secretary of State for Health

TOP DN
C. P.

The Rt Hon Margaret Beckett MP
President of the Council
68 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AT

31 March 1999

MINISTERS INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS OVER THE MILLENNIUM HOLIDAY PERIOD

Your letter to the Deputy Prime Minister, received on 2 March and copied to the Prime Minister and Cabinet colleagues, asks for details of our personal needs for information about incidents which might be attributed to the bug over the millennium. We are responding separately to the request by the Domestic and Economic Secretariat for Departments' plans for monitoring the date change.

Your suggestion that Ministers may wish to have more general information about the situation at home and abroad is both helpful and timely.

Like the rest of Government, we need to have access to as much information about the wider picture as possible. This will help us to gauge the scale of any problems and put into context what may be happening, in our case, in the NHS and Social Services. Your team will no doubt consider where such information would come from, how it could be most usefully structured and prioritised, how often it will need to be updated, and how it will be made available. I think that regional breakdowns will be particularly important.

It would be helpful to have a rolling update, based on the teletext news headlines, operating on a private network/intranet with access to more details behind the headlines as necessary. There would need to be early discussions with officials about the technologies involved, but my preference is for keeping it relatively simple.



Most of the areas we are interested in will be the same across Government and are largely covered by the National Infrastructure Forum's work and will include:

- Utilities
- Commerce, including Telecommunications, Finance and Banking
- Infrastructure which would cover transport, media reaction
- local authorities, social security, fire and police, and the military
- Millennium matters: celebrations, how the large events are going, safety issues, any positive stories (including the Dome)

The Department of Health will of course be feeding the centre with information on how the NHS and Social Services are performing.

I would think that the information in these areas will need to be updated at very short notice, probably hourly. This could then move to 2 or 3 times a day when the Millennium weekend is over.

Cabinet Office could helpfully act as the collator and gatekeeper of information coming from other centres set up to monitor problems over the date change. Clearly we will need to ensure telecommunications are available to us and guard against the dangers of network congestion disrupting such critical information.

If a 'source of sources' is planned it would be useful for us to know how wide the collection process will be drawn. I would hope the net will extend wider than just the millennium bug itself and include the bigger social and behavioural issues. Such a centre would assist other information gathering work and help avoid our re-inventing wheels.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, other Cabinet colleagues, MISC4 members and Sir Richard Wilson.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Dobson', written over a horizontal line.

FRANK DOBSON



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

London SW1A 2AH

31 March 1999

The Rt Hon Margaret Beckett MP
Privy Council Office
68 Whitehall
London SW1A 2AT

f

Top DN

cc to
Press

**MINISTERS' INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS OVER THE MILLENNIUM
HOLIDAY PERIOD**

Thank you for copying to me your letter of 1 March to John Prescott seeking views on Ministers' information requirements over the millennium date change period. I have considered the FCO's requirements.

There are three key areas on which the FCO will need information over this period: information on specific Y2K-related failures affecting third country infrastructures, to enable us to inform the central government information analysis and dissemination process; information on areas of social upheaval overseas due to Y2K-related infrastructure failures, to enable us to make judgements on the need for implementation of our consular emergency plans and to update our travel advice; and information from the UK infrastructure providers, especially regarding telecommunications, to enable us to be confident that the FCO communications systems will continue to function. We will, of course, also be involved in gathering much of this information through our posts overseas.

The output from this information flow will enable us to contribute to the government's overall messages to the British public and business at home and abroad.

I am copying this letter to the recipients of yours.

Derek Fatchett

From: David North
Date: 31 March 1999

PRIME MINISTER

cc Jonathan Powell
Jeremy Heywood
Owen Barder
Rob Read
Liz Lloyd o/r
James Purnell

LONDON AND THE MILLENNIUM

1. Jack Straw wrote to you on 16 March proposing that you set up a **Ministerial Group** to oversee the Government's preparations for the public order and other problems (movements of large numbers of people, transport disruption etc) that might arise over the Millennium weekend.

2. Sir Richard Wilson has now minuted you suggesting that the task should be given to the existing **Civil Contingencies Committee**, which Jack Straw chairs. This is sensible because:

- the Civil Contingencies Committee would be precisely the body called upon to co-ordinate an emergency response if there were a real crisis over the Millennium weekend. So it makes sense for them to be responsible for advance planning as well (as Richard explains, we would need to widen its terms of reference, but this should be straightforward);
- it would avoid creating yet another Cabinet committee;
- it has a flexible structure, involving both Ministers and officials, which would be right for the types of issue involved;
- it has a UK-wide remit, which is also right. We need to guard against a London-only focus.

3. I think you should therefore agree with Richard, though it would be worth applying a few caveats:

- (a) Margaret Beckett is already co-ordinating preparatory and contingency work associated with the Millennium Bug through MISC 4. We need to

avoid duplication. Margaret Beckett and/or her officials should certainly attend relevant meetings of the Civil Contingencies Committee;

- (b) the Civil Contingencies Committee should not stray into the question of pay bonuses for public sector employees to ensure that a sufficient number work over the Millennium weekend. We do not want to get drawn into central pay bargaining across the public sector, nor into concerted demands for the Treasury to provide additional resources. The issue should be one for local discretion, based on local circumstances;
 - (c) Nick Raynsford is already in charge of ensuring preparedness in respect of London. Again, he needs to be involved in this exercise so that we do not duplicate work;
 - (d) we should not make a song and dance about all this. It should be approached as sensible, low-key contingency planning, not as a high-profile military exercise. Our response to media enquiries should reflect this.
4. John Prescott has also written to you, very much along the above lines.
 5. Are you content for me to take this forward along the above lines?

David

Yes.

DAVID NORTH



QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

31 MAR 1999

The Rt Hon Margaret Beckett MP
President of the Council
Privy Council Office
68 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AT

F

TOP-DN
C: PU.

Dear Margaret,

**MINISTERS' INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS OVER
THE MILLENNIUM HOLIDAY PERIOD**

Thank you for copying to me your letter to John Prescott, asking for details of my personal needs for information over the millennium date change period.

A number of centres will operate over the period:

- The Association of Chief Police Officers will open their Co-ordination Centre in central London to act as a central point for receiving reports from the 43 English and Welsh police forces on any problems they experience, and to offer advice and information exchange.
- HM Fire Service Inspectorate will open two centres, one in central London and one in Woking, to co-ordinate information on the 50 English and Welsh fire brigades.
- Prison Service will open their Command Suite in central London to liaise with their 130 establishments.
- The Home Office Emergency Operations Suite will be staffed over the date change period and will liaise with the other reporting centres, local authorities and emergency service headquarters to ensure up to date information is available for Ministers.

- The Year 2000 Co-ordination Programme team in Home Office Central Information Systems Unit will be available over the holiday period to pull together responses from the above areas.

These centres will provide briefing to me and my Home Office Ministerial colleagues as required, and to the Cabinet Office information management centre.

I will look to the Cabinet Office centre for a general overview of events at home and overseas.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, other Cabinet colleagues, MISC4 members and Sir Richard Wilson.

Yours ever,

Jack

JACK STRAW

C98/41337/13837



The Rt Hon the Baroness Jay of Paddington
Leader of the House and Minister for Women
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

31 March 1999

Jean Margaret

TOP-DN
C.P.S.

OPENING CELEBRATION AT THE MILLENNIUM DOME

I am writing to ask you about the possibility of using the Royal Gallery in the House of Lords for a reception on 31 December 1999.

All of us involved with the subject know that the Millennium celebrations mean much more than just an opportunity for a party. I am keen that this should be recognised on New Year's Eve when the media will be focusing intensively on the celebrations. We are therefore planning to organise an event, immediately before the opening event at the Millennium Dome at Greenwich, to recognise the achievements of a range of Millennium Awards winners. The £200 million Millennium Awards Scheme, set up by the Millennium Commission, makes grants to thousands of ordinary people to help them achieve a personal aspiration whilst benefiting their wider communities. Over 4,000 individuals are currently taking part.

It is intended that a number of award winners would be invited to an awards ceremony where their achievement would be marked. Ministers and some other VIPs would also be invited and after the event all guests would be transported on a specially commissioned Jubilee Line train from Westminster station to the Millennium Dome at Greenwich.

We have considered a number of possible venues for the reception but for practical, logistical and symbolic reasons we are very keen, if possible, to use the Royal Gallery. For many of those present, this will be the first time they will have seen the Palace of Westminster, and the setting will provide a dramatic contrast to the Dome later the same evening.

We envisage the event beginning at around 8.00 pm with guests, around 450 in total, arriving at the Sovereign's entrance. Drinks and canapés would then be served before the awards presentation. Guests would depart for Greenwich at around 9.30 pm on the underground via Westminster Hall and through the House entrance to Westminster station.

I know that the use of the Royal Gallery for such receptions is, understandably, strictly controlled, but New Year's Eve 1999 is an exceptional day and the Millennium Award Winners are deserving of such recognition. Involving the Palace of Westminster in the Millennium celebrations would also send out an important symbolic message. I would be very grateful for your help and support in getting the agreement of the House authorities to this proposal.

▶ A copy of this letter goes to Ann Taylor, Lord Falconer, Black Rod, the Serjeant at Arms and David North in No 10.

Yours ever
Chris

CHRIS SMITH

30/03/99

15:23

MAFF CABINET SECTION

NO.046 002

Top: JB
cc: PJ

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food,
Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR

DN

From the Minister

The Rt Hon Margaret Beckett MP
Privy Council Office
68 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AT

f

30 March 1999

MINISTERS' INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS OVER THE MILLENNIUM HOLIDAY PERIOD

I am writing in response to your letter to John Prescott regarding Ministers' requirements for information on Millennium bug-related incidents over the Millennium holiday period.

Officials in my Department already have arrangements in hand to ensure that I can be provided with up-to-date information on the integrity of MAFF's own operations and of our sponsored sectors over the Millennium date change period. MAFF's IT Directorate will be providing a central monitoring and reporting function over this period, with 24hr cover envisaged over the holiday weekend. I am satisfied that this will ensure we are in a position to provide an overview of the impact of the date change on MAFF's operations as and when required by Cabinet Office, and that any serious incidents will be reported to me as they occur.

My staff are also in the process of drawing up a layered reporting mechanism to feed information from the industry through to Ministers from September 1999 to March 2000 and in particular over the critical holiday period. There will be two elements to this: firstly, we are making arrangements for officials across the Department to monitor and report on the situation throughout the industry following key 'trigger' dates such as 9/9/99 and 1/1/2000; these general overviews will be supplemented by more detailed briefing which will be supplied to Ministers via our Emergencies Unit as a matter of course should any significant problems arise. Reports will need to cover not only food supply to the consumer but also any serious incidents affecting the health and welfare of animals on-farm and any possible flooding or food safety issues. I am satisfied that the arrangements being made will ensure I am fully briefed on the position of MAFF-sponsored sectors.

Both MAFF and our sponsored sectors are highly dependent on other sectors of the national infrastructure, however, and I feel it would be invaluable if the proposed information

/management centre could...



Recycled Paper

management centre could provide Ministers with a short summary briefing of the situation in key sectors as soon as possible following the date change. In particular, I would welcome information on the position in the utilities, telecommunications, transport (in particular shipping, but also any incidents affecting public transport), ports (including operation of customs procedures) and finance. I would wish to be informed of the overall position of these sectors (even if no significant incidents have occurred) and would need an indication of the scale and geographical impact of any specific incidents that occur so that my Department is able to assess the impact on MAFF or our sponsored sectors. Given the immediate impact of any problems which may arise, I assume that arrangements will be put in place to copy such information direct to officials in each Department at the same time as to Ministers.

I will primarily require information on the impact of the date change on the infrastructure in the UK, but then also an overview of the integrity of the national infrastructure in key supplier countries, including transport and cross-border administration. Again, I will want to be alerted to any severe problems in other countries as they occur.

I would also welcome reassurance that Ministers and officials will be kept fully informed in the run-up to the Year 2000 of the emerging situation and any adverse developments in other sectors which may affect their Departments' interests. I am unsure whether MISC4 meetings would necessarily provide an adequate mechanism for this as we near the end of 1999.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, to other Cabinet colleagues, MISC4 members and to Sir Richard Wilson.

Yours sincerely

Nick

NICK BROWN



DN
cc: JSH
PU

SANCTUARY BUILDINGS GREAT SMITH STREET
WESTMINSTER LONDON SW1P 3BT
TELEPHONE 0870 0012 345
E-mail dfee.ministers@dfee.gov.uk
The Rt Hon DAVID BLUNKETT MP

f

The Rt Hon Margaret Beckett MP
Privy Council Offices
68 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AT

30 March 1999

Dear Margaret

MINISTERS' INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS OVER THE MILLENNIUM HOLIDAY PERIOD

You wrote seeking views from Cabinet colleagues on the above. I am content that the arrangements you propose at the centre, combined with the arrangements to be put in place by my policy and press officials, will be adequate for my personal information needs, and those of my DfEE ministerial colleagues, over the millennium period. Accordingly, I have no additional personal information requirements.

Copies of this letter go to the Prime Minister, other Cabinet Colleagues, MISC 4 members and Sir Richard Wilson.

Best wishes

DAVID BLUNKETT



Department for Culture, Media and Sport
Millennium Unit

2-4 Cockspur Street
London SW1Y 5DH

Tel 211 2001
Fax 211 6339

IMMEDIATE

To Secretary of State
Lord Falconer
Janet Anderson

cc

Lord McIntosh
Robin Young
Brian Leonard
Paul Bolt
Clare Pillman o/r
Ian Hepplewhite
Rod Watson
Frances Duffy

Trevor English
Dave Humphries
Sean Kenny
Selvin Brown, Cabinet Office
David North, No.10
Gez Sagar/Jan Anderson, NMEC
John McCarthy/Ian Brack, MC

From Clare Salters

Date 30 March 1999

BACK TO THE DOME: CMS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Select Committee published the report on its "Back to the Dome" inquiry this morning. You should all by now have seen copies. Although there is some irritable carping in the tone of the report and the specific conclusions and recommendations, by and large it is fairly neutral with a few helpful positives.

2. The main areas of criticism were on transport (JLE, park & ride and kiss & drop) and ticketing (failure of NMEC to provide Committee with advance notice of pricing structure and travel packages), where the Committee did their best to exploit the perceived differences in Jennie Page's and Glenda Jackson's stances. The Committee also criticised the Government for not being dynamic enough (!) in terms of legacy but made some positive comments about the work NMEC had done on sponsorship and inclusivity. In addition, many of the sections in the report included recommendations about increasing public consultation.

3. The convention (set out in the Cabinet Office paper on dealing with Select Committees) is that Ministers *may* respond publicly to criticisms of the Government and can correct any mis-statements of fact but should not make any snap responses to Committee recommendations. There is nothing sufficiently critical to justify issuing any formal statement of rebuttal now however I attach some lines to take in relation to the main criticisms which you may want to draw on in the event of being doorstepped.

4. We will be working with colleagues in NMEC, the Millennium Commission, DETR/GoL and English Partnerships to draft a combined Government response to the report to be finalised next term. In the meantime, I attach a short draft letter for Lord Falconer to send to Gerald Kaufman - **if possible, this should issue today.**

Clare

Clare Salters
Deputy Head of Unit

CMS COMMITTEE REPORT: BACK TO THE DOME

General lines to take

- Welcome the Committee's report and the characteristic scrutiny which the Committee has brought to bear on the Millennium Experience.
- Welcome the Committee's support for NMEC's approach to inclusivity and the acknowledgement of the tremendous job that NMEC has already done to raise so much in the way of sponsorship.
- We will be considering the Committee's recommendations carefully and will publish our response in due course. [I would not wish to pre-empt that response.]

Defensive lines, for use if pressed

paras 6-8: JLE is crucial but LUL are too laid back

paras 15-17: park and ride strategy inefficient and needs clarification

para 22: kiss and drop should be abandoned

- Glenda Jackson is overseeing delivery of the transport strategy through her Millennium Access Co-ordination Group.
- Progress reports are regularly given by each of the key organisations responsible for delivering the various components of the transport strategy. The representatives, however, work closely together as a group to ensure delivery of the overall strategy.
- Ministers continue to monitor JLE progress very closely and remain confident that London Transport and Bechtel will have the new line in operation in time to serve the Millennium Experience.
- Glenda Jackson asked LUL last June to lead the production of contingency plans to cover problems on any of the main transport links to the Dome.
- The fact that contingency plans are being prepared does not mean that they are expected to come into play. It would simply be irresponsible not to have them in place should they need to be invoked. LUL report progress regularly and have met all the milestone target dates set so far.
- The Government remains totally committed to the car-free strategy. NMEC will ensure that the best use is made of all marketing and promotional material to promote the use of public transport.

paras 34 & 35: NMEC has made excellent progress on sponsorship but must secure signed contracts

- Welcome the Committee's recognition of NMEC's tremendous achievement on sponsorship. We are convinced that NMEC remains on target to achieve its target of £150m sponsorship.

para 42: *Dome is an expensive tourist attraction*

- As the report points out, the entry prices announced by NMEC recently are comparable with those for other leisure attractions - at [today's] press conference, Gerald Kaufman described the family ticket as "a bargain".
- Structure deliberately designed to encourage people to visit the Dome with family and friends.
- We want the Dome to be inspiring, entertaining, educational and inclusive. We believe that the pricing structure which NMEC has announced will be seen as affordable and good value for money.

para 45: *Insufficient information has been given to the travel trade (about prices) to date*

- NMEC have been having discussions with the travel trade, on the basis of indicative prices, for some time.
- Now that the full pricing structure has been announced, no-one is in any doubt about what the prices will be.
- In addition, when NMEC announced their prices, they were also able to announce a number of attractive packages, including travel and accommodation, that were already being marketed by the travel trade.

para 48: *NMEC discourteous to Committee (and taxpayer) by not telling Committee ticket prices in advance.*

- NMEC have since announced the full pricing structure for Dome entry tickets - no-one is being kept in the dark.
- Pricing structure was being fine-tuned right up until the time of the announcement.
- At the time of the Select Committee hearing, the situation was not yet finalised and it would have been misleading to give a partial account of the pricing structure.

para 49: *Visitors can't buy public transport tickets via Lottery terminals*

- People buying their Dome ticket through a Lottery outlet will be provided with detailed information on the best way to reach the Dome from their area by public transport.

paras 78 & 79: *Government U-turn on legacy policy/not dynamic enough*

- Don't accept this criticism. This Government has, from the outset, made clear that the Millennium Experience must have a tangible and lasting legacy.
- The competition launched last month is fully consistent with our approach.
- As the Prime Minister has made clear, we are determined to do all we can to find a sustainable alternative use for the Dome when the Millennium Experience finishes at the end of 2000.
- **[Dome lying vacant?]** Bound to take some time to clear out the Dome after the Experience, and to prepare for a new use. So a new use couldn't begin right away in 2001 anyway. We are confident that, under the proposed timetable, any down time will be kept to a reasonable minimum.

DRAFT LETTER FROM LORD FALCONER TO:

The Rt Hon Gerald Kaufman MP
Chairman, Culture Media and Sport Committee
House of Commons
Westminster
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

30 March 1999

BACK TO THE DOME

I have read the report of your Committee's recent Inquiry into the Millennium Dome. Chris Smith and I are grateful for your continued interest and constructive comments on matters millennial and your ongoing support for the project. We shall, of course, be responding to your report as soon as possible.

CHARLES FALCONER



THE SCOTTISH OFFICE
DOVER HOUSE
WHITEHALL
LONDON SW1A 2AU

The Rt Hon Margaret Beckett MP
President of the Council and Leader of
The House of Commons
Privy Council Office
68 Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2AT

f
29 March 1999

~~DN~~
C.R.R.
PU

Dear Margaret,

MINISTERS' INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS OVER THE MILLENNIUM HOLIDAY PERIOD

Thank you for copying to me your letter of 1 March to John Prescott.

Officials here have been considering emergency planning and communication arrangements over the Millennium holiday period, in light of constitutional changes this summer. While the arrangements at the end of the year will of course be a matter for the new Administration, I am happy to give a general idea of what we expect will be in place here.

Obviously the Scottish Executive will have an interest in any incident over the holiday period which might affect the Scottish public, either directly or indirectly. The First Minister and Ministerial colleagues will want to be in a position to respond, both substantively (if that becomes necessary) and through communication with the media and to take any other action necessary to reassure the public. This would apply whether incidents were caused by Millennium bug-related failures, or by other events such as severe weather.

Against that background, officials are currently planning that The Scottish Office Emergency Room in Edinburgh will open in the morning of 31 December and will remain open and staffed until the immediate risk of disruption and impact on the public has subsided. The Emergency Room will be staffed by officials from our Emergency Planning Branch, from the Year 2000 date change team, and from our Press Office. If necessary, Emergency Liaison staff from functional areas of the Department will be brought in to monitor the response to and provide briefing on specific incidents affecting individual sectors. Staffing will be

arranged to give continuous cover from the morning of 31 December to around midday on Sunday 2 January. A decision will then be taken on what further coverage is required up to the return to normal business, which, in Scotland, we expect to be on Wednesday 5 January.

The question of Ministerial attendance (or standby) has still to be discussed, for obvious reasons. However, I would expect named Ministers to be on standby throughout the period, probably in Edinburgh.

Staff in the Scottish Office Emergency Room will be able to communicate with Emergency Planning contacts throughout Scotland in local authorities, health trusts and boards, police forces, fire brigades and major industrial sites (for example, BP's oil refinery at Grangemouth) using an Emergency Communications Network which is not dependent on public telephone exchanges. The Emergency Room is also equipped to monitor television and radio broadcast channels, and to communicate directly with Whitehall. We do not expect any disruption to these communications links.

Officials in the Emergency Room will therefore be able to assess what action is required in response to incidents, and will brief Scottish Ministers if necessary. Where action involving the media is required – for example, issuing rebuttal statements to correct mis-reporting, or to reassure the public that appropriate action is being taken in response to a real incident – Ministers will be involved. The overall aim will be to ensure that accurate and timely information is available to Scottish Ministers and officials, and that, where appropriate, a measured response is provided both to ensure that the incident is being addressed, and to provide reassurance to the public.

These arrangements apply whether or not an incident is caused or aggravated by a Millennium bug-related failure. In our view it is equally possible that an incident could arise from over-exuberant Millennium celebrations or from severe weather in Scotland, and we aim to be able to respond to the full range of incidents.

As I have mentioned, the Emergency Room in Edinburgh has a communications link to Whitehall. It will be very important to be able to take a UK-wide view of the position over the Millennium holiday period, and I would therefore expect officials to brief Whitehall colleagues on any Scottish developments regularly from 31 December onwards. I understand that officials here are already in touch with Cabinet Office colleagues about information arrangements generally, and the specific issue of year-end arrangements will no doubt be covered in that way. It would also be very helpful if Ministers and officials in Edinburgh could receive summary updates of the position in England and Wales, especially if major incidents take place. This information would help to provide background for any work we

need to do here to reassure the public. I hope it would be possible for officials to agree an arrangement along these lines.

As regards this Department's own systems, very few of them will be required to operate over the holiday period. Designated staff will begin checking IT, telecommunications and embedded chip systems on Sunday 2 January and Monday 3 January, with a view to ensuring that all systems are operating normally by the time staff return to work on 5 January. Staff in the Emergency Room would, of course, gather information about any Millennium bug-related problems, and can arrange to pass this on to Whitehall colleagues. Unless a very significant failure occurred (and of course we have gone to considerable lengths to reduce substantially the risk of such an event) I do not expect that any problems with The Scottish Office's own systems would become a matter for public comment.

Clearly our thinking on these arrangements will develop further, and will have to be discussed with Scottish Ministers once in place. But I do not expect significant changes to the broad arrangements which I have sketched out above.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Cabinet colleagues, MISC4 members, and to Sir Richard Wilson.

Yours sincerely,
Donald
DONALD DEWAR



Deputy Prime Minister
and
Secretary of State
for the Environment,
Transport and the Regions

6th Floor, Eland House,
Bressenden Place, London
SW1E 5DU
Tel: 0171-890 3011
Fax: 0171-890 4399

→ DN

TOP-RR
✓ C. AN
PV

PRIME MINISTER

LONDON AND THE MILLENNIUM

I am grateful to Jack Straw for copying me his note to you of 16 March.

He has suggested that we need a Ministerial Group, which he or I should chair, to provide an overview in relation to the work which Nick Raynsford and his colleagues are doing to ensure that London is well prepared for the Millennium weekend.

I think Jack is entirely right to identify a need for such an overview but that it should not be restricted to London.

Indeed if it were, then it there would be danger of duplicating some of the work of Nick's Pan London Steering Group, (which already includes the ALG Chairman, Assistant Police Commissioner, Chief Fire Officer and London Ambulance Chief Executive, as well as senior people from London's other public services and utilities, and Home Office).

Progress in London is encouraging. Under the aegis of Nick's Steering Group, work is already well underway on:

- enhanced strategic co-ordination arrangements for the Millennium weekend and a simulation exercise to test these;
- a comprehensive database of all significant activities taking place in London over this period;
- a strategic road and bridge network for the Millennium Holiday period;
- a co-ordinated communication strategy.

I think it is right that Nick should report progress on this work to a senior Ministerial Group, but I am concerned that we should also have an equally clear picture of preparations in other parts of the country (especially our other major conurbations). While the scale of the problem is far greater in London, there would serious danger in concentrating solely on London.

My view is that Jack's responsibilities make him best placed to chair such a Group. One route forward might be to adapt the Civil Contingencies Committee – which Jack chairs – to take on this role. We will, of course, need to consider whether the Group's remit should include Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, or just England.

I am copying this minute to Jack Straw, Margaret Beckett, Chris Smith, Frank Dobson, Sir Richard Wilson and Mike Granatt.

JP

29 March 1999

AP

PERSONAL - POLICY



File

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

Mark Langdale, Cabinet Office

MILLENNIUM UPDATE

The Prime Minister was grateful for your Minister's minute of 26 March.

He has made two points:

- (a) on phase 3 of the Jubilee Line Extension, he has asked whether it would be possible to accelerate the HMRI inspection process, should this threaten a delay in achieving the critical path;
- (b) on the involvement of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the Dome celebrations on 31 December, the Prime Minister has asked whether the UK problem might be overcome by having short readings or prayers from representatives of all the main churches.

The Prime Minister has said that he would like to discuss point (b) in particular with your Minister.

I am copying this to Anji Hunter and Peter Hyman.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'David North'.

DAVID NORTH
29 March 1999

PERSONAL - POLICY



DM
e: Pu

Secretary of the Cabinet and Head of the Home Civil Service

PRIME MINISTER

LONDON AND THE MILLENNIUM

Jack Straw has proposed that a Ministerial Group, chaired by him or John Prescott, should be created to provide an overview of the work on London and the Millennium which you had charged Nick Raynsford with co-ordinating. I agree about the need for Ministerial oversight but recommend that we should give the task to the Civil Contingencies Committee, which is chaired by Jack Straw, rather than create another Committee.

2. Jack Straw's analysis that the Government needs to be seen to be on top of all aspects of preparations for the Millennium is right. I think it applies more widely than London; it would be a mistake to focus narrowly.

3. It would be sensible to consider whether we could adapt an existing Ministerial Group to this purpose. We already have two Ministerial Groups with an active interest in the Millennium, MISC 4 and the Civil Contingencies Committee (CCC). There are obvious potential problems in adding a third.

4. The obvious choice is CCC, which Jack Straw already chairs. It normally only meets after an emergency has occurred; but there is no reason why its terms of reference could not be expanded to embrace advance planning, since the underlying objective is to avoid potential civil disruption. This would have the advantage that, if advance planning does not avert the risks of major disruption, the Committee would be well placed to make a smooth transition from planning mode to emergency response. CCC also has a UK-wide remit, which will continue post-devolution. It would be able to take a broad overview of Millennium planning for all major cities, not just London; and ensure sharing of best practice, without interfering in the work being done by those responsible for co-ordination for individual cities.

5. I see no reason why Jack Straw should consider that a proposal to adapt CCC gives him less than he is looking for. I recommend that you put the proposal to him; and attach a draft minute. This should not come as a surprise to him; we have already sounded out Home Office officials, who accept that it makes sense.

RTW.

RICHARD WILSON

26 March 1999

To 1) Clare Pillman *AMP* cc Lord Falconer
2) Secretary of State *26/3* Robin Young
Brian Leonard
Duraid Silarbi
David North (No10)

From David McLaren

Date 26 March 1999

cc: P.U.

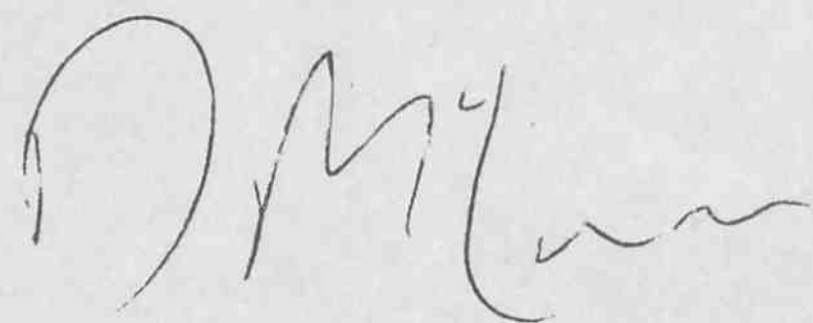
(f)

HOUSE OF LORDS MILLENNIUM RECEPTION

At the Dome opening event presentation last week Clare Pillman said to you that we were going to talk to Black Rod about the possibility of using the Royal Gallery in the House of Lords for a reception on 31 December to recognise the achievements of Millennium Award winners.

2. The proposal has a number of attractions :- it recognises, on an evening where much of the focus will be on parties, that there is more to the Millennium than ephemeral fun; it underlines that the Millennium is for "ordinary" people many of whom are doing extraordinary things; logistically it provides a secure venue for the VIPs to congregate before onward transmission to the Dome on the JLE from Westminster and it involves the Place of Westminster in the celebrations.

3. The meeting with Black Rod went surprising well but it was made clear that there were still several hurdles to overcome. Black Rod advised that to move this along further would require a letter from you to the Leader of the House of Lords setting out the proposal. Are you content to send the attached draft letter?



DAVID McLAREN

The Right Hon The Baroness Jay of Paddington
Leader of the House and Minister for Women
House of Lords
London SW1A OPW

March 1999

OPENING CELEBRATION AT THE MILLENNIUM DOME

I am writing to ask you about the possibility of using the Royal Gallery in the House of Lords for a reception on 31 December 1999.

All of us involved with the subject know that the Millennium celebrations mean much more than just an opportunity for a party. I am keen that this should be recognised on New Year's Eve when the media will be focusing intensively on the celebrations. We are therefore planning to organise an event, immediately before the opening event at the Millennium Dome at Greenwich, to recognise the achievements of a range of Millennium Awards winners. The £200 million Millennium Awards Scheme, set up by the Millennium Commission, makes grants to thousands of ordinary people to help them achieve a personal aspiration whilst benefiting their wider communities. Over 4,000 individuals are currently taking part

It is intended that a number of award winners would be invited to an awards ceremony where their achievement would be marked. Ministers and some other VIPs would also be invited and after the event all guests would be transported on a specially commissioned Jubilee Line train from Westminster station to the Millennium Dome at Greenwich.

We have considered a number of possible venues for the reception but for practical, logistical and symbolic reasons we are very keen, if possible, to use the Royal Gallery. For many of those present, this will be the first time they will have seen the Palace of Westminster, and the setting will provide a dramatic contrast to the Dome later the same evening.

We envisage the event beginning at around 8.00pm with guests, around 450 in total, arriving at the Sovereign's entrance. Drinks and canapés would then be served before the awards presentation. Guests would depart for Greenwich at around 9.30pm on the underground via Westminster Hall and through the House entrance to Westminster station.

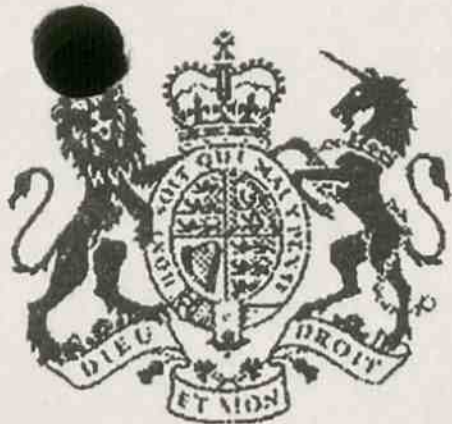
I know that the use of the Royal Gallery for such receptions is, understandably, strictly controlled, but New Year's Eve 1999 is an exceptional day and the Millennium Award Winners are deserving of such recognition. Involving the Palace of Westminster in the Millennium celebrations would also send out an important symbolic message.

I would be very grateful for your support and help in getting the agreement of the House authorities to this proposal.

A copy of this letter goes to Ann Taylor, Lord Falconer, Black Rod, the Serjeant at Arms and David North in No10.

CHRIS SMITH

PERSONAL



Minister of State
Cabinet Office

(F)

PRIME MINISTER

cc David North
Peter Hyman

THE MILLENNIUM EXPERIENCE: PROGRESS NOTE

Construction

Project still within budget. Construction remains broadly on time. Now reaching a crucial phase in which the "Sites and Structures" team (which has been building the Dome) must work much more closely with the Production Team and the Design teams. Jennie Page is in the process of making a part-time senior management appointment to help co-ordinate and oversee the teams.

Contents of Dome

Three of the new producers have now visited the site, with the final one - Charlie Parsons - due to go on Tuesday. Matthew Freud remains heavily involved.

The launch on Wednesday of the Work and Learn zones, sponsored by Manpower and Tesco, went well. The most surprising and encouraging thing was that, despite being probably two of the most worthy and serious zones, the media coverage was straightforward and interested.

Jubilee Line Extension

I discussed the latest developments with John Reid. He says that HM Railways Inspectorate may just be covering their own backs in saying that completion of phase 1 (Stratford to North Greenwich) may be as late as 15 May. The sheer weight of paperwork is clearly taking more time than expected, but I could not establish whether there are more fundamental problems. John, however, says there are no show-stoppers. Mumm (the Bechtel man) is still pushing for the published target date of 30 April.

PERSONAL

On productivity, the electricians appear to be sustaining adequate levels. However, overall on phase 2 (Waterloo to North Greenwich), they are right up against the 31 August target date. The latest fortnightly figures will be available next week. One cloud on the horizon is reports that construction workers are now seeking similar productivity bonus deals to the electricians. John is trying to establish the scale of this potential problem.

Marconi's software remains a problem - and is on the critical path. John says that the senior management at Marconi is now fully apprised of the seriousness of the problem and is taking steps to rectify it. He also says that contingency plans are in hand, to use manual systems, should delays on the software continue. However, the strong impression I get is that the Marconi problem represents a significant threat to the timetable.

On phase 3 (Green Park to Waterloo), HMRI has flagged up its concern that LU has underestimated the time necessary to get through the inspection process.

Ticketing

The one area where I feel we are open to criticism is the price for Senior Citizens, which is £18 for individuals and £12 a head for groups. The discount is restricted to groups of 15 or more and to existing clubs and organisations. While it would be wrong to re-open the question of the ticket prices, I believe it is worth exploring whether the group discount could be offered to groups of 5 or more, and to any group of senior citizens, whether an established club or simply a group of friends. NMEC's initial reaction has been negative, saying that changes now would upset the travel trade and have implications for transport arrangements. I am trying to establish whether there are genuinely over-riding reasons against my proposal.

Political

Jennie Page and I met the Archbishop of Canterbury again on Thursday to discuss the opportunities for the inclusion of Christian prayers in the December 31 events. The Archbishop accepted our suggestion of a service in Westminster Abbey between 20:00 and 20:30, some portion of which would be broadcast, but insisted that he could not be present in the Dome that evening without leading Christian prayers close to midnight *as well*.

The BBC and NMEC are very unkeen for the Archbishop to be involved in the celebrations at the Dome in the hour before midnight and particularly in the few minutes leading up to midnight. In the last few minutes before midnight, the BBC is particularly concerned to be inclusive of the four countries of the UK and believes that it would be inappropriate for the leader of the established Church of *England* to speak at that time. With regard to the hour from 23:00 to 24:00, they are concerned that inclusion of the Archbishop will cause technical and artistic problems and may be perceived to be insufficiently inclusive.

continue
about this
HMRI
problem?

PERSONAL

I think that we should try to reach some conclusion whereby the Archbishop does have some part to play in the Dome, but sufficiently far from midnight to avoid the UK problem. The difficult question seems to be whether we should be prepared to resist the Archbishop if he insists on inclusion in the few minutes before midnight. I think that we probably should, on the basis that he will get something else in the Dome.

*But why do we have
short readings or prayers from
all main churches. Speak
to me on
this*

Media strategy

I am meeting with Peter Mandelson and Sholto Douglas Home (NMEC's marketing person) next week to discuss the marketing strategy.

Legacy

The first phase of the competition, which requested expressions of interest to the brochure which was published at the launch, ended today, Friday. There have been over 35 responses. The next phase, before outline bids are requested in June, begins with the sending of a preliminary information memorandum to those organisations who have established a credible interest in the project. I have not yet had time to take a view on the strength of the bids, but will give you more details next week.

