

GUIDER



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November 1976
20p



Henry Martin - the Guides' Fairy Godmother.



It was a familiar problem — the Guides never quite had sufficient funds. What with all the Company's activities to organise, Susan, the Guider, couldn't spend enough time to make their fund raising really successful.

When she talked over the Company's problem with Henry, her bank manager, he said, "Why not use the Webb Ivory Fund Raising Service — it helped us put a new roof on our local church."

Henry then explained the Webb Ivory service, and offered to help the Guides as well. "I'll get hold of the details for you right away."

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So did Henry's team of helpers. People were so impressed with Webb Ivory's service they wanted to carry on the good work.

Susan was delighted. Funds were comfortably ahead of target — and there was more time for other duties too.

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GUIDER

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

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COVER

Red Indian-style greetings from Brownies who took part in a wigwam building competition at the ROADAYO organised by Middlesex East Guides and Greater London-North Scouts to raise funds for NORTHERN HEIGHTS, their joint activity centre/campsite, and also to celebrate the Cub Scout Diamond Jubilee.
Photograph by Mary Wheeler.

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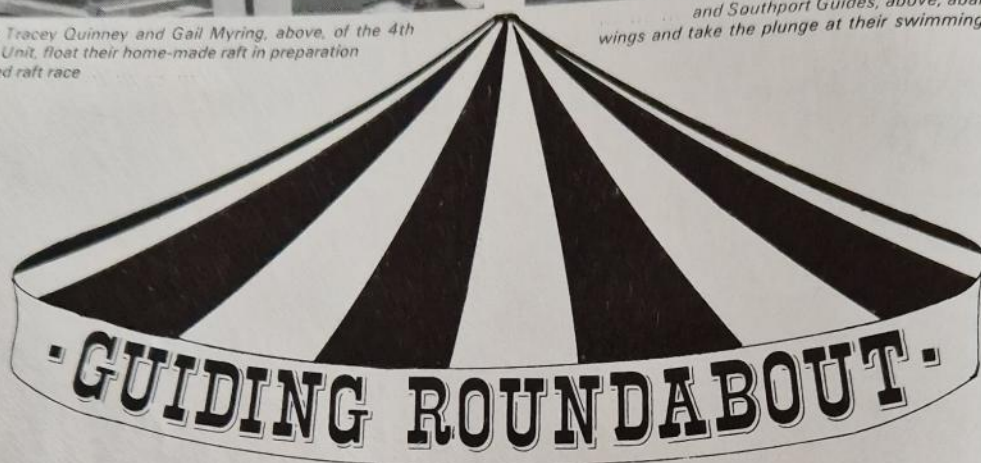
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Water Babies Tracey Quinney and Gail Myring, above, of the 4th Olton Ranger Unit, float their home-made raft in preparation for a sponsored raft race.



... and Southport Guides, above, abandon their water wings and take the plunge at their swimming gala.



All change, above left, as cub Martin Rose swaps headgear with Brownie Alison Reeves, during a fund-raising event in their home town of Rushden.



On the move: two Wendover Brownies, above centre, share the load of this heavy suitcase.



Like mother, like daughter, above, is the case for Mrs Pauline Beighton (centre) and her daughter Sarah (left) who both made their Promise and were welcomed into the 1st Dhekelia Guide Coy, Cyprus by Mrs Gwen Brocksom (right).



... and loading up the coach, right, is all part and parcel of the fortnight's holiday enjoyed by the 6th Barnes Guides in Immenhausen, Germany.



The 1st Stonehaven Coy. above, thoroughly enjoyed their beach barbecue at Stonehaven earlier this year.

Above right, Brownies from Hartlepool on Pack Holiday at Spennymoor, where they got their first taste of independence – though some of the well-loved faces from home went with them!

The Mail, Hartlepool



North Herts Gazette

That sinking feeling ... what chance has baby Lucy, above, when three Letchworth Ranger Guides are there to supervise her bathtime, as part of their work towards a service badge?

The 4th Thorpe Bay Guides and the 10th Southend Brownies, right, got together last Hallowe'en and had a ghostly evening!

Below, a Guides' Own Service at Warwickshire's Safari '76, held near Long Compston.



Southend Standard

Newcastle Chronicle & Journal



Above, Mrs Pat Fullerton, a member of the work party which modernised this lovely shepherd's cottage at Whittonstall Campsite.

Attempting to fly without a broomstick? The 1st Grindon Guides and Brownies, below, watched the school's pantomime witch with amusement early this year.



Sunderland Echo



Brenda Smith

A Step In Time

by Clare Whinnett
and Janet Hilton

ON SATURDAY, 21st AUGUST, 1976, Guiders, Rangers and Guides from London and South East England, a few from other Counties and two from overseas, converged on Foxlease to participate in an Arts and Crafts Week which would include dance, drama, music and handcraft groups. Guiders and Rangers were accommodated in the House or Beaverbrook Lodge, while Guides camped on North Meadow, Orchard and Western camp-sites.

During the Week each group worked on its individual activity, leading up to the production on Friday of a finale to be performed before a travelling audience based on a theme from the Canterbury Tales.

The Dance Group practised plays in movement and dance while the



drama group rehearsed a play of the murder of Thomas a'Beckett. Meanwhile, the handcraft group prepared items such as pewter and stained glass work which would be used in the performance, and the music group prepared for a concert of quiet hymns and, in contrast, lively songs.

Although each group worked hard on its own particular activity, opportunities were available for them to do

something different like folk dancing, guitar playing or bellringing. One day was set aside so that participants could either visit Poole for a boat trip and tour of the pottery works, or Christchurch to see the Priory and to visit Tuctonia. On most nights there was a camp-fire either on the lawn of



Foxlease or in the barn, where everyone got together learning new songs and enjoying themselves. On Thursday all groups rehearsed together in preparation for the following day's performance; the one in the morning was watched by other Guides camping at Foxlease but the main event was in the afternoon.

The performance commenced with people depicting a sponsored walk to preserve rural England but suddenly the walkers stepped back in time to share in the fellowship of a mediaeval pilgrimage to Canterbury. The change took place at the barn which became a mediaeval inn, outside which the dance group performed the Dance of the Horses before pilgrims wended their way to Dartford Street. The arrival of the handcraft group, announced by a Town Crier, took the pilgrims into the market place where the group's wares were displayed. The

pilgrims then moved on to a forest clearing where the dance group enacted a drama based on a story from the Canterbury Tales. The next stage took the pilgrims to an Inn Yard near Faversham where they and the travelling audience were entertained by the music group who sang songs, accompanying themselves on a variety of instruments. On the outskirts of the city of Canterbury, which was the pilgrims' destination, everyone rested again to enjoy the dance group's rendering of the Pardoner's Tale.

The pilgrims eventually reached the end of their journey at Canterbury Cathedral, where the drama group performed a play about Thomas a'Beckett including an enactment of his death at the hands of the soldiers. All groups joined in the singing of hymns, closing with 'Father most Holy'. The audience joined in the last verse of this.

On the final night a party was held for all those who had taken part. This was enjoyed by all, and many new friendships were formed, especially with our Italian visitors.

Thanks go to all those who helped, especially the Trainers and Guides from London and South East England without whose help the entire event would never have taken place.



Foxed Again!



Payne Jenkins



Payne Jenkins



Photographs by A C Mason

LETTERS

Poppy Appeal

As the new Chairman of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal I welcome this opportunity to pay tribute to the generous support we have enjoyed from the Girl Guides over many years. I have never ceased to admire the idealism and dedication of young people to good causes, and their work for many major national charities. It gives me tremendous encouragement that the Girl Guides have a special arrangement, endorsed by their senior officers, with the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, which is also a most worthwhile cause.

Col James Hughes, CBE
Chairman Poppy Appeal

Diamond Jubilee

'The most enjoyable evening for a very long time,' was the comment made by one of the 100-odd visitors to the Nailsworth, Gloucestershire, Guide Company's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

After being welcomed by the present Guider, Mrs Susan Bufton (herself an ex Nailsworth Guide) the guests were entertained by the Brownies.

Buffet refreshments followed and the huge Jubilee cake (made by a 13 year old Guide) was cut by four founder members of the Company.

The reunion was brought to a close with Camp Fire songs, which

must have revived many happy memories of Guiding long ago for older members of the party, as must the splendid display of old photographs, uniforms and badge work covering the entire 60 year span of the Company.

Finally, a young Guide thanked everyone who had helped in any way to make the Jubilee Celebrations possible - particularly members of the Parents' Committee, who had spent many months tracing ex-Guides of Nailsworth and organising the big event. Everyone now looks forward to another 60 successful and rewarding years for the Company.

K Beard,
Nailsworth, Glos.

of a more formal nature than those which took place over a dying fire in the small hours of the morning. The Chief Rabbi of Denmark spoke on tolerance, and we heard other speakers on Danish social conditions, on Guiding and Scouting aims and methods, and had a practical session on the problems of the handicapped.

The whole experience was not only highly enjoyable, but also extremely beneficial.

Caroline Selwyn-Jones,
Hull, Yorks.

Crossing the Bridge

I, a Guider of the 1st Mersea Guide Company and twelve of my Guides, took part in a sponsored 'Cross The Bridges Of London' walk organised by the Alexander Day Fund, on 20th June 1976. Everybody completed the 18 bridges, which meant walking 18 miles. This means that I and the twelve Guides raised over £80 for our fund. To me this was a great challenge for my very young Guides.

Ann Hockaday,
West Mersea, Essex

Joy in Guiding

I was very interested to read the article in the September *GUIDER*, *Those were the Days* in which Miss Canadine was interviewed.

During our recent stay at Aldwick we were privileged to meet this lady for the second time as she attended the Church in whose hall we stayed.

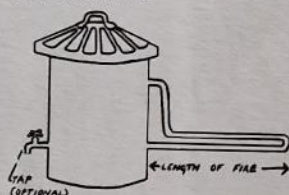
What a wonderful person she is: this year, at her request, she came along to talk to the Brownie Guides and to show them her precious treasures from the Hong Kong Diamond Jubilee. As she passed them round to every single child, allowing them to finger each one, the motto engraved on a plaque she brought back seemed to sum up everything: 'Happiness in Sharing' and 'Joy in Guiding'.

Rosemary Leach,
Kingston.

Pipe Dreams...

For some years now we have had the benefit of our 'invention' for constant hot water in camp; this may at first seem an idle dream, but it really works, and works well. You need a galvanised dustbin with a poorly fitting lid. If the lid is too tight, a hole will need to

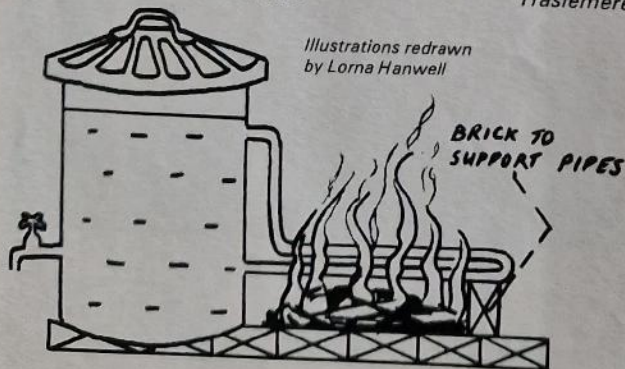
holes drilled in the bin, one near the top and one at the height your fire is normally made. Then pipes attached thus:



The two pipes that go into the fire should be parallel. Then the whole thing is set up into the fire. The bin never actually goes over the fire, so rarely needs cleaning. The water level should be kept above the top hole as this works far quicker. We fixed a tap on to ours, but find it easier to bale out the water - once the Guides appreciate the fact that it is *hot* water! The pipe will need a brick under it at the far end to support it.

Jennifer Lawes,
Haslemere.

Illustrations redrawn
by Lorna Hanwell



Heritage Highlights

MRS J WILSON, from Grassington in Yorkshire, has recently returned from the Travelling Fellowship which she was granted by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust at the beginning of this year.

Mrs Wilson went to the USA and Canada for six weeks to study Girl Scouting in North America. She noted the major differences and was impressed by a new scheme by which unemployed teenagers look after underprivileged children in residential and day camps. These, she found, were better equipped than in England. After talking with professional Executive Directors, she discovered that the main problem was lack of leaders even though the Public Relations have free use of television and radio advertising. She now has eight speaking engagements planned for the Autumn and intends to write a report of her visit.

Another visitor to the USA and Canada through a Travelling Fellowship was Miss Judith Boxall of Ipswich, Suffolk. While there, she visited eight states and went to Washington and New York where she met many paid Civil Scout workers. They discussed their programmes and problems and she gained a lot of information about how they trained the leaders. Miss Boxall attended two international camps in Pennsylvania and Kentucky and worked at a resident camp for 8-10 year old girls in Michigan.

The following is her account of the international camp in Pennsylvania:

Heritage Highlights – Home spun, Hearth and Harvest
A reflection on an American Girl Scout Wider Opportunity, 1976.



Learning to be crafty – the handcraft stall

A wider opportunity is an advanced experience for a girl beyond her own Troop, maybe in her own locality, state or even further afield.

Heritage Highlights was sponsored by Freedom Valley Girl Scout Council in SE Pennsylvania. The idea was first thought of three years ago as their part of celebrating the American Bi-Centennial. The Girl Scouts and Guide visitors were from 14-18 years and flew in three days before camp started from Europe, Hawaii (6,000 miles away), New Mexico, Texas, Florida etc.

Sunday, 27th June saw everybody, except the staff, including myself, who had already been there for five days attending pre-camp training, arrived at Camp Tohikanee. This is the largest of five permanent sites that Freedom Valley Council owns. The girls were placed in eight Units scattered in the woods throughout the 360 acre site.

The daytime programme during the two weeks followed a regular pattern. Local crafts people came into the camp and taught small groups of girls how to do the traditional crafts of two hundred years ago, using authentic methods wherever possible. These ranged from bonnet making to patchwork quilting; shingle-splitting to quilting; corn husk dolls to open hearth cooking; candle dipping to Scherenschnitte (paper cut out designs).

Most days fifty girls were off the site on a tour bus, visiting places of interest including museums, churches, old restored houses, a tile works, colonial gardens and Valley



Spinning a yarn; these girls learn traditional crafts

Forge National Park.

In the evenings there was a variety of happenings! A square dance, an International Camp-Fire Evening and a visit to one of the five Wagon-Trains which had been travelling all over the USA since June '75 to meet at Valley Forge Park on 4th July. There were also talks and slides on the local area, and a visit from the Leni/Lenape Indians.

4th July, Independence Day, was the Highlight, even for me! All the eight Units had to bring something which they had cooked, to the Colonial Ox Roast Feast in the evening. My Unit had to produce Apple-crisp, and, what with cardboard box ovens, charcoal, 'cups' instead of ovens and a heavy thunder storm just as the charcoal was getting hot, well, I thought that we were going to fail. Not so! A little Girl Guide ingenuity won through and we were the only ones to cook completely on charcoal, the rest mysteriously having found the electric ovens in the kitchen! After the enormous Feast we had a very moving candle lighting ceremony and sing song. A day to remember always!

My memories of Heritage Highlights are all very happy ones. It was a tremendous experience, made possible by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. I shall always remember two hundred people singing: 'Go Well and Safely' all the way back through the trees to their Units on the last night.

I felt proud to have had the honour of sharing in the Freedom Valley Bi-centennial Camp. It is great to belong to such a happy, wide family as Scouting and Guiding, and I shall always appreciate and treasure the many friends I made and the very interesting memories of my visit to Pennsylvania.



What are you doing on 4th or 11th December between 9.30 am and 1.00 pm?

Father Christmas is waiting to meet you (and your Guides and Brownies and their brothers) at the CHQ shop, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. Bring 25p with you for admission and present.

The Communities' Guild

by
Thora Wallis Myers

WHAT IS THE COMMUNITIES' GUILD? Like many other groups in Guiding it began because there was a need for it. This time the request came from members of the Movement, at one time Guides, Rangers, Guiders and Commissioners, who had become members of a religious community and who wanted to carry on their service for Guiding through their regular prayer for it. When this need became known Angela Thompson was the Chairman of the Religious Panel at CHQ and it was due to her faith and belief in the value of such a Guild, within the Trefoil Guild, and the encouraging support of Reverend Mothers, that the Communities' Guild was started in 1954.

