



GUIDER

Volume 63
Number 6
June 1976
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GUIDER

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION
(incorporated by Royal Charter)

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Outdoors with the Chief Commissioner

I BELIEVE THAT OUR FIFTH law and that part of our Eight-Point Programme which encourages enjoyment of the outdoors have a greater importance today than ever before.

Outdoor activities are not only the adventurous ones like mountaineering and gliding – although these are a valuable part – but must also include 'time to stand and stare' and to learn about everything that grows or moves.

A respect for all living things and a love of outdoor life bring many other valuable attributes. If someone really appreciates nature, whether in a city or in the countryside, they invariably have a strong faith in God. They also have true values and an inner serenity; they are never lonely when they are alone, and they are interesting people to know.

Our Camp and Outdoor Activities Advisers and their Consultants are doing wonderful work spreading knowledge and enthusiasm about the world outside to our young people today, getting them away from the telly and into the fresh air and stretching their minds as well as their limbs. The Association owes them a very great debt, and they have my wholehearted admiration and support in all they do.

Sheila N. Walker

The Chief Commissioner



COVER
We are grateful to Webb Ivory Ltd. for sponsoring this month's cover. The cover picture shows a summer storm over Derwent Water, taken by Lois Hirst.



Kent Messenger

Action at the Guides five-a-side football contest at Olborough School, Maidstone, left. The Third Snodland Company won a close victory over the 2nd Barming Company.

Spreading the word about the Ranger Guide camp, below, organised by Cambridgeshire East Ranger Guides, near Newmarket.



The 6th Weymouth Brownies, left, have made a big effort to gather wool in response to an appeal by the WRVS.

Dorset Evening Echo

These Brownies, below, are taking a well-earned rest on the seat they provided with the proceeds of their sponsored walk.

Westmorland Gazette



Kent & Sussex Courier

Tree-planting and big smiles from tree-planting 1st Blackboys and Framfield Scouts and Guides, above.



Josephine and her group of dancers from Attleborough, below, helped to raise money for the Guide band fund.

"Brownie smiles", below left, coming from outside the Pack holiday house near Sheffield.

Up goes one of the display tents, below, outside Rammore House at the Outdoor Activities Conference near Sheffield.

A.C. Mason

A.C. Mason



Norwich Observer



A C Mason



The proud bearers of the 1st Sutton Company's new flag.



A representative of the Dutch Scout Movement seen here with the Pack Holiday Adviser for Anglia at the Outdoor Activities Conference recently held at Sheffield.



Beason News Pix

Two eager canoeists at the Raven centre near Taunton, during a Joint Activities weekend.



Windsor Express

What a treat! Judging a meal cooked by the 1st Dedworth Guides.



Workshop Guardian

Sheffield Queen's Guide Elizabeth Anne Bell, has been chosen 'personality girl' of the Sheffield and District Methodist Association of Youth Clubs.



This Teddy Bears' picnic was held by the 6th Heald Green Guides.

Stockport Advertiser



The Queen's Birthday

The following telegram was sent to Her Majesty The Queen on the occasion of her birthday:

On the occasion of Your Majesty's birthday, it is my privilege to send the best wishes of all the members of The Girl Guides Association and to express to Your Majesty our loyalty and deep affection.

Sheila Walker
Chief Commissioner.

Her Majesty's reply:

I thank you and all the members of The Girl Guides Association most sincerely for your kind congratulations on my birthday.

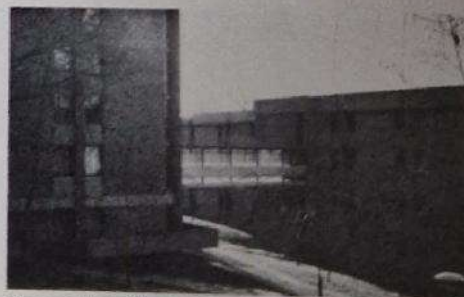
Elizabeth R

Inside Looking Out

IT IS SAID that every picture tells a story, and this collection of photographs does just that! They were all taken at the Outdoor Activities Conference week-end at Sheffield and, as such, provide an appropriate illustrative complement to the content of this issue, which is centred around the Conference. The photographer is A C Mason. (See the Roundabout pages for more Sheffield photographs.)



A brisk Spring day at Sheffield, but the delegates, working hard, are 'inside looking out'. The weekend was packed with seminars and study groups.



Ranmoor Hall of Residence - site of the Conference.



Delegates inspect Renwick - Whitley Woods Pack Holiday House.



Guiding – a game largely to be played in the outdoors

by Margaret Haggerty

Outdoor Activities Adviser, Margaret Haggerty used the following material in her introduction to the Camping and Outdoor Activities Training Conference at Sheffield.

You never enjoy the World aright till the Sea itself floweth in your veins, till you are clothed with the Heavens and crowned with the Stars – Thomas Traherne

IT WAS on an isolated beach in Yorkshire that this first became the theme on which we built our Guiding. We were without doubt very fortunate; we had cliffs and valleys ideal for 'Smugglers and Coastguard' type games and a quiet sea lapped near our feet as we sang about 'O sabbath rest by Galilee' in our worship on sands deserted except for the gulls and ourselves.

In surroundings such as these it is very easy for anyone to make Guiding a game largely played in the out-of-doors as B-P described it in 1916, but what about the city Guider working in a built-up area? Can the 'out' in 'Scouting' only be built into the programme on the occasions when time and money permit expeditions into the more exciting areas of the countryside?

B-P certainly did not think so when presenting his plan of Guiding; he wrote, 'The real necessity is to have a genuine interest and enthusiasm for the out-of-doors and an understanding of its importance through Guide training, for it is a theme that must run through all our tests and it cannot be shelved if a training is to be practical and of value.'

And he gave the key to the implementation of this when he said, 'It is left to the ingenuity of the Guider to devise generally on these lines activities as will best suit her local conditions.'

My own Guiding started in a city. Our 'Smugglers and Coastguards' activities were played with no less sense of enjoyment in the streets around the chapel where we met; tin can cookery was possible in the yard behind the caretaker's house provided we obtained some wood from somewhere. But, because we lived in a city, we had certain advantages denied to the country child; at a time when films were shown less frequently in schools and the TV had not brought magnificent natural history programmes into every home, we discovered that the museum in the city centre had a programme of natural history films every Friday night, and for several months a group of us met at the museum. It cost us very little, the films were free and part of the enjoyment was that we walked the two or three miles home together enjoying the companionship, making plans and, on clear nights, picking out the constellations – for, in the city or country, certain aspects of the out-of-doors are available for all, wherever we live.

Where better than in the open air for the girl to find what she is looking for in Guiding – fun, adventure and companionship? These three items must be the basic ingredients in all programmes if we are to have any success in realising our aim as Guiders, of helping the girls to grow in body, mind and spirit, with the confidence to venture out into new situations, to try fresh activities, to meet new people. We want them to be able to live as caring members of the community, viewing the world with a seeing eye, whether this means people, plants or animals, physical forms, great things or little things, unusual or every day happenings.

In these times of economic difficulties we must look more closely at the possibilities near home, and we need to examine our existing facilities to see if they can be used more fully or in different ways. It is not necessary to climb Everest to find adventure; it can be an element in basically simple and utterly safe activities. A little imagination can transform a simple activity into a memorable event. We need to remember that our pleasure and enthusiasm are infectious, our tiredness and lack of conviction equally obvious.

Of course there are difficulties, but see these as opportunities. There is plenty of help available from both inside and outside the Guide Association if only we would take steps to obtain it. The District Commissioner is an encourager and facilitator and she can link any Guider in her District needing help with a more experienced Guider, the CA or appropriate Outdoors Activities Adviser and indirectly with the County Training Team, depending on the nature of the help required.

From the beginning Guiding has been an outdoor Movement. In the first handbook for Girl Guides, Agnes Baden-Powell said, 'We go into camp not only because we enjoy it so much but also to gain the experience.'

We can say the same today.

The opportunities for a wide range of outdoor activities are greater now than ever before. We are more conservation conscious and safety conscious than ever before, and perhaps the need to have time to see and appreciate the simple and beautiful things of life is greater than ever before. Many of us have gained much pleasure and profit from outdoor activities. Let us help the Brownie, Guide and Ranger of today to gain in their turn.

Outdoor Activities for the Handicapped Girl

by Eileen Reid

Throughout the Camping and Outdoor Activities Conference, the speakers emphasised the fact that outdoor pursuits are not only for the fit and active, but can also be of great benefit to the handicapped. This is the subject of the following article.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES for the handicapped may be considered in two groups. The first, and more obvious, consisting of the well known activities such as swimming, archery, hill walking, the ever popular ball games, horse riding and many others. All of them can be described as 'active' or 'physical' pursuits, which demand co-ordination of mind and body, training, and a good deal of practice. All of them have enthusiastic followers, and facilities nowadays are usually fairly easy to come by – often provided, at least in part, by Local Authorities or Clubs. They are usually available to all who care to participate, including the disabled. Indeed, there are many instances of handicapped people tackling the most extraordinary things, and the wonder is, not so much that they achieve their object, but that they attempt it at all. The lesson to be learnt here, therefore, is that the disabled are often a great deal more competent and resourceful than we give them credit for, and the facilities which exist for joining in such activities should be utilised to the full. Admittedly, expert instruction and guidance is essential. Even so, a degree of risk is ever present, but not so great as to be unacceptable. It is not necessary for the disabled girl to be protected from every kind of hazard. Certainly, guidance is mandatory, but only within the bounds of foresight, prudence and common-sense; small risks are part of the fabric of living, and should be accepted as such. To attempt to eradicate them entirely implies over-protectiveness, and leads to loss of self-reliance – a virtue which is slow to build and easy to destroy. Opportunity is as important as achievement, and per-

severance as praiseworthy as fulfilment. The Olympic Games have survived for two thousand years on such principles.

The second group of outdoor activities is one in which Guiding excels, and it may be the means of introducing a feeling for the 'out-of-doors' to all handicapped girls – even to those with a clear-cut disability such as impaired mobility. To create such an empathy is a source of great satisfaction to a Guider, and it may well lead to a life-long interest for a girl. Such things as bird-watching, star gazing, and flower collecting may perhaps lead to a deeper study of ornithology, astronomy and botany. These and similar 'non-physical' enterprises, are particularly apt for the handicapped, and have the added merit of requiring only a minimum of teaching skill, expertise, and monetary support. This is a simple enough concept and yet is one which is easily overlooked, especially in larger towns and cities where mankind often blurs his horizons, and the ever-changing aspects of the natural world are either ignored or taken for granted. Most of us are guilty of this in some degree, and if we, with five active senses, can fail to appreciate these things, how

much easier it is for a handicapped Guide or Brownie to do likewise? Blindness, deafness, or paralysis can all diminish a child's appreciation of the world of nature – a shortcoming which in itself might be considered as a further disability. It should be remembered that loss of function in one sense is often counterbalanced by enhancement of another – a compensation whereby perception and awareness are sharpened to a remarkable degree. Often enough what begins as a simple interest may develop into an absorbing study.

Thus, for a disabled girl, 'out-of-doors' may begin by feeding scraps to birds on a windowsill, or by keeping a weather chart, or by a simple study of the night sky (incidentally, it might be profitable to consider how many pairs of unwanted field glasses could be found for these purposes). The possibilities are almost endless.

In some spheres these Guides could gain a knowledge and expertise which could surpass that of her more active sisters, and could then pass on her skills. With 'green fingers', her flowers and plants could well become the envy of others. She then finds a situation where she is out in front. She is a doer, not a spectator.

These, then, are a few of the methods by which Guiding for the handicapped may be pushed gently forward. A little tact, a lot of imagination, and unlimited patience are necessary, but what Guider does not already possess these in full measure?

A new world, a wonderful world, awaits us all just outside – with your help and their enthusiasm the handicapped Guides and Brownies will be delighted to accept the invitation – 'Easy access – please enter.'



Outdoor Activities in Education

by Angela Berkeley

In this article, Angela Berkeley reports on the talk given by Mr R A Davis at the Sheffield Conference, on *The Value of Outdoor Activities as an Educative Force*.

MR DAVIS is the principal of Pindar School, Scarborough. This is a comprehensive school in a socially deprived area with all its implied problems and has found over a long period that taking the children out of doors as an integral part of their education has helped them to develop into whole beings of integrity. They have grown out of the 'come in, sit down, switch on and shut up' background. They have a very limited experience of speech and skills when they come in to the school at 11+ and the teaching staff have to break through these barriers before they start to give them an education.

Over the years the out-of-doors has acquired a mystique and the following of outdoor activities usually implies something physically difficult and tough. So often these are rock-climbing, ski-ing, canoeing and similar pursuits but why hump up the hills when the child wants to look at a flower? Outdoor education is so broad a field and must be fun to appeal.

The child needs to live and move in its environment with confidence, to gain any benefit. At 11 the children learn their history out of doors by exploring Roman roads; how the monks used to live and where; maths is taught by using a compass and the intricacies of navigation; geology by finding rocks and fossils and so on. If there is a reason to be out, they are out. School is a place to be in wet weather!

At a very early stage, the children experience the thrill and adventure of an overnight hike. In a hostel (in December, because they are available then) a group is given a good meal, walks 16 miles into the moors, finds a lovely thick bed of heather and then spends the night warmly tucked up in a poly-bag. Few forget, and all are changed by the experience of this and the sight of the sun rising over the sea next morning. They have conquered fear and become more confident. A confident child can be taught.



These photographs were taken by pupils of the Pindar School, Scarborough.

In the following years the children acquire more skills of living out-of-doors and are away for longer periods and develop the tougher pursuits of pony-trekking and mountain-walking. Always the emphasis is on the group or

... Inside Looking Out ...



We did escape sometimes. Whitely Woods Outdoor Activity Centre proved an interesting excursion ...

Patrol. They try B-P's method of Patrol walking with each one of the Patrol with a job, from the pot-hole finder to the compass reader. They are encouraged and inspired to go into exploring situations on their own - to traverse the Derwent river, to survey old mines up to a standard accepted by the Ordnance Survey. They try photography, art and map drawing to record their findings. Thus the children learn to feel, to look, to learn. They also learn, as do most of our Brownies, Guides and Rangers, that adults are not a race apart but people who can be cold, who like to eat, and to explore too!

To keep the costs down wet weather wear is made in the school - there is one size of over-smock which is a cape for one and knee-length for another. Boots are not the expensive cleated mountain walkers but are a bulk-purchased, imported, welded type, lent out and disinfected between loans. Tents are simple home-made affairs, always with external poles slotted through the material. These can be erected whatever the weather with the minimum of effort.



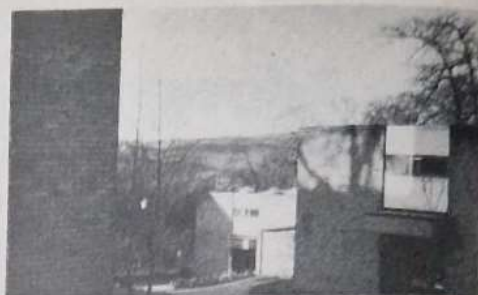
The adults carry the extreme responsibility possibly to the kill-or-cure level. By having each child gradually acclimatised to the environment and its risks and being taught the basic skills this risk is considerably lessened. We should not go into the environment unless we can get out! It is the adults' function to inspire confidence in an exploring situation, to help them to see that the Almighty can be shared and be fun; to find truth, beauty and happiness. The results can be seen by the exam results or the crime statistics.

Edward Wilson wrote: 'Why in the name of all that is holy are we taught to fear God? I think I need a more familiar God whom I can turn to at any moment of the day without fear rather than a Being who must be approached by extra special language on one's knees. I feel more inclined to kneel before everything that goes to my heart as being very beautiful, and the more humble and homely and unassuming it is the more I feel inclined to kneel before it as representing to me the presence of something very "near to God and very holy."

Planning for Success

by Anthony Mason

... Inside Looking Out ...



... and the view from the University was superb in the early morning light.