✓

Mark Leggett

CHARLES FALCONER
26 March 1999

*Approved by the Minister in draft
and signed in his absence*

F

COVERING RESTRICTED

To	1. SECRETARY OF STATE	c c	Lord McIntosh	Mike Ricketts (CO)
	2. MINISTER OF STATE (CO)		Janet Anderson	Barry Sutcliffe (CO- IG)
From	Rodney Watson		Robin Young	Tim Hunt (CO - IG)
Date	26 March 1999		Brian Leonard	David North (No 10)
			Clare Pillman	Peter Hyman (No 10)
			Paul Bolt	Angela Salt (MC)
			Iain Hepplewhite	Deborah Oliver (NMEC)
			John Newbiggin	Gez Sagar (NMEC)
			Andy Burnham	Ben Evans (NMEC)

MILLENNIUM PRESENTATIONAL ROUNDUP

(Copy recipients please note: NMEC circulates lines on all running stories with its daily press summaries. If you do not receive these summaries and would like more information on any particular line, please contact NMEC press office. Lines on Commission business are also circulated as necessary and are available from its press office.)

This Week's Media**Main stories:**

NMEC's announcement of ticket prices for the Millennium Experience ran well in Friday's papers, with only the Times and the Mail taking a negative line in front page treatments. The story has since settled down and appears to be off the news agenda.

Wednesday's announcement at the Dome of the Work/Learn Zones of the Dome was very well-received. Broadcast coverage on the day was positive and all national newspapers carried good-sized enthusiastic pieces the next day with good quotes from Lord Puttnam and Estelle Morris in support.

Manpower's announcement that it is seeking 2,000 people to work for the Millennium Experience got some attention in broadcast media, the Standard and, on Thursday, a positive account of the employment opportunities being created by the Millennium Experience in the Mirror.

Other stories:

Saturday's Times had a good account of the training being undertaken by young Dome show performers at the rehearsal space in Hoxton, east London.

It was reported in the Mirror on Wednesday that Prince Charles is vehemently opposed to the Dome and intends not to visit it at all. (The Palace denied that the Prince had ever made any public statement about the Dome).

Chris Smith's speech tonight to mark the opening of the Earth Centre was trailed in Friday's Times in a piece which was generally positive about Millennium Commission-funded capital projects.

This Week's Events

Lord Falconer gave an extended interview to Jimmy Young on Radio 2 last Friday which majored on the ticket prices announcement but ranged into more general discussion about the Experience. He was invited back to answer listeners' question the following Tuesday. Lord Falconer also gave an interview to Granada television on Friday about the ticketing announcement, followed by an appearance on Crosstalk with Don MacIntyre on Sunday.

The Commission organised a briefing for international correspondents last Friday to promote the International Millennium Forum conference. Some 16 correspondents attended and the Commission will be monitoring the output from foreign media outlets.

NMEC launched the Work/Learn zones at the Dome preview centre on Wednesday, attracting a very good turnout of print and some broadcast media. Lord Puttnam, Lord Falconer and Schools Minister Estelle Morris all spoke, as well as representatives of Tesco and Manpower. Lord Falconer gave short interviews to a local radio station, to Heart FM and to South London Press. The other speakers also gave a round of interviews.

Lord Falconer gave a more substantial interview at the Dome to the Channel 4 crew who are preparing a film for C4 News about the Millennium.

An information note for Parliamentarians which covers both the Dome and the wider celebrations is nearly ready in draft. Subject to your comments when we put it to you early next week, we hope it can be issued under cover of a letter from you both immediately after the Easter recess.

Next Week's Media

The Sunday Telegraph has been calling round about books and literature in the Dome (or more precisely, their alleged absence).

The Mirror will be following up the International Millennium Forum conference with a piece either Saturday or Monday, leading on plans for the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

SkyTV is interviewing Chris Smith about his speech at the Earth Centre's gala opening dinner tonight for later transmission.

Next Week's Events

Chris Smith is giving the keynote speech to the dinner being held tonight to mark the opening of the Earth Centre at Doncaster. This week's "Any Questions?" is being broadcast from the Earth Centre tonight as well, with a largely "green" theme.

The Voyager has its press launch in Birmingham today.

DCMS oral questions are scheduled for 3 pm Monday. We are sorting out opportunities for Janet

Anderson to mention recent announcements in answer to supplementaries.

Dawn Primarolo MP will attend the topping out ceremony for @Bristol on Monday.

David Bellamy and Commissioner Heather Couper are also in Bristol the same day to launch the Bristol Zoo Millennium Awards.

NMEC is launching SKYSCAPE, the "entertainment venue" at the Dome site (the zone previously known as "Baby") on Monday.

The CMS Select Committee publishes its latest report "Back to the Dome" on Tuesday. We will meet to read advance copies on the day and attend the Committee's press conference at 11:30 am.

Chris Smith is addressing a conference in Edinburgh on Wednesday which is bringing together those planning Millennium celebrations from around the UK to hear about best practice from Edinburgh's Hogmanay experts. A photocall has been arranged and a linked programme of visits for the day.

The postponed announcements on the London New Year's Eve River Event and the Opening Night at the Dome Guest list may be made early next week.

Lord Falconer is likely to visit an event centred on Children's Promise in Nottingham on 7 April, as well as visiting a church hall community centre there. He is also likely to attend the press launch of Voyager in Coventry the same day. We are organising media opportunities in both places and the Channel 4 film crew will follow the Minister throughout the day.

Future Opportunities

Among the short term opportunities being worked on at present:

- * a joint regional visit for Chris Smith and Lord Falconer, possibly associated with developments on "Our Town's Story" and/or an education theme - your offices are talking about diary dates now;
- * a visit for Lord Falconer to the NMEC regional office in Croydon and an associated Southeastern region visit - a draft itinerary has been produced and a date in May is being sought;
- * a visit for Lord Falconer to Stirling to check progress on the first "Our Town's Story", which will now have to wait until after the Parliamentary elections in Scotland;
- * visits for Janet Anderson and Alan Howarth to coincide with future stops by the Millennium Voyager - the Unit is talking to the Commission and diary secretaries to try to find dates which coincide with planned regional tours by both Ministers.

Roundup/Forward Look Break

The next edition of this roundup will be circulated on Friday 9 April.


RODNEY WATSON
Millennium Unit Communications

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
25/03/1999 - 02/04/1999	Birmingham	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects and Award schemes.	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 26/03/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
26/03/1999	Doncaster		Earth Centre (MC grant of £50m) - establishing a state of the art world centre for environmental research & sustainable technologies	Official opening - SoS CMS visit and keynote speech		The MC is encouraging environmental sustainability by investing Lottery money in this project TA: National/local press, general public	Angela Salt at MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
26/03/1999	Bristol	11:00	@Bristol - a landmark project for the South West including major attractions such as Science world and Wild screen, surrounded by squares and city spaces.	Topping out ceremony	Dawn Primarolo MP attending.	Through a grant of £41.3 million the Millennium commission is investing in science and technology. 21% of Millennium Projects support science and technology. TA: Regional and local media	@Bristol are liaising with MC	Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
29/03/1999	Dome	11:00	Dome Zone Sponsorship	Launch of 'Skyscape' - Sky sponsored entertainment venue at Dome	Sky sponsored concert/event venue	TA: National Press specialist press		NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8226

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
Late March	London		Dome Opening Event	Announcement of guestlist details for 31 December 1999 Dome Opening event		Majority of invited attendees will be ordinary people/a strong creative team is in place TA: National/local media, general public	Press Notice - NMEC Press Office (NMEC will hold a briefing for national media)	NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8325
29/03/1999	House of Commons	15:00		DCMS Oral Questions			Press Officer in the Gallery	DCMS Rod Watson 0171 211 6356
29/03/1999	Bristol	11:30	Bristol Zoo Millennium Awards	Launch of scheme	David Bellamy to launch scheme. Heather Couper to make speech.	The MC is investing lottery money in ordinary people doing extraordinary things. TA: National, local, regional and specialist press.	MC Press office and project press office to liaise.	Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
30/03/1999	House of Commons	11:00	CMS Select Committee	Publication of CMS Select Committee report on the UK Millennium celebrations	DCMS, Millennium Commission and NMEC will meet on the day to work up lines		CMS Select Committee is likely to hold a press conference	DCMS Rod Watson 0171 211 6356

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
31/03/1999	Edinburgh International Conference Centre		Millennium events - Edinburgh's Hogmanay Millennium	One day conference for Millennium event organisers	SoS CMS attending & speaking	Sharing best practice in this excellent forum will help ensure successful events/Millennium Festival is funding excellent events across UK, not just London TA: National/local/specialist press, local authorities/events organisers/ emergency services/general public	Millennium Commission is arranging SoS CMS visit Possible photocall/visit to local capital projects	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
Undated March Tentative	London		New Year's Eve 1999 London River Event	Announcement of Millennium Festival Funding (£1.8m) for the London River Event	Possible Nick Raynsford MP article in today's Evening Standard	Spectacular River Event for all Londoners/Steering Group chaired by Nick Raynsford is taking this forward/NMEC is lead partner and seeking sponsorship to enhance the Event	Millennium Commission Press Notice	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
03/04/1999 - 11/04/1999	Coventry			Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects		VIP/Press day 06/04/1999	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
w/c 05/04/1999 Tentative	Central London			Possible Festival sponsor announcement				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
07/04/1999	Nottingham & Coventry		Millennium Experience/Millennium Commission	Regional visit by Lord Falconer	Lord F will visit a Children's Promise event in Nottingham, and launch the Millennium Voyager press day in Coventry	Millennium is about wider celebrations and projects as well as the Dome TA: General public	Channel 4 film crew will accompany, regional media will be invited to photo opps. DCMS/MC/NMEC to liaise	DCMS Rod Watson 0171 211 6356
09/04/1999	Hull	10:30	Millennium cycle route is creating nearly 3,000 miles of cycle routes throughout the UK.	Ribbon cutting with majors from cities involved followed by a reception	John Prescott, Deputy PM invited.	By investing £43.5 million in the national cycle route the Millennium commission is creating a legacy which will provide a cleaner and greener future for us all. TA: TBC		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
10/04/99	Great Baddow, Essex	19:00	Great Baddow Community Centre	Opening	Mayor to attend	The MC will be supporting our communities by investing lottery money in the centre TA: regional, general public	The MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
12/04/1999 - 20/04/1999	Cardiff			Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects		VIP/Press day 13/04/1999	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
12/04/99	Nottingham	11:00	Millennium Festival Fund 2nd tranche - Awards for All	Announcement of small grants (under £5,000) for community Millennium activities available from Lottery Millennium Festival Fund	SoS CMS attending	Small grants will be available to community groups to apply for under the banner Millennium Festival - Awards for All. Brings together all the Lottery Distributors under one banner TA: National and regional media.		Lottery Distributors Morag Wood Mill. Comm 0171-880-2002
13/04/1999 Tentative	Yorkshire Dales		Woodlands opening ceremony	200 community woodlands throughout England & Wales	tbc	The Millennium Commission is encouraging environmental sustainability - one of our key themes. This project is one of a range of environmental initiatives around the United Kingdom. TA: local, regional and specialist press		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
15/04/1999	N Ireland		Sustainable Communities	Open day, raising awareness of scheme		MC is encouraging environmental sustainability by investing Lottery money in the project TA: Local media		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
18/04/1999	Ealing, London		St Barnabus Church Hall	Opening	Bishop of London attending	TA: local press and general public	MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Press Office

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
19/04/1999	Dome			Site visit of European Bank for Reconstruction & Development	Meeting sponsored by FCO			NMEC Jan Anderson 0171 808 8304
19/04/1999	UK		National Construction Week	National Construction Week will spotlight the benefits and significant progress it has made in the UK	Hanson PLc & Blue Circle sponsoring event	MC is investing £1.26 of lottery funds in a wide range of of construction projects TA: clients, young people, opinion formers and the industry itself		
21/04/99 - 22/04/99	London Arena			Thames Gateway Conference		Contribution of Dome to regeneration of Thames Gateway & inward investment TA: Regional media		GVC Andrew Parry 0181 305 3403
21/04/1999	Regent's Park, London		London Zoo Conservation Education Centre	Opening		TA: National, local media press, general public	MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
22/04/1999 - 29/04/1999	Caernarfon		Launch	Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects and Award schemes.	Voyager will take the mesage around the UK that the Millennium Commission Projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 22/04/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
undated April Tentative	To be arranged			Bidding for attendance on opening night will commence				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
undated April Tentative	East London			Lord Falconer to visit East London Millennium projects (and school?) at invite of Jim Fitzpatrick MP (Canning Town)	DCMS Millennium Unit & NMEC arranging			DCMS Duraid Silarbi 0171 211 6413
undated April Tentative	tbc		Millennium Seed Bank	Topping out ceremony		TA: National, regional, local and specialist press.		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
Spring 1999 Tentative	tba		JLE	Jubilee Line Trains run Stratford to N Greenwich				
1/05/1999 - 08/05/1999	Liverpool		Launch	Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects and Award schemes.	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and Opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 04/05/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
09/05/99	Dome			Transport of the Millennium Pier from the River Medway (where it's being welded together) to the Dome on the River Thames				NMEC David Trench

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
11/05/1999 - 19/05/1999	Belfast			Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects		VIP/Press day 12/05/1999	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
13/05/1999 Tentative	TBC			BT Future Talk Launch				NMEC Terence Gibbons 0171 808 8223
19/05/1999	Brancaster Mill. Centre, Norfolk		Brancaster Millennium Centre (MC grant of £370k) - a residential activity centre to be used by people of all ages and backgrounds involved in conservation	Opening	Graham Savage of MC will attend	MC is supporting our communities		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
19/05/1999	Meanwood Valley Urban Farm, Leeds		Meanwood Valley Urban Farm (MC grant of £175k) - project to develop an environmental centre designed as a local visitor attraction in an inner city area	Opening		MC is encouraging environmental sustainability TA: Regional media and general public		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
20/05/1999 - 28/05/99	Londonderry		Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects			VIP/press day 21/05/99	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
20/05/1999	Glasgow		Hampden Queens Park Football Club Scotland's 'Field of Dreams', Strathclyde	First Game	tbc	<p>The MC is revitalising our cities with lottery money. This project is one of a range of new initiatives which are developing our great cities.</p> <p>This is a landmark project - 1 of nearly 30 around the UK.</p> <p>TA: National, regional press.</p>		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
26/05/1999	London		Millennium Bug - NAO Report on public sector and the Bug	Publication of 3rd NAO Report on progress across central Govt. and wider public sector				Cabinet Office Kristian Armstrong 0171 238 0373
29/05/1999 Tentative	Edinburgh		Dynamic Earth	Official opening and press briefing	This is a landmark project - 1 of nearly 30 around the UK.	<p>The Millennium Commission is encouraging environmental sustainability - one of our key themes. This project is one of a range of environmental initiatives around the UK.</p> <p>TA: National, Regional Media, specialist press and General Public</p>		Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
undated May	tbc		Millennium Bug - Year 2000 Validation Exercise 'Operation Hydra'	Civil Contingencies Committee - organised an exercise with Home Secretary's involvement	Lord President's attendance tbc			

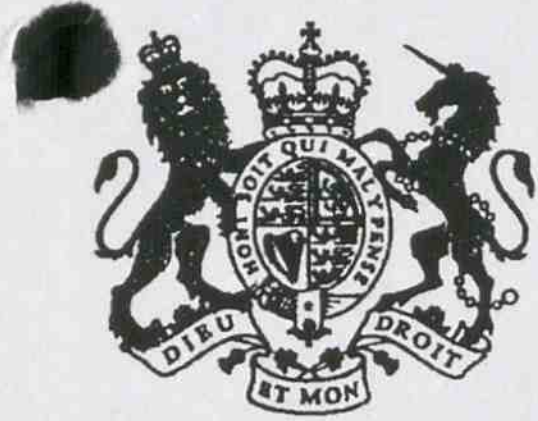
DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
undated May	tba			Announcement of Year 2000 telethon				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
undated May	tba			11th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
03/06/1999	London Zoo		The Millennium Conservation Centre	Opening	The Queen to attend	The MC is investing in education by investing lottery money in the Millennium Conservation Centre TA: National, regional, specialist press, General Public		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
08/06/1999 - 15/06/1999	Bristol	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the MC projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and Opinion	VIP/Press day 08/06/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
12/06/1999	UK		National Bike week					Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
14/06/1999	tba			200 days to go	Possible Central Show preview material			NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
17/06/1999 - 23/06/1999	Truro	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 17/06/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
22/06/1999	London		Millennium Greens (Countryside commission)	Parliamentary event	Chris Smith, MP to attend			Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
25/06/1999 Tentative	Yorkshire		Dales Environment	Summer ball	tbc	TA: local media		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0181 880 2007
26/06/1999 - 02/07/1999	Portsmouth	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch Open to the Public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 28/07/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
undated June Tentative	110 Buck. Palace Road			12th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
undated June Tentative	London			Economic Impact Assessment for Millennium Experience	Greenwich Council, English Partnerships & NMEC have commissioned this report	Good news on jobs/regeneration		GVC Andrew Parry 0181 305 3403

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
undated July	110 Buck. Palace Road			Annual Report and Accounts published			Press conference (tbc)	NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
undated August Tentative	110 Buck. Palace Road			14th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
Autumn 1999 Tentative	tba		JLE	JLE trains run Waterloo to Green Park				
22/09/1999	tba			100 days to go				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
Sept. - Dec. 1999	Nationwide		Millennium Bug	Minimal disruption (public confidence) - Action 2000 TV/press/radio campaign		TA: National/local press		Action 2000 Elizabeth Allen 0171 215 3976
Sept - Dec 1999	London		Millennium Bug - Seminars by Mike Mahony (HSE) re. Year 2000	Talks on training for industry health and safety specialists				HSE Mike Mahony 0171 717 6282
undated Sept. Tentative	tba			2nd Granada series begins				NMEC Fiona Cline 0171 808 8314
undated Oct. 1999	Nationwide		Millennium Bug	Action 2000 - general advice on domestic appliances, door drop and press		TA: National/local press		Action 2000 Elizabeth Allen 0171 215 3976
undated October Tentative	HSE		Launch of report of independent assessment by W H Atkins	Publication of 'Major Hazard Sites and the Millennium Problem'				HSE David Wilson 0151 951 4969
undated Oct.	tba			Party Conference receptions				

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
undated June Tentative	New Mill. Pier			Travel trade trip to New Mill. Pier				NMEC Jacinta Johnston 0171 808 8655
June/July Tentative	tba			TV and Outdoor advertising	2nd Phase tbc			NMEC Ruth Wicks 0171 808 8320
Summer 1999 Tentative	tba		JLE	JLE trains run N Greenwich to Waterloo				
05/07/1999 - 11/07/1999	London	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the MC projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion	VIP/Press day 05/07/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
July 1999	Co.Fermanagh		Kesh Boat park	opening		The MC will be supporting our communities by investing lottery money in the Kesh Boat park TA: Local media and general public.		Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
undated July	tba			Tickets go on sale				
undated July Tentative	110 Buck. Palace Road			13th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8308

DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
undated Dec. Tentative	tba			Travel Trade previews				
undated Dec. Tentative	tba			Consumer previews				
Late 1999 Tentative	tba			South Bank Show on the Central Show				NMEC Ross Cook 0171 808 8308
03/01/2000	Dome site			Festival "kick off"				
undated jan. Tentative	tba			Multi-part BBC documentary series about project begins	BBC			NMEC Fiona Cline 0171 808 8314



Minister of State,
Cabinet Office

CABINET OFFICE
70 Whitehall, London SW1A 2AS
Telephone: 0171-270 1250

Top-JP
CCDN
PJ

Marjorie Thompson
Director
Saatchi & Saatchi Cause Connection
80 Charlotte Street
LONDON
W1A 1AQ

24 March 1999

Dear Ms Thompson

Thank you for your letter of 19 March to Lord Falconer about Saatchi & Saatchi's work on the Council of Europe's "Globalisation Without Poverty" campaign.

Lord Falconer was very interested to read of your proposal for a Millennium Live Aid-style concert in the Dome on New Year's Eve. As you recognised in your letter, a meeting at such short notice is not going to be possible. Responsibility for the Dome opening event, as with the rest of its operation, lies with the New Millennium Experience Company (NMEC). As I explained on the phone, NMEC's plans are already well advanced and it will be difficult at this late stage to incorporate any new elements into the opening celebration on New Year's Eve.

In the circumstances, I think the best thing would be for you to speak to NMEC direct to discuss your plans. While, as I say, their own plans are at a near final stage, it might be worth exploring other ways in which your proposals might be incorporated.

The best people to contact are Sara Donaldson, NMEC's National Programme Director, who is responsible for the Children's Promise initiative, or Robert Warner, the Live Events Manager. Sara can be reached at NMEC's headquarters address - 110 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 9SB (tel: 0171 808 8641) - while Robert is based at their Greenwich office - Gate 1, Drawdock Road, Greenwich, London SE10 0BB (tel: 0181 293 8600).

I am copying this letter to Jonathan Powell (No10 Downing Street).

Yours sincerely

Mark Langdale

MARK LANGDALE
Private Secretary

JP 25/3

CC ✓ DN
PH
GS

- who deals with DCMS? Done?

Pls advise
urgently.

Anji.

23/3



MILLENNIUM EXPERIENCE

22 March 1999

Anji Hunter
Special Assistant
to the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1A 2AS

Dear Anji.

As promised, please find attached a draft paper giving outline details of the Public Nomination Scheme via the Media, produced by NMEC. This, as you know, is the method by which we will select the majority of the General Public category for the Dome Opening Celebration Guest List.

At previous meetings you and your colleagues have indicated that, in principle, you are happy with this method of 'allocating' tickets to the General Public. I would be grateful if you could confirm that this is the case, and that you are broadly in agreement with the approach outlined in the attached document.

I look forward to your comments.

Yours
Michael

Michael Lockett

CONFIDENTIAL - DRAFT

DOMES OPENING CELEBRATION

Public Nominations via the Media

1. Background

On 31 December 1999 the Dome will officially be opened by HM The Queen and Prince Philip. The celebrations will be televised worldwide, with the BBC as host broadcaster.

A minimum 50% of the total 10,000 tickets are to be made available for the public. The majority of those tickets will be made available to members of the public by a process of nomination via the media. The responsibility for how these tickets are allocated falls to the NMEC Promotions department, with all strategies and initiatives approved by the appropriate interested parties.

2. Objectives

- To ensure that the allocation of tickets within the general public category is as inclusive as possible (demographically, geographically and culturally) and is completely defensible.
- To reflect the Dome's positioning as the world's biggest and most exciting millennium celebration

3. Strategy

- Exploit the combined power of regional and national media to achieve the required inclusivity.
- Select the 'winners' via a nomination process based on the criteria of those who have most improved who we are, where we live and/or what we do - thus linking directly back to the brand essence of the Millennium Experience.
- An option will be given (when 'winners' are notified) to attend the DOC on 31 December 1999 or first official day of operation on 1 January 2000. This is line with all other guests.
- The prize 'package' will comprise the following tickets:
 - a) Winner + partner + children
 - OR
 - b) Winner + partner + 2 adults
 - OR
 - c) Winner + partner + 1 child + 1 adult

4. Modus Operandi

4.1 Phase I – Early May to Mid June 1999

4.1.i Regional Press

- A mailing will be sent on 30 April to 90 titles (as per proposed list in Appendix I) which have been selected firstly by circulation and secondly to ensure national coverage.
- The mailing will be sent via the Newspaper Society (NS), the trade body whose members are the regional newspapers. The NS runs a service called Featurelink which syndicates promotional features to all its members. NMEC has already committed to use Featurelink to encourage the newspapers to run advertorial features or supplements to mark 300, 200 and 100 days to go to 2000.
- The DOC feature information would be sent with the '200 days' mailing on 30 April (6 weeks ahead of 200 days to go) – this gives the newspapers time to prepare for the promotion and to attract local advertising to coincide with the feature. An embargo is set on publication of the feature.
- It is important that the DOC ticket initiative is not treated as overtly commercial although it needs to appeal sufficiently to the editors and commercial managers for it to be placed free of charge.
- By mailing the DOC ticket initiative via the NS will not only enforce credibility it will be received at the same time as another mailpiece from NMEC which does provide an advertising revenue opportunity.
- The DOC mailing will comprise:

A letter from NMEC (signed by Jennie Page) explaining the initiative including an invitation to trail the DOC feature which is embargoed until 10 May

A Millennium Experience information pack containing latest Dome and National Programme brochures, fact sheets and any current/recent press releases

A template for the DOC feature, highlighting the compulsory text of the rules and conditions of entry [for initial draft see Appendix II]

Approved visuals/photos (with credits) which may be used with the DOC feature

Request regarding any existing in-bound telephone systems and website address for handling of final voting.

- Newspapers will be requested to advise their acceptance (or refusal) fo the DOC feature – non-respondents will be followed up by NMEC Promotions by 5 May.
- From 10-29 May the DOC promotion may be published as many times as the newspaper editor desires – they will be encouraged to indicate to readers selected nominations or types of nominee received to date to provide inspiration to other readers.
- Entries will be posted by readers to a local address – either the newspaper office's or a promotional fulfillment house.
- The closing date for nominations will be 31 May.
- Inititally, entries will be sorted by quantity of votes received.
- A panel of judges (pre-agreed by NMEC) comprising for example the editor, local mayor and NMEC regional Partnership Manager will assess the entries according to one of more of the following criteria:

Has he/she improved who we are?

Has he/she improved where we live?

Has he/she improved what we do?

- Nominees will be assessed starting with the one with the highest number of nominations. If this person does not meet closely enough, in the opinion of the judges, one of the criteria above, the nominee with the next highest quantity of nominations will be assessed.
- This process will continue until 10 nominees have been selected. This decision should be reached by 11 June.

4.1.ii National Press

- On 24 April (250 days to go) a personalised letter (signed by Jennie Page?) will be sent in confidence to the editor of each of the 10 weekday national newspapers (as per Appendix III)
- The mailing will comprise an invitation to participate in the DOC public ticket initiative bu no template will be sent at this stage.
- The letter will need to indicate all media that are being invited to participate and the supporting rationale.

- The editors will be requested to reply confidentially in writing their acceptance or refusal to participate by 30 April. Non-respondents will be followed up by NMEC Promotions by 5 May.
- Upon receipt of each newspaper's acceptance to participate in the DOC initiative the template, visuals and other information (as described in 4.1.i above) will be issued to the editor.
- The procedure will be as for regional press as explained above in order to select the readers' top 10 nominees by 11 June.
- A similar panel of judges will need to be selected by the editor and approved by NMEC.

Phase II: 14 June to mid July

4.2.i Regional and National Press

- All editors will be sent 'their' results confidentially by 12 June. The top 10 nominees from the preliminary round of voting by regional and national newspaper readers will be announced on Monday 14 June, 200 days to go, in all participating titles.
- The papers will be encouraged to run daily features on each of the 10 candidates throughout the week commencing 14 June.

4.2.ii Regional ITV

- On 12 June the chief news editors at the 14 independent ITV companies (see Appendix IV) will be sent a letter (signed by Jennie Page) plus a news release outlining the DOC public ticket initiative and detailing the lists of 10 candidates relevant to their region [or they wish to run their own initial nomination process - tbc]
- The TV companies will be invited to run the final voting amongst their viewers from 14 June.
- The news editors will either be requested to select their own top 10 from the lists provided or to make a random draw of all those names put forward. Alternatively a further assessment could be made in conjunction with an independent panel of judges. The draw basis is probably the fairest and certainly the quickest option.
- As per the press, it is hoped that the regional ITV companies will run features on the 10 candidates – suggest 2 per day from 14-19 June inclusive. The only 'regional' element of ITV across the nation is the local news programme, which at a minimum takes place

after the national news bulletins at approximately 13h00, 18h00 and 11h00 (from 8 March).

- The BBC has not been proposed as it is highly unlikely that they would run such a promotion. However, consideration is being given to using the Lottery programme to announce the 'winners'.

4.2.iii Independent Local Radio

- The process will be the same as explained for ITV in 4.2.ii above although local radio stations' reach is far more targeted than regional ITV so it is anticipated that only one or two lists of top 10 candidates will need to be sent to each station.
- As with ITV, the radio station news editors would be encouraged to carry features on each of the top 10 candidates (whittled down as per ITV if necessary) during week commencing 14 June. The programming of each radio station is slightly different but it is anticipated that the features would most logically sit within a news or magazine style programme.

Final Voting

In all media, the final voting will be carried out by phone and e-mail.

By Phone

- Depending on the established systems of the participating media, it is anticipated that the voting by phone will operate as follows:
- Each titles and station will have its own premium rate voting phone number
- Voters are assured that their call will cost no more than XXp and that no profits will be made by either the publisher/broadcaster, BT or the Millennium Experience. The profits will instead go towards the transport and any necessary accommodation for the winners.
- Upon dialling the number, callers will then be asked to press 1,2,3 0 according to the candidate for whom they wish to vote. A pre-recorded message will acknowledge their vote and thank the caller for participating.
- (Optional) The above message could be extended to say "I do hope that you will visit the Dome in 2000, for information on tickets please phone "
- Votes can be made from 14 to 30 June.

All votes will be counted automatically via the telephone system and its operator will be asked to forward the results by registered post or by e-mail (with a secure password) to NMEC by 2 July.

By E-Mail

- The vast majority of participating media companies will operate their own website. The top 10 candidates' details would be featured on the website from 14-30 June and visitors will be invited to vote simply by clicking on the photo or text relating to their preferred candidate.
- Only one vote per website visitor will be permitted (TBC)
- The vote will be acknowledged and the visitor will be thanked – with the optional message regarding Dome visits as outlined under phone voting above.
- Similarly to the phone votes, the website server will automatically count the votes and the website editor will be asked to send the final results by e-mail, with a secure password, to NMEC by 2 July.

Announcement of Winners

- A news release will be sent to all participating media companies, with a personalised element detailing 'their' winners.
- A strict embargo of 12 July will be applied on publication of the winners.
- Simultaneously a personalised letter, signed by Jennie Page, will be sent to all winners offering them congratulations, detailing their prize, advising them of the option of
- 1 January ticket if preferred and guidelines for accompanying guests.
- 'Runners up' will receive tickets for the First Day.
- Winners will be requested to notify their choice of prize and to provide names and necessary details of people attending by end July.
- Official invitations will be despatched on 1 November.

PROPOSED SUMMARY OF DOC TICKETS BY PUBLIC NOMINATIONS VIA MEDIA

Regional Press

90 titles

5 tickets per title x 4 (optimum number of accompanying guests)

= 1800

Regional TV

14 stations

5 tickets per station x 4 = 280

National Press

10 weekday titles

10 tickets x 4 = 400

Local Radio

40 stations

5 tickets x 4 = 800

APPENDICES

- I Regional Newspapers – 90 titles to received DOC mailing
- II [Initial draft copy for DOC promotional feature to be supplied to participating newspapers]
- III National Newspapers – 10 weekday titles to receive DOC mailing
- IV Regional ITV Companies to receive DOC news release on 12 June

APPENDIX I: Regional Daily Papers – Geographical and Circulation

	Circulation	Readership
Northern Scotland (Shetland Islands, Orkney Islands, Western Isles, Highland, Grampian, Tayside, Skye)		
Aberdeen Press & Journal (15)	108,027	274,656
Dundee Courier & Advertiser (4)	103,466	268,930
Aberdeen Evening Express (31)	69,046	166,085
Dundee Evening Telegraph (19)	35,458	95,734
Central Scotland (Highland, Strathclyde, Central, Fife, Lothian)		
The Scotsman (26)	77,663	204,366
The Daily Record (2)	733,033	
The Herald (13)	111,542	
Paisley Daily Express (70)	8,333	25,796
Ed. Evening News (5)	86,903	214,152
Glas. Evening Times (10)	138,066	363,435
Greenock Telegraph	21,000	50,366
Border (Borders, Northumberland, Dumfries & Galloway, Cumbria, Isle of Man)		
Carlisle News and Star	26,633	73,249
North East (Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, Durham, Cleveland, North Yorkshire)		
The Northern Echo (Darlington) (29)	26,633	73,249
The (Newcastle) Journal (39)	72,053	204,363
The Mail (Hartlepool) (69)	26,240	57,608
Middlesborough Evening Gazette (32)	67,291	178,091
Evening Chronicle (12)	119,334	283,555
South Shields Gazette (72)	24,750	73,223
Sunderland Echo (37)	59,177	155,908
Lancashire (Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Derbyshire, Cheshire, Clwyd)		
Liverpool Daily Post (30)	73,013	203,019
North West Evening Mail	20,827	51,059
Lancashire Evening Telegraph (48)	45,787	120,689
West Lancashire Evening Gazette (51)	41,391	120,438

Bolton Evening News (48)	43,837	112,888
Liverpool Echo (9)	165,670	494,423
Manchester Evening News (8)	183,543	545,017
Oldham Evening Chronicle	34,672	89,034
Lancashire Evening Post (42)	52,664	170,252
Wrexham Evening Leader	32,161	

Wales and the West (Gwynedd, Clwyd, Powys, Dyfed, West Glamorgan, Mid Glamorgan, South Glamorgan, Gwent, Gloucestershire, Avon, Wiltshire, Somerset)

Western Daily Press (35)	61,885	169,740
Western Mail (36)	60,641	159,266
Bath Evening Chronicle (77)	17,610	48,392
Bristol Evening Post (22)	87,536	226,840
South Wales Echo (24)	80,326	233,053
South Wales Argus (52)	38,143	119,046
South Wales Evening Post (33)	67,034	192,526

Midlands (Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Buckingham shire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Shropshire, Hereford and Worcester, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands, Wiltshire)

The Birmingham Post (67)	28,073	77,252
Birmingham Evening Mail (7)	197,677	489,102
Burton Daily Mail	19,940	58,743
Gloucestershire Echo (68)	27,028	70,127
Coventry Evening Telegraph (22?)	85,027	201,978
Derby Evening Telegraph (37)	67,878	170,602
Gloucestershire Citizen (54)	36,740	92,717
Leicester Mercury (13)	117,028	317,054
Nottingham Evening Post (16)	97,070	292,424
Nuneaton Heartland Evening News		
Oxford Mail (56)	34,100	90,772
Stoke-on-Trent Evening Sentinel (20)	96,095	250,450
Swindon Evening Advertiser (71)	25,755	62,125
Telford Shropshire Star (18)	95,772	263,696
West Midlands Express & Star (6)	206,314	622,800
Worcester Evening News (74)	23,736	62,810

Yorkshire (North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Humberside, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire)

Yorkshire Post (27)	76,771	
Bradford Telegraph and Argus (39)	56,776	148,043
Grimsby Evening Telegraph (45)	47,657	116,246
Halifax Evening Courier (59)	31,937	80,068
Huddersfield (54)	37,820	97,073
Hull Daily Mail (21)	92,264	227,910
Yorkshire Evening Post (16)	102,290	262,563
Lincolnshire Evening Echo (62)	30,519	80,906
Scarborough Evening News (78)	17,043	40,193
Scunthorpe Evening Telegraph (72)	24,810	62,878
Sheffield Star (20)	94,833	302,930
Yorkshire Evening Press (50)	43,128	105,401

East of England (Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Suffolk, Hertfordshire, Essex)

East Anglian Daily Times (44)	49,029	158,611
Eastern Daily Press (25)	79,880	215,949
Cambridge Evening News	43,087	112,366
Colchester Evening Gazette (66)	29,311	79,255
Ipswich Evening Star (61)	31,420	80,508
Northamptonshire Evening Telegraph (56)	36,118	100,422
Northampton Chronicle and Echo (64)	29,672	75,131
Norwich Evening News (52)	40,449	87,598
Peterborough Evening Telegraph (65)	29,518	74,593

London (Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex, Greater London, West Sussex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey Hampshire)

Basildon Evening Echo (47)	46,072	107,980
Evening Standard (4)	447,053	

South (Dorset, Wiltshire, Isle of Wight, Hampshire, Berkshire, West Sussex, East Sussex, Kent, Guernsey, Jersey)

Bournemouth Evening Echo (46)	46,797	132,220
Brighton Evening Argus (1)		
Guernsey Evening News	15,934	46,036
Jersey Evening Post	23,013	
Kent Today	22,924	60,615
Portsmouth News (28)	75,163	217,993
Reading Evening Post (75)	23,036	55,172

Southern Daily Echo (34) 64,101 159,538

South West (Cornwall, Devon, Dorset)

Plymouth Western Morning News (43) 50,057 123,407

Exeter Express & Echo (60) 31,617 70,457

Plymouth Evening Herald (40) 55,125 153,335

Torquay Herald Express (63) 29,772 85,219

Dorset Evening Echo (76) 21,135 51,951

Northern Ireland (Londonderry, Tyrone, Fermanagh, Antrim, Armagh, Down)

Belfast Irish News 45,906

Belfast News Letter (58) 99,469

Belfast Telegraph (11) 136,787

90 titles 6.4m total

APPENDIX III

Weekday Title	Approx circulation in Jan 99
Daily Mail	2.3m
Daily Star	0.6m
Daily Telegraph	1.0m
Express	1.1m
Financial Times	0.4m
Guardian	0.4m
Independent	0.2m
Mirror	2.3m
Sun	3.7m
Times	0.7m
10 titles	12.7m

APPENDIX IV

Regional ITV Companies

Anglia Television	East of England
Border Television	Borders and Isle of Man
Carlton Television	London
Central Independent Television	East, West and South Midlands
Channel Television	Channel Islands
Grampian Television	North of Scotland
Granada Television	North West England
HTV Cymru Wales/HTV West	Wales and the West of England
Meridian Broadcasting	South and South East England
Scottish Television	Central Scotland
Tyne Tees Television	North East England
Ulster Television	Northern Ireland
Westcountry Television	South West England
Yorkshire Television	Yorkshire



Minister of State
Cabinet Office

PERSONAL

f

✓ cc Pu

Prime Minister

Angus has written to Jennie Page emphasising that you were pleased with her account yesterday, but want to stay on top of progress on the few key zones.

