

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers, welcome once again to *The Outlaw* magazine.

We've decided in this latest edition to look at travel – a very broad topic, we're sure you'll agree, but nevertheless one which we can explore together!

Like any proper explorer, AR liked to investigate places, people and things. We are taken to many parts of the British Isles on our adventures, as well as navigating to China, the Caribbean and Europe. AR asks us to use our imaginations to create in our minds the places he describes, and we can consider what we would do if we were a Swallow, an Amazon, a D, a Captain, or even a squashy hat-wearer.

Transport methods vary across the books – we have our trusty Swallow and Amazon, but also remember the house-boat, the Teasel, the dromedary, the Rattletrap, the Wildcat, ice-skates – we're sure you can think of more!

It's fun to think about the different topics we're introduced to on these travels – the nature encountered, the natives, the treasure, the food and culture. Consider what you like about the places away from home that you visit – why do you like them?

We've been undertaking our own bit of exploring, so you can read about another artist/writer who was an AR contemporary; consider what we may read next on the library pages; climb some mountains; try our hand at a quiz; find out what some members of TARS have been up to; and letting you know what's coming up.

As ever, we're keen to hear from you – thanks for the great art we've received from our readers. If you want to feature something then drop us an email – art, poetry, short story, review, it's up to you!

We hope you enjoy the copy.

Three Million Cheers!