Whatever activity you are planning, there are some basic rules to follow and pitfalls to avoid. Below, there are some basic hints, and on the facing page, four articles on specific outdoor pursuits.

SUCCESS must always be planned. The happy accident is a rarity and the unplanned disaster all too common. How far ahead should you plan? It has been suggested that the first piece of planning a Guider might indulge in is in her choice of husband. He should, ideally, be prepared to baby-sit several nights a week, cook his own lunch during the weekends and put up with the summer absence of his wife.

Planning means being totally informed yourself about the activity chosen, and means having prepared for a possible lack of commonsense and knowledge in the people you are planning for. Of course the Guide's parents know what clothing to take to Camp. Do they? I heard recently of a Unit which neglected to take Wellington boots. Of course 'assemble at 3 o'clock' means three in the afternoon. Surely nobody wants to be responsible for lost souls wandering aimlessly in the middle of the night? Much of this wariness will be misplaced and you will find that your Unit will be able to give you as much help as you can give them. However, you can't always rely on this.

So - before you start to plan, check that you have the necessary qualifications to lead the activity. Check that this knowledge is not out of date. Consult your Camp or Outdoors Activity Adviser or District Commissioner if in doubt.

Reinforce your knowledge by consulting experts. Some addresses of National organisations that deal with outdoor activities are given on the opposite page and elsewhere in this issue.

Assess for yourself exactly what you mean by 'success'. Is the completion of the activity 'success' in itself - achieved with a sigh of relief? Is 'success' in this activity going to lead to further activities, be included in some greater aim? Above all, is there any need - expressly felt by the Rangers, Guides or Brownies - for the activity or are you perhaps satisfying your own likes? This may sound obvious but is essential. One still hears of outings and activities that reflect the interests of the Guider rather than her Unit.

When planning your activity remember that all environments are potentially hostile. Not just in the accepted sense, illustrated by the comments gleaned from the session at the Outdoor Activities Conference, but in the sense that a city can be frightening to a country child and a city child petrified by the presence of a cow. Some initial teaching can do much to mollify a child's anxiety. It is not, however, sensible to underplay the real dangers inherent in Outdoor Activities.

If the pursuit is going to involve new skills it is possible to practise indoors or around your home base. Map reading and

the use of a Silva compass can easily be taught in a town and canoe strokes learned in a Church Hall.

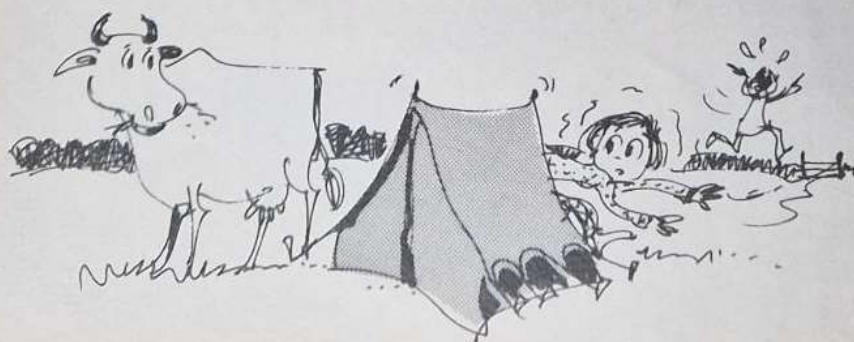


Jean de Lemos

The planning of activities can be seen as being distinct from the 'organisation'. While planning calls for secretarial, teaching and possibly philosophical skills, the organisation - the colouring in of the picture - can be achieved with the help of your Unit. If the planning has been thorough and far-sighted, the more involved both Brownies and Guides have been in the organisation the more likely you, and they, are to have a success. With the Ranger age groups, of course, they will be able to take over a great deal of the planning as well. Your role should be basically advisory, as long as you are ready to curb the wilder flights of youthful fancy.

The organisational aspect will include food, equipment, clothing, transport, timing etc. Older Guides should certainly be made aware of the administrative aspects of obtaining permission, checking that they are covered by insurance and that their activities will fall within the safety regulations. They are the leaders and Guiders of the future and learning within a safe framework - with you as the safety net - should prevent some of the difficulties which often arise. This presumes that you are totally au fait with the regulations yourself!

Finally, planning for success means wanting success for yourself and your Unit and means considering every detail of health, happiness and preparedness, however small, in order to achieve that end.



THE FOLLOWING FOUR PASSAGES are extracts from a session held at the Camping and Outdoor Activities Training Conference, on the theme of *Planning for Success*. The talks were given by local experts and specialists from the Guide and Scout Associations. Other pursuits included in the session were sailing, caving, expeditions for the 12-year-old and under, and joint activities with the Scout Association.

Canoeing

IT IS ESSENTIAL to create enthusiasm beforehand with humorous films/slides of Guides and Rangers canoeing or *First Time Afloat* (Explorer Films, 58 Stratford Road, Bromsgrove, Worcs. Telephone 07395 73566). Someone, somewhere will have some to lend you. Obtain or borrow suitable clothing and equipment. Familiarise the girls with these in their own meeting place. Emphasis should be on fun but with an underlying message of safety and correct equipment (eg B.S.I.3595 (1969) life-jacket with 13½ lb inherent buoyancy). A dry land run practising paddle strokes is funny but rewarding – and doesn't require a Charge permit! At least the girls can discover how to turn the canoe to port or starboard, stop, etc without ever going on the water where fear can quite literally paralyse.

Follow this exercise with warm water canoeing in your local swimming pool, with a controlled capsizing (into the arms of the Guider up to her waist in water). Capsizing drill is essential.

It is wise to choose, for the first real experience, a calm site on a warm day; an interesting area for those waiting their turn on the bank; a good back-up team providing warm drinks and clothes; and an understanding ear.

At the first attempt the girls should be allowed to 'do their own thing', learning by trial and error and getting the feel of the canoe. Instruction should follow after a short period. A half-hour session is usually quite enough; the more robust may want another go.

Then, plan a downstream trip. Make sure that it's within the capabilities of all the party, and allowing plenty of time to stop and stare. It's not a race. Finally, remember to check on access permission, landing sites, loos, condition of the water etc. For trouble-free canoeing in areas of doubt, consult your BCU (or SCA) River Adviser and act on this advice. For details, write to the BCU or SCA Headquarters (addresses in *Notes on Boating and Holidays Afloat*.) Again you should have a good back-up team (the non-canoeing Guider) to meet you by car at frequent intervals so that, if necessary, tired participants can finish by car. The qualified instructor/leader should carry emergency gear and extra warm clothes. If you take plenty of photographs an enjoyable day may be remembered by all and the next group, too, will be encouraged to widen their horizons.

Swimming and water play

IN SPITE OF ALL that is done through schools, Guiding, ROSPA, and others, to say nothing of the information put out on radio and TV about the hazards encountered when bathing and swimming, each summer brings its sad toll of lost lives, whether careless swimmers or willing rescuers.

Health, age, experience and ability of the girls; depth, temperature, weather and state of water should all be considered when planning your swimming or bathing, whether linked to your camp/holiday/Pack holiday or just an outing to the sea or baths. Not for nothing do we have Graded Bathing Waters and provision for life savers in POR, and public warnings of dangerous conditions on beaches etc. Yet Guiders have been known to completely ignore them even to the point of allowing girls to bathe when a red warning flag is flying. Check the Bathing Rules in the *Safety Rules* booklet, and look carefully at the advice on Page 7 about inflated balls, as well as paragraph 1(c) of the Boating Rules about inflatable craft.

For those wanting written help read *Life Saving* (Know the Game series 40p) or the new RLSS *Rescue Skills Scheme Teacher's Guide* leaflet (25p) obtainable by mail or from CHQ or Branch Shops. For details about snorkelling write to: BSAC Headquarters, 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1EX.

On the Hills

HILLWALKING/mountaineering pleasures are personal to the individual and depend on yourself, your tastes, talents and ambitions. Ordinary hillwalking can be tremendous fun and many would not wish to do more.

Unfortunately accidents do occur, many of which have been due to ignorance or inexperience and could have been avoided if the hazards involved had been appreciated. The balance between adventure on the one hand and safety on the other lies in the right training and experience based on an accepted code of techniques and safety. It is not necessary for everyone to have an MLC to set out on the simplest expedition, but it is irresponsible and foolhardy in the extreme not to follow the Safety Rules laid down, to follow advice on the proper equipment for the type of expedition, to go out with suitably qualified leaders, to have prepared with training, practice and planning.

To quote Lord Hunt: 'To get lost in the mountains, or to be the cause of an accident involving yourself or other people when this could have been avoided by training and preparation, is not heroism but folly. Indeed, it is worse than foolish for it shows a complete lack of consideration for others.'

When you ride . . .

MORE AND MORE PEOPLE are interested in horses and riding, but their enjoyment depends on knowledge of the safe way to keep, manage and ride horses. Ignorance and carelessness risk danger to animals, riders and others. Two colourful and amusingly illustrated booklets, *The Safety Code for Riding* (showing how and how not to ride), and *The Riding Code* (the rider's code of behaviour in town and country) are available free from the British Horse Society. Send sae (8" x 5") to the British Horse Society, National Equestrian Centre, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 2LR.

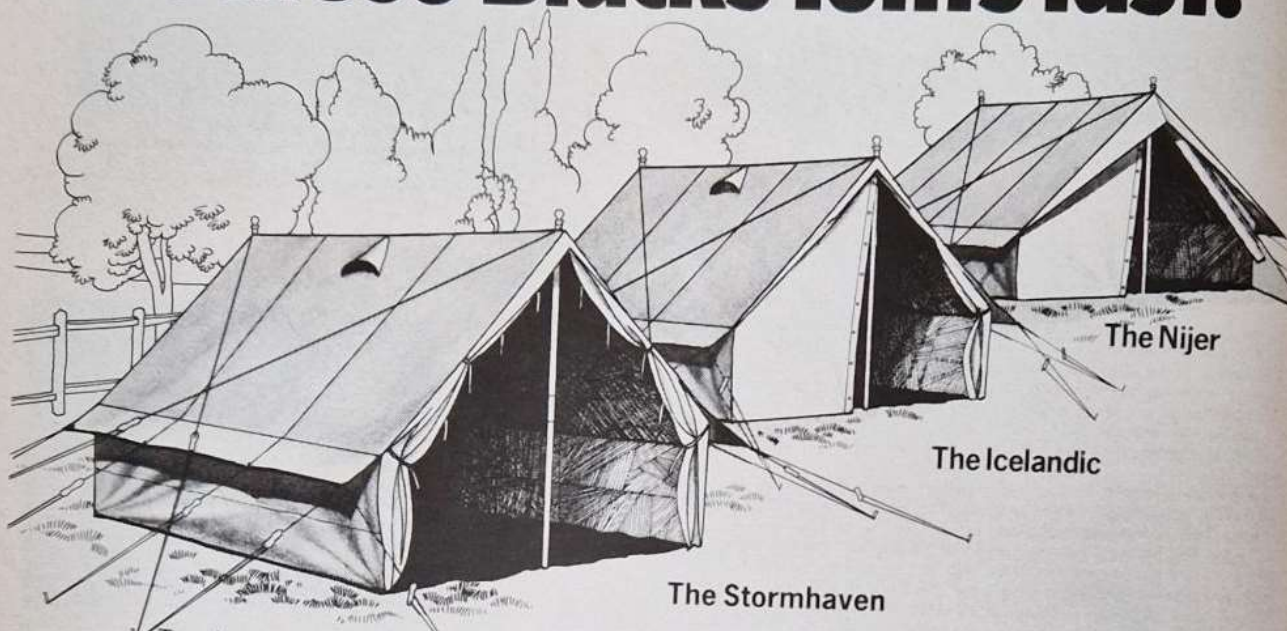
... Inside Looking Out ...



Arrivals and departures. There was little time to 'stand and stare' . . .



Blacks Tents first- because Blacks Tents last!



Tough enough to be used at base camp on the 1972 Everest Expedition, Blacks Patrol Tents have long been a favourite with scouts, guides and youth organisations who want a robust, easy-to-handle tent that is totally reliable – whatever the weather. Strongly made in weather-resistant cotton duck, these world-renowned patrol tents have the added advantage of offering lightweight alloy poles as an alternative to wood.

The Nijer opens at both ends, with peg-out doors at front and a three-sided bay at rear. It measures 305cm x 213cm (10' x 7') x 200cm (6' 6") high at centre. Weight with alloy poles 20.6kg (44¾ lb). **£117.25.**

The Icelandic comes in two sizes both 200cm (6' 6") high. Special features include ventilators in roof panels, mudband/ draught cloth at the foot of walls and a clothes cord along the inside wall. Doors at

each end are fastened with loop lacing. The First Size is 305cm x 245cm (10' x 8'): **£99.95** and the Second Size is 400cm x 245cm (13' x 8'): **£115.**

The Stormhaven also comes in two sizes and, in addition, features extra height 215cm (7') plus heavier roof canvas and fitted wall pockets. The Standard Model measures 305cm x 245cm (10' x 8') and costs **£116.50.** The larger Special Model measures 365cm x 245cm (12' x 8') and costs **£132.50.**

Also available are the ever-popular Budget Patrol Tent, robustly made throughout of blue 'Protex 7' cotton cloth with zip fastened doors at each end **£76.50**; also the new Game Ranger Tent with high side walls, large net side windows and doorways at each end. **£250.00.**

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or Ruxley Corner, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5AQ.

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Out and About

by Mary Nixon

The following article is a summary of Mary Nixon's talk at the Outdoor Activities Training Conference, on the subject of *Making the Best Use of Existing Facilities*.

IT IS SAD if Guides and Brownies ever feel that the outdoor emphasis of the Programme is confined to camps, holidays and ventures away from it all. Four-fifths of us live in urban areas, so we must begin where we are, be it in town, village, suburb or metropolis. These have to be the settings for our imaginative Challenges whether based on the traditional 'marooned' or the more recent 'survivor' theme, for in the country we can base Challenges on the actual locale and its lore. We can use city amusements like mazes or traditional playground games.



Jean de Lemos

Perception is developed through activities concentrating on different surfaces and textures seen dramatically in broken concrete, puddles reflecting clouds, shadows on rain-washed pavements, glimpses of sky through an alley, pylons in the street. Dyes for paintings are readily obtainable from city weeds, earth and moss, and interesting



David Harwood

rubblings are possible of more than trees. Contrasts between motion and permanence are obvious as birds swoop round buildings or people move, ant-like on a concourse.

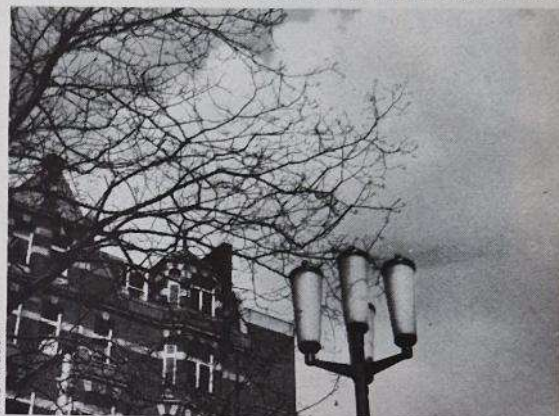
Opportunities to study many aspects of nature (and human nature) are in the streets, bare spaces, small gardens, swings or public parks, playgrounds, museums —

... Inside Looking Out ...



... but when there was it was worth it.

the weather, the moon, sun and stars, the garbage can fox, the trees and flowers, the birds which are the subject of Eric Simms' *Birds of Town and Suburb*. Useful information will be gained in short sessions sought from members of Wildlife Trusts, Ramblers' Associations and kindred bodies.



A.C. Mason

Street trails, similar to nature trails, use street furniture like lamp posts and police-boxes, shop signs with italic or block letters, 'spotting' metal covers, plaques, fanlights and fire-plugs. 'Animal' trails are based on statues, signs, hoardings, shop-windows and surnames. Park trails can be closer to nature. Town trails for the blind are possible if the clues are reworded on tape. Miniature but informative trails can be laid in a town garden, and mini-nature reserves are possible in a garden, window box or even a flower pot.