PRIME MINISTER

cc Alastair Campbell
David North
Peter Hyman

David N. ✓

THE MILLENNIUM EXPERIENCE: PROGRESS NOTE

Construction

Project still within budget. Construction is broadly on time, with some individual contracts ahead of schedule and some a little behind. Nothing to worry about as yet.

Contents of Dome

You heard Jennie Page's account. You know my concerns about populism. I think the meeting was very useful because it involved Jennie Page in the build-up to it committing herself to the outside producers.

Jubilee Line Extension

The latest read-out from John Reid's office is: Tunncliffe and Mumm met HM Railway Inspectorate this week, who are saying that clearance of Phase 1 may take 1 to 2 weeks longer than anticipated. Mumm has told Reid that he believes that HMRI are being over-cautious about the timetable and he is still aiming for completion in the w/c 23 April.

Lord Simpson has discussed Marconi's software problems with Sir Richard Mottram, and pledged to try to resolve them as quickly as possible. While there have been genuine software problems, anecdotal evidence suggests that to make matters worse Marconi has not been managing the project particularly well, for example by sending components through the standard post rather than courier.

PERSONAL

As far as Phases 2 and 3 are concerned, the electricians' productivity is being sustained at an average of 110% (range from 98 to 122%). However, the HMRI has flagged up the possibility that gaining authorisation might be a more complex task than LU has anticipated. In particular, the linking of Green Park to Waterloo (Phase 3), has been identified as potentially taking longer than scheduled. John Reid had always assured me that the HMRI would not be problem, so I am concerned to hear this. I am also concerned that Phase 3 is still being seen as a optional extra rather than essential. I will be taking these matters up with John next week.

Ticketing

The launch of the ticket prices was mixed. We have got strong messages - 1m free tickets for schoolchildren; £11.40 per head for family groups; cheap all-inclusive travel packages - but some elements of the press have concentrated on the comparatively high individual adult price and also focused on the individual senior citizen price. I think the more we can do to explain to people just what they will get for their money, the easier it will be to justify the prices.

Political

We need to solve the Church problem as soon as possible. The Archbishop has written to me: I will respond with the aim of clinching a deal next week.

Media strategy and sponsorship

No firm date yet on meeting the £150m target. I have asked NMEC to make sure that you have the option of announcing it once we're there.

Mark Lygo

CHARLES FALCONER

19 March 1999

*Approved by the Minister in draft
and signed in his absence*

From my Northern Echo I can see there is still hope of (a) the clearance of (a) the fare (no fare payers money is involved) there is a return on the money; (b) the deal on offer. We need p. 20

a regional men strategy
where articles are written
about the same. And fake
facts submitted.

(f)

From: Laura Hester
Date: 18 March 1999

OWEN BARDER
DAVID MILIBAND
ALUN EVANS
DAVID PEEL
FIONA MILLAR
SUE GOODCHILD

~~David Postle~~

Lee can } any
can } ideas?
Ove

MILLENNIUM LECTURE ON WEALTH CREATION - 27 MAY 1999

I am writing to confirm that the meeting to discuss the guest list for the Wealth Creation lecture will take place on Wednesday 24 March at 4.30 pm in the Study. Please allow half an hour.

I am attaching copies of suggested names submitted by DTI and DFEE along with some additional requests.

bt 24/3

Janna

Mr	Jeremy	White	Chairman and Chief Executive	NETTEC plc	1 Hanover Street	
Mr	David	Potter	Chairman	PSION	1 Red Place	
Ms	Hilary	Cropper	Chief Executive	FI Group PLC	Campus 300	Marylands Avenue
Ms	Liz	Smith	Head	TUC North West Region	Transport House	Islington
Mr	Mike	Hadgraft	Chairman	Ford Motor Co Ltd	Trafford House	40/107 Station Way
Mrs	Ann	Adlington	Managing Partner	Triple "A" Animal Hotel and Care Centre	Follingsby Lane	West Boldon
Ms	Frederique	Bosvieux		CBI	Centre Point	103 New Oxford Street
Mr	Tony	Welch	Director of Human Resources	Galliford UK Ltd	Wolvey	
Professor		Layard	Department of Economics	London School of Economics	Room 462	Houghton Street
Ms	Anne	Wright	Chief Executive	University for Industry	The Innovation Centre	217 Portobello Street
Professor	Mike	Campbell	Director of Institute of Policy Research	Leeds Metropolitan University	Leeds Business School	18 Queens Square
Professor	Richard	Pring	Director of Dept Educational Studies	University of Oxford	15 Norham Gardens	

DFEE

MAIN

John	Cushnagha	Managing Director	Nissan Motor Manufacturers	Sunderland
Chris	Beasley		DFEE	Sheffield
John	Bridge	Chair	North East Development Agency	Newcastle Upon Tyne
Jan	Hall	Partner	Spencer, Stuart, & Associates	London
Brian	Smith	Managing Director	Lite-on	Ashington
Chris	Drew		Northern Informatics Applications	Sunderland
Ruth	Thompson	Chair	Business Link Tyneside	Gateshead
Peggy	Dannenbaum			London
Jim	Braithwaite	Chief Executive	XL Entertainment plc	Chichester
John	Harwood		LGA	London
Jacky	Stevens		BL Hampshire	Fareham
Alex	Pratt		Sunalex Ltd	Bierton
Alun	Anderson	New Scientist	Reed Business Information Ltd	London
Kevin	Brown	Industrial Editor	Financial Times	London
David	Gow	Business News Editor	The Guardian	London
Paul	Carlake	The Engineer	Miller Freeman UK	London
Matthew	Rock	Real Business	Caspian Publishing Limited	London
Tim	Jones	Managing Director	National Westminster Bank	London
Malcolm	Taylor	Managing Director	Bridgeport Machines Ltd	
John	Banham		West Country Management	London
Peter	McPartland		Schroeder Ventures	London
Brian	Follett	Vice-Chancellor	The University of Warwick	Coventry
Nicholas	La Thangue	Department of Biochemistry	University of Glasgow	Glasgow
Melanie	Lee		Celltech	Slough
Pamela	Castle	Head, Enviromental Group	Cameron McKenna	London
John	Kay	Director	Saïd Business School	Oxford
Danny	Quah	Economics Department	London School of Economics	London
Tony	Brown OBE	Chief Executive	Bisley Office Equipment	Woking
Kalpesh	Solanki	Managing Director	Asian Trade Publications	London
Ian	Dudson	Managing Director	The Dudson Group	Stoke on Trent
Bevan	Braithwaite	Chief Executive	TWI	Cambridge
Bob	Keown	Managing Director	Beta Technology Ltd	Sheffield
Simon	Frost	Managing Director	FHL	Bristol
Garel	Rhys OBE	Cardiff Business School	University of Wales	Cardiff
Sue	Brownson		Bluebell Garages Ltd	Wilmslow
John	Sorrell	Chairman	Interbrand Newell and Sorrell	London

Full address on
Hard Disc

See on Lecturer

NO.541 P.2

DTI SECRETARY OF STATE OFFICE

8. MAR. 1999 17:38

DTI

DTI

MAIN

Eric	Luckwell	Managing Director	Datalink Electronics Ltd	Loughborough
Perween	Warsi	Managing Director	S&A Foods Ltd	Derby
Georgina	James	Managing Director	Ritter Ltd	Felsted
Nick	Reilly	Chairman & Managing Director	Vauxhall Motors Ltd	Luton
Mike	Gregory	Head of Manufacturing Division	Cambridge University	Cambridge
Shaz	Khan	Sales Director	Kensal Ltd	Luton
Chris	Rea		AES Engineering Ltd	Rotherham
Doug	Liversidge		Quest Investments	Sheffield
Jenny	Richards-St	Joint Chief Executive	Gremlin Group PLC	Sheffield
Ian	Hunter	Director	Smith Kline Beecham International	Brentford
Hugh	Facey	Gripple Ltd	The Old West Gun Works	Sheffield
Philip	Extance	Chief Executive and Managing Dir	Rapra Technology Ltd	Shrewsbury
Chris	Mathias	Chairman	Conduit Communications	London
Phil	Blackburn		The Inspiration Group	London
Cliff	Hardcastle	Chairman & Chief Executive	Densitron International PLC	Westerham
Geoff	Vincent	Partner	Mediation Technology	Brighton
Louis	Shewood	Chairman	HTV West	Bristol
Peter	Gripaios	Director	South West Economy Centre	Plymouth
David	McMurty	Chairman & Chief Executive	Renishaw Plc	Wotton Under Edge
Nick	Park	Managing Director	Aardman Animations Ltd	Bristol
Kelvin	Derrick	Managing Director	Hamworthy KSE Group Ltd	Poole
Rob	Margetts		ICI Group Headquarters	London
Joe	Blaker			Beaconsfield
David	Brown	Chairman	Motorola UK	Slough
Gill	Samuels	Head of Science Policy	Pfizer Ltd	Sandwich
Peter	Cochrane	Head of Research	BT Networks and Systems	Ipswich
Masaki	Miyaji	Managing Director	Mitsubishi Corporation (UK) PLC	London
John	Stopford	International Professor of Busines	London Business School	London
Gordon	Mackie		British Aerospace	London
Arun	Singh OBE		Masons Solicitors	London
Caroline	Barker	Finance Director	Videcom International Ltd	Henley on Thames

NO. 541

DTI SECRETARY OF STATE OFFICE

8. MAR. 1999 17:39

P. 4

Mrs

RESERVE

John	Golding	Chairman	Hewlett Packard	Bracknell
Michael	Lickiss	Chairman	SW Regional Development Agency	Bristol
Bryan	Sanderson		BP Amoco	London
Don	Cameron	Managing Director	Cameron Balloons Ltd	Bristol
Ian	Fraser		The Director	London
N	Scheele	Chairman and Executive	Jaguar Cars Ltd	Coventry
Colin	Galbraith	Managing Director	Nationwide Produce Plc	Spalding
Susan	Kingsman	Director of Research	Oxford Biomedica (UK) Ltd	Oxford
Jonathan	Karn	Chief Scientific Officer	Ribo Targets plc	Cambridge
Dave	Richards	Managing Director	Prodrive Ltd	Banbury
Hermann	Hauser	Director	Amadeus Capital Partners Ltd	Cambridge
Christine	Soden	Finance Director	Chiroscience plc	Cambridge
Ian	Armitage	Private Equity Division	Mercury Asset Management Group	London
James	Barker	Gartland, Walley & Barker	Crosley House	Halifax
JD	Rhodes	Filtronic Comtek PLC	The Waterfront	Shipley
Amir	Bhatia	Chairman	The Forbes Trust	London
Yvonne	Thompson	Director	Choice FM	London
Steve	Bland	Research Manager	Epitaxial Products International Ltd	Cardiff
Tony	Raven	Managing Director	Diomed Ltd	Cambridge
Sarah	Chambers	Central Directorate	Department of Trade and Industry	London

Full address on
Hard disc

Additional Requests for the Wealth Creation Millennium Lecture on 17 May

Stephen Byers MP

Mr A.C. Robinson (Chief Executive of Small Firms Enterprise Development Initiative) could not come in January and would like to be considered for May Lecture or July (education)

Mr Geoff Fulford
Supply Chain Director
Elida Farberge

could not attend on 27 January and would like to come on 17 May

Please note that Danny Tyson QuaH (11 March) is also down for this one - he thought he should have come to the May one

Memo

To

Angus Lapsley

DAVID

cc: JPO

Cc

From

Gez Sagar

Date

19 March 1999

Ref

Regional Press Coverage: Millennium Experience



I am attaching some examples of regional press coverage, which you said you'd be interested in seeing when we met recently.

The file is about five inches thick, so this is just a selection.

Re the trip to Scotland - thanks for everything you did to make the statement for the video link happen. It was extremely well-received at the Dome event.

I just wish it had been better received in the Daily Record, and I wish someone had read the briefing notes I sent across to you about the content of the event! I've been trying to warm up the Record since and today's headline price for a Scots family's trip to the Dome is £136, which is better than the £300 on the front page two weeks ago. (Although in the body copy for today's story it's gone up to £400.)

The reporter on the Record actually asked me: "So the Government isn't going to pay people's hotel bills and train fares?"

Jennie mentioned that you are moving on in the near future - so thanks very much for all your help and advice re the Dome and for being a human being in all our dealings re media announcements. Good luck at the next dept (FCO?)

Gez

Glasgow Daily Record
Circulation 714,636
19.3.99

p. 23

1/2

HOME FROM HOME: But the Dome could be too dear for many Scots families

£136 COST OF VISITING THE DOME

...and that doesn't include food, drink, board and connections

A SCOTS family of four will have to shell out at least £136 to visit the Millennium Dome by train, it was revealed yesterday.

And that's before the cost of hotel rooms, food, ancillary travel and other expenses are added on.

It means a visit to Greenwich, London, for a typical Scots family from Glasgow, would work out at around £400.

But it could be more for anyone who has to travel to Glasgow first, or from anywhere else in Scotland.

Organisers of the Millennium Experience were rounded on by consumer watchdogs and the SNP over the prices.

A family ticket will cost £57 with the cheapest rail fare for four costing £79 from Glasgow.

The National Consumers Council said it was too much and called for children to be admitted for nothing.

A spokeswoman said: "Even in comparison to other exhibitions on in London it does seem very

By **SHAUN MILNE**

expensive. I would have thought it was a distinct possibility that people could be priced out of going at all.

"It does seem high especially as the Government is going out now and saying all museums should be free.

"It is good that educational tours are going to be free but they should extend that to all children."

Prime Minister Tony Blair backed out of revealing discounted rail fares for Scots earlier this month.

SNP spokesman Kevin Pringle said: "The Dome has become a laughing stock along with the people responsible for it.

Idea

"The Government made a big play of saying it was going to be for the people, but it's not. It is for a very small number of individuals who had the idea in the first place."

The standard single adult ticket for the £758million Dome will cost £20.

Senior citizens will be charged £18 to get in while those on Jobseekers' Allowance will pay £12.

Free entry will be granted to children on organised tours but that concession

will be restricted to those aged between eight and 16.

Visitors leaving from Glasgow will pay £79 return for a party of four on Virgin trains, £50 return each via Scotrail as part of a B&B deal or £83.90 travel only for two adults and three children.

Other rail companies are expected to put packages together.

National Express are to offer tickets and travel to London from anywhere in Britain for £29.99.

Chief executive of the Dome project, Jennie Page, said: "The prices are extremely good value.

"We have deliberately structured our ticket prices to favour group visits so that the biggest discounts are offered to people coming with family and friends."

"Now that we have announced our ticket prices, other travel operators will be announcing their special millennium deals shortly."

Tickets will not go on sale until September 22 although some packages are already available.

Admission-paying members of the public will first be allowed through the doors on January 2 2000, and the Dome will be open every day after that until December 31 2000.

MILLENNIUM EXPERIENCE

selection of regional press cuttings

1 Millennium Festival

2 Millennium Youth Council

3 Voices of Promise

4 Children's Promise

5 SchoolNet 2000

6 Millennium Show

7 Jobs/General

1 Millennium Festival

LOTTERY GRANTS: Variety of projects will benefit

Wales gets more than £6m to celebrate millennium

MORE than £6m has been awarded to Wales to help it celebrate the new millennium.

The money was handed out as part of yesterday's launch of the Millennium Festival.

The festival is a partnership between the Lottery distributors in Wales and the New Millennium Experience Company.

The biggest windfall – £600,000 – was given to the Cardiff Millennium Festival Project.

The money will be used by Cardiff County Council to fund a series of high-profile community events, including arts, crafts and sports.

Swansea is also celebrating after being awarded £180,000 to help fund its year-long millennium festivities.

Events being organised as part of the Swansea 2000 project involve arts, history, sports and the environment.

Among the other successful schemes is a festival of international theatre and performance, called Restless Gravity, which has received £100,000.

And The Gateway Project, which

KAREN PRICE

aims to provide easier access to Wales's historic park and garden heritage, was given a £113,000 grant.

It was not just arts projects which received awards.

The Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults has been awarded £153,318 to develop a network of family and personal support teams for people with learning disabilities in West Wales.

Dr Kim Howells, the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, announced the Welsh awards.

He said, "The new millennium stirs the imagination, giving us a real opportunity to bring about change for the good. The Millennium Festival is all about helping local groups to fulfil their hopes.

"The successful activities are those which show a blend of colour, extravaganza, serious reflection and community support that will fire the imagination of the people of Wales."

THE HERALD
 PY. 23/2/99

Dewar launches £5.5m funding package

JILL STEVENSON

SCOTTISH Secretary Donald Dewar yesterday announced a £5.5m package of millennium funding to be spent in Scotland.

The grants, part of a UK-wide £53.7m, will be used to mark the year 2000 and beyond. More than 100 projects from Shetland to Dumfries were among the first recipients of the Scottish awards, which has a total fund of £10.4m.

Speaking at a ceremony in Pollokshields Burgh Hall, where he outlined the funding, Mr Dewar said: "If the millennium is to mean anything lasting for Scots, it must be a source of inspiration and a focus for change. We want people to discover new strengths and improve the quality of their lives and their shared sense of community."

Referring to previous Millennium Fund projects such as the Glasgow Science Centre and Hampden Park, Mr Dewar added: "This is an opportunity to unlock our educational strengths, improve our environment and the quality of life in particular areas."

Groups chosen for the first round of awards submitted proposals for events as diverse as the World Curling Championships in Renfrewshire, a Gaelic Screen Festival in Dunoon, the Gordon clan gathering in Huntley, and a mini-millennium festival in Unst, Shetland.

Scottish Borders Council picked up £30,000 for its travelling childhood museum. Exhibits include a wooden Spitfire carved by a German PoW held in captivity locally, a copy of a 1957 Dandy comic, and an assortment of sweets from candy cigarettes to Gala' soor plums.

Assistant curator Shona Sinclair said: "It's based on the idea of what it was like to be a child during this century. We'll be stopping off at schools throughout the district and the items will be retained well into the next century for our children's grandchildren."

Glasgow-based Raindog Productions received £130,000 to stage a trilogy of Edward Morgan plays re-telling the story of Jesus Christ.

Former Eastenders actress Caroline Paterson, who has taken

seen as controversial and not to some people's tastes."

Scottish Youth Dance aims to train up 500 budding stars aged 14 to 25 during a "creativity week" to be followed by a festival performance at Stirling's MacRobert Arts Centre in July 2000.

Admin director Judy Adams, who was delighted with their £95,000 award said: "It's not just about dance but helping youngsters achieve in other parts of their life, too, such as communicating with friends and learning about team building."

"Part of the scheme will involve an outreach programme with visits to schools in deprived areas."

The housebound and mentally ill will benefit from the £14,000 given to the Midlothian Befriending Scheme.

Co-ordinator Sylvia West said: "The grant means we'll be able to take more people out on social occasions such as a visit to the theatre, or outings for community events. It also means we'll be able to add to our current staff and perhaps start up some craft groups, getting people out and meeting others."

Financial contributions for the Scottish Millennium Festival Fund came from the five main Lottery distributing bodies in Scotland - the Scottish Arts Council, Scottish Sports Council, the Millennium Commission, the National Heritage Memorial Fund, and the National Lotteries Charities Board.

Other projects seeking grants of less than £5000 will be considered for a second round of applications in the spring.

The Millennium Fund received 35,000 requests for funding in Scotland and 55 million throughout the UK.

Workshop aims for millennium

Community groups in line for cash

By ROSEY HAMILTON

COMMUNITY groups aiming to mark the millennium in a big way were given welcome news at Huddersfield Town Hall.

Grants from £500 to £5,000 are on offer to help with projects, the meeting heard.

Application forms will be distributed by the New Millennium Experience Company — created by the government to award grants from a combination of National Lottery and private funding — in late April.

The first awards will be announced in September 1999 and applications will be accepted until September 2000.

Delegates from charities, art and community groups, sporting organisations and educational projects joined in workshops at the town hall.

Kirklees Council official Helen Heaton explained that the event aimed to help community organisations plan their celebrations.

"As a council, we are trying to give out advice and information to get people started on the planning process," she said.

"People will be doing things they don't normally do to mark the millennium and many groups are well on their way."

Chris Smith from the NMEC's Yorkshire base in Sheffield, said the grants would be available to non-



Sound advice ... from the New Millennium Experience Company's Chris Smith (left), Helen Heaton of Kirklees Council and Richard Brooker, the council's head of leisure and recreation (24/1/99)

profit making organisations.

Voluntary organisations whose income is less than £15,000 a year are the prime target.

Richard Brooker, the council's head of leisure and recreation services, was delighted with the response to the event, with over 90 delegates attending.

He said: "We hope that from the advice available today, organisations will be better able create a memorable series of events to celebrate the millennium across Kirklees."

For further information on the scheme contact 0870 600 2000

*Hudders Daily Examiner
14/1/99*

We're in the money

Partnership members get cash awards

LEICESTERSHIRE will be a great place to be in the Year 2000 thanks to the Millennium Festival's decision to pump hundreds of thousands of pounds into the county to help celebrations.

Leicester City Council and Leicestershire County Council are among 23 county organisations to be granted large cash awards by Millennium Festival organisers NMEC - the organisation behind the Millennium Dome in Greenwich.

Both authorities are members of the 77-strong Leicestershire and Rutland Millennium Partnership which is being spearheaded by the Leicester Mercury.

The partnership was launched last year to enable businesses, local authorities and other key organisations to work together and make the county a better place to live in the 21st century.

Leicester City Council has been awarded a £100,000 grant for its Leicester Festival 2000.

The city will reverberate to a string of new and different events throughout millennium year.

And well-established events like the Abbey Park Festival will be bigger and better thanks to the Millennium Festival funding.

City council Head of Business Development Jennifer Tillotson said: "We are very pleased with the announcement and equally pleased for all the other organisations in the county whose bids were successful."

"A lot of Leicester Festival 2000 activities happen already but we hope to bring in new audiences and make sure all the events run in a cohesive way

"We want a real festival feel to the whole city for the whole year."

The county council has been awarded a £75,000 for its Connecting

People initiative.

The three-pronged project aims to create an archive of Leicestershire as a lasting legacy for future generations.

Head of Museums Heather Broughton said: "Every community in the county is being asked to choose an object which it feels represents the millennium.

"If that community is a factory it might be a product manufactured there.

"If it is a school it might want to create a work of art."

The objects would be on display for a year and then archived and loaned out in the future.

"It will be a unique collection," said Mrs Broughton. "There will be nothing like it anywhere else in the country."

Environ, Leicester's green charity, is to achieve its ambition of staging a festival in celebration of wind power and solar energy.

It has received an £80,350 award from the Millennium Commission.

Environ communications co-ordinator Oliver Savage said: "We are delighted. We have been trying to get this festival off the ground for five years and money has always been a stumbling block."

The three-day event will take place in Leicester next summer.

Environ is using some of its cash award to set up a training programme to raise the awareness of energy efficiency in the home.

Raw Talent 2000, a Leicester Promotions initiative which encourages young people to get involved with arts, is receiving a £20,000 grant.

Project leader Robin Pointon said: "Raw Talent will be in its third year in 2000 and this funding will enable the project to double in size and provide opportunities for 1,000 young people to learn new artistic skills."

The young people will then give top-quality street performances in Leicester city centre and also go on tour.



OLIVER SAVAGE:
Delighted by award



ROBIN POINTON:
Opportunities

City takes art at £1.7m Millennium extravaganza boost

By CHARISSE EDE
and TERRY GRIMLEY

The Birmingham Post

Birmingham's millennium arts celebrations have won an extra £600,000 thanks to a campaign by *The Post*.

The campaign has forced the Millennium Commission to increase its grant to Birmingham's Towards the Millennium celebrations.

The £1.7 million grant, to be announced by Heritage Secretary Mr Chris Smith during a visit to Birmingham today, is better than the £1.1 million the Commission hoped to get away with – but well short of the city's original expectations of £6.7 million.

It was alleged by Birmingham City Council and MPs that the Millennium Commission was snubbing the second city once again.

But despite the shortfall, leisure chiefs are confident they will still be able to stage the culmination of the ten-year festival, which includes 37 organisations ranging from the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and Birmingham Royal Ballet to youth and community groups.

Sixty three festivals in the West Midlands will share £4.3 million in grants of £5,000 or more to stage Millennium community events.

The grants are part of a £100 million joint fund

involving various charities, including the UK Lottery Distributors, the Arts Councils, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Lottery Charities Board and the Millennium Commission.

The funding is separate to the £449 million the Government has allocated to the Millennium

Dome project and a national programme of events.

West Midland recipients include Coventry and Warwickshire Promotions, which is expected to receive £80,000 to stage the Spirit of Coventry 2000 festival, and the Belgrade Theatre which is set to receive £100,000.



Flashback: How *The Post* revealed anger at the original grant in December.

Mr Anthony Sargent, Birmingham Council's head of arts and entertainment, said organisers of Towards the Millennium had known for some time that they would receive about one quarter of the sum originally asked for, so were able to go back over the project and adjust things accordingly.

Mr Sargent said that squeezing out participating organisations had never been an option.

All but one of those originally involved in the project are still taking part, but plans for first-time participation by Motionhouse and Claire Russ dance companies and the National Brass Band Championships had been dropped.

City of Birmingham Touring

Opera, which had hoped to commission a large community opera, pulled out of the project due to the funding shortfall.

Hall Green Labour MP, Mr Steve McCabe, who was critical of the funding shortfall last year, said the increase was good progress.

"I can't think of anyone who's ever satisfied with the amount of money they are given, but I think the main thing is that there's been a bit of progress," he said.

High profile new works include four new compositions for the CBSO, and a two-part ballet based on Arthurian legend from Birmingham Royal Ballet.



Do you have any special millennium memories? Share them with JANET DEVLIN by writing to her at the Belfast Telegraph, 124 Royal Avenue, Belfast BT1 1EB, telephone (01232) 264433.

Getting in tune with nature

WAKE up to the new Millennium with a Green Living Fair — that's the invitation from Castle Espie in Amber.

The fair, on June 5 and 6, offers a week-end of activities that attempt to refocus lifestyles in a less consumerist way.

"We will challenge items of consumption, make alternative proposals more conventional and connect our relationship with the planet," said Centre manager Mes Orr.

"The real purpose of the event is to make use for the general benefit of what it means to live in a sustainable manner."

Ideas that will be explored include renewable energy (wind and solar power), straw bale building, reed bed filtration systems, composting, recycling, organic gardening, holistic medicine, permaculture and wildlife gardening.

There will be a series of workshops, demonstrations, talks, radio stands and children's activities, most at no extra charge.

A free park and ride service will operate from Comber Square every half hour and a £2 charge made for car parking at Castle Espie.

The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust Centre. Admission, which includes entry to the nature reserve, is £3.25 for adults, £2 for children, £8.50 for two adults and three children, and £2.70 for NAPPs, students, unwaged, single parents and those travelling by bicycle.

Entry is free for children under four, members of the World Wildlife Fund and helpers of the disabled.

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Mummers the word at awards hand-out

SIXTY organisations throughout Northern Ireland have received a £2.5m leg-up from the National Lottery distributors.

The awards, from £10,000 to £3m, will be used throughout the province in projects and events that will celebrate the new Millennium.

But individuals and groups who were not lucky in this first round of awards can still apply for the second round.

Information on these, much smaller, awards of between £500 and £5,000 can be obtained from the Northern Ireland Millennium Company, (01232) 526571.

It wasn't just the big projects that won through in yesterday's awards line-up. For example, the International Mummers Festival, held in Fermanagh, got £12,000.

Older People On The Move, a programme of social activities and special outings for pensioners, got more than £19,000 through Voluntary Service Belfast.

Killesher Historical Society got £20,000 for

a cross-community oral history project involving school children, pensioners and local historians.

And St Joseph's Brass Band, Strabane, was given a similar amount for Strabane Brass Band Music Week.

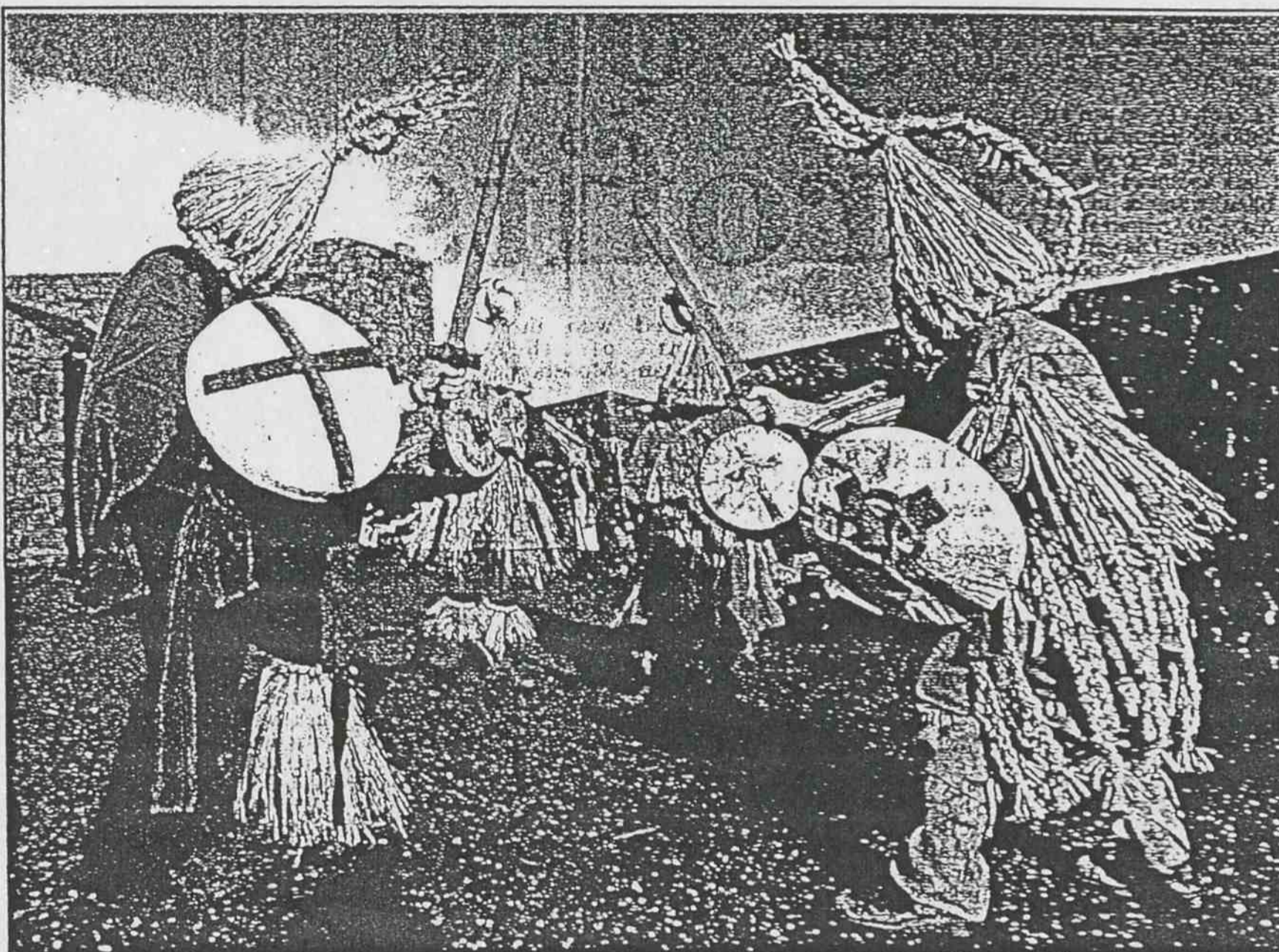
One of the most interesting projects to benefit is the Tempo Millennium Fair, the revival of a fair dating back to 1700.

The revival will involve a cattle drive from isolated mountains along an original route, street parades, workshops and a craft fair.

And Omagh and Antrim both benefit from Arts Council awards. Omagh will enjoy a wide-ranging community development programme in music, dance, visual arts and multi-media.

Antrim's project, CentreFace, is a public art initiative that will create a visual presentation of the history and ambitions of local people.

So, if you are a small community group or local organisation, you could still be lucky in the next round of Millennium awards.



Members of the Fermanagh Mummers celebrate their Millennium award. Picture by Trevor Martin

Cookstown counts down to big party

COOKSTOWN has started the countdown to the Millennium with the creation of a Digital Countdown Clock.

It's currently at the council offices in Burn Road, but will soon be relocated to a prominent site in the town centre.

"The dock will act as both a focal point and reminder to everyone in the district with regard to the Millennium and Millennium celebrations," said chief executive Michael McGuckin.

"It is also intended to act as a meeting point on

December 31 as we celebrate together the birth of a New Year, New Century and New Millennium."

Over the next two years, the Cookstown area will enjoy a series of events and activities, three of them involving historic visitor attractions Ardboe Cross and Abbey, Tullyhogue Fort and Beaghmore Stone Circles.

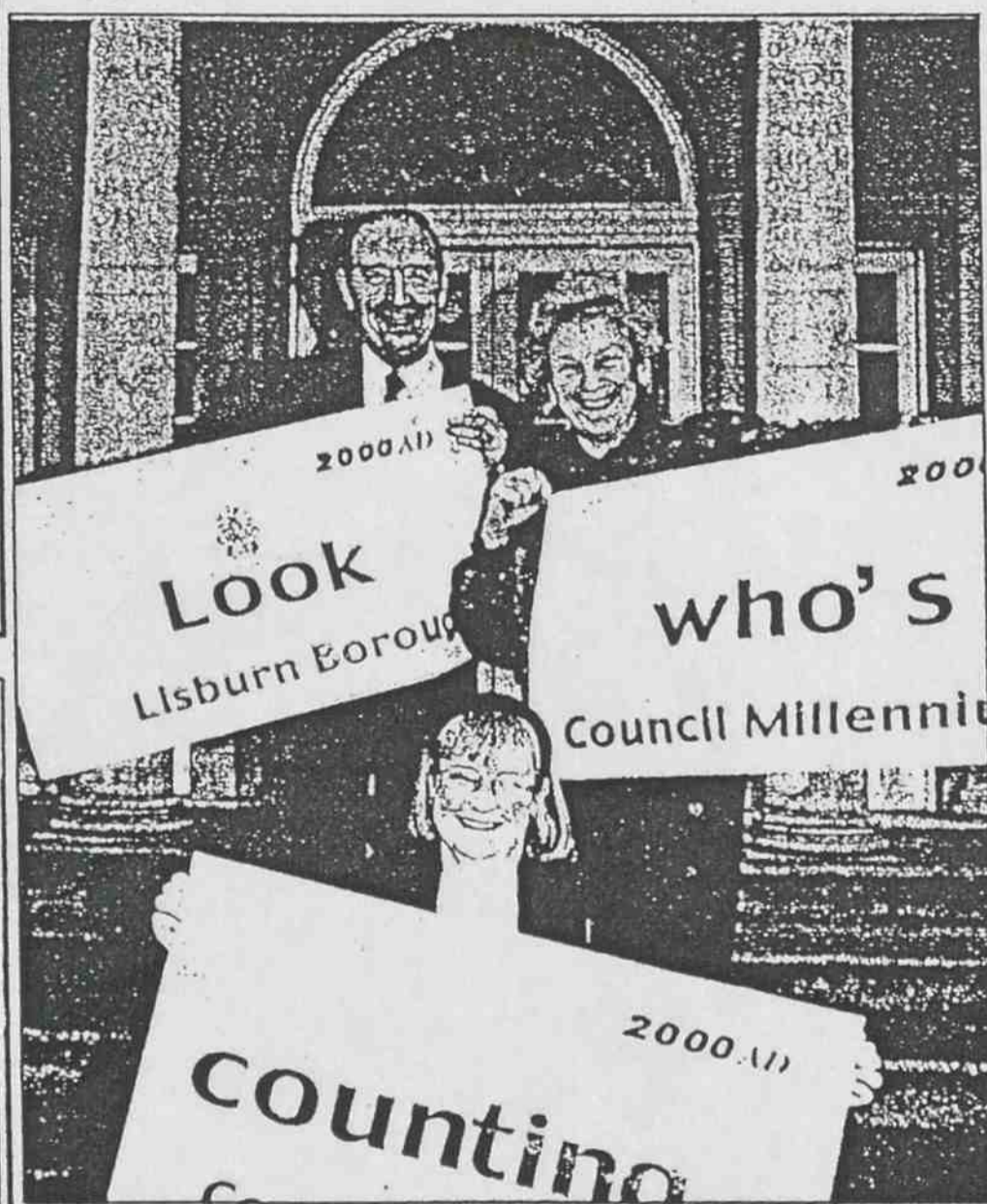
"We propose carrying out a series of re-enactments at each of the history sites during late spring and early summer of the year 2000," said Mr McGuckin.