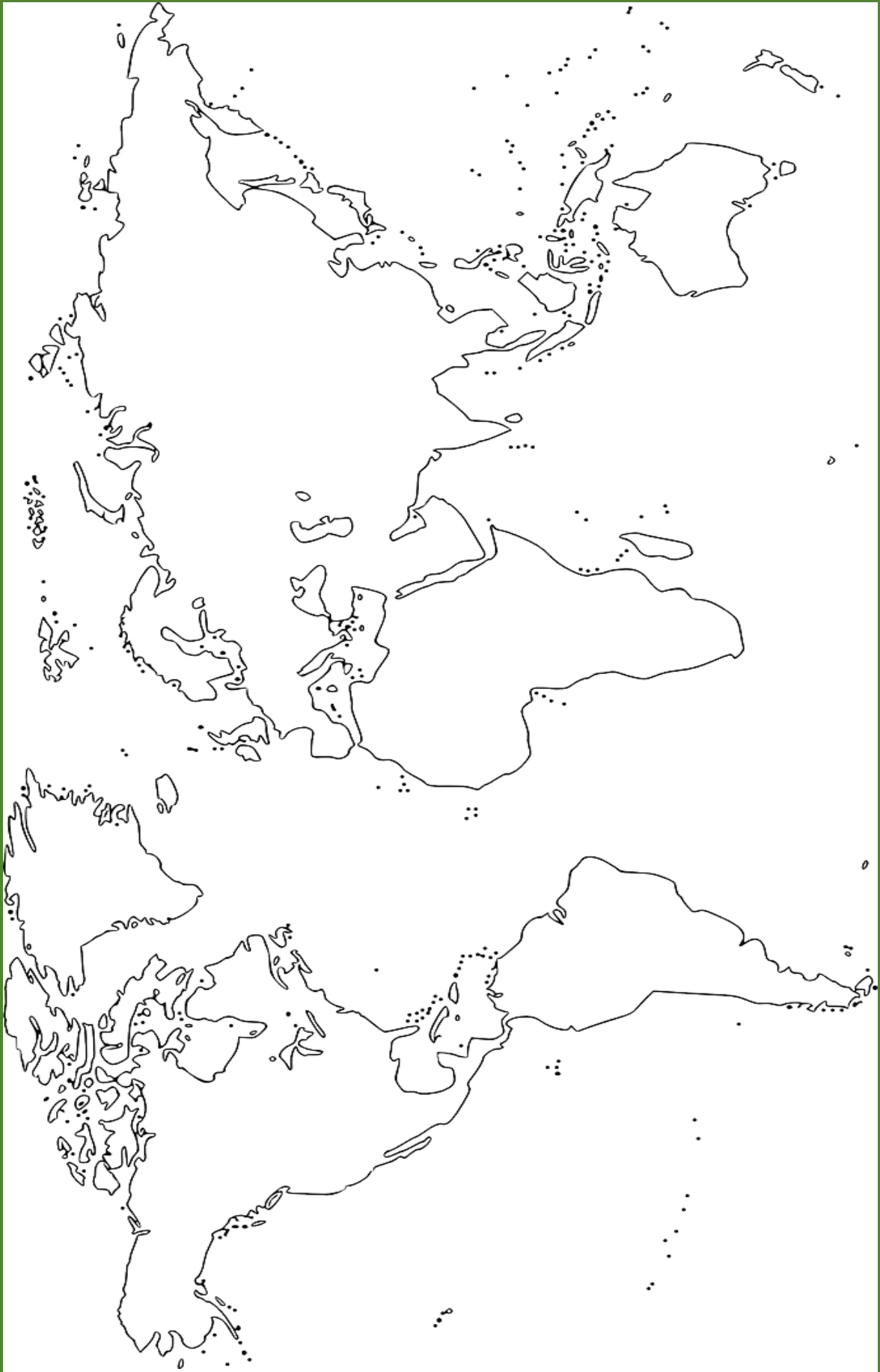
THE OUTLAW EDITORS
The Blue Family

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Around the World with Arthur Ransome...

Can you mark on the map where AR sets his stories?
Why not add some decoration and detail as well?!



Know Your Mountaineering?

EVEREST FILE

How heavy in total are:

The 4 karabiners?

The 2 tape slings?

The sunglasses and goggles?

The ascender and descender?

The 2 packs?

The pocket knife and ice axe?

The harness and head lamp and bulbs?

The pair of crampons and day pack?

YOUR EQUIPMENT!

DATA BOX: EQUIPMENT LIST

Item	Quantity	Weight
HARNESS	1	410g
KARABINERS	4	75g each
DESCENDER	1	280g
ASCENDER	1	280g
TAPE SLINGS	2	15g each
PRUSSIC LOOPS	1	10g
ICE AXE	1	500g
CRAMPON	2	420g
HEAD LAMP & BULBS	1	180g
POCKET KNIFE	1	120g
SUNGLASSES	1	50g
GOGGLES	1	50g
LARGE PACK	1	850g
DAY PACK	1	575g

Look at the data box above, what is the total weight of all the items on the list?

- Give your answer in grams:
- Now give your answer in kilograms:

You need to make preparations for your expedition and to choose which items you will take with you. Make sure you take the best quality things you can – you must be sure you can rely on your equipment. How much does all your equipment weigh? Your rucksack might not feel very heavy at home, but it will be a whole different story during your climb! If you have been doing weight- training, you'll find it easier to carry everything. Luckily, yaks will take most of the heavy equipment up the mountain, including all of the tents. Your expedition will need sleeping tents, a cook tent, a dining tent, a store tent and a toilet tent!

EQUIPMENT FACTS

Karabiners are metal clips which are used to join equipment, safety rope etc to the harness.



A descender is used to slow you down when you are sliding down a rope.



An ascender slides up the rope, then clips into places so it can't slide back down, it is a great help for climbers trying to climb up the rope.



Tape slings are loops of tape, about 50cm long, that are used to join that are used to join the various pieces of equipment to a harness.



Prussic loops are similar to tape sling but are made of rope that is 6mm thick. They can be used to make an ascender, in case the climber breaks or loses the proper metal ascender.



FITNESS PROGRAMME



CHALLENGE QUESTIONS

- 1) If a person followed the plan in the data box:
 - a) how many times would they run on a Friday?
 - b) how many times would they run on a Saturday?
 - c) on which day of the week would they not get a day off?

If it takes about 7 minutes to run each mile, about how long will a person spend running in July if they followed this plan?

To climb the summit of mount Everest you need to be very fit, and you must start training months in advance. You need to plan ahead. Start a programme to improve your **cardiovascular** fitness, which is exercise that gets your heart pumping. Running, swimming and cycling are all good for **cardiovascular** fitness. Get climbing mountains in your own country. Do some weight lifting to improve your upper body strength, which you will need for carrying your heavy rucksack and for digging out snow holes. It's also advisable to put on some extra weight as some people who try to climb Everest use up their body's fat reserves and run out of energy.

So if you're strong and have plenty of stamina and if you're fit, then you're ideally prepared!

