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# JOB CENTRE

**A MAJOR EARNING OPPORTUNITY** for enthusiastic and enterprising professionals; full or part-time. John Bazlinton, independent distributor, Dorling Kindersley Family Library. 0181 968 9001

**Assistant Manager** (non residential) for hostel for homeless women. Practising Christian required. Apply: Birmingham City Mission 75 Watery Lane Middleway, Birmingham B9 4HN. Tel: 0121 766 6603.

**PILGRIM HALL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CENTRE**  
Require  
**CHEF'S ASSISTANT**  
To join our team of committed Christians. This live-in position would suit a college leaver with City & Guilds or equivalent qualifications. Use of staff car and facilities. Salary to be discussed. For an application form contact: Barbara Solly, Pilgrim Hall, Easons Green, Uckfield, East Sussex TN22 5RE

**DENTAL SURGEONS REQUIRED**  
For busy Christian Practice in Wembley, London. Part-time initially with prospects of full-time associateships. Some experience required and must be familiar with NHS system.  
CONTACT: Miss Soke-Mun Ho, 25 Bridge Road, Wembley, Middx HA9 9AB. Tel: 0161-908 5377

**Woodleigh Christian Nursing Home**  
Norfolk Drive, Mansfield, Notts NG19 7AG  
Care for the frail elderly in a loving atmosphere with Christian staff.  
Require full/part-time RGN nurse for night duty. Periodic vacancies for residence. Please contact the Matron Mrs Jean Tetley 01623 420459

**The Manchester City Mission Staff Required**  
A Director for the leadership of the Mission also a Missionary/Pastor to share in our inner-city Team Outreach  
Please send CV when applying for either position to: Miss S Lange Office Administrator The Windsor Church & Youth Centre Churchhill Way Salford M6 5BU Tel: 0161-736 7959

**LOOK!**  
**Attend Bible School**  
In exchange for a few hours' work each week you will receive free Bible training, full board, own room, in well established Full Gospel Missionary Training Centre.  
APPLIES TO ALL EU COUNTRIES  
Details from Dept C, New Hope Bible College, Peterhead, Scotland AB42 7DQ Tel: 01779 838251

**LIVING PROOF**  
Taking one or two years out? Why not work with Living Proof in Cardiff and Newport embracing work with children, youth and community.  
Commence October 1995. Exciting, challenging project. Training provided. Applicants 18 years and over.  
Further information and application form from:  
Living Proof Llanedeyrn High School Roundwood Llanedeyrn Cardiff CF3 7US Tel: 01 222 540911

**Action Partners - Celebrating the hope and praying for the pain of Africa.**

Action Partners have been in Africa for 90 years. We work in partnership with the national Church in ten countries. Several of these locations are Muslim lands within the 10/40 window.

We are looking for young professionally qualified people for opportunities of Christian witness through education, medicine, agriculture, construction and theological training. Why shouldn't you have a hand in Africa with us?



Bawtry Hall, Bawtry, Doncaster, South Yorks DN10 6JH Tel: 01302 710750

# A nightmare at home?

PHOTOS: PAUL RIDSDALE

**Simon Watkinson looks at the pros and cons of working at home**

While the world can be at your fingertips . . .

**D**ESPITE THE FACT that I made the most of my travelling time reading French novels and studying for an extra A-level, I never really enjoyed the daily trudge on the '7.27' from Ascot to Waterloo. At the time, it all seemed quite futile and I often pondered the vast sums of corporate money invested in making hundreds of thousands of people's daily lives an utter misery.

I still remember quite vividly the first week in December 1981, when the first snows of winter arrived. I spent seven hours on a train that day and suffered the humiliation of having to walk along the track from Queenstown Road to Clapham Junction as the points had frozen and the train was going no further.

Having bad legs and suspect balance, this was quite terrifying and I finally arrived at work at 2.30pm only to be told by my supervisor half an hour later that I should chance my hand in getting home.

Arctic winters are few and far between in England, but this story coupled with the advent of teleworking and its many benefits highlights the fact that the 'commuting craze' will soon, thankfully, be a thing of the past.