"In addition, the council

proposed to erect interpretive facilities at each site to provide visitors with historic, factual information."

At Tullyhogue Forest, for example, there will be a re-enactment of the inauguration of the O'Neills. The various clans will pitch camp for three days and nights, have a pitched battle, then do the inauguration.

The culmination of these historic re-enactments will be a Cookstown Millennium Celebration planned for June 2000, incorporating a street pageant and parade in full period costume.



Lisburn drive gears up

New Start invite issued

ATTENTION north Belfast — the deadline for the next set of applications for the New Start

£2,000 and £6,000, the awards will enable people to undertake projects which fulfil their personal goals — and provide a real

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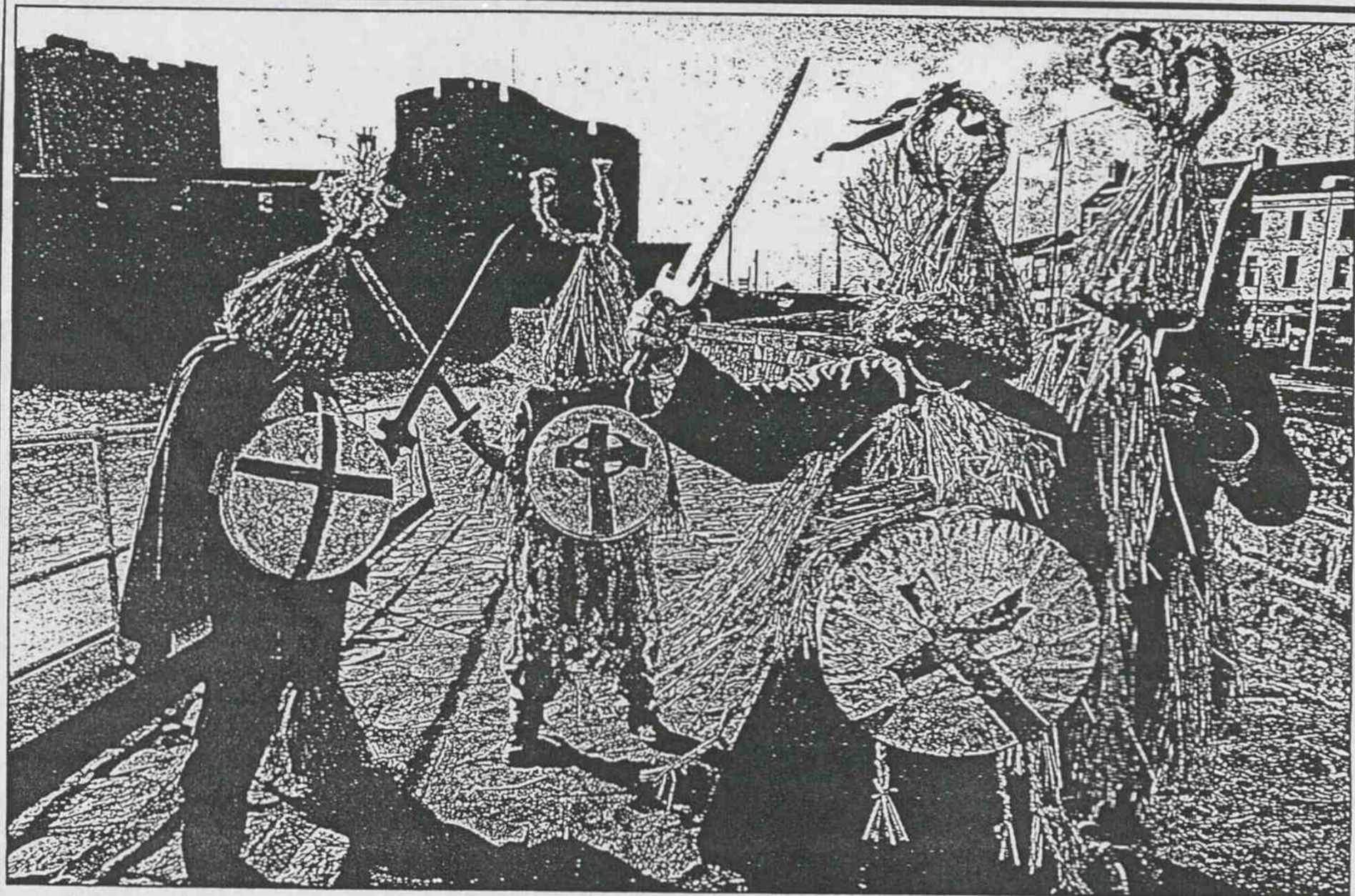
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CELEBRATING: the Fermanagh Mummies celebrate their slice of Millennium luck at Carrickfergus Castle

Mummies the word at lottery share out

ULSTER'S Millennium celebrations received a £2,500,000 boost at Carrickfergus Castle yesterday when 60 organisations were awarded a slice of National Lottery funding.

It is reckoned to be good luck to have the Fermanagh Mummies call to visit but things looked like getting a bit heated when the straw men paused to watch a fire-throwing act in the medieval grounds.

"I hope none of them want a light," said chief mummer Ledwith, a man who hides his face but happily admits to scaring children. "Once they see us they never forget us."

The troupe received an award of £12,000 to fund an international festival, reflecting the ancient and diverse traditions of mumming, rhyming and masking. The name mummies means 'to disguise' and most groups use ribbons or plastic to hide behind but the Fermanagh group are made of sterner stuff.

"The outfits are desperately uncomfortable," said Ledwith

newsletter (NI) 23.2.99 p9
By LARA BRADLEY

while a group of local children giggled and pointed at the straw men. But the mummies will have their revenge by using some of the money to encourage young people to make and wear their own straw hats and skirts.

Mumming can be traced back to the 12th century in Fermanagh which is one of the few places in Ireland still to practice it. Ledwith explained: "It is an old European folk drama tradition which was brought to Ireland by the Normans. It involves nonsensical verse and pure gibberish and is usually performed in people's homes or in pubs and community halls."

A cross-community women's football initiative were celebrating their £30,000 award yesterday. The Northern Ireland Women's Football Association teamed up with the Ulster Ladies Gaelic Athletic Association almost two years ago to in-

£2.5m boost for 2000 celebrations

crease female participation in both sports.

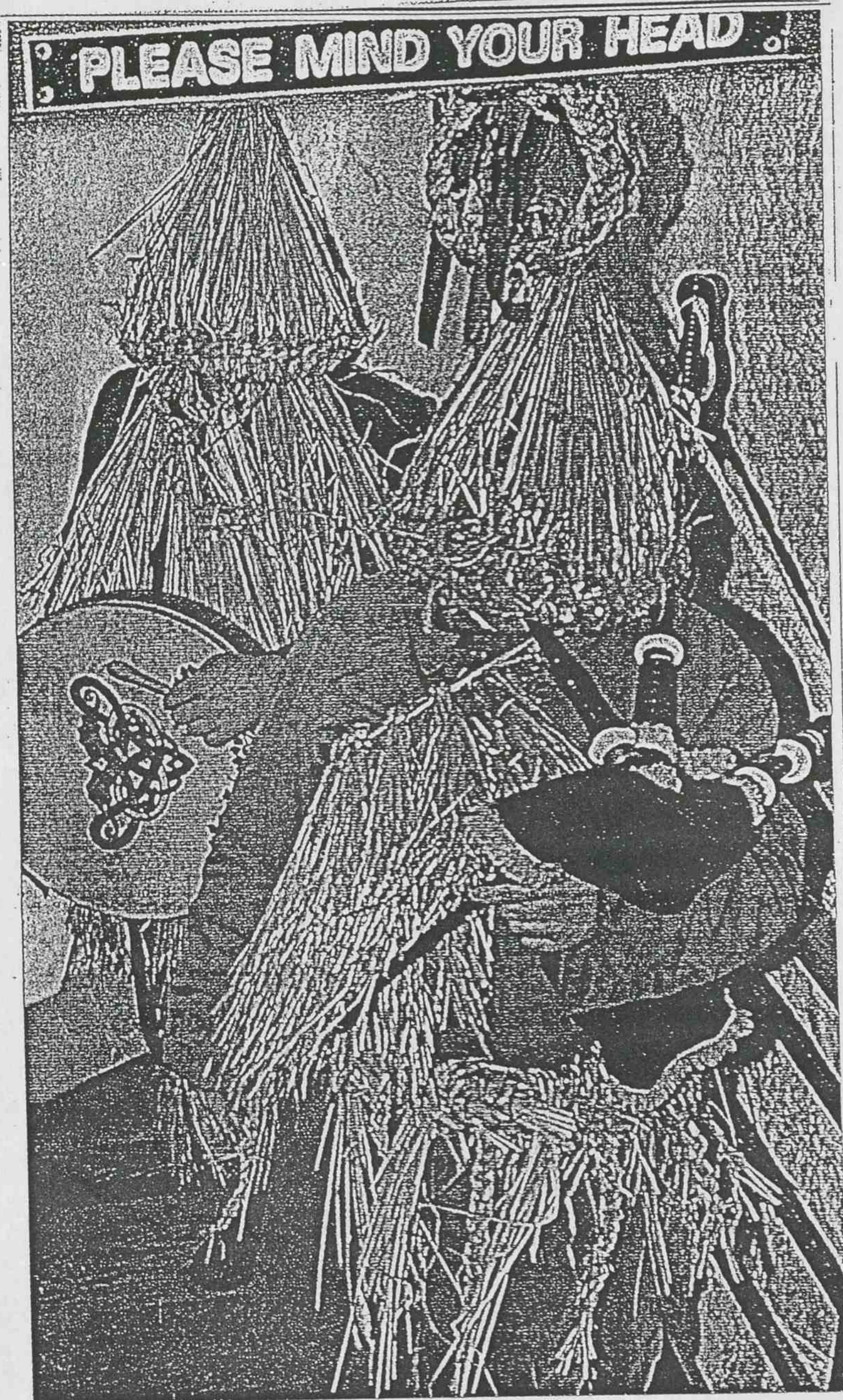
NIWFA spokeswoman Maura Muldoon said: "One of the aims of the Millennium fund is to promote diversity and understanding so we put in a joint bid to promote women's soccer and Gaelic football. The sports are growing at an incredible rate and we recognise that many of the skills are transferable and we want to see a greater number of women coaches."

Arthritis Care were awarded £38,400 to help them hit the road with a mobile awareness exhibition. Spokeswoman Sharon Sinclair said: "This is the first time we have had major resources to launch an education programme. A lot of people

think it is an old people's disease but there are 500 children in Northern Ireland suffering from junior chronic arthritis."

St Joseph's Brass Band from Strabane were awarded £20,000 to promote music and creativity in the community. Band master Michael Early said: "Strabane is a very deprived area and many of the children just wouldn't have enough to buy instruments. We will be using the money to develop a policy of bringing music to life for children who otherwise would not have the chance."

Lottery distributors awards totalling several millions of pounds were made simultaneously around England, Scotland and Wales. Chairwoman of the Northern Ireland Millennium Company Dr Aideen McGinley said: "I am delighted by the large number of applications received. People who were unsuccessful should not feel too disappointed. Good ideas come in all shapes and sizes."



● COLLECTORS ... the Aghakillymaude Mummery picked up £12,000 in the latest share-out of Heritage Lottery millennium funds at Carrickfergus Castle yesterday. Picture: Ann McManus

Projects' £3m lottery boost

By Paul McKillop

The Irish News N.I.
22.1.99. p.5

ALMOST £3m of Lottery millennium money was yesterday awarded to 60 heritage, arts and sports projects at a ceremony in Carrickfergus Castle.

Project representatives entered a medieval time warp as Norman guards patrolled with Irish wolfhounds, and statues of armed yeomanry stood steadfast on the battlements of the 12th century castle, the oldest building in Northern Ireland.

Wearing less militaristic garb, the traditional mummery from

Aghakillymaude, Fermanagh received £12,000 on behalf of Fermanagh council to stage an international mummery festival.

Dressed as St George, Jim Ledwith explained the ancient role-playing ritual which is traditionally played out by the 'men of straw' before and after Christmas to celebrate the new year.

"When we are performing in Ireland the Green Knight, St Patrick, always kills St George. But a magic doctor then comes along to bring St George back to life."

The mummery will be joined by others from England and 'gulsers'

from Shetland for a parade through Enniskillen.

Dr Aldeen McGinley, chair of the Northern Ireland Millennium Company, said 132 applications were received seeking money totalling £10m.

The Northern Ireland Film Commission received £150,000 to digitise 50 hours of local film history for the Internet; and the Simon Community was awarded more than £120,000 to address the negative stereotypes of homelessness through confidence building and social skills development activities.

Ulster Millennium celebration boost

By Janet Devlin

NORTHERN Ireland's Millennium celebrations received a £2.5m boost today.

Sixty local projects won awards as part of a £50m national announcement by Culture Secretary Chris Smith.

Nationally more than 1,000 individual grants, ranging from £10,000 to £3m, were made to organisations concerned with wildlife, history, the elderly, disability, women's issues, youth and sports.

In Ulster, £500,000 went to Belfast City Council to fund a 16-

Groups get £2.5m to mark 2000

the World Irish Dancing Championships.

The Northern Ireland Film Commission got £150,000 to digitise and network 50 hours of film and television material relating to local history.

Laganside Corporation won £100,000 to put on a Festivals of the River that will include the European Dragon Boat Cham-

Smaller groups who got money included nearly £27,000 to New Lodge 2000 to support an exhibition of the history of the area in the past century; £20,000 to Newcastle Chamber of Commerce for a similar display; and £25,000 to Queen Street Studios for artist-led workshops on the Millennium.

Speaking at Carrickfergus Castle, NIO Minister John McFall told recipients: "I hope all your plans and dreams to mark the coming of 2000 will be realised in the new Millennium.

"Your success in matching your plans to the criteria requirements of the lottery distributors and

success and guarantees your efforts for a new Northern Ireland in the years and decades to come."

Dr Aideen McGinley, chairman of the Northern Ireland Millennium Company, said people who were not successful should not feel too disappointed.

"The second round awards, which can offer significant financial support between £500 and £5000 is still available," she said.

Today's awards were made under the five National Lottery distributors; the Charities Board, Heritage Fund, Millennium Commission, Sports Council and Arts Council.

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A Gordon for me — and thousands for Huntly

THOUSANDS of exiles from around the world will be returning to their North-east roots next year for a Millennium clan gathering.

The influx of members of the Clan Gordon will temporarily swell the 4,000 population of their home town, Huntly, to an estimated 30,000.

The three-day Gordon 2000 gathering — billed as a celebration of clan culture — will centre on historic Huntly Castle, ancestral pile of the Dukes

by Raymond Shewan 15

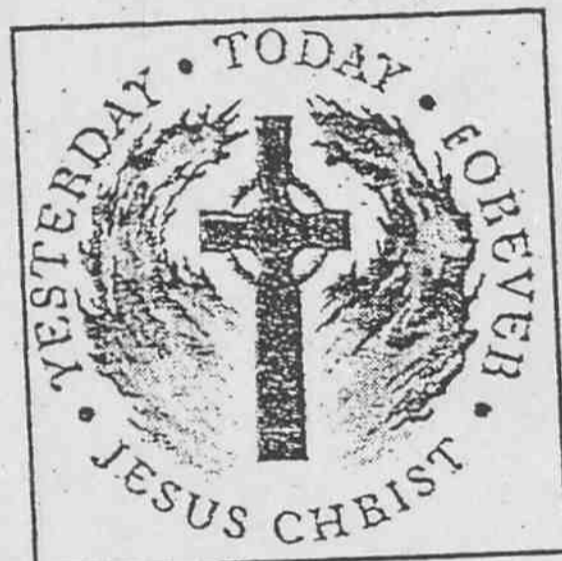
of Gordon. Among the most famous names in the clan's history are the poet Lord Byron — whose family name was George Gordon — and General Charles Gordon of Khartoum fame.

Old soldiers from the Gordon Highlanders — now part of the Highlanders regiment — are also being invited to join in the clan's celebrations of its culture in August next year.

Project manager Lyndsay Clark said the event would provide the opportunity for people to trace their heritage, renew acquaintances and make new friends.

"The Highlands were cleared of local people by lowland sheep farmers more than 200 years ago and many emigrated to the colonies, leading to the spread of Scottish culture around the world.

"We want to bring their descendants back home for this unique event."



ROOTS: Millennium logo

Symbolic move for churches

A MILLENNIUM symbol for Scottish churches which brings together the past, present and future of Christianity has been unveiled.

The logo has been created by Hannah Frew Paterson, one of Scotland's leading textile artists, and was based on an ancient standing stone.

The design for the Celtic cross in the centre was taken from the Kirkdaltan cross, one of the most famous standing stones on the Island of Islay, to symbolise ancient Scotland.

The logo can be "localised" by churches across Scotland to use for their own Millennium celebrations on banners, flags or wall hangings.

Its first use will be on a leaflet inviting people to join in Christian Millennium celebrations.

Donald Smith, Scottish Churches Millennium co-ordinator, said: "This is something real which people can respond to and which has its roots in Scottish culture."

Ms Paterson's other major commissions have included a communion table cloth for St Margaret's Chapel in Edinburgh Castle, and work for Canongate Kirk, Edinburgh, and Glasgow Cathedral.

Hogmanay TV dread

IT looks as if we are heading for another awful Hogmanay on television. Can the powers-that-be not give us at least one station to celebrate the Millennium?

It gets worse every year. What viewer wants to look at others enjoying themselves, at the Edinburgh street party? That's only for those on the street. We want to enjoy our parties at home with family and friends, as it should be.

Give us toe-tapping music, a pianist who can inspire, a comedian or two - without using bad language - and a singer with whom we can sing along - oh for Andy Stewart!

(Mrs) Marian Kennedy, Allandale, West Main Street
Broxburn

Press and Journal

25 FEB 1999

Ghana wins

A PROJECT to reverse the environmental devastation of logging and agriculture has taken top prize in British Airways' Tourism for Tomorrow awards. The conservation and regeneration scheme on Ghana's Cape Coast was declared global winner in the awards which are for "green" tourism. The UK award went to Budget Rent-a-Car for its alternative transport options, while the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust got a special Europe award for conservation work. The awards were presented in London last night.

Press and Journal

25 FEB 1999

Dundee puffs out its chest for millennium

A NEW fund was launched in Dundee yesterday to help finance some of the city's millennium celebrations.

The Community Chest Fund has been established by the city council in a bid to get local communities more involved in celebrations for the beginning of the year 2000.

Community groups, neighbourhood associations and sports clubs are among the organisations being invited to apply for funding.

The aim is to encourage groups to arrange events that

will have a lasting impact on the local community.

In particular, the council is looking to support projects during the year 2000 which:

- Create fun, enjoyable ways of marking the new millennium;
- Celebrate the culture and history of all Dundee communities;
- Tackle environmental issues;
- Encourage people of all ages and backgrounds to join in;
- Promote education, training and lifelong learning;
- Promote artistic and sporting

activities and leave a lasting legacy or benefit.

The fund was officially launched at the Douglas Neighbourhood Centre yesterday by Lord Provost Mervyn Rolfe and council leader Kate Maclean.

Applications can be made for grants from the fund for between £100 and £5,000.

The council is expecting to fund up to 75% of the total cost of each event.

Application forms will be distributed throughout the city with closing dates on April 23, July 2, August 6 and September 3.

Over £150,000 for city millennium projects

Dundee Lord Provost Mervyn Rolfe today welcomed the announcement that the city had secured funding of more than £150,000 in the first round of the Scottish Millennium Festival Awards.

Speaking at a gathering in Glasgow today Scottish Secretary Donald Dewar confirmed five major projects put forward by Dundee had won funding.

The largest award (£45,000) will go towards Dundee's Millennium Dawn—a week-long festival of music, education and community events starting with a city centre event on Hogmanay.

An award of £35,000 will help fund the city's Festival of Opportunity—a joint project with the Princess Royal Trust for Carers and Dundee College—which will encourage lifelong learning and promote opportunities for personal, social and economic development.

Dundee will also receive two awards of £30,000 towards an Environmental Stocktake—an audit of the city's natural heritage—and a Festival of Sport involving the whole community. The final award of £15,000 will go to the Millennium Dundee on Film project.

Mr Rolfe said, "This is great news for Dundee. We want to celebrate the beginning of the millennium and also leave a permanent impact on the city. The event will not just be focused on Hogmanay. There will be a year-long programme of events and local projects. We want to make sure everyone is involved in marking this important moment in history."

Mr Dewar also announced the Arbroath Abbey Pageant Project has been awarded £30,000 towards its plans to recreate the signing of the Declaration of Independence, within the floodlit ruins of Arbroath Abbey.

Declaration to be re-enacted in festivities

By Alastair Dalton

A FLOODLIT re-enactment of Scotland's medieval declaration of independence is to be staged to mark the new Millennium.

It is one of dozens of Millennium festival projects set to be announced by Scottish Secretary Donald Dewar tomorrow, when he reveals details of millions of pounds of

lottery funding for celebratory events to be staged across the country.

The scheme will revive costumed re-enactments of the Declaration of Arbroath in the ruins of the town's abbey. The 1320 landmark, which enshrines the sovereignty of Scotland, saw the Scottish nobility urging the pope to command the English king to leave Scotland in peace.

Sean Connery read the dec-

laration as part of SNP campaigning for the devolution referendum in 1997. Parts of the declaration were included in the United States declaration of independence, and it is to be included in celebrations on the country's National Tartan Day on the document's anniversary, April 6.

The ceremony, including actors playing Robert the Bruce and Bernard de Linton, the Arbroath abbot who wrote the document, has been performed at the abbey since 1947, but the tradition was cut short in 1981 after the costumes were destroyed in a fire.

Two hundred local people will take part in this year's performances, which will take place in August when floodlighting will recreate the missing parts of the abbey.

Anita Walker, chairman of the Arbroath Abbey Pageant Society, said: "With Scotland about to be its own nation again, this is a very important part of our heritage."

However, despite the area's Nationalist affiliations - Angus Council and local MP Andrew Welsh are both SNP - Walker stressed the non-partisan nature of the event.

"We are not here to be political but to tell the history of the town - we deliberately do not talk politics when we talk pageant," she said.

Other projects expected to be announced include grants for firework, laser displays, clan gatherings and heritage trails.

An organiser of the Scottish Millennium Festival said: "There will be an unparalleled number of events in Scotland over the next year."



23 FEB 1999

Gun takes centre stage

EDINBURGH Castle's one o'clock gun is to be the focus of a millennium exhibition charting the history of timekeeping in the city.

The exhibition is the idea of District Gunner Tom "Tam the Gun" McKay, the man responsible for the daily firing from the Mills Mount Battery. It is being funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of its millennium programme and will open on January 1, 2000. Mr McKay said: "There is always a crowd to watch the firing of the gun and people are fascinated by the history behind the one o'clock ritual."



24 FEB 1999

4 Guild looks beyond 2000

WOMEN from one of Scotland's biggest organisations are to take part in a think tank which will examine the increasingly important role of women in the new millennium.

Members of the Church of Scotland Guild are among the groups participating in a nationwide project organised by the Women's National Commission, in conjunction with the Equal Opportunities Commission, to define key issues for women.

The Church of Scotland Guild has organised a survey to obtain the views of its membership, coordinated by former Guild national convener Mrs Kathleen Forsyth.

Outlining the background, Mrs Forsyth said: "Progress is being made. But progress still has to be made in the areas of equal pay for women, more facilities for child care so that women can return to work and more help must be given to carers and their needs."

Cash for Hogmanay with a difference

MOST a quarter of a million pounds is being dished out to North-east groups to help celebrate the Millennium.

Scottish Secretary Donald Dewar today announced a total of £236,000 in Scottish Millennium Festival grants being handed out to five projects across the North-east — almost half of the awards made in Scotland.

Aberdeen City Council is to receive the lion's share of the lottery-funded grants with £110,000 going to Aberdeen 2000 in two separate awards.

The first — £80,000 — is going into community Hogmanay events with the cash being spent on outdoor summer activities in the city's neighbourhood parks, a massive Hogmanay celebration and other family events over the first weekend of the new millennium.

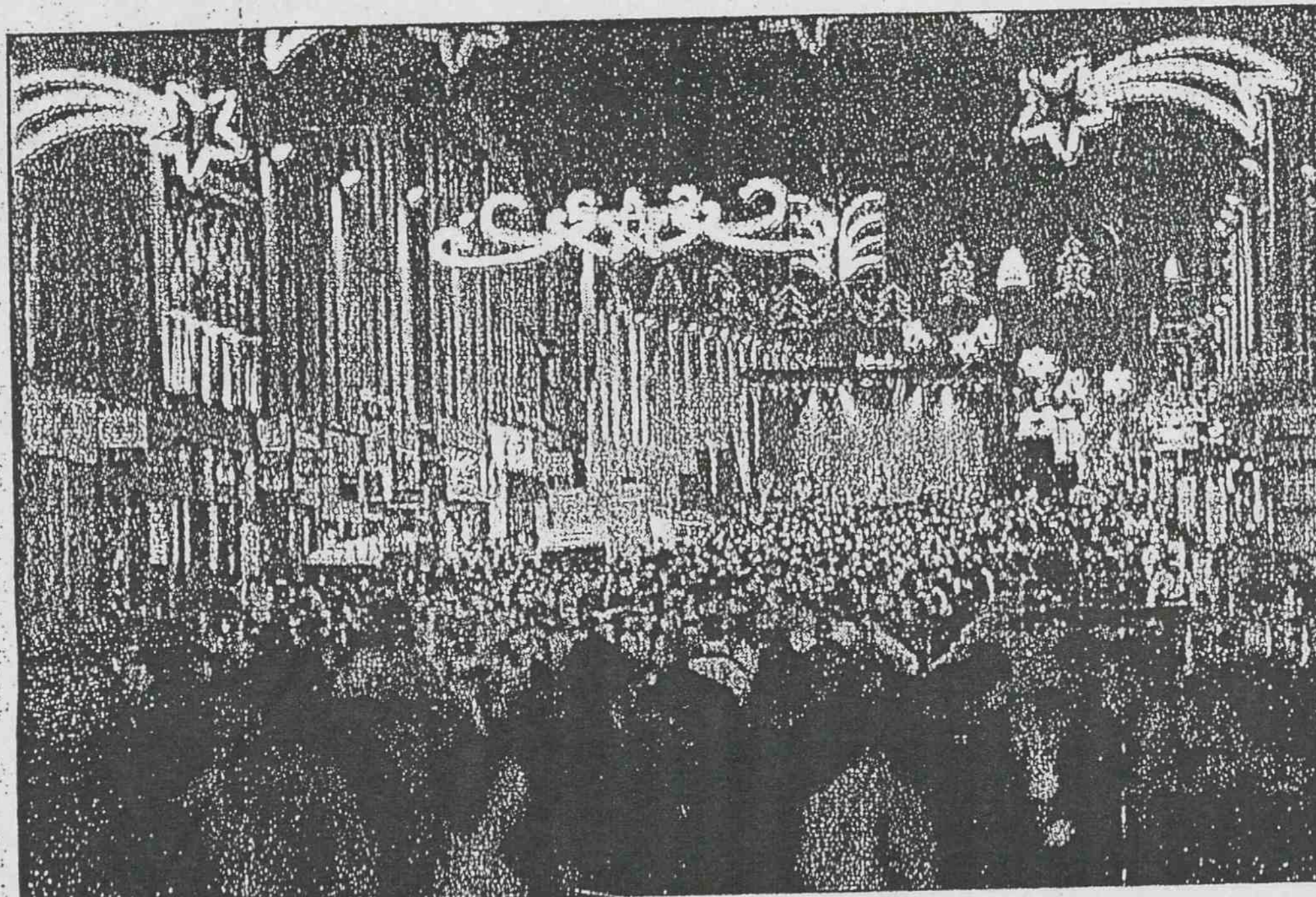
The second — £30,000 — will be spent on making Aberdeen's history more accessible to the public by taking displays, activities and events to the city's art galleries and museums.

Gordon 2000 — A Homecoming to Huntly — has been granted £50,000 to celebrate Huntly's history through a festival of music, dance and art.

Project manager Lyndsey Clark said she was absolutely delighted with the bumper pay-out.

"We are hoping to attract 70 families connected with the Gordon clan back to Huntly, along with ex-Gordon Highlanders, former residents and holidaymakers."

Duff House is to receive £41,000 to integrate unseen artworks from national and private collections into its gallery. And Banff 2000 will get £35,000 for a Millennium Olympic event involving young people, the older



● **IN THE MOOD:** Hogmanay celebrations under way on Aberdeen's Union Street.

by Catherine Lyst

generation and people with disabilities, who will receive training from fitness professionals.

The city council has also made four applications to the Scottish Arts Council Lottery fund for 2,000 banners and streamers, a four-day dance festival, the commissioning of contemporary artists to carry out work relating

to the life of Christ, and an art project involving families.

Another 35 millennium projects are being considered by the council's Millennium Celebrations working group.

Put Scottish beef on menu, show chiefs tell caterers

HUNGRY showgoers at one on the North-east biggest agricultural events will be backing Scotland's hard-pressed cattle farmers this year.

Fast-food caterers will only be allowed a stance at Keith Show if they guarantee to serve up home-grown beef.

Show officials have decided to take a hard line in support of farmers whose livelihood has been put in jeopardy by the BSE crisis and beef export ban.

The Central Banffshire Farmers' Club which runs the annual two-day show had originally intended merely encouraging fast-food operators to sell only Scotch beef products.

But the committee agreed to go a step further by making it a condition of their pitch let.

Club president Percy Watt said officials considered it a reasonable move given the plight of the industry. "We are a farmer-led organisation and we have to do everything we can to help promote home-produced beef," he said.

The North-east's biggest caterers, the Buchan Catering Group, already serve up only Scottish beef.

"We have a big presence at many local farming events and we have always felt it is only right to support the farming community by using Scotch beef," said director Debbie Buchan.

Bodytalk  **HAPPY NEW YOU!** Bodytalk  AT

2 Millennium Youth Council

EVENING STAR, IPSWICH

FRIDAY 17th JULY 1998

TEENAGE DOME INSIDERS LET THEIR IMAGINATIONS SOAR



HIGH IDEAS: Luke Carruthers and Vicky Wilson from Ipswich were two of the teenagers who got a sneak preview inside the 20-acre Dome. Pictures: F

Having their say on Millennium exhibits

By JON WELCH

THE contents of the Millennium Dome may be a mystery to most, but not to two Suffolk teenagers.

Luke Carruthers and Helen Lucas are among 16 youngsters who will have their say on what goes inside the huge structure by the Thames at Greenwich.

The 17-year-olds, sixth-formers at Northgate High School, Ipswich, visited the site for the first time yesterday.

As members of the UK Millennium Youth Council, nominated by head teachers, education directors and youth groups, they will be asked to come up with ideas for younger visitors to the Dome and its associated Learning Experience.

Luke and Helen gazed in awe at the huge construction which covers 20 acres.

In hard hats and boots, they clambered up steps to gaze down on what is now empty ground but which will eventually be filled with many exhibits.

"It's absolutely amazing," said Luke, of Martlesham Heath, near Ipswich. "It's attracted a lot of criticism, primarily because of the cost, but most

of the money is coming from the National Lottery or private sponsorship," he said.

"I think there will not only be benefits for the whole of the UK but also the area of London in which it is built."

Luke, who is studying for three A-Levels and hopes to read politics at university, would like to see a multi-religious area in the dome.

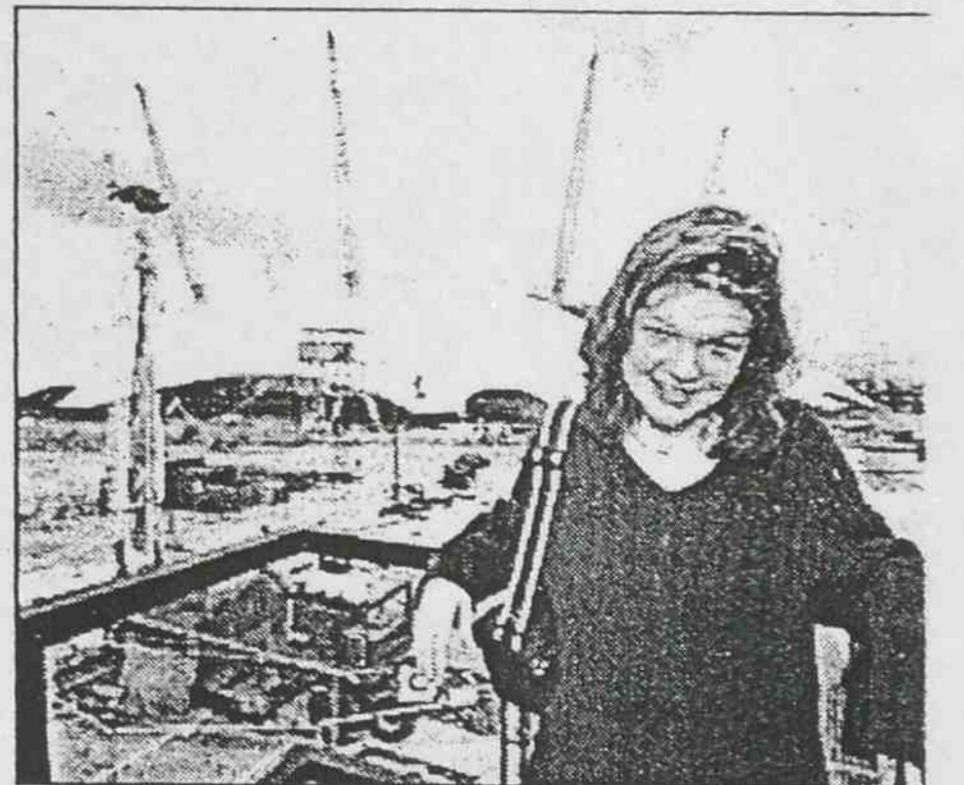
Helen, of Stutton, near Ipswich, said: "I'm very impressed with what I've seen.

"When I was offered the chance to join the youth council I said 'I'm there'.

"This is a great opportunity to make my voice heard and make the Dome something my friends and I would like."

Helen, who is studying psychology, sociology and English language, plans to read law at university and wants to become a barrister.

Her friends, though supportive, have offered



IMPRESSED: Helen Lucas at The Dome

mostly "silly" ideas for what should be in the Dome but Helen hopes to meet local youngsters to some sensible ones.

"It may be a struggle to convince people the Dome is a good thing, but I think they will come round eventually," she said.

THINK-TANK FOR YOUTH LOOKS TO YEAR 2000

TEENS from the Bristol area are taking part in a millennium youth project to forward their ideas for the future.

by ALISON STENLAKE

They have got together with young people from across the South West to form the South West Millennium Youth Council. One of 12 regional youth councils across the UK which have been set up to tell the Government of the views of young people as the next century begins. There is also a national youth council based in London. The aim of the scheme, young people will state what differences they would like to see being made in the year 2000 and beyond. Their ideas will be fed back to regional and national projects so they can influence

plans for the Millennium Dome and celebrations. A total of 12 pupils from a variety of schools in the Bristol area are involved in the South West regional council, which had its first meeting on Saturday. Two of them — Jenny Howard-Coles, of Whitefield Fishponds Community School, and Hannah Strohmeier, of the Grange Community School in Warmley, will travel to London on Thursday for the first meeting of the National Youth Millennium Council. Lynn Fabes, regional education manager for the New Millennium Experience Company, said: "Through the work of the South West Millennium Youth Council, young people will be able to highlight the views of their communities."

● CAPITAL IDEAS: Jenny Howard-Coles and Hannah Strohmeier

Kids to mark festival 2000

SCHOOL children are being asked to contribute projects to mark South Gloucestershire's own festivities to celebrate the Millennium.

Proposals are currently being put forward for projects, such as Where We Live, which will lead to presentations in the Millennium Dome

Festival.

The National Year of Reading could also be a successful basis for school projects. For instance an international storytelling festival is being arranged by the Sir Bernard Lovell School.

Other themes are planned

for the lead up to the Millennium which will appeal to kids' sense of fun and imagination, involving lifestyles, the environment, travel and life in the future. All projects will be fully supported by I.T skills which itself will be celebrated by a planned internet version of the Domesday

Book, which will serve as a lasting record of life in the 20th century.

Plans are being drawn up at present and it is hoped that schools will begin to incorporate the proposals into their curricula in September this year.

Youth council has say on millennium celebrations



THEY'RE BACK FROM THE FUTURE

WESTERN DAILY PRESS



Planning for the future: Bristol schoolgirl Jenny Howard-Coles, aged 14, at the Millennium Dome site

Pupils at Dome summit

By Sarah Webber

TWO West youngsters have come back from the future after being given a sneak preview of the Millennium Dome. Jenny Howard-Coles, aged 14, and 13-year-old Hannah Strohmeier have won places on a special council to plan the Millennium celebrations. They were in London yesterday to attend the first meeting of the UK Millennium Youth Council. The pair, from Bristol's Whitefield Community School and The Grange Community

School, Warmley, joined youngsters from across the country to discuss what will go on inside the Dome. But the council's first demand was simple — Merseyside 14-year-old Adam Flanders told the board that schoolchildren should get into the Dome for free. Jenny and Hannah were among 16 teenagers who visited the famous Greenwich site as part of yesterday's Millennium summit.