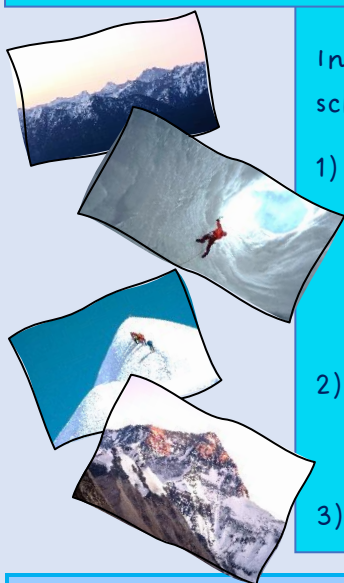
Climbing other high mountains will help you decide if you are ready to tackle Everest.



Challenge Questions

In the data box below you will see information about a running schedule/plan.

- 1) If a person followed the plan in the data box for the whole of July:
 - a) how many days off would they get?
 - b) how many times would they run 8 miles?
 - c) how far would they run in total?
- 2) If it takes about 7 minutes to run each mile, about how long will it take to run 8 miles?
- 3) Look at the dates in the data box, identify the pattern:



JULY						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 8 miles	2 8 miles	3 8 miles	4 8 miles	5 DAY OFF
6 8 miles	7 8 miles	8 8 miles	9 8 miles	10 DAY OFF	11 8 miles	12 8 miles
13 8 miles	14 8 miles	15 DAY OFF	16 8 miles	17 8 miles	18 8 miles	19 8 miles
20 DAY OFF	21 8 miles	22 8 miles	23 8 miles	24 8 miles	25 8 miles	26 8 miles
27 8 miles	28 8 miles	29 8 miles	30 DAY OFF	31 8 miles		

ARTISTS

John Ronald Reule Tolkien (pron. Tol-keen) was born on the 3rd of January 1892 and died on the 2nd of September 1973.

He is famously known as the author of *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit*.

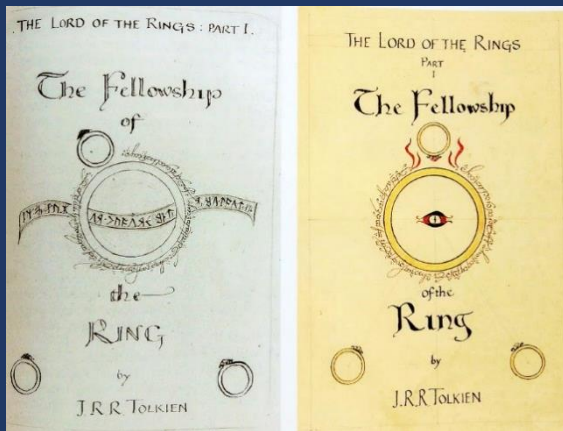
Tolkien illustrated many of his literary works including letters to his children.

He married Edith Mary Bratt married at St Mary's Immaculate Catholic Church in Warwick on the 22nd of March 1916. They had four children: John Francis, Michael Hilary, Christopher John and Priscilla Anne.

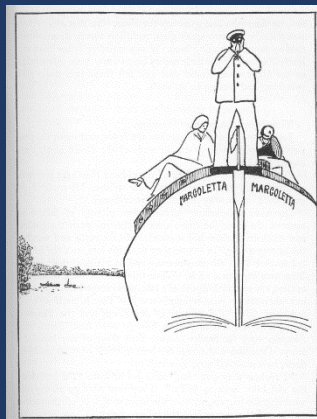
Tolkien wrote 45 'major' books and additional poetry.

AR wrote to Tolkien in 1937 about *The Hobbit* and received a reply - you can see copies of their letters: www.tolkienguide.com/guide/letters (numbers 105 & 106)

Both AR and Tolkien wrote their stories and illustrated them - why don't you try illustrating a piece that you have written? Here are some pictures by both - which do you find inspiring?



JRR Tolkien: Dust jacket design for *Fellowship of the Ring*.



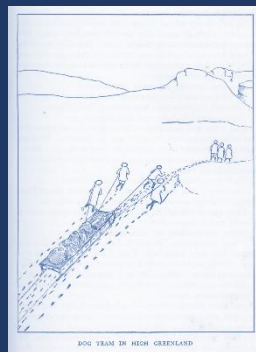
AR: Coot Club Margoletta Pen and ink.