Ever since then, in January, April, July and October, a leaflet offering suggestions for thanksgiving and intercession, based on the main needs of Guiding or on individual needs of members of the Movement, has been sent to members in Anglican and Roman Catholic Communities all over the country; a leaflet is also sent to one ecumenical Community at Farncombe, Surrey.

There are now over 100 members in the United Kingdom and a few overseas - in Tanzania, Rhodesia, India, the Seychelles, the West Indies and Belgium. Our member in India, Sister Benedicta, teaches at a High School in Patna and during her leave this summer was able to attend the LA/TG Conference in the Festival Hall. She became a member quite by chance after hearing about the Communities' Guild in the train from a Whitby TG member, whose Guild now sponsors Sister Benedicta.



Sister Benedicta enrolls a Girl Scout several years ago in the 1st Patan Troop, Nepal. She is now teaching in India in a Convent High School in Patna.

'Sponsors' are members of the Movement (individuals or a Trefoil Guild) who undertake to pay £1 a year towards the printing and postage of the intercession leaflet sent to 'their' Communities' Guild member, and the annual subscription paid to the Central Trefoil Guild Office for each

Communities' Guild member.

Another overseas member, Sister Mary Stella, CSP, has just gone to live in the Seychelles, where she is now Training Adviser. She has been a Guide all her life and I have a vivid memory of her showing me the steps of an African dance and humming the tune in the library at CHQ. I liked the words in English of the Swahili version of 'Taps' Sister Mary Stella gave me:

*The day is finished
The sun has disappeared completely.
Safely let us rest
God is above.*

In her last letter she told me about a camp at La Digue, a heavenly site on the beach in the Seychelles, and the PL and Duke of Edinburgh Award trainings she was planning.

Members of the Communities' Guild have all been members of the Guide Movement and so they know, at first hand, the value of Guiding, some of the present-day problems and its special opportunities. (Only a few days ago I heard from Sister Patricia Agnes, CSJE, who works in a Community at St Davids, about a big Youth Pilgrimage. 'Some 500-600 young people walked through the night from Fishguard, arriving at St Davids at dawn, and at the moment 60 of them are using our chapel for a 'meditation workshop', conducted by the Bishop of Llandaff'.)

You can support the aim of the Communities' Guild by sending the Secretary at any time suggestions for intercession for your part of the UK. (They might include prayers for new projects, events like trainings, conferences and camps, prayers for Guide people carrying special responsibilities, for handicapped Brownies, Guides, Rangers or Guiders and for members of the Movement facing illness, stress or sorrow.) All intercessions or thanksgivings are confidential and the leaflets are only used by members of the Communities' Guild. (Urgent requests for intercession can be sent out at any time.)

If you would like a leaflet about the Communities' Guild (please enclose a stamp), if you have a suggestion for the leaflet or if you know of a Sister who might like to join the Communities' Guild, please write to me at 39 Hans Place, London, SW1X 0JZ.

Perhaps Sister Mary Clare Rogers, once a Guide in West Kent and now living in a Community in Sussex, explains best in a recent letter the aim of the Communities' Guild: 'We all gladly, in a spirit of loyalty to Guiding, keep all its needs in our life of prayer and praise. I am sure the faith in the blessing of God is what keeps the Movement healthy and useful through the years.'

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A Guide at Oxbridge

by Lewis Lesley

compiled from notes supplied by
Lyndis Carman and Monica Hutchinson

GOING TO UNIVERSITY or college for most people coincides with the age of majority and is the first independent adult step. Such a change in life style is often an excellent opportunity to try out new ideas or exercise new values. Two members of SAGGA have recently graduated and share their experiences with other Guides who are setting out to University for the first time.

Whether you are going to 'Oxbridge' or to a Teacher Training college, then the advice is the same. Join the Scout and Guide Club. But why? There are several reasons for this; some fairly practical, others less tangible. Over-riding all is the advantage of an instant group of friends who share most of your ideas and ideals. A familiar island in a strange university sea.

During your time at college you might only enjoy the social side of the Scout and Guide Club, or you might take a more active part in the Movement, perhaps by helping to run a Unit. Either way there are benefits. 'This was a good outlet from college life, when I was able to get to know of the other things going on in the city'. 'The experiences, friendships and fun gained over the three years refreshed me'.

Most Scout and Guide Clubs have two distinct sides. Some students gain by being involved in both, while others are involved only in one. There is the purely social level of parties, debates, outings, etc, as well as the more practical side of helping with the Movement in your college town. 'Those interested in Guiding were encouraged by answering a plea for help on the college notice board. Students

were relied upon quite a lot to help run Packs and Companies'. 'I think the friendship and variety of activities made the Scout and Guide Club the most beneficial of all the societies I belonged to at Cambridge'.

There are similarities and differences between local Guiding and Guiding at college. The differences are probably most important. Firstly there is the apparent lack of structure or hierarchy. While most Scout and Guide Clubs have titular Presidents, the organisation is usually run by a committee elected annually. Those with organisational desires or abilities can thus help to oil the wheels of the Club. Most Clubs aim to provide a balanced programme, with enough variety to interest all members. With the lack of structure there is also less emphasis on commitment than at local level. When exams press, a few missed Scout and Guide Club meetings will not lead to its collapse. Indeed Scout and Guide Clubs provide as little or as much involvement as individual members want. A truly flexible organisation. 'The Cambridge Scout and Guide Club offered virtually any activity anyone wished to pursue'. However, there are sometimes gaps. 'The only side of Guiding which I missed completely was camping, due to vacation work'.

After three enjoyable years at college, the outside world must be faced. College can indeed be an oasis. 'It is easy to exist in Cambridge in total unawareness of the outside world. The usual phase of bicycles, punting, the Backs, Kings Chapel etc, are all part of the atmosphere'.



illustrated by Jean de Lemos



However, such an isolation can allow adult batteries to be charged up. 'I now have much more to offer my new Company as a result of my break from local Guiding'. There can be no doubt that belonging to the Scout and Guide Club can be a rewarding experience leading to very happy memories and solid friendships, whether you help actively with a Company or just enjoy the social scene.

Kuki's First Week Camp

by Barbara Marshall

SATURDAY

The outward journey was fairly uneventful. The coach driver bore some resemblance to David Essex, which caused some mutterings as all were not in agreement.

On arrival at the site, we were delighted to find the tents already pitched. Due to torrential rain the outgoing occupants had been unable to strike the tents. The rain sounded ominous. After a number of adjustments the tents were pronounced ready for occupation.

Daughter, aged six, after being shown the First Aid tent enquired: 'Where is the Second Aid tent?'

Kuki started kukiing!

Much later everyone was exhausted but why wouldn't they go to sleep?

Sunday

Hazy memories of kukiing, string, gadgets and collapsing bedding racks.

Monday

Not much to report until dinner time. Kuki had received her first wasp sting. Wasps 1 Kuki 0.

Daughter plus Commandant's three-year-old son locked Guides in the loos.

Steamed syrup pud a great success. It pays to read the Handbooks.

Tuesday

Cook Patrol up 25 minutes late. No fire lit, store tent still secured. Inspired enquiry from Cook PL 'Shall we stand by the table?' This was the howler of the week and frequent mention was made.

Kuki to the First Aid tent - Brillo pad splinter in finger. Survived.

Early dinner to enable early start for outing to Bluebell Railway. Why did it have to rain that afternoon for all 3.8 miles (6,688 yards) of the way? A short ride on the train, which conjured up many happy memories, and we arrived at Sheffield Park. By the time we had queued for the loo, queued for coffee and queued for souvenirs there was not much time left to view the steam engine exhibits. Kuki was duty cook and fortunate enough to be given a ride back home to prepare supper.

By this time Kuki was getting used to sharing her tent with an assortment of insects and her sleeping bag with a caterpillar.

Wednesday

Disaster - the rice pud (à la Guide

Handbook) was not ready in time for dinner. Substituted evaporated milk with steamed fruit. Rice took 2½ hours to cook and came in handy for supper.

The Rangers' bedding rolls mysteriously disappeared. However did they find their way into the boot of the QM's car and lock themselves in?

Great excitement! Five visitors in camp.

The Supper menu stated soup and mixed sandwiches. Peculiar mixture of approximately 40 Marmite sandwiches and 16 mixed. Lesson - supervise the filling of sandwiches next time.

Gale during the night and a number of tents required attention. The Rangers' tent collapsed on them! Of course Kuki's wet weather gear was in the solid shelter at the other end of the camp-site! Much wringing of hands and pyjamas.

Thursday

Saved four pints of delicious gravy from stew to make soup with various additions. The stock was next sighted in the grease trap and the dixie presented for inspection.

Daughter locked all the loos from the inside. Panic!

Supper time - due to weather served in solid shelter. During lull in conversation daughter announced she was still wearing pyjamas under her outer gear. Shame! While clearing the cooking site after supper Kuki received wasp stings two and three from wily wasps hiding under bucket handle. Wasps 3 Kuki 0.

Friday

Dinner time - Catastrophe! Fifty-six beefburgers and seven pounds of home-made chips (yes chips in camp!) sank to the bottom of the water bin. Kuki wailed 'Tarka, it's sunk!' After much frantic baling and straining the meal was rescued and pronounced very tasty. A case of sauté in reverse.

Kuki's hand swelled from the wasp stings and tablets were prescribed. All Guiders please note the instructions on the bottle require further warning ie, do not drive or operate machinery ... or attempt to hold Promise Ceremonies. The Promise Ceremony was held at dusk and the first Guide welcomed into a British Guides in Germany Company. Only the Commandant appeared to notice this and a very hasty verbal transfer was effected after the Ceremony.



Mention must be made of the Lone Ranger and Tonto, our two Rangers. The Lone Ranger served well in her capacity as general dogsbody and Tonto was a great asset as Deputy Assistant QM. Tonto was invested during camp but maybe her nickname will stick.

The dixie scouring session was hilarious. One plastic container lid was inspected and returned for removal of crumbs no less than seven times. Various dixies suffered the same fate, as Kuki had a clean tea towel especially for the occasion and gleefully tested supposedly cleaned items.

A number of new words have appeared during our stay. Among them 'Herbage' (dry grass in field and drinks), 'Waspalade' (served with BB & J at breakfast), 'Waspages' (served in bread rolls as hot dogs) and 'Waspinton' which is a variation of Badminton played without racquets and with wasps.

Another game invented was 'A song for all occasions' eg, 'There's a hole in your bucket' when one of the washing bowls developed a leak. (Some of them were rather naughty.)

Saturday

Kit packed and tents struck in good time. Coach punctual. David Essex again driving.

Kuki sustained final wasp sting (how did the wasp get up her trousers?) Wasps 4 Kuki 0. Daughter also got stung for the first time.

1300 hours: embarked on coach. Kuki had time to reflect on the week's happenings especially when we were halted for 40 minutes with the coach gear lever jammed. (All praise to the driver for getting us back safely.)

Reflections:

1. Should we have told the Guide what to do with a dead match during pre-camp training?
2. How could I have ever thought the QM and First Aider a bit starchy before camp? Apologies to Tarka and Owlet.
3. We have certainly lived up to Laws 8 and 9.
4. When we arrive at the hut, the dads will be politely conned into unloading the coach.
5. Three Sussex wasps became three late Sussex wasps on the return journey.

Final score Wasps 4 Kuki 3.

Look Back in Anguish

Revelations from long ago

by
Margaret Giles

WARS AND REVOLUTIONS alter dynasties. Earthquakes and floods change the face of the world. Brownie Revels go on for ever.

As I watched the local Brownies climbing into a very up-to-date Minibus, accompanied by mothers and younger brothers and sisters, my mind went back fifty years.

I, a very young single-handed Tawny Owl, waiting for my Warrant, taking my Pack of thirty-two children to my first Brownie Revels.

We boarded an open topped single-decked charabanc, to travel some ten

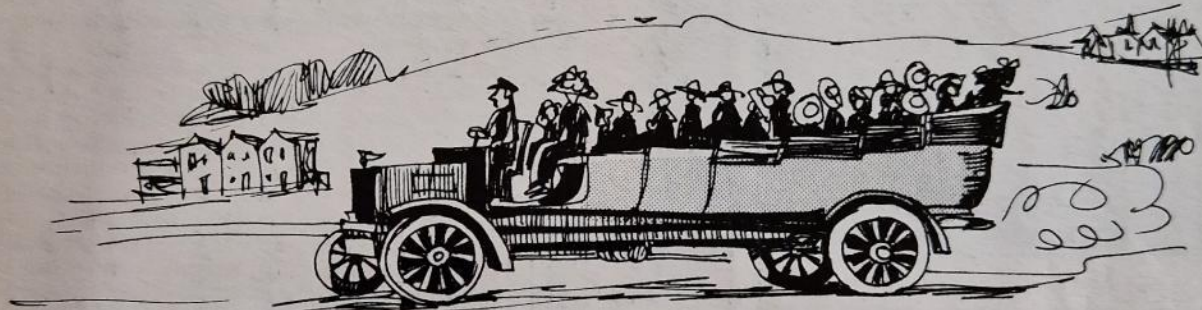
uniforms, but in all the time I was with this one, only a single child arrived complete. This astonishing event was spoken of with awe, and it was some time before she really became one of us.

Hats, belts, and dresses were held by the Pack, and dished out when needed. Unfortunately this caused the straw hats to become progressively more shallow. Anchored by elastic, they were reasonably safe, but I'm afraid this was not often the case. Needless to say the inevitable happened, and I lost count of how

good time in spite of everything.

The Revels were held in a beautiful garden, and each Pack was allocated their own 'home' round the big lawn. After dumping bags and baggage, our Pack set out to enjoy themselves. In the centre of the lawn was a sparkling fountain, which acted as a magnet to all the children.

Clustered round the rim they watched the spray, fascinated. Then slowly and unexpectedly the fountain began to die until it became a miserable little trickle and finally stopped altogether. There was great consterna-



miles. Had it been wet we would have had to be shut in by a canvas cover, but luckily it was fine.

With the exception of the driver, I was the only adult. I was just twenty, but I had a Ranger Guide of seventeen to help. We were going to our Brownie revels, and the idea of any non-Brownies coming too never entered our heads. One little Pixie had a very bad finger. She had either crushed it in the door, or sliced the top off with a chopper. The doctor said she could come, provided she didn't get it knocked. So she sat next to me at the back, and the Ranger sat somewhere in the middle.

Were children more obedient fifty years ago? I don't think I would dare take thirty-two little children in an open 'chara' now.

I told them that no one was to stand up, or they might fall into the road. Everyone stayed sitting. And the mothers, what a wonderful faith they must have had in the Movement! They waved a cheerful goodbye without a qualm, as we stopped to pick up each child.

Now, in those days Brownies wore woollen caps in the winter, and basin-shaped straw hats in the summer.

Perhaps in other Packs everyone arrived in their own brand new

many times our long suffering driver had to pull up at the frantic cry of 'Brown Owl, Brown Owl, somebody's hat's blown off!' – but we arrived in

tion, the gardener came running and after feeling under the rim the fountain started to play again, amid loud cheers.

A beaming Brownie came running to me, and slipped her hand into mine. 'One of our Brownies did that' she announced proudly. 'Be quiet!' I hissed, hurrying her away.

Apparently one of my 'little dears' had found a tap under the water, and turned it off. I don't think anyone ever knew.

This was the only way we shone that afternoon. We played all the games with enormous enjoyment, and came bottom in the lot. Never mind, we were very good losers. We had a marvellous tea, and then there was the final treat of the 'chara' ride home.

You must remember that fifty years ago cars were a luxury out of the reach of the majority, and even buses were few and far between. Brownies from a small country town did not have many trips.

We came home safely, holding our hats on tight this time. No one was sick, no one had cried. The little Pixie with the bad finger was still intact. We had a grand welcome home.