Orienteering shows much the same kind of possibility and can be used to direct attention in one meeting to history, another to industry, another to citizen services. The new, perceptual maps issued by **Pharos Publications Limited** of Newcastle-upon-Tyne give an idea of how to encourage Guides to a pleasantly dramatic form of map making.

Churches and church-yards are tremendous sources of interest. Comparisons between avenues of trees and aisles of pillars take us back to our ancestors' kind of perspective; carved wooden animals, gargoyles and stained glass windows to their sense of beauty and fun. When visiting churches, the Unit can divide up, Patrol A to the grave-yard (dates and epitaphs, bushes, trees), Patrol B to the windows (colours, stains, saints), Patrol C to ornamentation (gargoyles, flags, carvings, embroidery), Patrol D to the tower.

Experimental or ordinary cooking is ideal for bare spaces and playgrounds. The first sausage has already been cooked by solar heat. Who will be the first Guider to arrive at a meeting with a dish cooked inside her car's bonnet as demonstrated on 'Panorama' one night?

Whatever their background, we have a charge to help girls to be happy, perceptive, individual where they are, not only in some remote areas, fun though these are to visit. Opening doors means quite literally that. Our halls and clubrooms are necessary, but we must not allow them to be the hub of city Guiding, and fail to use all the exciting and varied places which lie outside the open doors.

We Did It - Why Not You?

Day Camps in the USA

(North Atlantic Girl Scouts)

ONE PART of our outdoor activities programme is Day Camp. In Day Camp girls from many troops are grouped together by levels with a camp Leader to spend the day in the out-of-doors. The campers arrive at the camp site in the morning and spend the day there enjoying activities suitable to be carried on in the out-of-doors. They have available to them all the activities that are found in other camps except that they do not spend the night on the



Trudy Craig, District Commissioner and Camp Director for the North Atlantic Girl Scouts.

The reports on these two pages are four of the many ideas for unusual outdoor activities that we received, and which were discussed at the Outdoor Activities Conference.

camp site. They return home each night to return again the next morning.

Our Day Camps are self-sufficient, charging a registration fee to each camper that covers the expenditure of the camp. It is the responsibility of a Day Camp Committee to select, develop and equip the camp site; to promote the Day Camp and register the girls. A Day Camp Director is responsible for selecting and training a camp staff and for directing the entire programme during the camp session. Many of our older Girl Scouts are incorporated into the camp staff, working as assistants in the camp units of the younger girls. Progressive experience in outdoor living is very important in planning activities for Day Camp. A girl's experience in Girl Scout camping should be considered as a series of links, each joined with what comes later. Out-of-doors activities begin in each individual troop. Day Camp is another link in the chain – an important one we feel, especially for the Brownie level as this is their first taste of actual outdoor living. As our Brownies progress to the older levels of Scouting, they can use what they have learned at Day Camp to go troop camping with their first overnight stay in the outdoors.

From these our older girls progress to attending established camps, lightweight camping and finally primitive camping with all its many possibilities. As you can see, progression is very important in Girl Scouting as it is in Guiding and we feel Day Camping is just one step along the way. 'We do it, why not you?'

The Camping Team

(Belfast, Ulster)

IN THE AUTUMN OF 1972, a Guide Company (call them the 1sts) in West Belfast, one of the few Companies in that Division with a strong camping tradition, felt that they must do something about a sad situation.

They realised how lucky they were and how sad it was that many other West Belfast Guides had no opportunity of camping. The PL's said that someone must be able to help and the Guiders decided that they must take positive action.

A letter was sent to all Guide-Guiders in the Division and various past members of 1st Company, who were no longer working with Guides, inviting them to meet and consider the matter of providing an opportunity for any Guide who wished to do so, to camp.

The result was that fourteen adults were found available, able and willing to do what they could.

Of the fourteen, ten had had camping experience with the 1sts, but six of the fourteen had had no experience on Staff of a camp.

Three sites were booked at Lorne. Many meetings followed for planning, catering, and training; at the conclusion of the arrangements, there were eight Guides in camp.

The programme in the Camp was very much centrally organised – with various activities available on a type of rota basis, sometimes involving a whole group, sometimes some from each group, and most evenings saw everyone together for Camp Fire, Barn Dance, Camp Sports etc.

At one of the late cups of coffee round the fire, the Guiders realised that they were committed to next year. All were enjoying the experience.

The next year saw a development. While still camping as three groups on neighbouring sites and meeting for activities, each camp was self-contained and self-catering. The result was that three Camper's Licences were gained, and three QM Certificates and one Camp First Aid Certificate.

Then there was the next year. 1975 saw further developments. Two Companies had their own camps! It was interesting to note that although two Companies had left the arrangement there were still seventy Guides in camp.

The visible result is four more Camper's Licences, four QM Certs., one Camp First Aid Cert. and one CA who would not have considered the job in 1972. The real result is the enjoyment of the Guides in camp.



An Ulster Brownie enjoying the activities on a Pack Holiday.

The groups are more independent but welcome opportunities of coming together and many activities can be used by each group when it suits them, eg adventure courses, pioneering material, handcraft expertise, nature information, trails, qualified swimmers etc.

There must be many ex-Guides, who enjoyed camp, who would be available for the limited time of a camp (and preparation) beyond West Belfast. If you need more adult campers why not think about our scheme – yours will be different.

We did it our way – what about you?

Camps for Deprived Children

(Cambridge)

WE FIRST STARTED to run these camps in 1969 and have had one each year since; in fact, we ran two in 1975, one in Cambridge and the other in Wisbech.

The Camp is run by Guiders and Rangers for children on the social worker's books who would otherwise not have had a holiday at all. On arrival, all children are met by the Guider and introduced to the Rangers in their Patrol, and are given Patrol badges etc. The camps are run along Guide lines with the children joining in all camp duties; there is invariably a queue to bash the tins and saw the wood.

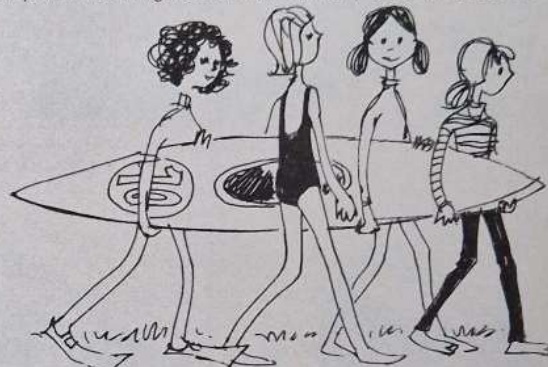
We have found a ratio of one to one is most desirable, as the camp is very demanding. If possible, a couple of husbands in camp are wonderful as a lot of the children come from one parent families and the presence of a father figure works wonders. They are also invaluable in the boys' wash tent for bath sessions. One dirty, scruffy lad once entered the wash tent and came out a new person, pink and clean and with very fair hair! The QM has a very rewarding job, as the children seem to grow rosier and healthier by the day. We have found that plenty of activities are essential, eg kite-making, pottery, collage, knitting, macramé, cooking, acting, etc, but it must be remembered that the concentration span is very short. We also take the children out for daily excursions, for a picnic, to the zoo and so on. The Venture Scouts always come out for the day and make swings and rope bridges over the stream, and by the end of the day you can guarantee that

... Inside Looking Out ...



Links were forged with the Scout Movement. Their mechanical expertise came in handy.

everyone will have fallen in! They also run a sports event which is looked forward to by all. The children build up a very good relationship with the Rangers and we have many tears on departure. The



Rangers benefit greatly from the experience and find it a wonderful opportunity to give service to the community. I myself, as a case in point, would not be a foster-mother now if it were not for contacts made at the camp.

Heritage Year Project

(North Yorkshire South)

IN THE LAST YEAR the 46th York Brownies started working on a project in connection with the Coca Cola Award Scheme for European Architectural Heritage Year. Although this contribution was for a special purpose, a similar activity could be carried out in any city or town.

The project was to make a simple study of the area around their meeting place at the Centenary Methodist Church, St Saviourgate. It included the discovery, where possible, of the origin of street names, studying historical buildings - some of which are under the present conservation plan - and mounting a small exhibition. York has an advantage over other towns in that it is steeped in history. However, the resourceful Guider should be able to adapt the plan to any town, be it ancient, relatively modern or brand-new.

For the display, a model was made; a map drawn; collages put together; pictures and rubbings made; drawings and writings produced and collected; old documents and books gathered together. The programme leading up to the exhibition commenced in May 1975 and came to fruition ten months later, in February of this year. This mammoth campaign is laid out below:

20th May: Commencement of project. Walk around area to be studied.

17th June: One group began a model of Centenary Chapel. Collages and pictures sorted out. One group looked at the streets, found out about street names, plaques etc. Rubbings started.

24th June: Continuation of work started on 17th June.

1st July: Visits to Lady Henley's cottages, 24 St Saviourgate.

15th July: Finding-out-cards used with older Brownies. Letters were sent out to parents, and news about the project appeared in a church notice and the local press. As a result, many friends offered information, interesting pictures and books for use in the exhibition.

2nd September: Symbols of European Architectural Heritage Year and invitations to the exhibition were made.

9th September: Items of writing, pictures etc were completed.

16th September: Walk around the area which had been studied to put the buildings and streets into perspective.

23rd September: Exhibition. John Shannon, Chairman of York Civic Trust, invited to attend.

7th October: Exhibition on view in public library for ten days. In the evening the Brownies visited the newly opened Heritage Centre in Castlegate, and were shown round by the curator.

12th November: Brownies invited by the Civic Trust to form Guard of Honour for HRH Duchess of Kent who was in York to open the restored eighteenth century Peasholme House.

November: 'Blue Peter' advised.

January: Given Special Award, consisting of a plaque. Certificate of Merit and special pennants.

23rd February: Presentation of Awards. Certificate of Merit presented by Mrs Owthwaite, Chief Commissioner for North East England. The Special Award Pennants to eight Brownies presented by Mr Shannon, Chairman of the York Civic Trust. The plaque was presented by Miss Boys.

Special Award: although this was a project for a special purpose, those Brownies have made some very good friends, have gained a great deal, and have given much pleasure in their search to find out more about their city and home.



Mr J Shannon with two 46th York Brownies.



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LETTERS

A Trip Abroad . . .

I thought I would write to tell you about my recent visit to Kenya. My daughter is living as a YSA there, for a period of one year. YSA stands for Youth Service Abroad, and is sponsored for a year's service under the direction of the Church Missionary Society. She is living at Thika, which is roughly twenty-five miles north-east of Nairobi. She lives in a single-storey building in the grounds of the Thika Secondary School for the Blind, the only one of its kind in Kenya, and is in charge of a group of multi-racial children, — twenty-two in all ranging from two-and-a-half to four years in age. There is a saying, 'Once a Guide, always a Guide', and as soon as the blind Rangers heard that my daughter had been a Ranger in England they asked her to become their Leader. A group of sighted Rangers from Chania High School wanted to join, too, and now the Unit consists of thirty-six girls. During my stay, I also visited 'Joytown' in Thika, which is a school run by the Salvation Army for crippled children, and while there, I talked to their Guides about Lord and Lady Baden-Powell's love of Kenya. Altogether, I thoroughly enjoyed my busy and interesting stay.

Barbara Wagland,
Sawbridgeworth.

. . . And Back Again

As an ex-Brownie Guider of the 1st St Peter's Pack, Limassol, Cyprus (1971-1973), I was most interested to read in February GUIDER of the laying-up of some of the flags and pennants from the Limassol district. It brought back many happy memories. It was a shame that this District was disbanded through unfortunate circumstances, as while I was there we all worked hard to raise funds for needed equipment, World Guiding, and the enjoyment of the girls, with

great encouragement and effort from the District Commissioner, Mrs Lucy Norton. The comradeship and friendship was something I will never forget. Guiding in Cyprus was rewarding and great fun, with everyone, girls and Guiders alike, full of enthusiasm for all ventures, which I am sorry to say is not quite the same in this country. Probably because there are so many other things to occupy our time.

Christine Etheridge,
Pontypridd.

Tipped to Win

I wonder whether it would be a good idea at this time of the year to have a section of the magazine for 'Camp Hints' — small practical tips — which Guiders themselves have developed over the years and which are not normally found in Camping Manuals.

For example, in previous years our QM's mother has always made fruit pies for us for our first meal in camp. These had to be prepared the day before we left, which is always a hectic day. Transporting the pies has never been easy. Last year, having just acquired a freezer, I suggested she made them earlier and at her own convenience. As soon as the pies were made and cooked I packed them and froze them. On the morning we left for camp, I packed the pies — still frozen — in a round 5 lb chocolate tin (which we were going to use as a portable grease trap anyway) and took them to camp in the frozen state. The pies travelled well, they didn't break up as before, and by the time we needed them they had thawed out.

A second tip which Guiders might like to try is this. When I make the 'Emergency' notice for the first aid tent, listing the doctor's telephone number, etc., I fold the card up at the bottom to make a small pocket. In here we keep small cards, about 1½"

square, on which we list all relevant telephone numbers. These I cover with transparent plastic, and on to the back I fix a 2p piece. If someone has to rush to the phone, or when a group of Guides is going off site they simply take one of the cards so they have all the telephone numbers at hand. The Guider in charge of First Aid usually supervises the giving out and collecting of the cards.

I hope these tips might be of interest and use to other Guiders and perhaps they have tips which will help the rest of us.

Megan Thistlethwaite,
Congleton.

Promising Poetry

I wondered whether the following lines might be of any use to you, in view of this year's focus on the Promise:

Pride in being consequential
Reflects a poor potential.
As Guides, we bear in mind
that God's own grace,
humility,
Betokens, not servility,
But rather true nobility
Which is, in essence, kind.

Barbara K Harris,
Helmdon.

A Step Up

I was interested to read Mrs Bulley's letter in February GUIDER. Our Brownies have a short 'coming up' ceremony when they leave the Pack. The Guides form a horse-shoe at one end of the hall, and the Brownies a ladder at the other.

After we have said goodbye to the Brownies, they then proceed to 'walk up' the ladder over the Brownies' legs, being asked questions, at the same time, by the Brownies on the Eight Point Programme. When they reach the top of the ladder, they are met by the Pack Leaders, who proceed with them on 'foot prints' up to the Guider, and introduce them to her. They then take their place in the Guide horseshoe.

Carol A Lathan
Southsea.

Belgian Celebrations

Thinking Day this year for me was a unique and special occasion. Normally in England one can only think of others round the world on this day. But here in SHAPE, the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Powers in Europe, we live in a large international community, with fourteen nations of NATO represented. It was decided that this year the British Guides and Brownies would host an 'International Birthday Party' in honour of our World Chief Guide. This idea was instigated as a result of conversations I have had with some of the various Leaders of the other nations, some of whom seemed surprised to learn that our World Chief Guide was still, in fact, very much alive! We felt that we just had to prove this fact! From amongst the 300 girls present, at least eight of these nations were represented. The girls had all made their own 'Friendship Cards', which they exchanged during the opening game — an adaptation of 'When you meet a Brownie'. After this, each Troop/Pack/Company presented a short entertainment of international flavour. Half-way through the afternoon we stopped for tea and the British District Commissioner and the American Neighbourhood Chairman cut a large Birthday Cake to the loud singing of 'Happy Birthday to you'. The Party was brought to a close with the singing of 'Brownie Bells' and 'Taps'.

My afternoon was well and truly 'made' when, on congratulating the girls on their performances, one small American Brownie piped up 'You're welcome, Ma'am'. Somehow this made all the planning and preparations even more worthwhile, if that was possible.

J Rogers,
Belgium.

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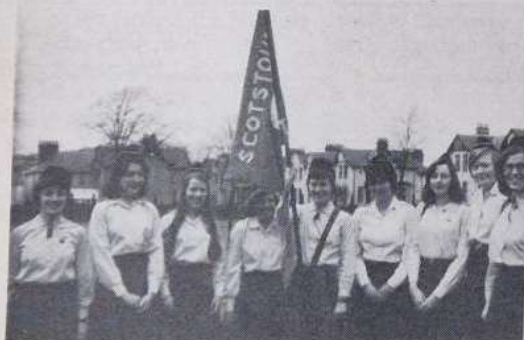
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Calling all Rangers!

