



GUIDING



OCTOBER 1987 50p

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Do you know the Fundraiser of the Year?

We're looking for some very special people - fundraisers who deserve the 1987 Fundraiser of the Year Award. The winners will each receive a substantial sum to donate to a worthy cause (a sum of over £10,000 has been set aside), as well as a special engraved plaque, to keep as a personal memento.

Do you know someone who deserves this special tribute? Someone associated with your Guide Unit, perhaps - or even yourself? If so, then we'd like to hear from you.

Simply send your nomination to me, Malcolm Totney, at the address below, saying WHO you would like to nominate, HOW they are raising funds, and WHAT the money is being used for. Our independent judges will make their selection on the basis of personal contribution and achievement, not solely the amount of cash raised. I look forward to hearing from you very soon.

Nominations before 31st October 1987 please, to:
Fundraiser of the Year, Webb Ivory Ltd, Marketing
Department, Primrose Hill, Preston PR1 4BX.

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FRONT COVER

The cover this month features
Young Leaders Prue Corbyn
and Iyadunni Obasa who are
taking a great interest in David
Bramhall's three part series on
motor mechanics in *Hear and
Now*. Part Two includes safety
procedures for changing a
wheel in an emergency.
Judging by the girls smiles they
feel ready to tackle anything.

We are most grateful to Webb Ivory Ltd for
sponsoring this month's cover.

PHOTOS: S. MAYER



GUIDING

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'There is no point in beating about the bush, *GUIDING* magazine needs to change if it is to meet the needs of its readers today!'

This remark has been made by many people on many occasions in recent years. For a variety of reasons many of the suggested changes did not happen. Now they are about to!

Because of the present lengthy production schedules, the next few issues will simply be tidied up as far as possible.

In the meantime we shall be taking a fresh look at both the editorial content and the design. (There are no proposals to change the format and monthly status). We shall be taking full account of all your letters which are on file and of the proposals of the 1981 Ad Hoc which were agreed by the Executive and which are still relevant.

We feel that the purpose of *GUIDING* is the sharing of information; training (in the widest sense); entertainment (Guiding is supposed to be fun!); and, of course, inspiration and support for all of us. If you have any personal thoughts to add to this, please let me know.

Our aim is to re-launch a brighter and livelier *GUIDING* in the spring. Similar plans are in hand for *TODAY'S GUIDE* and *THE BROWNIE*.

Eileen Burbidge OBE

Chairman Communications Committee
and Public Relations Adviser

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ROUNDAABOUT GUIDING



RO

QUEEN'S GUIDES!

The Cambridgeshire East Guides had a lovely day out last Easter when they presented flowers to Her Majesty the Queen, who was visiting Ely to give out the traditional Maundy money.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF THE CAMBRIDGE EVENING NEWS

UNFLAGGING PEN PALS

Mrs Florence Fox and Mrs Jean Webb, shown here in Mrs Fox's home in New-castle-under-Lyme, have been regular correspondents since 1967. It was in that year that Mrs Fox, then Captain of a Guide Company in Stoke-on-Trent, ordered a second-hand Union Flag from CHQ. The flags had belonged to Guide Companies in Canada, who had sent them on to be used by British Guiders as the Maple Leaf had replaced the Union Flag as the national flag. When Mrs Fox received her flag, there was a note inside giving Mrs Webb's address, as she was the Guide Captain whose flag it had been. Mrs Fox wrote to thank her, and that was the start of their transatlantic friendship. In 1985, Mrs Webb was on holiday in England with her daughters and although the two women were meeting for the first time, they were far from being strangers. Through Mrs Webb, an invitation was sent to the Guides in Ontario to celebrate the 75th Birthday of the Association at the Midland Region Guide International Camp (MAGIC). Six Guides and two Guiders took up the invitation and many new friendships were formed. The photograph shows the original flag, and Mrs Webb is holding her first letter to Mrs Fox, which has been a treasured possession for twenty years.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF MRS FLORENCE FOX

66 YEARS AGO

This photograph was found amongst the effects of the late Mrs Kathleen Mary Robertson of Llandrillo, Clwyd, who died in her 95th year. It shows the Sherbourn and Watlington, Oxon, Girl Guides as they were in 1921. Mrs Robertson (née Brewis) is the Guide Captain pictured third from the right in the middle row. This charming and evocative photograph should bring the memories flooding back for some of you!

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF MARGARET MILLAN



UNDABOUT GUIDING ROUNDABO

SMARTIE GUIDES

These members of the Newtown Pipe and Drum Band are shown on the steps of Broneirion, contributing to the 'Smartie' collection for the Olave Centre. Well over £7,000 has already been collected by the members of the Association in Wales, who have been saving their pennies in Smartie tubes. We wish them luck in their effort to reach a total of £10,000.



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF MRS J K WILLIAMS

FLOWER POWER

Inspired by an article in *GUIDING*, Mrs Jane Murphy, District Commissioner of Sketty, West Glamorgan, decided that she and her Guides would celebrate National Wild Flower Week while on their camping holiday. After much trepidation about what sort of wild flower seed the Guides should plant on the site, (the wrong choice might have killed off what wild flowers were already there), they set off. The first problem was that the Guides wanted to pitch their tents on the exact spot intended for the wild flower garden! The Guides took some persuading to clear the site of grass and weeds, only to be told that they were now going to plant more grasses and wild flowers. Eventually the seeds were scattered enthusiastically and everyone involved learned something of the importance of nature conservation and helped a little to preserve the beauty of the countryside.



COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

The Chief Commissioners of the separate Commonwealth Associations hold a conference every three years and this year, for the first time, it was held in Scotland. Our picture shows Mr Michael Forsyth MP, Education Minister at the Scottish Office, hosting a reception for the Commissioners in the Great Hall of Edinburgh Castle. Judging by that magnificent fireplace, they could not have found a more splendid setting for the conference!

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF THE SCOTTISH INFORMATION OFFICE



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF MRS J K WILLIAMS



THE GIRL GUIDE FRIENDSHIP FUND

The Guides of two Commonwealth islands will share £5,500, thanks to your generosity. This was the splendid result of the 1987 Friendship Appeal which, as you know, was to help towards a new minibus for the UNICEF Sri Lanka Primary Health Care project and camping equipment for St Helena. A very good effort and our thanks to all who sent donations.

Helping others can often have a two-way benefit, as a Devon District Commissioner found. She persuaded her District to sponsor her 'slim' and the outcome was £56.14 for the GGFF and a more sylph-like DC! Grays West Ranger Unit combined fund

raising with a challenge set by Anglia Region for their Octopussy event. A very appropriate eight-legged walk resulted in £35 towards the Friendship Appeal.

The total raised was very good for an appeal at that time of the year but, as usual, I hope it will be four times as much for the 1987 Christmas Good Turn. Already you have shown great interest and the project doesn't close until the end of January, 1988. Just a reminder that this year's appeals are to help the National Trust's Enterprise Neptune project to purchase and to conserve more of our precious coastline; and to expand the practical work being done in developing

countries by Intermediate Technology. Postal orders/cheques should be made payable to **The Girl Guide Friendship Fund** and sent, enclosing a name and address for our official receipt, to: **17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT**

Your donations, large and small, will help to swell the fund, whether they come from individuals, Units, Districts or Counties. I look forward to hearing from you.

Nancy Roe
Chairman

ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

Earlier this year Pam Reynolds, Assistant Guider with the 1st Watford Guide Company in Hertfordshire, and her friend Emma Cunningham, spent a few days aboard the Lord Nelson Sail Training Ship. This helped Pam to successfully complete the residential qualification for the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award which she received in July.

My Adventure of a Lifetime began at the Western Docks in London in May. I am confined to a wheelchair and my able-bodied friend Emma Cunningham and I were about to board the Lord Nelson Sail Training Ship to Antwerp in Belgium. The ship was designed by the Jubilee Sailing Trust to enable handicapped people to share in the joy of crewing a ship on equal terms with the able-bodied. The ship is only 173 ft long, but we both felt very small as we stood beside it. Once we had negotiated the ramp we were asked to sign on as crew members. This was followed by emergency practice. Although there is special equipment for wheelchairs, the lifts would not work in an emergency and passengers would have to be carried upstairs.

We set off down the Thames later in the afternoon and dropped anchor at Southend just after 8.30 pm. We were split into groups called 'watches' and everyone was given duties. Each watch lasted for four hours. Emma and I had to get up at 1 o'clock in the morning to

follow other ships on the radar screen; making sure no other ships were about to hit us.

On Saturday morning the weather was lovely. The sun was shining brightly and all 50 crew members spent a 'happy hour' washing and cleaning the ship. (Disabled crew are encouraged to do as much as they can). My job was to clean the ship's bell. About lunchtime, the sky became very black, the wind was blowing strongly and the waves became rougher and rougher. Many people were seasick, including myself. Next came hail stones. Despite all this the ship still had to sail. Emma climbed the rigging and

helped tie some of the sails down. Later in the day the wind died down and the sea was calm. That evening I took my turn at steering the ship. There is a special chair which is fitted to a track on the deck. People can then be lifted into it and be positioned behind the wheel. The wheel itself was a lightweight one and, although my arms are not very strong, I was able to turn it easily. Other special equipment included an audio compass for the blind, an extra bright radar screen for the partially sighted, adjustable sinks and tables and switches that were within easy reach for everybody.