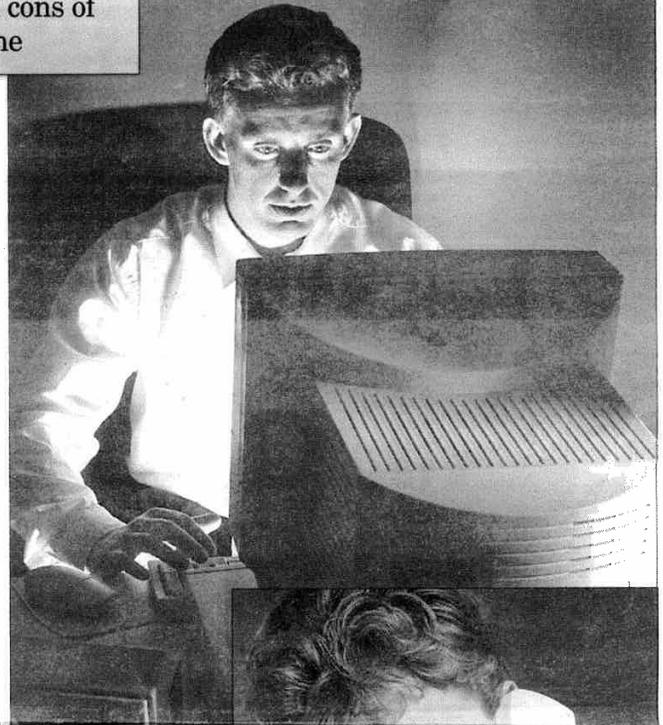
Teleworking, whereby work is carried out at a distance from the employer or customer by means of computers, fax and telephone is definitely here to stay. By the end of 1995, it is estimated that more than three million Britons will have abandoned the 'daily battle' to the office.

## Stress

A recent study by the US Institute showed that there is a 16% increase in productivity from teleworkers and that 63% of teleworkers reported less work-related stress. But the picture is very different in Europe and teleworking doesn't suit everyone. For some it can be an unforeseen nightmare.

A recent survey on the effects of teleworking as part of a £500,000 European Union investigation drew some daunting conclusions.

More than a quarter of the 200 men and women questioned by psychologist Dr Sylvie Collins of Leeds University showed signs of



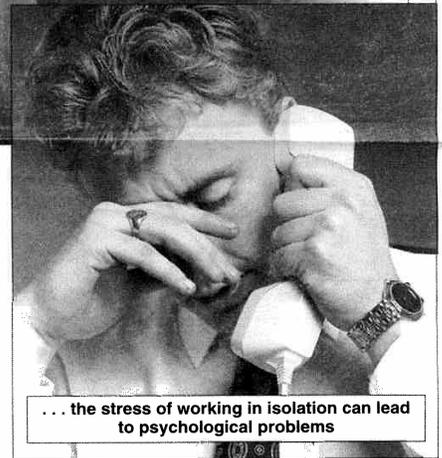
psychological problems that could warrant counselling and therapy and most found it hard to build a barrier between family life and office time. Furthermore, Dr Noel Sheehy of Queen's University, Belfast, stressed the crucial social contact of office working.

British Telecom has taken positive steps to alleviate the isolation resulting from sitting at home in front of a computer screen all day and has provided its teleworkers in the Highlands with free phone access to their workmates and videophones so that they can see them.

However, teleworking is ideal for those with severe mobility problems as they have no longer to worry unnecessarily about getting to their place of work, and once connected to the Internet (international network), they literally have the world at their fingertips. However, the policing of this internet may yet prove to be a bigger headache than was at first envisaged.

## Training

Most teleworkers begin their small businesses after attending training courses at a telecottage. A telecottage is a centre that provides computer and telecommunications equipment and



... the stress of working in isolation can lead to psychological problems

training and work for the local community.

Telecottages are affiliated to The Telecottage Association whose aims are 'to improve the opportunities and choice in employment, training and services for people living in rural areas and the development of local economies through the use of information technology and telecommunications'.

In the current economic climate where it is often crucial that both parents go out to work in order to sustain the family, it would make sense for one partner possessing certain skills to work from home while the baby is asleep or the children are at school.

As well as enhancing the 'green lobby', teleworking may repair our damaged social and moral fabric as

one parent can always be present to monitor the children's leisure time. This return to stronger parental discipline and a semblance of the family unit may in turn lead to a decrease in the juvenile crime rate.

As an animal, man needs a degree of social interaction in order to survive and the psychological effects on the lone worker are still open to question. The inevitable research into the rapid growth in this method of working may yet satisfy the sceptics.

● *Anybody who is interested in teleworking and/or telecottages should contact The Telecottage Association on 0800 616008 or write to: WREN Telecottage, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2RR.*