Jenny said last night: "It was great, it was really vast. We were shown models of what could be in there, like the giant human body and we were asked about what sort of things we wanted in the Dome. Hannah and I said we should push the arts, making them more available to young people, not just people who can afford expensive lessons. I'm really glad they're having a performance area, but I would like to see young people performing, not just big pop bands or orchestras."

Teenagers take Year 2000 ideas to London

by ALISON STENLAKE

SCHOOLGIRLS Jenny Howard-Coles and Hannah Strohmeier are helping to decide how the nation should celebrate the new millennium.

They were today attending the first meeting of the UK Millennium Youth Council in London.

Their trip was including a visit to the controversial Millennium Dome, which will be the centrepiece of Britain's celebrations.

The Youth Council has been set up so young people can put forward their views about the millennium celebrations.

Jenny, aged 14, who goes to Whitefield Fishponds Community School, and Hannah, 13, of The Grange School, Warmley, are members of the South West Millennium Youth Council.

Their role is to listen to the views of their peers and put them across to those in charge of plans for the millennium.

The girls were due to meet the New Millennium Experience

Company (NMEC) board. They were being given the chance to discuss the contents of the dome and suggest how educational projects could be set up coincide with the event.

Jenny said: "I would like to see more arts being pushed in schools and other community projects."

"I think the arts do need more money given to them. A lot of grants have been cut."

"At first I wasn't sure about the council, but I think that what we have to say really is important to them and they really do want to know our views."

Hannah said: "I agree with Jenny that the arts should be emphasised a bit more."

Lynn Fabes, NMEC South West manager, said: "Education is one of the key components of the Millennium Experience — and we have to make sure that young people's views on the appeal of the celebrations are taken on board."

DUNDEE PLAYED host yesterday to youngsters who will be influential in deciding what should happen in Scotland and in the Millennium Dome during the year 2000, writes our local government reporter.

The 31 young people from all over Scotland make up the Scottish Millennium Youth Council. Ranging in age from 11 to 17, they represent 850,000 pupils in Scottish schools.

The youth council was set up by the New Millennium Experience Company, a body established by the Government.

Youngsters chosen to have say on Dome

It was the brainchild of the company's education manager for Scotland, Alison Sinclair.

"This forum gives the young people of Scotland the chance to say what they would like to see happening in Scotland and the dome during and after the year 2000," she said.

"Among other things the

youth council will play an important role in researching and feeding back the views, ideas and comments of the youth of Scotland to the New Millennium Experience Company and, ultimately, the Government."

Ms Sinclair said Dundee had been chosen as a venue for one of the first meetings

of the youth council because of the city's positive response to the company's education projects.

Dundee's representative on the youth council is Grove Academy S2 pupil Frances Jerono.

Two of the council members will be selected for a trip to meet with the designers of the Dome zones later this month.

The youngsters were the guests at a civic reception hosted by education convener Councillor John Kemp in Dundee City Chambers yesterday.

Scottish Millennium Youth Council meet

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The youth council was set up by the New Millennium Experience Company, a body established by the Government, and was the brainchild of the company's education manager for Scotland, Alison Sinclair.

"This forum gives the young people of Scotland the chance to say what they would like to see happening in Scotland and the Dome during and after the year 2000," she said. Amongst other things the youth council will play an important role in researching and feeding back the views, ideas and comments of the youth of Scotland to the company and, ultimately, the Government."

A report on the outcome of today's council meeting will be forwarded to the company's London headquarters. Two of the council members will be selected for a trip to meet with the designers of the Dome zones later this month.

The youngsters were the guests at a civic reception hosted by education convener councillor John Kemp in Dundee City Chambers today.



Catching the millennium bug: Danetre School's Paul Craig.

Face of the future

A 15-YEAR-OLD Daventry youngster has become one of two Northamptonshire representatives on a millennium youth council for the region.

Danetre School pupil Paul Craig will undertake various millennium-related projects for the council, run by the East Midlands Youth Board.

He is to write an essay on what he thinks life will be like in the year 2020, taking into account the opinions of friends and other pupils at Danetre School.

Paul became a representative through his work on Woodford Halse Youth Parish Council, of which he is chairman. He has also been part of a group on the Millennium Voyager – a lorry which goes from town to town giving out questionnaires and information about the millennium.

And because of Paul's work, his school recently received an invitation to visit the Millennium Dome in Greenwich.

EAST MIDS YOUTH COUNCIL
MEMBER.

Dome from home for two Fylde teenagers

TWO Blackpool teenagers are being given a rare opportunity to influence the look of London's controversial Millennium Dome - and it could mean a replica Tower being included in the plans.

Sixteen-year-old Kenny Logue and Erin Shanagher, 15 have been asked to come up with ideas for the multi-million pound development project underway in Greenwich.

The two students of St.Mary's RC High School found themselves in this exciting position after being selected to represent Blackpool on a

By **GAZETTE REPORTER**

regional Millennium committee.

They were chosen after Blackpool Council's Youth and Community Service appealed for young ambassadors to express the views of young people in the local area.

They will now sit on the North West Millennium Youth Council Forum and have the opportunity to say what should go into the historic dome.

Their role on the forum is to come up with some way of symbolising their home town - and for Kenny nothing symbolises Blackpool better than the Tower. Erin has also suggested incorporating

the resort's illuminations.

Their involvement means they will be amongst the first people in the country to see inside the dome when they will be given a special preview before it opens and will also visit it on completion.

Kenny said: "This is a brilliant opportunity for us and we're really excited about getting to visit the Dome. It's something we'll be able to tell our children one day!"

Kenny and Erin are also playing a part in shaping Blackpool's own Millennium celebrations as members of the Blackpool Youth Council.

3 Voices of Promise

SOUTH WALES ECHO

29 JANUARY 1999

Millennium song

WELSH schools still have time to enter the Voice of Promise initiative which asks pupils to write a song for children for the Year 2000. The chosen songs will feature on a special CD and the winning schools will get the chance to perform their songs at The Dome at Greenwich. The deadline for basic entries is February 26, details are available from Beth Winkley, education manager, National Millennium Experience Company in Wales, on 01222 228224.

THE COURIER
AND ADVERTISER

- 5 FEB 1999

Song for the millennium

SCHOOL PUPILS in Dundee are being urged to sing their way to a performance at the Millennium Dome by taking part in a national competition to be held throughout 1999.

The Voices Of Promise competition is being organised by Marks & Spencer and the New Millennium Experience Company (NMEC).

Fifteen schools in Dundee have already registered for the project, which asks children to write and perform their own song for the millennium.

Schools wishing to register and receive their free curriculum pack, which contains full information of the project, should call Alison Sinclair on 01259 219905.

28 January 1999

Singing out for children

PUPILS will have the chance to follow in the footsteps of pop idol Robbie Williams, with a new musical challenge set to benefit children of the next millennium.

The national initiative, called Voices of Promise, is organised by the New Millennium Experience Company, and already pupils from 11 schools in Cardiff have registered to write a song for the children of the Year 2000.

Successful songwriters will be featured singing their creation on a specially commissioned CD, and they may also get the chance to perform it in February 2000 at The Dome in Greenwich.

The proceeds of the CD will go to Children's Promise, the

special millennium fundraising initiative which aims to help vulnerable children in this country and others.

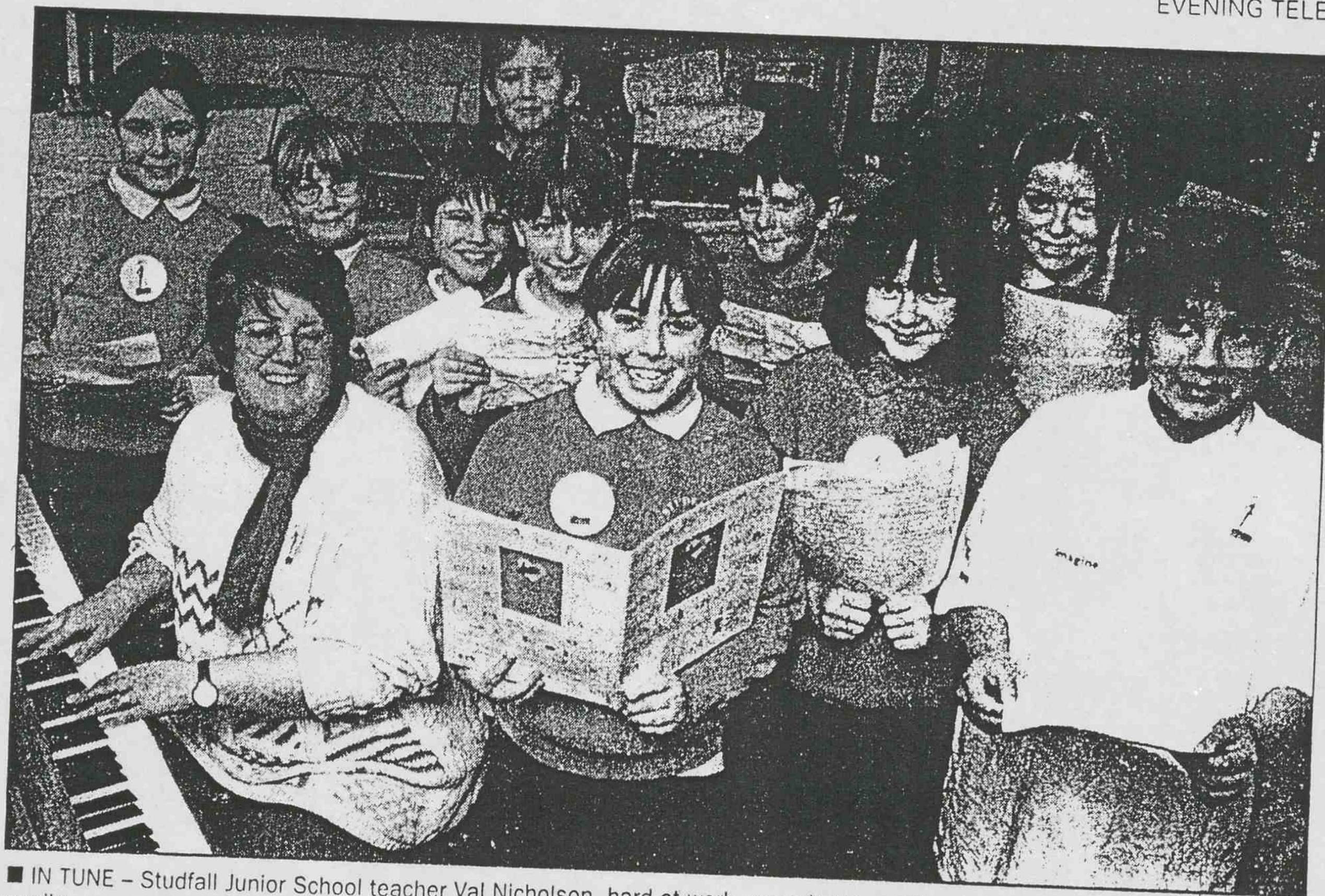
The closing date for the initial stage of the competition is Friday, February 26, and songwriting packs still need to be sent out to interested schools.

One school which has reacted quickly to the call is Corpus Christi High School, in Lisvane.

Head of music Mostyn Cole told The Post that his year 10 pupils were hard at work writing lyrics and music, which could always be used for course work if it is not selected for the CD.

"We've got talented pupils at this school and nothing is beyond them," said Mr Cole.

"We're just going to do our best and see what happens."



■ IN TUNE – Studfall Junior School teacher Val Nicholson, hard at work preparing the millennium song with some of the pupils

ET picture:CF76603-5

Making sweet music for the millennium

PUPILS at are singing a song which will help them get into the spirit of the new millennium.

Studfall Junior School, Corby, was the first in the town to register to take part in the Voices of Promise scheme being organised by the New Millennium Experience Company and sponsored by Marks and Spencer.

And now, as youngsters at the school put the finishing touches to their own song, NMEC organisers are appealing for all other county schools taking part in the scheme to finish off their tapes before a deadline of Friday, February 26.

NMEC regional education manager Christine Blowman said: "The successful applicants will have a chance to work with professional musicians and songwriters and produce a CD of their song."

"The best school will be able to sing live in the Millennium Dome and their song will be an anthem for the year 2000."

28 January 1999

Compositions will aid needy children

SCHOOL children in South Wales are being urged to write a song for the millennium.

The national initiative, which is called Voices of Promise, wants pupils to compose a piece, which inspires other children to think forward to a future of hope and promise.

Already 11 schools in South Wales have signed up for the competition, which will see successful entrants perform their song at The Millennium Dome, Greenwich, in February 2000.

Other successful entries will have their compositions recorded onto a special CD.

And the proceeds from sales of the CD will raise money for a fundraising initiative backed by five of the leading children's charities in the country.

The charities talking part are Barnardo's, Childline, The Children's Society, NCH Action for Children and the NSPCC.

One school hoping to write a song, which will help to raise money for vulnerable children all over the world, is Corpus Christi High School.

Head of Music Mostyn Cole said he was confident the school's pupils could do well in the competition.

"We've got talented pupils at the school and nothing is beyond them," he said.

"We're just going to do our best and see what happens."

The closing date for entries is Friday, February 26.

Any schools interested in taking part should contact Beth Winkley at the National Millennium Experience Company on 01222 228224.

Quadrant

4 Children's Promise

21 January 1999

Making a promise to help children of the millennium

CARDIFF youngsters joined Welsh rugby hero Ieuan Evans to launch a new charity campaign. The Children's Promise is aimed at helping vulnerable children in the UK and abroad, and the youngsters gathered at Cardiff's Central Station to distribute leaflets about the campaign with the ex-international. Seven of the UK's leading children's charities have combined to support the Children's Promise,

and the aim is to encourage people to donate the value of their final hour's earnings in this millennium.

Several famous names have already pledged their support, including Prime Minister Tony Blair whose £50 donation was an hour of his £103,000 annual salary.

The organisers, The New Millennium Experience Company, are encouraging all people to take part, whatever their profession.



PROMISE OF HELP:

Ieuan Evans and Bob Evans, of the New Millennium Experience Company, with young helpers collecting at Cardiff's Central Station.

14 January 1999

Good try! Star's help pays off

By Rebecca Hughes

WALES international Ieuan Evans has been tackling commuters for cash to help under-privileged children in the next Millennium.

The former wing for the national team made the conversion to fundraiser to encourage people to donate the equivalent of one hour's earnings.

The idea is for people to hand over the last hour's money they earn in this Millennium towards a campaign aiming to offer vulnerable children in the UK and overseas a happier, healthier and safer life.

One such commuter who paid the penalty for being at Cardiff railway station at the same time as the rugby star was 27-year-old Matthew Jones, from Caerphilly.

Matthew, manager of one of five Health With Herbs shops in Wales said: "I think this is a very good idea. There are five staff in each shop and I'm sure they will all be interested in this campaign."

Entitled the Children's Promise, the campaign has joined together seven UK children's charities — Barnardo's, BBC's Children In Need, Childline, The Children's Society, Comic Relief, NCH Action For Children and the NSPCC — who have each made their own 'promise' on how they will use the funds raised.

The campaign was launched by Marks & Spencer and the New Millennium Experience Company, the firm responsible for overseeing the construction and operation of the Dome and in-charge of a national programme of public activities to celebrate the start of the Millennium.

And they hope employees from all walks of life will dig deep and help to ensure needy youngsters throughout the world will also have a reason to celebrate.



ON TRACK TO HELP: Rugby star Ieuan Evans and Bob Evans of the New Millennium Experience Company recruit commuter Matthew Jones to help children of the next Millennium.

HOUR'S PAY GIFT IDEA TO MARK THE MILLENNIUM

Borough staff will boost charity fund

*Loughborough Echo
Friday 8th
January
1999.*

KIND-HEARTED Charnwood Borough Council workers will help to raise millions of pounds for children's charities on the dawn of the new millennium.

It is hoped that council officers will donate their last hour's pay of the last working day of 1999 to a scheme called Children's Promise, which aims to create a better future for the youngsters of the next millennium.

The campaign has the potential to involve 24 million people and could become one of the UK's largest ever fundraising campaigns.

The seven charities who will benefit from donations are Barnardo's, BBC Children in Need, ChildLine, The Children's Society, Comic Relief, NCH Action for Children and the NSPCC.

The charities in return promise to provide extra services for children including more counselling centres, outreach and prevention projects for runaways, family centres, new support services for abused children and international grants programme to help vulnerable and disadvantaged children in some of the world poorest countries.

Coun Mike Jones leader of Charnwood Borough Council, said: "I think it is an excellent suggestion."

Beneficial

"While there may be some people who genuinely cannot afford to donate part of their wages, I hope there will be a wide acceptance of those who can."

"I think it will be extremely beneficial to the children's charities involved and to future generations."

The initiative has been set up by The New Millennium Experience Company in the East Midlands who hope the scheme will be supported by local businesses.

David O'Neil, regional partnership manager, said: "If we get this right together, then we could expect some millions of pounds to be raised in the East Midlands for the children of the East Midlands."

The council are now hoping that businesses in the town will follow their lead.

If anyone would like to

5 SchoolNet 2000

Galaxy Holidays and promoted by the News Letter. The tour is subject to availability and conditions of booking. Prices are per person sharing. Cash payments cannot be required.

READER HOLIDAYS

Gain further information tel: 434434/313566 From only 219pp

News 29/1/99



QUIZZED: First Minister David Trumble fields tough questions from Andrew Fullerton, Leanne Lewis and Norah Kelly

BELFAST TELEGRAPH, 3/2/99,

Kids ask questions to Net Ulster politicians

By RYAN HARKNESS

FIRST Minister David Trimble and other Assembly members faced a grilling at Stormont yesterday – but there were no harsh words or petty bickering.

For the interviewers were all GCSE students who were taking part in the Tesco Schoolnet 2000 (TSN2K) project.

Through the scheme, Tesco aims to give every child in the UK access to the Internet and the opportunity to create their own web page.

All the answers gathered by the pupils will be reported on the TSN2K website, allowing them to be accessed throughout the world.

Information will include the politicians' views on issues such as decommissioning, the peace process, prisoner releases, education and punishment beatings.

Visitors to the site will also discover that the DUP's David Ervine likes reading and watching Glentoran FC, and that David Trimble likes to spend his spare time with his children.

"After garnering a little personal information, the kids really asked some searching questions," said the DUP's Ian Paisley Jnr.

"They were very objective and very aware of the political situation here," he said.

Alliance leader Sean Neeson was also very impressed with the standard of the questions.



HOT SEAT: PUP leader David Ervine is grilled by Norah Kelly and Andrew Fullerton

"I hope the answers I gave were sufficient. After all, these are the voters of the future," he said.

Mr Ervine felt the questions thrown at him by Norah Kelly, of Little Flower Girls' School, and Andrew Fullerton, of Campbell College, were a "breath of fresh air".

"I was surprised and delighted they didn't focus extensively on constitutional

issues," he said.

"There were a lot of questions about society and issues which affect young people, such as teenage pregnancy, alcohol and education."

Andrew and Norah, along with Leanne Lewis, of Laurel Hill Community College, were picked from the 30 students to have an audience with Mr Trimble.

Along with his views on the

peace process, the Ulster Unionist leader told the students he believed ID cards would reduce under-age drinking and that he was against abortion.

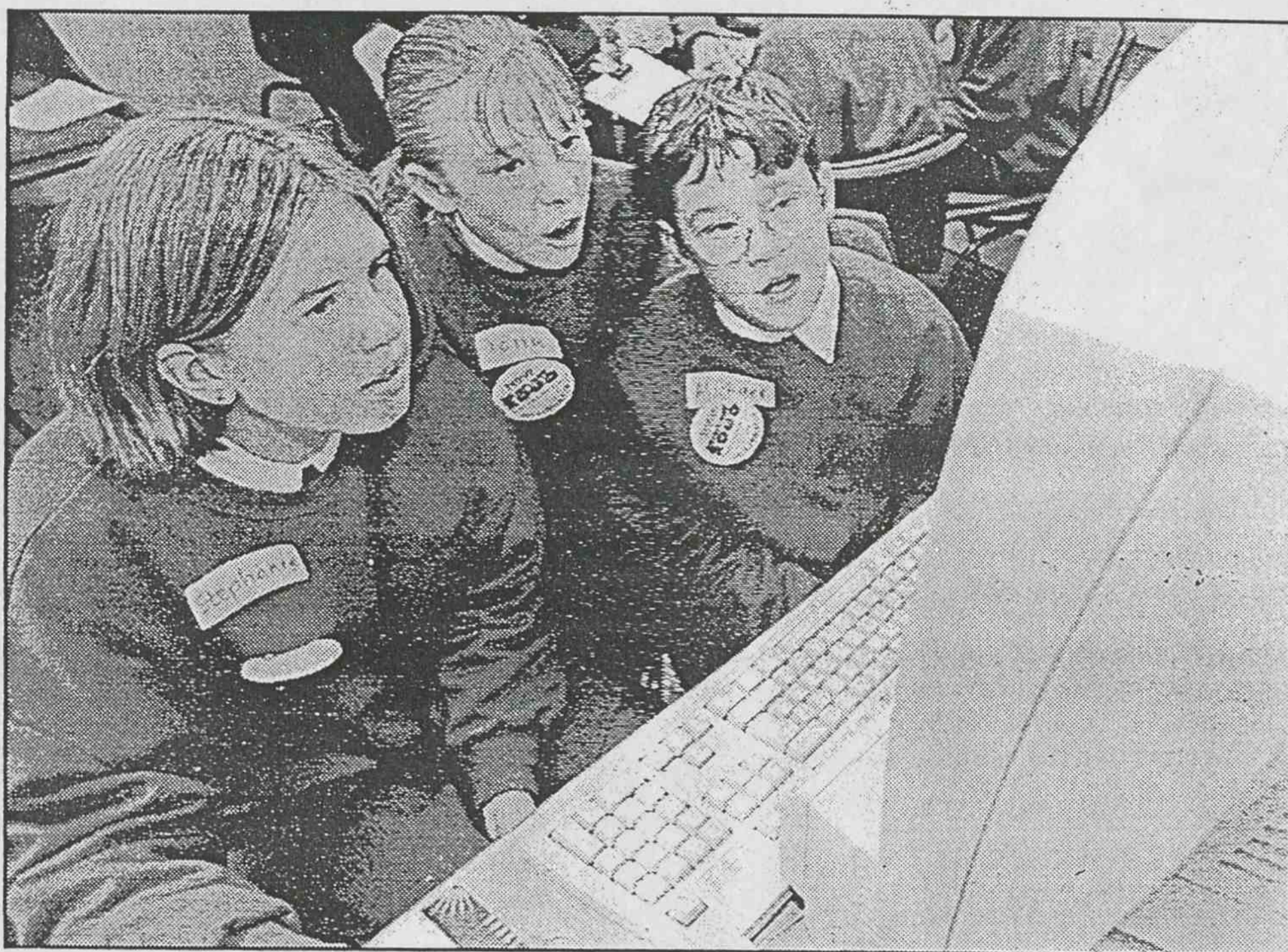
Martin Doherty, a Tesco TSN2K advisory teacher, said the pupils had all been very keen.

"They had some difficult and challenging questions. I'm sure the answers on the website will make interesting reading," he said.

Hi-tech kids look to the millennium

By PETER LEACH

The face of Barrow's mayor on a 50 foot screen greeting visitors to the Millennium Centre is a bit of a surreal sight to say the least. That unlikely image is just what takes place thanks to a group of Barrow schoolchildren from Thorncliffe School who have interviewed councillor Mary Irwin as part of a national internet project. Sponsored by superstore Tesco, SchoolNet 2000 reaches thousands of children all over the country by giving a child's view of our community as seen after the 21st century. In the form of interviews with local people, one initiative is to give every child in the country the chance to put a piece of work on the internet and help create the world's biggest educational internet site. Coordinating the North West area between Chorley in the south and Carlisle in the north, is Thorncliffe assistant head Derek Plumb, on secondment from the Barrow School for the 18 months term project. Plumb, 48, of Holyoake Road, Barrow, is acting as a primary teacher covering 600 children each week training teachers and visiting Tesco stores where the terminals using the internet are used. "It is very different to work in school," says Mr Plumb



HI-TECH KIDS FROM THORNCLIFFE SCHOOL: Looking to the future

REF:998146/216

"Though I'm in constant contact with teachers involved with the project, I find myself being my own support system and having to manage my own time...My laptop computer is my lifeline."

Mr Plumb believes the children are gaining an enormous amount from their involvement in SchoolNet 2000, not least the opportunity to see other children's work from other parts of the country.

"The children get an instant feedback," says Mr Plumb, "It is a highly motivational project."

"Children are using the

computer as a tool to enhance their learning and improve self-esteem, developing research and projects skills along the way."

The SchoolNet 2000 site is fully secure within itself. Children accessing it through the Tesco terminals can do so safely being unable to click onto sites outside the educational web.

Five local schools are currently involved in the project: Thorncliffe, Dane Ghyll, St George's and Ormsgill, all Barrow and Millom School.

As the project stands today, it involves 12,000 schools and 25,000 students who have

already produced 1,500 pieces of work.

SchoolNet 2000 has been sponsored by Tesco to the tune of £6m and the children's work will be part of the Learning Zone exhibit at the Millennium Dome.

For those unable to get to the Dome there will be a touch-screen computer in every Tesco store for use by customers wanting to see the site.

The website address is <http://www.tesco.schoolnet2000.com>

MILLENNIUM WATCH *Our look at the beginning of a new era*

Pupils putting town on the map



► **HI-TECH PROJECT** Hawthorn Primary School pupils, Dewi Harries and Rajveer Bahia. PICTURES: Malcolm Morgan

IF CHILDREN are the future of the new millennium, then youngsters at a Valleys school are helping to lead the way.

Hi-tech pupils at Hawthorn Primary School, Rhydyfelin, are celebrating the millennium by putting their town onto the electronic world map.

Forget looking up Paris or New York on the Internet, you will soon be able to learn all about Rhydyfelin, at the touch of a computer button.

The school is at the forefront of a UK-wide millennium Internet project - Tesco Schoolnet 2000 - which is putting work by every child onto a giant website.

Funded by Tesco, this will be accessible via the Internet on computers anywhere in the world.

The children at Hawthorn Primary are using the project to tell the world all about their town, its past and its present.

Since they started the project

YOUNGSTERS at a South Wales school are celebrating the millennium by helping to put their town on the global Internet.

The Echo spoke to pupils about their work.

By Will Smale
Millennium Man

in the autumn, they have been interviewing their older relatives about their childhood memories.

Back in school, all the children type their results into computers, before being entered onto the website.

The youngsters will also be compiling a guide to Rhydyfelin today, by describing what the town is like and what they do in

their spare time.

Kyle Perry, eight, said: "My grandfather said that when he was my age he had to wash in a tin bath in front of the fire. And there was a huge shelter in case of bombs."

The children's work will also be displayed at the town's Tesco store and in the education zone of the Millennium Dome.

Helping to co-ordinate the project at the school is teacher Jonathon Rigby.

He said: "The children are really enjoying the project. It is a tremendous way to introduce them to the Internet."

"It is also an excellent way for them to learn more about the history of the town and the experiences of their older relatives," he added.

Some 956 schools across Wales have signed up to the Tesco Schoolnet 2000 project.

The Internet site will be com-

MEMORIES OF A CENTENARIAN

Tryphena has seen the century unfold

TRYPHENA Price recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

Born in Appledore, Devon, in 1899, she was one of eight children.

The family moved to Cardiff when she was a child and she attended Albany Road School, Roath.

She met her husband Lyndhurst in the city and together they set



up and ran a green-grocer's shop in Crwys Road.

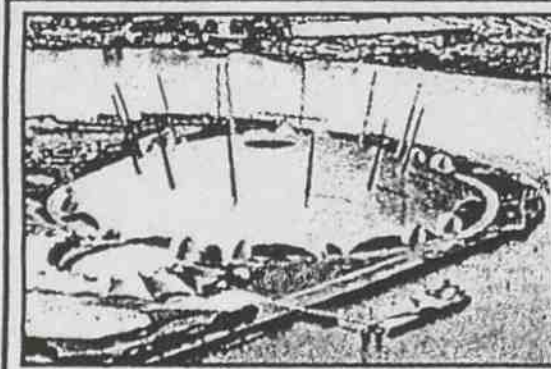
The couple, who

have a son Peter, were elders at the City Temple.

They also brought up a boy called Tom as their son, taking him out of a hostel to live with the family.

Tryphena was still active and a regular day-tripper until she was 91.

She has four grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.



The Newport Chartist Rising 1839.

The 19th Century Chartist movement is seen by many as the forerunner of British Socialism.

A campaign for democratic reform, it was formed in the 1830s.

The working class movement attracted great support in the

MILLENNIUM FACTS

Industrial valleys of Monmouthshire.

It produced a charter which, most importantly, demanded a vote for all men over 21, a secret ballot and equal constituencies.

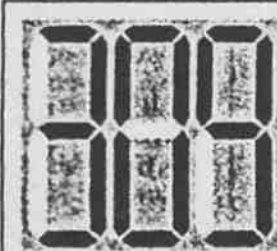
The charter also called for annual elections to Parliament

and a wage for MPs.

On November 4 a giant Chartist march to Newport was frustrated by heavy rain.

When it reached the town centre, troops in the Westgate Hotel fired at the crowds.

Ten men were killed and the three leaders - John Frost, Zephaniah Williams and William Jones - were transported.



DAYS TO GO

GENERATIONS OF DIFFERENCE

SEVEN-YEAR-OLD Bethan James interviewed her 'Bampi' James about his childhood memories:

Q: How did you have a bath?

A: We had a tin bath which we kept out the back. A few people would use the same water.

Q: How did you cook?

A: With an open fire. The kettle was always on the boil.

Q: What did you do for entertainment?

A: We listened to the

radio.

Q: What is your earliest childhood memory?

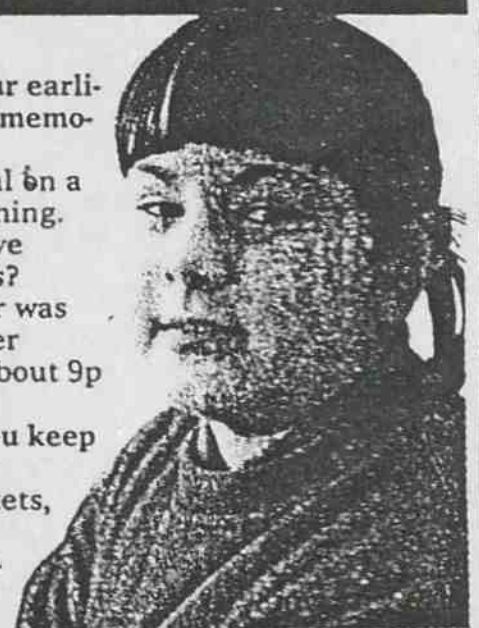
A: Picking coal on a Saturday morning.

Q: Did you have school dinners?

A: Yes. Dinner was about 1s 9d per week, that's about 9p today.

Q: How did you keep warm in bed?

A: With blankets, coats and hot water bottles.



WHAT will you be doing for your millennium celebrations?

Give Will Smale, Millennium Man, a call on 01222 583583 or write to him at the South Wales Echo, Thomson House, Havelock Street, Cardiff CF1 1XR.

SOUTH WALES ARGUS

28 JANUARY 1999

Pupil scoops prize in InterNet competition

A LLANTILIO Pertholey CV Primary School pupil has scooped a prize in a national competition.

Craig Godfellow, 9, of Abergavenny, won a CD ROM multimedia encyclopedia as runner-up in the Tesco SchoolNet 2000 competition.

Over 12,000 schools in the UK are taking part in the competition to launch the world's biggest ever

school's Internet project.

Youngsters are investigating their communities, to create a record of life in Britain - a Domesday book for the 21st century.

The result - Tesco SchoolNet 2000 - will be showcased in the Learn Zone at the Millennium Dome from January 1, 2000.

6 Millennium Show



■ Karen Scrimgeour ready to take to the air.

Millenium high flyer ¹⁰

A DUNDEE woman may one day be flying high on a trapeze to help the nation celebrate the new millennium.

Karen Scrimgeour, 25, started rigorous training yesterday to become one of the stars of the Millennium Dome.

She was one of 43 candidates to win through nationwide auditions for the Millennium Experience, which is expected to be seen by more than 12million visitors to the dome site in London's Docklands.

The former Grove Academy pupil proved she had the right combination of upper body strength, a head for heights and the desire to perform.

Karen's training at the dome's Circus Space will include acrobatics and aerial disciplines as well as movement, performance and arts administration.

But her place in the dome ensemble will only be secure if she gets through the one-year training course.

"You have got to be positive. Getting accepted

was fantastic. It hasn't quite hit me yet. We haven't started the hard work yet," said Karen, who used to live in Broughty Ferry and teach contemporary and jazz dance at Dundee College.

"I was getting very staid teaching all the time. I need to be performing — it's my last chance, I'm getting old," she added.

Karen has a BA in performing arts from the Northern School of Contemporary Dance in Leeds. As well as her work at Dundee College, she has headed youth groups at Kirkton Neighbourhood Centre.

Recently she moved into circus, performing as a fire-eater with The Circus Act and Ringworm Brothers Circus.

In the Millennium Dome the artists will be performing in a space the size of Trafalgar Square at a height of 145ft — the same as Nelson's Column — three to five times a day.

"I don't have any fear whatsoever about heights. You can't be afraid as a fire-eater," Karen said.

Roll up for the fun of the Dome!

By **PAT COUGHTREY**

MILLENNIUM show producers are looking to Newham to help circus-style entertainers to reach staggering new heights.

Dozens of young, fit, energetic acrobats and aerial artistes are already training for the gruelling three-times-daily performances planned throughout 2000 at the Dome in Greenwich.

The live shows will be under the Dome roof, performed over an area the size of Trafalgar Square and featuring a structure some 50 meters off the ground.

But the stars' are feeling the squeeze at their current training venue in Hackney which is nowhere near as big as the real thing.

So for a taste of what's to come show producers plan to hone the performers' skills on the wide open spaces of Stratford's Three Mills Green.

An official request for temporary use of the site for rehearsals and training is now lodged with Newham Council.

The stand-out feature will be an oblong shaped, steel-framed structure on which the aerial performers will train and rehearse what should prove eye-popping routines.

It will measure 30m high and wide and 45m long and will be similar to that which producers expect to leave visitors awestruck over the year long festival.

Permission being given, the 44 strong first group of performers will transfer to the site later this year, creating a hole for another batch of recruits at the existing training base.

- 7 FEB 1999

Millennium celebrations are up in the air for high-flying Scot

SCOT Karen Scrimgeour will hold the country's high society in thrall as part of a trapeze spectacular to celebrate the millennium.

Dance Karen, 25, from Dundee, will be performing 150 feet up in the air in front of the Queen as part of a gala show at the Millennium Dome in Greenwich.

The sheer size of the dome dictates that this will be no ordinary circus act. Karen will have trained and rehearsed for fifteen months before the show plays to its first official

BY COLIN CALDER

audience. Karen described the Millennium Show auditions as the hardest day of her life.

She said: "They they had me doing tumbling, trapeze and endless push-ups and sit-ups to test endurance. I couldn't walk for days afterwards."

She describes herself as "a dancer, first and last", but will be known to some Dundee fitness-seekers as having run conditioning classes at Kirkton Community Centre. When

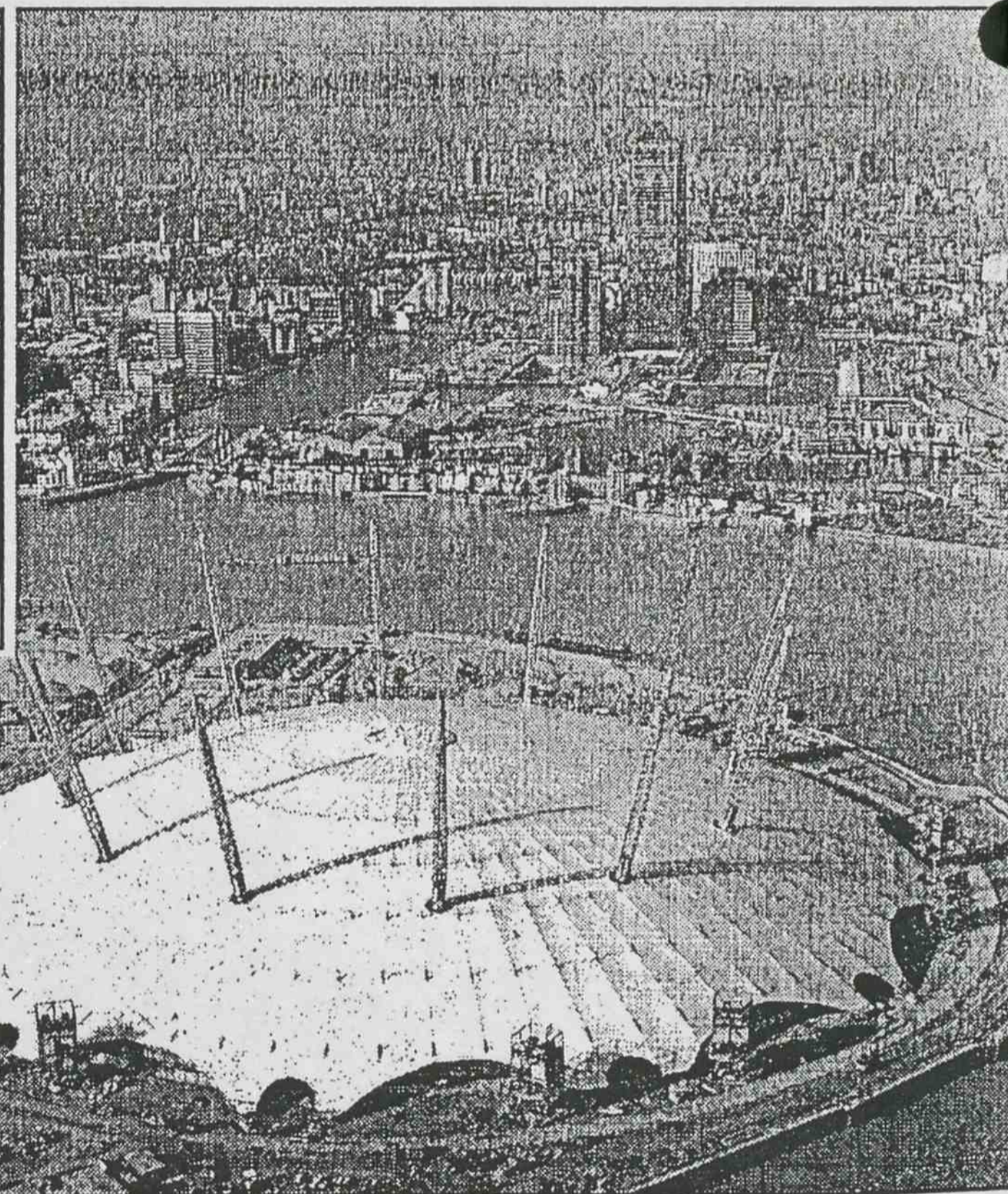
the Millennium Show launches, there will be a cast of 200 available to put on regular shows for up to 1200 people a time - and they will be performing to as many as 12 million people in total.

