

Views

Splashing out in the Country Club

A longer, deeper swimming pool, exciting new sports and leisure facilities, and an expansion of the Terrace Restaurant will give Langdale the Lake District's very best Country Club in just over a year's time, by late spring 2001.

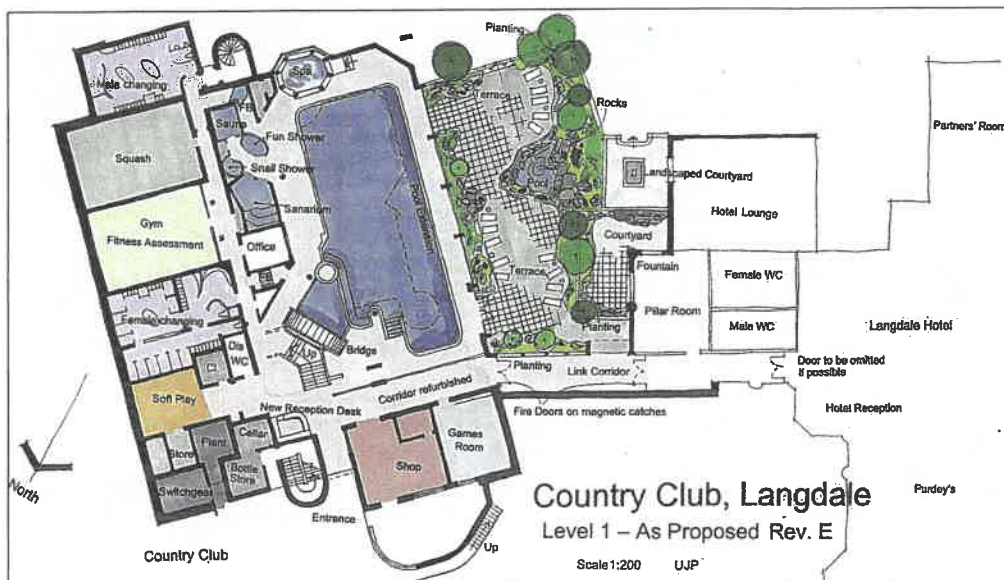
Work on major refurbishment starts this autumn, and will involve extensive re-building, refurbishment of the link corridor and some spectacular new landscaping outside.

No detail, however small, has been overlooked in the plan to make the Country Club the most exclusive in the entire county: gone will be the familiar, lingering harshness of chlorine, replaced by odourless environmentally-friendly ozone, and both men's and women's changing rooms will be sensibly divided into wet and dry areas for comfort and convenience, with the addition of new hygiene footbaths.

The Club's freshly tiled pool will create an impressive splash when it re-opens, with new swimming lanes for those who like to count the lengths, separated from the leisure end. Round one end of the pool will be underwater spa seating for 16 swimmers, whose backs will be gently massaged by warm jets of energising bubbles as they take a relaxing break.

The Club will also introduce the very latest whole-body sensation - the unisex Sanarium, a new concept in sauna already fast gaining in popularity, which cleverly combines heat and moisture. Additional men's and ladies loos upstairs and the provision of a disabled toilet downstairs completes the picture.

Substantial improvements to the Terrace Restaurant area include expanded space inside for a bigger dining area, and extra room on the patio. The lounge area has been the subject of a complete re-think with a new design of space and seating to



allow easier access for people walking through. The exercise room and squash court are swapping places, to create extra space for the expansion of the Terrace, and both will be newly equipped. The whole Terrace area will be partitioned with glass, to keep out the heat from the pool below.

A dry autumn, followed by a wet spring

The refurbishment programme has been split into two phases - wet and dry, to minimise inconvenience. The 'dry' phase begins this September and should be completed by Christmas 2000; work will concentrate on the Terrace and patio expansions, the exercise and squash areas, and the stairwells and staircase. The 'wet' phase will run from January-May 2001 when the pool will be extended and the new Sanarium and other facilities installed. Individual areas will re-open, sometimes temporarily, whenever possible. Although the pool will be closed from January, free transport will be laid on to take guests to a pool facility elsewhere. Refurbishment time will have its own special rewards and

consolations - you can read about them elsewhere in this edition of Views. You can also follow the progress of the work from home - digital images showing the latest stages will be posted weekly on the Langdale website.

"Some people might wonder why such a radical refurbishment of the Country Club is necessary - but it's no good waiting until the tiles fall off the pool and everything starts to fall apart before we prepare for such a project - so we're taking action

well in advance," Langdale Managing Director David Banks explained. "The re-building programme will not only greatly enhance our existing facilities but will also solve maintenance problems and address all health and safety issues as well. The Country Club at Langdale will be the best, most innovative in Cumbria, and we think it will be well worth the inconvenience this winter, though we will strive to keep this to the minimum."

Brackens - watch this 'changing' house



Log on to <http://www.langdale.co.uk>, go to Site Features, and watch its transformation before your very eyes! Digital images posted weekly show the make-over from simple self-catering cottage into Langdale's latest and best new timeshare property. In bygone times, Brackens was the watch and 'change' house where men at the gunpowder works changed into regulation clothing; - a house for the future set in a unique landscape of the past.

E-xclusive Langdale

Viewing the Langdale website is a bit like watching a magician - you never quite know what they'll pull out of the hat next...