Meals were prepared for us by the permanent cook; other permanent crew included qualified nursing staff. We sailed through the night. On Sunday there was more work to do in raising and lowering the sails, fastening ropes, and preparing for the journey down river to Antwerp. The sun was bright and the wind was filling the sails. We were surrounded by the blue of the sea and sky and the river Thames seemed a million miles away. As the Lord Nelson arrived at the Belgian river it was met by a tug and a pilot. The pilot navigated us down the river and then his tug gently pulled us towards a very dark looking Antwerp. The Captain tied up the ship and waited for customs officials to come aboard. After the evening meal we were allowed to explore the town. Antwerp still uses the tram as a method of transport, so we saw quite a number of them. Everyone then settled down for the last night aboard ship.

We had an early start on Monday morning as we had to catch the ferry home from Ostend and it was with great reluctance that we boarded the coach. The crossing from Ostend to Dover was very rough, but after four and half hours we arrived safely. Emma and I had made many friends during the weekend and were sad to be going our separate ways, but we will always have the memories of the Adventure of a Lifetime.

Why there land lubbers! Emma and Pam head out into the English Channel on the first part of their journey.



HQ NOTICES HQ

THE ASSOCIATION'S AWARDS

GOOD SERVICE LAUREL

Miss Frances Bainbridge, Division Commissioner for Hove, Sussex East.

MERITORIOUS CONDUCT STAR OF MERIT

Tracey Drew, Young Leader, 2nd Charlbury Company and Ranger Guide, Oxfordshire. Despite an accident, Tracey has not been deterred from continuing to take an active interest in the Movement. She has a keen sense of humour and never fails to be concerned for all those around her.

Mrs Margaret Hill, Guide Guider, 12th Yeovil Company, Somerset. All through unpleasant medical treatment, Mrs Hill has remained cheerful and uncomplaining. She leads a very lively Company and encourages them in as many activities as possible.

Mrs Sue Jarman, Brownie Guider, 25th Watford Pack, Hertfordshire. In spite of the frustrations of her illness, Mrs Sue Jarman remains loyal to Guiding. Her Brownie meetings are always meticulously planned and full of fun. She is loved and respected by all who know her.

Mrs Jean Joy, Assistant Guide Guider, 1st Monton (Methodist) Company, Greater Manchester West. Since having serious operations, Mrs Joy's courageous and cheerful attitude towards life has enabled her to continue her work as an Assistant Guide Guider and Division Camp Adviser. She is an inspiration to all who know her.

Nicola Langlands, Guide, 1st Bexhill Company, Sussex East. Nicola's determination to overcome her limitations is an example to every member of her Company. She takes part in all the Company's activities showing zest, enjoyment and determination.

Samantha Purvis, Guide, 1st Shivenham Company, Oxfordshire. Samantha is always cheerful and determined to overcome any difficulties she may encounter. She has a very mature approach to life and is always prepared to help others.

Sarah Jane Wilden, Guide, 1st Combs (St Mary's) Company, Suffolk. Sarah has had to undergo a serious operation and medical treatment, but nevertheless remains cheerful and is an inspiration to her fellow Guides. She enjoys the weekly meetings and has worked hard to gain several interest badges.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Karen Bell, Brownie Guide, 2nd Leven Pack, Fife.

Joanne Birkitt, Brownie Guide, 48th Rotherham (United Reformed Church) Pack, South Yorkshire.

Caroline Dickson, Guide, 195th A City of Edinburgh Company, Edinburgh.

Heather McLean, Brownie Guide, 3rd Peterhead Pack, Banff and Buchan.

Sarah Wilsdon, Guide, 1st Stow-on-the-Wold Company, Gloucestershire.

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

Mrs Margaret James, Guide Guider, 3rd Sanderstead (St Mary's) Company, Greater London, Croydon.

THINKING DAY/ FOUNDER'S DAY SERVICE

11 am Saturday 20 February 1988

Westminster Abbey and St Margaret's Church, Westminster

Allocation of tickets to members of the Girl Guides Association will be made this year through Country/Region Headquarters.

Please do not apply to Commonwealth Headquarters, as this will hold up proceedings, and **do not** apply to your Country/Region Headquarters until you have been informed through the usual channels of the procedure to be adopted by each Country/Region.

Allocation of tickets to members of the Scout Association will be handled by Counties/Areas.

The same form of Service will be used in each church. Further details will be given in future editions of all magazines.

SHORT TERM INVESTMENT SERVICE

Monthly interest rate after deduction of management commission.

May 1987	7.81%
June 1987	7.775%
July 1987	7.69%

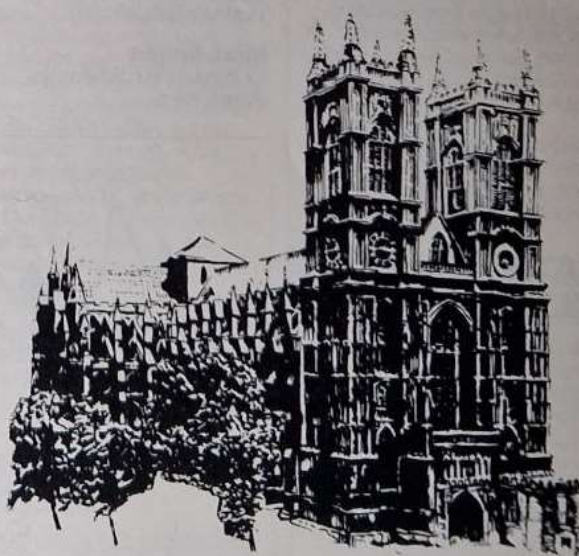
Additional 0.5% p.a. for deposits of £2,500 and above.

SCOUT & GUIDE TRUST FUND

On 31st July 1987 the value of a share in the above Fund was:

for selling purposes	238.81
for buying purposes	250.96
income yield	2.55%

The income yield is based on the previous two dividends paid and the price on the date stated.



Westminster Abbey

HQ NOTICES HQ

Airing

Caring

Sharing

QUEEN'S GUIDES QUALMS

The new Queen's Guide brooches are now being awarded to members in our Counties and Districts; we congratulate them on their dedication and achievement in gaining such an attractive and prestigious award. However, I would like to put in a plea on behalf of Queen's Guides holding Badges under previous schemes, whose awards now appear to have been 'written off' or, at best, classed as second rate.

Whilst I appreciate that the requirements for the new award are somewhat more difficult, it must be remembered that the age of those gaining it is, on average, some four years older than previously. My own daughter worked long and hard to gain her Queen's Guide Badge, of which she is immensely proud. As did all other recipients, she completed the syllabus as then laid down and felt it was well and truly earned. Surely, a Queen's Guide is a Queen's Guide, no matter which award she earned!

Marjorie Hemsall
District Secretary, Sutton
Bonington District, Wolds
Division, Nottingham.

CATFORD GOES SILVER!

Calling all 'old' Guiders and Guides of the 8th Catford St Andrew's Company! We will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary on Tuesday November 10; if you would like to help us celebrate, I should be delighted to hear from you on 01 461 1265.

Christine Tedder
Guide Guider, 8th Catford
Guides, London.

SAFETY RULES OK!

I must write to say how much I agreed with Ruth Black, Outdoor Activities Adviser, (August *GUIDING*). Surely if a Guider wishes to take responsibility for children

pursuing an outdoor activity, and yet cannot be bothered to fill in a few forms tied with the inevitable 'red tape', then I would have to question her ability and competence to take charge of groups in the first place! Do all District Commissioners really know their individual Guiders that well? I wonder.

Myra A Jamieson
Guider, 156th Inverleith
Company, Edinburgh.

PERMITS FOR HERMITS

When I saw my 11½ year old goddaughter, who is a member of the 1st Plaxtol Guides, she told me she had just done her Hermit's Badge! As you can imagine, I had all sorts of images of her sitting in a cave, etc. It then appeared that in fact it was her Patrol Camp Permit. Petrina is a very keen young Guide and just couldn't understand why everyone laughed so much at her 'Hermit's Badge'!

Mrs L Knight
Ex-Brown Owl, Sevenoaks
Weald, Kent.

FILM SCOUTS

Was anyone lucky enough to see 'Scouts!' on BBC 2 on July 31, 5-6 pm? What a marvellous programme! It included the history of Scouts and Guides worldwide, and some very interesting film clips of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell, travelling to bring peace and to promote our Movement, universally. We also saw film footage of Scout Jamborees and commemoration events, with Scouts attending from almost every country. But I must admit, I was rather amazed to see a group of Scouts pitching a tent and using the flat edge of an axe-head to bash in the pegs. Quite dangerous, I should imagine! How times change. The film clips were also interspersed with commentary from Betty Clay and the present Lord Baden-Powell, giving us the impression of a very happy and very fun-loving family. Betty Clay's closing description of her father: 'he died in the knowledge that what he had begun would be continued by many others with his own enthusiasm', brought tears to my eyes (I don't mind admitting!) It also made me feel