Karen added: "It's one of the most amazing things I have ever done. It's just so exciting to be part of something so big."

The format for the Millennium Dome opening is still under wraps and Karen will not begin formal rehearsals - or be paid - until September.



IN THE SWING: Karen faces months of hard practice



ON TOP OF THE WORLD: Karen's show will be a high in her career

Amy's aim is to be trapeze trouper

Dome delight for Notts gymnasts

By TIM UTTON

NOTTS teenager Amy Welbourn is on her way to the Millennium Dome to perform in a circus extravaganza for tens of thousands of visitors.

Amy, 18, passed a gruelling audition day at Rushcliffe Leisure Centre in her bid to win a place on the trapeze for the biggest party of the millennium.

A total of 400 young gymnasts are being auditioned up and down the country to fill a 45-strong circus troupe which will perform in the *Millennium Show* at the dome in London.

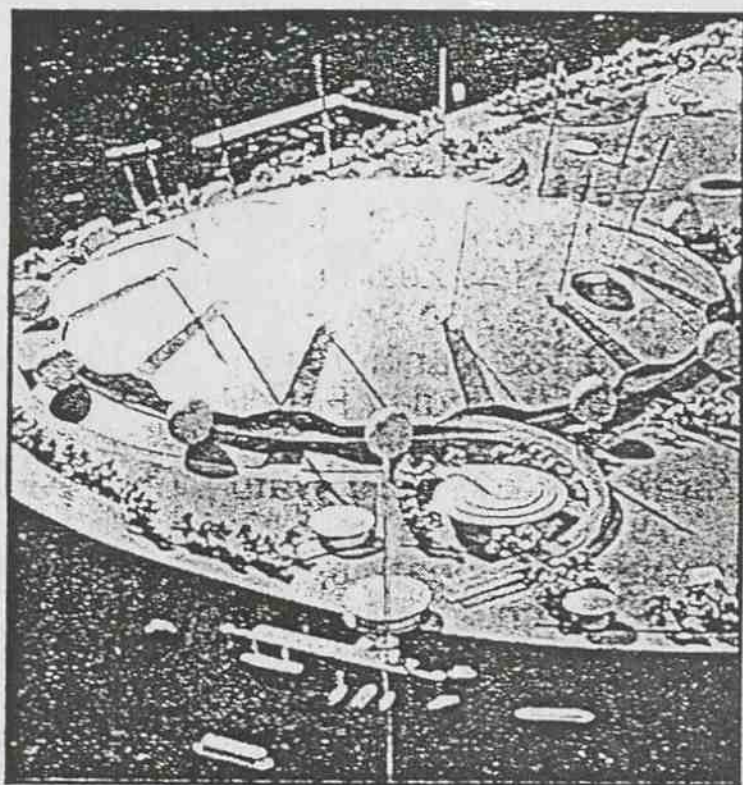
Twenty young hopefuls gathered at Rushcliffe Leisure Centre at the weekend for the gymnastic audition.

The exact format of the show is being kept under wraps but the flying trapeze, tightrope, stilt walking, acrobatics and dance are all expected to feature in what will be a "mainly aerial" show, spokesman Gabrielle Outram said, designed to take advantage of the Dome's height and size.

Chance

There will be five 20-minute performances a day.

Amy, in her final year of A-levels at Rushcliffe Comprehensive School in West Bridgford, has been a gymnast since the age of five and trains at the Notts School of Gymnastics, which is based at the school.



GLITTERING PRIZE: Shows at the Millennium Dome

Along with other hopefuls who passed the audition, she will now have an interview before proceeding to a six-month course in circus skills.

Rehearsals start in September and Amy will take a year out from her studies during the show and training.

Amy, of Tulip Road, Awsworth, said: "It's the chance of a lifetime."

"I'm looking forward to learning all the circus skills and performing in front of 12,000 people at one sitting."

"I'm really excited about it."

She will be joining other young gymnasts from Notts, 18-year-old Robert Winch of Edwalton and Matt Clinch, 23, from Woodthorpe, who are also on their way to the Dome.

Robert, who is a friend of Amy's, was the other Notts gymnast to pass the weekend audition. Matt got through at an earlier audition.

Amy's mother Jean said: "We're extremely proud of her."

"She's a very hard-working young lady and when she put her mind to it I thought she'd have a very good chance."

GREAT GUIDE FOR SCOTTISH JOB HUNTERS

Thursday, January 28, 1999

Recruitment RECORD

TECHNICAL • CLERICAL • MANUAL • PART-TIME • FULL-TIME



A HEAD START

A jewellery designer has branched out successfully into headwear

BACK PAGE



LEARNING CURVE

A council's highly-rated training scheme is looking for new apprentices

INSIDE

If you're young, fit and want to be a performer, then the auditions for the millennium show could be the break you're after, writes
MARJORIE CALDER

WHATEVER your views of the Millennium Dome, it is certainly going to be a major focus of attention in a few months' time, and in the year 2000.

And if you are young, fit and talented, it could offer you the chance to show off your skills to massive audiences, giving a real boost to those seeking to build a career in entertainment.

The New Millennium Experience Company (NMEC) is holding auditions in Scotland throughout February as part of a recruitment drive to find more than 50 dancers, acrobats and gymnasts.

The new recruits will be part of the 100-strong team putting on the Millennium Show spectacular, playing to up to 12,000 people at a time.

The show, which is scheduled to run six times a day, will begin with the grand opening ceremony and will carry on right through the coming year.

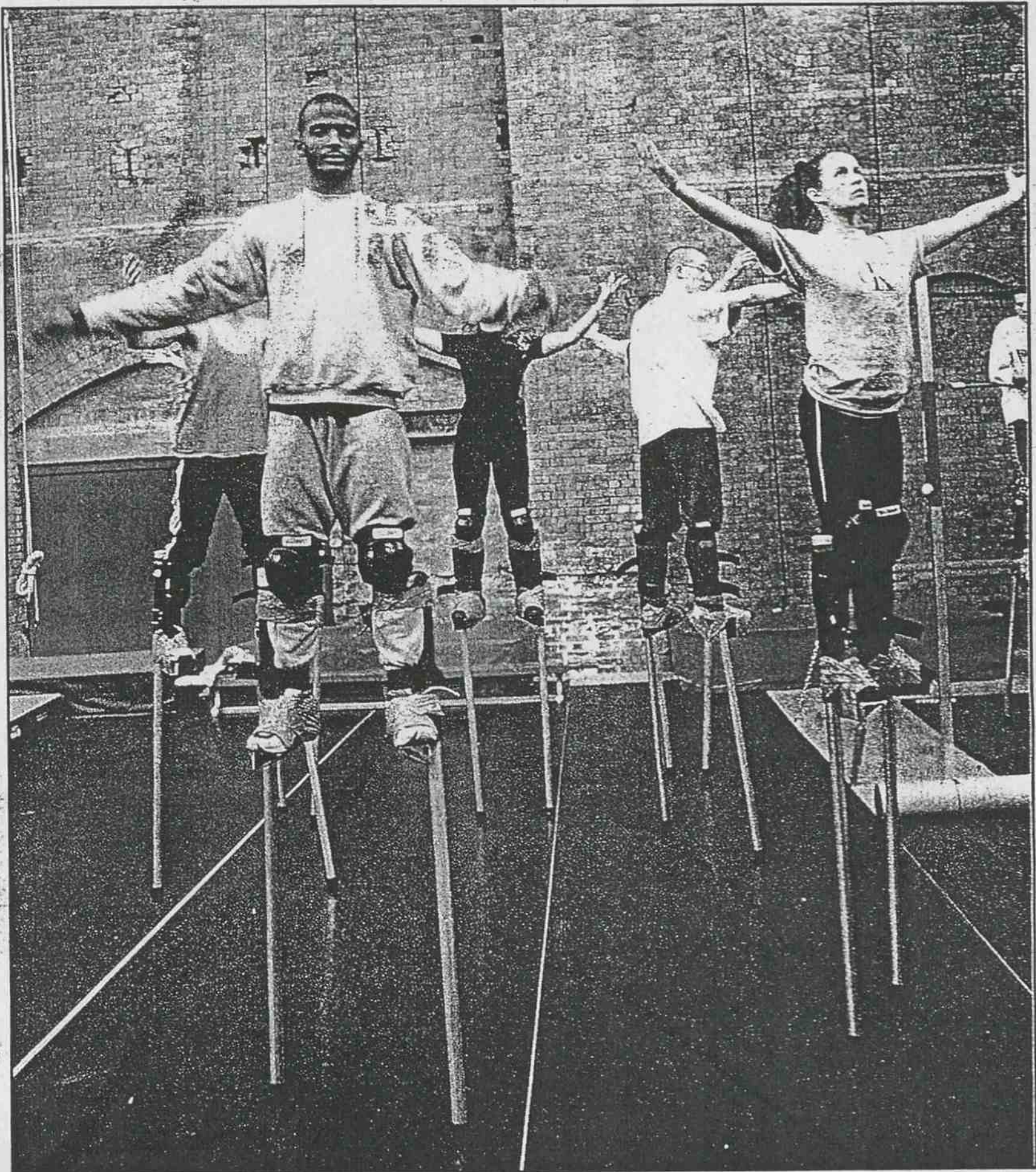
But anyone looking to join the millennium show will have to have a good head for heights.

To make the most of the dome space, performers will be working at heights of up to 150 feet off the ground, and training will be rigorous to ensure all performers are both confident and safe working 50 metres above most people's heads.

FOR those selected, training will begin in April and, not surprisingly, this will have a real circus flavour to it.

All the lessons will be undertaken at the Circus Space training academy in London, which has all the necessary expertise and facilities to develop raw energy and talent.

NMEC particularly wants to hear from anyone who has already achieved standards of excellence as a gymnast, trampolinist, diver,



STAR PERFORMERS ... acrobats and dancers are needed to put on a spectacular to celebrate the new millennium

Dome service

dancer, circus performer or rock climber.

Applicants must be aged 18 years or over by September 1, 1999 and, although there is no upper age limit, the standards of physical strength and agility required mean that no-one over 30 has so far made the grade.

Jennie Page, chief executive of NMEC, said: "The Millennium Show really is a once in a lifetime opportunity for young people in the

country to perform in the greatest show in 2000."

For those in the show, it will be a stepping stone to a career in entertainment and performance. And, for the audiences, it will be a breathtaking demonstration of aerial acrobatic skills in the stunning theatrical setting of the dome.

The show designer is Mark Fisher, who has created rock spectacles for the likes of U2,

Tina Turner, Pink Floyd and the Stones.

Add the multi-talented Peter Gabriel as musical director, and this is a UK showcase for talent which could be second to none.

This week in Record Recruitment we will give you all the information you need about how to get your name in the ring.

● FULL STORY - PAGE 3

FREE WITH THE RECORD EVERY THURSDAY

Only one Scot is among the dancers in the Millennium Show line-up. But that may change, as MARJORIE CALDER discovers

RIGHT now about 45 youngsters from all over the country are limbering up in circus workshops to prepare for the opening of the Millennium Dome.

All of the performers are hard at work in the East End of London and only one of them is Scottish.

The New Millennium Experience Company is hoping to redress that imbalance by auditioning in Scotland next month.

Only the energetic and the talented need apply, since training and rehearsals are strenuous. But the prize is to be part of the Millennium Ensemble, putting on live shows for an estimated audience of 12 million throughout the year 2000.

Mark Fisher, creative director and designer of the Millennium Show says the Dome is on a scale that nobody has worked with before. The space is bigger than most people have ever been in, and that will have an impact that is not yet fully appreciated.

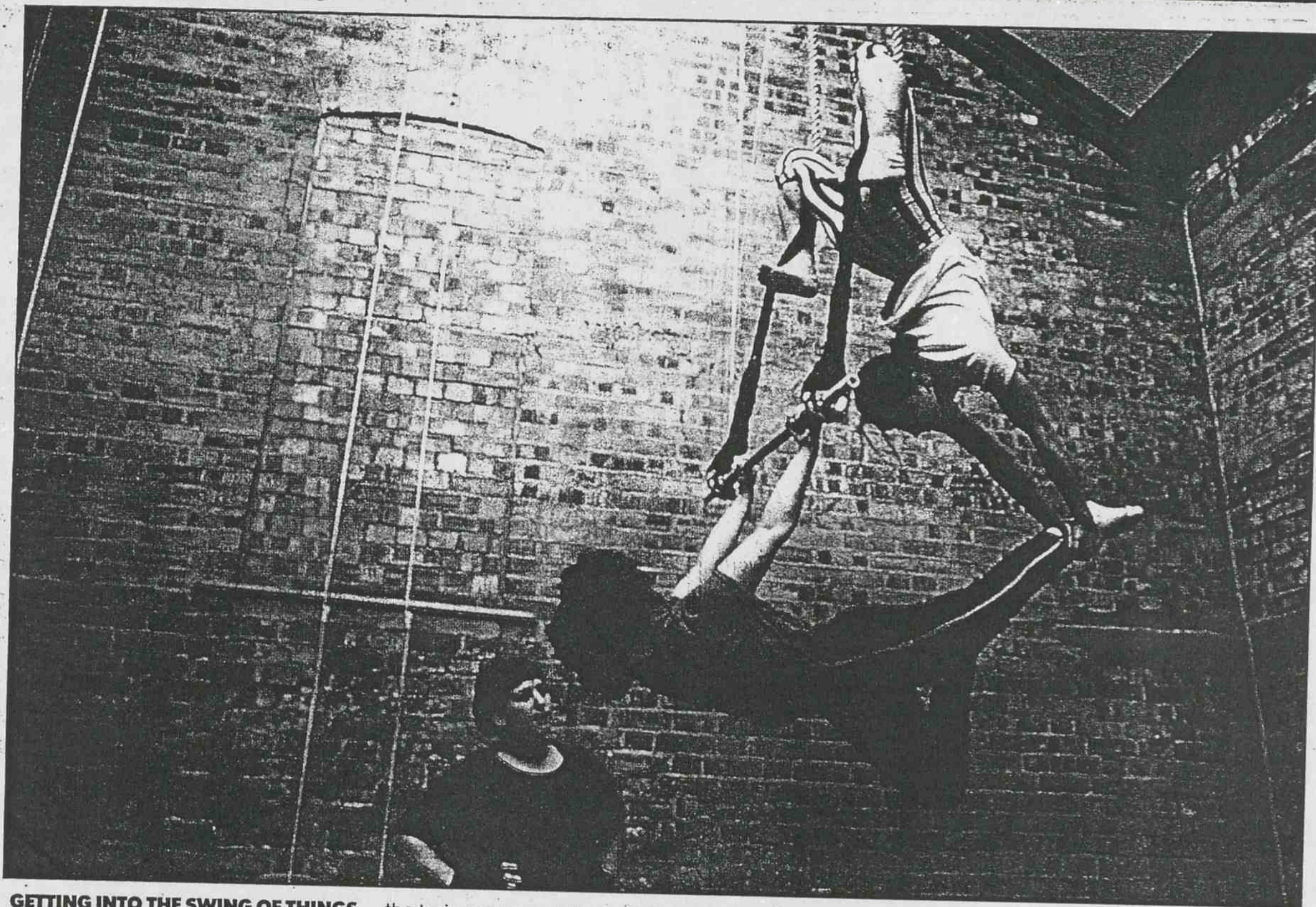
To fill it requires a spectacle that uses the language of the Notting Hill Carnival and the stagecraft of rock concerts. It will not be a circus but will use the stunning techniques of a circus to produce a spectacular show.

Artistic director Micha Bergese said: "In the last decade, contemporary circus has been reinvented and performers require different and challenging technical skills."

Young people who wish to perform in the show should have no doubts about the demands that will be made of them. They will need to be very fit, dedicated and brave to meet the performance demands of the show.

But they will have the reward of entertaining up to 12,000 people at a time, in a show that will live in the memories of millions of audiences for many years.

It could be important to keep that goal in sight as trainees who get



GETTING INTO THE SWING OF THINGS ... the trainees are put through strenuous training in the run-up to rehearsals for the show in September

CIRCUS skills

through the auditions should not expect to be paid for their efforts until they graduate as full cast members and start rehearsals in September.

During their training, however, they are eligible for grants and there is a full team of welfare officers at NMEC, who can assist with travel and accommodation problems.

associated with the required move to London.

Training is full-time although, unlike the September intake, young performers joining this spring will not receive any accredited qualification from their efforts.

They will, however, receive personal and financial support and the kind of training and exposure

that could radically alter the course of their future careers.

NMEC spokesperson, Gabrielle Owtram says that they are looking for young people with at least two years' experience in dance, trampoline, diving, performance - even rock climbing, because of the heights involved.

She also points out that this could be a career diversification for gymnasts, whom she describes as disciplined and used to rigorous training. Yet many may have never dreamed of a career in entertainment.

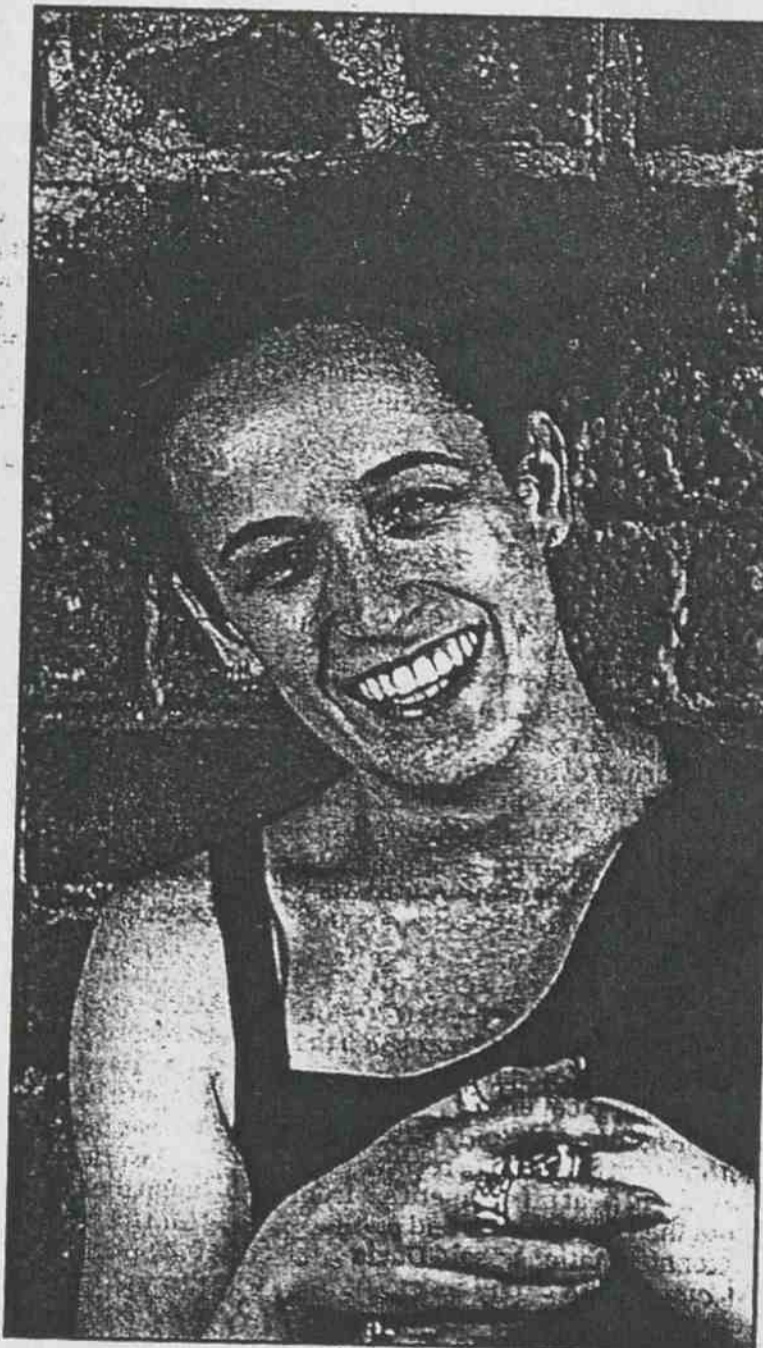
If this is your dream, there is no time to waste. Scottish auditions are imminent and those interested should call the 24-hour information hotline right away on 0800 665498.

You will be sent an information pack and an application form and, if successful, will be asked to audition.

Don't worry if you don't hear back right away, however, as NMEC are holding further auditions elsewhere in the country and will pay the travel expenses of those they want to see.

More experienced performers who don't need such a long lead time to reach peak capability will be recruited later in the year. These professional entertainers will be allowed to keep their feet on the ground while the ensemble work high above.

Anyone who fits that bill can apply, sending a CV and photograph to Liz Ellis, the New Millennium Experience Company, Gate 1, Draw Dock Road, Greenwich, London SE10 0BB.



FLYING SCOTSWOMAN ... dancer Karen is, so far, the only Scot in the 45-strong squad

DANCING QUEEN

KAREN Scrimgeour, 25, from Dundee is the ONLY Scot so far to have joined the current squad of 45 artists and dancers recruited last September by the New Millennium Experience Company.

She is looking for company from closer to home and is her own best advert for the training that she has received at Circus Space.

Karen first saw an advert for the NMEC auditions on TV and wrote off right away. She says that the audition was very rigorous.

She added: "It was probably the hardest day of my life, in fact. I could barely walk for days."

Karen is first and foremost a dancer, but the auditioning trainers had her doing tumbling and trapeze work as well as what she describes as endless sit-ups and push-ups.

But it paid off and Karen

- moved to London and joined the full-year training course last autumn, which she describes as "amazing". She said: "I have never done anything so exciting."

- She is living in accommodation set up for her by NMEC welfare advisers as she gets a grant while studying, but says the move to London was great and, as a dancer, she had always expected to move around for jobs.

- Karen originally started out with an NC (National Certificate) in dance from Dundee College, and followed it up with a three-year degree course at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance in Leeds.

- A period of teaching, unemployment and even fire-eating for street theatre followed but she says she never expected to be part of anything so big.

- She said: "I will always be a dancer first, but my day incorporates so many different

- things now that I have never done before, like the trampolines and trapeze.

- "Without doubt, it will be good for my longer-term career, and I'm just happy to be part of something so big."

- If you are in any doubt of the standards of fitness required, take a look at Karen's schedule over the last few months.

- In a typical training week, she will do approximately 25 hours a week of physical training and 10 hours of performance and academic training.

- That includes 10 hours of conditioning, five hours of gymnastics, 10 hours of aerial work and five hours of classes in performance (stage-craft, improvisation, maskwork, clown).

- In addition, Karen has five hours of theory classes including juggling, arts administration and production techniques.

- Are you up for it?

Karen selected to perform in millennium experience

THE MILLENNIUM Dome will be a home from home for a year to one lucky Broughty Ferry woman after she was selected to take part in the New Millennium Experience Show.

Karen Scrimgeour (25) took part in auditions held in Cumbernauld in August and has been selected as one of only 42 from throughout the UK and abroad to take part in the training course for the show.

Her audition involved performing on the trapeze, some tumbling and a dance class. Karen, who attended Grove Academy, is a freelance professional dancer who specialises in jazz and street style.

She is also a member of Ringworm Brothers Circus, which means that she is well suited for the task ahead of her—her skills include fire-eating and body roasting.

Karen will attend The Circus Space in east London, the UK's premier

circus training school—to complete a one-year Certificate of Higher Education course in Performing Arts/Circus.

"It's excellent to be chosen from so many different auditions," she said. "There is a year until the shows begin so there will be a lot of training until then."

It is expected that Karen will perform in front of audiences of up to 12,000 people every show and she is looking forward to the huge crowds.

7 Jobs/General

High and mighty!

**Words: Simon Osborne
Pictures: Glen Tillyard**

THE Millennium Dome will be one of the world's largest enclosures when it is finished.

A construction team of 1,200 have been working on the project to make sure everything runs to schedule — the completion deadline is not negotiable.

One of the men charged with seeing that the operation goes smoothly and according to plan is Peter English, dome and site development manager, whose office overlooks the huge construction.

"It is very difficult to compare it to any other project — there is nothing quite like this anywhere else," said Mr English.

He explained that by early 1996 the design proposals for the millennium exhibition featured a range of four-storey pavilions grouped around a central arena.

But people involved in the engineering and construction side of the project grew anxious that the plans were not progressing rapidly enough and the idea of the Millennium Dome was born.

The building itself will cost £80 million and that is £80 per square metre, which is about the cost of a garden shed from a DIY shop

~ Peter English

"There were two problems," said Mr English. The first was that Greenwich peninsula is a cold and draughty place and secondly we on the construction side wanted more details.

"So in May 1996 they came up with the idea of putting an umbrella over the whole thing. That enabled us to get in and get it built so the exhibitions could be put up later.

"And it also means that people will be protected from the weather when they move around."

Mr English said the Dome was built using existing technology on a very large scale.

"It is a very inexpensive and economical form of construction," he said.

"The building itself will cost £80 million and that is £80 per square metre, which is about the cost of a garden shed from a DIY shop."

The 130-acre site will be car free except for disabled access and essential staff vehicles.

The vast majority of the estimated 12 million visitors are expected to use London Underground — Europe's largest Tube station is being built next to the Dome and it will take people 12 minutes to get out to Greenwich from Waterloo Station on the Jubilee Line.

Amazing facts on the Dome

TEN record-breaking facts about the Millennium Dome.

- It is the largest dome in the world — twice the size of the USA's Georgia Dome.
- It has the biggest roof in the world — covering 20 acres or 80,000 square metres.
- It is the largest fabric structure in world — featuring one million square feet of teflon-coated fibre glass.
- It is the world's strongest fabric structure — it could support the weight of a jumbo jet.
- It has the largest capacity of any single covered space — if it was turned upside down it would take 3.8 billion pints of beer to fill it.
- It could also contain two Wembley Stadiums, 10 St Paul's Cathedrals, Egypt's Great Pyramid or the Eiffel Tower (on its side).
- It includes the most amount of cable in a building — 70 kilometres of steel manufactured in Doncaster.
- The largest Underground station in the world is being built next the Dome.
- The largest previously polluted "brownfield site" has been cleaned up and brought back into public use — 181 acres on the Dome site and 300 acres on the Greenwich peninsula in all.
- The Dome will house the largest concentration of visitor attractions under one roof in the world.

continues.



Ashleigh Down

...GETS A LIFE

The continuing adventures of a single mum

THURSDAY evening, 9pm. Mark's parents still hadn't arrived. They were supposed to have got here two hours ago. The delay gave me an extra 120 minutes to work myself into a sweat.

"Ashleigh, would you please relax," said Mark. "They're only human."

"Mark," I said. "They're your parents."

Jamie was standing on the settee in his pyjamas trying to knock out the living room lightbulb with his yo-yo.

"Oh my God, they killed Kenny," he said.

"Jamie..."

For the past few weeks, when there's a gap in the conversation, one or other child has come out with the South Park catchphrase. South Park is a late night cartoon featuring children who make Bart Simpson look as wholesome as muesli. As far as I know, neither Jamie nor Em has seen it but they know the storylines and think it's the best thing since Michael Owen.

I went back into the kitchen to check the dinner. The salad hadn't rotted yet, the quiche was still in one piece and the potatoes were bubbling in the pan.

Then there was a ring on the doorbell. I sort of hovered in the background while Mark and his mum and dad said their hellos, and the dog jumped all over them, and then me and Em and Jamie stepped forward and shook hands.

"I expect you'd like something to eat," I said, Mrs Perfect Hostess.

"No, don't go to any trouble," said Mark's mum. "We stopped on the way down."

"Oh," I said. I couldn't think of anything else to say at all.

"Did you have a good journey down from Scotland?" asked Em. I beamed at her. Ten million Brownie points to my daughter.

The next hour or so was taken up with cone-by-cone descriptions of the nightmare that is Trying To Get Into and Through Bristol at present. Mark had warned his parents about the M32 so they'd gone down the M5 and got stuck on the Avonmouth bridge and then they'd got off at Clevedon and got stuck on the Long Ashton bypass and then they'd taken the wrong turn off the Cumberland basin and bla di bla di bla.

"Oh well," I quipped, "You're here now."

We all smiled at one another.

I'd made up my room as a guest room, but Mark's parents didn't want to put me to any trouble saying they'd be fine bedding down in the living room which meant a scramble for sheets, blankets and pillows and things.

It also meant having to eat breakfast with them the following morning. I'd assumed they'd be dozing in my bed well away from the war zone that is the Down household First Thing but because they weren't being a nuisance they ate with us instead.

When I got home on Friday evening, the house looked as it has never looked before. It was really clean. Not just superficially clean, but eat-your-meals-off-the-floor clean. The dog had been shampooed, the washing was drying on the line, the grass had been mowed and a tray of flapjacks was cooling in the kitchen. I tried to be grateful, but I just felt inadequate. No wonder Mark is such a slob. It must have been his only way of rebelling against super-efficient parents.

Saturday was the wedding in Devizes and that was OK apart from the fact that I didn't know anyone and Em was in a sulk as there were no boys there and it was so boring and Jamie was sick after drinking the wine at the bottom of everyone's glasses after the toast. Luckily, we didn't have to stay for the evening because Mark and his dad wanted to come home to watch Match of the Day.

I put the kids to bed, planning an hour's respite by myself in the bath with a book and a glass of wine, but when I went downstairs to fetch it, Mark's mum was clutching a towel and a bottle of shampoo.

"I expect you've had enough of me," she said. "You sit down and relax and I'll get out of your way for a bit if that's no bother."

"You just make yourself at home," I said, sitting down on the settee next to Mark. He squeezed my knee.

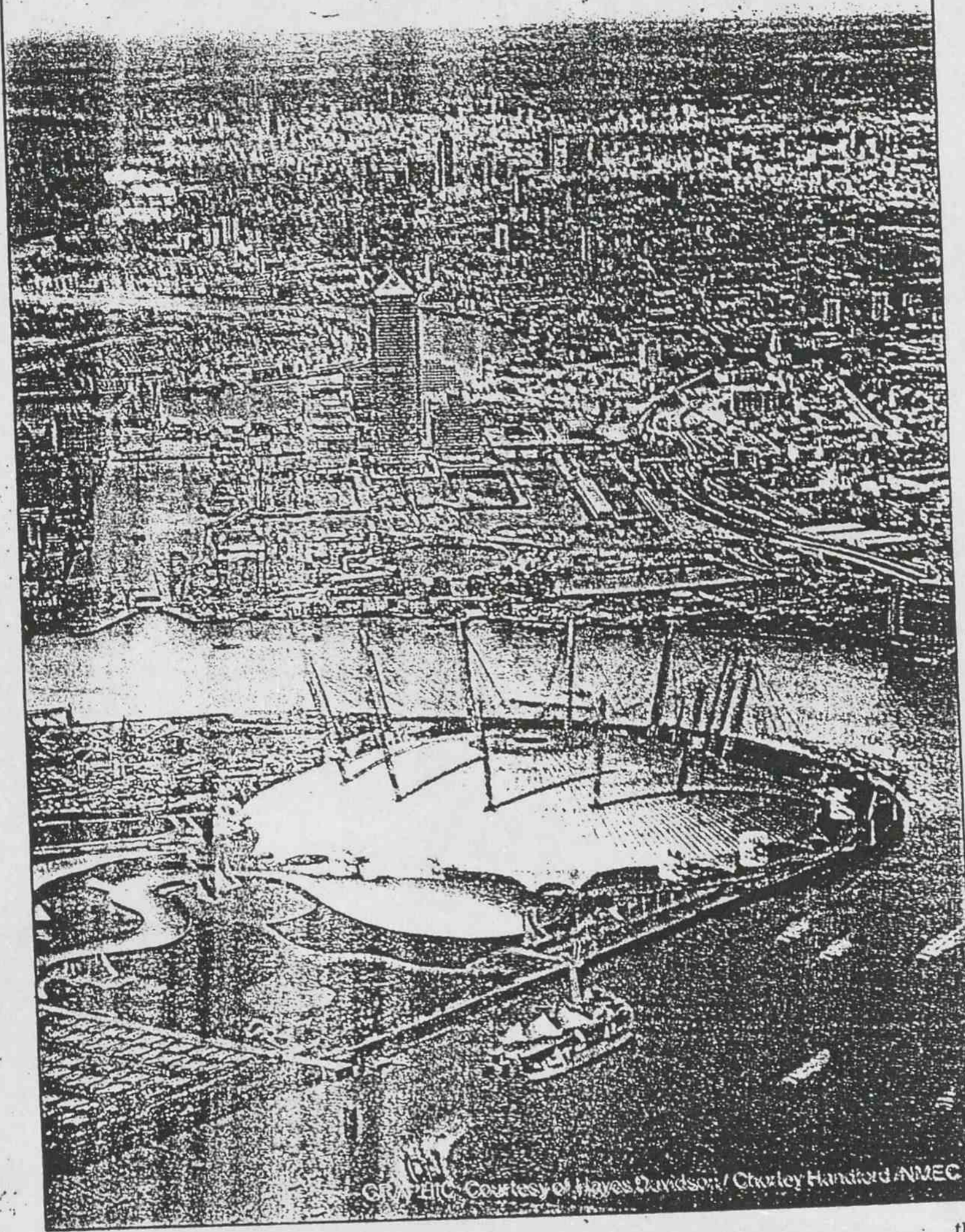
"This is great, Ashleigh. Thanks," he said.

"It's OK. No trouble at all."

About the only thing bigger than the Millennium Dome is the controversy surrounding its construction. Reporter **IAN ONIONS** pays a visit to a building site that promises to become one of the world's great tourist attractions



SPACE



GRAPHIC: Courtesy of Hayes Davidson / Charley Hamford AMEC

There's a party all over world

HERE'S what other countries are doing to celebrate the Millennium:

FRANCE: Events include building an eight-mile walkway alongside the River Seine, the re-opening of the Pompidou Centre and the placing of 2,000 giant metal fish above the water.

GERMANY: Events such as Expo 2000 in Hannover and Berlin 2000; many privately-financed festivals in several German cities.

HOLY LAND: Divine service in Jerusalem on Christmas Day 1999 and 2000; a number of scientific theological conferences;

religious music concerts and a programme of events called Bethlehem 2000.

FIJI: The country will be one of the first to see the sun rise on January 1, 2000. It will be staging a two-week festival of music and arts and there will be a millennium wall built on the 180th meridian which will be made of hollow bricks with messages inside that people can buy.

NEW ZEALAND: planning to have a time vault which will open at the start of the fourth millennium; installation of the world's largest tuned bell.

HUGE, massive, vast, enormous. None of these words begin to describe the sheer size of the Dome.

Even as I stared out from a viewing gantry at the construction work, my eyes failed to grasp just how big the structure really is.

I looked down at a mobile crane with a telescopic jib which would tower above most city centre streets.

Yet in the Dome, it looked so small, I felt as though I could stretch out my hand and pick it up as though it was a model lying on the ground.

Everything about the Dome is big — the eternal themes it is trying to convey, its aspirations, the number of people who will pay a visit and, of course, the bill.

The Millennium Experience, including the Dome, will cost £758 million.

Think what you can do with that kind of money — it's enough to make the Sultan of Brunei swallow hard.

The Dome will be the focus for Britain's celebrations of the new Millennium.

It will open on December 31, 1999 to start a year-long festival of British ideas and technology. The Dome will be divided into 14 zones, each depicting a specific theme.