JRR Tolkien: Doodles on a newspaper. Pencil and ink.



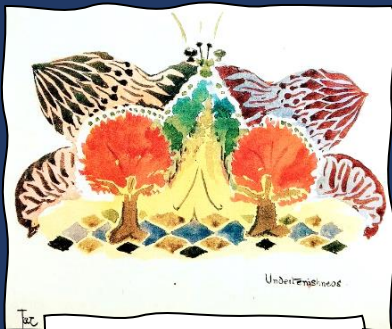
JRR Tolkien: Bilbo woke up with the early sun in his eyes. Pencil, watercolour, ink.



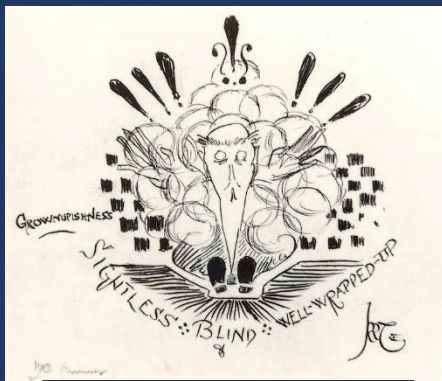
AR: Winter Holiday Pen and ink.



AR: Great Northern Pen and ink.



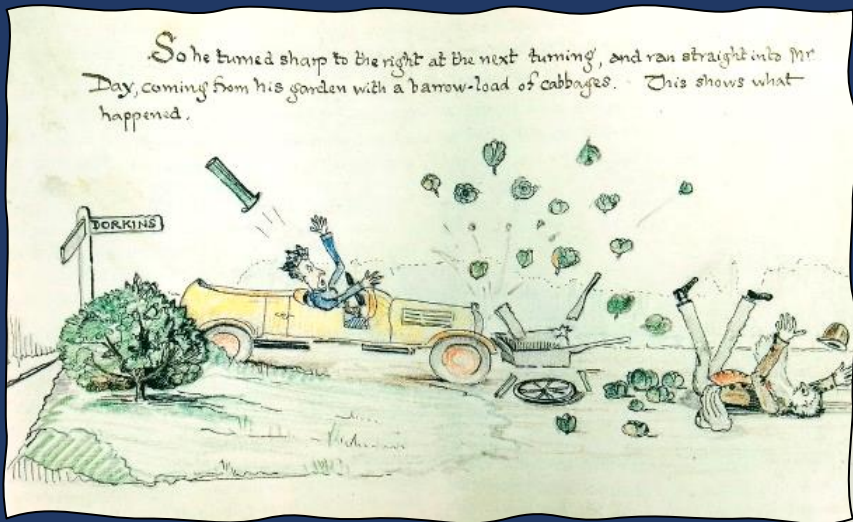
JRR Tolkien:
Undertenished.
Watercolour, ink.



JRR Tolkien:
Grownupishness.



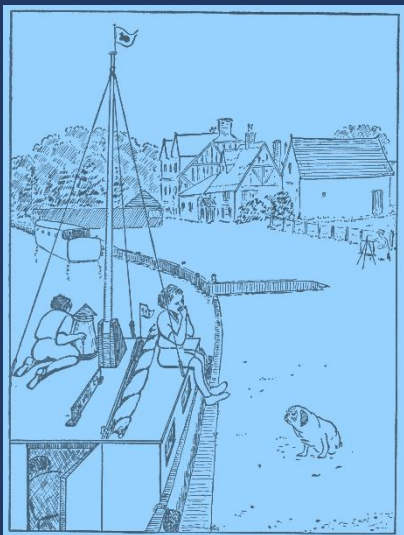
JRR Tolkien: The Forest
of Lothlorien in Spring.
Pencil.



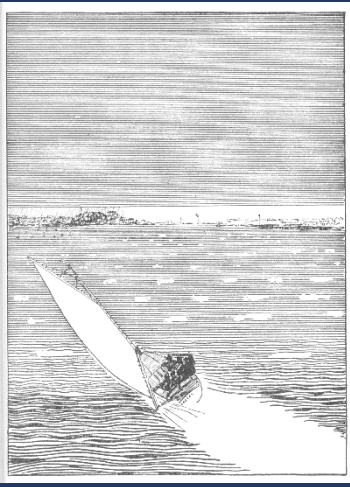
JRR Tolkien: Mr. Biss collides with
Mr. Day.
Pencil and ink.