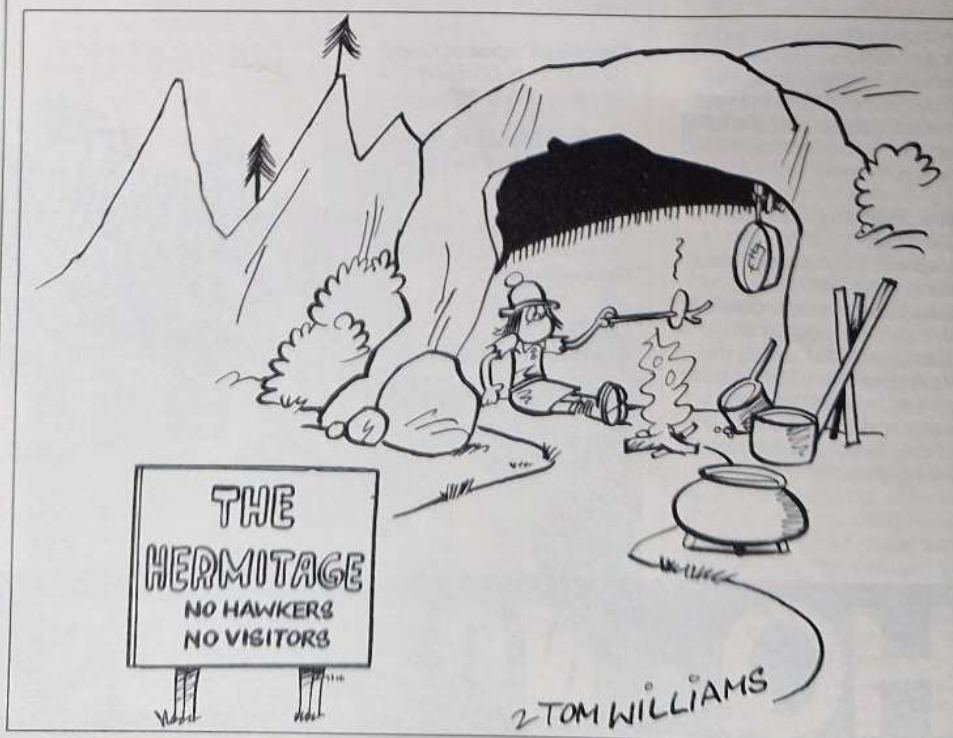
very proud to be a member of our wonderful Movement!

B J Hyde
Young Leader, 1st Burwash
Guides, Burwash, East Sussex.

JOINT UNITS

Earlier this year, I wrote a letter which appeared in the March issue of *SCOUTING* magazine, on the subject of Joint Units and the common section. My contention is that Joint Units are not given the encouragement they deserve by Headquarters, especially Scout HQ, which seems to prefer mixed Venture Scout Units, and are thus burdened with two sets of rules, two training programmes and extra paperwork.

Approximately 12 years ago, the two Movements discussed forming a common section for the 14 to 20 age group, but unfortunately there was no agreement. In my letter to *SCOUTING*, I advocated that negotiations (if that is the right word!) should be reopened, with a view to reaching an agreement on this matter. The result would be a section 60,000 strong, much better use of resources, a common training



Airing

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programme, and joint Leader training. Under the common section umbrella, mixed-sex and single-sex Units would co-exist. The response to my letter has been tremendous, and I do hope both Associations will take the matter seriously by setting a timetable for meaningful discussions with their opposite numbers.

Christopher C Dean

Venture Scout Leader, Craham Valley Joint Unit, Croydon.

COMMON SECTIONS

As the present Joint Chairmen of the Buckingham County Joint Ranger Guide/Venture Scout Committee, we feel compelled to write in support of the many letters recently published in *SCOUTING* and *GUIDING*, concerning the future of the 14 to 20 age range. Increasing numbers of Scouters and Guiders involved with Rangers and Ventures, feel that the time is right to pool the knowledge and resources of both Movements and aim for close co-operation on all matters. The possibility of a common section has already been considered and rejected, but that was many years ago; we feel that the possibility should once again be considered, in the light of the current situation. A common section, in our view, should provide for the needs of local conditions, giving the choice of single-sex Units, mixed Units and Joint Units. The senior sections of both Associations are currently suffering lack of opportunity, due to the inability of HQ staff to come to a sensible compromise on this subject. In our experience, joint co-operation is possible through the normal compromise inherent in the committee system, given the determination to make things work. To flourish in the 21st Century, we will have to compete with increasing pressure from other groups and organisations. It is therefore essential that we improve our appeal and make the best possible use of manpower and expertise in the aims which are common to both Associations. Unfortunately, for various

reasons, many Scouters and Guiders harbour hostility and suspicion; this cannot easily be overcome. Communication and a willingness to be flexible are essential, if Rangers and Ventures are to flourish. Nevertheless, we are sure that there are many Scouters and Guiders already committed to the 'common' cause, as we are. Our main aim is to enhance the future for Rangers and Ventures. They are the people who really matter in the end.

P Biggs

Assistant County Commissioner
Venture Scouts, High Wycombe, Bucks.

S Cook

County Ranger Adviser

BADGES NEW

It's nice to see new badges introduced into the Programme; but it's a pity too, because I left the Guides several months ago so there is no way that I could try taking any of them! I'd also like to say 'thank you' to Mrs Shakeshaft for a fabulous two years of Guiding and for helping me to pass the badges I did try.

Angela Giddings

1st Baglan (St Catherine's) Guides, Port Talbot, West Glamorgan

BADGES TIDY

I was at a loss how to keep my Brownie Interest Badges tidy. In the December 1986 edition of *GUIDING* there was the answer from Dorothea Elliott: plastic sheets for keeping transparencies in, as sold by photographic suppliers. Each pocket keeps every badge tidy. No more rummaging around. This system is sheer joy!

Gail Booth

Assistant Brownie Guider,
1st East Kilbride Pack

If you wish to contribute to *GUIDING* please bear in mind that it is necessary to submit your article at least two months in advance of the issue you require.

THE HILLS ARE ALIVE...

I was rather concerned recently to see letters from Guiders who have been disappointed with their reception when visiting Our Chalet. I have just returned from a trip to Adelboden with my Guides. We visited Our Chalet on a beautiful sunny morning and as we walked up the hill, the magnificent view across the valley lay before us. Everything was so quiet and peaceful. As we approached the Chalet, the resident group, mostly American and English, were singing 'High up, high on the mountain...'; just setting the scene for our visit. We were greeted by a Young Leader called Helen and then joined by the Assistant Guider-in-charge. We started off by singing the Chalet song; ours being a very musical group, the sweet sound echoed round the Chalet. We had a very pleasant morning wandering around, and the girls were able to buy mementos at the shop. After this, we were all ready for a hot drink and a seat in the main room. We were all made very welcome and it was a very special part of our holiday. It is a great pity when members of the GGA go all the way to Switzerland and miss what I think is the attraction of Adelboden. We cannot all stay at Our Chalet, but we can share the spirit of Guiding in that peaceful place set in the mountains.

Doris S Young

Guide Guider and Trainer,
Aberdeen.

UNIFORM BLUES

In my role as District Secretary to Heston South, I understand that hats are soon to become an optional part of the Guide uniform. I do not wear uniform myself, but I can't help feeling that this new clause is one that Lord and Lady Baden-Powell would not have approved. The Guiding and Scout Movements have fundamental links with the services: structure of the hierarchy, allegiance to the Queen, and the wearing of

uniform. The services adhere strictly to all of these regulations; and whilst I appreciate that Brownies and Guides are very young people, it does not make any difference to the fact that a hat is an important part of any uniform. Would this new ruling become applicable in other countries? Today's Brownies and Guides look forward to the future; so do the Guiders and all the other helpers. Why not relax the rules instead of changing them? If hats become an optional part of the uniform, then parents will not bother to buy them and, before long, they will become unobtainable.

Mrs B Richardson

District Secretary, Heston South, Middlesex.

Many other countries either don't have hats, or have them as optional. Editor.

I'M YOUNGER THAN YOU, PLEASE LISTEN!

Here I am a young Ranger Guide,
Who believes that you Guiders are on our side.
However you hate the rules to bend
And POR's no longer a friend
When it comes to adventure, friendship and fun,
The things that Guiding has by the ton.
The precautions we need to take today,
We all hope will soon be far away.
The answer to this at least for a start
Would be joining with our male counterpart.
Everywhere in life there's risk
From open fire to compact disc,
Always remember that Guides should be free
To discover, explore or climb a tree.
They must learn how to look after themselves,
Whether they're Rangers or Brownie Elves.

Julie Calvert

Young Leader 2nd Harrogate (St Mark's) Pack, Tewitt Well Ranger Guide Unit, North East England Junior Panel.

NEWSFLASH

Guides to spread a little happiness — official

**Song
and
Dance
'88**

- GGA declares 1988 Song & Dance Year
- Exciting new challenge for all Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders
- Learn three new songs and three new dances and share or perform all six in three different places
- New GGA 'copyright free' Songbook to help you
- Badges and certificates to achieve
- See November *GUIDING* for full details and entry forms

EAST END INVESTITURE

On July 23, 26 new Brownies made their Promise at the East End Mission, Stepney, London.

The children of the 6th West Stepney Brownie Pack were drawn from three local schools by Brownie Guider Anne Buxton, who visited each of the schools in turn, to speak to the children and distribute leaflets. She then visited the families of the girls who had expressed an interest in Guiding.

The recruitment was very hard work, but proved most worthwhile as the Unit now has a waiting list; an almost unheard-of phenomenon in an inner-city area!

As well as the children's parents, guests from the local community were also invited to the Promise Ceremony; head teachers, members of the clergy and local community groups, as well as a representative of the Youth and Community section of the Metropolitan Police.

Those present were treated to an enactment of the Brownie Story, complete with very still Brownie trees, a magnificent owl and the most authentic sound effects!

The Brownies made their Promise with enthusiasm and it is hoped that this ceremony will be only the first of many.

The Pack will complement the 6th West Stepney Guide Unit, also based at the East End Mission, run by District Commissioner Val Owen.