RANGERS! What are you intending to do about the new rule requiring Guiders to retire at age 65? From sixteen years of age, we need you to train as Young Leaders. One of the big advantages you have is knowing the kind of things youngsters of today like doing. Things change so fast that we soon feel out of touch. Did I hear you say that is all very well but you are hoping to go to college? So what?! You did say college – not a convent, didn't you? Students seem to find plenty of time to air their views on any subject they feel strongly about – so why not Guiding? O.k., so you are resident away from home. Isn't there a Company or Pack which needs a helping hand, either regularly, or at least the occasional visit, to remind Guides and Brownies that wherever we live, we are all trying to remember our Promise? The helping won't be all on your side, as you will most likely broaden your outlook and learn lots of new games and activities, and if you are contemplating a career with young people, then the more you share in their experiences the more comprehensive will be your understanding of their needs. Also, someone else may be helping in your home District on the same principle. Perhaps your career won't take you away from home, but you may be unable to get to a Brownie meeting by 6.00 pm; so what about 6.30 pm, but if so, make it 6.30 pm prompt every week. Reliability is essential in Guiding! It may even be possible to bring sandwiches, and let the Brownies produce a cup of tea. Maybe preparations for exams need priority for a few weeks, but if you discuss this with your Guider you can easily work things out. It isn't the obstacles you should be thinking about, but the possibilities. If we Guiders who are retiring believed that we had been running a playgroup for little girls, most of us would have retired long ago – but we believe that Guiding is, and has been, of vital importance in the world. Think not only of the current 600,000 or more members, but also of the countless millions who have made their Promise since the formation of Guiding, and ask yourself if you can afford to let it just fade out. We've tried to do our bit for Guiding, so remember, the future is in your hands!

Wyn Burton,
Brownie Guider, Hull.

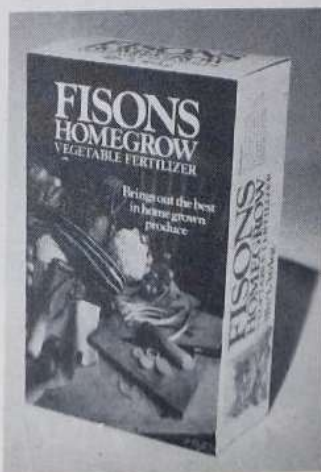
A Colourful Day



This photograph shows the Scotstown Ranger Guide Unit at the dedication of their colours on Sunday, 15th February of this year. The girl holding the flag is looking justifiably proud, for it was she, Sandra Steven, who made the colours. On the extreme right is the Unit's Ranger Leader, Mrs Fiona Hunter, looking very happy on this occasion, as indeed they all do!

Growing up

Fisons have launched this new fertiliser, **Homegrow**, which is suitable for a variety of vegetables and carries clear instructions for use. It is aimed principally at the new home-vegetable-growers' market, hence its name, comes in granular form and has polythene packaging for storage purposes. It is a simple fertiliser, providing the three most important elements usually lacking in garden soil, namely, nitrogen, to ensure strong growth, and phosphoric acid and potash, for good root development, disease resistance and fruitfulness. Growing and cooking is what **Homegrow** is about, and Fisons are offering consumers the opportunity to buy – at a cost of 40p – thirty-two full colour cookery cards. This special offer is being made through hundreds of thousands of leaflets in retail outlets – so look out for them!

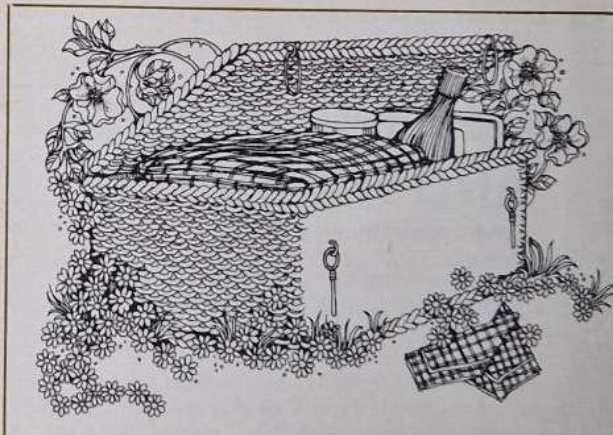


MAINLY FOR RANGERS



Ranger Travel

This is Alice Chibanda, a Ranger of the 7th Luanshya Coy, Zambia, who was invited by the Girl Scouts of Greater Philadelphia at Franklin Institute in the States, for an Earth 'N US II Conference from the 12th June to 25th July 1975. The main theme of the Conference was that Rangers should realise the effects of pollution on the earth and what the youth of tomorrow could do to control it. The Rangers also visited New Jersey and New York. It was an enjoyable experience and Alice is grateful to the Association and the hostess families who looked after them. There were Rangers from Brazil, Ecuador, Kenya, the Philippine Islands, India and two from Zambia. In this photograph Alice is holding the candle she was given in America.



Sausage and Apple Pielets

- 1 lb/450 g shortcrust pastry
- 1 medium cooking apple
- 1 small onion
- 1 lb/450 g pork sausage meat
- 1 egg, beaten

Roll out the pastry and use to line eight deep bun tins. Re-roll trimmings and cut out eight 3-inch/7.5 cm circles for lids. Grate the apple and onion and mix with the sausage meat. Divide the filling between the pastry cases, mounding it up well in the centres. Brush the edges of the pastry with a little beaten egg, place on the lids and crimp edges together with finger and thumb to seal. Add a little water to the remaining egg and brush over the top of the pielets. Bake in a moderately hot oven (400°F, 200°C, Gas Mark 6) for 30 minutes, or until golden brown. Cool on a wire rack.

A recipe from **Summer, one of the Four Seasons Cookery Books**, published by Sampson Low at £1.95.



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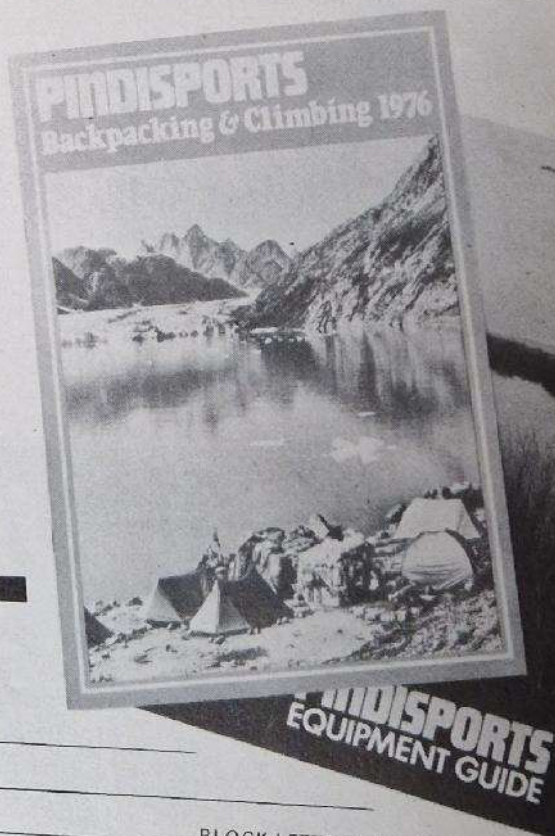
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BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE



Out of Doors Challenge for Brownies

by Evelyn Blackie

ONE CHALLENGE of the out-of-doors means, like the rest of our Eight Point Programme, different things to different children. As I think about Brownies I have known – town-dwellers mostly – I am struck by the variety of ways in which they regard the out-of-doors world. There was Jessica, whose abiding interest was insects, and who came week after week with a jam jar containing some minute, crawling object to be admired and discussed at pow-pow. By the age of eight she was more knowledgeable than most adults.

Debbie collected everything in sight. She went home from her first Pack holiday with quantities of rocks, twigs, cones, sheep's wool and would have taken tadpoles and the farmer's orphan lamb if she had been so allowed.

Isabel would prefer to organise skipping games whenever she went outside. Ruth was happiest just sitting and looking and listening. For all these children the out-of-doors was an endless source of fun and it is surely up to us to make use of this enthusiasm and to train our Brownies to be at home and confident in what is potentially a dangerous environment.

Obviously, the type of outdoor activity possible for your Brownies depends on where you meet. It is part of our responsibility as Guiders to find out the resources of our

own Districts. Even if all you have is a concrete playground you still have the sky above you, birds to look at, traffic going past, a multitude of colours to look for and match up. Have the 'Highway Brownies' ever looked at a local map and found out where the main roads go to? This could, perhaps, be linked with learning the compass points and playing a compass game with the whole Pack. Any of our games' books will provide ideas for these and even the seven-year-old will unconsciously absorb knowledge and learn skills she may use later on.

Most Brownies have been bitten to a greater or lesser degree by the same bug as Debbie and collecting Challenges in Sixes are always popular. By asking for these to be arranged attractively we encourage discriminate collecting and careful looking. Could your funds rise to a set of small magnifying glasses? In the interests of conservation, we should not encourage Brownies to collect bunches of wild flowers and jars of tadpoles. Perhaps conservation of natural things in their area could be a talking point at pow-pow and may even lead into a Pack Venture on the subject. Have you ever tried the 'Uses of Water' game on page 47 of the Brownie Guiders' Handbook? A recent favourite involved asking the Sixes to collect and make the contents of the Elf's broom cupboard, the Kelpie's dinner table etc, out of natural materials. This type of game gives the Sixer practice in leading and organising her Six, gives each Brownie a chance to use her imagination and involves the whole Six in thinking, talking and doing things together.

If the things Brownies collect can be preserved in some way, so much the better. Leaves, flowers and grasses can be pressed, mounted on card and covered with clear adhesive film to make drip mats, book marks and pictures. The

Pack could make their own notelets by decorating sheets of paper (Brownie Guides Handbook P.75).

To my mind training for camp or any other out-of-door activity begins in the Pack. The Brownie who is reminded to shake her wet coat and hang it over the chair to dry will perhaps be less likely to leave her pyjamas on the wet grass when she is a Guide.

Once you have gained confidence in taking your Pack out of doors the next step could be to Pack Holiday which can be the first taste of freedom from the restrictions of modern living. How few 8-10 year olds can ever be really free of adult supervision for even a short time? The story told on nearly every post card home from one Pack holiday is surely significant – 'We've been out on a wool trail by ourselves without any Guiders!' If we can help our Brownies to look and listen and feel and be at home first in her own local environment and then in the wider world beyond, we are fulfilling a worthwhile function.

Surely this is summed up in the excitement and wonder on the faces of Margaret and Gail who came running in after a time hanging over the playground wall at an Easter Pack Holiday, 'Brown Owl, we've seen some sheep and it's been laying babies!'



Jean de Lemos

Practical Outdoor Challenges at all levels

by Hilary Ferris



A CHALLENGE WE HOPE will spur the girls on to discover something or encourage them to do something new. We want the out of doors to be somewhere where the Brownie, Guide and Ranger will learn to be at home and be happy. Perhaps it is a major operation getting the girls away for Pack holiday, camp and outdoor pursuits, so what can we use on our doorsteps? Do we allow our girls to stop and stare from our meeting place? When they do stop and look what do they see in great abundance? People! What can they learn from people – do the same people pass your meeting places each week? Is it at the same time, do they travel at the same speed? Do they talk to the same people? Do they wear the same clothes? Maybe we cannot get out into a forest to learn about the animals there, but what of the animal signs around you; what about the plaster caste made with the dog's paw, or

the cat's pad? Perhaps we are not all blessed with the sea on our doorstep and the gulls whirling overhead, or the pair of magpies chasing each other in the field but the starlings have equally funny habits and the sparrow in the street, does it hop, or stride or walk? What kind of life can the girls find on the nearby wall? 'Come on!' said one of my Guides one day, 'I'll collect all the creepy crawlies!' By saying this, she had set the Patrol a Challenge. Is there the same life on a similar wall facing a different direction? Do we draw their attention to the sunset over the block of flats or cooling towers? The Guiders can use their other senses besides their eyes. How many streets away do the girls have to be before they can smell the fish shop, the bakery, the petrol station? Does it make any difference if the wind is in a different direction – are all the girls the same? Use a clock in your meeting, how many paces away from the clock have the girls to be before they can hear the tick? Can your girls walk a straight line blindfolded, or do they veer to the left or right – get them to correct this and walk straight towards a friend. How fast are the clouds travelling? Can we predict tomorrow's weather from tonight's sky?

Are the girls in your Unit aware that the people in the newspaper shop have a different accent to their own? How many different accents can you locate in your area? Can you build a map from this knowledge? What can the girls discover about the places, and how can they make the people feel at home?

These Challenges help the girl in a small way to become more aware of her surroundings, and the people around her. The girls need

to be happy in the surroundings in which they are all day and every day. We cannot keep the outdoor activities for Pack holidays, camp and outdoor pursuits. They may on their Pack holiday be able to use a greater variety of natural things for their miniature garden, or at camp they may be able to smell the newly cut hay and see the sunrise, and when on a mountain it may help to know that you always veer to the right when walking in a mist. But let us help the girls, through Challenges, to enjoy to the full their every day surroundings. Can we help them to see God's beauty in the spider's web which they have discovered by the drainpipe, can we help them to feel God's Heaven in the Challenges they undertake because they are stimulating? I once asked a group of PL's where they thought Heaven was: 'Beauty in the crowd of Rugby Supporters at Cardiff Arms Park,' answered a Welsh PL, and another 'Here and now, not up there.' The out-of-doors is here where we are, not way out there where we may be privileged to be for one week in the year. Let us use what we have to challenge the girls.



Jean de Lemos

GUIDE

training

Outdoor Adventures for the Ranger Unit

by Kim Taylor

SOME OF MY HAPPIEST MEMORIES of Rangering days are those of activities through which we enjoyed the fresh air; being a London based Unit, it was a very real pleasure to go on a lightweight camp in a rather fabulous garden in Hertfordshire and even though we went there over and over again, we always found different things to do and walks to take.

Any chosen walk can be turned into an adventure, purely by setting your Unit a challenge sheet:

- to gather hedgerow flowers and shrubs (the follow-on from this could be inviting an expert to the next Unit meeting to demonstrate the art of making wall pictures etc, from pressed plants, leaves etc.).

- studying the architecture of an old village and finding out its history.

The adventurous Unit may decide that 1976 is to be a year of outdoor Challenges - of trying activities so far never embarked upon. This will vary from area to area; for instance, a coastal Unit is bound to have been involved with boats and may therefore like to take to the air and try gliding or flying.

The town Unit may wish to try fell walking, mountaineering, pot-holing, caving etc.



A Unit coming from rural areas can have just as exciting a Challenge by spending a few days in the local town, exploring its historic roots; many born and bred Londoners are amazed when they take time off to discover the City of London with its wealth of historic buildings and stories attached to them. This applies to most towns throughout the country.

For the Unit who camp regularly and who are looking for something a little different, they could try a canoeing course. Many local authorities run a course open to uniformed organisations. When the Rangers have become competent, endeavour to arrange a weekend expedition up river, stowing your lightweight camping equipment in the canoe.

Pioneering with the Venture Scouts is a great source of entertainment and fun enjoyed by many Units, but it may be a new experience for some. Venture Scouts can be wizards at devising new pioneering obstacles and the Rangers have great fun in proving their ability to keep up with them. Some Army establishments have excellent assault courses which they may open up to Ranger Units and Venture Scout Units providing they are used with respect.

Orienteering is becoming a very popular sport, with courses being provided in many areas. For this the equipment needed is simply the compass, but the sport provided is a real challenge to the uninitiated.

