

The battle of Britain (part two)

As you read this, wifey and I will (with any luck) be strolling about the country hills of central England. That is, of course, unless we're treading water in the centre of some quaint, but flooded, village.

We left two days ago for Jolly Old England, which has been anything but jolly this spring. It seems that Mother Nature has been wreaking havoc with the old country. Rapid thaws and unusually high rainfall have literally washed away some villages.

After hearing news reports of the floods two weeks ago I called the owners of the cottage where we're staying just to get a first-hand account of the weather, thinking the reports we'd heard were likely somewhat exaggerated.

"Oh, yes Mr. McGhie, we have had some poor weather," said our host-to-be.

Poor? How bad is poor, I thought? Poor isn't as bad as lousy and lousy is better than terrible, so on a scale of 1-10 poor probably rates a three.

"Just poor?" I asked. "We had heard reports of bad flooding."

"Well," replied the cottage owner, "they did find two more bodies today in a car that had been washed away. And we also went to check on our boat in a nearby village but it's missing."

"The boat's gone?," I asked.

"Yes... and the village."

You've gotta love the unflappable English and their knack of understating things.

Still, weather aside, I'm looking forward to this trip. Four years ago wifey finally convinced me to see the land of her birth and we had a great time.

Standing in a huge field, with grazing sheep nearby and watching the sun go down while sitting on an ancient rock fence was definitely a Kodak moment.

And so was eating clotted cream. Despite its less than appealing name clotted cream is THE

THIS
'N
THAT



John McGhie

best thing to spread on a biscuit or scone.

There are, however, a couple things I'm not looking forward to— driving being No. 1. Getting behind the wheel in England borders on insanity. Forget the fact they drive on the wrong side of the road, the Brits are kamikaze-like on streets that are so narrow they would classify as bicycle lanes in Canada.

And let's not forget the favorite pastime of the British— driving in roundabouts. The closest thing we have to a roundabout here is the bumper car ride at Wonderland.

For the uninitiated, a roundabout is a circle where four or five roads meet with the object being to drive around the circle until you find a road you want to exit on. Once you are in the circle you are not obliged to get out—ever. You can literally drive in a circle for days.

Another thing I dislike about England is its newspapers. They are obsessed with the Royals. Just how much can you write about this do-nothing dysfunctional bunch? And forget about getting any details of the NHL playoffs. If it's not soccer, rugby, auto racing or cricket, it doesn't warrant ink. But, I'm sure I'll be well-versed in which Spice Girl is Prince Harry's favorite.

Still, England really is God's country and we're hoping to explore some of its more historical areas.

That is, if we're not doing the backstroke or going around in circles.

SEPARATED - DIVORCED?

Cope more easily with women & men your age & situation. As described in "The Star" article. Seminars recommended by professionals since 1989, including law, relationships, letting go, esteem. Smile again at safe socials. **FREE** Preview April 28 & 30. **Save \$60 + GST** with fully refundable early registration. **905-338-9879** anytime.



Natural Health News

Summer's Coming ... It's Time For Birkenstocks!

Throughout a lifetime we walk an average of 160 thousand km, the equivalent of four times around the earth, hardly ever giving our feet a chance to recuperate. Often squeezing our feet into unsuitable footwear, walking on concrete, asphalt and stone strains our bodies immensely. Knees, hips and spine literally take a beating.

Birkenstock shoes and sandals help prevent and alleviate aches and pains caused by wearing inadequate footwear which often has a negative impact on posture and balance.

Come and see the many different colours and styles, both in narrow and wide. With proper care they can last for years. Available in leather, suede and Birko-Flor (imitation leather).

Visit us every last Wednesday of the month for our customer appreciation day. A 10% discount applies to all in-store, regular priced items!

Willow Lane Natural Foods
15 Willow St. S.
Acton, ON L7J 1Z9 **853-3051**
Vitamins, Herbs, Spices and Cosmetics

Tooth Chatter



by
**ALEX
TRENTON
DENTURIST**

DENTAL MATERIALS

Charles Goodyear invented a denture base material back in the mid 1800's. This material was called "Vulcanite". Vulcanite is a dark brown, semi-rigid rubber. Since then, denture base materials have come a long way, and vast changes and improvements have been made. Today very modern plastics and acrylics are used.

The artificial teeth on a denture were made from such materials as bone and ivory. Precious metals such as gold and silver were also tried. Even wood was used to make teeth!

Finally, porcelain and plastic teeth have replaced the former materials. We've come a long way since the days of "wooden teeth". Denture technology has been vastly improved for denture wearers, and they are continually discovering new techniques and materials.

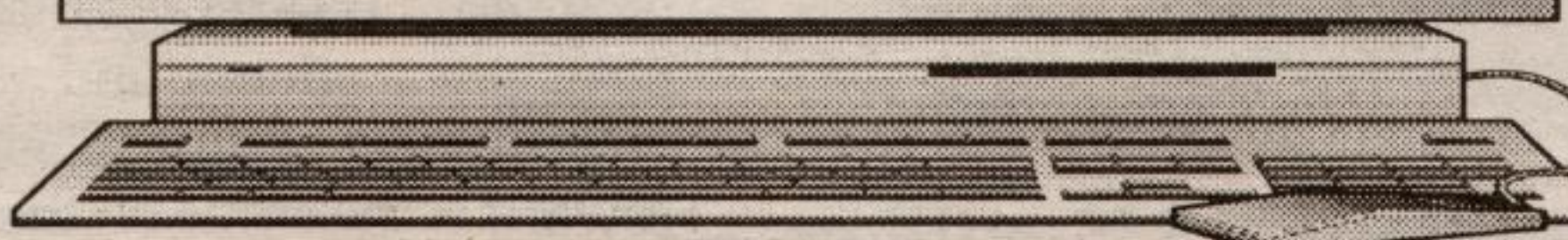
Today, more than 5 million Canadian adults are wearing dentures. That's more than one out of every four people in Canada.

You do not need a referral; simply call our office direct.

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR SMILE!
Alexander Trenton, D.D., F.C.A.D. (A)
Denturist
Georgetown Denture Clinic,
18 Church Street,
Georgetown, Ontario
(905) **877-2359**

(Across from the Library and Cultural Centre)

**AZTEC
INTERNET**
THE BEST FOR LESS
NEW LOWER PRICING
873-2141



Group Space

Limited Space

All you ever dreamed of,
for less than you imagined.

"GRAND PRINCESS"
INAUGURAL CARIBBEAN SAILING OCT. 4/98

Priced from **\$979^{00*}** p.p., dbl.

* Prices are per person, double in U.S.D. and include cruise and port charges. Air add \$299 from Toronto.



GEORGETOWN TRAVEL
124 Guelph Street,
Georgetown, Ontario L7G 4A5
905-877-2252 or 1-888-367-9112

PRINCESS CRUISES
It's more than a cruise, it's the Love Boat
British & Liberian Registry



It Starts
with YOU!
www.pitch-in.ca
for information

stop

Heart
Disease
and
Stroke!

Support the
Heart and
Stroke
Foundation.