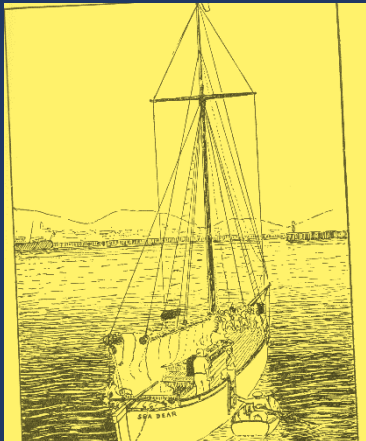
JRR Tolkien: A Merry Christmas 1940. A
Happy new Year 1941. Pencil and ink.



AR: Big Six at the Strait
Pen and ink.



AR: Coot Club Teasel
Storm
Pen and ink.



AR: Great Northern Sea Bear
Pen and ink.



A large sheet of cream-colored paper with a deckled edge, featuring horizontal ruling lines for writing.

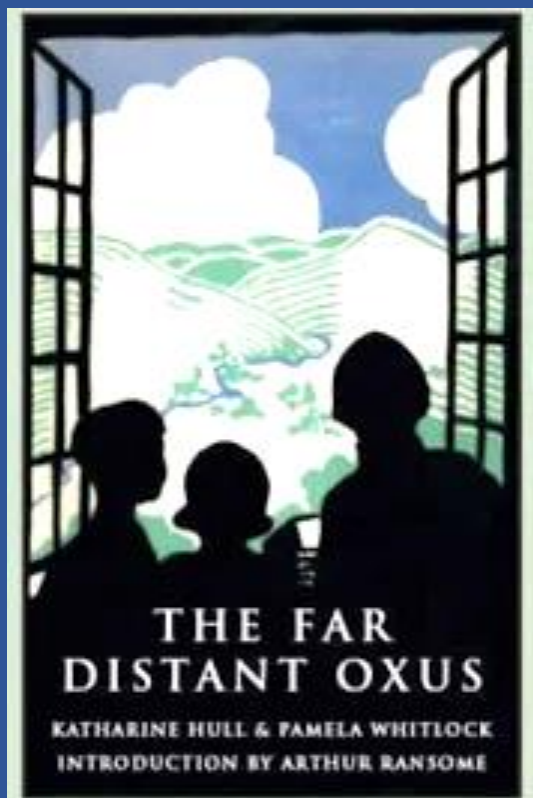
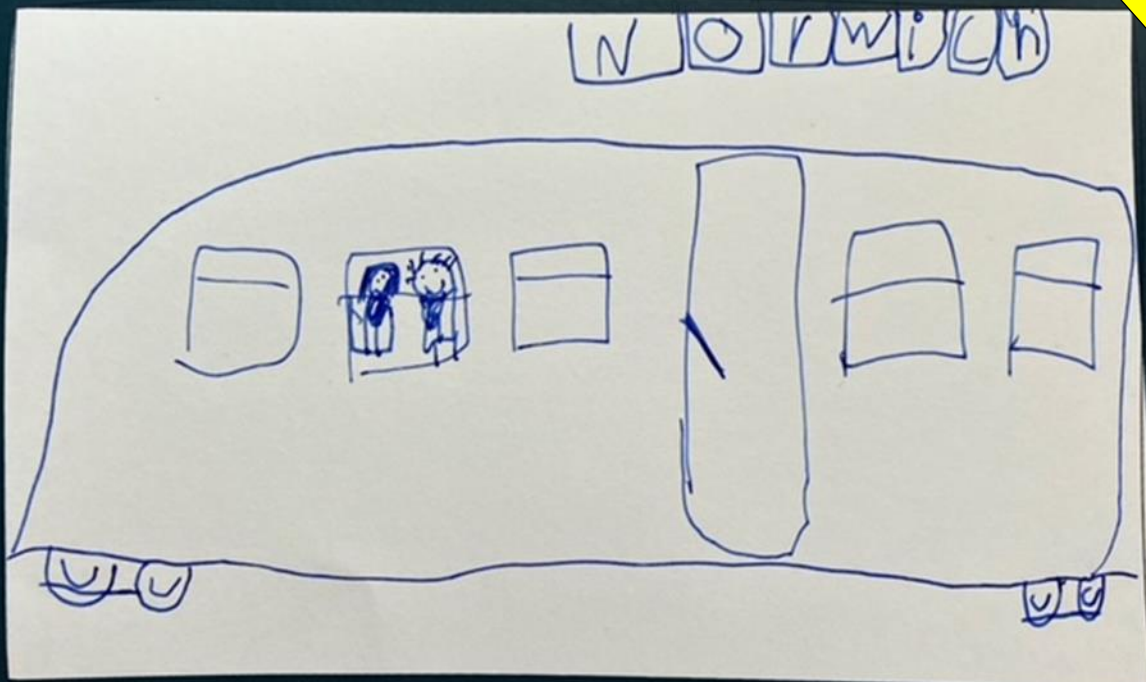
Write a short story, poem or similar and create a drawing to go with it! Send it in!