We apologise to Miss Chris M Davies whose training article *Records Good and Not So Good*, which appeared on the opposite page last month, was falsely attributed to Isabel Anderson, to whom we also offer our apologies. - Editor



Jean de Lemos

Conservation too, can provide an unusual outdoor Challenge. Many authorities welcome help from teams of young people willing to spend a weekend clearing canals etc. Not only is this great fun, but it is doing a very real job of work for the community.

Night hikes can be a Challenge, but should of course, be planned with the utmost care. It is surprising how a familiar part of the country can be completely unfamiliar at night.

Finally, a word on safety. Many Guiders, with the help of their Rangers, will be able to think up many more Challenges than those mentioned in this article. It is, however, only prudent to mention that all outdoor activities should be planned with care. Accidents happen anywhere, and the Guider should always ensure that the activity is planned with the assurance that the safety of the members is taken care of; ie, that the right equipment is available and used, that the correct clothing is worn and that expert tuition is available if necessary; particularly for such sports as canoeing, fell walking and even something like archery.

By all means challenge your Unit to new adventures, but never, never challenge their safety.

RANGER

The Commissioner's Role and Responsibility for Outdoor Activities

by Joyce Hopkins

OUR TELEPHONE had not stopped ringing since the talk on camp and outdoor activities had taken place. It seemed that our Guiders had been waiting for just such an evening and, fired with enthusiasm, were ready to go. We all knew that enthusiasm was not enough, but it started the ball rolling.

'Could Mary really take her Ranger Unit for a canoeing holiday?' 'Yes, of course, if she had the right training and made sure that her girls had it too.' This was a job for the Boating Adviser for the County. Another Guide Unit would like to go Pony Trekking - 'Could they?' Here again it was a case of referring the Guider to the Outdoor Activities Adviser, who would make sure that the Guider knew exactly what the Guides should wear and how best they could prepare themselves for the holidays.

At this point, my husband wanted to know how I came to know all these 'Experts'. 'Simple,' I said, 'we have our team which covers most outdoor activities and my job, as Commissioner, is to put the Guiders in touch with the person who can best help them.'

The 'phone again! Mary Evans this time, our International Adviser - one of our Units wanted to go to Switzerland and Mary arranged for

the Guider to join in with some talks about holidays abroad - would I like to go along?

Hurrying back from the shops next day, I met one of our Brownie Guiders, who was off to Pack Holiday in a month's time. Already I had checked her application form and seen that all was well. 'Yes, I would be down for the day on the Wednesday!' This is one of the rewarding things about a Commissioner's job, the welcome one gets at Pack holidays and camp when the Guides and Brownies want you to see just everything. This is when one feels that camping and the out-of-doors is so very worthwhile.

Later in the month, our Division Camp Adviser rang to ask could she come over for an hour one evening, as she wanted to talk to me about Ranger Camp permits. This we arranged and the next evening saw us getting down to work. Four Rangers had applied to be tested for their Camp Permits, two were ready and had proved to their Guider that they were really mature enough to take the test, but the other two were much younger and needed time and more experience on the practical side, before being allowed to take the test. Our Camp Adviser would keep them in mind, when she overhauled the lightweight equipment and asked them for their help.

The talks for the Guiders who were taking their Units abroad was a great help to me as a Commissioner. The information about uniform, insurance, travel and activities was all most helpful and would be useful to me in the future.



Next day I went along with the Pack Holiday Adviser to visit a Pack, whose Guider was taking her Pack Holiday Licence. What a happy day we had! No-one was homesick, all were busy and having lots of fun. Brownie Guider was not tired out and the QM had plenty of help in the kitchen, which was clean and tidy.

C.9 which is of course our 'Permission to Camp' form, will soon be coming to the Camp Adviser and Commissioner for their signatures and this is one of the times when we realise how great is our responsibility as a Commissioner. Has the Guider got her qualification? Has she adequate staff? Are her numbers correct? Has she read and understood the Insurance Policy? Is her Life-Saver of the correct age and are her qualifications up-to-date? These are just a few of the things which make it such a responsibility for the Commissioner, but all very necessary for the safety of the group.

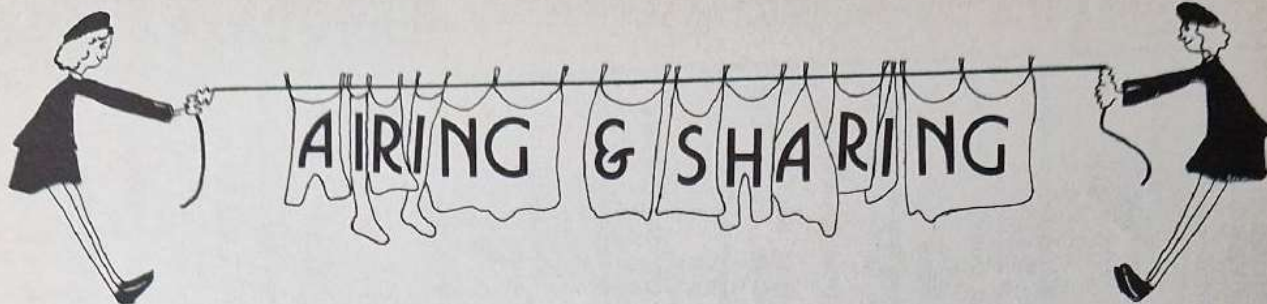
How I enjoy the Summer, when we see the results of skills well learnt, information assimilated and put to good use, the filling in of forms understood and used correctly by the Guider, as well as myself. All culminating in happy camp holidays.



Jean de Lenns

DISTRICT

training



A Question of Age?

A thought on the retiring age of 65 for uniformed members. I presume this means District Commissioners as well as actual Guiders. We have great difficulty in finding Guiders, and if the older Guiders are not to be our Commissioners, we are going to be left high and dry with no link between District and Division. In our District, if our Commissioner has to retire, there seems really no-one willing or able to take over the position. The outlook seems very gloomy.

Gwen E Titterton,
Cheshire.

We were most painfully surprised by this new rule. Most single women (and not a few married women) have a job, and this will become more common as time goes on. Not everyone wants to retire at 60, indeed many could not afford it. So why turn these women out of the Uniformed Offices of the Movement just when they have the most time and energy to give? We feel it will be particularly hard to find County Extension Advisers with enough time for the considerable amount of travelling needed to do this job properly. The same must be true of Camp Advisers. To show that there is no personal interest involved, the eldest of us still has 16 years to reach 65!

Diane Fargher,
Southampton.

What did you think when you read the article regarding the retirement age for Guiders? My first reaction was to laugh and laugh! I've repeatedly tried to hand over the running of my Brownie Pack to an assistant, only to attend her wedding and see her whisked away out of the District, or to college, or to a job miles away. Not that I really wanted to stop being Brownie Guider, but I do realise that progress is essential for the survival of the

Movement. At last it is out of my hands, and I cannot believe that someone under 65 will allow my 24 eager Brownies to melt away! So now I'm thinking of my own reactions - what shall I do? Firstly, join the Trefoil Guild. I already appreciate the support the members give to Guiding and I am sure that, through them, I'll find plenty to do. If you mean that at 65 we have outgrown our uniform, in the same way that a Brownie has outgrown hers, I will agree with you, but the essentials of Guiding - the Promise, the Law, and our Trefoil Badge - are for life! Retirement? For natural growth and development, just promote me to the Trefoil Guild.

Wyn Burton,
Hull.

Challenging talk

The letter from Margaret Branch in February's Airing and Sharing coincides with my view entirely. I was a Guide Guider under the old system and, after a break, came back to Guiding under the new system. I find my Guiding much more difficult and seldom feel satisfied with the results. I am all in favour of Challenges but my biggest challenge these days is to find time to prepare Programmes with the airy fairy guidelines we have. There is a perpetual shortage of Guiders and I feel that the job has become so demanding of spare time that likely helpers are frightened off. I know that I hesitate to ask anyone for help without pointing out the amount of time and effort needed to do the job properly. If, as happens much more often these days, Guiders are doing a full time job and looking after a family as well as running a Guide Company, the demands are too great. If the Programme was more structured the preparation would be easier and I don't feel the Guiders would suffer in any way. As Margaret Branch suggests, the older age range would benefit from having something more definite to work on

themselves. I wonder, what are the chances of something being done?

Margaret Campbell,
Tring.

Readers may be interested to know that a group of Guiders has been looking into some of the suggestions made at the Durham Conference, including ideas to help us to challenge every Guider in a way that really stretches her. Even when the root cause of someone's difficulty has been diagnosed (which isn't easy) the question still remains of finding the best way of dealing with it. This takes time and careful thought especially if decisions are likely to affect Guiders of all ages and stages, in all parts of the United Kingdom.

J Wood,
Acting Programme/Training
Adviser.

Uniform - ity

In reply to the letter from Miss Justice in the March *GUIDER*, I would like to concur wholeheartedly with her comments on mixed uniforms. How much better to have a uniform that is suitable to wear in the winter for both Guides and Guiders. Navy or brown trousers would be far more practical, and we would not have to resort to adding extras to the uniform in order to keep reasonably warm. Not all Units are fortunate enough to have their Guides and Brownies brought from door to door by car and not all meeting places are suitably heated. It would be considered lunacy in the winter to send a child of Brownie-age to school during the day, clad in only a cotton dress. Why then should it be considered correct dress for a Brownie to be so clad in the evening?

S C Casey,
Hanworth.

With reference to Miss Justice of Ruislip's letter in March *GUIDER* regarding sloppy

dress at the Ice Show at Wembley: while I agree with her in principle about being correctly dressed, I feel I must speak up, as I do not find knee-length boots 'absolutely disgraceful'. I consider that when travelling to Wembley from the other side of London on a bitterly cold, wet December afternoon, surely boots may be considered suitable dress for the occasion. Also, it is very difficult to insist to mothers of Brownie-age children that trousers should not be worn in such weather.

Christina Smith,
Shirley.

As I look through this and previous copies of *GUIDER*, I cannot help noticing the number of photographs of members of the Association who have noticeable faults in their uniforms. How can we expect Brownies, Guides and Rangers to look smart and their uniforms to be correct if such photographs are published? The main faults have included loose hair, no hats, badges in incorrect places, and the colour of shoes. The uniform of the Association is smart and for others to see faults in their own magazines is a bad thing. I know that no-one is perfect, but for the sake of publicity, please try to have correct uniforms shown, as it is better for all.

J Hawer,
South Humberside.

Your comments are much appreciated, and we agree that, ideally speaking, we should never print anything other than the correct uniform. However, as you yourself say, no-one is perfect, and if we were to stick rigidly to a rule of completely correct uniform in every photograph, we would be severely limited in our attempts to publicise news events sent in to us by members of the Movement from far and wide.

Editor.

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June	11-13 Hertfordshire 18-20 General Training 25-27 1 Campfire and Prospective Campfire Leaders 2 Drama Side Group	11-13 Friends of Waddow 18-20 Northamptonshire 25-27 General Training	2-4 West Yorkshire South 9-11 Student Weekend 16-18 General Training 23-30 Patrol Leaders' Week	4-6 General Training (also Dyfed) 11-13 General Training (also Central Glamorgan) 18-20 General Training (places reserved for Montgomery) 25-27 General Training	4-8 Scottish Handcraft Circle 11-13 Lightweight Camping for Guiders and their Rangers		
	2-4 Avon North 9-11 General Training 16-18 Friends of Foxlease 18-24 Holiday Week (Guiders, their friends or mothers, and Trefail Guild members) 27-4 AUGUST Patrol Leaders' Week			17 'Friends of Broneirion' Gathering 23-28 Patrol Leaders under 14 years (Open to all Counties)	2-6 Patrol Leaders 9-12 Patrol Leaders 15-23 Patrol Leaders' Camp - 'Pioneering Plus' 16-23 Patrol Leaders' Week (by invitation)		
Aug	7-17 Holiday period (Unit Guiders with up to nine of their Guides or Rangers) 21-28 London and South East England (by Bank allocation) 29-31 Holiday	7-21 Holiday Period (Unit Guiders with up to nine of their Guides or Rangers) 27/28-4 Holiday Week (Guiders, their SEPT. friends or mothers, and Trefail Guild Bank members) 29-31 Holiday		2-7 Patrol in Action (Groups of not less than four Guiders from a Patrol) 16-21 Training for 16-18 year-old Young Leaders or Rangers working on leadership 26-31 Patrol Leaders under 14 years (Open to all Counties)	6-13 Patrol Leaders' Camp - 'Pioneering Plus' 6-13 Patrol Leaders' Week (by invitation) 20-22 Patrol Leaders 27-29 Music/Camp Fire (with visit to Edinburgh Festival on Saturday evening)		
Sep	3-5 General Training 10-12 Commissioners' Training 17-19 Kent East 24-26 Middlesex West	10-12 General Training 17-19 Greater Manchester West 24-26 Midlands England (by allocation)					
Oct	1-3 Making the Most of the District (District Commissioners with up to seven of their Guiders) 8-10 Surrey East 15-17 General Training 22-24 Ranger Guiders 29-31 Somerset	1-3 County Durham and South Tyne 8-10 Northumberland 15-17 Lancashire East 22-24 General Training 29-31 Building the Training Team (County Training Advisers with their prospective trainers and 'link' trainers)					

Trainings marked 'General' are for Brownie and Guide Guiders.

For this issue, only the dates to October are included. Further dates will appear in the November issue.

Fees at Foxlease and Waddow:

Shared room, per day £3.00
Double room, per day £3.50
† Subject to VAT

Single room, per day £4.00
Deposit £1.00 cheque or postal order only

HOW TO APPLY

Any Guider may herself apply to attend a training course at the Centres, provided she has reached the minimum age of 18 years. (At the discretion of the Commissioner a member aged 17½ who is working on the Adult Leader's Certificate may also apply for a Guider course).

An application to attend a Guider Training Centre should be sent direct to the appropriate Guider-in-Charge, and must be accompanied by the correct amount of deposit and a stamped addressed envelope. Applicants should also state the type of training for which they are attending, as there may be several different courses running at any one weekend. As so many Guiders have to leave on Sunday, training sessions at a two-day weekend will stop at tea-time on that day unless otherwise stated. If sufficient notice is given that it is wanted, every effort will be made to provide sessions for a group until Monday. Individuals who are able to stay over until Monday to enjoy the surrounding country and other amenities of the Centre are most welcome to do so.

BURSARIES: Full details of the conditions of issue and how to apply are available from the Training Secretary, CHQ.

The Fee Bursary entitles a Guider to a grant of £2 for a two-day weekend and 70p for each additional day.

The Fare Bursary (available only for travel to the nearest Training Centre) carries a rebate of a Guider's travel expenses in excess of £3.00.

The Angela Thompson Bursary is available to any Guider attending a Promise and Law or similar Training (not necessarily at a Training Centre).

No application form is necessary. District Commissioners should apply on behalf of their Guiders, after they have been accepted for the Training, direct to the Training Secretary, CHQ. Scottish Commissioners should write to Scottish Headquarters.

All applications must arrive at least **TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE TRAINING**. Bursaries cannot be issued at shorter notice or in retrospect.

Fees at Netherurd
Shared room, per day £2.00
Double room, per day £2.25
Single room, per day £2.50
Deposit - £1.00 Training fee for non-residents - 50p per weekend.

Fees at Broneirion
Shared room, per day £2.25
Double room, per day £2.50
Single room, per day £2.75
Deposit £1.00

CALENDAR

Courses

Campfire and Campfire Leaders/ Drama

Foxlease, 25/27 June

Ever been to Foxlease? Why not come? Who? Me? Yes, You!

Dying to do drama, but daren't? Come and try acting activities and games everyone can enjoy, get ideas for seasons and ceremonies and items for campfires, cosy and colossal. Give your unit a histrionic time when you get back!

Bursting to break the sound barrier? If you enjoy camp fire singing ... if to you it's one of the best things about Guiding ... if you seize any excuse for a good sing, or want to increase your repertoire, your skill - above all, if you could use your gift to help your District, come and join in this Prospective Campfire Leaders' weekend.

A good opportunity to visit a training centre with co-operation between groups, giving you two experiences for the price of one!