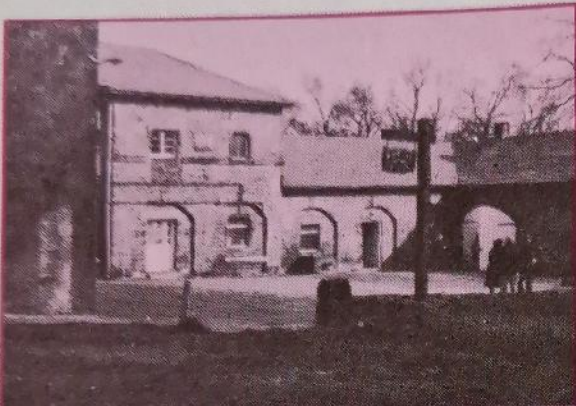
It is indeed true that fortune favours the brave.



Illustrations: Jean de Lemos



THE STUDENT SCOUT AND GUIDE ORGANISATION holds a rally each term. In the Summer term of this year it was the turn of Sheffield Scout and Guide Club to organise the event. The Summer term rally is a camping weekend, unlike the other two which are generally held in indoor



A front view of Whitely Woods Activity Centre.

accommodation, and Sheffield had obtained the use of Sheffield County Girl Guide Camp-site at Whitely Woods, just outside the town itself.

We were a small contingent from Bradford – only three of us, and since we are a new Club, only just becoming established, it was the first rally for the other two members. My first rally had been the previous term at Birmingham, and I hoped that my two friends would enjoy themselves as much as I had.

We arrived at the site at about eight o'clock, to find it buzzing with activity. We were first taken to the reception area where we were welcomed and 'signed in' before being provided with a tent. Many people had brought their own tents, but Sheffield had provided ample tentage for those who required it.

People were arriving all through the evening from as far afield as Bangor and Durham, so there was no organised activity, although some of us gathered together in the main building for an informal sing-song.

Saturday morning brought with it an early breakfast and the promise of another very hot day. Sheffield Scout and Guide Club had excelled themselves in the choice of activities they had offered for Saturday. There was something to suit everybody. The very energetic could hike over Kinder Scout, while the less ambitious ones could explore a nearby stately home. In between were various hikes, differing in their length and demands on our energy, some of them visiting small surrounding villages to look at the well dressings which are traditional in this part of the country. Experienced rock climbers and pot-holers went up rocks and down holes, and five of us hired bikes for the day and set off for what we hoped would be a leisurely ride.

The Peak Park Joint Planning Board operates a cycle hire service from three centres within the National Park and

SSAGO for the Morris Men

by Patricia Graham



also provides a network of marked routes of various lengths. It was a very hot day so we chose a fairly short route which we could take at a reasonably slow pace. We cycled about ten miles through some beautiful scenery and enjoyed our packed lunch in the company of some geese on the village green in Hartington before returning to the hire centre at Parsley Hay.

After tea, back at the site, one representative from each Club attended the SSAGO committee meeting where future events, rallies and general matters were discussed and each Club gave a brief report on its activities and progress. This was followed by the ceilidh band and the evening's highlight was a guest appearance by Sheffield University Morris Men.

Sunday breakfast was later than Saturday's and the activities were mainly planned to occupy only half the day as many people were leaving early in the afternoon.

I decided to take the opportunity to try some elementary rock-climbing and a fairly large group of us set out for the nearby gritstone edges. We spent an enjoyable morning hanging off rocks, being encouraged and advised at length from both above and below. We all managed to reach the top of a few climbs, and were pleased with our achievements, especially the complete beginners who had probably thought, initially, that they could never do it.

By the time we returned to the site, arrangements were being made for transporting people to the station to start their homeward journeys. Tents were being taken down and the site was strewn with rucksacks and odd pieces of equipment.

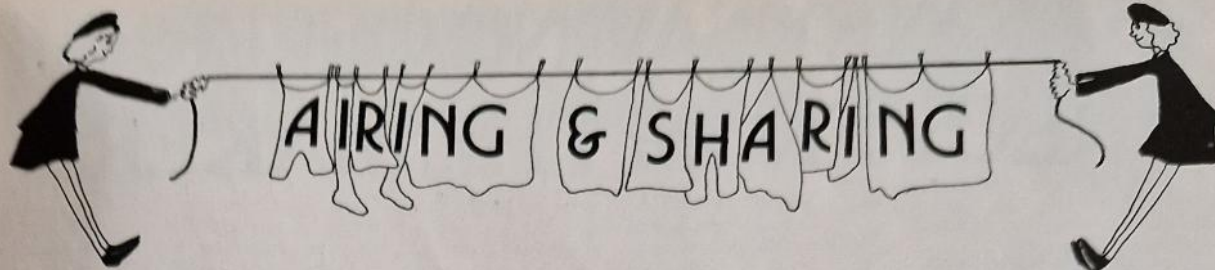
Even in the short space of a weekend, new friendships



Per ardua ad Astra – well almost.

had been made and old ones renewed and we were sorry to leave. Now, however, we look forward to next term's rally at Durham.

The organisation of the Summer rally invariably brings with it many problems and Sheffield handled them very well. There was an excellent choice of activities and they were well led. I am sure that all who attended felt it had been a worthwhile and thoroughly enjoyable weekend.



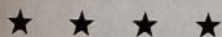
Study Units

After reading the recent correspondence regarding Guiders who are also student teachers, I would like to speak up for 'student layabouts'. I have experienced the pressures that can be involved when one is both a student and a Guider, so I do appreciate the situation they are in and most of these students have my deepest admiration.

As a body, students are much maligned, all of them being blamed for the faults of a few. But some work extremely hard. When I began college, I had two children aged 11 and 13, a home and a Brownie Pack to run. The first year at college saw me taking my Pack holiday permit, in the second I began to help with the Guides while continuing to run the Pack, and in my third I continued my interest in both throughout the year. On top of that, needless to say, came all the examinations.

So please, when your student Guiders have a few nights off for exams or teaching practice, bear with them, for they desperately need that time for work, not play.

C McMonagle,
Leeds, Yorkshire.



With regard to Hilary J Cooper's letter (August *GUIDER*) I feel I must give the other side of the coin. I too am a student teacher and a Guider (Ripon Division). I am sorry that Hilary has not received the friendship in Guiding that she deserves. I have been made very welcome in the District, and have made some very good friends indeed —

both Guiders and Guides. The Guiders seem to understand that I cannot always attend meetings and trainings, and to accept it. My advice to Hilary would be to go back into Guiding and be cheerful in her difficulties. The Guiders in her District may realise their mistake and change their attitude towards her.

Fiona Sanderson,
Ripon, N Yorks.

Plea from the heart

Calling all Guiders who camped at Blacklands Farm, East Grinstead, during the Spring Bank Holiday this year. On Tuesday afternoon of the 1st June, two of our Young Leaders asked if they might visit various camp-sites with a view to swapping some Middlesex West County badges. Unfortunately, several Guiders and Guides did not have spare badges with them. However, they accepted badges from our girls, promising to forward their badges on to them. I can only suppose that the address of our Young Leaders has been mislaid, for they have not received a single badge. May I, therefore, reiterate the address here: Miss S Bone, 82 Mildred Avenue, Hayes, Middx.

J Kent,
Hayes, Middx.

Wearing us out

'Smartness in uniform and correctness in detail seems to be a small matter to fuss about, but has its value in the development of self-respect' B-P.

Unlike Mrs Foward (September 'Airing and Sharing'), I welcomed the 'Wear and When' article in May *GUIDER*. As members of a uniformed Movement, we are committed to the wearing of uniform as laid

down in POR, and we know this before we take on the position of Guider. It is not for any one of us to lay down our own conditions of membership.

No-one expects the children of Guiders to go barefoot of necessity but must it really come to this? Most Guiders have to make sacrifices of some sort in order to run their Units and perhaps a uniform blouse could be bought instead of one for ordinary wear. Could the District help? Ex Guiders might donate uniforms which are still wearable and proceeds of a jumble sale could start a fund to provide grants.

Guiders must wear smart and correct uniforms, as only then can we expect Brownies and Guides to do the same.

B Holmes,
London.

All in the family

May we support the views of Mrs Barbara Suter of

Lewes, Sussex, in the September *GUIDER*, regarding family Holiday Training weeks.

We first went on one in Broneirion in 1967 when our daughter was 18 months old, and this was followed by visits to Foxlease in 1970, '71 and '73, and to Waddow in 1972. Unfortunately, our daughter is now over age or otherwise we would still be applying! It is an excellent form of training, and gives the dads an insight into the Movement — why more do not apply, we cannot imagine. The staff and trainers do all they can to run an enjoyable and enlightening training/holiday.

We now visit the Centres on a different basis and still enjoy the facilities, and the help which is given, and we often meet families we first met at trainings.

Margaret and Peter Buckby,
Nuneaton, Warwicks.

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much you
give you'll never
give as much as
they did**

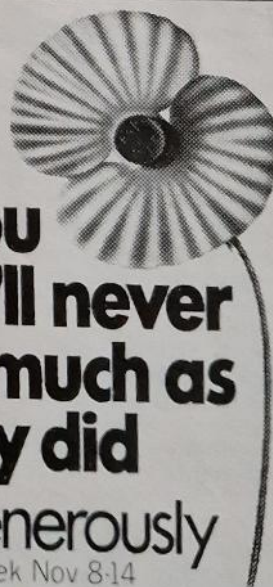
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HOME & AWAY

Clean machine

Readers of *GUIDER* may remember, back in March, a report in *Home and Away* on Project Spikey, the campaign by the Keep Britain Tidy Group, which aims to instil awareness in the public of the harm caused by litter in the countryside. Their Clean-up-the-Countryside Week held in March proved successful and is to be made an annual event – details available from the Keep Britain Tidy Group (Project Spikey), Maldwin Drummond DL, JP, Manor of Cadland, Cadland House, Fawley, Southampton. Also available are car-stickers, car litter bags, and a set of attractive 'Concern for the Countryside' charts, on litter and hedgerow, motorway, urban, woodland and fresh-water wildlife. Each of the five charts contains full-colour illustrations and clearly outlined warnings of the dangers of the litter commonly found in each habitat. They cost 50p each, or 70p in a plastic container, plus VAT, and are obtainable from bookshops or by post (9p p&p single, and 30p p&p the set) from Mr D Traube, Frederick Warne & Co Ltd, 40 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3HE.

Project Spikey

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Educating Our Kid

School leavers will be interested in the DES Information Sheets which this year come under the title 'Choose your Course'.

Going to College is the first pamphlet of the new series, which gives information on vocational courses as well as vital hints on when and how to apply for places at universities, polytechnics and other colleges, and how to set about applying for an educational grant.

There is a section for people who need a 'second chance' – for example, those whose exam results were poorer than they had hoped, as well as a list of useful publications. Other titles in the series will include *Finding out*; *Language at work*; *Caring for people*; *After O Levels*; and *On from A Levels*.

Each pamphlet will be distinguished by a different colour (*Going to College* is in green), and copies should be obtainable from careers teachers, careers officers, and colleges. If, however, you experience difficulty in obtaining a copy from those sources, write to the Department of Education and Science, Room 1/27, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1 7PH.

Green Cross Man

Every Brownie Guide is taught about road safety, and a desirable way of reinforcing what has been learnt, would be to display some Green Cross Code posters in the Brownie Hut. These are obtainable free from the Department of the Environment, Room P1/181, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 3EB. Also



available is a Green Cross Man Wallchart, and a leaflet 'A lesson for life', which is directed towards the parents of children at risk.

Changing the Law

Our apologies go to the Central Office of Information for an incorrect account of their latest leaflet on legal aid in *Home and Away*, August *GUIDER*.

The reprint of the booklet entitled *Guide to New Legal Aid* is in fact due to come out at the end of 1976, and had therefore not been released at the time of our report. On the same subject, however, is a six page folder *Legal Aid Could Help You*, released in the middle of this year, which replaces the earlier edition by the same name, and contains much valuable information for anyone having recourse to legal aid, or merely interested in the subject. As before, further information will be supplied by Mr G A Tout, Publication and Design Services Division, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1.

Film Fun

Guild Sound and Vision has published a new catalogue of sponsored films which contains details of over 1,400 16mm titles. The majority of these are colour films, on free loan, and a wide range of interests is covered. Many of them would be relevant to the Guide or Ranger who is about to embark on a career; one group of

films falls under the heading *Careers* while other headings include *Commerce and Business* and *Domestic Science*. Other tempting categories are *Natural History*, *Travel and Places of Interest*, *First Aid and Accident Prevention* and *Recreation*. The sponsored-films catalogue is now available at a cost of £1.50 (postage and packing free) from Guild Sound and Vision, Woodston House, Oundle Road, Peterborough PE2 9PZ.

Care-ful Health

Health Education News is a free four-page monthly newsletter published by the Health Education Council, which deals with everyday health care matters such as the prevention of accidents in the home, self-help in health care, and home hygiene, together with such emotive medical topics as the desirability or otherwise of fluoridating drinking water. Copies of this newsletter are sent to GP's, and they are also obtainable from the Health Education Council, 78 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1AH. Subscribers who wish to be sent the newsletter on a regular basis may be asked to pay a small fee to cover postage and packing.

Seed and Herd

The Economic Forestry group has instigated a scheme whereby local organisations, youth groups, societies and schools can help them by collecting seed. In return, they will be sent plants or equipment for countryside pursuits. The 'seed collection' programme will help in the conservation and improvement of the countryside, and is therefore a programme which will be of benefit to future generations of country and nature lovers. For further information, write to the Economic Forestry Group, EFG (Nurseries) Ltd, Maelor Nursery, Conery Lane, Bronington, Whitchurch, Salop FY13 3EZ.

In Memoriam

Mrs Barbara Armstrong, of Newcastle upon Tyne, died on 19th August after a long and painful illness. She was known, loved and respected by hundreds of girls and women who had worked with her during her sixty years in Guiding.

Mrs Armstrong held many appointments and progressed from Guide to Guider, Diploma'd Trainer, District, Division and County Commissioner for Northumberland. Her real love was for camping and the out-of-doors, and her enthusiasm as County Ranger Adviser and County Camp Adviser was infectious and inspiring. This same enthusiasm carried her through her years as Extension Adviser at CHQ from 1960-1965.

In 1948 Barbara was awarded the Medal of Merit and, later, in 1959, the Beaver for her outstanding service. At the introduction of the Metropolitan Districts Barbara Armstrong and her husband became Vice-Presidents of Newcastle upon Tyne and both took a great interest in the new Guide county.

Barbara Armstrong will be deeply missed here in her home town but we give thanks for her wonderful friendship and example.

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Please write, giving full details, to: **The General Secretary, The Girl Guides Association, 17/19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W OPT.**

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WE ARE OFTEN ASKED whether or not staff at CHQ are active members of the Movement. Having looked at the 1976 staff returns it is rewarding to see that we have 1 Division Commissioner, 3 District Commissioners, 3 District Assistants, 1 County Camp Adviser and 2 Division Camp Advisers, 2 Ranger Guiders, 2 Assistant Ranger Guiders, 13 Guide Guiders, 2 Assistant Guide Guiders, 7 Brownie Guiders, 3 Rangers, 3 Unit Helpers and 2 Cub Scout Leaders. Thus 44 of the present staff, out of 191 employed by The Association at CHQ, Broadheath, the Training Centres and branch shops, serve Guiding (and Scouting) in many parts of the United Kingdom in more than one capacity.

Members of CHQ Staff

Members of CHQ staff photographed in June with Miss S V Cunliffe, a member of the Executive Committee and County Commissioner for South West London, following a meeting of the 4th Kennington St Mark's Company, during which Mrs Carrie Sanger and Mrs Kitty Price were enrolled into the Movement. Mrs Sanger and Mrs Price, who are standing beside Miss Cunliffe, both assist in the CHQ Shop. Mrs Dorothy Bramble, Guider of the Company, and a member of Personnel Department, is second from the left.



Some smiling members of CHQ staff, above.

