

Word formation

Go through the Directory of British Associations and you'll find about 7,000 groups that are considered large enough to be of national (0) . That number swells to around 150,000 with the (1) of every local gardening club, film society and special interest group, most providing a meeting place for like-minded people.

With such an (2) choice available, there must quite literally be something for everyone. Let's kick off with the Haggis* Hurling Association, which supervises what has become a Guinness Book of Records event (current record for a 680 gram haggis: 55 metres) and organises (3) to raise money for good causes.

Then there's tiddlywinks, which has had an official association since 1958. Most people start playing tiddlywinks 'for a joke', but then they get hooked, perhaps because most of the post-match (4) is done in the pub.

If tiddlywinks strikes you as too (5) , the leisurely study of pub signs might be more your cup of tea. The Inn Sign Society has 400 members who spend their time travelling the country in search of (6) pub signs. Their founder used to have a (7) of 300 actual signs, as well as 20,000 photos of pub signs, going back to the 1930s.

To get the addresses of these clubs and others, why not visit your local library? (8) try searching the internet. You're bound to find something appealing that you've never even thought of!

*A haggis is like a large, round sausage and is eaten in Scotland.

0 IMPORTANCE 1 INCLUDE 2 END 3 COMPETE
4 ANALYSE 5 ENERGY 6 USUAL 7 COLLECT 8 ALTERNATE