Our latest little amusement can be found on Site Features; by downloading some clever software (free) from the special features section, you can make your own screen saver or desktop background wallpaper using a selection of photographs from our Langdale Favourites Gallery. Alternatively, if you want to win a holiday, go to Langdale's Lifestyle e-mag; current features include articles about Wordsworth, and Cumbrian food ("Much More Than Mintcake"). Lifestyle's spring edition will appear around mid-April.

E-Valuate!

What a good idea to produce our own Langdale Favourite guide to walks, pubs, or menus, we thought - and even better to get you to do all the hard work! So we devised a competition, voting system and prize draw to encourage your entries - your vote automatically enters you in the prize draw for a couple of "Dining With A Difference" holidays - and the person whose 'Favourite' nomination attracts the most votes wins a Langdale weekend for two. Your reviews then form the basis of a Langdale 'Favourites' Guide to the Lakes.

The Pig and Whistle at Cartmel was voted Langdale's 'Favourite' pub with 133 votes, for good food, beer and service. Wainwright's was close behind (over 100) and third was Stickle Barn, New Dungeon Ghyll. The jury's still out on Langdale's Favourite walk, and after that comes the Langdale Virtual Menu: entrants have to dream up a favourite meal of dishes from the Langdale menu - guess the price of the custom-made Menu, and you get prize draw entry for a free weekend for two and two one-night holidays.

Fun and entertainment apart, the website can serve some very useful purposes. Using our CD ROM virtual tour of the Estate, individual properties can be viewed and availability checked instantly. We also have a downloadable slide presentation for Group and Conference buyers who want to show customers about Langdale.

Owners AGM - A Break With History

The venue for the Owners' AGM on October 15 is the Novotel York, which is splendidly situated on the riverbank close to the centre of the medieval walled city. This newly refurbished hotel has spacious, well equipped bedrooms with satellite TV and individual thermostat control; a heated pool, and an all-day restaurant. A buffet lunch will be served on the day of the AGM.

York has so much to offer visitors, some of you may like to make the AGM part of a longer break. History is everywhere: you'll breathe it as you walk along the Walls looking across the City, or through York Minster - or experience it, convincingly re-created at the famous Jorvik Viking Centre. For rail fans, the National Railway Museum is a cathedral in its own right to the age of steam; and for the fascinating history of important but often unconsidered trifles of domestic life, from water closets to vacuum cleaners, don't miss the unusual but highly popular Castle Museum. Please telephone Lynette Berry at Langdale on 015394 38002 to let us know if you will be attending the AGM, and whether you require the buffet lunch. If you would like to stay overnight in York, telephone Novotel direct on 01904 611660 and quote "Langdale" to obtain our specially negotiated price.

A Timely Reminder

In accordance with the Constitution, clause 10 (xii) page 4, members' nominations for election to the Langdale Owners Club Committee should be sent, in writing, together with the name of the proposer and seconder, plus a statement that the nominee is willing to stand, to David Banks at Langdale by 1 July 2000.

Best Buys For Spring

Very occasionally, for various reasons, we get approached by an owner who needs a quick sale - this means that the following weeks represent outstanding value for money. To get the latest Best Buys first, you can subscribe to our email club, and you will receive a monthly email of any outstanding offers. To subscribe, go to Offers on the website menu.

Property	Size	Unit	Week	List Price	Asking Price	Discount
Grasmere	Sleeps 4	12	16	9,899	6,000	40%
Grasmere	Sleeps 4	2	38	10,022	5,500	45%
Grasmere	Sleeps 4	1	27	9,899	3,500	65%
Grasmere	Sleeps 4	67	31	10,505	6,500	39%
Grasmere	Sleeps 4	9	52	8,999	5,300	41%
Coniston	Sleeps 6	43	44	11,712	9,500	19%
Coniston	Sleeps 6	18	5	6,641	5,000	25%
Windermere	Sleeps 6	73	28	13,524	8,900	35%
Windermere	Sleeps 6	42	33	14,853	7,425	50%
Ullswater	Sleeps 8	80	42	16,663	9,975	40%
Elterwater Hall	Sleeps 6	1	21	16,784	10,000	40%
Elterwater Hall	Sleeps 6	4	21	16,784	10,000	40%
Elterwater Barn	Sleeps 6	-	14	16,301	Neg	-

The above list represents only a selection of weeks available for sale. The full list is available live online at www.langdale.co.uk/Offer/

(e.) Mail Bags!

Be quick with a click to bag the best bargains - join Langdale's Email Offers Club.

Subscribe to Early Bird, and you will receive the latest information on Langdale's newest breaks, packages or offers, before general release, direct to your email address

For Late Break Club, it's bags packed and ready to go at fairly short notice, within the week, to take advantage of Langdale's last minute offers for the following week. Check your email without fail every Friday afternoon for the best in-house bargains - and you'll pay £5 per person less than the best offers promoted.

As for getting a Last Chance - you'll have to move fast when one of these brilliant offers lands in your email, because demand will be so high, they're only for those first past the post! Available for Friday or Sunday nights only, the cost is just £5 per person, per night for accommodation as long as you pay full price for dinner and breakfast in Purdey's. These one-night breaks can also be part of a longer stay. We'll tell you by email on a Monday or Tuesday when a Last Chance is available, and your booking will be taken only after 6pm Thursday, on a first come, first served basis.

We can also email you regularly with details of short breaks in the Hotel, Group and Conference offers, self-catering breaks, the best timeshare buys and monthly listings for timeshare sales.

You can become an Early Bird, Late Break and Last Chance subscriber by clicking on 'Offers' on the Langdale website menu, and filling in your selections and email address.