Employment of Young People

We have been concerned about the young unemployed and never more so than during the last two years. It may be encouraging for members to know that CHQ has, for several years, had the services of young members during holidays as tour guides for many parties of Brownies, Guides and Rangers who visit us during their holidays. Since July, 1975, 25 Guides and Rangers have worked a total of 3,642 hours during their holidays. They have helped in Trading and Mail Order, the Shops, Finance, Public Relations, Training Department and in the Restaurant. We cannot create jobs but when there are jobs to be filled we welcome the opportunity to give young people a chance to learn about us and see how their Commonwealth Headquarters functions.

Guide and Brownie Visitors to CHQ

During the summer holidays we were delighted to welcome a great number of Guides and Brownies who came to visit CHQ. Altogether seventy organised parties cheered our corridors by their presence during July and August, and more than 225 Units have come during the year.

Overseas Visitors

In July, among many other overseas



visitors, we were happy to welcome a party of handicapped Guides from Holland. During their stay in London these Guides paid visits to many places of interest and, after watching the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace, came into CHQ for lunch and a tour of the building. Mrs Owen Walker, JP, Chief Commissioner, and Mrs Alfreda Gentry, Extension Adviser, chatted to the Guides as they enjoyed their lunch



These Dutch Extension Guides, above, chat to Mrs Owen Walker at CHQ.

which consisted, by special request, of what they considered a typical British breakfast – grapefruit, bacon, egg, sausage and tomato followed by toast and marmalade.

Letter from Belgium

I am taking the liberty of including part of a letter which I received from a lady in Bruges. She stays for part of each year at the Convent of the Sacred Heart in the Prinsenhof, which many parties of Guides, Rangers and Trefoil members have visited over the years. Her comments are very much in keeping with ours, for most visiting Units at CHQ are immaculate in their uniforms. But sometimes we see an untidy Unit and we hope that we may all be more alert about the image of Guiding in public places. It is so pleasing to hear comments such as Mrs Luykx's from another country.

Dear Mrs Whiteaker,

It was very nice meeting you at Prinsenhof. I often think of you, and more so this week, due to the visit of a lovely group of Girl Guides from Cardiff, South

Wales. Beautifully led and chaperoned, they made an enormous impression at Prinsenhof, and in the entire town and museums of Bruges which they visited with such order and dignity. I have been asked by many – who the young ladies were, and where did they come from?

Their uniforms were most commented upon for their good looks, cleanliness, trimness and beautiful colour of blue. On Sunday the wearing of the dark blue skirts and perky navy blue cap was ravishing – their 'at-ease' uniform was just as fetching, and I myself asked if one could purchase such a lovely blue cotton frock and they referred me to the London office. They wrote a complete 'log-book' of each of their trips abroad. Each one written – typed – bound and illustrated with photos – sketches – poems and specially written songs for special occasions. Your organisation must be congratulated, and very highly!

In a time of laxity such superior behaviour must be praised and rewarded.

Again all congratulations on your fine work.

Retirement of Mrs I D Beck, Publishing Manager

At the end of June many old friends and members of staff joined in a farewell presentation to Mrs I D Beck, who retired after being on the staff of the Association for fifteen years in the Publications Department.

When Mrs Beck became Publishing Manager in 1964 her responsibilities included not only the publishing, but also the editorial control for the magazines of the three girls sections, *BROWNIE*, *TODAY'S GUIDE* and *RANGER*, a task which she carried out until Mrs Jean Rush was appointed Managing Editor of all the Guide periodicals in 1968. As Publishing Manager Mrs Beck's greatest task probably was that of producing all the handbooks to accompany the new eight-point programme when it was introduced in 1968. Mrs Beck's knowledge of book buying and printing has been of enormous value to the Movement and we are delighted to know that her interest in books and reading is being continued by her involvement in the Adult Literacy Campaign, for which she has already worked for some time as a volunteer.



(Above) Peter Jarrold presents a retirement gift to Mrs Beck.

We all wish Becky a very happy retirement, although we know it will not be an idle one.

Lydia Whiteaker

General Secretary, CHQ



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The Pack Prepares for Christmas

by Edna Odell

THERE WAS NO DOUBT that Christmas was coming. For weeks the Scouts had been flogging cards in aid of Group Funds . . . so it was not surprising that the question of our celebrations should come in Pow-Wow. It wasn't easy. I asked 'What would you like to do?' 'Can we do anything?' 'Yes,' I said calmly. (They should have known I was much *too* calm). Amazement, disbelief spread over their faces . . . I could fairly hear their brains whirling. I continued, 'Of course you would have to agree, you would have to get any money necessary, and you might well have to do a lot of work.' Instantly deflated, the Pack nevertheless philosophically shrugged down to normality. After all, 'better the Devil you know' than this benevolent stranger. Pause for deep thought.

'We might give a concert?' We are not brilliant, but we must have *some* talent. I point out the need for considerable practice. Then someone remembers that, at school, they are having a Major Presentation. Half the Pack members then volunteer the fact that they are involved. It will happen the last week of term. I make a written note of the date (mental notes aren't much help at my age). Schools finish a week before Christmas anyway, so it looks as if anything we do will be way ahead. Pity.

'We could go to the Wembley Ice Show?' Lovely, but our large

local factories have long ago abandoned anything so old-fashioned as works children's parties and now transfer the young there. Many of the Brownies will be taken.

'We could go to the local Pantomime?' Yes, but several of the children will go with their families anyway, and what could be better than a family outing to a 'real' show?

'We could sing Carols?' They were already learning modern ones for School Carol Services and would be slightly bored before long. In any case, at church we have an early evening candlelit service of cards and readings on the first Sunday after Christmas, and the vicar rightly feels that the church family should gather there. The atmosphere is memorable, different, magical to a child. That was where the Pack would sing the old Carols, and Brown Owl would see that any children not with their parents had a chance to go, with her.

We are getting nowhere fast. Brown Owl sighed. It seemed a pity to have to scout round as to *how* to celebrate Christmas. 'How far is it to Bethlehem?' How far indeed, between a homeless family, a babe born in a cattle shed, and these lucky children who seemed spoiled for choice . . . There must be *something* they needed. Then we were *saved* . . . not by the gang, but by the Vicar. Bless him! (Only fair, as *he* blesses

us most weeks). He had come to do so, but announced that there would be a Christingle Service early in December . . . 'Brown Owl will tell you about it next week.' So I did. There was to be a great united children's service, where 'purses' would be offered for the Children's Home, and every child attending would be given a Christingle: an orange (the world) with a candle stuck in the top (Christ, who is the light of the world), a red ribbon round the 'equator' (His Blood Shed), and stuck with cocktail sticks on which are impaled nuts and raisins (the fruits of the world, enough for all). Well it seemed we *would* like to go. So, we should need to raise some money (think about that anon). We talked about candles. Someone remembered seeing the Advent wreath, with one candle lit for each week which they made on 'Blue Peter' the year before, a custom from Denmark. Couldn't we make one? and put it in the middle of Brownie Ring each week? We could make candles (using a toilet roll tube stuck on a cheese box) as 'stand up' Christmas cards for our friends. How do other countries celebrate Christmas? We could find out about Holland, Sweden, Austria, Australia . . .

Thank goodness, we're off! Relevant, suitable, different things, worth doing in themselves, and covering many of the Eight Points.



illustrated
by
Jean de Lemos

Patrols Plan Christmas Good Turns

by Isabel Anderson

Possible extracts from the Diary of a Guider (one with long ears!). Could it happen this way for you?

22nd Oct. Try to make Patrols plan ahead. It isn't Half Term until next week but we asked them to discuss good turns for Christmas.

29th Oct. No Unit meeting (Half Term) but we had Leaders' Council. Robins have decided to give box of food to ex-caretaker and his wife. Swallows hoping to sing carols at Holmwood (house where 12 elderly folk have their own rooms but have their meals cooked for them). Kingfishers have no ideas at all. Chaffinches rather carried away with ideas of party and slides or paddling pool for local home for blind children. I wonder what will happen in the end?

5th Nov. High jinks for Bonfire Night. No time to do more than report PLC decisions to Guides.

12th Nov. Robins well away with plans. This week each Guide to ask at home what food they can bring (tins etc) and also what they can make nearer the time (mincepies, sweets, etc). Swallows all want to sing different carols! I spent some time with the Kingfishers trying to help them to decide what to do, but they had reasons why every one of my ideas just wouldn't work! Chaffinches still starry-eyed about garden equipment for blind children.

19th Nov. Ex-caretaker is now diabetic (minister's wife has told Robins). Many foods likely to be unsuitable and PL rather embarrassed by tins of fruit already brought by two Guides. They've now decided to make cards and sweets for sale to raise money to buy special diabetic chocolate etc. Swallows agreed on six carols to practise. Words of the new one to be written on back of wall-paper so that old folk can join in too. Chaffinch PL has not yet actually approached matron of home for

blind children to explore possibility of their ideas ... some Guides are having doubts about size and cost of their grand ideas. Young Leader had a go at inspiring Kingfishers - only two of them, including a new recruit, here this evening. They like children but can't decide - oh dear!

26th Nov. Short Leaders' Council to see how good turns are getting on. Chaffinch Leader and Second (with moral support from a father who stayed in car) have seen matron. Children all go home for Christmas, and last two weeks of term already heavily booked ...

going to buy a few foods for diabetics and spend rest on gift token for local store which has grocery department. Kingfishers still messing about, except for the two who like children ... they've got themselves accepted as helpers for the crèche during church Fair on 11th. Others seem slightly attracted by this idea. We listen to Swallows' carols. Guides tell them in no uncertain terms that words can't be heard.

10th Dec. All Kingfishers now hooked on idea of helping at crèche, one parent has offered to

transport rocking-horse and toddlers' see-saw. Chaffinches will be needed to help with cooking, but one each day to help with delivery of meals - they are very thrilled, two Cook's badges also seem likely. Great improvement in Swallows words when they sing. Sudden additional



Patrol will be welcome to spend a Saturday afternoon with children, or helping next term ... (might lead to regular contact and service). The PL seemed to have grown as she told us about meeting the matron. Robins sale of cards and sweets is to be next week and tins already contributed are going in a second hamper to be given to elderly couple who live next door to ex-caretaker. Their new recruit has a lot of ideas. Kingfisher PL is rather lost as she wasn't here last week. Swallows have written out words of new carol and are all learning it.

3rd Dec. Chaffinches have been told by a Mum that Meals-on-Wheels will be understaffed the week before Christmas and have offered to help. Whole Patrol very happy with this change of plan. Robins have made £4.50, are

idea from PL, who has been to arrange time of visit to Holmwood (after reminder from me last week), is to take small gift to each resident as she has list of names. Gifts are to be soap, hankies etc bought from patrol funds. Numbers likely to be down next week as two schools have end of term plays on Friday.

17th Dec. Robins finishing packing food boxes for delivery this weekend. My assistant says that Kingfishers were a great help at the crèche. Both recruits (in Robins and Kingfishers) have met several pre-Promise Challenges during these good turns ie giving service, joining in with Patrol, cooking new recipe ... that new carol of the Swallows really is lovely and we've all picked it up now. Hope they all have a richly blessed Christmastide - me too!

AT BRONEIRION recently a group of Venture Scouts and Ranger Guides discussed among other things, some of the characteristics of Scouting and Guiding, and which features were especially applicable to the two Movements. Some of the words uttered were camping, out-of-doors, standards, good turns, service, friendship, enjoyment, badges, world friends, self-programming, Challenges, uniform and the Promise.

Some seemed surprised when it was agreed that it was the Promise which really gave Scouting and Guiding its special identity.

The activities and Programme of a Ranger Unit offer opportunities for growth in understanding the Promise, and the diagram of the Eight Points we have in our Handbooks shows how the Eight Points radiate from and lead back to the Promise. But is this enough?

Will understanding of the Promise come about naturally?

Do we need to do anything about it?

Are all Rangers and Guiders sufficiently aware of the Promise to act accordingly, whatever activity, happening, excitement, emergency turns up through the year?

A group of Guides, visiting the city when camping nearby, were interviewed by a local radio station reporter. Their Guider was not with them. Could we all be quite happy that our Rangers would react, radiate and advertise Guiding because they understood what Guiding is all about?

Is the Promise, for some at least, unreal, unrelated to life and therefore irrelevant?

Ranger Guiders and Ranger Committees might like to talk this over and decide what to do about it for their Units. The elected committee of a Unit (of which the Guiders are members) must undertake this vital responsibility if the Unit is going to be successful. The ideas produced need to be enjoyable, lively and stimulating, and, if possible, linked with the Programme in hand.

Time in each meeting needs to be allowed for some talk, discussion, action or activity related specifically to the Promise. It may not be prayers each time – but certainly something. Then, perhaps, attitudes related to the Promise will seep through all activities and daily life because of a fuller understanding and commitment.

Ideas for Ranger Meetings – Laws Wrong and Right

In groups Rangers list things which they think are really wrong, eg violence, actions which put at risk the lives of others, pollution, etc, and another list of wrongs which are doubtful or about which they disagree, eg telling lies, petty dishonesties, sex before marriage. The discussion which follows should be valuable and could be closed with a look at the Guide Law. The Guider needs to sit back and let discussion flow, contributing only when necessary or perhaps, when asked.

Thirty Second Parliament (See page 84 of Ranger Guider's Handbook for details).

Suggested topic: 'Does the wording of the Guide Law fit in with the ideals of young people today?'

When the vote is taken at the end, challenge the Rangers to decide whether they are voting for the best orators or the notion.

The New Member

Ask the Rangers present to write down

The Girl and The Promise

by Joan Tainsh

their first impressions of Rangers and Guiders when they came to their very first meeting. Why did they stay? Invite them to be honest, possibly submitting anonymous statements which could then be read out without embarrassment all round. We hope it would be humorous and illuminating.

Service

An evening handed over to considering the Unit's service projects for the next 6-12 months might well prove profitable and enjoyable.

Slides suggesting past or future ideas could be shown. A speaker involved with conservation, the care of the elderly, deaf and dumb or some other form of public service might stimulate and ensure response. It is as well, too, to hear from individual Rangers of their own good turns locally performed, because neglect of these to undertake a more flashy enterprise would indeed be a great pity. The Good Turn habit is what we all need to acquire.

Someone must tell the Rangers that

paragraphs from the Ranger Guide Handbook, pages 50-57, instead of prayers.

- 3) Ask Rangers to compile with you people and causes in need of our prayers. These themes can then be listed and used for weeks with volunteers' names written alongside as they offer to find suitable stories/prayers they will read on a particular meeting.

Discussions

- 1) Use topical news items eg the Archbishop's call to prayer, the Nairobi Conference, Thinking Day, plane disaster, earthquake, etc, to stimulate thoughts and prayers.

- 2) Invite members of different religions to speak to the Unit and then go as a Unit, not in uniform, to services of different religions and denominations.

- 3) Flags

Design and make a Unit flag which Rangers can carry to a service at each of the churches attended by individual members of the Unit.

- 4) Question Time

Invite a panel of people, eg your County Commissioner, a local clergyman, a parent, and Rangers ask questions, eg 'Is going to church necessary?' 'Is it childish to expect Rangers to do a Good Turn every day?'

How does belief in God affect you?

Selfishness

Challenge the Rangers to monitor their actions during a week, looking for selfishness in themselves and others. Exchange examples.

Investiture

The Ranger asks to be invested.

She understands she may join in activities and the Programme wearing Ranger uniform but the decision to be invested is hers and hers alone. This is the chance for Ranger Guider and Ranger to talk about the eight Challenges she has undertaken and the commitment she is about to make. Let the Ranger or the Ranger Committee choose the place; the Unit accepts the Ranger as a full member and the Ranger concerned accepts the Unit and the commitments provided and through it.

To the Ranger Guider comes the Challenge to help turn everything happening in the Unit to good account. To make the most of every occasion, be it disaster or success. She herself can best do this if she practises the Promise herself and reads and listens widely.

Eg

Praise and Thanksgiving by Christian Howard; *Life and Work* – the monthly magazine of the Church of Scotland; *Interbang* – Lutterworth Press; (GGA has an excellent Bibliography).



