

Ed has been coming along to Posteller's for the last 5 years during which time he has been on loads of trips, walked 100's of miles, been to the theatre, cycled, climbed, kayaked, been on bonfire nights, made new friends and lots more of exciting adventures that I maybe don't know about! He has had a ball and become more independent over the years.

As a working, single mum Posteller's has offered me a well needed break as well! Thank you to all of the leaders who give up there precious free time to take Ed and other Posteller's away and here's to the next 45 years!

Happy Anniversary

Thanks

Julia Kitteringham - a current Posteller mother



45th Anniversary – POSTELLERS

Congratulations to the Postellers on your 45th Anniversary. It is a very special achievement that the Postellers Group over the last 45 years has helped young people to gain the competence and confidence to go hostelling independently. The Group has introduced young people living in and around London to the wonderful countryside in England and Wales and to our historic cities.

This has all been achieved through the leadership of Diane Nightingale who set up the Postellers in 1968 when she was a YHA field officer. She was awarded YHA's highest honour, the Trevelyan Medal, this year for her exceptional service to YHA and to the Postellers.

It is great credit to Diane and her active and dedicated team of volunteers that around 80 young people a year are able to go on Posteller trips. The work of Postellers involves putting together a calendar of events, recruiting young people through talks and mailings, organising trips, buying food and clothing and of course giving them an amazing time while they are away.

The Postellers have been the foundation on which so much of YHA's work with young people has been built, whether it is through Summer Camps, National Citizenship Service, school trips or partnerships with other charities.

Happy Birthday and a huge Thank You.

Chairman YHA

Caroline White

Chief Executive YHA



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Postellers

Reading the recent Posteller newsletter article about the Cumbrian way got me thinking, I took the same trip many years ago and enjoyed it as much as the current Postellers seemed to

I have many fond memories of Postellers back to 1974 when I joined, visiting hostels, meeting new and old friends, having fun, helping out with the newsletter, leading trips , spooky walks , learning to cook , meeting my husband and so much more.

None of this would have been possible were it not for Diane's enthusiasm, dedication, hard work and a brilliant idea in the first place.

Sian and Peter Arnold Ex-Postellers and Leaders



I couldn't have explored the countryside in a better way. It's fun to walk across mountains and hills and see parts of the country that you've never seen with new people. It makes you feel more independent and it takes you away from the playstation and TV. I've gained lots of fond memories from being with the Postellers.

Ben Wiegand - Current Posteller Member



When Diane and I first met over 45 years ago, she outlined her plans for The Postellers. Neither of us could imagine then how successful and enduring the concept would prove to be, or that Diane would still be actively involved today. Outdoor Education, defined as, 'living, moving and learning out of doors', was developed through the years as a valuable part of children's school experience. It was included in the National Curriculum, developed from 1990 onwards. Diane was a regular speaker at residential courses run by Her Majesty's Inspectorate and it came as a joy to all of us when her work was recognised by the award of an MBE in 2001. That so many young people have shared the life-changing experiences of hostelling, with all its companionship and delights to the senses, is cause for great celebration.

Don Buckland

***Her Majesty's Staff Inspector of Schools
(retd.) Ex- Chairman of the HMI Committee for
Outdoor and Environmental Education***

Postellers is a unique organisation to be proud of - 45 years of caring, support and encouragement to young people. Giving them adventures and stories to tell and retell. I am proud to be associated with Postellers and look forward to the 50th celebration and beyond.

Keith Stewart- Youth Work Trainer



After the Cub Scouts, it was a big relief that Posteller leaders didn't expect me to call them by names from the Jungle Book, and I didn't have to hoist flags, squat on the floor or give salutes. Instead they involved me in making decisions, introduced me to new activities, and didn't expect me to do anything I didn't really understand. I hope as a leader I give the same opportunity to Postellers now, and that they get the same benefits as I did then.

Ex-Posteller and long-standing regular Posteller

Postellers 45th

I first met the Postellers at YHA Holmbury St Mary and now I'm Manager of YHA Tanners Hatch I meet leaders and the young people at the annual Bonfire Weekend which has been held here for many, many years and is always a big success. The Postellers held their 30th anniversary here and there is an oak tree that they planted at their 40th birthday celebration so they have a long association with Tanners Hatch hostel. I always look forward to the next visit and seeing some of the same people as they grow a bit older and a lot wiser. It's fantastic seeing the enjoyment on their faces after a weekend here, even if those faces are muddy and generally a bit unwashed.

Congratulations on 45 years and here's to many more!

Andy - Manager YHA Tanners Hatch.