Young Leaders' Course

Broneirion, 16/21 August

The Welsh Training Centre at Llandinam, Powys, is the venue for the 1976 gathering of Young Leaders, whom we hope will come from all parts of the UK.

There will be opportunities to explore the Welsh countryside, take part in a choice of out-door activities, eg. canoeing, sailing, hill-walking, pony-trekking, archery, etc in addition to crafts and leadership skills for helping with Packs and Guide Units. Of course, there will be chances to make new friends. The course will also satisfy the residential requirements of the Gold D of E Award.

The cost this year is £10.50. Some Local Authorities will make grants to those attending leadership courses, so it is worth applying for them. **Reduced rail fare vouchers** are obtainable from Country/Region HQ for those under 18.

If you would like to come and share your ideas with others of your age (16-18 years) write to the **Guider-in-Charge, Broneirion** for an application form as soon as possible.

Ranger Guide/Venture Scout Pre-student Weekend Waddow, 9/11 July

All Venture Scouts and Ranger Guides about to enter college or university are warmly invited to attend the pre-college training weekend at Waddow from 9th to 11th July, 1976. This course, offering an introduction to life at a University/College of Education, is also open to first-year students, and guarantees to be a most enjoyable time for all. Applications should be made direct to the Secretary, Waddow Hall, Clitheroe, Lancs.

Camps & Holidays

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Both are available for bookings throughout the year. For details apply to the Secretary enclosing sae.

Beaverbrook Lodge

Applications for the period 1st October, 1976-31st March, 1977 will be accepted now. Write to the Secretary, Foxlease, enclosing deposit of £1.

Irene McKibbin Memorial Cottage, Lorne

A cottage available for Ranger holidays. For details apply to Miss Hilda Hirst, 119 Haypark Avenue, Belfast 9, enclosing sae.

Foxlease Camp-sites

Application for sites should be addressed to the Secretary and the envelope marked 'Camp'.

A 50p deposit and a foolscap sae should be enclosed.

Waddow Camp-sites

Applications for sites should be addressed to the Secretary and the envelope marked 'Camp'.

A 50p deposit and a foolscap sae should be enclosed.

Waddow Pack Holiday House

Applications for Pack Holidays should be sent to the Secretary. The application must be accompanied by a written recommendation from the Guider's CA or Pack Holiday Adviser and a foolscap sae enclosed.

Netherurd Camp-sites, Brownie House and Holiday Caravan

Applications for Camp-sites and the Brownie House will be taken now. During Scottish School holiday periods priority will be given to Scottish Packs.

A three-berth holiday caravan is also available.

Broneirion Camp-site and Brownie House

Applications for Camp-site and Brownie House should be sent to: Miss P Lynch, 3C Pentwyn Court, Whitchurch, Cardiff CF4 7BY enclosing sae.

Bookings for the Brownie House, outside school holiday, and also for Highgate, Ranger Adventure Cottage, should be sent to the Guider-in-Charge, Broneirion.

Ynsgain Camp-site, Criccieth, North Wales

Applications should be made to The Deputy General Secretary, CHQ enclosing a foolscap sae.

Lorne Camp-sites

Applications should be sent to Mrs F Hartley, 1 Station View, Carnalea, Bangor, County Down.

Ulster Camp-sites, Glen Road (nr Lorne)

Bookings should be sent to Mrs F R Lee, 45 Gortland Park, Belfast BT5 7NU enclosing sae.

Magilligan Camp-sites

For details of camp site and hut apply to Mrs R F Scott, Derrymore House, Limavady, Co Londonderry, enclosing sae.

Blackland Farm, East Grinstead, Sussex

For details of sites and Restrop, a furnished bungalow for 25 (sleeps 20) - write to the Warden enclosing sae.

Brownsea Island

Camp-sites (for Guides and Scouts) are available as well as The Villano (maximum accommodation 30). Apply to Mrs B B Dyke, Holm Oak, Tinneys Lane, Sherborne, Dorset, enclosing foolscap sae.

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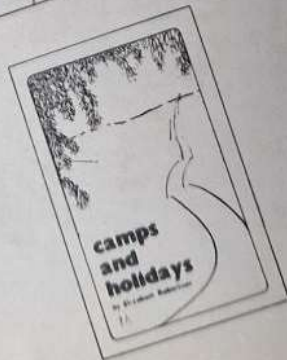
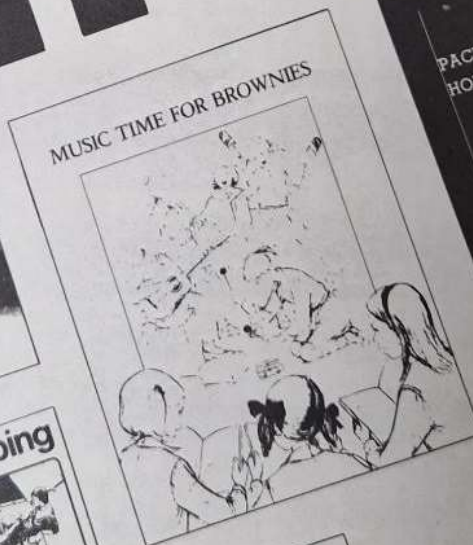
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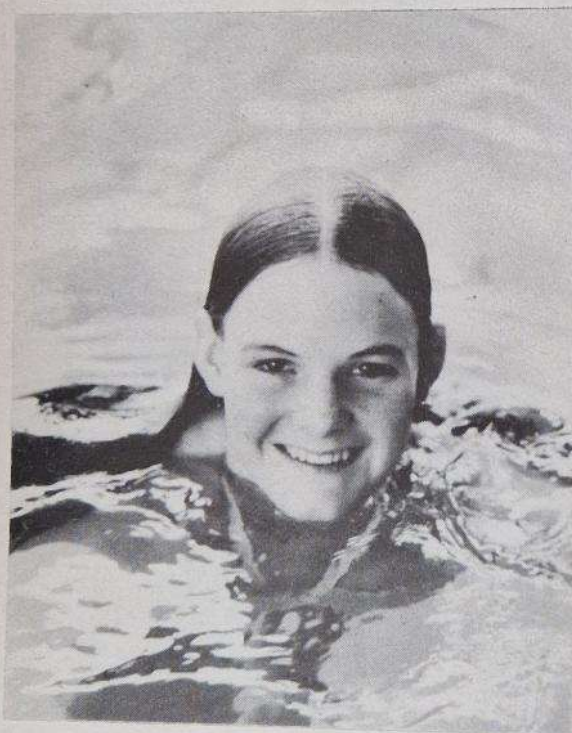
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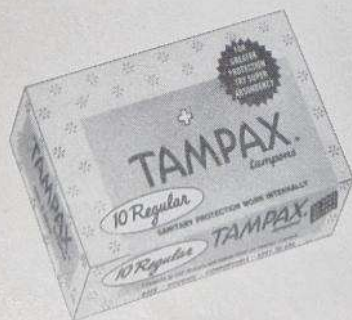
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Notes on Boating and Holidays Afloat

by Margaret Haggerty

A COMPANION BOOKLET to *Notes on Camps and Holidays* is now available in all Guide shops, price 25p. It is a must for any Unit planning to include boating in their Programme, and for any District Commissioner who has a Unit that might take part in any form of boating activity, and this really means every District

Commissioner needs a copy, as well as it being essential for County Outdoor Activities Adviser and Camp Adviser.

It contains the new Classifications of Waters and details of the Boating Qualifications which have now replaced the ones in existence prior to April 1976. In addition there is a variety of useful information including

items about clothing, boating for the handicapped, boating orders for pulling boats, insurance cover, river licences and access – the latter being particularly valuable to all canoeists. District Commissioners will find that their role in relation to boating activities, has been presented in one list instead of being scattered through various publications.

Reasons for changes in existing structures and implementations required



Guiders on a canoeing course

When the Boating Ad Hoc Committee first met there were three main factors which influenced the thinking: (1) The changes that had taken place in the opportunities for boating outside the Guide Association for canoeing, sailing and for hiring canal boats. (2) The development of now well-established National Qualifications of the BCU and RYA which are widely recognised, and the importance of encouraging our own members to achieve their qualifications. (3) The need to work more closely with the Scouts as so much boating at Ranger level is done jointly.

Consideration was given as to whether or not there was any need to continue with our own qualifications for sailing and canoeing, but it was felt that they are of considerable value and certainly have a part to play at the moment.

A clear distinction was drawn between standards of expertise and standards of reliability and leadership which would enable a Permit/Charge

holder to take the responsibility for the lives of other people.

As a consequence new qualifications have been worked out, linked closely to the Classification of Waters, which it is hoped will encourage progression as the Guider/Ranger increases in skill and experience, and which will either act as stepping stones to National Qualifications or, in reverse, allow the possession of a National Qualification to indicate a level of skill acceptable for the equivalent level of Guide Association Qualification. No-one may boat as a member of the Association without the appropriate Guide Association Qualification, which can only be awarded after the candidate has satisfactorily proved her skill and been recommended by her District Commissioner. All qualifications gained are endorsed for use on a certain class of water only. The actual area of water in which the qualification may be used will be specified by the Assistant Outdoor Activities Adviser, Boating.

It is a matter of some urgency that the Assistant Advisers Boating should clarify the waters in their own County, both for the benefit of the County's own Permit holders and for visiting Permit holders wishing to boat while on holiday. The new classification is very closely related to the classification now in use by the Scout Association and it is desirable that the work of classification is done in liaison with the Scout County Local Water Activities Committee.

The introduction of the Inland Waterways Cruising Permit and the Broads Yacht Cruising Permit will, it is hoped, enable Guiders to obtain a qualification to allow them to take

charge of suitable craft on the canals and Broads. This will increase the possibilities for boating holidays as well as legalising some existing activities.

Whenever boating people meet, endless discussions over technicalities always take place and there are always differing views. The committee recognises that, no doubt, pleasant hours may be passed examining the details of the tests after such a major restructuring, but they feel happy that, over all, a scheme has been introduced which will facilitate the type of boating taking place at the moment, while maintaining the accepted high standards of safety in boating expected in the Guide Association.



Rangers afloat

These tests are the ones now in operation. People with existing qualifications have not suddenly become unsafe to boat on water they have been using in the past, and they may continue for the time being to use their old qualifications. It is hoped that in the next year or two Counties, Countries and Regions will organise ways in which Permit and Charge holders may bring their qualifications into line with the new scheme.

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HOME & AWAY

Sailing Away

The Royal Yachting Association is the National Authority for yachting and as such has a wide variety of duties and responsibilities to all who participate in the sport.

As a body, it is largely concerned with the continuous development of all aspects of yachting, the acquisition of further inland sailing areas and keeps a close eye on all parliamentary bills, harbour revision orders, planning applications and a wide variety of legislation concerning boat owners. It regulates the planning and administration of yacht racing in the UK and manages the sport of powerboat racing.

Sailing courses to RYA standards are held at the National Sailing Centre, Cowes, and other centres. For lists of RYA recognised sailing schools, training publications, catalogue and membership, apply to the Subscriptions Department, Royal Yachting Association, Victoria Way, Woking, Surrey GU21 1EQ.

Water-news

The British Waterways Board publishes a newspaper eleven times a year, containing information and articles on recreational activities on the Board's systems - cruising, fishing, rambling, canoeing, natural history and industrial archaeology. The newspaper is available to the general public for an annual subscription of £1.50, and specimen copies and subscription forms may be obtained by writing to the Editor, Waterways News, British Waterways Board, Melbury House, Melbury Terrace, London NW1 6JX, telephone 01-262 6711, ext. 6386. Another British Waterways Board publication is the *Waterway Users' Companion 1976*. This is a 64-page edition with fully updated information on all aspects of a canal holiday; an invaluable aid to anyone thinking of using Britain's waterways, it comes at the modest price of 60p (75p by post from the Board).

Negatives, Keys, and Spectacles

Research Into Child Blindness has need of the following items from those people who no longer require them: old photographic negatives, both black and coloured; unwanted keys of any type or size, even rusty ones; and discarded spectacles, however old or shabby. The society sells these items to specialised outlets and uses the profit to buy medical equipment for the investigation of blindness in children. Please send any items you have managed to collect to Research Into Child Blindness, Garrick House, Drysdale Street, London N1. (01-739 3285).

In the Woods

Since its formation in 1919, the Forestry Commission has established approximately 2 million acres of woodland in the British Isles. It has also created seven forest parks including the Forest of Dean and Snowdonia. Camp-sites and forest trails have been provided, and the natural beauty of the settings alone make these ideal for holiday purposes. These new forests are the nation's property, and there-

fore demand vigilance on the part of every visitor, particularly with regard to the fire hazard involved. The Commission asks everyone to take special care with burning cigarettes and matches when visiting woodlands and to report any sight of fire. Free pamphlets (see please) about camp-sites and holiday accommodation in these forest parks are available from The Forestry Commission, 25 Savile Row, London W1X 2AY.

Camping Equipment

Black's Camping Division has brought out a new range of tents and sleeping bags for summer camping. The range includes a single pole nylon unit tent with a fully enclosed flysheet, a large rear bay, and a spacious enclosed front area; and a 'New Luxor' sleeping bag filled with 'continental' quality Dacron fibre, suitable for summer use. It comes in two sizes, one for adults (6' 2" x 2' 6") and the other for children (4' 3" x 2' 3"). For a brochure of the whole range of new equipment, write to the Publicity Manager, Blacks of Greenock Ltd, Ruxley Corner, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5AQ.

Summer Rambles

The National Trust's free list of Nature Walks contains 63 different walks this year in 27 counties in England and Wales and 5 in Northern Ireland. Ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to 5 miles in length, they cover anything from the North Yorkshire moors to the woodlands of Devon. Catering for the interests of nature lovers, there is much to see in the way of animal and bird life, and for archeologists, there are such items of interest as an Iron Age Fort at Croft Ambrey, Herefordshire and a Roman Goldmine at Ilam in Staffordshire. This free list is available (large see please) from Michael Beaumont, The National Trust, 42 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AS. Please quote GUIDER.

Historic Hostels

Many people associate youth hostelling with marathon hikes from one to the other, whereas in fact there are plenty of hostel-based holidays which do not involve this.

Correction

The address given in May GUIDER Home and Away for Link Information Services is incorrect. Their current address is 43 Albemarle Street, London W1.

In Memoriam

'Anyone who wore a trefoil was her friend,' someone said of Sister Frances, OSEH, who died on 4th February in Heathfield, Sussex. A grand-daughter of Nathaniel Woodard, who founded the Woodard Schools in the 20's and 30's, Sister Frances was known to many Guiders as Muriel Woodard.

She served as a Guider in Chipale in Zambia during the 1930's before entering the Order of St Elizabeth of Hungary in 1940. From 1952-57 she was in charge of the Community's work in Western Australia and she became the Reverend Mother of the Order in 1970. Sister Frances joined the Communities' Guild in 1969.

TWM

For example, there are 52 youth hostels around the coastlines of England and Wales, and many of the hostels are worth visiting for their own sakes; more than 30 are listed as being of architectural or historic interest. Many have been converted from other uses, including a Norman castle, a medieval manor, several mills, and even a redundant glove factory! A free information folder may be obtained from Youth Hostels Association, Trevelyan House, St Albans, Herts.

Foreign Exchange

The Educational Interchange Council receives many requests at this time of year from young people abroad to place them in British homes, either from those who wish to stay with a family here as a paying guest, or those who offer an exchange visit and home hospitality in their own country in return for a stay in Britain. The Council invites families, particularly those with young people, to write for further details of the Council's scheme, to the General Secretary, The Educational Interchange Council (Incorporated), 43 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DG.

Conserving the Countryside

One hundred and twenty holiday conservation projects have been organised by the National Conservation Corps this summer, located all over the British Isles and covering a wide range of work and site. Anyone over 16 years of age with reasonably good health can enrol in the National Corps. Wellies, old clothes and a warm sleeping bag are essential for all residential projects. Volunteers should apply to the National Conservation Corps, Zoological Gardens, Regents Park, London NW1 4RY.