Illustrated by Jean de Lemos

service to others means sacrifice – in time, or money or pleasure, even to the extent of involving danger to the life of the performer. Service can be hard, difficult, unpleasant, but it is the continuing of it that brings results and satisfaction and an understanding of people.

For most of us people matter and how we relate to people is the most real thing we know.

'I sought my soul, and my soul I could not see;

I sought my God, and my God eluded me;

I sought my brother, and ... I found all three.'

(Ranger Guider's Handbook, page 57)

sums up for me the link between service and finding God.

Finding God

It is possible through Guiding to achieve confrontation with God, that which is worship and dwarfs all other experience and excitements.

To stimulate faith, belief, communication with God through activities, service, friendships within the Unit, discussions and prayers is surely the most glorious achievement.

Prayers

- 1) A book to record prayers made up or chosen by individual members and used week by week will often gain response.

- 2) Read week by week one of the Law

We Entertained The Badge Testers

By Joan Young

WHY DID my daughter have to make custard with the instructions on the tin covered up and her friend could read how many spoonfuls of powder to use', said an irate mother after her Guide daughter had successfully taken Cooks Badge.

The Commissioner took a deep breath and hastened to explain. 'There are two types of badges; most of which are Interest badges but some are Service badges. The Service badges are rather special. They involve the welfare and sometimes the life of other people. The Guides who gain these badges must have an up to date knowledge and above all be able to reach the standard laid down in the badge syllabus. To make sure that her knowledge and skill remain at the high standard the test sets, the Guide must renew her badge within two years, hence the name of this series of badges, Biennial Service Badges.

Most of the badges are Interest badges. These badges are designed to help girls further any skills they may have or to develop interests that otherwise they may have or to develop interests that otherwise they may not have had.

Each girl before she enters for the badge must understand and be able to complete the syllabus but the standard that she reaches may be different from that of another girl.

The 11 year old just beginning to

embroider would probably make a much simpler design than a 15 year old who has done a lot of sewing. Yet each one could obtain the Stitchery badge. In the same way a small neat and agile Guide would be encouraged to acquire a high standard in the floor exercises for the Gymnast badge whereas a less physically controlled girl who has practised and tried hard might well achieve a less complicated programme and yet still pass the test.

The badge test is to let a girl show what she can do, to stretch her and perhaps point the way in which she can continue to progress in the particular interest she has chosen.

Afterwards the Commissioner thought to herself 'That was all very well but do I really see that all that is done'.

Her thoughts roamed back to the day when as a new Commissioner she had read in her handbook that 'the District Commissioner appoints the Badge Testers for her District'. She recalled the awful moment of panic when she realised that she knew no one who could test Poultry Farmer let alone Spinner.

However at the next District meeting she had discussed with the Guiders, the appointment of Badge Testers and had found that a group of Testers for the more popular badges had grown up around each unit.

It had been a struggle to meet them

all but at each Company or Pack function to which she had been invited she had made a point of meeting any Badge Testers that were present and so gradually had talked to most of them.

Any new names that were added to the list had been done by her. She had a little list of ways of finding new Testers. Often a Guider would suggest someone, the Local Associations, the Guiding County especially the Camp Adviser and the Womens' Institute had all offered ideas. It had been found very necessary to talk with some of the proposed Testers rather than just send the syllabus and a polite note. There had been the expert who demanded expertise for all candidates and then there was the kindly soul who felt unable to fail anyone. It had not always been the Commissioner who had done the talking, sometimes it had been the District Assistant or an experienced Guider.

The Commissioner still considered the irate mother. Did all the Cooks Badge testers cover up the custard directions? Was it necessary? As usual she took the problem to the District meeting. Several useful points emerged.

Firstly, not all the Testers knew anything about the Guides that came to them. This was felt the Guider's fault, she should let the Tester know. How this was done was up to the Tester and the Guider, some preferred a quick phone call, others a note.

Secondly, it seemed that an important part of the test for some of the Guides was the arranging of it. If the Tester agreed the girls would write for an appointment for the test but must ask the Guider first. The District Guiders thought it a good idea and agreed to give it a try.

Thirdly, the Badge Testers needed to be kept up to date with changes in the badge syllabus. The District Secretary offered to send out amendments.

Lastly, there was concern that there were discrepancies in the tests when several people were Testers for the same badge. Some Testers expected too much and some too little. We must get together with the testers was the general agreement.

A cheese and wine evening was arranged. The Commissioner was to give a general chat and then little group discussions each with some testers and some Guiders.

'I'm sure that will help us all' mused the Commissioner suppressing a guilty thought about the bottle of wine her husband would donate.



illustrated by Jean de Lemos

DISTRICT

training

WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING

a report by Margaret Smyth

THE HILLS ARE ALIVE, or so it seemed on Saturday, 12th June, when Mrs Scott, CA for Ulster's Magilligan Camp-site, led the camp-fire at the close of the 50th Birthday Celebrations at Magilligan.

The Camp-site, bordering one of the finest beaches in the British Isles, owes its origin to the late Mrs Anna Moody who saw it as a place where young people could learn to live together in beautiful surroundings. She had the hut built and the site equipped for three Company camps. It



This happy group are obviously enjoying camp.

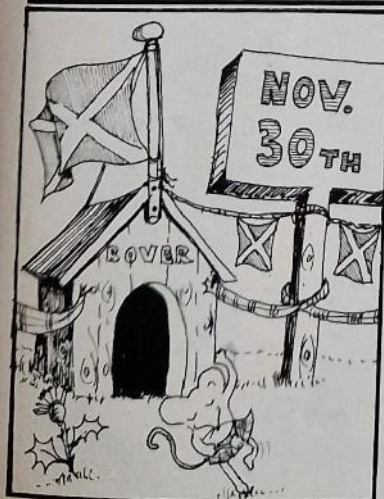
has been used ever since by Guides from all parts of the United Kingdom, except during the War years when it was taken over by the Royal Navy.

Mrs Scott took over the running of the camp after Mrs Moody's death and devotes much time and energy to the task. It was her idea that people who had camped at Magilligan during the past fifty years should be invited back for a birthday party. Old records and photographs were looked out and feverish searches made for present addresses. How would we get in touch? How many could we cater for? What if it's a cold, wet day?

At last it took shape and with help from local Guiders and LAs, and a Marquee provided and erected by the Ulster Defence Regiment, we were ready for The Day.

From the Blarney land to a barmy band . . . and a touch of St. Andrew's day tartan with the Three G's, below.

The Three G's



It was a lovely day and they came in hundreds, Guiders



Old friends get together amid beautiful surroundings.

who hadn't seen each other for years and years. They started with morning coffee and chatted right through camp dinner and afternoon tea. They bought the cakes and souvenirs, went down to the beach for a paddle, and we hoped we would have another next year.

During the morning Mrs T A Dickson, the Ulster Chief Commissioner, who came with her mother Mrs Greeves, a former Ulster Chief Commissioner, presented Queen's Guide Certificates to eight Guides from Londonderry County and one from Londonderry City. Mrs Dickson then paid tribute to Mrs Scott and presented her with a Thanks badge. All Ulster Guides thank Mrs Scott for the wonderful times spent at Magilligan.

The day ended with a camp-fire when all the 'oldies' were sung with much verve, and Magilligan was left to

*'Dream of bygone camp-fires
And long for those to come'.*

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by Sheila Graber

Royal Commonwealth Society Essay Competition

DO YOU enjoy writing? Each year The Royal Commonwealth Society holds an essay competition which is open to students of any country in the world. There are certain rules to be observed and for the lucky few there are valuable prizes. Printed below are the questions.

Decide which question you would like to answer, read it carefully and be sure to observe the following rules:

1. Entries must be received by Commonwealth and International Department, CHQ, accompanied by the coupon on this page, which must be signed by your Guider, not later than Tuesday, 18th January, 1977.
2. On the front page of your entry please give name, date of birth, Unit No, home address, age group, essay question No, and length of essay.
3. Essays should be hand written, with a wide margin on the left hand side of each page.
4. Please list the books you have read to help you write the essays, and give details of any other sources of information you have used.
5. Your essay may be supported with diagrams, illustrations and maps, but remember that it is an essay competition and the examiners will concentrate on the written work.

The best three essays received will win a book prize given by GUIDER and will then be submitted in the international competition for final judging by examiners appointed by the Royal Commonwealth Society.

CLASS A: Candidates between 16 and 19 on 31st December, 1976. Not more than 2,000 words on one of the following questions:

1. The use of English as a common working language needs more positive encouragement by governments if it is to remain a vital factor in the success of Commonwealth co-operation. Comment.
2. Discuss the statement made recently by the Commonwealth Secretary General His Excellency, Mr Shridath S Ramphal: 'The modern Commonwealth - the Commonwealth today has not evolved from empire; it is the negation of empire, and therein lies its character.'
3. The Commonwealth is rich in the performing arts. Discuss their value both as expressions of national identity and as contributions to world culture.
4. Is it possible for a Commonwealth Country to contribute usefully to such regional organisations as the European Economic Community or the Organisation of African Unity while remaining a positive member of the Commonwealth?

First Prize: International Air Travel - Return flight for two by British Airways to any Commonwealth country. Arrangements for this study tour will be made jointly by the Girl Guides Association and the Royal Commonwealth Society's Headquarters in London.

Second Prize: £30 in cash and £20 books

Third Prize: £20 in cash and £15 books

Fourth Prize: £15 in cash and £10 books

CLASS B: For candidates between 14 and 16 years - details of essay questions are published in November *TODAY'S GUIDE*.

ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY ESSAY COMPETITION

To: Commonwealth and Overseas Department,
Girl Guides Association.

17-19 Buckingham Palace Road,
London SW1 OPT.

Name

Address

Patrol and Company

Date of Birth

I certify that the attached is the unaided work of
the above named Guide.

..... Guider

MAINLY FOR RANGERS

D of E Expedition

THE THREE OF US (Sally, Anne and I) set out in high spirits on Saturday morning, 6th September. We travelled to Westmeston in the comparative luxury of a car, but there we were abandoned - or so we thought! I should mention at this point that each of us was using the expedition for a different purpose. Anne was to study the earthworks visible from the South Downs Way, I was to study the flora and fauna, and Sally was studying the places of interest.

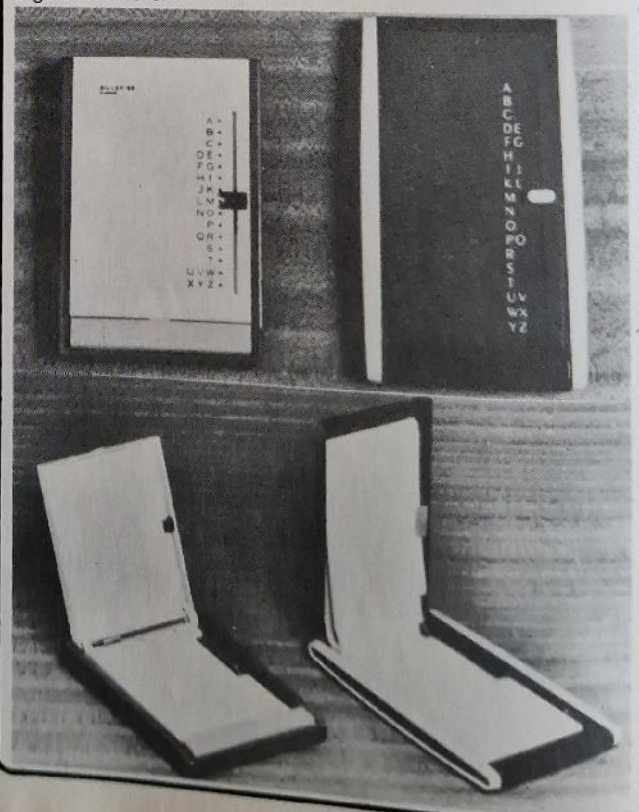
We found ourselves wondering what our Assessor would be like as we prepared to meet him, this dreadful being, but funnily enough he seemed remarkably human! We gave him a copy of our proposed route and he made sure we knew which way to start! We then bade him farewell and set off on our 500 ft climb to Ditchling Beacon, meeting up with him again at the top. The path we had chosen was moderately flat, and along the top of the Downs wherever possible. Fortunately the weather was clear and we had breathtaking views, both to the South coast, and to the Surrey hills.

We stayed overnight in a modern, airy youth hostel in Upper Beeding, from where we reported by 'phone to our Ranger Guider. The two days flew by, and it was only when we were being driven in comfort back home to Claygate that we could consolidate all our experiences. We had seen so many places, or so it seemed, including Pyecombe, the Devil's Dyke, Chanctonbury Ring and Washington. Weary though we were at the end, and comfortable though the car was, it was not without regret that we left behind the country churches and splendid views of the South Downs Way.

Suzanne Huddart, Claygate.

A Call at Christmas

LET'S TAKE an early look at the Christmas gifts market - out in front are these telephone indexes, below, marketed by Spirollo, to stand by your phone and open at the touch of your finger. On the right is the model known as *The Courier (Alice)*, which is available in blue, green and orange, at a cost of £2.15. *The Elm*, on the left, comes in cream only and costs £2.49. Both available from large stationers.



Angers Abroad

ANGER Jill Collis introduces us to the island of Väsarö earlier this year and Guide Jill Bearpark takes up the story.

Sollentuna Norra Scout Group

On the 29th July a party of ten Guides and two Leaders left Felixstowe travelled by ship to Gothenburg. We travelled by train to Stockholm. In Stockholm we were met by our hostesses with whom we were to spend the following week. In that week we learned a little about the Swedish way of life, and were taken on several sightseeing trips arranged by the Sollentuna Norra Scouts.

On Saturday, 7th August, the Sollentuna Norra Scouts and their English and Taiwanese guests travelled by coach and

ferry from Stockholm to Väsarö. Väsarö is a small island in the north of the Stockholm archipelago, and belongs to the Scout Association. Most of the island is wooded, but there are several clearings in the forest and these are used as campsites. The organisation of the camp was similar to that of British camps. Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning were spent establishing the camp, constructing gadgets, collecting wood and turfing for fire pits. The cooking was done in tent patrols on wood fires.

Jill Collis, *Chesterfield*.

Each day in camp began at 7.00 am when we all washed in the sea, which was most refreshing! Breakfast followed, and a non-stop round of activities commenced at 9.00. We followed trails, went canoeing, sailing, orienteering, and walking. In fact, activities were only interrupted by the need to eat! At 11.30 each morning we called a halt to make our fires to cook our

own lunch – a time for chat, fun, and the exchange of ideas. Our particular speciality was the way in which we set up our washing-up facilities using gadgets – these were very much admired and so successful that we ended up making gadgets for all the camp!

Tea was at 4.30 pm, followed by more activities, sometimes handcrafts, volleyball and so forth, and we held a camp fire sing song several times, when we all made a contribution (tuneful or otherwise!) in our own language.

We took a Swedish sauna one evening, washing in the sea, steaming in temperatures of 100°F, then cooling off in the sea. It was marvellous!

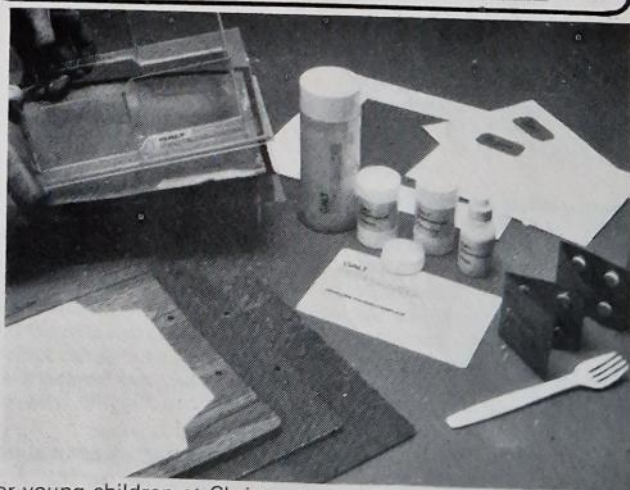
We worked hard all week and every minute was busy, but we had such a lot of fun and companionship, made new friends and learned a lot from one another. It is this that we will remember.