PHOTO: TREVOR HUMPHREYS

FATHER CHRISTMAS TOYS READY WRAPPED



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Size 5 24' 11" x 14' 6"	£460		£447.50

LEADERS OR FIRST AID TENT		1987 Venture Price	Sale Price
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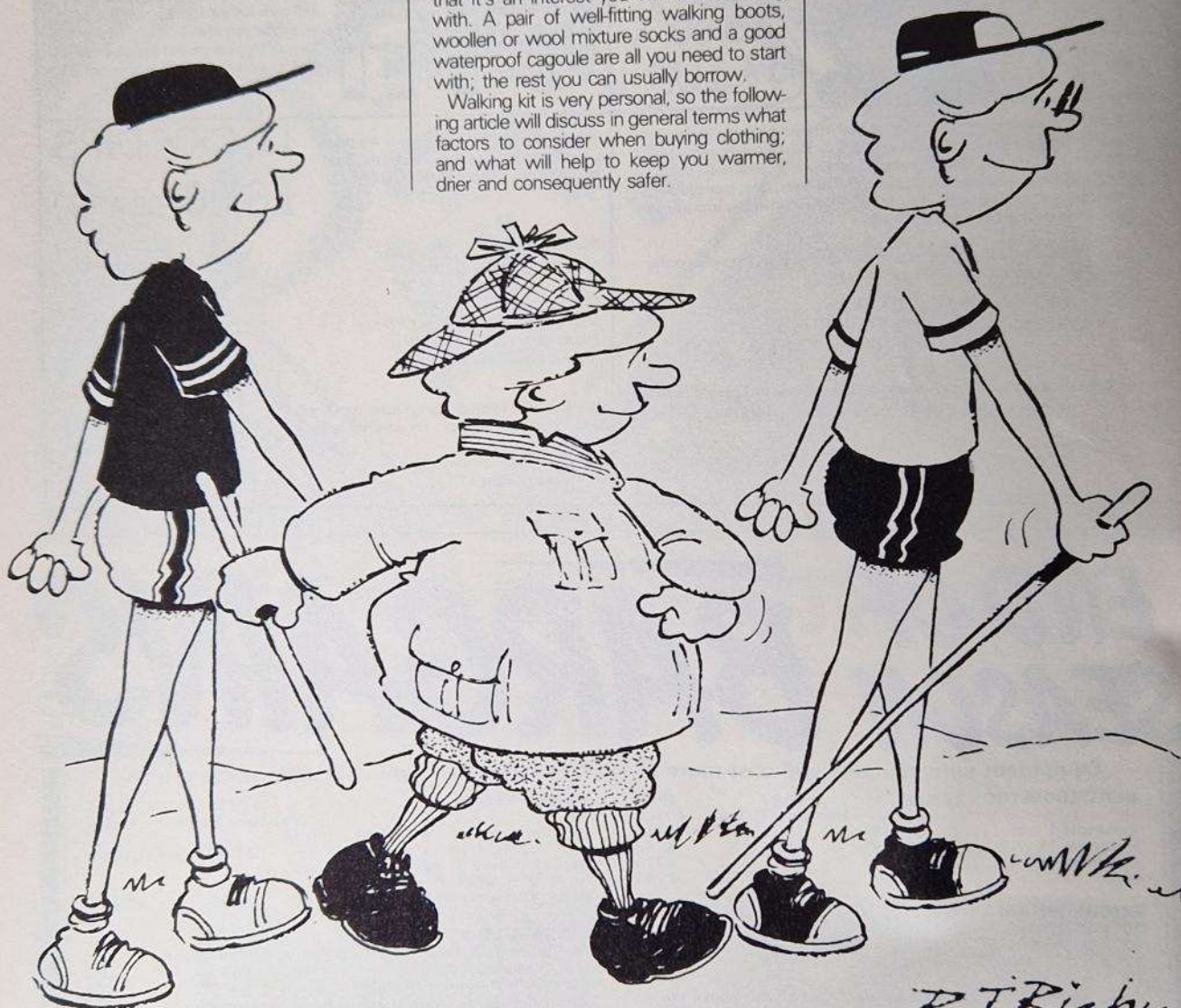
Offers must finish 14th November, when 1988 prices will become effective. Send for full list. All prices include carriage.

Hainault Works, Hainault Road, Little Heath, Romford, Essex RM6 5ST. Tel: 01-590 6070

WALKING SAFELY CLOTHING

If you're new to walking, don't spend a small fortune on clothing until you're sure that it's an interest you will be continuing with. A pair of well-fitting walking boots, woollen or wool mixture socks and a good waterproof cagoule are all you need to start with; the rest you can usually borrow.

Walking kit is very personal, so the following article will discuss in general terms what factors to consider when buying clothing; and what will help to keep you warmer, drier and consequently safer.



FEET

Look after your feet well, pamper and protect them and you'll derive many happy hours of blister-free walking. Blisters are caused by heat generated by friction, so take off your boots, during a break, and let your feet cool down.

Harden soft feet by bathing them in surgical spirit once a day, about three weeks before setting off on your first walk. Pay special attention to blister prone spots on the back of the heel, ball of the foot as well as outer edges. Keep toe nails short to prevent them ramming into the toe of your boot.

BOOTS

Boots need careful thought. If your feet have stopped growing go for a high quality pair, the best you can afford, and look for a strong, reinforced toe, with a thick, heavily-cleated sole. A bellows tongue (attached to the boot on the long edges) is the most waterproof, while a padded ankle cuff increases comfort as well as helping to prevent stones, etc., entering your boot. The fewer seams there are on the boot, the less vulnerable they will be to water penetration. Vibram soles (all purpose) are good, although they tend to slip on wet, mossy or greasy rock or frozen surfaces.

If you have the money, look for boots which have been made from one piece of full-grain, unsplit leather with a minimum of exposed stitching; as it is the stitching that tends to rot and let in water. Partial stiffening of the heel and instep will provide extra support on rough ground. Walking boots imported from Eastern Europe have some of the features of the more expensive boots but at a fraction of the cost.

To ensure a good fit, one or two checks can be made. With your boots unlaced, push your foot forward as far as it will go. It should then be possible to slip a finger between your socks and the heel of your boot. With the laces firmly fastened, this

slackness will be taken up and if you tap your laced boot against a wall your foot should hardly move inside your boot.

Wear new boots around the house and garden for a week or two before you take them on their first outing. This will be the testing time, but if feet, socks and boots are properly matched, then blisters will be a rare occurrence.

SOCKS

Buy socks at the same time as your boots to ensure a good fit; one pair to give warmth to knee height, with a short pair that can be turned over the top of the boot to stop the laces from coming undone. It will be a matter of personal comfort how many pairs of socks you wear.

Socks should be woollen. Beware of woollen socks which contain more than 25% of any man-made fibre, as they can be very uncomfortable on a long walk.

Wool absorbs up to a third of its own weight of water without feeling wet; boots are never 100% waterproof, and anyway since feet sweat, some dampness will be unavoidable. Moreover, wool actually generates heat from the heat of your body as it dries. So even though your woollen socks may get damp they'll soon dry out and warm you as they do so!

In lowland areas, or where ground conditions are known to be 'smooth', strong walking shoes or substantial trainers may be worn and in winter wellington boots may be more appropriate, especially on farmland footpaths.

WATERPROOFS

Waterproof clothing is essential in our variable climate. A cagoule with double cuffs, the inner one elasticated, pockets with good wide flaps, a two way zip, and a flap to cover the zips, are refinements to look for when making a purchase.

The lightest cagoules are made of thinly-proofed nylon which are showerproof but not waterproof. These will keep you dry in a short shower, but leave you soaked to the skin in a heavy downpour.

Waterproofs are made from either proofed material or a vapour-permeable material, eg goretex, cyclone, entrant, etc. Proofed material is slightly more expensive but it is completely waterproof. Condensation does appear relatively quickly on the inside, however.

Waterproofs made from vapour-permeable material (VPM) are much more expensive than proofed fabric as it is designed to let condensation through, but to keep the rain out.

Only put waterproofs on when necessary and take them off whenever possible. But if weather or wind conditions dictate waterproofs, one way of combating the condensation slightly is to use your two way zip effectively as well as loosening your cuffs.

WATERPROOF TROUSERS

In a heavy downpour, or continuous rain, on exposed upland areas it is important to have waterproof trousers to protect your legs and keep your trousers dry. A zipped gusset on the lower legs will enable you to take them off, or put them on, with your boots on.

GAITERS

Gaiters covering the leg from the boot to the knee give excellent protection when tramping through peat bogs, thick mud or snow. Proofed nylon (VPM) or canvas gaiters should keep you dry in a downpour.

WINDPROOFS

Wind is perhaps the walker's greatest enemy and the need for an adequate wind-proof anorak cannot be over emphasised. Not only does the wind dissipate the warm air trapped between the layers of clothing, but it also evaporates body moisture and can lead to dehydration or hypothermia. A waterproof jacket or anorak helps to prevent this.

HATS

About 30% of our body heat escapes through the head, so woollen hats or balacava helmets are essential items on cold days. Balacavas are particularly useful as they can be drawn over the face to give extra protection around the ears and neck. Cotton hats are useful in summer to shade the head.

GLOVES

These are necessary in winter and can also be useful in summer in upland areas where the wind can be exceedingly cold. Woollen mittens are warmer than gloves although less practical. Mitten-gloves are like fingerless gloves but with a mitten style top which can be slipped over the fingers — an ideal combination. These can be made slightly water-resistant (by rubbing pure lanolin into them) to give additional protection in winter.

SHIRTS

Shirts should have either a high cotton or wool content. Cotton shirts are suitable for warm weather and coupled with a cotton T-shirt they will provide almost as much insulation as a woollen one.