Orienteering

Preparations are already in hand for the staging of this year's Karrimor International Mountain Marathon, the world's toughest orienteering event, involving an excruciating two-day test of physical and navigational skills, in which competitors are required to carry full equipment, tents, sleeping gear, food and cooking equipment for two days over mountain terrain. The date for the British Marathon is 23rd/24th October, but the venue will not be announced until a short time before. For more information, write to Karrimor International Ltd, Avenue Parade, Accrington, Lancashire BD5 6PR.

On Thinking Day Leyton District and L.O.B. County lost a dearly loved and much admired Guider, Miss Saidie Isaacs. Saidie who had been severely crippled since birth ran a Brownie Pack in Leyton for many years. She was always bright and cheerful and a wonderful inspiration to many, old and young. What we all thought of Saidie can best be summed up in the words of one of the Trainers who said, 'And the Brownies loved her so.' Mrs Grace Burgess, a close friend of Saidie Isaacs, passed away on 14th February. Grace had been in the Movement about 50 years, and was a Guide Guider and secretary. A memorial service was held for these two friends in the Methodist Church, Leyton on 29th February.

KMM

HQ NOTICES

CHQ AWARDS

MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

Star of Merit

Mrs E Lawton, Ranger Guider, 55th Doncaster (St Luke's) RGU, South Yorkshire.

Marcia Patterson, Patrol Second, 3rd Carrickfergus Company, County Antrim.

We regret to report that Marcia has died since the award was presented.

Daphne Robinson, Guide, 2nd Rushden (St Mary's) Company, Northamptonshire.

Daphne is a friendly young lady, who has coped extremely well with illness and surgery and whose cheerful disposition and outlook on life have been a tremendous encouragement both to patients and staff at the hospital to which she was admitted. She faced up to her operations and tackled her rehabilitation with extreme bravery, never complaining, always displaying a sense of humour and complete lack of self-pity. She is remarkably independent and unselfish, always thinking of others before herself. Daphne has been an enthusiastic member of the Movement from the age of seven and is considered a shining example.

1975 Annual Report

The Association's Annual Report for 1975 was presented to the members of the Council at the Annual General Meeting in St James's Palace on 19th May. It includes a message from the President, HRH The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, the report of the hosting of the World Conference by Mrs Derek Parker Bowles, CBE, and information about many other events during the year from the rise in membership figures to the Unit Guiders' Conference and Folk Fest 7 from Mrs Owen Walker, JP.

As the most comprehensive and up-to-date survey of facts and photographs about Guiding, this Report should be read by every adult member of the Movement and should also be distributed as widely as possible amongst the general public so that the aims and activities of the Association may be better known.

Copies are available now from Press and Public Relations Department, CHQ,

at 5p per copy plus 11p for postage and packing. Numbers are limited and orders will be dealt with in strict rotation.

Ranger Diamond Jubilee Competition

Among the decisions made at the Think-In held at CHQ in March, over 300 Rangers and Young Leaders from all over the UK voted to have a Competition to design a simple bound cloth badge for wearing on blankets, anoraks, jeans etc in 1977. Suggestions were also made that this design could be used as a motif for the shirts and sweat shirts. Please state on your entry whether you think your design could be used for this or if you would rather have a slogan. If you prefer the latter, please suggest one! Entries (size 10" x 8" only) to be submitted to Ranger Diamond Jubilee Competition, Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT by 30th September, 1976. Name, address and Unit must appear on the back of the art work. The judges' decision will be final.

Orders and cheques

Members of the Movement who send orders to CHQ or to the Association's Trading Service at Broadheath, should ensure that cheques which accompany the orders, or are subsequently paid for orders, are fully inscribed:

'Pay to the order of The Girl Guides Association' and that the exact amount is written in words and figures which cannot be subjected to alteration.

If the amount is unknown then a note should be written at the bottom of the cheque: 'Not to exceed £....'

Mail sometimes goes astray and your protection is in ensuring that your cheque is correctly made out. If you do not know the exact price of an item to be ordered please ask to be advised. A 6½p stamp might save you a lot of money.

Our Chalet

Booking dates for 1976/77
19th December - 2nd January - Christmas and New Year
2nd January - 13th March - International Ski-ing Holidays. During January/February the CHQ Ski Party will be arranged.
13th March - 26th March - Friends of Our Chalet and

Trefoil Guild Session
27th March - 13th April - Easter
1st June - 11th June - Holiday Session with Friends of Our Chalet Session
14th June - 25th June - Holiday Session
28th June - 9th July - Holiday Session and Mountain Walking and Climbing Sessions for Beginners
12th July - 27th July - Juliette Low Gathering - World Association event
31st July - 11th August - Holiday Session and Advanced Mountain Walking and Climbing Session
14th August - 25th August - Holiday Session and Music Session
28th August - 8th September - Holiday Session
11th September - 22nd September - Holiday Session for Friends of Our Chalet and Headquarters Parties
CHQ Summer Holiday Party
10th - 23rd September (including travel)
25th September - 6th October - Holiday Session for Trefoil Guilds/St George's Guilds

All members of the Movement of 14 years and over are welcome to stay at Our Chalet. The programme during the sessions is based on the out-of-doors. Further information is available from your County International Adviser.

Brownie Pennant Poles

These have now been increased in price because in future they will be of a better quality. The poles will be of the same length and shape but will have a brass fitting in the middle, and also at the bottom of the pole. The wood and varnishing will be of a higher standard than previously. These poles will be in stock from the end of April onwards. Price £3.75.

Guider's Suit Pattern

This pattern will be available from the beginning of May in all sizes from 10 to 26. Price 60p.

Guide Handbook in Braille and Large Print

As from the 1st July 1976 the price of these two books will be increased to 65p, which is the same as for the ordinary editions.

Books on sale or return

This service is now being dealt with entirely by The Girl Guides Association Trading

Service, Atlantic Street, Broadheath, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 5EG. Please allow six weeks when making your first enquiry; collection from Broadheath can be arranged if you so wish.

Trading Service

Some members have told us that their orders have taken a long time to execute. Please, if you feel your order has not had proper attention, write with full details to The Comptroller at Headquarters where it will be looked into immediately.

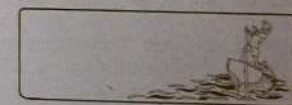
Camper's Licence

The Scout Committee of the Council and the Executive Committee of the Girl Guides Association have agreed in principle to the following recommendation:

'That in order to facilitate joint camping/holidays for Venture Scouts and Ranger Guides, a warranted Scout Leader shall be able to gain the Camper's Licence (Ranger).'

This proposal cannot be implemented fully until the details have been worked out, and arrangements for testing by the appropriate GGA personnel agreed.

Information about this decision has already been circulated to the Commissioners and Advisers most immediately concerned.



Good wishes

We send good wishes to all our delegates who depart during the month for international camps and other exciting events overseas:

Intercontinental Congress '76, Philadelphia - Eight Rangers/Guiders will represent the counties of London North West, Oxfordshire, Staffordshire, Humberside North, Wiltshire North, City of Dundee, Caernarvonshire and North Belfast. The Congress coincides with the American Bicentennial Celebrations.

Tres Condados - Two Rangers from Scotland fly to California to join American Girl Scouts on a Greyhound bus trip across the States from Santa Barbara to Pennsylvania and return, with stops for sight-seeing and hospitality on the way.

Goodbye London, Hello Broadheath!

The Mayor of Trafford, Councillor George H Carnall, FCIS, and Mrs Owen Walker, JP, are shown the complexities of the computer by its operator, Jennifer Griffin.



IN THE LATTER HALF of 1974 it was announced to the staff that owing to lack of space, and in order to make long-term economies, the trading section of the CHQ family would have to be re-located at 'some other place'. How the rumours flew! Peterborough, Widnes, Croydon, Runcorn, Milton Keynes, Colchester, Crewe, to mention but a few!

But at last the secret was out – Broadheath, Altrincham, was to be the destination. Some of the staff had never even heard of the place! Maps were produced, redundancy talk became real, plans were laid for the actual moving, and dates were announced.

Notices were put in *GUIDER* giving dates of removal; asking the Movement for help by ordering early for Christmas; manufacturers were bidden not to deliver; deadlines for receiving Depot and Trade orders were set, department supervisors made plans for the move of stock, office equipment, records etc., etc; and as 100 per cent of the staff would be changing their jobs, help had to be given with redundancy problems; some staff could be found jobs within the departments remaining in London; many others, with years of service, could not be re-deployed – and Christmas was approaching.

The move was planned to be in three stages – Stage A, an initial removal of a quantity of office furniture; and at the same time a certain number of key staff already recruited at Broadheath, to come to London for training.

Stage B, the actual removal of the warehouse stock, the packing department and all their equipment, and more office furniture.

Stage C, the removal of the Mail Order and Buying offices and the temporary transfer of key staff from London to help with the training of the full staff at Broadheath.

On the whole, most people responded to the appeal and ordered early – but it was not easy to maintain 'business-as-usual' when half the staff had had the traumatic experience of receiving redundancy notices; the pressure of work was very high and desks were in short supply! It was difficult to remember laws 7, 8, 9 and 10 when working overtime 4 nights a week, and taking work home at the weekend so that the services part of trading could be maintained!

When the day dawned for stage B to be operational, all the stock had been checked and packed; assembly and packing areas were dismantled and as promised all orders that had been received by



The Chief Commissioner with a Brownie, Guide and Ranger of the District.



The cake, made by Trefoil Guild Member, Mrs Leah Fell.



Left to right: Mr W G Morris, The Mayor of Trafford, Mrs P M Toll, and the Chief Commissioner.



Mrs Margaret Sutcliffe, with her flower arrangement.

5th December had been despatched.

CHQ shop then took over the task of despatching orders to those who had not read our appeals and Mail Order and Buying offices started to pack for stage C of 'The Move'.

The layout of the new Warehouse had been carefully planned, and the stock was put straight on to the shelves ready for use. It must be remembered that not only was everything moved, but in order to prepare for a new computerised system in January 1976 every one of 1500 items had to be re-coded, and we went metric!

The closing days of 1975 saw stock-taking in progress at Broadheath, and the sealing of cartons and cartons of filing at London (VAT regulations require 3 years of full records to be kept).

On 5th January, the 8.55 train left Euston and on board were four London staff who were seconded to Broadheath to help with the training and transition to the Trading Service. At Manchester Piccadilly station they met another colleague from the badge unit at Birmingham.

The Broadheath staff arranged transport for the London staff – the Association building is a long way down Atlantic Street, and like the ocean it is named after, buses do not run along it!

The training staff were staying in an hotel in Timperley, and every evening 'trouble-shooting' chats were held in one or other of the rooms. The problems and frustrations were sorted out, ideas exchanged, spirits uplifted, and at times, erudite conversations took place.

Things were slowly falling into place; it was a major setback to discover that the computer would not be ready to go 'live' for a number of weeks; it was a setback when a 10 ton lorry of handbooks arrived and it was discovered that the fork-lift unloader would not go through the doorway of the warehouse; it was a setback when it was discovered that three more typewriters were urgently needed; it was a setback when the brass ruler for measuring material could not be found.

But it was a happy team that worked together. Everyone liked the building at Broadheath and realised how much better it was to have everything on one floor under one roof.

But like any new venture, there were teething troubles for it is not a job that can be assimilated quickly. Some members of the Movement have been very understanding, regrettably others have not been. But given a few more months, it is confidently predicted that the Broadheath Trading Service will be very efficient.

C.H.Q. STAFF VACANCIES

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THE GIRL GUIDE FRIENDSHIP FUND

WHAT A REALLY LOVELY TIME we were given – those of us who were lucky enough to go to Woodlarks in Surrey on 13th March, and to the Pestalozzi Children's Village in Sussex on 3rd April. It was good to see so many Brownies, Guides and Rangers from local Units there to represent *all* those throughout the UK who had given so generously to our appeal at Christmas time. Thank *you*, Guiders, for *your* help too. If only you could have seen the happiness on the faces of the handicapped girls – mostly in wheelchairs – at Woodlarks when they actually saw our cheque for £6,100 given to complete the building improvements to their residential Workshop! They were really thrilled.

Then at the Pestalozzi Village again everyone seemed delighted with our gift of £4,350. In the words of Mr Randall: 'We are so deeply appreciative of the magnificent effort expended by all concerned in raising this splendid sum to help our children. Our warmest thanks and best wishes to you all . . .'

And Mr Randall, Head of Appeals at the Village, has given an open invitation to any Ranger, Guide or Brownie Unit to visit the Village at any time. He says they would be most welcome. Also, he is more than willing to come and talk to any group if any Guiders care to write to him and arrange this. (Address: **Sedlescombe, Battle, Sussex TN33-ORR**)

Guatemala. Quite a number of you have already sent a contribution – Unit or District wise – to the GGFF for aid to Guatemala. In my letters of thanks I have said that we were waiting to hear further news from the Guide Association of this country. We did get the good news that no Guide or Brownie lives were lost in the terrible earthquake disaster; since then we have heard through the World Bureau of WAGGGS that the Guides have been, and are helping a great deal with relief work in the devastated area and now they plan to 'put on the roofs of some of the houses and buildings that were wrecked.' So the money from the GGFF Disasters Fund into which *your* contributions are put has gone to the Guatemalan Guides for the splendid work that they are doing for their devastated country. Donations may

still be sent to us for this purpose because we may well send further aid, but in any case what we have already sent (£500) has rather drained the Disasters Fund. We do like to have something in 'the kitty' ready for any sudden emergency and disaster that may affect Brownies and Guides in any part of the world, and we would like to help the Guatemalan Guides to repair their badly damaged swimming pool because this is one of their main sources of income.



Guide camp at Accra

Present Projects. Do please send for the special Information Sheets (one giving up-to-date news of the GGFF and one with details of the countries we are now specially helping), and the small handy posters which are just right for notice boards etc and for publicising fund-raising efforts on our behalf. All we ask for is a postage stamp please!! And that you will remember the Girl Guide Friendship Fund when you are in camp, or having summer fetes and events – remember the many needs of our Guide and Brownie friends in poorer lands. All correspondence and donations to: **Girl Guide Friendship Fund, Girl Guides Association, 17 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1 OPT.**

The Three G's

by Sheila Graber



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Joint Units. Do they work? A conference for Leaders and Commissioners on 25th/26th September, 1976, in Warrington, organised by SAGGA. Details: L Lesley, 70B Yew Tree Road, Liverpool 9.

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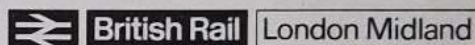
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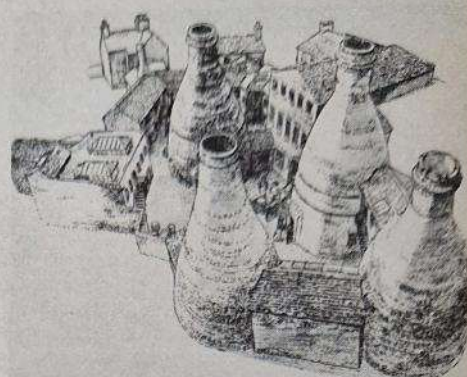
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Clayhanger Country

by Jean Rush



DO YOU KNOW what a saggar maker's bottom knocker is? If not, then you have certainly never paid a visit to the Gladstone Pottery Museum. This unusual occupation, which twice beat the panel on the old TV programme 'What's My Line?', was an essential part of pottery making before mechanisation reduced most of the process to switches and buttons.

A visitor to the Potteries today may well be expecting to see the furnaces and slagheaps which Arnold Bennett described in his trilogy, now featured in the popular TV series 'Clayhanger.' Although town landscaping has swept away many of the scars of the Industrial Revolution, and the slagheaps are now grassy slopes, all the world-famous names in pottery still survive, along with forty of the 2,500 bottle ovens. Josiah Wedgwood, Spode, Coalport and Doulton are all there, and their potteries can be visited by appointment, but the processes are highly mechanised. The surviving bottle ovens have not belched out their smoke for many a year, but they are preserved as part of the heritage of the area, which is still the world's largest producer of pottery.