Jill Bearpark, *Alfreton*.

A Winter at Woolworth's

WOOLWORTH'S predict a two-piece winter! Their range of pretty and practical suits includes these, right. The wool mixture pin-stripe suit, left, consists of this smart close-fitting waistcoat with tab pockets and half belt at the back, and a plain skirt with small side slits. Immaculate fashion to dazzle many a pin-striped city gent, it comes in grey with a white stripe, sizes 10-14, and costs £3.99 per piece.

The casual plain suit on the right features an A-line skirt and pull-on top, both in finest Courtelle. You can add a splash of colour to the grey days by choosing the suit in blue, red or green, or tone in modestly in camel! Whatever colour you choose, the suit is available in sizes 12-16 and costs £3.49 for the skirt and £4.99 for the top. Both outfits to be found in the larger branches of Woolworth.



Galt Toys have come up with a whole new range of gifts for young children at Christmas, and leading the field is their Papermaker, above right. This ingenious device is useful as well as entertaining, for it involves a series of processes by which old newspaper and magazines may be turned into notepaper and envelopes. The kit contains the moulds, wire mesh, size, colouring tablets and pulper – in short, everything one needs to make paper. Some pulp pieces are also provided to simplify the first attempts. Ideal for children – and somewhat fascinating for many adults too – the kit costs £5.98 and may be purchased at your local toy-shop.

Another clever and artistic idea from Galt Toys is this Flower and Leaf Press, above left, for children of seven and over. Pressed petals and leaves make the most attractive pictures and collages, and are great fun to arrange, but how much easier the whole process becomes with a ready-made kit such as this one, at the very modest price of £1.99. There are many more clever inventions and fascinating gifts from Galt Toys, so look out for their goods in your local toy-shop.

TRAINING

	FOXLEASE Lyndhurst, Hants SO4 7DG Tel: (Lyndhurst) 042-128 2638.	WADDOW Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 3LD Tel: (Clitheroe) 0200 23186.	BRONEIRION Llandinam, Mont SY17 5DE
Nov	5-7 South West England (by allocation) 12-14 London and South East England (by allocation) 19-21 1. Pack Holiday Training 2. Activities for Christmas 26-28 Helping the Young Leader (County Leadership Advisers, Commissioners and Guiders)	5-7 Greater Manchester North 12-14 Making the Most of the District (District Commissioners with up to seven of their Guiders) 19-21 Manchester 26-28 General Training	5-7 General Training (places for Clwyd) 12-14 (Outside Booking) 19-21 General Training (places for Gwent)
Dec	3-5 Guide Section Trainers (Diploma and Certificate) 28-4 New Year Houseparty 'With Gilbert JAN and Sullivan Flavour'	30-4 Choose What You Will (Guitar, Crafts, JAN Music or Heraldry in Guiding)	3-5 Music and Crafts for Christmas
Jan	7-9 Making the Most of the District (District Commissioners with up to seven of their Guiders) 14-16 Wiltshire South 21-23 General Training 28-30 Anglia (by allocation)	7-9 General Training 14-16 North West England Camp Advisers 21-23 Ranger Guiders/Venture Scout Leaders Conference 28-30 Making the Most of the District (District Commissioners with up to seven of their Guiders)	
Feb	4-6 1. Pack Holiday Training 2. Crafts for the Pack 11-13 Hampshire West 25-27 General Training	4-6 Greater Manchester North 11-13 1. General Training 2. Campfire Leaders and Prospectives 25-27 Creative Activities for Packs and Companies	
March	4-6 Oxfordshire 11-13 1. Exploring the Forest 2. Art and Crafts for the Company 18-20 South West England (by allocation) 25-27 Greater London Kent	4-6 Leeds 11-13 Pack Holiday and Camp Training 18-20 West Mercia 25-27 General Training	
April	7-11 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Course (Easter) (Girls and Boys) 15-17 London and South East England (Guide Section Training) 22-24 Young Players (Joint Scout/Guide Weekend) 29-1 MAY London North East County	1-3 North Yorkshire West 6-13 Young Leaders' Week (Easter) 15-17 Staffordshire County 22-24 General Training 29-1 MAY Cheshire Wirral	
May	6-8 Division Commissioners with up to three of their District Commissioners 13-15 Cardiff and East Glamorganshire County 20-22 General Training 27-29 Making the Most of the District (District Commissioners with up to seven of their Guiders)	6-8 Birmingham County 13-15 General Training 20-22 1. Ranger Guiders 2. Guide Section Trainers 27-29 General Training	
June	3-7 Family Week (B. Hol.)	3-7 Duke of Edinburgh's Award Gold (B. Hol.) Course (Girls only)	

Trainings marked 'General' are

Fees at Foxlease and Waddow:

Shared room, per day	£3.00
Double room, per day	£3.50
Single room, per day	£4.00
Deposit £1.00 cheque or postal order only	
† Subject to VAT	

announcements

Intermediate/Advanced Instructor Dinghy Sailing Course

A block booking has been made for members of the Scout Association and the Girl Guides Association to attend a course at the National Sailing Centre at Cowes, from 9th-16th April, 1977. This course will give the opportunity to obtain training for all three standards or for assessment at Intermediate or Advanced level. The cost will be £52.00 (including VAT), which is considerably below that for a single booking. This cost has been guaranteed, and there will be no increases to the stated price. Grants are available from the Outdoor Activities Bursary Fund; please apply through your country/region Headquarters.

Applicants should be above the Elementary Day Boat Standard, and at least 17 years of age. Application forms can be obtained from the Training Departments of either Association. The closing date for applications will be 17th December, 1976.

Foxlease Camp-sites

Application for sites next year should reach Foxlease by 4th January, 1977, and will be considered during the week commencing 11th January. They should be addressed to the Secretary and the envelope marked 'Camp'. Suggested dates with alternatives and approximate numbers should be stated, and whether an equipped

HOW TO APPLY

Any Guider may 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. Training sessions at a two-day weekend will stop at tea-time Sunday unless otherwise stated. Individuals who are able to stay over until Monday 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.

CALENDAR

NETHERURD HOUSE
The Bridge, West Linton,
West Lothian, Tel: 096 88 208

Guiders and County Leadership
Commissioners
and Guide Guiders (including
Shropshire SE Division)
Weekend

Guiders (by invitation)
Commissioners

Patrol Leaders
Advanced Weekend for experienced
Brownie and Guide Guiders
File - Guider/Scouter Training

for Brownie and Guide Guiders.

Guiders applying for trainings in 1977 are asked to note that owing to increasing costs we are regretfully forced to raise the prices at both Foxlease and Waddow from 1st January, 1977. Fees from that date will be as follows: deposit

£2.00, all fees increased by 50p per day.

Fees at Broneirion

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

Fees at Netherurd

Shared room, per day	£3.00
Double room, per day	£3.25
Single room, per day	£3.50
Deposit	£1.00
Training fee for non-residents	50p per weekend.

GLENBROOK Bamford, Nr. Sheffield, S30 2AL

SUGGESTED COURSES FOR 1977

Apr	15-17 Course A/77 All or Nothing (Ranger Guides)
May	13-15 Course B/77 Skills Courses for Guiders/Scouters/Rangers of 16 or over 1 Canoeing - holders of Canoeist Permit or equivalent to gain experience/training for Canoeing Charge Permit/BCU Proficiency (Inland) Certificate. 2 Caving - for those wishing to gain experience and knowledge of local caves. 3 Climbing - for those wishing to gain experience and knowledge of local climbs.
June	24-26 Course C/77 Adventure Course for Guides (aged 12 to 14 inclusive)
Aug	26-29 Course D/77 Adventure Camp for Rangers
Sept	16-18 Course E/77 Adventure Course for Ranger Guides/Venture Scouts

For information, and details of fees, write to the Secretary, enclosing foolscap sae

— outdoor activities —

site is required. Camps may begin on any weekday.

A 50p deposit (which is forfeited if the booking is cancelled) and a foolscap sae should be enclosed.

Beaverbrook Lodge

Applications should be sent to the Secretary, Foxlease giving alternative dates and enclosing an initial deposit of £1.00 (which is non-refundable) and a foolscap sae. Priority will be given to applicants who have not already stayed in Beaverbrook Lodge. Applications for the period 1st April, 1977-30th September, 1977 will be accepted now.

Waddow Camp-sites

Applications for sites next year will be considered during the first week of January, 1977. They should be addressed to the Secretary and the envelope marked 'Camp'. Suggested dates with alternatives and approximate numbers should be stated and whether an equipped site is required. It is preferred that Camps begin on Saturday.

A 50p deposit (which is forfeited if the booking is cancelled) and a foolscap sae should be enclosed.

Waddow Cottage and Caravan

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

Waddow Pack Holiday House

Applications for Pack Holidays in 1977 will be considered on and after 15th November 1976 and 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 will be taken from 1st January 1977.

Applications for the Brownie House will be taken on 1st December 1976 (form of application available from 1st November). During Scottish School holiday periods (Easter, July, half August) priority will be given to Scottish Packs.

A three-berth holiday caravan is also available.

Broneirion Camp Site and Brownie House

Only one small camp site equipped for 24, which number cannot be exceeded. Applications for camp site and Brownie House will be considered from 31st December 1976, and should be sent to: Miss P Lynch, 3c Pentryn Court, Whitechurch, Cardiff, CF4 7BY, enclosing sae.

Bookings for Brownie House outside school holidays should be sent to the Guider-in-Charge, Broneirion, Llandinam, Powys, SY17 5DE.

Highgate Centre, Broneirion

This cottage will sleep 15 (no beds). Available for bookings from 1st March, for Rangers, mixed groups, or Guides over 13, with suitably qualified Guider. Address: Welsh Girl Guides Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Highgate, Broneirion,

Llandinam, Powys, SY17 5DE.

May be used for Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions provided the booking is made by either the assessor or supervising adult.

Holidays at Lorne

Lorne will be open as a holiday centre during July and August. In pleasant grounds with lovely views and quiet surroundings on the shore of Belfast Lough, Lorne is only six miles from Belfast and is a good centre for sight-seeing tours.

Special terms for parties or Guide Companies taking the house and wishing to do their own cooking and catering.

Full details from the Guider-in-Charge, Lorne, Craigavad, Co Down, Ulster.

Lorne Camp-sites

Lorne offers fully equipped or un-equipped Camp-sites with solid shelter. Calor gas available. Applications should be sent to Mrs E Thompson, 14 Woodland Avenue, Bangor, Co Down.

Irene McKibbin Memorial Cottage, Lorne

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

Ulster Camp-sites (nr Lorne)

Fully equipped for 40 campers (one large and two small Camps). Excellent hut for solid shelter and Calor gas. Bookings should be sent to Miss N Pratt, 22 Bangor Road, Hollywood, Co Down, enclosing sae.

— camping —

— courses —

Magilligan Camp-sites

Three fully equipped sites with double Calor gas stove for 25-30 campers. Also large three-room hut with an open fire-place. For details apply to Mrs R F Scott, Derrymore House, Limavady, Co Londonderry, enclosing sae.

Blackland Farm, East Grinstead, Sussex

Equipped and unequipped sites available with facilities for swimming, climbing and pioneering (for which equipment can be borrowed). Also 'Restrop', a furnished bungalow for 25 (bunk beds for 20). For details 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.

National Scout Activity Centres

Copies of the 1977 Programmes for the National Scout Boating Centre and the National Scout Air Activity Centre are available from the Training Secretary at Baden-Powell House. Please send foolscap sae.

Both Centres are offering courses that have been run successfully in the past, as well as courses and programmes covering new items of both activities. Courses are for both adults and Scouts and Venture Scouts, and are open to members of the Girl Guides Association subject to availability.

The Flour Advisory Bureau's Lecture Service

Members of the Bureau's NUTRITION AND HOME ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT give lectures on food and nutrition (e.g. Choosing Our Food for Health, Modern Life and Modern Meals) and practical talks on the choice and use of bread to audiences of recognised educational establishments consisting of a minimum of 30 students (40 for practical talks). No fees or expenses are charged. All the lecturers are fully qualified and have had practical experience in nutrition, dietetics and home economics. The head of the department is

Mrs. J. Audrey Ellison, B.Sc., F.I.F.S.T., F.A.H.E.

For further information please contact Miss Gillian Niblock, Lectures' Organiser, The Flour Advisory Bureau, 21 Arlington St., London SW1A 1RN. Tel. 01-493 2521.

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HQ NOTICES

Public Relations Workshop

A Workshop designed to help you improve your personal skills will be held at CHQ on Saturday, 12th March, 1977. Sessions planned include writing for the Press, replying to a TV



or Radio interviewer, mounting a display, preparing printwork, organising a meeting and replying to a vote of thanks, etc. See December *GUIDER* for further details. Press and Public Relations Department, Commonwealth Headquarters.

Training Diploma Award

Mrs Susan Guy, Nottingham, Training Diploma (Brownie).

Thinking Day

Please think now and order early to avoid disappointment. Girl Guides Trading Service, Atlantic Street, Broadheath, Altrincham, Cheshire. Telephone 061 941 2237. 1977 Catalogue available in mid-December.



Carol Singing in Trafalgar Square

This year members of the Association will be singing carols on Wednesday, 22nd December, 1976 from 5 pm to 6 pm. This is a great opportunity for everyone to join together and welcome Christmas in this traditional way. Some modern folk carols will be sung as well as the old favourites.



Three Guide PLs, members of the orderlies' squad, fetching stores for the 1st World Camp at Foxlease in 1924. (This 'activity picture' is the kind of photograph we need for the Ranger Diamond Jubilee - although, of course, they needn't be of such important events!).

Wanted Urgently

If you know a Ranger or a Ranger Guider who has clear photographs of Ranger activities between the years 1917-1950 can you ask her to send them as quickly as possible to the Archivist at CHQ in connection with the Ranger Diamond Jubilee in 1977. We are particularly inter-

ested in photographs when the new branch was starting and in the 2nd World War period (1939-1945). The captions should be clear. The photographs will be returned, unless, of course, the donors would generously like to give them to the CHQ Photo Library.

T Wallis Myers
(HQ Archivist).

Travelling to Camp by Lorry

Further to the notice on this subject in the September *GUIDER* the following advice should be followed:

The Guider-in-Charge should make sure that the vehicle is roadworthy, that the weight of the equipment is evenly distributed and safely packed and that all persons in the lorry remain seated whenever it is in motion. A responsible Guider must be in charge and must travel in the lorry rather than in an accompanying vehicle. The police would be justified in saying that this was an unsafe method of travel, if there were no proper control over the Guides travelling in it.

British Rail Youth Travel Bargains

Did your Guides and Rangers between 14-18 who travelled in groups of less than 10 people or individually use British Rail Certificates of Identity this summer? If not, remember them when organising or sending a participant to an

event this Autumn and Winter.

These Certificates of Identity enable young persons between the ages of 14 and 18 to obtain half fares when they are:

- travelling individually to a central point for an organised event sponsored by an authorised organisation.
- in groups of less than 10 persons undertaking an activity including rail travel.
- travelling to a central point of departure when meeting the rest of a group, and then continuing the travel as a group.

The half fare ticket may be purchased on presentation of a Certificate of Identity which should be retained by the passenger until completion of the return journey and produced on demand. All journeys must be returns to the same place as original departure.

The Certificates of Identity are available from

your Country/Region Headquarters.

Remember also the economy tickets available for you as well, at the adult fare, whether or not you are attending an organised event. They are Awayday Return, Weekend Return, 17-day Return, and Book-Ahead Economy Return; enquire at your local station or British Rail Office.

Jubilee Badge

1977 is Jubilee year. Watch out in next month's *GUIDER* for full details about the Queen's Silver Jubilee Scout and Guide Badge. The profits from the sale of these attractive metal badges will be given to the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal.

Scout & Guide Trust Fund

On 30th September, 1976 the value of a share in the above Fund was: 32.90p selling purposes; 34.53p for buying purposes; 7.24% interest only yield.

The interest only yield does not include any capital appreciation and is based on the share buying price on the date stated.