JUMPERS

Two thin woollen jumpers, or those with a high woollen content will provide greater warmth and insulation than one thick one and are more adaptable — you can always take one off if you are too hot.

TROUSERS

Never wear jeans. They provide little insulation when dry and no insulation when wet. They can rub your skin raw and lead to frostbite or even hypothermia in cold wet weather. The most ideal trousers are walking breeches made from tough, hard wearing material, which end just below the knee and fasten-up with velcro or a buckle.

It is possible to make breeches by adapting a pair of heavy duty, fairly loose fitting, cords or trousers. Cut the material to just below your fully-bent knees, slit the seam on the outside of each leg until just above the knee and use the material that has been cut off to make a gusset and band to go round the leg from half way down the thigh.

Personal adaptations can be made to this basic theme, for example, a zipped pocket for coins, or a large pocket to hold your map.

THERMAL UNDERWEAR

Thermal underwear can be useful in cold weather.

RUCKSACKS

The type of rucksack you require depends upon the use you intend it for. For a day outing, a lightly proofed day sack weighing about 12 ounces is ideal. For backpacking, a larger rucksack is essential, but whether it has an external or internal frame is purely a matter of personal preference. A broad hip belt will not only increase comfort but also help to reduce fatigue when carrying heavy loads.

With external framed rucksacks, the frame is usually a light aluminium alloy tubing, slightly curved to fit the back. Most manufacturers these days make their frames and sacks separate so that you can choose a frame the correct length for your back and a sack big enough to hold all that you need. If your sack is to be used by other members of the family, then an adjustable frame might be most suitable.

There are two basic types of internal framed rucksack — the anatomic and the ergonomic. Anatomic rucksacks have a flexible frame designed to fit closely to the body so that they feel part of you. With little or no air gap between your back and the rucksack, damp or wet backs result. However, the more a sack feels 'part of you' the more comfortable they tend to be. Ergonomic rucksacks have rigid internal frames permanently curved to create an airspace between your back and the sack thereby reducing perspiration.

It is a good idea to try out all three types of rucksack before you make your final choice.

Rucksacks are never completely waterproof, so a large polythene bag used as an inner liner is recommended. Wind-blown rain can be extremely penetrating, so be on the safe side and wrap the contents in their own individual polythene bags. Neoprene proofed lining bags with proofed seams make excellent rucksack liners, although an un-punctured dustbin liner will suffice.

Glynis Reynolds



SUGGESTED READING

Clothing and Equipment

Adventure Walking for Young People, F. Duerden 1980

Backpackers Handbook, D. Booth 1975

The Walkers Handbook, H. D. Westcott 1980

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TSB MILLION MILE WALK

Carmella McGowan of the 2nd Central Kensington Brownies is shown here meeting HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at the official launch of the TSB Million Mile Walk at Buckingham Palace in July. The Million Mile Walk aims to raise £100,000 for the National Playing Fields Association and Carmella and her Pack are now planning to organise a special fund raising event. If you would like to join in, the fund raising effort continues until 31 October. Information leaflets/sponsorship forms are available from any branch of the TSB or by writing to:

**TSB Million Mile Walk, 536
King's Road, London,
SW10 0UH.**



PHOTO: ROY CUCKLOW

WAGGGS

The photograph shows the Kenyan Rangers who took part in the recent 26th World Conference session on the Olave Centre. Following a report that new plans, costings and a financial strategy had been accepted by the World Committee, two important announcements were made. The first was that the immediate fundraising target now stood at only £500,000. The second was the exciting news that it is anticipated that work on the new Olave House will begin in June 1988.

The balloons were used to represent the money available, and that to be raised, while the wallpaper was unrolled to represent the anticipated beginning of the building work. At the close of a session, which had produced many pieces of good news, there was one last announcement which was cause for considerable excitement; Mrs Betty Clay, youngest child of the Founder and the Chief Guide, came up onto the platform with her daughter Mrs Gill Clay. It was Gill who made the announcement: 'My grandmother, the World Chief Guide, Olave Baden-Powell used to find great joy in giving the front door for Guide Headquarters and for Guide halls around the World. Now her family would like to follow this tradition by giving the front door of the new Olave House so that, as she used to say, "Guides and Girl Scouts from everywhere would be welcomed in for shelter and training and inspiration and would go out into the world to carry Guiding".'

This information caused more than a ripple of delight from the conference participants. They were thus inspired and encouraged to increase their efforts in the hope of raising the money as quickly as possible. If you cast your mind back to News from WAGGGS (July GUIDING) I am delighted to announce that in addition to the UK groups mentioned, the following Divisions have also pledged to raise money for a room: The Caribbean LINK, The Western Hemisphere; Hong Kong Girl Guides; The Africa Region; Kenya Girl Guides; Comité de Enlace del Guidismo en España and Girl Scouts of the United States of America.



In my first article I took a general look at the new Commissioner Training Scheme and how it had come into being. In this second article I examine the roles of the key people in the scheme, the appointing Commissioner, the Personal Tutor, the Chairman of the County Programme and Training Committee; and of course, the Commissioner designate herself.

Commissioner Qualification

COMMISSIONER TRAINING SCHEME

PART 2

The Chief Commissioner, the Chief Commissioner of Countries and Regions and the County Commissioners are the appointing Commissioners in the Girl Guides Association. The Chief Commissioner appoints Chief and Deputy Chief Commissioners of Countries and Regions. The Chief Commissioners of Countries and Regions appoint County Commissioners within their own Countries and Regions. County Commissioners appoint Division, Assistant Division and District Commissioners within their own Counties.

In the Training Scheme for Commissioners, the rôle of appointing Commissioner is a very important one, because it is she who chooses and appoints the Personal Tutor for a Commissioner Designate. She may decide to act as Personal Tutor herself but could, for example, in the case of a District Commissioner Designate, appoint the Division Commissioner as Personal Tutor; or the outgoing Commissioner; or a neighbouring one. All are potential Personal Tutors. Individual circumstances and personalities will influence the choice; but whoever is appointed, her ability to build

understanding relationships with other adults will be an important ingredient in helping the Commissioner Designate to appreciate the importance of this aspect of her job.

A pre-warrant appointment card is issued to the Commissioner Designate to enable her to obtain registered goods; and she will sign all relevant forms which will then be countersigned by the appropriate Commissioner.

The initial sessions of the appointing Commissioner with the Commissioner Designate are most important. Before the new Commissioner embarks upon this scheme at all, it will be necessary for her to have discussed, with her appointing Commissioner, her commitment to the Guide Promise (and Law); and then in broad outline, what her new job entails.

Further discussions, now including her Personal Tutor and based on the framework of the Scheme, will indicate in more detail what the job involves; and the formulation of a personal scheme of training can begin, the priorities for training being identified and put in some sort of order. It is for the

Appointing Commissioner to ensure that what is included in the Training Scheme is appropriate for the Commissioner Designate and for the circumstances she will be working in.

Subsequently, the involvement of the County Programme and Training Committee Chairman can be very valuable, for she is aware of training already planned within her County and Country or Region which may well satisfy some needs of the Commissioner Designate. This might include training on Unit Programme planning, for example, or on the International dimension in Guiding, or the place of self-government in the Unit, the Patrol system, and so on. For a District Commissioner Designate to attend training with her Guiders will also serve the purpose of enabling her to get to know her Guiders as people. Social occasions should be encouraged too for this purpose.

At subsequent sessions the Commissioner Designate continues to receive inserts for her File; relevant publications; invitations to trainings; and one to one help and support from her Personal Tutor, as and when required.

Finally, the training she has experienced is reviewed; the decision to issue the warrant is made; and areas of training and experience still to be covered are identified and plans are made for further training to continue.

The issuing of a warrant to a Commissioner Designate should not be delayed unnecessarily: six months pre-warrant training should be the **maximum**, unless there are **very** exceptional circumstances. The timing will depend upon the individual, her past experience inside and outside Guiding being one important factor. For an experienced District Commissioner taking on the role of a Division Commissioner, for example, the pre-warrant training period may well be measured in days, or a week or two!

It will have become apparent that the Personal Tutor is the pivot of this in-service training scheme. She needs to be a Commissioner (or recently retired Commissioner) herself, able to develop a rapport with her Commissioner Designate.

It cannot be emphasised too strongly that the ability to build understanding relationships with other adults is vital.

Through her own experience as a Commissioner, a Personal Tutor is able to help, advise, counsel, give moral support; and if necessary, accompany her Commissioner Designate to meetings, trainings, etc. She will be counselling in that through conversation, discussion and shared experiences, she will be able to help the Commissioner Designate to identify her problems, and to recognise and face dilemmas. Together,

they will be able to identify alternative ways of dealing with these problems; and the probable outcomes of these solutions, thus giving the Commissioner Designate confidence in her ability to decide for herself what is to be done.

A Personal Tutor will need to be prepared to:

give advice, perhaps in the light of her own experience in a similar situation;

give information, through local knowledge, or the resources available through the Girl Guides Association and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts;

take direct action, for instance providing transport, preparing agendas;

and teach, passing on facts or skills.

In all of these activities, there may well be an element of counselling as already defined.

The organisation of the modular build-up of the File will depend upon local circumstances, and the past experience both in and outside Guiding of the Commissioner Designate; but at all times, the approach needs to be flexible. The Commissioner Designate is to be allowed to do her job, reassured by the knowledge that as she meets new circumstances and explores new aspects of it, she has the support and experience of her Personal Tutor to call upon as the need arises. Her Personal Tutor may well use these needs, where applicable, to build up her File; anticipating some experience not yet encountered, but of

relevance; the study of the many forms, perhaps, that require a Commissioner's signature.