We'll pay you to stay

The pool will be empty next winter - but its temporary closure will have something in it for you! From November 2000 to the end of March 2001 (excluding Christmas & New Year), while the refurbishment of the Country Club is taking place, you can stay Bed & Breakfast for £60 per person per night - and we'll give you a guided tour of the work in progress and £20 of vouchers pppn to be spent anywhere on the Estate except the Club Shop.

Langdale Hotel Offers... Beauty Seldom Seen!



Walk with us this year through the Lakeland seasons, and you may witness some of Lakeland's rarest treasures and shyest creatures, seldom seen by other visitors.

Though millions of people visit the Lake District every year, many do not venture far from their cars, and of those that do, the vast majority stick to the most popular paths. Yet beyond these, there lies an amazing range of wildlife in the more remote valleys and secluded woodlands and gorges - and these are among the places explored during Langdale's three new Wildlife Walking Breaks.

Nobody could have kept his eyes open wider or his ear closer to the ground during 11 years as a National Park Authority Ranger than Wildlife Walking Breaks leader, John White, whose walks should lead you to some of Lakeland's shyest species of flora and fauna. Your sightings will also help local ecologists involved in wildlife conservation surveys.

To round off each day, Langdale provides the perfect ending, with its natural abundance of life's little luxuries.

Each Break will follow a similar itinerary, though the wildlife changes with the seasons.

From May 8-12 or 22-26, John White will show you "Ravens and The Lakeland Spring" just when early broods of raven chicks are about to leave the nest and the first little white-rumped wheatears arrive. From June 12-16 and 26-30, his interest will focus on "Falcons

and Alpines", and from September 25-28, and October 16-19, his subjects are "Autumn Colours, Stone Axes and Stags".

We've all looked out on lovely Langdale's views, but John will show you what really lies before your eyes, from extinct volcanoes to ancient stone axe factories. Each Break will also walk by England's last mountain stronghold of red deer up Bannerdale and over Rampsgill, Lakeland's loneliest valley. Here you should also see peregrines and other birds of prey or, with very good luck indeed, a glimpse of the elusive ring ouzel; in mid-summer young deer calves graze the fells, and in autumn, there's the spectacle and roar of rutting stags.

Each Break will also feature beautiful walks to the likeliest places John knows to find rare Alpine ferns, flowers and mosses that still thrive in gorges and ravines, and autumn's woodland feast of fungi will provide plenty

of foraging for Autumn walkers.

Packed breakfast or dinner will be provided when necessary to take advantage of early morning or late evening nature watches, and sometimes John will be joined by other wildlife experts.

Walking is at a moderate level, well within the capability of the average walker. Some is uphill, but with frequent stops for bird watching or photography. Routes avoid main tracks, where possible, to increase the chances of seeing wildlife. Walkers will need walking boots, warm clothing, waterproofs, a small rucksack, and a pair of binoculars would be most useful.

John, who actually spotted a flock of about thirty snow buntings on Helvellyn as he was preparing these itineraries, hopes to set up an interactive website diary of Walking With Wildlife.

A Time Remembered - Elterwater Gunpowder Works

This is how workers at Langdale made gunpowder in the 1900s, as told in their own words to Ambleside Oral History Group:

"Water power was all the power there was. The beck used to feed four mills at the top, then it drove the glazing house, five glazing barrels, and the reel for dusting and polishing. Then t'water went down again and drove the corning house, then it went back in the beck and drove the press house.

"...I think there'd be up to 80 employed in the works, like wit' carters and coopers and so on. We used to get our money in a li'le tin and 65 was my number. You

used to wang your number in a barrel as you came out. It was hard work, it was dirty, but money was clean...

"I never did consider it really dangerous. If your powder came off the mills you were alright, if it had any foreign body in it to cause any ignition, it would have done it on the incorporating mills, where them big stones are." (Four of the six incorporating mills were down by Lower Tarn. The mix for gunpowder was made by grinding saltpetre, sulphur and charcoal. Pairs of upright limestone wheels called runners trundled around on top of the two huge circular bedstones, crushing the mixture.)

"When it came off t'mills at the bottom, it were brought up just below Pillar. You'll have noticed overflow out on't race - well, there was a magazine, expense magazine they called that. And that's where it was all dumped.

"Then it was picked up from there into these covered wagons and taken down to the press house lower down - right by t'beckside, that's where t'press house was. That was a stone building. I think that blew up once, I've heard them say, about

1897. There the powder was compressed ...into cakes, roughly three foot or summat like that. We used wooden tools. There was a big cylinder, the pressure in the press house was about 25cwt a square inch... then it was taken up into t'corning house. There's a wee spot there, I think it's a wooden building that used to be the corning house. (Explosions recorded 1878, 1901 and 1916.)

"Then you shunted your stuff back up again and over t'race into t'glazing house, to glaze over night in big churns, then pulled out in t'morning into barrels and taken up to stalling department, by them hard tennis courts. That was stalled all night, then shunted off again up top to the dusting house, to get rid of the dust. They had rotating sieves that shook all the dust round. It was a dirty job."

The gunpowder cakes were packed in wooden barrels made by the cooper at Beech Tree Corner and taken by horse-drawn wagons to Windermere Railway Station. The shire horses, shod with copper to avoid sparking an explosion, were the pride of Elterwater...

But more of that in the next Views!