GRAB A CHANCE!

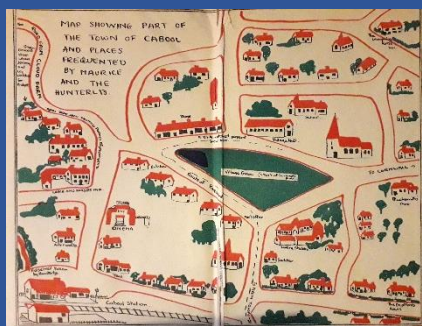
Ezra Hon (age 6.5) is reading *Coot Club* (in Czech) with his dad. Ezra has created this great drawing of the Coot Club's first chapter. Well done!

Star picture!



Others who took a chance were Katharine Hull and Pamela Whitlock. AR inspired them to write and illustrate a story which they then sent him to read. AR then sent the story to his publisher, and it became a book! They went on to create more stories together - we recommend that you look them up!

What could you take a chance on?!



Map from
*Oxus in
Summer*



DAISY BELL



In May 2023 the Midlands TARS visited the National Cycle Museum Collection in Llandrindod Wells, Wales www.cyclemuseum.org.uk followed by a visit to the Elan Valley, where some members went cycling! As you can see from the photos, there are so many types of bicycles that have been designed and ridden over the years - AR included some of them in his writings. We even spotted some things that reminded us of the man himself and his tales ...



Design your own bike! What will you include? Let us know!

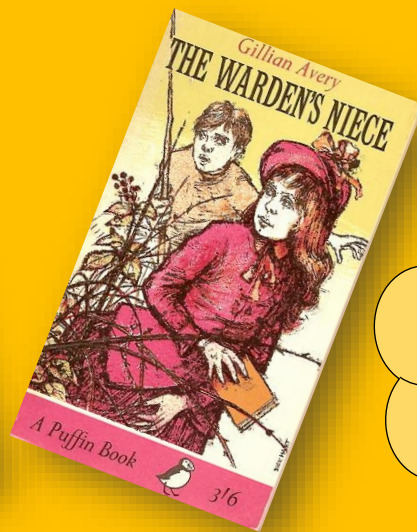
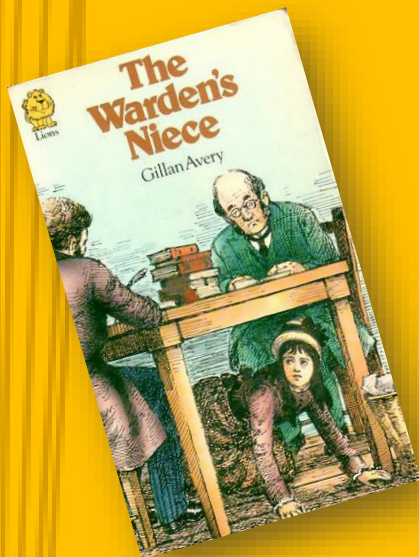
A large, empty white rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a student to draw or write their own bike design. The box occupies most of the page below the instruction text.