Short Term Investment Service

Monthly interest rate after deduction of management commission: July 1976 10.156%; August 1976 9.8%; September 1976 10.875%. Additional .5% pa for deposits of £2,500 and above.

STOP PRESS . . .

Owing to unprecedented interest in our 1975 Annual Report supplies are now exhausted. If any Guiders have inadvertently ordered more copies than they can use we would be pleased if they would return them to: Press and PR Dept, The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Rd, London SW1W 0PT who will refund the postage and the purchase price where necessary. Please make sure that all copies returned are in good condition.



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THE GIRL GUIDE FRIENDSHIP FUND

CHRISTMAS is already too near for most of us! So much to be done in the following (all too few) weeks. For our Brownies and Guides it is an exciting time of year; they don't worry, they talk about and plan their good turns and I really do believe they love doing them.

As you know we – that is, the GGFF – plan to help four very deserving good causes this Christmas. We fully realise you all have your own favourite charities but we very much hope that your Packs and Companies will share their giving with the GGFF, which is *their* own fund and channel for their Good Turns. May I briefly say a little more about these four:

Children's Kidney Failure Research I wish you had been with me recently when I visited one of London's largest hospitals with a special department devoted to research into kidney failure and kidney disease. In the very remarkable Dialysis Ward, staffed by some of the greatest experts in this field of medicine and by highly skilled and devoted nurses, there were some wonderfully brave children learning to use for themselves the kidney machine, which gives them the artificial kidney without which they could not survive. To me it seemed a most intricate machine, to them it was their life-saver and they were deeply interested in it and also amazingly expert and knowledgeable. In some cases the mother or father was there beside the bed learning the technique too. All this is preparatory to 'going home', for once the patient and the parent understands fully how to work the apparatus the whole thing goes home. When things go well the child leads an almost normal life again, going to school, playing games etc so long as he or she keeps strictly to the hours of dialysis – ie those vital hours on the machine. As in all things experimental there cannot be 100% success. One small boy looked so despairing, his dark eyes unnaturally large for the thin, pale face; he was back in the ward for the third time, Sister told us, putting her arm round him. 'Third time lucky!' she said with a smile, but afterwards told us two transplants had failed and the future was uncertain. However, the keynote in that bright cheerful seemingly happy ward was **hope**. We were taken to another ward – the Children's Kidney Ward: here were children of varying ages at different stages of the cure. Most had had transplant operations and were doing very well; some were in for the day for a check up. It was a happy, cheerful atmosphere with gay pictures on the walls, a playroom and a dining room where the mothers had their lunch with the children. One tiny girl had both parents by her bedside, they were expecting to take her home quite soon and were so full of hope.

Today medical knowledge has made tremendous strides in this particular field of medicine. Many children who some years ago would surely have died can now be assured of a reasonably normal life, either after a transplant operation, or with the artificial kidney provided by a machine. The NHS does, of course, provide the basic requirements of these two wards, but there are many additional needs to aid the doctors and nurses in their dedicated and devoted work – some of these I have described in our special Information Sheet which is available to all those interested in helping this intensely deserving cause. I came away thinking: '... the next little one there may be one of my Brownies or Guides ...' In fact

they had had a Brownie – one of the doctors told us how wonderful she had been and how they all loved her. Indeed this we knew, for she was recently awarded the Star of Merit for her great courage and cheerfulness in the face of extreme pain and a long illness. I was more than ever determined that we should do our utmost this Christmas to provide *some* of the things so urgently needed in this vital life-saving work of the Kidney Research Units.

Winged Fellowship Trust If we can help to build the new holiday home in Nottingham – now in the process of construction – the GGFF can possibly have a 'Friendship Room' where many disabled people who have probably never had a holiday before, never seen outside their own room, will know that the Brownies and Guides *thought* of them at Christmas time. The name of the Trust came from a chance remark by one of the first of the severely disabled guests at the first of the Holiday Homes: 'It's like being given wings,' she said! Perhaps we can help to give many more 'wings'.

Age Concern £10 can provide extra bedding and help to pay for heating and food for an elderly person living alone during the winter months. £50 can help to launch a 'Lunch Club' where old people can get a hot meal once or twice a week and enjoy a chat with others. So £500 will help to keep 50 old people warm and happy this winter, and £500 will launch 10 new Lunch Clubs in different parts of the country. This is our target.



A guide dog in training.

Guide Dogs for the Blind Brownie Guiders, please send for the special Information Sheet on this special Brownie Christmas Good Turn – if you have not already done so or already sent a donation. Much has already come in, for which we are tremendously grateful.

There is still time to send for any, or all of the four Information Sheets in the Christmas Good Turns, and the GGFF news sheet, posters and stickers. Send your name and address and, please, a postage stamp!

Best wishes for happy money-raising efforts for all your Christmas good turns – including the GGFF! All requests and donations should be addressed to: The Girl Guide Friendship Fund, Girl Guides Association, 17 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

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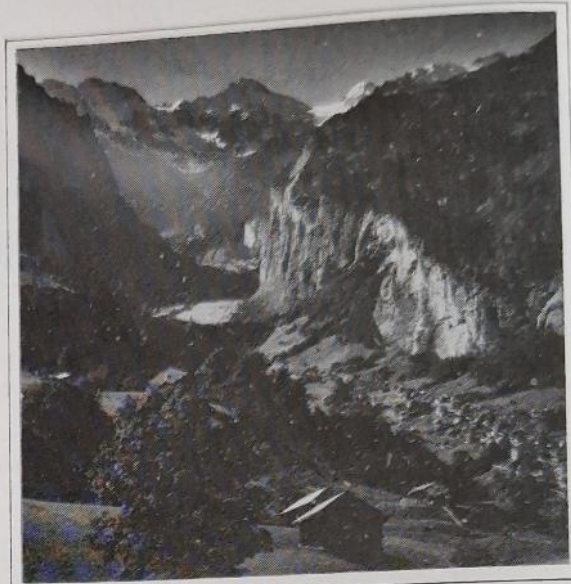
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Nothing Ventured, nothing gained

From Calais to Adelboden with Jillian Payne

HOW TRUE THAT IS. I never thought I would take Guides abroad – I'd never been abroad myself, before – but one of my daughters said she would love to go to Switzerland, and that set me thinking. I asked my District Commissioner for permission to take a group of Guides to Switzerland; this was kindly granted, and then began eighteen months' preparation and fund raising. Our adventure was to begin on 20th July, 1976.

Thirty-four of us left Tadley, travelling by coach to Victoria, where we were met by the Camptours coach which took us to Dover to catch the Hovercraft. As this was two hours late, we ate our tea before the trip. None of us had been in a Hovercraft before, but it felt as though we were flying. Soon we landed in Calais, where we were told to put our watches forward one hour, France being an hour ahead of England and Switzerland. From Calais we drove through the night to Adelboden. There was a change of driver at Fontainebleau, and we had breakfast at Pontarlier.

On arrival at Adelboden, we were met by the Camptours representatives, Ian and John, who introduced me to Herr Hare, the landlord of 'our' Chalet. Herr Hare then took me over the chalet. This was lovely, with a large dining room, kitchen with an electric cooker and all the necessary catering equipment; leaders' bedrooms, one double, one for three – both with washbasins; five bedrooms upstairs, equipped with bunk beds; two showers; three toilets; more wash basins, central heating.

Every evening John and Ian came to see what we wanted to do, and made the arrangements for us. One of them accompanied us on five outings.

On the first day we explored Adelboden, and then went on to visit the woodcarver, going across a gorge. In the afternoon, we played rounders.

Saturday I had booked for a tour of the Guide Chalet. John came with us, and after the thrill of going over the chalet, he took twelve of us up footpaths to a height of

5,000 ft. to see the cheesemaker. The scenery was wonderful, with alpine flowers in profusion, and cows and goats with bells around their necks roaming all over the mountain. After we had seen how the cheese was made, the cheesemaker played his alpine horn for us.

On Sunday, after our Guides' Own Service, John came and we walked to Birg, the cable car station, and went up to the top of the Engstligen Falls. At the top, snow was falling feebly, so we ate lunch in the station, then John led us down the mountain path beside the falls, which was great fun, and the favourite outing for most of the Guides.

On Monday we had a coach tour, with Ian this time. We travelled via Frutigen-Aesche-Interlaken to Grindelwald where we shopped. Then via Lauterbrunnen to the splendid Trummel Bach Falls, back to Interlaken for two hours' shopping, then back to Adelboden.

Next day we met Ian, at Oey Bridge, ten minutes' walk from the chalet; we caught a local bus to Frutigen and a train to Mulenen, then took the mountain railway up the Niesen Kulm (7,600 ft high). The return trip included a boat crossing of Lake Thun. In Thun itself we visited a museum and did some shopping, then returned to Adelboden by train and bus.

On Wednesday we met John at Oey Bridge, travelled by bus to Frutigen, then by train to Goppenstein, going through the nine-mile Lotschberg Tunnel. From Tafleralps, which we reached by bus, we walked to Blatten. The scenery in that valley was so different from ours; not so green, cows everywhere, running streams, snow-capped mountains – a real mountain village. We then returned to Adelboden by bus and train.

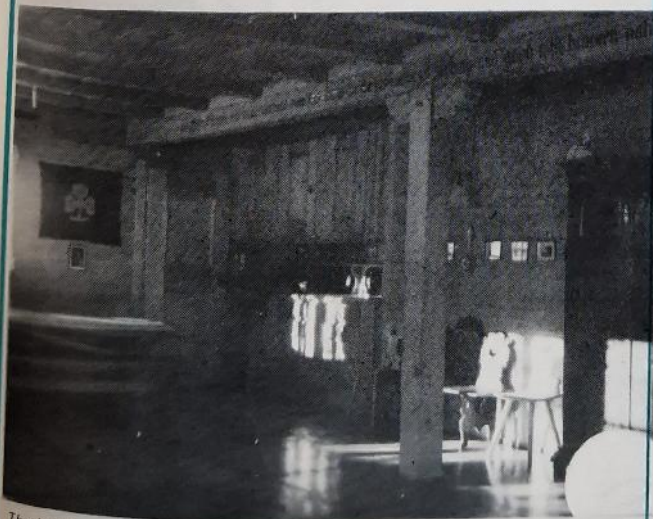
Thursday was our last day, so after giving the chalet a thorough clean, we went swimming at Adelboden, and then did some last-minute shopping.

On Friday the coach came at 8.30, and we went to Berne for two hours' sightseeing. The Tourist Office was helpful, as they have maps showing a route round Berne, including the Bear Pits, Cathedral and Houses of Parliament.

For the return journey, we left Boulogne by ferry and had our breakfast on board. We were at Victoria by lunch time.

During our stay at the chalet, we were lucky in having a food shop only ten minutes' walk away. The lady there spoke English and was very helpful. To buy fresh meat we went to Adelboden, and had no language difficulties there either. Cheese was a problem, for as we needed a large amount, this had to come from cheese shops, and English wasn't understood. However, 'Edam' was, and by means of sign language, we managed to understand each other! I must add that we had taken lots of dried food with us, and most of our butter.

I don't know what I shall remember most – the cleanliness; the friendly people; the fun of understanding the money, or trying to work out the advertisements, the beautiful scenery; – whatever it is, I know I must return, and I have certainly 'gained' many things, because of my daughter's wish.



The interior of Our Chalet.



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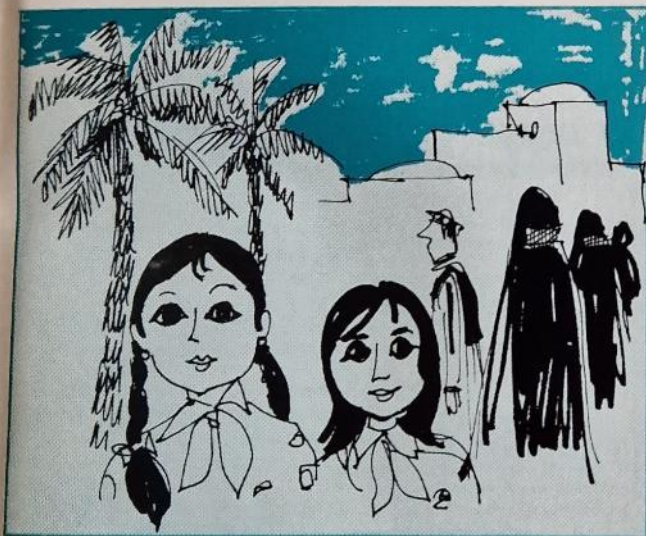
A Middle Eastern Encounter

THOUSANDS OF MILES from home, on holiday in Bahrain, I met the English DC, Mrs Anne Phillips, but her four Brownie Packs and two Guide Companies were all on Easter Holidays.

While shopping in the Arab Souk, I was fortunate to recognise the USA Girl Scout uniform and to meet the American Leader, Mrs Marsha Johnson, and four of her Cadets. Several Girl Scouts and Cadets were preparing for their visit to Cyprus for six days as part of their Travellers Badge. There are 117 Registered Members of the Girl Scouts in Bahrain.

However, I had been most disappointed at not being able to contact the Bahrain Guides and Brownies, and despite my wonderful holiday this was my one regret – then, the most exciting thing happened! The day prior to our departure, I looked out of the window into the garden – was I seeing a mirage? No, they were real Brownies by the Pool... I should really say 'Special flowers in my Bahrain garden' because I later learned Brownies are called 'Flowers' in Bahrain...

I ran into the garden, calling my husband to bring the camera. The children all talked together, mainly in Arabic and then in English: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday... January, February, March – there was no



mistaking their Brownie uniforms and gold ties. I went into the house and quickly threw on my Guide dress, and returned – the children were so excited and saluted me, clamouring around. Their Guider was at the gate and was persuaded to join us with sign language! Come, come, the children said, and pointed out of the gate and down the road. Being a diabetic I left them for a few minutes to get something to eat as it was then 1.30 pm and I had had no lunch. I followed in the direction the children had gone and soon the children saw me in the village. My husband commented afterwards, 'It was like the Pied Piper... you were surrounded and followed by swarms of children.'

I soon found myself inside the Jidhafs School Court yard. Many chairs were arranged as if for a concert. I was guided to a front seat and joined by more children, teachers and other adults who were eager to shake hands. I later realised that many Persian rugs were spread on the ground in front, and beyond that a stage had been erected over the balcony, which was draped with deep red velvet curtains.

Four Bahrain Guides introduced themselves and soon

we were sitting on the rugs, they were singing and everyone was clapping their hands. I was requested to stay for the concert (again using sign language, at 3 pm – 3.30 pm – 4 pm). At last more visitors started to come. The Head Teacher arrived, and the Deputy Education Arab Minister with several of his staff; also I was very pleased to be greeted by the Principal of the Teacher Training College, Mrs Fatima Salim (who most kindly interpreted the activities for the rest of the afternoon).

The Principal and the Ministers were invited to see the Exhibition of the children's handcraft and I was fascinated to join them. We went up a stone staircase which had been covered with a long carpet for the occasion and we toured the classrooms. The work was of a very high standard and very beautifully arranged. At last we came to the 'Flowers' room which, although written in Arabic, could easily be recognised by the display. Photographs showed the Flowers and Guides playing, working and camping. I learned there are twelve groups of Flowers in Bahrain mainly in the schools, but I was unable to discover the number of Guides who also had camped in other Arab countries.

We returned to our seats where the concert began. I was presented with a programme (in Arabic, of course!). Firstly one of the children read the Koran, this was followed by dancing and then the Flowers depicted their work in and out of doors and other activities. They were all looking very smart in their uniforms. The concert was most colourful and delightfully arranged, including Arab dancing and a village wedding by the older students. The singing and dancing was most fascinating, skits were acted and finally one of the Flowers played their National Anthem on the accordion.