Casey's Casebook

Young Casey Allum, champion of Langdale's beleaguered red squirrel population reports: "The squirrel feeders are doing their job keeping the greys at bay, but only just - the greys we watched recently from my Mum's office are proving extremely clever. They have worked out that by tapping the under tray on the squirrel feeders, the nuts and seeds which have accumulated will, if shaken, fall down onto the floor. They then proceed to eat them. I haven't seen any red squirrels this year as yet, but still top up the feeders every second week in anticipation."



Coming Home To Langdale

Turn the clock back 55 years to Langdale in wartime... bombers droned overhead as six-year-old Fred Freiburger stood on tiptoes to help clear the tables during school breaks for his busy parents, Edward and Ilse, who juggled with food rationing and coupons to keep Langdale Estate's Gateway Hotel open in the 1940s.

Through young Fred's eyes, the wartime world of Langdale was sheer excitement and adventure. An attachment of US Army troops, with British counterparts, set up a radio communication post in the Chapel Stile school yard. At first, pupils were apprehensive to go out at playtime but this was soon replaced by cheerful camaraderie, as the British and Yank troops offered Cadbury and Fry's chocolate bars to the more daring who wandered out; within a week, pupils had to be scolded back into class from inside special lorries and radio vans.

At home Fred made mock beach landings with the help of a tree rope over the Langdale Beck. An old beech tree on the Estate served as a spy outpost, battle tank and whatever a young boy's imagination wished for the moment.

The years of carefree childhood on the Estate only ended when his father died, and Fred, with his sister Ann and their mother emigrated to America. This spring, Fred, his wife Barbara and 91-year-old mother Ilse are returning 'home' from the States, to spend a holiday with us at Langdale; and in anticipation of their visit, Fred has re-lived those special years for Views.

"...If the Langdale Beck could

talk, it would echo with our happy play times..." Fred emailed us.

"Mom and Dad managed the Gateway Hotel and Restaurant (now Reception) for Mr Hall, and I cleared tables before I was tall enough to see over the top. Every Friday night after supper, we would sit and polish silver while listening to the BBC. After my sister and I went to bed, Mom and Dad would do the meat and grocery order for the following week. Needless to say it wasn't easy to predict the number of in-house guests and off-the-road diners. The 'Gateway' had a reputation throughout the Continent for Dad's roast beef and Yorkshire Pudding and Mom's Vienna pastry deserts."

"Our last residence on the Estate was the House on the Beck, behind the big hill. The stile which crossed the fence to the riverside was originally built by my Dad, who also arranged a big swing that swung from a tree over the water... when the Beck flooded and the water was so high as to touch the side of the house, Dad would joke about fishing from the bedroom window. When the water froze one year we dropped a bucket on a rope from the front steps for washing water and melted snow to boil for drinking."

Fred's mother recalls both English and US officers dining at the Gateway, talking tactics, while the expert ears of young Fred could tell whether the bombers flying overhead were outward bound or returning from a raid. His father, Edward Freiburger, was an engineer and his skills as a mechanic managed to keep the



The Gateway Cafe-Restaurant, 1938

Estate's old Humber touring car on the road throughout the war, picking up important guests from Windermere Station and driving monthly to Kendal to pick up supplies.

Edward's many skills were also used for barter; his prowess at skinning rabbits for the butcher always yielded several for the family pot - "a great addition to our limited meat rations," Fred said. "I had a little black cocker spaniel that would run away and come back after a day or so, often with a nearly dead chicken that would be dropped at the front door. Dad would have to ask around to see who was missing a hen and pay the damages... we had chicken for dinner!" Opposite the main entrance to the Estate Fred milked the cows, churned butter and collected eggs for Mr Pierce:

"Dad ran the two small water-driven electric plants on the Estate and every spring I would go out and help pull sheep from the water intakes, when the power faulted due to the blockage... the phone number at the Gateway

was Grasmere 82 and Dad would have to check the acid battery jars in the attic that powered the phones several times a year..."

Several artists lived on the Estate in wartime, and Edward made a swivel drawing table for the artist Bernard Eyre Walker who had a studio with a big skylight in the Elterwater end of the Estate.

After Edward's death and burial at Chapel Stile, Fred, Ann and their mother sailed across the Atlantic in 1951 in the original Cunard White Star "Queen Elizabeth" to begin a new life in the States. Fred inherited his father's practical skills and went on to design computers for the space programme, and now works as an international safety consultant.

The family have made several return trips over the years - and when Langdale was re-developed in 1982, Fred took a little bit of his happy childhood home with him - the original Pillar Hotel sign, which now hangs on his recreation room wall. We wish the Freibergers Many Happy Returns!



Thanks To You...

Langdale guests and owners have raised more than £50,000 since 1994 for vital conservation work in the Lake District.

Langdale were pioneers in adopting a specific conservation scheme - we fund a member of the National Trust footpath team, repairing Langdale's serious erosion, known as Our Man at the Top. Now there are four. This was one of the first projects

developed by the Lake District Tourism and Conservation Partnership, whose members also adopt specific schemes. The Partnership is now based at Fisherbeck Mill, Ambleside, and our support remains strong. We believe sustainability is the key to balancing the needs of the environment with those of visitors and the host community. Public, private and voluntary sectors are working closely with conservationists to help safeguard the character of the Lake District

whilst maintaining a diverse and vibrant economy.

In addition to our voluntary levy, we have designed and created a new website for the LDTCP with links to Langdale's site, which we hope will attract many more members and associates. The LDTCP is supported by many organisations including Cumbria Tourist Board, the Lake District National Park Authority, the National Trust, English Lakes Hotels, and South Lakeland District Council.