TARS BOOK WORLDS

Do you have a friend who knows the kind of books you really like, and sometimes lends or gives one to you? I do, and her name is Kirstie. She lives in Edinburgh and used to be a children's librarian. She is also the Chairman ('I'm not a piece of furniture!') of TARS Scotland. When last year's Literary Weekend took place in Oxford, Kirstie brought her copy of *The Warden's Niece* by Gillian Avery for me to borrow, as the setting for the story is in an imaginary Oxford college. Paul and I both enjoyed it so much that I recently bought a copy for myself. [Note : World of Books (WOB) is a great source of out-of-print books and supports charity.]

Although it's only a bit over a year since we read it, we both laughed just as much the second time around as we did on first reading. So we just lent it to another friend who teaches in a small rural school near to where we live, and I look forward to laughing with her when she returns it! Do have a look for your own copy, as I'm not ready yet to donate mine to TARS Library! The best bit for me is when the Warden's niece accidentally meets the *Protobibliotecarius Bodliensis* in the Bodleian Library

Winifred Wilson



Have you read a great book recently? Let us know and maybe even write a little review, like Winifred, Esme and Aurora have done!

Did you know that TARS has a well-stocked library? Full of books by AR, related to AR, themes that feature in AR books and writers who have written like AR - if you want to know what's there and borrow one, contact our librarian:

Christine Rae

Telephone number: 07881 505 5390

Email: raecjw@btinternet.com

PERIL IN PARIS by KATHERINE WOODFINE

Peril in Paris is a mystery book which is part of a series by Katherine Woodfine. Sophie, a lady detective in the 1900's, is sent on a government mission to discover why a certain professor Blaxland was murdered in his apartment, supposedly by burglars; is that true? or is it something more sinister...? It is a very exciting and suspense filling book, chock full of mystery, intrigue and disguises! I would most definitely recommend this mystery, but perhaps best if you start with *The Mystery of the Clockwork Sparrow* ... at the very beginning of the Talyor and Rose mysteries!

Review by Esme

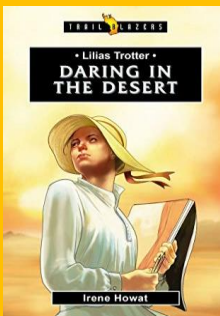


DARING IN THE DESERT by IRENE HOWAT

Lilias Trotter was born in London, the youngest of 5 children. She was an accomplished artist from a very early age and had a great belief and trust in God. John Ruskin, one of the world's most established art critics, told her, "You could become the greatest living painter. Your paintings would be treasured forever".

But when she had to choose between art and her calling, she decided that her life must be devoted to God's work, though she didn't give up drawing completely. Lilias became a missionary in Algeria and worked there and in the surrounding area until her death in 1928.

Review by Aurora



TARS JUNIOR FUND

The Fund provides grants to help young Tars take part in Ransome-inspired activities. It is named after Bridget Altounyan, who was TARS' first president, and the fund was set up in her memory. Bridget was the fifth *Swallow*.

Are you Eligible? Tars between age 13 and 19 may apply and this includes those who are part of family memberships. The fund is trying to encourage adventurous activities that will stretch you and enable you to learn new skills. Young Tars from anywhere in the world can apply.

What may you receive? The fund gives financial grants towards the cost of undertaking Ransome-inspired activities. We usually don't cover the full cost of any activity because we feel that raising funding yourself is an important part of undertaking an activity.

What activities are covered? The range is wide – sailing, climbing, camping, cycling, riding, chess tournaments, scientific activities, archaeological events, or activities involving birds or the conservation of wildlife. They can be under the supervision of any recognised adventure-training group.

What activities are not covered? School trips and GCSE field trips.

How do I apply? Write to **Paul Crisp** (Squirrel's Oak, 80 Lower Guildford Road, Woking, Surrey, GU21 2EW). In your letter outline what it is you are planning to do and how much you are seeking from the fund. Remember to include your name and TARS membership number!

TRAVELLING ON A FULL STOMACH

Congee Soup

- Ingredients
- 1 cup long grain rice
- 7 cups of stock of choice
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1-inch piece of peeled and chopped ginger

Method

- Place all ingredients in a pan and bring to the boil
- Reduce to low simmer, stirring so the rice doesn't stick
- Simmer for about an hour until thick and creamy
- *Enjoy!*



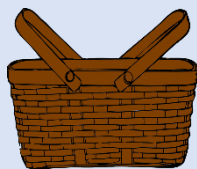
When on the move and travelling what food do you take with you?

