

# ♥ WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT DAVID?

Pat Wallace talks about your entries for this fascinating competition!

We've had an awful lot of headaches here at the office—ever since the March issue when we invited you to write in and tell us about the side of David you feel you know best!

You see, we've received so many letters of such a high standard that it's been virtually impossible to put them into any fixed order of merit. In fact, it was even more difficult than usual to choose the winners . . . I suppose because of the nature of this competition, which is rather different from most.

For many of you this was the cue to express through words your deepest feelings about David. I guess that's why so many of your letters were really striking and made wonderful reading. In fact, it's a shame that we didn't have a hundred or so prizes going!

Still, this month and next, we'll be quoting extracts from what we reckoned to be the outstanding letters. And this month we're

concentrating on the entries which aimed to give an impression of David as a person.

Now, as we mentioned before, this is a very tough assignment, specially if you've never met the guy in person. But I feel I must congratulate you all on the way you rose to the occasion. Your letters glowed with sincerity and we were most impressed by the genuine attempts you made to analyse what makes David tick and work out exactly what he means to you personally.

## ORIGINALITY

Naturally, we were looking for originality here—it wasn't just a question of getting your facts right. So I'm afraid that if you were one of the people who copied out your letter direct from some book or magazine that's already been published . . . well, you were out of the running before we started.

Perhaps we didn't make this sufficiently clear, but we rather took it for granted that anything you wrote would be absolutely original. After all, it stands to reason, doesn't it? We had a hunch that there might be folk around the place who actually knew David better than the professional writers and journalists who are paid to write about him. So we certainly weren't looking for second-hand journalism!

On the other hand, though, I must say how impressed we were by the talent some of you showed for writing—not to mention the excellent type-written letters that came in. Full marks all round here! And a particular word of thanks to the splendid typists . . . your entries gave us a very welcome rest from some of our daily deciphering exercises!

Thoughts of David seem guaranteed to spur many of you to heights of poetic expression. Like Linda (no surname given, Linda) of St. Budeaux, Plymouth, who wrote of David:

*"surling along the crystal clear blue seas, the wind in his face, riding along the foaming white crest of a falling wave. Or perhaps further out on water skis, skimming along the top of the sea . . ."*

This side of David's personality—his search for freedom through nature—may have had a



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