For example, one of the zones will be devoted to the human body. A model larger than the Statue of Liberty will enable visitors to explore the wonders of human biology and medical science.

They will be able to see the effect of lifestyle choices, the way our bodies perform, and the future of fitness.

Other zones will explore themes such as the new world of work, transport for the future, communicating with others, and the wonders of our planet.

A central performance arena with enough room for an audience of 12,500, will present three 30-minute shows a day, using live performers and multimedia effects.

The Dome, the biggest structure of its type in the world, is built on the edge of a former gasworks site.

There are currently 450 workers on site, but this number will increase to a maximum of 2,500.

The rundown, 300-acre Greenwich peninsula is being transformed into a Millennium village with roads, hotels, homes, shops, leisure facilities and an extension to the London Underground.

Tourist experts believe the Dome will attract more than two million overseas visitors



Help ring in the changes

PUCKLECHURCH: New ringers are needed to join Pucklechurch Handbell Ringers. Anyone interested should go to 2 Westerleigh Road, next to Pucklechurch Local Store, on Tuesdays, between 7pm and 8pm. Call Marion Thorn on 937 3528 for details.

Mugs away

PUCKLECHURCH: A Millennium mug, £5.50, is on sale to raise funds for St Thomas a Becket Church.

Scouts sale

DOWNEND: The 85th Kingswood Scout Group is holding a table top sale on November 28 from 10am to noon at Quakers Road Church Centre, Quakers Road. Telephone 01454 632 007 to book a table.

Try a brush with art

HANHAM: New members are needed for Hanham Art Club which meets in the Folk Centre on Thursdays from 7pm to 9pm. Call Claire Angell on 967 5132 or Alan Coster 967 6192 for details.

Coffee break

FELTON: A coffee morning is to be held at Little Hands Pre School, Felton Village Hall, on October 21 from 10am to noon. If you have a pre-school child, there's a chance to meet playgroup leader Julie.

Take a partner

FILTON: An anniversary dance is being held on Saturday from 8pm to 11.30pm, at Filton Community Centre, Elm Park. For tickets, which cost £5 and include a buffet and Latin dance demonstration, call 942 4312.

Walk on wild side

SWINEFORD: Cotswold voluntary wardens lead a guided walk from Upton Cheyney to Hanging Hill, Prospect Stile and North Stoke on October 14. Meet at Swineford picnic site on the A431 at 10am.

Courses for women

KINGSWOOD: The Kingswood Women's branch of the Workers Educational Association is running courses designed for women. They include silk painting, herbalism, health, well-being and coping with stress. Further information is available from libraries or by calling 0117 932 5141.

Drive to help jobless

ST PHILIP'S: Unemployed young people, aged 19 to 25, who need help with reading, writing, maths, information technology, and job search or getting a driving licence, should call Tony Cahill at CSV Avon Training on 908 2266 and ask about the Young Drivers' Scheme.

Step out for a ball

DOWNEND: Dancing, including ballroom, old time, Latin American, jive and modern sequence, is held in Quakers Road Church Centre, every Friday from 8.15pm to 10.30pm. Admission, including refreshments, costs £1.50.

Ringin' call

KEYNSHAM: Bell ringers are needed to help St John the Baptist Church ring in the year 2000. The bell ringing team practises on Thursdays from 7.30pm until 9pm. Call Phillip Butler on 01225 874795 for details.

AGE

Just how big is big?

- Here are some comparisons of the scale of the Millennium Dome:
- Two Wembley Stadiums would fit inside
 - Nelson's Column could stand beneath the roof
 - The Eiffel Tower could lie on its side
 - There's enough room for 18,000 double-decker buses
 - The footprint of the dome is more than 10 times that of St Paul's Cathedral.

THE Millennium Experience, including the Dome, is costing a colossal £758 million.

What else could you spend the money on? Here are some ideas:

- Rebuild all the city's 132 primary schools three times and 22 secondary schools - twice
- Buy Manchester United football club for £625 million and have change left over to buy

a world class team of players at nearly £9 million each

- Build eight Harbourside Centres at £89 million each

- Pay all the council's running costs for two years. That means all our schools, social services, refuse collection, highways, planning, libraries, sports centres, youth

clubs, street lighting and vast range of other services which the council is responsible for

- Build two Second Severn Crossings at £300 million each and have lots of money left over to use them as a test track for your own Formula One racing team

- Buy your own fleet of seven Jumbo jets at a cost of nearly £110 million each

a year which will generate an annual £500 million.

In the year 2000, the Millennium Experience is estimated to generate £1 billion to the national economy, says the British Tourist Authority.

Taxpayers are not paying a penny towards the cost of the Dome or any of the bits and pieces that go with it.

The Millennium Commission, a branch of the National Lottery, is paying out £399 million.

The rest is coming from private sponsorship and income from ticket sales, merchandise, media rights, catering and other commercial outlets.

Admission prices for the Dome have not yet been

decided.

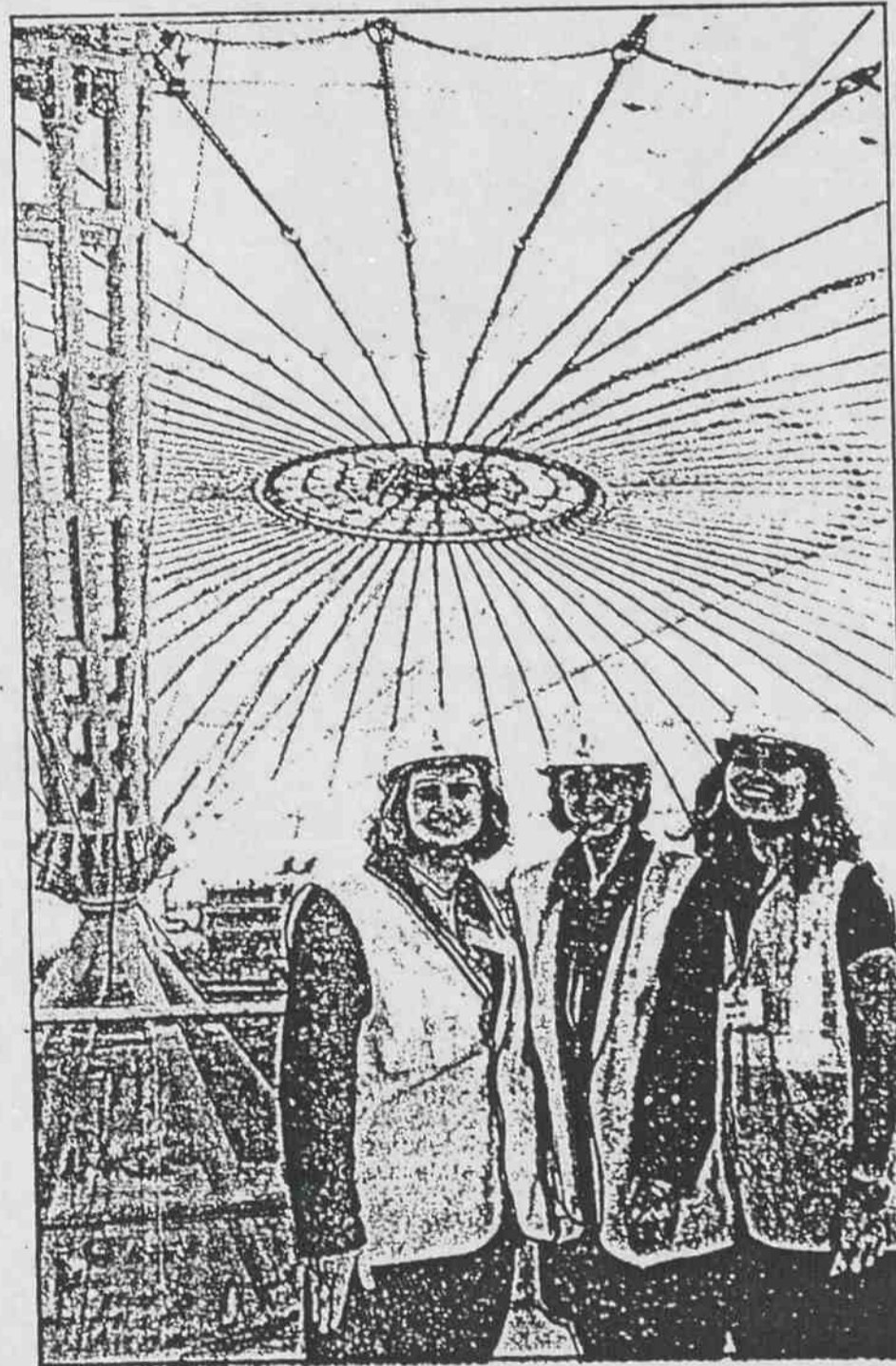
But they are likely to be in line with a family day out at a leisure centre.

For comparison, admission prices at Alton Towers in Staffordshire are £19.50 for adults and £15.50 for children aged four-13. A family ticket for two adults and two children under 14 is £59. A day out at the Dome for a family of four travelling from Bristol by car is unlikely to see much change from £100.

The car journey along the M4 and through London can take up to four hours, depending on traffic.

Watch out for special deals from tour companies and bus operators. By far the cheapest way for children to visit will be on a school trip.

TASK FORCE: Sarah Reeves, festival advisor, Lynn Fabes, education manager, and Angie Burton, partnership manager, are the trio spearheading the Millennium Experience for the South West



£100m kitty for regions

THE Dome will be the focus of Britain's celebrations for the new Millennium.

In theory, it will be possible for everyone to get involved in the year-long festival to mark the historic event.

A £100 million kitty has been set up so local communities can make their mark.

They are being urged to put forward bids of up to £5,000 for cash to finance their own events in their own areas.

Application forms for bids will be sent out early in the new year. If you want a form, phone 0870 600 1999.

Larger awards will be made to local authorities or similar organisations.

A series of seminars will be held in the

south west early next year to explain what's on offer.

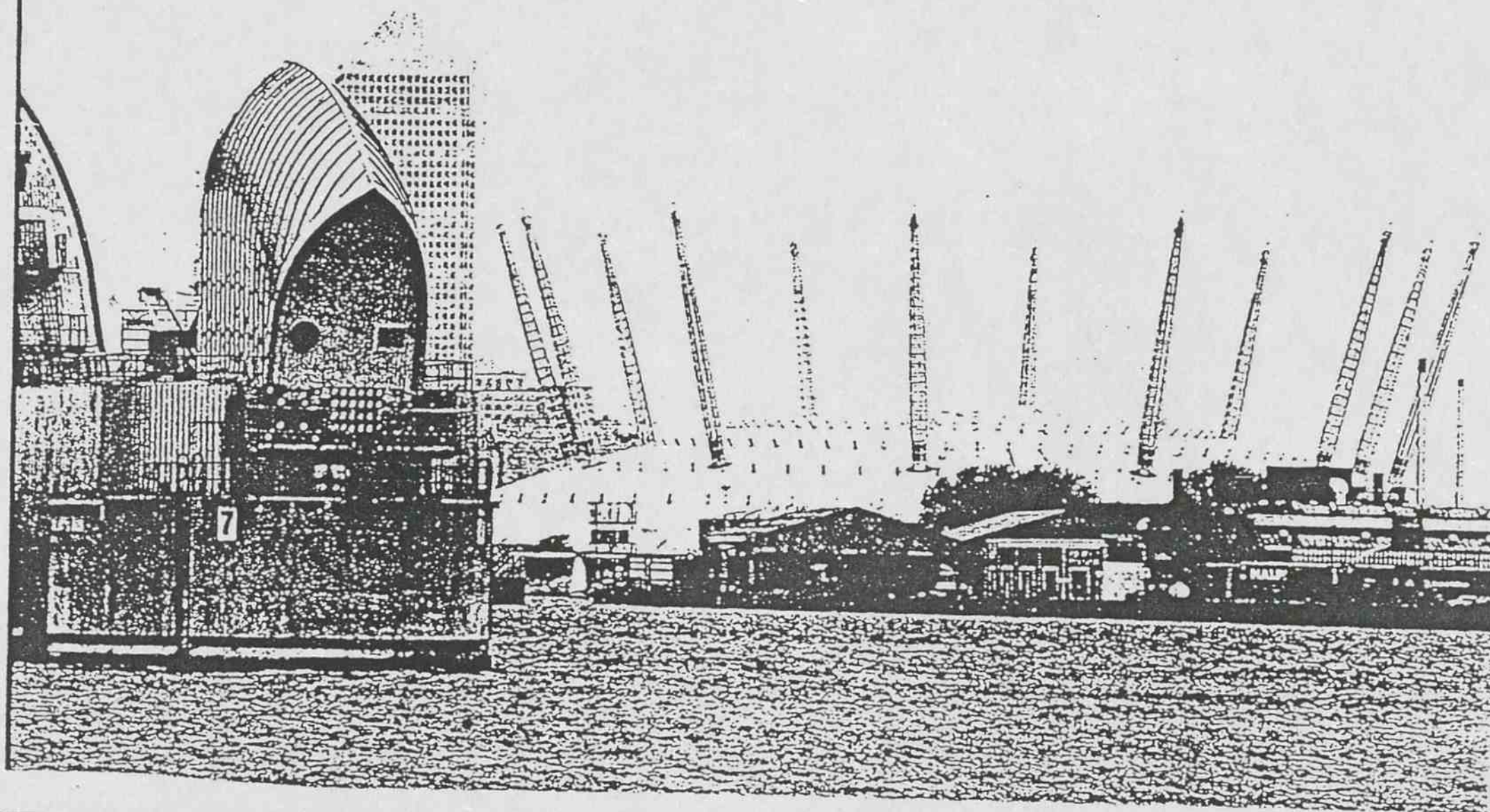
A programme of activities and events called The Challenge is also being organised.

Local projects will bring people together to promote education, the environment, history and the arts, technology and sport.

Each project will link to one of the exhibition zones in the Dome - and the best will be on show at Greenwich in the year 2000.

There is a Millennium Experience hotline for information on all aspects of the celebrations. It is 0870 603 2000.

Dome's day scenario



Turning their backs on the future? Teachers on a trip to the Dome.

A new all-party report by MPs warns that the Millennium Dome may be too worthy to attract youngsters. **Stephen Biscoe** went on a visit with teachers to see what they made if it. Pictures by **Jim Moran**.
continued.

THEY were slightly mystified, these teachers, head teachers and education authority advisers, as they waited together on platform five at Leeds City Station.

They were going first class, courtesy GNER, to see the Millennium Dome at Greenwich. But why? And what was the New Millennium Experience Co Ltd (NMEC) which was organising their visit?

On the journey, they learned that the NMEC (sole shareholder Peter Mandelson) is co-ordinating events across the country to celebrate the Millennium with special reference to the Dome.

Julie Bellanfante, the company's Sheffield-based education manager for the Yorkshire and Humberside region – and here our hostess and guide – was hoping her 12 guests would go back to their local education authorities fired with enthusiasm to set up educational schemes tying in with the Dome.

She also wanted them to explain the Our Town Story project and recommend that they take part. This, the delegates were told, will bring seven- to 11-year-olds from every local education authority in the country to the Dome where for one day they will take part in a show which will tell their town's story.

Churches and businesses will also be involved.

"We're telling them it's your day in the Dome. It is their chance to showcase their town to the world," said Julie optimistically.

At Greenwich, the NMEC has a visitor centre beside the Naval College in what used to be squash courts. It has two table-top Dome models

and the inspirational slogan: "Time to Make a Difference". Text and pictures convey mood and themes rather than hard facts, because apart from the Dome's statistics and the state of the site which it is transforming, mood and themes are all there are.

The same vagueness runs through the Millennium brochure: "The Millennium Experience will show a Britain which is embracing the Millennium with optimism as 'Time to make a difference'," it announces.

In an upstairs room, with refreshments and not quite enough chairs, Maurice Cohen, Education Manager for London, condensed an hour's slide-show and presentation into 30 minutes because time was pressing. A single lavatory, to be queued for, hadn't helped.

Cohen outlined the financing and structure of the NMEC, how the Dome, built on Europe's largest brownfield site, will benefit Greenwich and how it has excited local schools. He indicated what some of the zones in the Dome will be, such as the Dreamscape, which will take visitors along a "river of dreams" in boats designed as 16-seater beds.

The Dome site is to be car-free, reliance being placed on the Underground, river boats and a cable-car river crossing, while facilities will be provided for cyclists, walkers and coach parties.

A Thames boat trip followed to view the Dome

from the river, and someone said that it looked like a circus big top; someone else wondered what the point of it was.

Back at the visitor centre, Cohen asked for comments. If he had hoped for unalloyed enthusiasm, he was to be disappointed. They wanted to know about funding and the logistics of bringing dozens of schoolchildren so far. Cohen promised the issues they raised would be looked into.

Piling into taxis for a visit to the site, some of the delegates were thinking their comments had not been taken very seriously.

From a viewing platform on the nearby site office, the Dome looks impressively vast. Big enough to house two Wembley stadiums, it sprawls across the Blackwall road tunnel whose huge south-bank exhaust shaft pokes up through the canopy. A listed building, it had to be left where it was, symbolising in a highly-visible way the Dome's hidden theme of compromise.

This begins with the choice of Greenwich to be the centre of the nation's Millennium celebrations and the attempt to justify spending millions of lottery money on rescuing an area in a corner of the country which is visited only by some London-based tourists.

One answer, revealed by the teachers' visit, is to get the regions to send hundreds of schoolchildren there as part of a Millennium learning

experience, bringing with them their parents, civic leaders and anyone else who can be persuaded to join in the venture.

Then there is the religious fudge: the Millennium is a feature of the Christian calendar, so how can the Millennium Dome be made as much of an attraction to Muslims, Hindus, Jews, Pagans and non-believers as to Christians?

The answer: devote one of its zones to an all-inclusive and, therefore, vague expression of faith and belief.

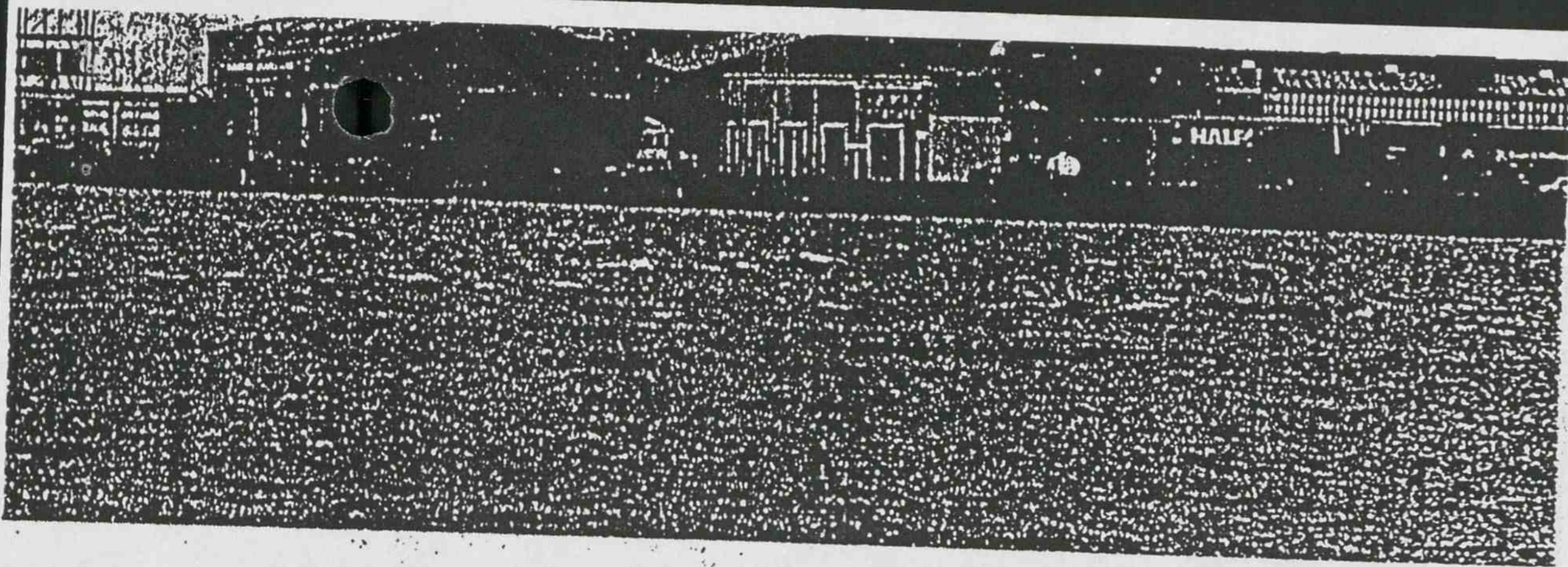
These teachers and educational advisers were exhausted by the time they got to King's Cross for their train to Leeds, and disillusionment was setting in as they considered the reality of attempting to bring large numbers of children from Sheffield, Hull, Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield and towns between, all the way to Greenwich.

Tessa Mason, head teacher of Victoria Primary School, Leeds, remarked: "If children have spent three hours on a coach, all they'll want to do when they get off is run around being excited."

She felt very little of what they saw in the Dome would sink in, and if they also had to be in a performance of an "Our Town Story", the day would be far too tiring for them. The only solution would be to have an over-night stay – and who would pay for that?

Lesley Hepworth, of Barnsley Local Education Authority, wondered about the logistics – if coaches were filled with children, where would the props and costumes go?

continues



the future? Teachers on a trip to the Dome.

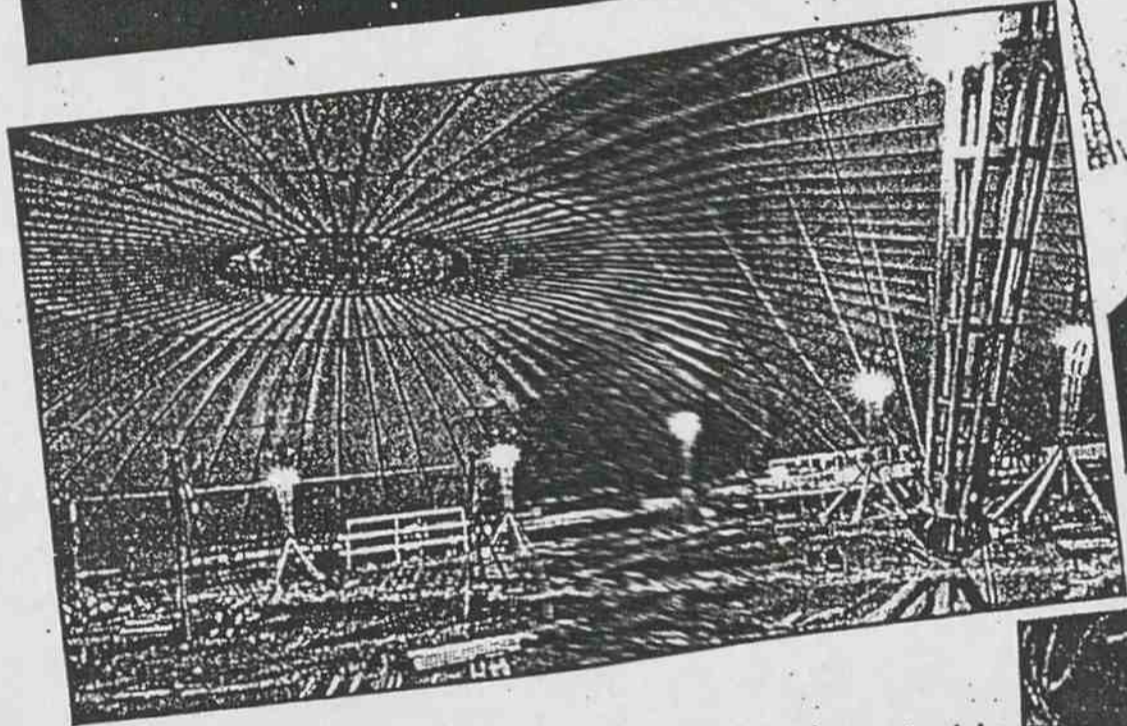
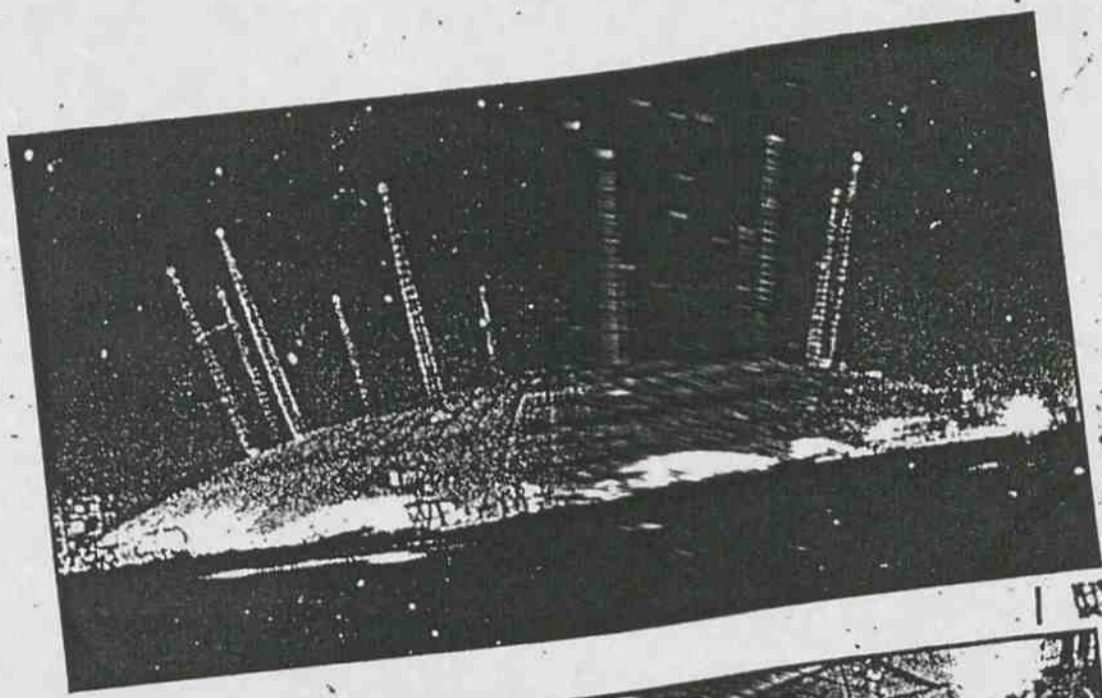
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lowed to view the Dome

from the river, and someone said that it looked like a circus big top; someone else wondered what the point of it was.
Back at the visitor centre, Cohen asked for comments. If he had hoped for unadorned enthusiasm, he was to be disappointed. They wanted to know about funding and the logistics of bringing dozens of schoolchildren so far, Cohen promised the issues they raised would be looked into.
Piling into taxis for a visit to the site, some of the delegates were thinking their comments had not been taken very seriously.
From a viewing platform on the nearby site office, the Dome looks impressively vast. Big enough to house two Wembley stadiums, it sprawls across the Blackwall road tunnel whose huge south-bank exhaust shaft pokes up through the canopy. A listed building, it had to be left where it was, symbolising in a highly-visible way the Dome's hidden theme of compromise.
This begins with the choice of Greenwich to be the centre of the nation's Millennium celebrations and the attempt to justify spending millions of lottery money on rescuing an area in a corner of the country which is visited only by some London-based tourists.
One answer, revealed by the teachers' visit, is to get the regions to send hundreds of schoolchildren there as part of a Millennium learning

experience, bringing with them their parents, civic leaders and anyone else who can be persuaded to join in the venture.
Then there is the religious fudge: the Millennium is a feature of the Christian calendar, so how can the Millennium Dome be made as much of an attraction to Muslims, Hindus, Jews, Pagans and non-believers as to Christians?
The answer: devote one of its zones to an all-inclusive and, therefore, vague expression of faith and belief.
These teachers and educational advisers were exhausted by the time they got to King's Cross for their train to Leeds, and disillusionment was setting in as they considered the reality of attempting to bring large numbers of children from Sheffield, Hull, Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield and towns between, all the way to Greenwich.
Tessa Mason, head teacher of Victoria Primary School, Leeds, remarked: "If children have spent three hours on a coach, all they'll want to do when they get off is run around being excited."
She felt very little of what they saw in the Dome would sink in, and if they also had to be in a performance of an "Our Town Story", the day would be far too tiring for them. The only solution would be to have an over-night stay - and who would pay for that?
Lesley Hepworth, of Barnsley Local Education Authority, wondered about the logistics - if coaches were filled with children, where would the props and costumes go?
John Lawson, head of Perronet Thompson School, Hull, felt that money would be better spent on local Millennium events, and Melonie Moore, of the Sheffield Education Advisory Department, thought teachers were so burdened already that there would be little enthusiasm for the extra work involved in preparing and co-ordinating a Dome performance by all the schools in their area.
Jez Stockhill, a Wakefield teacher, was dismissive of the whole Millennium thing. If he does anything in his school to mark it, he said, he'll do it in 2001.
In the whole party there were just two enthusiasts: Deborah Adamson from Calderdale, and Heather Prud Hornn from York, and both are new to teaching.
Julie Bellanfante, as tired as the teachers after her day in London, did her best to put a bright interpretation on what had happened, saying they had told her they planned to meet again and form a steering group to develop a Millennium regional curriculum pack for schools.
Whether that will entail visits to the Dome remains to be seen.

EAST
MIDLANDS

Millennium challenge is a race against time for Tanya



Dome sweet dome: Architectural engineer Tanya Ross whose task is to make sure the enormous millennium structure at Greenwich in London is completed on time



by JONATHAN SHORNEY

IT is a challenge that comes round once a millennium — but Tanya Ross is sure she can meet it.

The 32-year-old architectural engineer from Bath has the awesome responsibility of ensuring the much-criticised Millennium Dome is completed on time. For once, the builders are not allowed a moment extra.

Tanya, who is project manager for the scheme which has 2,500 people working on it, is confident it will be ready for a spectacular opening ceremony on December 31 next year.

The breathtaking £460 million dome — resembling a spacecraft on the banks of the Thames in London and only the second man-made structure (after the Great Wall of China) to be seen from space — will be the centrepiece of celebrations throughout the year 2000.

Working on the project is a once-in-a-lifetime career opportunity and unmarried Tanya is bringing what she says are female skills to a normally male-dominated industrial environment to meet the deadline.

She said: "Women are outnumbered on the site but increasingly women's skills, such as communication, in project management are being recognised."

"There are certain things I perceive women bringing to the job — perhaps tact and diplomacy. Other female engineers who work on site find it hard to be accepted by more senior contemporaries."

"I don't notice that it is male-dominated because I enjoy my job so much. I find it stimulating. I have to make sure that all the information gets from our engineers to people building it at the right time."

"It is a tremendously exciting project in which to be involved and very challenging because you can't miss the end-date. I have every confidence that the deadline will be met."

Tanya heads a 35-strong team from Bath consulting engineers Buro Happold, 'translating' Richard Rogers' outstanding design into reality.

The Dome is a massive 350 yards across and big enough to house 13 Albert Halls.

Twelve masts and a network of steel cable support the futuristic glass-fibre canopy.

Skylight windows will be computer-controlled to change the air every two hours, and run-off rain water will be automatically collected to flush the loos.

Inside the dome will be a central arena surrounded by 14 exhibition zones exploring our lives, our world and the

challenges ahead. One of the areas, the Eddy Zone, is set to amaze with the world's biggest representation of a human body.

Four thousand 'meeters and greeters' will welcome an estimated 12 million visitors throughout 2000 to what is being billed as the world's most spectacular millennial event.

The Government came under fire for deciding to press on with the scheme despite criticism of the cost.

A total of £758 million is being provided from the lottery, private sponsors and entrance charges to fund the Millennium Experience — consisting of the dome and local millennium projects and celebrations.

In the West, that means projects to bring people together to promote education, the environment, history, the arts, technology and sport.

Each local education authority is to get a day in the dome when children will be able to tell Our Town Story.

Tanya said: "The technology we are using in the Dome is quite innovative. It is the biggest structure of its kind in the world."

"Richard Rogers said 'Big tent'. We said 'Okay, how big?'"

"It may look quite simple but has involved a lot of complex computer design work. For example, we make sure the cables are the right size and at the right stress."

"We handed over the first exhibition area two weeks ago — two days before the deadline — and will meet a March deadline for completing inside the dome."

There will then be outside works, such as booths where visitors will be able to buy tickets — expected to cost £19 per adult or £50 for the family.

Games

Mission you don't want to miss

GAME OF THE WEEK
Mission Impossible (Ocean)
For Nintendo 64
Price: £39.99 (Out now)
Mission Impossible, the one-by-sixties America's spy film, from Cruise blockbusting to the high-tech technological leap on to the Nintendo 64.
You are Ethan Hunt, the MI6 agent who's been sent on a mission to complete a 3D environment full of trouble.

The game closely follows the plot of the movie, from the KGB head quarters in Prague to a helicopter chase in the Channel Tunnel. You will have to split away a fellow agent from under the nose of the KGB or deal with an enemy base.
It's more than a passing resemblance to the year 1963 movie convention GoldenEye, the 3D graphics are smooth and highly detailed with multiple camera angles. In the game play is more complex

with character interaction and problems to solve. In short, it's a thinking man's Doom. Start shooting a soldier in the middle of Russia and you won't survive for long.
It's often a step, walk instead of run and the alarm bells do not ring. You'd better know in 3D.
It's a goodie, better than any other game. It's a real challenge with some real attraction.
RATING: 90 per cent

Employment gloom lifted with 3600 new UK jobs

THERE was good news on the UK employment front today with the announcement of more than 3600 new jobs by three major firms.

Leisure giant Granada said it was creating 2500 jobs across the UK in its roadside catering and Travelodge operations.

Car makers Nissan began advertising for 800 new workers to build a new model at its plant in Washington, Tyne and Wear.

And Marconi Communications wants 300 telecommunications specialists to help develop its advanced fibre-optic networks at sites throughout the UK and in Italy.

But the news was not so good at kitchen appliance maker Kenwood, which is to cut 100 jobs at two plants as it moves more of its manufacturing to China.

Granada, the television-to-hotels company, said it had seen a 13 per cent growth in earnings in its last financial year and that business was positive.

The group, which produces hit television shows Coronation Street, Emmerdale and Heartbeat, also reported strong interest in the launch of ONdigital, its satellite television service.

The company said the new jobs were created after Travelodge sales increased 17 per cent over the previous year and was continuing to expand its urban

By IAN BURRELL
Business Editor

lodges. Chairman Gerry Robinson said: "Throughout 1998 we continued to build the brands in our growing media and hospitality businesses.

"I'm happy to report that current trading has been very positive and we are well on track to deliver the numbers contained in our three-year plan."

**Trading has been
very positive and we
are well on track**

Hotel division sales were up in the UK and internationally by more than £8 million on a comparable basis.

Food services were also given a boost in December when it was announced Granada had won the contract to supply food for the Millennium dome.

Mr Robinson said he aimed to see double-digit profits growth within the period. He said this financial year had seen the strongest start for many years.

In the first quarter to December advertising revenues were up six per cent, compared with the previous year the

second half of the year is expected to be even stronger than the first.

ITV as a whole managed to deliver its published target of a peak time viewing share for the year of 38 per cent, helping Granada achieve its desired rates for advertising on the channel.

The successful climax to the year included Granada's highly-rated series Grafters and Cold Feet productions.

The new terrestrial digital channel ONdigital has been delivered on time and on budget, and has generated "massive" public interest, said Mr Robinson.

The supply of set-top boxes will also increase demand in Granada's television rental division, the company said.

The Nissan jobs are being created under a £215 million investment to build a third model at the Washington factory, which employs 4200 workers. A number of the new jobs are likely to be filled under the Government's New Deal scheme.

Employment Minister Andrew Smith said: "This is a tremendous boost for the North-East, which has been particularly hit by manufacturing job losses."

Marconi said it wanted experienced electronics and telecoms engineers and new graduates to work at its sites in Coventry, Liverpool, Nottingham and Poole, and at Genoa, Italy, to spearhead the company's thrust into photonics, which is seen as next generation technology to free up access to the phone system.

Birmingham Post

4 February 1999

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BUSINESS

Granada creates 2,500 catering jobs

Television-to-hotels group Granada is to create 2,500 jobs in its roadside catering and Travelodge chains.

The company, which produces *Coronation Street*, reported a 13 per cent growth in earnings in its last financial year.

Travelodge sales rose 17 per cent, and Granada was continuing to push its expansion programme, especially in urban lodges.

Hotel division sales were up in the UK and internationally by more than £8 million on a comparable basis.

Food services were also given a boost in

December when it was announced Granada had won the contract to supply food for the Millennium dome.

Chairman Mr Gerry Robinson, delivering the annual statement, said: "Throughout 1998 we continued to build the brands in our growing media and hospitality businesses. Current trading has been very positive and we are well on track to deliver the numbers in our three-year plan."

ITV delivered its peak time viewing share of 38 per cent, achieving its desired rates for advertising.

No place like the new Dome

HOW much would you pay for a tent?

If your answer is an overdraft-trembling £275m, you could buy your very own Millennium Dome.

But unless you have a 300-acre back garden and an incredibly understanding bank manager, it is probably better to see the one the Government is building in east London.

Love it or loathe it, the Millennium Dome is on schedule to open on Friday, December 31, at its giant site by the River Thames.

Millennium Man, Will Smale, was invited up this week to have a look at how it is progressing.