In At The Deep End!

There's no such thing as a typical day in the life of Trainee Manager Helen Pearson...

It's less than two years since 24-year-old Helen Pearson left her carefree student days at Winchester University to become a trainee manager at Langdale. The two-year stint involves working through every department on the Estate, from Groundstaff and Maintenance to Housekeeping, Reception and Purdey's "I'll tell you one thing straight away - there is nothing... but NOTHING... which fazes me now!" she laughs.

Helen started on Langdale's exacting trainee management with a business degree and an HND in hotel management - but however well qualified, nothing could have prepared Helen for that traditional Langdale challenge - the 2am power cut! This particular one began when she was working in The Terrace, as staff were locking up for the night:

"I'd already worked in the Country Club, so the noise of the pool is familiar; then as the power failed, I heard the pool stop working - everything went silent and the water went off. We'd always been told that during a power cut, we must turn the valves off to stop the pool from draining - not easy in

the dark with time running out. The only other way, they'd said, was to jump in the pool and block the valves off manually. Well... we just peered at one another, waiting for a volunteer! At least I could swim - one or two of the others couldn't, but I had my contact lenses in and I didn't fancy jumping in fully clothed! Instead, one of the waiters dived in, and we dashed up to the kitchen and collected as many big pans as we could fit into bin liners and threw them into the pool until the pile was heavy enough to keep the valves weighted down and stop the water draining.

"I kept thinking - suppose somebody walks in - what would guests think if they saw a man in waiter's uniform in the pool having pans thrown at him?"

Learning Bar Service - putting the towels up!

No two days are the same for trainee managers as they systematically work through the system. Some are more stressful than others: "I think one of the most nerve-wracking was walking into Purdey's kitchen because all the staff are so highly trained, but they keep a very close eye on you. One evening I was calmly serving diners with drinks in Purdey's when water began dripping in above the bar.

Within moments, it was pouring down, flooding everywhere, and I dashed off in search of towels to mop up and cover the bar area. The room above has a double whirlpool bath, and the pipe underneath had become disconnected so the overflow pipe was chucking bath water all over the bar right below!"

Helen says you can't beat Reception on a Sunday morning for sheer hard work - it's the busiest check-out of the week for hotel rooms and lodges, and the phone rings all the time. "In the middle of all this, I had a call from a lady yesterday who said she'd packed everything - except her entire wardrobe. She'd actually left all her clothes behind at Langdale. However, the most commonplace call usually comes from halfway down the M6 and it always starts: "We're terribly sorry, but we seem to have come away with your key..." Arrival time is equally busy - people ring from their rooms to ask for help, especially the Americans. They're used to automatically flushing toilets and think all British ones are out of order - and some don't know the difference between a kettle and a teapot!"

Stairs - or chair lift ?

While on housekeeping one day, a delivery of new settees arrived for the lodges: "The



groundsmen came to help, but the leather settees were too wide to get up the stairs and we had to be careful not to mark them - it was hilarious, trying to beat the clock every time we started to heave a settee up the stairs, in case somebody wanted to get past when we were half-way up!"

Helen, who's from Newcastle, has been joined at Langdale by her boyfriend who works in Purdey's: "He's the one person that gets it all if I've had a hard day - but that's what he's there for!" Helen says.

"The most amazing thing about Langdale is the friendliness - I think it's something everyone always remembers about the Estate. And although working in trainee management can be stressful, it's a very light-hearted environment and we have a lot of fun. Occasionally there may be somebody who's a little unpleasant to deal with - but for every one of them, there are four hundred more guests out there who are extremely nice, friendly people."

Working At Langdale: A Rôle Of Honour!

For the past few months, we've been awarding staff who give that "little bit extra" to their jobs our "Employee of the Month" title. The latest nominee is Steve Morgan, Maintenance Supervisor: "He is consistently willing, helpful and cheerful - he lifts everybody's spirits," said Personnel Training and Development Officer, Victoria Proudlock. Steve's photo is the latest on display between Reception and the Country Club, and he joins a growing rank of staff whose attitude has been judged as outstandingly good.

People such as porter George Hunt, for example, known for his courtesy and kindness: "George is everyone's favourite - always so nice with everybody," Victoria said. Last September it was Tony Rice's turn; as newly appointed head chef at Wainwright's, his cooking was voted

'outstanding'. Paul Mayo, Food and Beverage Assistant on The Terrace, was December's title-holder, for his cheerful, enthusiastic and helpful service and Lodge Housekeeping's Dawn Allonby, another winner, went out of her way to help a guest find an extra-special restaurant meal, and even delivered him a menu.

However, no Langdale Roll of Honour would be complete without the name of Mags Jones, Hotel Administrator, November's winner: "There's only one thing to say about Mags - she's fantastic, because she does everyone else's job, as well as her own!" Victoria said. Promotions recently include Annette Sloan as Estate Housekeeper, with responsibility for all hotel rooms and lodges; Ruth Hodgkinson as Hotel Housekeeper; and Fiona Childs to Lodge Housekeeper.

Anomalies Explained

"Anomaly - A rule or practice that is different from what is normal or usual, and is therefore unsatisfactory." (Collins Dictionary).