Finally a small shrine like 'incense' was brought to us (similar to a chalice in mosaic and star shaped at the top). Waving the left hand over the smouldering contents, you breathe the delicate scent and pass on to the next person. (I do not think I did this quite right, but received a charming smile from the Ministers, nonetheless!) I learned the incense was a sign that the proceedings were coming to an end. It was now quite dark and I could not believe that five hours had flown – it was nearly 7 o'clock. The Shaikh suggested that I meet the Education Minister on the Saturday, but alas, I was due to fly home early that morning. 'You must come again,' he said. Who knows, perhaps I may? If not, I can recommend a fascinating and most interesting time to a Guider in Bahrain.

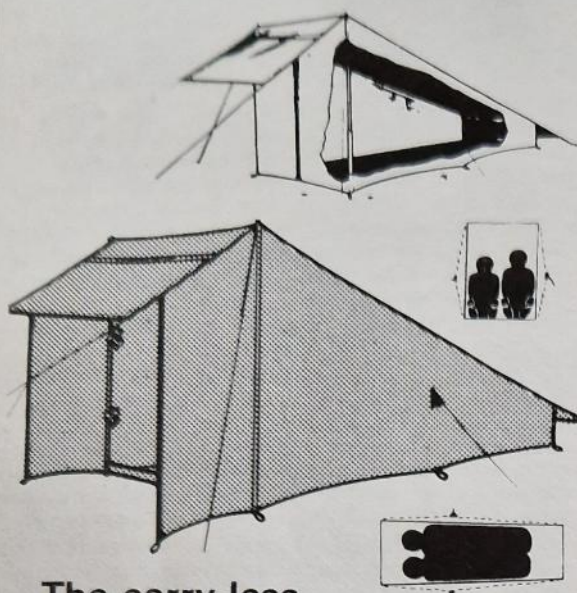
My family were rather concerned that I had disappeared so long but my son remarked, 'When Mum is with the Guides we shall not see her for hours'. How right he was, but I returned to the house as if in a dream, thrilled with my afternoon with the Special Flowers of Bahrain.



Illustrations by
Jean de Lemos

Report:
Mrs F G Cranmer-Brown

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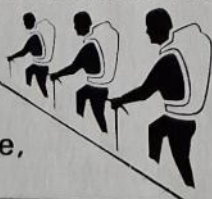
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Clear instructions are supplied for each craft and are always accompanied by stage-by-stage illustrations. So if you're seeking ways to enliven the Guide meetings on the long winter evenings to come, take a look inside the covers of these 4 volumes. Moreover, they would make ideal – and economical – Christmas gifts.

VJC

A Brownie Guide Prayer Book (New Edition with Music). Compiled by Rosalie Wakefield, approx. 35p.

A welcome re-issue of an old friend and with the added advantage of music. The compiler first addresses the Guiders who will be using this book and stresses the need for personal preparation, a natural approach and intelligent interpretation. The difficulties one experiences with books of this kind arise out of the nature of the subject matter and the 'specialised' language in which they are often presented: the register of religious observance. Most of the material in this booklet avoids these pitfalls – the wording is simple and readily accessible to Brownies. One hopes that the children will come to appreciate the time-honoured phrases that are retained in some of the prayers, the meaning of which may appear obscure at first to those who, unlike their Guiders, will be hearing unfamiliar language. For example, a Brownie may not readily understand that 'to love God and fear Him' does not express opposing ideas, and that the archaic 'Thee' and 'Thou' were modes of address used within the family to denote mutual affection. It is clearly each Guider's privilege

to help her Brownies discover the value of corporate worship. This little book, used correctly, will be a delightful and valuable companion at Pack Meetings and Holidays.

JMT

English Pronouncing Dictionary, by D. Jones (Revised edition). Dent, £2.50.

For those who still retain a respect for words and their pronunciation and usage, this paperback edition of a standard reference work is indispensable. If you wince when 'controversy' is pronounced with the accent on the middle 'o', you will be sorry to see that this is given as an allowable alternative in the revised edition. One is relieved, however, to see that Mr Jones is still holding out for 'deteriorate' to be pronounced in full! Happily, too, 'Coventry' and 'competition' are still pronounced as spelt, and not as though they had a 'u' in the first syllable (in spite of the current epidemic among BBC announcers).

Several deviations to which the purist might object are allowed in this new edition, but Mr Jones can be forgiven all for ignoring the existence of the hideous 'kquestionnaire'.

JVR

Kate Greenaway Wall Frieze. Warne, 90p + VAT.

A most delightful addition to any small child's bedroom is the **Kate Greenaway Wall Frieze**. It depicts, in delicate water-colour, groups of children and floral decorations from the well-known Greenaway Books.

The Frieze is 160 cm in length and is so designed that further copies may be joined to fit any length of wall. A most unusual Christmas or birthday present which will bring much pleasure to the child and perhaps help to brighten an otherwise dull wall.

AMM

Picture Panorama of British History, by John Shepherd. Mills & Boon, £4.95.

This is no ordinary picture book of history, it will be a boon and a blessing to anyone who is involved in project work or in any way called upon to supply historically accurate drawings, whether of figures, buildings, furniture or artefacts. Each of its 300 pages contains clear, traceable line drawings of household goods, vehicles, and many hundreds of objects and events depicting life in Britain from Roman

times to the present day. The spirit of each age is conveyed on a special double page spread, such as the Great Fire of London or a medieval tournament.

The accent here is on 'easily traceable', for the drawings although carefully researched are so simply outlined that they could be copied or traced even by quite young children, yet the book as a whole is a most informative visual encyclopaedia.

JVR

My Home is a Zoo, by Charles Trevisick. Stanley Paul, £3.95.

A cursory glance at this week's best seller list should be enough to convince anyone that there is money in animal books. This has unfortunately lead to a glut of tales from vets, zookeepers, and others connected with the animal world, that make one yearn for the quality of authors like Lorenz and Durrell.

Charles Trevisick's story is more amusing than most and his metamorphosis from cattle-feed merchant to zookeeper and animal publicist quite extraordinary.

Perhaps because he is the most interesting animal in the book, Mr Trevisick is quite self-effacing and most of the content is concerned with the antics of his animals. Many of the tales he tells are amusing (I particularly like the idea of Sir Peter Scott being upstaged by a kangaroo) but the author is not afraid to tell the less palatable facts of life and death.

It does seem a little odd that people will ascribe human attributes to animals when this is manifestly not the case but, this gentle crib apart, **My Home is a Zoo** would be a pleasant present for the animal lover who enjoys an undemanding and whimsical read.

ACM

The Secret Sea, by Richard Armstrong. Dent, 50p.

The Secret Sea is a fast moving, tense and exciting account of life aboard The Orion, one of a fleet of seven whaling vessels, as told by Thor Krogan, an 18-year-old Norwegian on his first expedition.

The reader gains a powerful insight into the minds of the whalers, who can remain emotionally detached while participating in the bloody and ugly massacre of the largest and most majestic of all sea creatures.

When the decision is taken to enter 'the Secret Sea' where, under certain circumstances, whales are found in abundance feeding on rich beds of krill, many of the whalers fear that the violation of this, the whales' most private territory, will bring down upon them a curse of massive consequence.

As events unfold, such opinions gain credence as the unbridled power of sea and icebergs causes terror and brings disaster to the fleet.

This book should not fail to hold the reader's attention throughout; it is, perhaps more suitable for the adult reader, but would make enthralling camp fire reading matter for Scouts, though it will also appeal to many older Guides, and to Rangers.

LMH

Round about Nine, compiled by Geoffrey Palmer and Noel Lloyd. Illustrated by Denis Wrigley. Frederick Warne, £2.95.

Poetry for children for many years often meant either the hard slog of 'by rote' learning or the chanting of irrelevant jingles. Changes in educational practice over the last thirty years have largely altered this state of affairs and there are many good anthologies for children available.

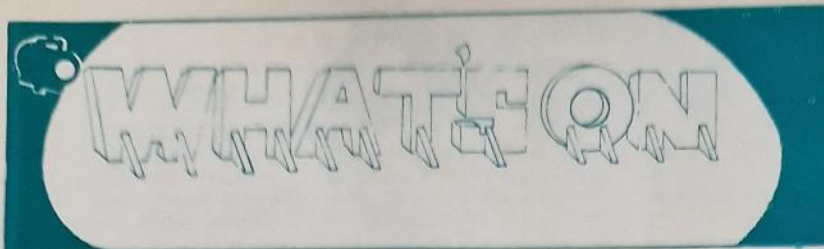
Round about Nine is the latest addition and a companion volume to the same publishers' **'Round about Eight'**.

It is particularly pleasing to see the inclusion of work by poets normally thought of as 'difficult', e.g. Cummings is represented by the enchanting 'who knows if the moon's a balloon' and the thoughtful 'Maggie and Milly and Molly and May'. Yeats, Robert Frost and William Blake also have poems included.

Although much of the poetry is rural and concerned with the poets' peculiar enthusiasm for nature, childhood is not depicted as its customary idyll. Vernon Scannell, a contemporary poet of some stature, has an eerie description of Hide and Seek which deserves inclusion in an adult anthology.

There is much in this collection which will be of use for the Brownie Guider and children themselves should be delighted by the strong line drawings, colour washes and the wide choice of comic, tragic and exciting poems.

ACM



Exhibitions

Visitors to the **Hayward Gallery** on the South Bank will have the opportunity of seeing one of the most spectacular exhibitions of North American Art ever presented. The artistic evaluation of this art is still in its infancy, and the widespread collections in Europe, the United States and Canada have never before been seen together in one exhibition. Two of the most eye-catching exhibits will be a recently made tepee from Oklahoma and a totem pole from the North West Coast. There will be over 800 exhibits on view dating from 1500 BC, representing the traditional arts of the Indians from Alaska and the Greenlands to the Rio Grande.

The usual admission price is 30p for children and 60p for adults. All day Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, the admission price will be 10p. Parties of young people under the age of 18 who are accompanied by an adult will be admitted free of charge if prior notice of dates and party numbers is given to **Mr F Ward, Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1**. The exhibition opens on the 7th October and ends on 16th January, 1977.



A beaded shirt, c 1885 (Sacred Circles Exhibition).

At the **Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly London W1**, from 20th November until late February 1977, will be the Exhibition *Pompeii AD 79*. Many of the original Pompeii treasures, such as wall paintings, mosaics, marble sculpture and bronzes, will be on display, and their significance to the life and customs at that time will be fully explained.

Celebrity Cats

The 80th Championship Show of the **National Cat Club** will take place on Saturday, 27th November 1976 at the National Hall, Olympia, London W14. The Show will be open to the public from 10 am to 5.30 pm, and a likely attraction will be Jack and Jill of 'Blue Peter', the TV children's programme, who will probably be exhibited in the special section for pet cats only. There will be kittens for sale, and most of the animal welfare societies will be present.

The exhibition at the **Royal Academy of Arts L S Lowry 1887-1976** (admission 60p, 30p students) which is showing until the 14th November reveals a man with

wider interests, and perhaps wider talents, than most of us recognised. It also happily scotches the myth that Lowry couldn't draw figures. His early work in particular shows a fine understanding of the human form. The 'stick men' of his mill-scenes are intentional symbolic representations of crowds and of the individual in a relationship with a man-made landscape. Guides who are lucky enough to be in London before the 14th November should try and visit this exhibition. Happily much of his work can be seen at other galleries. When this exhibition is over his paintings will be returned to galleries in Manchester, Liverpool, Sunderland, Glasgow, Sheffield, Bedford and many other places. Look out for them. **ACM**

Ballet

On 15th November, the **Royal Ballet, Covent Garden**, will perform *The Dream*, *Monotones* and *A Month in the Country*. *The Dream*, choreography by Frederick Ashton, is a lyrical comical account to music by Mendelssohn, of the fairy scenes from Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Frederick Ashton's *A Month in the Country* is based on Turgenev's play about unfulfilled love. The setting is a Russian country house, towards the middle of the 19th century, and this promises to be a delightful work.

On the 29th of the month the ever-popular *Swan Lake* returns to the stage. For details of this and other November performances, write to: **The Royal Opera House, PO Box No 6, London WC2E 7QA**. Personal callers should go to **48, Floral Street, London WC2**.

Film

Based on the well-known book by Dodie Smith, *101 Dalmatians* follows the hilarious adventures of two dalmatian adults, their fifteen stolen puppies and the eighty-four other puppies that find their way into the wicked hands of that fearsome female, Cruella de Vil. This Disney favourite returns to the screen for the Christmas holidays; it opened at **St Martin's Lane Odeon** in October, and will be showing at local cinemas around the country in November and December. For those of you who had the misfortune to miss it last time round, this entertaining and moving film, which appeals to children and adults alike, is a must. Make it part of your Christmas. **VJC**



Womble on the Line

Orinoco the Womble didn't know he was getting so fat that he would be in danger of bursting after eating his Christmas dinner. Only a series of oops-a-daisy mishaps, however, persuaded him to slim down in time – and the full story, as well as other exciting Womble Christmas tales, can be heard by ringing 01-246 8033.

The Christmas service for children, provided each year by London Telephones, will feature a fresh Womble story each day, from Tuesday, 14th December to Monday, 27th December. The stories, by Elisabeth Beresford, will be recorded by Bernard Cribbins.

Opera

The **Handel Opera Society** will perform *Belshazzar* on 2nd, 4th and 6th November, and *Ariodante* on the 3rd and 5th, at **Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1**. The former, a new production, is the first to be staged in London and the latter, first performed there in 1974, was the first in London since Handel's day, and received great acclaim. More details from **Sadler's Wells Theatre**, address above.

November sees the British Première of a moving and intensely dramatic work, namely *Bomazo*, the second operatic composition of Argentinian composer Alberto Ginastera. It will be performed at the **Coliseum** by the **New Opera Company** in conjunction with the **ENO**, and promises to be a feast for the eyes and ears! For the second performance on 6th November, the **ENO** offers a bargain price reduction, whereby Stalls and Dress Circle seats come down to £2.50, Upper Circle seats to £1.50, and Balcony seats to 60p. Please direct all correspondence to the **Box Office at the Coliseum, St. Martin's Lane, London WC2**.

Nationwide

Aberdeen. Grays School of Art: Former Pupils Exhibition: Art Gallery (5-20).

Ambleside. Georgian Weekend: Georgian food, music and conversation on Georgian silver, Rothay Manor, Rothay Bridge (13-14, comm. 16.00 (13th)).

Birmingham. Bonfire Carnival, Handsworth Park (5th).

Bolton. Lecture: Conqueror of Everest: Doug Scott. Technical College, Manchester Road (4th), 19.30.

Bury St Edmunds. Antiques and Collectors Fair, Corn Exchange Market Square (20th) 10.00-17.00.

Edinburgh. British Artificial Ski Slopes Championship, Hillend Ski Centre (13-14).

Galashiels. Scotland's Premiere all Border Show, Volunteer Hall (6-7).

Hastings. Scout Show, White Rock Pavilion (11-13), 19.30.

Hull. Royal Ballet, New Theatre, Kingston Square (8-13) 19.30.

Liverpool. Exhibition: Kelloggs National Exhibition of Children's Art 1976-7, Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool 10.00-17.00 Mon-Sat, 10.00-21.00 Thursday.

Loughborough. Old Custom: Loughborough Fair, Town Centre streets (11-13).

Malvern. Show: West of England Cat Show, Winter Gardens (6th).

St Albans. Little Angels of Korea, City Hall, Civic Centre, St Albans, Herts. (24), 20.00.

Torrington. Old Custom: The Largest Bonfire in the World (6th).


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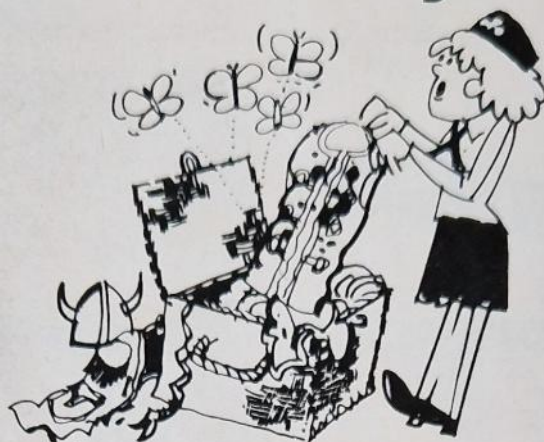
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