



Newspaper of the Year

THE INDEPENDENT

No 1,189 www.independent.co.uk

MONDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2004

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IN BRIEF...

Religious understanding

Sir: What's the fuss over *Popetown* (letter, 25 September)? Those of us in religion can only mature and grow in commitment if we can take criticism and learn to laugh at ourselves. If criticism is unjust or jokes unseemly, they backfire.

Father BRYAN STOREY
Tintagel, Cornwall

Taxing holidays

Sir: As if Britons don't work hard enough and pay enough tax, now the Liberal Democrats want to tax aviation fuel to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. What this amounts to is a holiday tax. Can you think of a worse way to encourage people to care about the environment? Until Britain's environmental agendas em-

brace growth as the solution and not as the problem, environmental policy will always be the poor relation. And we will all be the poorer for it.

DAN LEWIS

*Director, Environmental Affairs
Stockholm Network
London N1*

In the country

Sir: Lest any readers should be misled by Johann Hari's intrepid experience in rural Yorkshire (report, 25 September), may I point out that Long Marston is about a dozen miles equidistant from the cities of York and Leeds, and serves as a commuter village for both. Quintessentially rural it ain't.

T P O'CONNOR

*Burley-in-Wharfedale,
West Yorkshire*