A picnic?

Packed lunch?

Sandwiches, an apple, a lovely slice of Mrs Dixon's cake, ginger beer, pemmican?

Would you try your hand at foraging?
Lovely blackberries or sweet wild strawberries or maybe a bit of trout tickling!



'... big bowls of rice with pigeon's eggs and bowls of Congee soup.'

(Miss Lee Explains)

Lakeland Lemon Cake

Ingredients

- 8 oz self-raising flour
- Pinch ground cinnamon
- 6 oz butter
- ½ level teaspoon ground ginger
- 6 oz caster sugar
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- Pinch of salt
- Grated rind, and juice of 1 lemon
- 1 tablespoon milk

Method

Grease and line the base and sides of a round cake tin. In a bowl, cream the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy. Add the beaten eggs, salt, cinnamon, ginger, sieve in the flour and mix well. Add the lemon rind and juice and then add the milk. Mix well and place in the prepared tin. Level the top and bake for about an hour at 170° until firm and pale brown. Leave in the tin for 15 minutes then transfer to a wire rack to cool. Enjoy!

Puzzling Around the Outlaw



B	N	Q	U	K	N	G	P	R	A	C	U	N	D	R	A	A	N	L	O
W	O	E	F	R	X	S	I	N	G	A	P	O	R	E	I	U	E	O	M
I	R	N	T	G	N	I	N	R	O	H	L	A	E	N	S	O	B	W	L
L	T	M	H	H	A	W	M	G	U	J	M	N	E	O	S	T	E	E	A
D	H	T	H	R	E	E	I	S	L	A	N	D	S	R	U	H	C	S	K
C	P	W	R	Y	I	R	L	A	K	E	D	I	S	T	R	I	C	T	E
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T	F	G	C	E	N	S	A	X	C	O	N	I	S	T	O	N	G	A	O
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R	E	F	H	U	K	L	C	R	A	B	I	S	L	A	N	D	N	S	E

PIN MILL	HORNING	LAKE DISTRICT	TRAVEL	IGLOO	RUSLAND
CRAB ISLAND	LEEDS	SCOTLAND	NORFOLK	WILD CAT ISLAND	AMAZON
SWALLOW	SEABEAR	GOBLIN	RUSSIA	RACUNDR	KITTIWAKE
SLUG	RIO	MALTA	WROXHAM	CAMBRIDGE	HOLLY HOWE
LOWESTOFT	LAKE STEAMER	DROMEDARY	RATTLETRAP	BECCL	BECKFOOT
NORTHPOLE	SINGAPORE	CHINA	THREE ISLANDS	NETHERLANDS	HONGKONG
NORTH SEA	IRSTEAD	CONISTON	RUGBY	BALTIC	MAP

OUT AND ABOUT WITH TARS!



When you become a member of The Arthur Ransome Society (TARS) you join a region, depending on where you live. Each region puts on a variety of events throughout the year that you can attend. You can attend events in other regions as well! It's a great opportunity to meet new friends, take part in a fun activity and talk about AR!

Details about the regional events can be found on the TARS website: <https://arthur-ransome.org/> in the members area (you will need your username and password). Also, the TARS magazine *Signals* includes details from each region. Why not use the calendar in a recent *Outlaw* to mark the dates?!



MIDLAND TARS IAGM
HIGH TOPPS IN THE
DERBYSHIRE HIGH PEAKS
AUGUST 15TH-18TH 2024

Full Board & lodgings available at *The Nightingale Centre, Great Hucklow*

A watery day at *Combes Reservoir*

local camping and B&B accommodation available.

Stroll, trek or hike hills, dales, and edges around the *Dark Peak*; sail, swim, catch a train, see 1,000 shades of green, take a tour of a stately home, prospect for gold in caverns, listen to fascinating talks, join in with quizzes and feasts of Jun!

Take a cooling dip in *Hathersage Outdoor Pool*

Pigeon Post
ARTHUR RANSOME

Save the Date!

We hope to see you at the next IAGM (International Annual General Meeting) taking place in August 2024. It's a great time to meet other members of TARS from all over the world and to take part in fun activities!