The Commissioner Package includes the File (inserts for which form the modular element); specimen copies of forms requiring a Commissioner's signature; *POR*; *The Outdoor Manual*; *GGA Adult Leadership Scheme*; *GGA Unit Accounts*; *What every Guider should know about Insurance*. The Package will be provided through Countries and Regions for every new Commissioner. How this is done is a domestic matter for each of the Countries and Regions to decide. Two leaflets; *Notes for Personal Tutors* and *Notes for Appointing Commissioners* are available through Country/Region offices.

So, the key people in the scheme are:

The Appointing Commissioner;

The Personal Tutor (all Commissioners are potential Personal Tutors);

The Chairman of the County Programme and Training Committee; and, of course,

The Commissioner Designate.

Continued next month.

June Churchman

Chairman, Commissioner Qualification, Ad Hoc Committee.



The people who were the true heart and inspiration of the Blind Post Guides are sadly no longer with us, so it is left to a mere male, albeit an ex-Scout, Rover Scout and Cub Master of the 1920s and 30s, to recount a little of their history. I knew of the Post Guides during my Scouting years, but only became involved with them, through my late wife, in the early 1970s. For this reason, my references to people are sketchy regarding their names and exact ages, but I hope to provide sufficient material to portray a phase of Guiding which is probably quite unknown to most and now a treasured memory to, unfortunately, very few.

The inspiration behind the Post Guides was Miss Connie Rutherford of Barrow-in-Furness, who was involved with Guiding in the early 1920s as either a Guide Senior or a Captain. She had been born sometime before the turn of the century, and at the age of 16 had learnt that she would be blind for the rest of her life. From that early age, she trained herself to maintain her independence; as an adult she ran a house that would have been the envy of most sighted people. She cooked, baked and even fried eggs perfectly and the only assistance she ever asked for was help in removing the eyes from potatoes. Out of doors her perspicacity was equally remarkable. On the occasions when a sighted Guide would take her downtown, 'Auntie Con' would know the street and the exact number of the house she was passing. She always communicated her own lack of self-pity and her sense of self-reliance to others; on meeting the newly blind, she would tell them how it was not the end of the world and how they must not feel sorry for themselves.

It must have been in the late 1920s when she conceived the idea of banding together Guides who were blind and who were then living in great isolation. Her method for doing this was quite innovative. She would start a long letter in Braille which she would send to the first blind Guide on her list, who then read the letter, added her own news and messages and sent it on to a second Guide and so on until, after passing through about 50 people's hands, the enlarged missive finally returned to her, as big as a book. Fortunately all blind correspondence goes free by post!

She found Guides whose blindness really had brought them terrible isolation. Alice Carter, now aged 87, was blind-deaf and when Auntie Con found her living in a workhouse, she arranged for her transfer to a sheltered home. Alice is now in a home for the blind-deaf, Taite (she calls it 'Tattie') House in Harrogate. I still visit her there; and although I am dreadfully slow in 'talking' to her on her right hand, to see her conversing with others who are gifted at communication with the blind-deaf is to witness another world, one of concentration, sadness and often great joy. Had she been sighted and 'normal', Alice would have been brilliant in some sphere of life.

Auntie Con was a born organiser, who never did things by halves. She collected helpers, probably not all Guides, and inspired them to action. Her younger sister, who was a Guide, became involved; as did my wife who was then a teenager. Auntie Con decided that the Post Guides must have an annual camp, and so set about raising funds for those who could not meet the cost. She did this in a number of ways, including holding coffee mornings, sales of work, and

knitting. Her determination paid off and camps were organised up and down the country with sighted cooks, quarter masters and sighted Guides to keep the blind in contact with all that went on. Two of the cooks were ladies who ran a very large hotel on Windermere and there were several people who were friends of the Chief Guide who mucked in with the chores. Apparently the Bishop of the area could always be relied on to conduct Sunday service and when the local organisations heard of these camps, they threw in everything to help and to give pleasure. The highlight of each evening was the time spent around the campfire, singing. The only thing my wife and I fell out about was the words of the campfire songs. Guides had different tastes to Scouts, it appeared!

Auntie Con herself eventually entered a home for the blind in Barrow-in-Furness, one which she had originally helped to plan; and which she had helped to create by raising hundreds of pounds for, over the years. In 1971, she broke her femur. She would have been in her 70s; was very, very deaf and loved to be fed on grapes after the skins and pips had been removed. I used to go and see her every Sunday when I was home, and I'd say 'Hello Gorgeous'; despite her deafness, it seemed to get through and I'd get a lovely smile. Auntie Con was loved, really loved by generation after generation; and not only by relatives. I was only a relative by marriage, but was made to feel accepted all my life.

My wife, Mary Edith Hawkes, née Kellet (known fondly as 'Kell'), was a close guide and confidante of Auntie Con, who saw to it that her special qualities and sympathy were channelled into blind welfare. Kell started off

off as typist to the Secretary of the Barrow-in-Furness Blind Society; and later trained as a home visitor to the blind of what is now South Cumbria, looking after generations of members of families who became blind. She became Auntie Con's natural successor, in her work with blind Guides. Although the camps were no longer possible, as the one time teenagers were now three score years and ten, or more, my wife organised and arranged holidays in hotels for them from about 1960 onwards. We became engaged in 1971 and at the last hotel 'camp' she was required to produce me, as her chosen mate, to see if I was considered good enough to be 'Kell's Consort'. With Edith, I visited every single blind person in her care and was evaluated by my voice and the touch of my hand. Fortunately I passed muster, but Edith was given a long iron poker with a Lakeland slate handle to keep me under control!

Edith served as a house visitor for some 40 years; and apart from her professional ministry, taught crafts and Braille to all who were capable of learning, to increase their independence. The stories of her work with the blind are endless, as was her devotion. She was specially gifted, and to see her with Alice Carter and the others brought tears, it was so close and loving.

As for the Post Guides, a few remain. Several came to say their farewell to Edith when she died in February of this year, and are still in touch. I am very proud to have known them. I shall never forget that last 'camp', in a hotel in Scarborough, where everyone was sad because they knew it was going to be the last, and where I was first referred to as Miss Kellet's husband.

T L Hawkes

BLIND POST GUIDES

PROGRAMME NOTES

WORKING THE PROGRAMME WITH YOUR UNIT

Foxlease: 18-20 November
Waddow: 5-7 February
30 September-
2 October

Here is an opportunity for Brownie, Guide and Ranger Guiders to learn specific skills related to running the Programme with your Unit. A chance to try your hand at a large number of different activities; and there will be suggestions with prepared notes and instructions concerning the activities for you to take away with you.

You will also be offered ideas on how to know where all the girls in the Unit are in the Programme, even if you are a sole Guider working alone with your Unit. In fact there will be lots of help for everyone!

PROSPECTIVE TRAINERS

Foxlease: 7-9 October
Waddow: 2-4 December

An ideal opportunity for anyone who is working for a Training Licence to meet other Guiders, from a variety of the UK's Countries and Regions, who are doing the same.

These weekends will provide valuable training sessions, taken by experienced trainers.

It is hoped that these training sessions will complement the training available in your Country/Region; and requests for particular training help will be most welcome.

INSITE

Waddow: 19-21 February

Guiders – Would you like your Rangers to be more involved in the running of the Unit, as Chairman, Treasurer or Secretary, for example? If so, here is the ideal opportunity for them to learn how to do just that and you will be there alongside them to see just what they are capable of. This training session is just one example of the variety of ways in which you can help your Unit, when you bring a group of 2, 3, or 4 Rangers to Waddow. Especially if you are a new Unit, come and enjoy the combination of working together and having fun.

HILITE ON PATROLS

Foxlease: 31 March-4 April
Waddow: 31 March-4 April

Guide Guiders – Have you a Patrol which enjoys working together and planning their time? If so, would they enjoy a new chal-

lenge, a new experience, something special, or would this training session be an opportunity for a new Patrol to develop?

This is an opportunity to experience the satisfaction of seeing your Patrol in action and learning from it, without the distractions of running a meeting. It is also designed for you and your Patrol to extend your knowledge of activities in the 'out of doors'. All this and much more can be gained at a weekend, at either Training Centre, designed for a Patrol and their Guider(s). Book early.

DISTRICT TEAM

Foxlease: 22-24 January
20-22 May
16-18 September
Waddow: 8-10 January

These training sessions will concentrate on the District Team, the value that can be gained from working together and discovering the support members of the District can give to each other. Help will be given in understanding how the Programme develops from Brownies, to Guides, to Rangers; and how District events can be used to encourage self-programming at all levels. It is an ideal opportunity to get to know each other in a relaxed atmosphere and to exchange ideas, skills, problems and experiences. District Commissioners are asked to bring a group of Guiders from all Sections and of all levels of experience. If your District has no Ranger Unit, why not ask the Ranger Guider of the Unit which serves your District.

YOUNG LEADER ADVISERS AND RANGER GUIDERS

Waddow: 26-28 February

A special weekend for all those working with the senior Section. There will be opportunities for joint sessions on topics affecting this age group; and for separate sessions to discuss and investigate the programmes offered to the different Sections.

If you are a Ranger Guider or Young Leader Adviser, why not take this rare opportunity to work together with Guiders from different Counties on a residential weekend?

TUTORS

Foxlease: 5-7 February
Waddow: 11-13 November

This training course has been established to provide support, at Association level, for those working as GGA Tutors. The week-

end will cover subjects such as listening skills; leadership skills; the Portfolio Project; and stress management. It will also look at the role of the Tutor; and will give an opportunity to discuss the way forward for Tutoring in the Association. For further details, see October Trainer's Newsheet.

