

Club President JULIA BRADBURY introduces her baby twins, Zena and Xanthe, along with her new website aimed at sharing outdoor adventures with fans and Club members

First lady



FEW THINGS in life are as miraculous and life-changing as having a baby. And I've just had two!

In my April column I wrote about doing some serious nesting – well, now I'm doing some serious time management.

I'm busy juggling feeding times with nappy changes and everything else that comes with having children, especially when you have two for one – but I'm on cloud nine and enjoying every minute of it.

My two little chicks, as I call them, are doing brilliantly and I can't wait for all the wonderful experiences and adventures we'll have together. In the spirit of the magazine's current campaign, I'm eager to Share the Outdoors with them.

Here's a photo of me (above) with Zena and Xanthe, taken a few weeks ago. I've become the test track mama for all sorts of 'twin kit' – the iCandy buggy I use is brilliant because it isn't too wide so I can get through doors, and this clever bit of kit I'm wearing is called a Weego. The number of people that come up to you in the street when you're packing two little bubbas is amazing. I don't think I'll be hiking up many hills looking like this but it's pretty handy for the occasional trip to the shops.

Talking about Share the Outdoors, over the years that's exactly what I've been doing, whether it's on shows such

as Countryfile, Wainwright Walks or Wonder Of Britain, I get lots and lots of contact from viewers about my TV appearances

wanting to know where I've been, what kit I've used and sometimes how to follow in my footsteps.

That's why my sister Gina and I decided to create a new website (www.theoutdoorguide.co.uk) as a way to share my, and other people's, adventures with the world.

It's an umbrella site for all things outdoors and I hope it will encourage people to get out and about and to interact with us and each other about their outdoor experiences and news. As the site evolves, visitors will be able

to share things such as locations, walking routes, or favourite campsites. Our ambition is that The Outdoor Guide will be a place that gives inspiration and guidance to people who want to enjoy

exploring. There's also all the latest news from our partners such as The Outdoor Trust, the National Trust, and the National Parks as well as a little shop where you can buy some of the clever and cute kit we've learned about along the way.

It's live now and we'll be building it up over the coming months and when I'm filming my new walking series later in the year, we'll be shooting exclusive excerpts and behind-the-scenes footage to be used on the site that you won't see anywhere else.

I'd love to hear your feedback so if you get a chance to have a look it would be great to hear your thoughts.



Taking camping to the masses

It may all be over for another year, but National Camping and Caravanning Week (NCCW) was great fun as ever.

This year it was all about taking camping to the masses and the Club's roadshow called in on Sheffield, Chester, Birmingham and Southampton plus a few other stops in an effort to get more city-dwellers into the camping habit.

Before the week began, I made my first formal engagement as Club President since the birth of my twins (nine weeks earlier!) as I helped launch the Club's most recent research project, which suggests that children who go camping are happier, healthier and perform better at school.

The survey fitted in with the theme of NCCW this year, which was Get Kids Camping.

■ Visit www.myccc.co.uk/magazine for the full breakdown of the research or see next month's magazine for a report from NCCW.