Well... not exactly, for Langdale owners! The historic calendar irregularities that gave rise to Langdale's anomalies throw up some very satisfying opportunities for transforming anomaly into advantage. Perhaps we should explain:

Anomalies date back to the early 1980s, to the sale of the very first thirteen lodges, when ownership weeks ran from Saturday to Saturday. This meant that some years, people had to arrive on Christmas Day or New Year's Day, so after the first 13 weeks, fixed arrival dates were introduced for this period and instead of selling 50 weeks per unit, we sold 49 ...and "anomalies" are the days left over either side of these festive season arrival dates. Now, this Leap Year is a mathematical anomaly in itself - and because we sell 52 weeks of 7 days, and $52 \times 7 = \dots 364!$ So all those extra days, including the extra Leap Year days, plus anomalies, have come home to roost. Self-catering Anomaly Breaks remain the same price as last year from £55 per night; and we have 13 New Year weeks for sale priced from £1,185 for a two bed-roomed property sleeping up to six.

The Langdale Plus Package: Buying Breaks & Bargains

One of the greatest advantages of being a Langdale owner is the flexibility with which you can use your valuable asset - never better demonstrated than within the new and exciting Langdale Package Plus.

This exceptional Package offers a week of self-catering at Langdale, and a two-year membership to the Interval International Club, which buys you two discount holidays and the use of an extremely advantageous Gold Club discount card.

Who can benefit?

The Package is available on selected rentals only - stock weeks, and those of owners who choose to participate.

How does it work?

The Langdale rental falls in the first year of membership, which entitles customers to two LateBreak holidays at an Interval International affiliated resort. These holidays can only be taken in the second year of membership - at stunning discounts.

LateBreaks cost between £134 - £399 for luxury resorts, prices which are only possible by using Interval International's surplus weeks and are bookable from 59 days to only 24 hours in advance.

What are the full advantages?

During the full two years of membership, customers will receive the same benefits as Gold Card holders, which entitles you to certain discounts on holidays, wining and dining, leisure and golf facilities.

Bargains for Getting There...

Discounts on travel include

savings of up to £50 on flights (travel advisors must achieve the best offers) and car hire with Suncars can start as low as £67, with an overall 5% discount. There are also discounts on your travel insurance and currency exchange, (with home delivery); and for convenient, troublefree travel, you can save on the cost of airport parking and transfers, overnight accommodation before and after travel, and access to airport and VIP lounges, on condition all companies are members of IATA, ATOL or ABTA. You can also cruise at a discount on board Royal Caribbean and Celebrity Cruise Lines.

...and Staying There...

Hotel discounts are just as exciting. Guests can stay half-price at 4,000 international hotels in the USA, Australia, Asia, Mexico, South America, the Caribbean and Canada at some of the world's leading chains including Holiday Inns, Ramada, Sheraton, Raddisson, Quality and Days Inn - and if these hotels are already offering discounts, the Gold Card saves you a further 10% of the discounted rate, if this is the better deal. You can use your Gold Card as often as you want to buy international hotel accommodation, but there are limitations: the discount is not available for weekend packages, travel agent bookings or value-added promotions.

Discounts at European hotels are all on 'availability' basis (hotels are entitled to turn bookings down if they deem themselves full, which is normally 80% occupancy) and

you must book in advance, stating your membership. Having done this, you'll be entitled to a 50% discount at 1,500 European hotels in 30 countries, including many in the UK, and these include Devere, Stakis, Moat House, Ramadas, Holiday Inn, Menzies, Raddisson and Quality. Both Craigendarroch and the Adelphi are on the list, as are airport hotels at Gatwick, Heathrow and Manchester.

...A votre santé...!

The Gold Card also opens the door to membership of the 200-year-old Avery Wine Club, run by Avery's of Bristol. With an impressive array of Wine Masters on their staff - they have three, a high number considering there are only two hundred the world over - their selections come from small vineyards, in small quantities, and are not supplied to supermarket or wine store chains. Delivery in the UK is free, wines offered come with expert profiles, and if you don't like what you buy, it can be replaced or your money refunded within the first three months. If a wine has sold out, Avery's substitute a similar wine, and they also run vineyard tours and tastings with experts. There is no obligation to purchase.

The Gold Card also extends to 450 restaurants in the UK, where discounts of 25% are available off food and beverages for up to four people, again based on availability, with bookings advised. There is also reduced entry to theme parks, museums, stately homes and popular attractions such as the Granada

Studio tour at Manchester, Camelot, and Blackpool Pleasure Beach. You can also have a night out at a West End Theatre with two tickets for the price of one, with a limit of two trips; and there are free leisure club passes at any Harpers or Sebastian Coe gyms, with a limit of one pass for one person (7 days) and one pass for two people (1 day).

Interval International...

The Club of clubs...

Golfers among you will be especially pleased that an IIC Gold Card, coupled with up to 18 £2 vouchers, can give you access to the 2-FOR-1 Golf Factfile programme, with 540 participating courses in the UK, Ireland, France, Spain and Portugal - but you can't use the same course more than twice in 12 months.

Some also offer discounts on driving range use and in the pro shops; alternatively, you can give vouchers away as gifts. There is half price golf insurance, and special prices on two-night Golf Breaks to France with Driveline Golf - and if you buy two £6 vouchers, you get free accommodation in over 200 hotels with golf courses from the Breakaway Hotel Directory, although you will have to purchase breakfast and dinner during your stay.

We hope you share our enthusiasm for the Langdale Plus Package. We've negotiated these benefits - now it's up to you to enjoy them and take maximum advantage of all the opportunities it can offer members.



On Time, On Budget

Langdale's maintenance team has done it again! Property Services Manager Colin Lister and his team have built a reputation over a number of years for maintaining Langdale's Timeshare properties to a very high standard... on time, and on budget.

