

Rolf sets a test

A WORLD-FAMOUS stage and television artist who admits he owes his rapid rise to success to children is coming to Coventry on Thursday, and will be with us for nine weeks.

He is Rolf Harris, who was born in Perth, Western Australia. His mother and father had emigrated from Wales, but in 1952 Rolf decided to come to England.

He tells me that in those days he found people didn't seem to believe that bearded men could paint good pictures and entertain. His big chance came, however, when an illusionist called Robert Harbin wanted drawings for a television show and gave Rolf a chance.

A favourite

Thousands of Coventry and Warwickshire children will see him "in the flesh" when he stars in the 1968 International Birthday Show opening at the Coventry Theatre on Thursday. Since coming to England, Rolf has married and has a four-year-old daughter called Bindi—an aboriginal name.

Rolf is so grateful to children for making him famous that wherever he goes, he tries to encourage them in their work and hobbies and also warns them of dangers on the roads.

The drawing of a busy road scene was done by a Coventry man, Mr. John Bint, who has incorporated 10 deliberate mistakes in it—like the arm on the lamp standard facing over the pavement instead of the road and also the two women gossiping on a crossing.

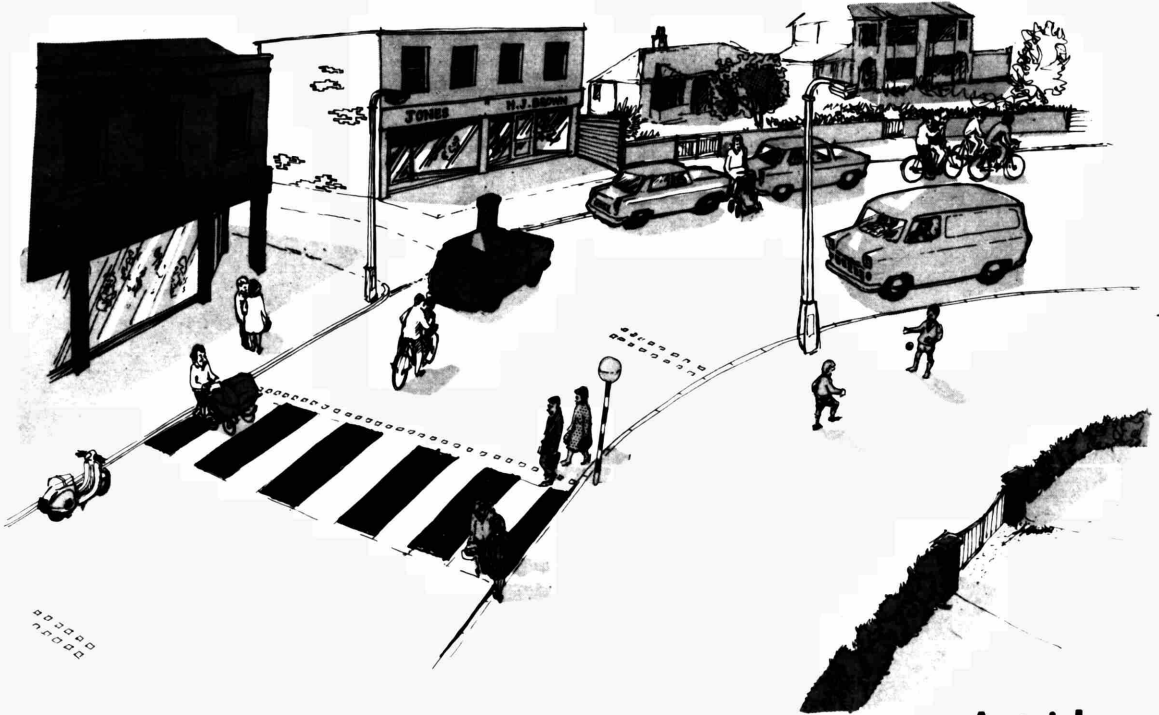
Rolf Harris has set a simple road safety competition. He wants you to find the other eight mistakes—or as many as you can—and then place three in what you think is the order of importance as decided by the Coventry Road Safety Officer and his staff.

In case there is a tie, Rolf wants you to say why you think your first choice is the most important.

The top three winners will each receive one of Rolf's 1969 annuals. He will autograph the books and invite the children, each with a parent, to receive the awards at the Coventry Theatre. The next 15 winners will receive autographed annuals.

Address your entries to: Rolf Harris Road Safety Contest, Evening Telegraph, Coventry CV1 1FP and send them to arrive before 4 o'clock next Saturday afternoon.

Uncle Tony



Get well soon...

ONE of the most pleasing things that we can do is to send "get well" messages to young people in hospital or children who are ill at home. There are two more today.

One is 10-year-old Cheryl Sycamore, of 24, Partridge Croft, Little Heath, Coventry. She is shown below at home, but on Tuesday she has to go back to hospital. Let's all hope it will be for only a short time.

Her mother tells me that Cheryl goes to Poleshill Church of England School. She had to go into hospital three months ago for an operation on a hip bone. After seven weeks she was allowed home but is in a plaster from her waist down to the toes of her left leg. Cheryl has not been neglecting her school work, however, for

she has been doing lessons at home.

Mrs. Sycamore adds: "Because she has been very good and brave through all this, we gave her a birthday party with all her friends who have been so good in coming to see her every night."



My other picture (left) is of eight-year-old Denise Wilson, of 252 Hillmorton Road, Bell Green, Coventry, who says her big

brother, Colin, is in Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital. Denise, who is in Mrs. Ward's class at Aldermans Green Junior School, tells me she has another brother and a sister.



A tricky task picking the winners

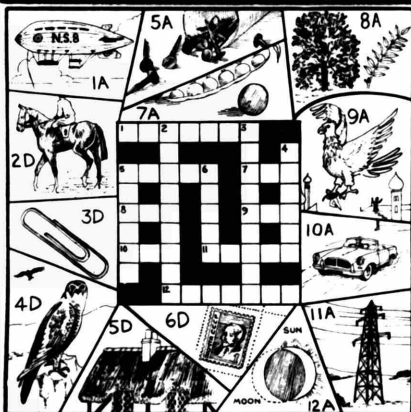
ONCE again the monthly "torment" has come round—the tricky job of looking at over 100 paintings and crayonings by young artists and trying to find the eight winners of 7s. 6d. vouchers.

It is amazing the amount of work that you put into your efforts and it is hoped you enjoy it, even if you do not always get the satisfaction of a prize.

It is very difficult to pick winners from 100 entries all about the same high standard, but some have to win and some to lose. I hope the latter will keep on trying because if you don't win, I think that each time you do another sketch it helps you to get higher marks at school because of the greater experience.

Here are this week's eight winners:
 Pamela Mansell (11), 25, John Rous Avenue, Wanley; Colin Barr (10), 51, Loverock Crescent, Rugby; Alison J. Ariss (7), 12, Oddicombe Croft, Coventry; Lynda Farn (9), Gable Cottage, Tamworth Road, Corley; Peter Max Freeman (8), 48, Daleway Road, Pinham; Karen Crump (6), 203, Four Pounis Avenue, Coventry; Kay Hart (4), 32, Crossage Road, Walsgrave; and Allison Wichey (10), 8, Green-sleeves Close, Whitmore Park.

PICTURE CROSSWORD



SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1. Airship; 2. Truck; 3. Tree; 4. Ash; 5. Boat; 6. Car; 7. Plane; 8. Dog; 9. Space Rocket; 10. Paper Clip; 11. Falcon; 12. Moon.