What strikes you first about the dome is its size – the canopy roof is in place and it dominates the horizon like a massive spaceship.

Big enough to house two Wembley Stadiums, the dome certainly makes a lasting first impression.

On the inside it is truly cavernous, but there are no exhibits to see at the moment, it is still just a giant building site inside a tent.

Many people have criticised the dome for taking money away from hospitals and schools, but no tax-

payers' money has been spent on the project.

Instead, all the cash has come from the National Lottery and sponsorship.

But why should people travel up from South Wales to see the

dome?

After all, the cost per adult is expected to be £15 to £20.

Well, running throughout 2000, it will contain 14 different exhibitions that explore humankind as we enter the 21st Century.

Designed to celebrate British ideas and technology, zones include the mind, body, spirit, rest,

play and global.

Each will have hands-on interactive 3-D displays for the expected 35,000 visitors a day to explore.

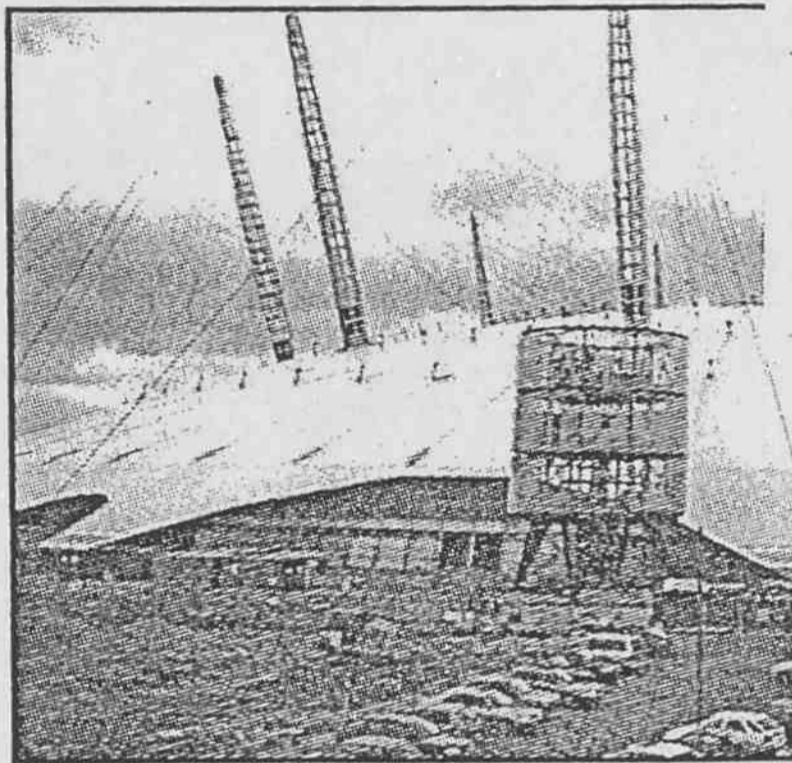
There will also be cafes, restaurants, shops and a live Millennium Show performed five times a day.

Wales and Welshness will be continually explored in the national identity zone and each of the Welsh councils will have a day to 'take over' the dome.

Terence Gibbons, spokesman for organisers New Millennium Experience Company, said: "There will be something there for everybody, from the family to the school visits. We expect the dome to be particularly appealing to children as, after all, they are the future of the new millennium."

But costing at least £40 for a family of four, it is going to be a rather expensive tent experience.

Millennium Man will explore the Welsh exhibition in the dome over the coming year.



THE Millennium Dome will be open to the public throughout 2000.

But what should we expect if we make the journey up to east London?

By Will Smale
Millennium Man

- It is costing £275m to build.
- The site covers 300 acres.
- Although non-profit making, admission for adults will cost between £15 and £20.
- The dome is 320m in diameter and 50m high.
- An average visit is expected to last six hours.
- You need to book in advance.

Millennium Dome Facts

- It can hold 10 St Paul's Cathedrals.
- There will be 608 WCs and 247 urinals.
- It is expected to have 35,000 visitors per day.
- There will be two 2,500-seat cinemas, one doubling as a

- 3,000 capacity concert venue.
- The five times a day Millennium Show will consist of 60 performers and an audience of 12,000.
- When the exhibition is over, the dome will be sold to the highest private bidder and the money returned to the National Lottery funds.

323
DAYS TO GO

Tasty future for the Dome bakers

THOUSANDS of visitors to the Millennium Dome will munch their way into the new century with a taste of the North-East.

Greggs is the only regional firm to secure a prestigious catering site at the dome in London's Greenwich.

The company's Bakers Oven subsidiary beat off stiff competition to land the lucrative deal to sell its pies, pasties and other traditional delicacies.

Greggs bought the Bakers Oven chain in 1994, and has since invested heavily in the business.

By JONATHAN JONES

Bakers Oven general manager Tony Barcroft said: "This is fantastic news for us.

"We have spent four years of hard work developing a new direction for Bakers Oven which will establish it over the next decade as a world class retail and catering brand.

"To get to the point where we will be representing the very best in British bakery products in such a short time is a major achievement."

The specially-designed 3,000 sq ft

unit will be set up in the dome's Body Zone.

Customers will be able to experience what baking will look like in the future through a series of interactive displays and informative graphics.

Mr Barcroft added: "We will create a striking and unconventional environment which portrays the bakery heritage of our company whilst providing visitors with a relaxed and informative atmosphere in which to experience our products."

Granada to serve up 2,500 new jobs

TELEVISION-TO-HOTELS group Granada is to create 2,500 new jobs in its roadside catering and Travelodge chains.

The company, which owns Yorkshire-Tyne Tees and produces *Coronation Street*, *Emmerdale* and *Heartbeat*, said it had seen a 13pc growth in earnings in its past financial year.

Travelodge sales were up 17pc over the year, and Granada was continuing to push its expansion programme, especially in urban lodges.

Hotel division sales were up in the UK – and internationally by more than £8m on a comparable basis.

Food services were also given a boost in December when it was announced Granada had won the contract to supply food for the Millennium Dome.

Chairman Gerry Robinson, delivering the chairman's agm statement, said: "Throughout 1998 we continued to build the brands in our growing media and hospitality businesses, and increased our earnings by 13pc.

"I'm happy to report that current trading has been very positive, and we are well on track to deliver the numbers contained in our three-year plan."

Mr Robinson aims to see the group achieve double-digit profits growth within the period. He said this financial year had seen the strongest start for many years.

The successful climax to the year included Granada's *Grafters* and *Cold Feet* productions.

Booming Granada to create 2,500 jobs at service stations and hotels

TELEVISION-to-hotels group Granada is to create 2,500 new jobs in its motorway service station and Travelodge chains.

The new jobs will be located around the country at each of the group's 41 motorway sites.

The company, which produces Coronation Street, Emmerdale and Heartbeat, said it had seen a 13pc growth in earnings in its last financial year.

Dome

Sales at Travelodge, the hotels chain, were up 17pc over the year and Granada was continuing to push its expansion programme, especially in urban lodges, the group said yesterday.

Hotel division sales were up in the UK and internationally by more than £8m on a comparable basis.

Food services were also given a boost in December when it was announced Granada had won the contract to supply food for the Millennium Dome.

Chairman Gerry Robinson, delivering the chairman's AGM statement to shareholders, said: "Throughout 1998 we continued to build the brands in our growing media and hospitality businesses, and increased our earnings



□ Gerry Robinson

By Tony Brown

Business Correspondent

by 13pc on the previous year. "I'm happy to report that current trading has been very positive and we are well on track to deliver the numbers

contained in our three year plan."

As well as strong profits growth in its catering division the group also said its media

business, which includes its Shop joint venture shopping channel with Littlewoods at the Albert Dock, has had its best ever start to the year.

Mr Robinson aims to see the group achieve double-digit profits growth within the period.

He said this financial year had seen the strongest start for many years.

In the first quarter to December advertising revenues were up 6pc compared with the previous year the second half of the year is expected to be even stronger than the first.

ITV as a whole managed to deliver its published target of a peak time viewing share for the year of 38pc, helping Granada achieve its desired rates for advertising on the channel.

The successful climax to the year included Granada's

highly rated Grafters and Cold Feet productions alongside its long running favourites such as Coronation Street, he said.

The new terrestrial digital channel ONdigital has been delivered on time and on budget, and has generated 'massive' public interest, said Mr Robinson.

After early constraints in the supply of set-top boxes, manufacturers have been increasing supply and the subscriber base is growing.

The supply of set-top boxes will also increase demand in Granada's television rental division, the company said.

An advertising campaign had led to a healthy start to this year for the division and an encouraging reduction in the number of customers cancelling their hiring agreements.

Dome  Watch

Lord of the Dome fills Mandelson's millennium shoes

EXCLUSIVE By JOSEPH McHUGH

THE man with one of the toughest jobs in Britain looks remarkably relaxed when we meet.

Lord Falconer of Thoroton, the new Dome supremo and close friend of Prime Minister Tony Blair, has finally ridden out the media storm which greeted his appointment last month following Peter Mandelson's resignation.

The charges of cronyism levelled at him have faded, and the man in charge of the millennium celebrations is now free to get on with the job in hand.

Though the eyes of the world will be on Greenwich come December 31, Lord Falconer is unfazed by the size of the task he is facing.

"It is such an exciting project to be involved in," he enthuses. "If you go over to the Dome itself it's hard not to be impressed and overwhelmed. It's an extraordinary achievement."

If he is worried that the responsibility of being the Government's official shareholder in the New Millennium Experience Company will prove to be a poisoned chalice, he is not letting on.

"No, not at all," is all he will say.

It seems that for Lord Falconer failure is not an option, and looking at his own rise to the top it's

not hard to see why. The 48-year-old barrister and QC was ennobled by Tony Blair the day after Labour's landslide election victory in 1997, when he gave up a lucrative commercial practice to become Solicitor-General.

Promotion came quickly and in July 1998 he took up his current job as Minister of State at the Cabinet

It's really an extraordinary achievement

Office and with it seats on 14 Cabinet committees – more than any other member of government.

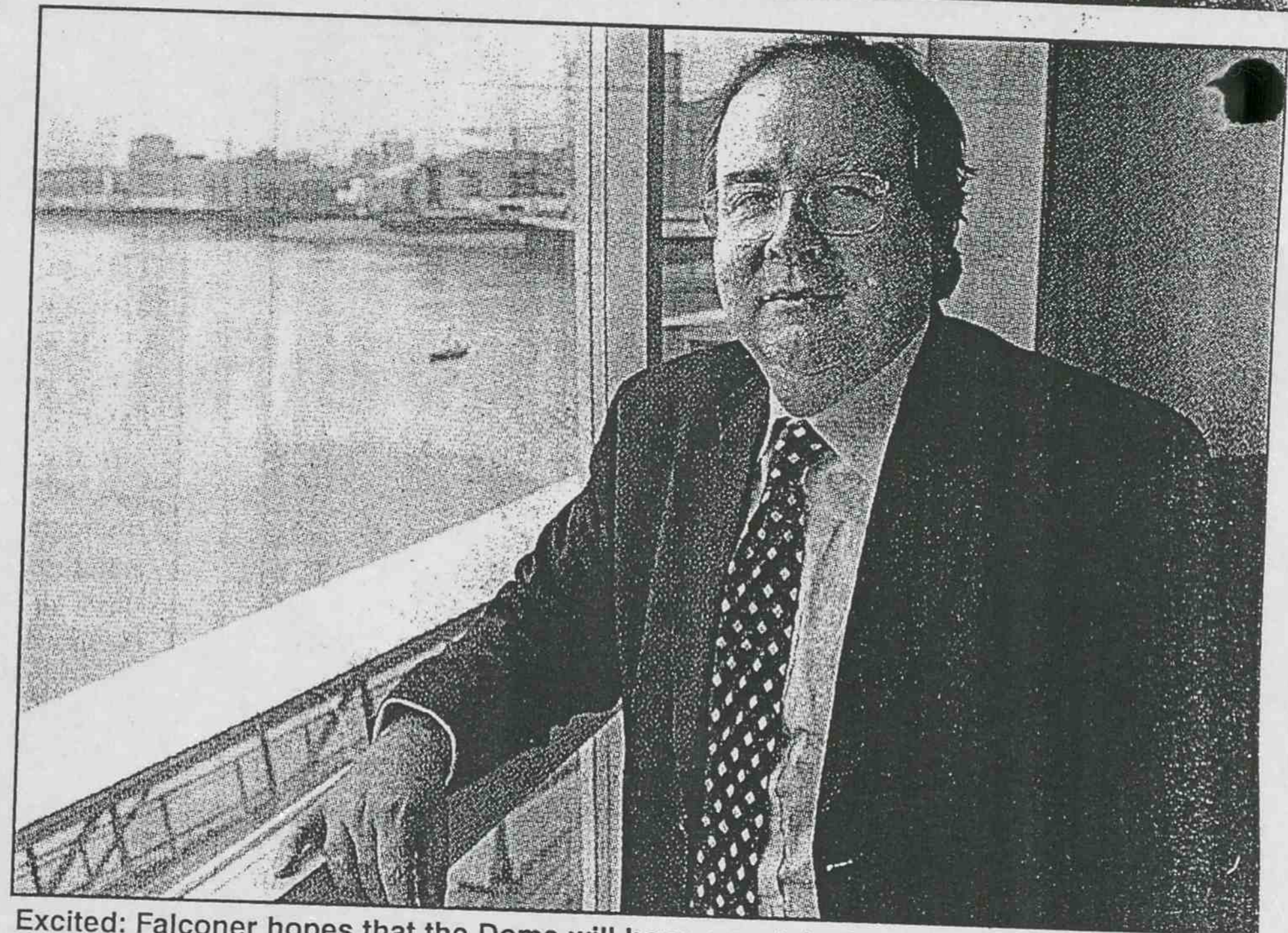
His new role is surely his toughest yet, but this is clearly a man who loves a challenge.

He says his job is to "ensure that the Dome company produces an experience that is worthy of the nation, and one that is properly managed and which leaves a proper legacy."

Though there are sceptics who are unconvinced that the Dome will live up to these high ideals, Lord Falconer dismisses suggestions that the Greenwich site will be nothing more than a hi-tech trade fair.

"We have found that sponsors are keen to contribute without seeking arrangements which might make the Dome an advertising hoarding."

He is confident that as the millennium approaches the public relations war is being won



Excited: Falconer hopes that the Dome will have a sustainable future into the millennium

and the doom merchants are having to eat their words.

"The impression I get is that whatever people may have thought about the idea originally, we now have the Dome and there is a general feeling that they hope it is a success.

"That is especially true as people learn more about what's going to be inside and what its legacy will be."

Convincing the public that the Greenwich celebrations represent the whole of Britain is a key part of the strategy.

"It's very important it's properly established that this is a site for the nation," he says.

Lord Falconer is keen to stress that events and projects are being organised in towns and cities across the country for those who can't travel to London. The hope is to encourage a feeling of involvement.

"The celebrations are not just in the Dome itself.

There are lots of projects and events which are not in the Dome but are connected with it."

Sceptics frequently ask what will happen to the site after the Dome shuts its doors at the end of 2000. Lord Falconer is candid on this point: "No firm decisions have been taken yet, but in the next few weeks we will announce details of the steps we will take on this issue."

He adds: "We are looking for a use of the Dome which gives it a sustainable future."

But one undeniable legacy the Dome will leave is the regeneration of Docklands. The improved transport links have encouraged an extraordinary economic revival, with many businesses moving into the area, and Lord Falconer is confident the best is yet to come.

"I see a shift of gravity in London towards the east. I've come here on a number of occasions now, and each time I visit there seems to be an increase in confidence."

MILLENNIUM COUNTDOWN

46

weeks to go

PERSONAL

DN



f

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

19 March 1999

Dear Jennie,

MILLENNIUM EXPERIENCE

As you know, I head off to pastures new on Monday, to be replaced here by David North. Before I do, some feedback about yesterday's meeting.

The Prime Minister found it genuinely helpful. He remains, as you know, extremely impressed with the way in which the whole project is running to time, on budget and with such spectacular results down in Greenwich. He also completely understands the importance of getting the Jubilee Line completed on time and means it when he says that he is giving it a lot of his personal attention.

As we all agreed yesterday, content is the key issue at the moment and the Prime Minister was re-assured to hear how NMEC are working to ensure that there is enough in the zones to appeal to everyone - whether they read the Sun or the Guardian on the train there. He was particularly pleased that four of the key zones will each now have a new person working on creative input and looks forward to hearing how this works out.

It would be a good idea to think in terms of a presentation to the Prime Minister within the next two months as he will almost certainly want to come back to this subject within that timescale.

Please do keep in mind opportunities for involving the Prime Minister in your publicity campaigns. As you know, he is keen to help out, but, as ever, we need lots of warning, lots of planning and very careful thought about how best to harness the impact he can make.

PERSONAL

- 2 -

In the meantime, having lived with it for the last two and half years, including through times when it looked likely never to happen at all, I am personally certain that the Millennium Experience will be the massive success that all your efforts deserve.

All the best, it has been a lot of fun!

Angus

ANGUS LAPSLEY

Ms Jennie Page,
NMEC.

f
DN
CIB
COVERING RESTRICTED

To 1. SECRETARY OF STATE c c Lord McIntosh Mike Ricketts (CO)
Janet Anderson Barry Sutcliffe (CO- IG)
2. MINISTER OF STATE (CO) Robin Young Tim Hunt (CO - IG)
Brian Leonard Angus Lapsley (No 10)
Clare Pillman Peter Hyman (No 10)
From Rodney Watson Paul Bolt Angela Salt (MC)
Iain Hepplewhite Deborah Oliver (NMEC)
Date 18 March 1999 John Newbigin Gez Sagar (NMEC)
Andy Burnham Ben Evans (NMEC)

MILLENNIUM PRESENTATIONAL ROUNDUP

(This roundup is issuing at close of play Thursday this week, as I will be away Friday.)

This Week's Media

[Copy recipients please note: NMEC circulates lines on all running stories with its daily press summaries. If you do not receive these summaries and would like more information on any particular line, please contact NMEC press office. Lines on Commission business are also circulated as necessary and are available from its press office.]

Main stories this week:

Saturday newspapers reported approvingly that the Dome had been lit up red on Friday to provide the biggest Red Nose in the UK in support of Comic Relief.

The Observer carried a story revealing that Glanmor Griffiths, the Chairman of Welsh Rugby Union and of the company which is contracted to build the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, has a murky business past in used car dealing.

Monday's Standard had a four page special report on the regeneration of Greenwich, with prominent mentions for the Dome, transport improvements and new housing starts.

Tony Blair's announcement that one million free tickets for schoolchildren would be available for Dome visits was picked up positively by almost all the national dailies on Thursday. The story also did well on London broadcast outlets on Wednesday.

Other stories:

This week's Building magazine had an article by Alistair McAlpine, worrying that a suitable buyer for the Dome after 2000 would not emerge. The magazine also carried a long feature about progress in assembling the Dome's zones.

Saturday's Telegraph had a positive piece boosting the scheme to ring in the New Year with a peal of bells across the UK, highlighting the Millennium Commission's grant in aid. Monday's Times reported that the Commission is to be sued by organisers of Manchester's "Streets Ahead" festival, which failed to attract Millennium festival funding.

Wednesday's Telegraph had a leader worrying about the alleged intention to sideline religion on opening night at the Dome.

This Week's Events

Lord Dalkeith and Donald Dewar launched the Millennium Links project - which will restore the regional canal network - in Glasgow last Friday

NMEC's press ad campaign in support of the National Programme has now had two Sunday/Monday bursts.

The Greenwich Peninsula Marketing forum met on Tuesday. We had a useful exchange of information with NMEC and English Partnerships.

We met Mark Easton of Channel 4 News on Wednesday to discuss a series of short films he proposes to make on the Millennium. Representatives of the Company and the Commission were present and we agreed a plan to take forward the initiative. I will give you a note with more details shortly.

We met Mike Ricketts and his recently formed Millennium Bug media team on Wednesday to discuss coordination between our work and theirs.

Your joint letter to the Deputy Prime Minister setting out recent progress on the Millennium (and the rest of the Cabinet) issued last Friday.

The Prime Minister announced during PMQs on Wednesday that one million free tickets would be made available to schoolchildren to visit the Dome. The Company used its monthly media forum on Thursday afternoon to make the detailed announcement about ticket prices. (Outputs in next week's roundup.)

Voyager's press day was held in Nottingham on Thursday with a very substantial turnout of local print and broadcast media.

Next Week's Media

There is nothing running yet.

Next Week's Events

The Millennium Councils conference begins this weekend. The Millennium Commission has worked up a media strategy to secure the best possible exposure from the event. This includes a briefing for international journalists on Friday, selling in stories for the nationals and possible photo opportunity on Monday.

An exhibition of photographs recording the work being done by young acrobats training to appear in the Dome's Millennium Central Show opens on Saturday at Circus Space.

Lord Falconer is appearing on Crosstalk on Sunday and on the Jimmy Young Programme on Tuesday to talk about the Dome and about the ticket price announcement in particular.

Voyager reaches Birmingham next Thursday.

It is possible that the announcement about the River Event in London on New Year's Eve and about the Guest List for Opening Night at the Dome will be made next Monday and Friday respectively. Work between the Unit, NMEC and the Commission to finalise the details is proceeding.

Future Opportunities

Among the short term opportunities being worked on at present:

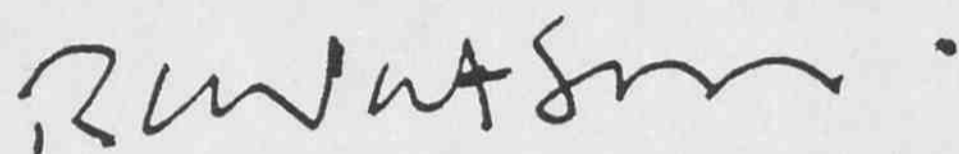
* the Channel 4 Millennium films: the producers aim to complete one film before mid-April and hope to involve Lord Falconer in filming at the Dome and on an out-of-London trip.

* a joint regional visit for Chris Smith and Lord Falconer, possibly associated with developments on "Our Town's Story" and/or an education theme - your offices are talking about diary dates now;

* a visit for Lord Falconer to the NMEC regional office in Croydon - I have asked for progress on this idea to be accelerated;

* a visit for Lord Falconer to Stirling to check progress on the first "Our Town's Story", which will now have to wait until after the Parliamentary elections in Scotland;

* visits for Janet Anderson and Alan Howarth to coincide with future stops by the Millennium Voyager - the Unit is talking to the Commission and diary secretaries to try to find dates which coincide with planned regional tours by both Ministers.



RODNEY WATSON
Millennium Unit Communications

FORWARD LOOK, THE UK MILLENNIUM - FROM 19 MARCH 1999

RESTRICTED

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DATE	EVENT LOCATION	TIME	PROJECT	EVENT	COMMENT	MAIN MESSAGES & TARGET AUDIENCE	PROPOSED MEDIA HANDLING, PUBLICITY VEHICLES EXPECTED OUTPUTS	LEAD ORGANISATION & CONTACT
20/03/1999	Chalford, Gloucestershire		Chalford village hall (21st century, England)	opening		The MC will be supporting our communities by investing lottery money in Chalford village hall. TA: local media and general public		Mill. Comm. John Barber 0171 880 2091
21/03/1999	LWT Studios, South Bank London	12:20	Dome	Lord Falconer to appear on 'Crosstalk'	Lord F 10 minute live interview with Donald MacIntyre on the Dome		Press Officer to accompany	DCMS Rod Watson 0171 211 6356
21/03/1999	London		UK government and Millennium Commission host international millennium conference.	Three day conference with delegates from 15 countries sharing plans for the millennium and discussing international common themes		TA: International media and UK nationals	Briefing for international media on Friday 19th March at the Millennium Commission, Photo opp. at Dome on Mon 22	Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
22/03/99 Tentative	Millennium Commission		First Weekend	Possible announcement on London River Event		Announcement of first details of the event (incl. that Nick Raynsford is chairing its Steering Group) TA: National/local media and general public	Press Notice and (possibly) a Nick Raynsford article in Evening Standard	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007

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22/03/1999	Skye, Scotland	15:00	University of the Highlands and Islands - linking colleges and research institutions and create new forms of access to life long learning opportunities for many sectors of the community.	Opening of a new Gaelic college on Skye	Donald Dewar MP, SoS for Scotland attending.	Millennium commission is investing in education through a grant of £33.4 million to the UHI. TA: Scottish and regional media		Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
23/03/1999	Broadcasting House, London	13:00	Dome	BBC R2 Jimmy Young Show - 10 min live interview with Lord Falconer on the Dome			Press Officer will accompany	DCMS Rod Watson 0171 211 6356
24/03/1999	Dome Preview Centre	11:00	Work/Learn Zone launch	Manpower/Tesco sponsored Work/Learn Zone launches	Lord Falconer will attend	TA: national press specialist press		NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8325
24/03/1999	The City		Millennium Bug	Bank of England publish Blue Book, reporting on progress on Bug in financial sector				Bank of England/HMT
25/03/1999 - 02/04/1999	Birmingham	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects and Award schemes.	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 26/03/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009

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25/03/1999	Sandringham	05:15	St. Edmundsbury Cathedral	Reception with Royal Household rep.		The MC is supporting our communities by investing lottery money in the cathedral. TA: National, Regional & General Public	Millennium Office to liaise with Project.	Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
25/03/1999	Moira, Leics		National Forest visitor centre	opening	Richard Caborn, MP - MInister for the Regions and Lord Dalkeith	The MC. is encouraging environmental sustainability - one of our key themes. This project is one of a range of environmental initiatives around the UK. TA: National, regional, local and specialist press and the general public.	MC Press office to liaise with project.	Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
26/03/1999	London		Dome Opening Event	Announcement of guestlist details for 31 December 1999 Dome Opening event		Majority of invited attendees will be ordinary people TA: National/local media, general public	Press Notice - NMEC Press Office	NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8325
26/03/1999	Doncaster		Earth Centre (MC grant of £50m) - establishing a state of the art world centre for environmental research & sustainable technologies	Official opening - SoS CMS visit and keynote speech		The MC is encouraging environmental sustainability by investing Lottery money in this project TA: National/local press, general public	Angela Salt at MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007

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26/03/1999	Bristol	11:00	@Bristol - a landmark project for the South West including major attractions such as Science world and Wild screen, surrounded by squares and city spaces.	Topping out ceremony	Dawn Primarolo MP attending.	Through a grant of £41.3 million the Millennium commission is investing in science and technology. 21% of Millennium Projects support science and technology. TA: Regional and local media		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
29/03/1999	Dome	11:00	'Baby Dome' (final name yet to be decided)	Launch of Zone	Sky sponsored concert/event venue	TA: National Press specialist press		NMEC Greg Hayman 0171 808 8226
29/03/1999 Tentative	110 Buckingham Palace Rd	11:00	sunday story briefing			TA: National Media - Sunday only		NMEC Deborah Oliver/Greg Hayman 0171 808 8244
29/03/1999	House of Commons	15:00		DCMS Oral Questions			Press Officer in the Gallery	DCMS Rod Watson 0171 211 6356
29/03/1999	Bristol	11:30	Bristol Zoo Millennium Awards	Launch of scheme	David Bellamy to launch scheme. Heather Couper to make speech.	The MC is investing lottery money in ordinary people doing extraordinary things. TA: National, local, regional and specialist press.	MC Press office and project press office to liaise.	Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007

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31/03/1999	Edinburgh International Conference Centre		Millennium events - Edinburgh's Hogmanay Millennium	One day conference for Millennium event organisers	SoS CMS attending & speaking	Sharing best practice in this excellent forum will help ensure successful events/Millennium Festival is funding excellent events across UK, not just London TA: National/local/specialist press, local authorities/events organisers/ emergency	Millennium Commission is arranging SoS CMS visit Possible photocall/visit to local capital projects	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
03/04/1999	Coventry			Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects		VIP/Press day 06/04/1999	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
undated April Tentative	East London			Lord Falconer to visit East London Millennium projects (and school?) at invite of Jim Fitzpatrick MP (Canning Town)	DCMS Millennium Unit & NMEC arranging			DCMS Duraid Silarbi 0171 211 6413
09/04/1999	Hull	10:30	Millennium cycle route is creating nearly 3,000 miles of cycle routes throughout the UK.	Ribbon cutting with majors from cities involved followed by a reception	John Prescott, Deputy PM invited.	By investing £43.5 million in the national cycle route the Millennium commission is creating a legacy which will provide a cleaner and greener future for us all. TA: TBC		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007

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10/04/99	Great Baddow, Essex	19:00	Great Baddow Community Centre	Opening	Mayor to attend	The MC will be supporting our communities by investing lottery money in the centre TA: regional, general public	The MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
12/04/1999 20/04/1999	Cardiff			Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects		VIP/Press day 13/04/1999	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
13/04/1999 Tentative	Yorkshire Dales		Woodlands opening ceremony	200 community woodlands throughout England & Wales	tbc	The Millennium Commission is encouraging environmental sustainability - one of our key themes. This project is one of a range of environmental initiatives around the United Kingdom. TA: local, regional and specialist press		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
15/04/1999	N Ireland		Sustainable Communities	Open day, raising awareness of scheme		MC is encouraging environmental sustainability by investing Lottery money in the project TA: Local media		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
18/04/1999	Ealing, London		St Barnabus Church Hall	Opening	Bishop of London attending	TA: local press and general public	MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Press Office

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19/04/1999	Dome			Site visit of European Bank for Reconstruction & Development	Meeting sponsored by FCO			NMEC Jan Anderson 0171 808 8304
19/04/1999	UK		National Construction Week	National Construction Week will spotlight the benefits and significant progress it has made in the UK	Hanson PLC & Blue Circle sponsoring event	MC is investing £1.26 of lottery funds in a wide range of of construction projects TA: clients, young people, opinion formers and the industry itself		
20/04/1999 - 24/04/1999	London		National Millennium Councils	3rd international conference of National Millennium Councils, hosted by DCMS and Millennium Commission	Representatives of national Millennium organisations from about 13 countries around the world will meet to discuss plans and possible joint initiatives - will include a visit to the Dome	UK collaborating to help bring exciting Millennium programmes into fruition across the globe	Possible photocall at Dome	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
21/04/99 - 22/04/99	London Arena			Thames Gateway Conference		Contribution of Dome to regeneration of Thames Gateway & inward investment TA: Regional media		GVC Andrew Parry 0181 305 3403
21/04/1999	Regent's Park, London		London Zoo Conservation Education Centre	Opening		TA: National, local media press, general public	MC Press office to liaise with project	Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007

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22/04/1999 - 29/04/1999	Caernarfon		Launch	Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects and Award schemes.	Voyager will take the message around the UK that the Millennium Commission Projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 22/04/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
Spring 1999	tba		JLE	Jubilee Line Trains run Stratford to N Greenwich				
undated April Tentative	tbc		Millennium Seed Bank	Topping out ceremony		TA: National, regional, local and specialist press.		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
1/05/1999 - 08/05/1999	Liverpool		Launch	Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects and Award schemes.	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and Opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 04/05/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
09/05/99	Dome			Transport of the Millennium Pier from the River Medway (where it's being welded together) to the Dome on the River Thames				NMEC David Trench

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11/05/1999 - 19/05/1999	Belfast			Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects		VIP/Press day 12/05/1999	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007
19/05/1999	Brancaster Mill. Centre, Norfolk		Brancaster Millennium Centre (MC grant of £370k) - a residential activity centre to be used by people of all ages and backgrounds involved in conservation	Opening	Graham Savage of MC will attend	MC is supporting our communities		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
19/05/1999	Meanwood Valley Urban Farm, Leeds		Meanwood Valley Urban Farm (MC grant of £175k) - project to develop an environmental centre designed as a local visitor attraction in an inner city area	Opening		MC is encouraging environmental sustainability TA: Regional media and general public		Mill. Comm. Judith Moore 0171 880 2007
20/05/1999 - 28/05/99	Londonderry		Millennium Voyager	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects			VIP/press day 21/05/99	Mill. Comm. Angela Salt 0171 880 2007

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20/05/1999	Glasgow		Hampden Queens Park Football Club Scotland's 'Field of Dreams', Strathclyde	First Game	tbc	The MC is revitalising our cities with lottery money. This project is one of a range of new initiatives which are developing our great cities. This is a landmark project - 1 of nearly 30 around the UK. TA: National, regional press.		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
26/05/1999	London		Millennium Bug - NAO Report on public sector and the Bug	Publication of 3rd NAO Report on progress across central Govt. and wider public sector				Cabinet Office Kristian Armstrong 0171 238 0373
29/05/1999 Tentative	Edinburgh		Dynamic Earth	Official opening and press briefing	This is a landmark project - 1 of nearly 30 around the UK.	The Millennium Commission is encouraging environmental sustainability - one of our key themes. This project is one of a range of environmental initiatives around the UK. TA: National, Regional Media, specialist press		Mill. Comm. Morag Wood 0171 880 2002
undated May	tbc		Millennium Bug - Year 2000 Validation Exercise 'Operation Hydra'	Civil Contingencies Committee - organised an exercise with Home Secretary's involvement	Lord President's attendance tbc			

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undated May Tentative	tba			Announcement of Year 2000 telethon				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
undated May Tentative	tba			11th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
03/06/1999	London Zoo		The Millennium Conservation Centre	Opening	The Queen to attend	The MC is investing in education by investng lottery money in the Millennium Conservation Centre TA: National, regional, specialist press, General Public		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0171 880 2007
08/06/1999 - 15/06/1999	Bristol	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the MC projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and Opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 08/06/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
12/06/1999	UK		National Bike week					Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
14/06/1999	tba			200 days to go	Possible Central Show preview material			NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303

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17/06/1999 - 23/06/1999	Truro	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General	VIP/Press day 17/06/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
22/06/1999	London		Millennium Greens (Countryside commission)	Parliamentary event	Chris Smith, MP to attend			Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
25/06/1999 Tentative	Yorkshire		Dales Environment	Summer ball	tbc	TA: local media		Mill. Comm. Press Office 0181 880 2007
26/06/1999 - 02/07/1999	Portsmouth	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch Open to the Public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the Millennium Commission projects are delivering a valuable legacy TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion	VIP/Press day 28/07/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
undated June Tentative	110 Buck. Palace Road			12th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
undated June Tentative	London			Economic Impact Assessment for Millennium Experience	Greenwich Council, English Partnerships & NMEC have commissioned this report	Good news on jobs/regeneration		GVC Andrew Parry 0181 305 3403

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undated June Tentative	New Mill. Pier			Travel trade trip to New Mill. Pier				NMEC Jacinta Johnston 0171 808 8655
June/July Tentative	tba			TV and Outdoor advertising	2nd Phase tbc			NMEC Ruth Wicks 0171 808 8320
Summer 1999 Tentative	tba		JLE	JLE trains run N Greenwich to Waterloo				
05/07/1999 - 11/07/1999	London	10:15	Millennium Voyager	Launch. Open to the public for 1 week.	Truck and local poster campaign will raise awareness of projects	Voyager will take the message round the UK that the MC projects are delivering a valuable legacy. TA: Local, regional and specialist press. General Public and opinion formers.	VIP/Press day 05/07/1999	Mill. Comm. Kate Hardcastle 0171 880 2009
July 1999	Co.Fermanagh		Kesh Boat park	opening		The MC will be supporting our communities by investing lottery money in the Kesh Boat park TA: Local media and general public.		Mill. Comm. Press office 0171 880 2007
undated July Tentative	tba			Tickets go on sale				

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undated July Tentative	110 Buck. Palace Road			13th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8308
undated July Tentative	110 Buck. Palace Road			Annual Report and Accounts published			Press conference (tbc)	NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
undated August Tentative	110 Buck. Palace Road			14th Media Forum				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
Autumn 1999 Tentative	tba		JLE	JLE trains run Waterloo to Green Park				
22/09/1999	tba			100 days to go				NMEC Gez Sagar 0171 808 8303
Sept. - Dec. 1999	Nationwide		Millennium Bug	Minimal disruption (public confidence) - Action 2000 TV/press/radio campaign		TA: National/local press		Action 2000 Elizabeth Allen 0171 215 3976
Sept - Dec 1999	London		Millennium Bug - Seminars by Mike Mahony (HSE) re. Year 2000	Talks on training for industry health and safety specialists				HSE Mike Mahony 0171 717 6282
undated Sept. Tentative	tba			2nd Granada series begins				NMEC Fiona Cline 0171 808 8314
undated Oct. 1999	Nationwide		Millennium Bug	Action 2000 - general advice on domestic appliances, door drop and press campaign		TA: National/local press		Action 2000 Elizabeth Allen 0171 215 3976

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undated October Tentative	HSE		Launch of report of independent assessment by W H Atkins	Publication of 'Major Hazard Sites and the Millennium Problem'				HSE David Wilson 0151 951 4969
undated Oct. Tentative	tba			Party Conference receptions				
undated Dec. Tentative	tba			Travel Trade previews				
undated Dec. Tentative	tba			Consumer previews				
Late 1999 Tentative	tba			South Bank Show on the Central Show				NMEC Ross Cook 0171 808 8308
03/01/2000	Dome site			Festival "kick off"				
undated jan.	tba			Multi-part BBC documentary series about project begins	BBC			NMEC Fiona Cline 0171 808 8314

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