Since last year, Colin and his team have taken on the added responsibility of refurbishing hotel bedrooms and bathrooms. Pictured to the left, we're proud to show you the result of their expert handiwork. Regular high quality maintenance work is a high priority to us, and we know our guests and owners appreciate the commitment we make to this ongoing work.

Management Fees

Timeshare guests may now avail themselves of the facility of paying their Management Fees by credit cards, with a commission charge of 1.5%, the cost of the transaction. This commission is only levied on the payment of Management Fees, and is not applicable to extras incurred during your stay.

Management Fees for the year commencing 1st May 2000 (week 18) have been set as shown in the table below. This represents an increase of 4% on the previous year's fees, but a lower increase than last year which was 5%.

The 4% increase is applied to the Maintenance Fee and Disbursement element and to the Reserve Fund Contributions.

The increase is to cover inflation and additional costs associated with maintaining lodges to the standard expected by owners.

We have also negotiated an additional concession from Customs and Excise to treat Cleaning Staff transport as a disbursement, which is therefore not liable to VAT.

	LODGES				CHAPEL STILE			ELTERWATER	
	Grasmere	Coniston	W'mere	Ullswater	1-bed	2-bed	3-bed	Hall/Barn	Cottage
Maintenance fee	156.63	183.49	192.82	206.59	123.96	156.82	176.61	206.59	183.49
Disbursements: Rates	31.57	36.91	38.77	41.51	25.07	31.61	35.54	41.51	36.91
Water	3.05	3.57	3.75	4.01	2.42	3.06	3.44	4.01	3.57
Insurance	3.16	3.69	3.88	4.15	2.51	3.16	3.55	4.15	3.69
Lodge cleaning	28.97	33.87	35.58	38.09	23.00	29.00	32.62	38.09	33.87
Staff transport	2.81	3.28	3.45	3.69	2.23	2.81	3.16	3.69	3.28
TV licences	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.30
Maintenance Fee plus Disbursements	228.49	267.11	280.55	300.34	181.49	228.76	257.22	300.34	267.11
Reserve Fund Contribution	41.48	48.50	50.94	54.54	32.94	41.53	46.70	54.54	48.50
Total excluding VAT	269.97	315.61	331.49	354.88	214.43	270.29	303.92	354.88	315.61
VAT @ 17.5% on maintenance fee only	27.41	32.11	33.74	36.15	21.69	27.44	30.91	36.15	32.11
Total management fee	297.38	347.72	365.23	391.03	236.12	297.73	334.83	391.03	347.72

LODGE SWAPS 2000/2001

LANGDALE							
Offered	Requested						
2000							
1-BED — SLEEPS 4							
21	32-35	34	22	20	2	6	May
27	36-42	34	43,35,22	21	1	4	17
29	37,38,39	34	30-33	22	2	6	22
30	14,15,18,19,20,21, Oct	36/37	Aug, Sept, Oct (Coniston)	26	2	6	26,32-35
33	23-28	36	39,40	27	1	4	27,28,32
48	earlier	37	16,17, summer hols.	30	2	6	29,30
50	any	37	16,17	33	1	4	30,31,34
		40	52	36	3	8	33-36
		40	any (few steps)	38	2	6	any
		40	school holidays	39	2	6	school holidays
		42	43	40	2	6	any
		42	41	41	2	6	42
		42	Sept	44	2	6	35,43
14	15	42(CS)	47-49,3,4,5 (2001)	44	2	6	Aug, 42,43
14	16,17	44	14	48	2	6	18-44
14	16,17	44	29-30	48	2	6	up to 48
14	15-18	44(CS)	43	52/1	2	6	30-34 (2001)
14	38-42	45	16,17,43	2001			
14	43,31-34	45	17	8	2	6	any, not 7
14	1 (3 beds?)	46	50	MADEIRA			
14	15,16,22,30-35	48	30-35	2000			
15	16	50	school holidays or 6/1/01	Week	Bedrooms	Sleeps	Wanted
17	May	3-BED — SLEEPS 8		18/19	1	4	20 onwards
19	Oct, Nov	14	16 (2 beds?)	20	1	4	34,36
19	after July	15	16	21	1	4	any
20(CS)	25	15	17	32	1	4	21-38
21	Sept	16	28	33/34	1	4	18-26,38-44
21(CS)	22,17,16,35	28(CS)	16,17,22 (2 beds?)	35	2	6	31-34
22	43	29	30	46	2	6	20,18
23	36-39	39	Aug	46	studio	2	Sept, Oct, Nov
25	26 (Osborne, Torquay)	40	15,16,17,28-35	47/48	2	6	45-49
25	29-35	44	42 (2 beds?)	50/51	2	6	Jul, Aug
25	Oct, Nov	2001		2001			
26	36-42	2-BED — SLEEPS 6		2	2	6	23-30,36-39
26	Sept, Oct	5	1,2	21	1	4	any
26	29,30,31,34,35	11(CSI)	21,31-34	CRAIGENDARROCH			
27	28	15	17-20	2000			
27	28,29	38	school holidays	Week	Bedrooms	Sleeps	Wanted
27	28-34	41	school holidays	15	2	6	May, Jun
27	22	2001		16	2	6	16,17,18
28	36	2001		16	3	8	16,17,22
29	30-33	2001		19	2	6	19,24,25
29(Barn)	35	2001		19	2	6	May, Jun
30	36,37,41	2001		19	3	8	19
30	1 (3 beds?)	2001					
31	26,27,28 (Ulls or Wind)	2001					
31	June	2001					
31	34,35	2001					
33	30	2001					
33(CS) or		2001					
43 Miraflores, Spain	any 3 beds	2001					

Please note:
 - all Madeira apartments change over on Mondays.
 - the exchange with Four Seasons Fairways is no longer available.
 - costs: internal - £25, others £50.
 If you are interested in any of the above, please contact Sheila Crouch on tel/fax 01661 823548. Administration charges: Langdale £25, Others £50.
 Please note that the list of availability changes constantly.