COMMISSIONERS

Foxlease: 6-8 May
Waddow: 1-3 July

This weekend aims to help Commissioners who have held their current Warrant for at least a year. Help will be given in specific areas, such as helping those working through Adult Leadership to choose appropriate trainings; talking about the Promise; dealing with difficult situations; making the best use of available time and District resources.

MUSIC IN THE PROGRAMME

Waddow: 13-15 November

This course is aimed at the Unit Guider who would like to involve the girls in music making, but has little idea on where to begin, or how to progress.

Application forms and details of themes etc may be obtained from the Guider-in-charge at Waddow.

TRAINING CALENDAR

When you have removed the Hear & Now supplement you will see that the training calendar on the centre pages of *GUIDING* is a little different this month. It gives you all the training dates at Foxlease, Waddow and Glenbrook for 1988 and this will be followed in November by the dates for Netherurd, Lome and Broneirion. You will then have a full calendar of 1988 training dates at all six Training Centres.

The information will be repeated in subsequent issues and will include, in December, comprehensive information on fees, bursaries, applying for training courses etc.

TRAINING CALENDAR 1988

FOXLEASE

Foxlease
Lyndhurst, Hants SO4 7DG
Tel: (Lyndhurst) 042 128 2638

JANUARY

- 29 Dec- 3 Jan** New Year Training
8-10 Wiltshire North
15-17 Woking Division
22-24 District Team
29-31 Middlesex South West

FEBRUARY

- 5-7** 1. Tutors
2. International
12-14 Arts
19-21 Worcestershire
26-28 Gloucestershire

MARCH

- 4-6** Hampshire West
11-13 South West England
18-20 Essex North East
21-24 Trefoil Guild
25-27 Hampshire East
31 Mar- 4 Apr Patrol Project

APRIL

- 8-10** Nottinghamshire
15-17 Oxfordshire
22-24 1. Trainers
2. Commissioners

MAY

- 29 Apr- 2 May** Family Weekend
6-8 Commissioners
13-15 1. First Aid Renewal
2. Guiders with girls from other religious faiths
20-22 District Team
27-29 London and South East England

JUNE

- 3-5** Lincolnshire South
10-12 Essex South East
17-19 Kent East
24-26 Friends of Foxlease

JULY

- 1-3** 1. Advisers for Handicapped members
2. Rangers/Young Leaders/Ventures
8-10 1. South Bedfordshire Division
2. Placid Water Skills I
15-17 Cornwall
21-30 Out and About at Foxlease

AUGUST

- 4-17** Holiday Time
19-26 14+ 'Drop in Time'

SEPTEMBER

- 2-4** South West England
9-11 London North West
16-18 District Team
23-25 Greater London Kent

OCTOBER

- 30 Sept- 2 Oct** Devon
7-9 1. Prospective trainers with their tutors
2. Experienced trainers
14-16 London and South East England
21-23 Sussex East
28-30 Derbyshire

NOVEMBER

- 4-6** Dorset
11-13 Isle of Wight
18-20 Working the Programme with your Unit
25-27 Essex West

DECEMBER

- 2-4** Surrey West

WADDOW

JANUARY

- 29 Dec- 2 Jan** New Year Training
8-10 District Team
15-17 North West England
22-24 Lancashire South
29-31 Lancashire West

FEBRUARY

- 5-7** Working the Programme with your Unit
12-14 Cheshire Forest
19-21 Insite
26-28 1. Commissioners
2. Young Leader Advisers/Ranger Guiders

MARCH

- 4-6** GGA Junior Council
11-13 West Mercia
18-20 Leicestershire
25-27 North East England
31 Mar- 4 Apr Patrol Project

APRIL

- 8-10** Loughborough Division
15-17 1. Advisers for Handicapped members
2. Keighley Division
22-24 Avon North

MAY

- 29 Apr- 2 May** County/Region Arts Teams
6-8 Hertfordshire
13-15 Central Glamorgan
20-22 1. Rutland
2. Trainers
27-29 North Tyneside

JUNE

- 3-5** North West England
10-13 Friends of Waddow
17-19 Northamptonshire
24-26 South Yorkshire

HEAR

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n
d

NOW

What a surprise! The Programme Department phone rang and the receptionist announced that four girls from the Wellington Ranger Unit in Somerset were visiting CHQ as part of a Queen's Guide Enterprise trip to London. They were the Unit who met the challenge of sleeping at the top of a church tower, set by another Ranger Unit back in March 1985! Enterprising their trip certainly was. In four days they were visiting all the major tourist spots in Central London, as well as places a little further afield, such as the World Bureau and Hampton Court Palace! It was lovely to meet them and we wish them success for becoming Queen's Guides.

So what have the rest of you been doing to complete the Queen's Guide Syllabus? Write and let us know, along with all your other news and comments to: **Hear and Now, c/o Programme Department, The Girl Guides Association, 17/19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.**

CITY OF ABERDEEN GIRL GUIDES COMMISSIONERS/ ADVISERS CHRISTMAS MEAL

Thursday December 11 1986

'What a good idea', said the County Commissioner, when we suggested, way back in May 1986, that our Ranger Unit could do a Christmas Meal for the Commissioners and Advisers of the City of Aberdeen. Then, of course, the idea was promptly forgotten and did not raise its head again until November. Then it was time to make plans!

Where to hold this historic event? Where better than our grand, spanking new HQ. No 45 is a warm, inviting building; that was our first problem solved. Our thanks to Mrs Dosset, the caretaker for putting up with us!

Our next step was to acquire all the dishes, etc, to make the table look nice. Ah well, scrounging is a well-practised skill! Thanks to the 'Skeandhu Hotel', Altens and 'The Cocket Hat' for providing all the dishes and glasses required.

Obviously most of the preparations had to be last minute, as food was involved, but with the help of Sheena, Guider with the 52nd Guides and unofficial Assistant Guider with us, we set to making the place names and table centre pieces. Actually, if the truth were known, our snowman names and centres would not have been, but for Sheena.

The great day dawned: dishes, glasses etc had to be collected and taken to Guide HQ; tables had to be set; and seating arranged. Then, home to change, and back to HQ for the main event!

The evening started well! OOPS. 'Who forgot to make the Punch?' 'Throw it all together and mix!' 'Wow! That's good stuff!'

Once the press call was over, our guests were seated; and just to put everyone in the right spirit (in case the punch had failed), who should appear but Santa with a small present for everyone, and couple of surprise ones for the Assistant County Commissioner and County Treasurer!

The meal went well, the full Christmas fare with plenty of wine to wash it down with, until the sweet; then, disaster! The custard wouldn't thicken! What to do? The problem was taken out of our hands by the arrival of the 'SAS' (or members of the Pecten Drama Group, Shell UK)

Their mission; to kidnap the County Commissioner and hold her to ransom! Mrs Airth was duly removed under armed guard, and boy, what a pair of arms! On the payment of the ransom by those present, she was duly returned.

The remainder of the evening passed uneventfully, with the Rangers sneaking off early to go to a Disco: ah, the stamina of youth!

Our evening was a huge success and raised the sum of £115.58 for the Girl Guide Friendship Fund; and our thanks go to Hank and Pat of 'Precision Vision,' for not only donating a free live video of the evening, but also for rolling their sleeves up and mucking in, in the kitchen. Even our 'SAS' friends did a turn in the 'cookhouse'. Thanks also to Jean and Sheila for all the work they did behind the scenes; and our final thanks and appreciation must go to Mrs Margaret Airth, County Commissioner, for being such a good sport, and if she reads this: 'Please Mrs Airth could we have our SAS sergeant back now!'

Wellington District Ranger Guide Unit

City of Aberdeen Girl Guides.

OPPORTUNITIES

Openings for the future
People to meet
Places to see
Overnight expeditions
Ranger events
Trainings
Unforgettable friendships
National Young Leader events
International trips
Talents to develop
Investiture
Enterprises
Skills to learn

The opportunities open to a Young Leader are endless! Working on the scheme gives you a chance to meet new people, to learn new skills and to accept new challenges.

Reading through your handbook, you will find information about the Queen's Guides, the Duke of Edinburgh Award, and the Commonwealth Award. These can all be worked on during your time as a Young Leader; and may provide all the opportunities mentioned above. They are also highly regarded by future employers and further education authorities. There are details in the Young

Leader File about the Girl Guide Association Junior Council and the British Youth Council, membership of which would give you a chance to express your views.

International visits are an exciting part of the Guide Programme; and Young Leaders have many opportunities to represent the Association at events around the world. Commissioners regularly receive notices about these visits, and will tell you about them. As members of the Association you can also visit the four World Centres: Olave House, Our Chalet, Sangam and Our Cabaña; and see world Guiding in action.

National events are held regularly for Young Leaders at our training centres around the country: Foxlease, Waddow, Lorne, Netherurd and Broneirion. Ask your Guider for information about these and look at the Training opportunities in this section, as well as at the Training Calendar. Why not apply, either on your own or with a group of other Young Leaders from your Division!

All these opportunities give you a chance to meet new people, but an equally good way to do this is to attend your local Young Leader meetings regularly. At the meetings you will find girls of your own age, with similar interests; and you will gain from each others' experiences and ideas. Here you will also get help and advice to guide you through the scheme, as well as a chance to have fun and to try new activities.

Everyone has a different set of opportunities and a different way of handling them: whatever comes your way, make the most of it! I hope that you enjoy your time as a Young Leader and that you try some of the opportunities that I have mentioned; and many more.