Since coal and ironstone working began in North Staffordshire in 1282, this area has made its living from pottery — nearly 700 years of history. Up to the end of the Second World War the familiar industrial landscape remained intact, but with slum clearance and reconstruction the landmarks rapidly disappeared. In 1971, a group of eminent pottery manufacturers stepped in to save the demolition, at the very last minute, of one of the most characteristic 'potbanks', the Gladstone Works in Longton. H & R Johnson provided the money to buy the site, and a Trust was formed to plan and finance the formation of a Living Museum in the old pottery. Since then, with the support of major pottery companies, the works have been carefully restored, piece by piece, often with the installation of machinery from other derelict facilities.

Visitors to the Gladstone Museum can now see not only a pottery preserved as it was 100 years ago, but in many cases craftsmen actually working with the old equipment. The pots are not fired here, so one can actually see from the inside how a

bottle oven works. Incidentally, this is where the saggar maker's bottom knocker comes in: saggars are containers in which the ware is placed before going into the oven. The bottom knocker's job was to flatten the bottom of the saggar so that they could be stacked one on top of the other inside the oven. A picturesque name for a most tedious and repetitive job, carried out under primitive conditions as the reconstructed Saggar Maker's Shop indicates. Those who press buttons to fire the ovens in the modern factories must be thankful that they weren't in the business 100 years ago, when it took two days to fill an oven with 40,000 items, three days to fire, and three days to cool down. All this time the oven could not be left, and at the end of the process the workers had to bind their hands and feet so as to go into the oven and start emptying it before it had completely cooled.



This and other parts of the process are explained in the course of a fascinating guided tour which is available to all visitors to the Museum. In addition to the production process, one can see galleries

with permanent exhibitions of decorative ceramic tiles, and sanitary ware. Particularly interesting is a section devoted to the history of sanitation in this country; I wonder how many of us realised the origin of the modern word 'loo'. According to this exhibition, it probably comes from the phrase 'gardez l'eau', anglicised as 'gardy loo'. This cry was used in the 16th century when householders emptied their slop pails from upstairs windows, into the street below. We've come a long way since those days, but when one sees the beautifully decorated washbasins and 'loos' of the 18th and 19th century in the exhibition, one can't help wondering if modern bathrooms need to be quite so stark to be efficient.

A bonus for visitors to the Museum between now and the end of June, is the Clayhanger Exhibition, consisting of costumes, sets and props from the TV series, scenes from which were actually filmed at the Gladstone Pottery. Admission charges for the Museum are 50p for adults, 20p for children, students and pensioners; Saturday morning 10.30 am — 1.30 pm half price all round. This includes a detailed hour and a half's conducted tour. Additional charge for the Clayhanger Exhibition (only reached via the Museum and open only until the end of June) is 15p for adults, 10p for children, students and pensioners.

The Museum is open Tuesday to Saturday 10.30 am to 5.30 pm, and 2 to 6 pm on Sundays and Bank Holidays. In addition, party visits may be arranged between 6.30 and 9.30 pm on Wednesday evenings until 29th September, and parties may also arrive at 9.30 am on weekdays by prior arrangement. Parties pay reduced rates. Write to: Gladstone Pottery Museum, Uttoxeter Road, Longton, Stoke on Trent, or phone (0782) 319232.

Although hardly an idyllic holiday centre, 'Clayhanger country' is well worth a visit. Faced with an upsurge of interest in the district as a result of the popular TV series, locals seem torn between pride in Arnold Bennett, their most famous literary figure, and anxiety to live down the grimy image which his work has given them in the eyes of the world.

WHAT'S ON

Exhibitions

The exhibition, *Nomad and City*, at the Museum of Mankind in Burlington Gardens, is one section of the **World of Islam Festival**, running in London from April onwards. It presents two very different and essentially contrasting ways of life, much as they still exist today in Arabia, the birthplace of Islam. The exhibition has been staged to give the greatest possible emphasis to the lifestyles of both the bedouin of north Arabia, and the city dwellers of San'a', an ancient city in the mountains of south-west Arabia. Main features include a reconstruction of a native 'suq' market, complemented by a tape of street sounds in the background; a similar effect is achieved with the representation of the interior of a mosque, accompanied by a tape of chanting. These tapes add greatly to the atmosphere of these scenes of every day life, lending an air of vitality to the whole. Additionally there are displays of costumes, jewellery, a bedouin tent complete with furnishings, and a lavish reconstruction of a house interior, typical of the old houses in San'a'. Much valuable information is given through the extensive use of photographs, and an audio-visual presentation of the



Islamic city of Fez, in Morocco. Clearly, a lot of thought has gone into the planning and presentation of this exhibition; the end result is an authentic recreation of these two worlds, and at the same time a sheer spectacle of sight and sound. **VJC**

'Elizabeth R'

An exhibition of costumes from the successful BBC TV's award-winning series *'Elizabeth R'* is on show at **Hatfield House, Hertfordshire**, until 7th October. British Rail offer an inclusive party ticket from London incorporating rail fare and entrance to the house, for details of which apply to Mr J Lambeth, Divisional Manager's Office, Great Northern House, 79-81 Euston Road, London NW1 2RT.

Theatre

The National Theatre's first new production in the Lyttelton Theatre will be Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit*, directed by Harold Pinter. The play opens on 24th June, and prior to this date, Bill Bryden's production of *The Playboy of the Western World* returns to the National Theatre repertoire for seven performances only. For all details contact **The Press Office, National Theatre, South Bank, London, SE1 9PX**.



Stephen Rea and Susan Fleetwood in *The Playboy of the Western World*.

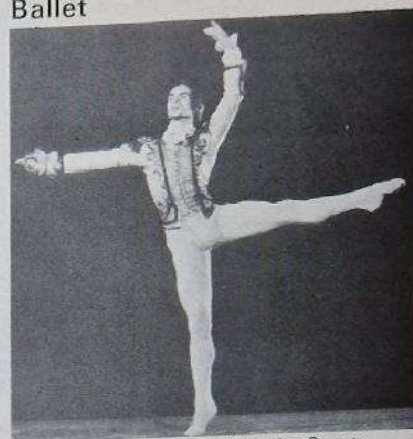
On 21st April, **St George's Elizabethan Theatre** opened in Islington. It has been created to provide a permanent home for Shakespeare's plays in London. During June, Peter McNery and Sarah Badel will star as Romeo and Juliet, and Eric Porter plays the melancholic Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*. From 5th July, *Richard III* will be included in the repertoire. This is a new enterprise for which the performing company receives no subsidy, so it relies substantially on public support. All details will be supplied by the Box Office, **St George's Theatre, 49 Tufnell Park Road, Islington, London N7 (01-609 1198)**.

The **Thorndike Theatre** in Leatherhead, Surrey, named after the famous actress Dame Sybil Thorndike, celebrates its 25th anniversary with a summer festival (21st June - 31st July) at the theatre itself, which is situated nineteen miles south of London.

Commonwealth Institute

Events at the **Commonwealth Institute** this month include the *Steelband Music Festival* (4th and 11th); the *Balalaika Dance Group's* presentation of songs, dances and musical items from the USSR (18th and 19th); a lecture on *Islam and the Ottoman Empire* (2nd), and a further lecture on *Islamic Art* (16th). These lectures, and others on various aspects of the Islamic culture and life style are intended to link up with the large **World of Islam Festival** launched by the **British Museum**. Further details of the Institute's programme may be obtained from the **Public Relations Department, Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 6NQ (01-602 3252 ext 106)**.

Ballet



Rudolf Nureyev in *The Sleeping Beauty*.

Rudolf Nureyev returns to the **London Coliseum** for a season, appearing with three different outstanding Companies. He is to dance his own production of *The Sleeping Beauty* with the **London Festival Ballet**, the ballet which he created for them in 1975. Then follows two weeks of his dancing in six different ballets including *Apollo*, *Aureole*, and *Songs of a Wayfarer*, with specially chosen friends from all over the world. His season closes with the **Scottish Ballet** in July. For details write to **The Box Office, London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London, WC2N 4ES**.

Sport

From 18th-20th June the grounds of **Cardiff Castle** will be given over to the **Benson and Hedges International Show-jumping Championships**. This will be the occasion at which the seven short-listed riders chosen for the **British Olympic Team** will compete in a special Olympic test.

Nationwide

Birmingham. Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, *Chorale: Song of a Summer Night*, (5), Town Hall.
Cardiff. English National Opera, *Carmen*, (1, 3, 5), New Theatre.
Chester. Atarah's Band children's concert, (12), Gateway Theatre.
Chichester. Drama Festival, (1st June - 18th September), Chichester Festival Theatre.
Eastbourne. Pre-Wimbledon International Tennis Tournament, (14-19), Devonshire Park, College Road.
Edinburgh. Atarah's Band children's concert, (12), Usher Hall.
Hemel Hempstead. The Cellar Jazz Club, (6, 13, 20, 27), Old Town Hall, High Street.
Hinckley. Hinckley Carnival, (7-12), Coventry Road.
Leicestershire. Selections of Costumes from award-winning ATV series, *Edward VII*, (1-30), Morris Dancing (6). Both at Belvoir Castle.
Lincoln. USA Bicentennial: New England and Virginia Exhibition (1st June - 30th September), Lincoln library and cathedral.
Northumberland. Corbridge Steam Engine Rally and Old Time Fair, (5, 6), Corbridge Show Ground.
Nottingham. Rowing Regatta, (5), National Water Sports Centre, Holme Pierrepont.
Ramsgate. Father's Day Pram Race, (20), Ramsgate Station.
Skegness. Medieval Banquets, (3, 10, 17, 24), Tudor Restaurant. Donkey Racing, (17, 24), Cricket Ground, Richmond Drive.
Southampton. English National Opera, *Tosca* (2, 5) and *Der Rosenkavalier* (3), Gaumont Theatre.

REVIEWS

A Matter of Life and Death, by Dr P N Paterson-Brown, 25p.

I was delighted to see, when reading this booklet, that the author feels strongly that the common first aid emergency can, and should be, dealt with by anyone, however young.

Brownies, Guides and Rangers as well as Guiders would do well to purchase a copy and read it through at least twice. It is very brief, only thirteen pages, but these are packed full of information with clear illustrations and concise text.

Every year unnecessary deaths occur because someone, somewhere, did not know a simple first aid procedure. Who knows, you might one day be called upon to help a casualty. Merely by turning a patient on his front, rather than leaving him lying on his back, might be the one vital factor which saves his life. I cannot recommend this booklet too highly. Obtainable from Guide Shops, Guide Mail Order or from Dr Paterson-Brown, 'Norwood', Hawick, Roxburghshire, Scotland. **AMM**

Walks in Berkshire, by Vera Burden. Spurbooks, 75p.

This pocket-sized volume of 64 pages describes in great detail (one could never get lost) the routes to be taken in the twenty different walks it lists. It appears to have been written for those unaccustomed to walking. One route is described as 'splendid walking country, the footpaths being well-trodden and in good order', a statement sufficient to make many walkers shun it. Thirteen of the walks are 4 to 5 miles long; the longest is 7 and the shortest are three of 3½ miles each. In the circumstances it seems barely worth listing inns and other places of refreshment at the end of each chapter. The scales of the maps vary. Broken lines indicate the route to be taken. It is a pity that the notes at the beginning of each chapter are so brief. With distances to cover so short, attention should be drawn to all natural, archaeological and other points of interest. **EC**

Purnell's Concise Encyclopedia of Nature, by Michael Chinery et al. Purnell, £2.95.

This large book is said to contain 1000 illustrations, many of which are in colour and

some of which are splendid. Obviously selection has been necessary in the dictionary of animals which is followed by some good ecological chapters and sections of general interest, eg the age of fossils, the origins of man, life in northern forests, etc, and preceded by chapters dealing with the living organism, plant physiology, the plant kingdom, plant adaptations, a dictionary of flower families, animal physiology, animal behaviour and so on. Any young person with a leaning towards natural history would profit by possession of this book. **EC**

The Birdwatcher's Key, by Scott and Forrest. Warne, £2.25.

This is a stoutly bound, truly pocket-sized volume of some 270 pages, inclusive of 112 colour plates. These depict 382 of the species which occur in a curiously selected area of North-west Europe which lies north of a line from the estuary of the Gironde to Basle and west of a line running north from Basle to the Southern Baltic and thence to the North Cape. The book is clearly intended for beginners (although more advanced bird-watchers would find it useful) and besides giving information on birds it contains notes on optical instruments, clothing and a brief glossary. The method of identifying unknown species from the key provided seems to work well (although testing it by checking on species one already knows is not quite the same as trying to identify something new). The text is accurate, as one would expect, but one doubts the value of the necessarily brief notes on some of the songs. The plates, although adequate, in some cases lack colour and in a few do not reach the standard of realism one can obtain nowadays. On the other hand the price is reasonable, and the book is a good buy. **EC**

Pilgrims Guide to the South West, by David Pepin. A R Mowbray & Co Ltd, 95p.

This is the first guide in a series which will cover England, and the next one will deal with the South East of the country. Each guide will be divided into a number of pilgrimage centres with all kinds of tourists in mind. Each centre is explained in its historical and geographical setting and the map shows places of interest near the centre. In

addition to travel information, addresses and telephone numbers at the end of each section, there is also an index for the complete book. At 95p this concise guide is excellent value and easy to follow. **OMC**

Canoeing Complete, edited by Brian Skilling. Kaye & Ward Ltd, £2.40.

This is a standard work, with contributions by many specialists. It covers the whole range of the sport of canoeing from basic skills, simply explained, to advanced techniques, competitions, etc. It whets the appetite and the contents are of interest to novice and expert alike. It would be a worthwhile book for an enthusiast, and a useful reference book in a Ranger Unit Library. Many aspects of the sport, however, are covered far too deeply for the needs of the average Guide. I would like to draw attention to the chapter on safety, by Oliver Cock, which should be read by all considering taking people canoeing. For the most part, however, total beginners would be better with *An Introduction To Canoeing For Beginners* by Alan Bye, **MAH**

Double Quick Gardens/ Making Noises by Helen Kirk/Making Simple Clocks by Marjorie Stapleton/Playing with Torchlight, by Colin & Moria Maclean. Studio Vista, £1.95 each.

Have you ever been stuck for something different to give the children to do on a wet day, or when they're bored with conventional things? Then these 'Something to do' books could be the answer:

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With all four of these books, youngsters learn while they are playing. **AJT**

Modern Small Boat Sailing, by John Hart. G Bell & Sons, £3.50.

This is far more of a reference book than a reading book. It is a manual intended for sailors considering RYA qualifications, though it does deal with basic techniques. **MAH**

Concorde ... The International Race for Supersonic Passenger Transport, by John Costello and Terry Hughes. Angus and Robertson, £3.80.

Whatever the future of the Concorde may be, we at least have, in this interesting and well-illustrated book, a record of its history from its conception to its birth. In layman's language the authors explain the technological evolution of the supersonic against the background of governmental manipulation and international politics. So if you like flying and monsters that fly you will be able, through the medium of this book, to travel swiftly from the dream of the impossible to the reality of the miraculous. **AHMB**

Moths in Colour, by Leif Lyneborg. Blandford Press, £2.50.

Moths to some people means protecting woollen materials against them; to gardeners it means spraying against caterpillars, and to most of us it means remembering to draw the curtains on summer evenings when the lights go on, so that the silly insects don't singe their wings. A cursory look even at the cover of this compact and comprehensive volume, however, leaves no room for doubt about the beauty and infinite variety of moths. After the introduction to the book, more than 330 moths of the UK and Western Europe are well illustrated in full colour. The main text is then devoted to short notes on each variety, outlining the characteristics, the distribution, the habitat and a number of additional details of considerable interest. At a cost of £2.50 this is a book for either the enthusiast or for the company library or county outdoor centre. I found a beautiful Lime Hawkmoth last year, in broad daylight on the great west door of Ely Cathedral - it would have been easy to identify it from this book. **ECH**

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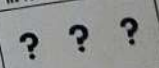
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