new areas of applicable mathematics, but most of all there is a large and hitherto unmoved population of students, many of whom would benefit greatly from further exposure to mathematical techniques, just waiting to be encouraged into at least some aspects of the subject. Sixth form mathematics teachers, and those involved in the development of mathematics education, must not shirk their responsibilities to the future students, nor to what must be one of the most important subjects in the sixth form curriculum.

Yours sincerely,
STEPHEN JONES

Berkhamsted School, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire HP4 2BB

DEAR EDITOR,
I have a bumblebee nest in my garden. Not being inclined to investigate it too closely, it would still be interesting to know the size of its current population.
So, over a period of time I counted the number of bees entering and the number of bees leaving. The maximum difference that occurs between the two numbers will be the minimum population of the nest.

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES A. STICKLAND

63A Hindmans Road, E. Dulwich, London SE22 9NQ

Times bingo

DEAR EDITOR,
Some while back it was lamented that the *Times* Bingo was harder to check. Perhaps this started discussion which I missed, but for the record:
The 44 numbers are split into 4 sets and each card has two from a set.

1	4	8	15	17	20	25	29	34	35	41
2	6	14	19	22	24	28	30	32	37	44
3	5	9	12	16	18	21	26	31	39	42
7	10	11	13	23	27	33	36	38	40	43.

Thus the same old test that you have not won is relatively easy. (GCHQ recruitment literature is available to anyone who worked this out.)

Yours sincerely,
MARK KING

9 Overbrook Drive, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL52 3HR

If and only if

John Barber, a respectful theatre critic, now retired, said star names were no guarantee of success for a musical. It cited *Annie* which had succeeded with no big names. The Judge, Mr Justice Millet, chipped in: "I suppose *Chariots of Fire* is another example. That was an enormous success in the United States where the stars and the story were unknown". The court nodded.
Report from the High Court in London, *Independent* 12 Oct. 1990. Sent in by J. C. Sheperdson.