Annette Puts Her Foot Down

Standing just 4'10" tall in her stocking feet, Langdale Estate Housekeeper Annette Sloan is just knee-high to the driving wheels of a quarry dump truck - but no jokes about reaching the pedals, please... because she can manoeuvre a combine harvester, corner a steam roller or park an artic with the best of truckers anywhere.

Annette was one of a team of eight "Top Chicks" senior women managers from Langdale who competed in the Marie Curie Ladies Driving Challenge on an RAF airfield in Northumberland recently - and Annette came top out of four hundred, to win a silver trophy:

"I loved the driving, but I get an even bigger glow out of thinking that we raised £1,265 for local cancer relief. I've never done anything like this before - we had no practice, but I've never been bothered by driving different types of vehicles," Annette said.

Selecting the gear

"It was simply great to drive a police car at 130mph down the old runway, and as for the fire engine - well, that was just brilliant. The steam roller was hard work - no assisted steering! The articulated truck with full-length trailer was fine, and then there was a 10 tonne truck to park, and we had to drive the double-decker bus on a two-mile off-road course... but I have to admit, the quarry dumper truck was heavy to handle - its driving wheels were bigger than me!"

Annette learned to drive in her teens, passed her test - then married her driving instructor! Her husband Gordon would love to have tried his hand at the Marie Curie Challenge - but the charity organised it exclusively for women drivers, because men would have been too expensive to insure!

"There were a couple of questions from the Highway Code which I just had to get



Annette pictured with other Chicks L to R, back row: Linda Turner, Chris Cook, Rachel Shakeshaft, Victoria Proudlock, Tina Darbyshire & Catherine Marsh.

right or Gordon would never have forgiven me. Then when I heard a few weeks later that I'd got the maximum points and beaten 400 other drivers, Gordon just said 'Of course you did - I taught you to drive.'

Annette's normal mode of transport is either one of their two bikes, or the couple's camper van: "I'm used to driving a 19' Camper so I've never been fazed by driving big vehicles." When not working as Estate Housekeeper with responsibility for Langdale's 95 lodges and 65

hotel rooms, Annette enjoys camping, dog walking, and real ale as a member of CAMRA. She's also studying A-level English - and the cancer charity's next Driving Challenge is in June, the day before her exams: "It'll be too late to revise by that time, so I might as well go and have a good time instead!" she decided.

Langdale's other Top Chicks drivers are Catherine Marsh, Christine Cook, Nancy Holden, Rachel Shakeshaft, Victoria Proudlock, Tina Darbyshire and Linda Turner.

Advertising Feature

Langdale Walking Holidays with David Fairs

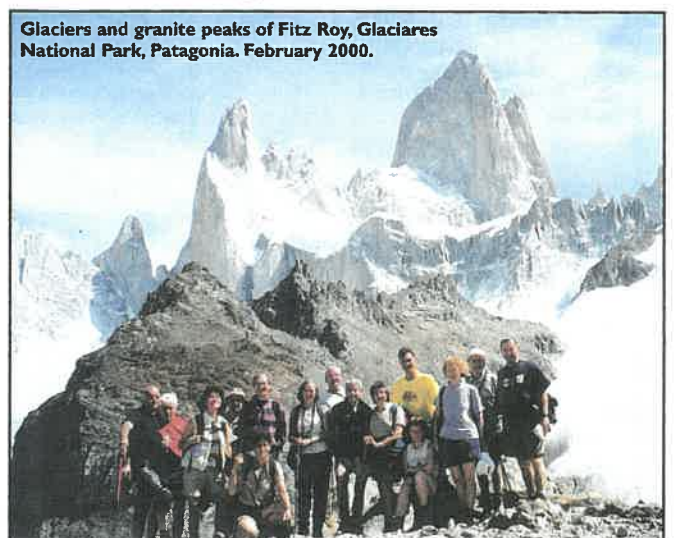
In the time that has passed since the last edition of Views we have travelled to Cyprus, New Zealand, Fiji and Patagonia, so life has certainly not been boring! A report on our visit to Patagonia including Argentina and Chile will be printed in the next edition of Views.

Our second visit to New Zealand was again a great success, and a third trip planned for February 2002 already has a number of bookings. For this trip

we will travel out via the USA and return via Honolulu. If you would like to receive information on this trip of a lifetime, or any of the other holidays, please let us know.

We have some vacancies left this year on our tour of South Africa, 9-30 November, and limited space on our first visit to Vietnam, 2-17 February 2001.

The programme next year is particularly good, returning to old favourites such as Mallorca, Orgeon, Madeira, Crete and



Glaciers and granite peaks of Fitz Roy, Glacieres National Park, Patagonia. February 2000.



Nepal; while new destinations include the West Coast of Ireland, and Kerala in Southern India.

Reunion weekends at the Langdale Hotel continue to be popular; we will be delighted to send you further information on these, and all other aspects of our holidays. We will also send you a

copy of our latest newsletter if you contact us:

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fax: 01539 736493

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