Sue Gillings

London & South East England Young Leader Consultant.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

16-18 October: Glenbrook — Duke of Edinburgh/Queen's Guide Enterprise I

24-28 October: Broneirion — Young Leader Event

6-8 November: Lorne — Ranger/Young Leader Training

6-8 November: Glenbrook — Duke of Edinburgh/Queen's Guide Enterprise

SAVE THEIR ENERGY FOR OTHER THINGS

I feel sorry for a number of conscientious Young Leaders who are doing unnecessary work when carrying out the clause, 'Keep a camp-fire or Brownie song book and a games book and make use of some of the songs or activities.' Perhaps a little timely advice from their Guiders could save them the chore of copying out songs from our songbooks or, even worse, cutting up songbooks to make one of their own.

The kind of book that would be most useful might have headings such as Action Songs; Quiet Songs; Celebrations; Singing Games and so on; and could show the references in the printed songbooks. Naturally, there would also be additional material picked up at camps, trainings and visits abroad.

No one expects the Young Leader to possess all our songbooks but she should have access to them in the Unit, so that she can compile her reference book from them.

Hettie G Smith

WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE WE?

Collect post cards from around Britain and the rest of the world. Write the names of the various places shown on plain cards, making up a set of these for each six or patrol. Different coloured cards could be used for each small group.

Stick the picture cards up around the walls and get the girls to correctly pair them up with their names. The patrol or six getting most right wins.

You can make the game easier for Brownies by just using pictures of for example sights of London such as Big Ben and Nelson's Column, or harder for Guides by getting them to identify the places without the help of name cards.

If you have any ideas for Quickies, please send them to *Hear and Now* (The address is given in the introduction).

AUTUMNAL ART

Whenever you are out of doors, collect items such as fir cones; beech mast; acorn cups; twigs; and other interesting looking natural objects. Then, using lots of imagination and artistry, turn them into small animals; figures; table or Christmas tree decorations.

You will also find it useful to have plastic pots; plasticine or florist's foam (the dry variety); glue; wire; paints (spray are easiest); and glitter. Remember to spread out newspapers and wear aprons.

SPREAD YOUR WINGS

Are you looking for an interesting and worthwhile piece of service for your residential qualification for your Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award? Would you like a holiday helping others enjoy themselves? The perfect answer is a Winged Fellowship Trust Holiday for disabled adults where, I guarantee, you will have a great time.

I went recently to Skylarks in Nottingham. The purpose built centre takes up to thirty-six guests for fortnightly holidays and can accommodate twenty-eight helpers. As a volunteer you are asked to assist the guests wherever necessary and generally enjoy, with them, a tremendous holiday.

A typical day began at 7.30 am when I would appear bright and cheerful(!) at my guests bedroom. By the time we were down to breakfast, we had both, hopefully, woken up! At mealtimes helpers double as waiters, afterwards the chance to operate the dishwasher was a dubious honour. We spent the days going on trips to various places of interest. The highlight was the visit to Alton Towers in Staffordshire. The guests wanted to go on every ride and the helpers obligingly went with them. My partner was so keen she insisted we stay on each ride at least twice, I have never felt so sick in my life! Still it was great fun and I think I'd go back again. In the evenings there were trips to theatre or the local cinema. 'Staying in' was good fun, too. There is a heated indoor pool

and we had some great laughs taking guests for a swim. Locally there is the National Watersports Centre to visit or Skylarks' own nature reserve. In the evening we played Scrabble, Dominoes and Bingo.

There was also a licenced bar where some guests resided until 2 am every night!

My last visit coincided with Drama Fortnight. We worked on an Oriental production and performed this on the last evening for an appreciative audience. Props, costumes and music, as well as acting, played an important part in encouraging everyone to participate and discover skills they didn't know they had.

People make holidays special and the informal atmosphere helped us enjoy ourselves to the full. It is hard to imagine what people in wheelchairs have to offer if you have never made the effort to get to know anyone. I made some good friends at Skylarks and have rarely laughed as much. There were many sad faces on the last day as we swapped addresses and said goodbye.

Winged Fellowship Trust have three holiday centres in England; Crabhill in Surrey and Jubilee Lodge in Essex as well as Skylarks.

Each centre runs a number of special fortnights such as Youth, Craft, Fishing and Music and well as ordinary holidays. So, if you are interested in being a helper, and are over sixteen years of age, then write to: **Volunteer Bookings Dept., Angel House, Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

Denise King

Assistant Guider, 1st Keele Guides, Staffs.

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Have you ever thought about working on a short term project abroad, such as Voluntary Service Overseas; taking part in Operation Raleigh; or participating in a GGA project such as promoting primary healthcare in Sri Lanka?

Perhaps you don't have any qualifications; but don't worry, you don't always need them. Usually you just need a willingness to work and an interest in people.

If you are aged between 17 and 24, and would like to find out more, send this slip, by the end of October, to: **The International Department, Girl Guides Association, 17/19 Buckingham Palace Road, LONDON SW1W 0PT.**

CUT

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Please send me further information on international community development projects.

NAME

ADDRESS

GUIDING COUNTRY/REGION

AGE

SECTION

RANGER MOTOR MECHANIC CERTIFICATE

This month sees the second part of David Bramhall's series on basic car mechanics. He now deals with safety when jacking up the vehicle, for whatever reason; and how to change a wheel correctly. He starts, however, by telling us how to cope if something untoward happens while we are out and about.

ROADSIDE SAFETY

If you need to carry out any minor repairs at the roadside, you should follow these basic safety procedures.

1. Get the vehicle off the main highway and if possible onto a side road or lay-by.
2. Switch on hazard warning lights. If these are not fitted to your vehicle, carry a flashing lantern or warning triangles with you.
3. Close vehicle doors which open onto the road.
4. Do not put yourself into the path of oncoming traffic. Remember, legs which stick out from under cars often get run over.
5. Remember that air displaced by fast moving traffic can gust under your vehicle thus making jacking up very dangerous.
6. Never attempt a repair that you cannot carry out safely; call in an expert. It is a good idea to join one of the well-known motoring organisations such as AA, RAC or National Breakdown. They are worth their fee.

MOTORWAY BREAKDOWNS

If you break down on the motorway, stop the vehicle and make sure that any passengers get out and stand on the banking. Do not let them wander about on the hard shoulder. Ensure that all pets stay in the vehicle. Motorway traffic appears deceptively slow, so beware of oncoming vehicles using the inside lane.

Situated at regular intervals along the motorway are yellow booths which house assistance telephones. When you use the telephone, you will automatically get through to the motorway police who will telephone either your home or a garage, whoever you think will be of most assistance. They will probably ask you to wait by the telephone while they make the call after which they will ring you back and let you know that help is on its way.

VEHICLE JACKING

I have left what I consider to be the most important topic until last: the safe jacking up of vehicles. This might be when changing a wheel, rotating wheels to even out tyre wear, or for a brake inspection; whatever the reason, it must be done safely.

All vehicles are supplied with a jack and wheel brace by the manufacturer



PHOTO: S. MAYER

Melanie Potter and Prue Corbyn discuss the benefits of using the correct tools for the job; in this case a jack and wheel brace.

designed for use with that particular model. This will be a mechanical jack (screw type) which will fit into one or two points along either side of the vehicle called jacking points. This jack is for emergency use and should only ever be used for changing a roadwheel in the event of a puncture.

When jacking up a vehicle to change a wheel with a puncture, you should follow these basic safety procedures.

1. Position the vehicle on firm, level ground.
2. Unload the vehicle.
3. At least one of the wheels which remain on the ground should be chocked against movement in either direction.
4. Apply the handbrake and low gear, this will prevent the car from rolling which could cause a nasty accident.
5. Remove the spare wheel from the boot and check that the tyre pressure is correct. The correct tyre pressure for your particular make of vehicle should be listed in the vehicle handbook.
6. Position the jack in the appropriate jacking point.
7. Remove the hub cap, if your vehicle has them fitted.
8. Slacken off each wheel nut (one full turn is all that is necessary).
9. Place the spare wheel on the ground close to the punctured tyre.
10. Jack up the vehicle just high enough to be able to fit the spare wheel easily.
11. Remove the wheel nuts and place them in a safe place beside you. Now remove the damaged wheel.
12. Fit the spare wheel.

13. Replace the wheel nuts and 'nip' (tighten slightly).
14. Lower the jack.
15. Fully tighten the wheel nuts using the wheel brace. Positioning the wheel brace so that you can push down onto it will make this easier.
16. Remove the jack and the wheel chocks, fit the damaged wheel into the spare wheel carrier and return the jack and wheel brace to their place in the boot.
17. Replace the hubcap.

Additional Notes

Many wheel nuts fit one way only, with the tapered face towards the wheel. Marking all your wheel nuts on the outer face with a dab of paint will prevent incorrect fitting of wheel nuts and, as a result, wheel loss.

When you buy a car, or if your car has been serviced at the garage, make sure that you can unfasten all the wheel nuts with your own wheel brace. Many garages use air tools to tighten wheel nuts which often overtighten and make them impossible to remove with a small wheel brace. This is not a situation you want to be faced with on a dark, rainy night in the middle of nowhere, as you try to tackle your first puncture!

Vehicles corrode and it may be unsafe to use the jacking points on some older vehicles. If this is the case with your vehicle, I suggest that you buy a scissor

type jack that can be used under suitable load-bearing areas. If you are in any doubt as to the position of load-bearing areas on your vehicle, or anything else about jacking up, seek expert advice.

VEHICLE JACKING WITH HYDRAULIC TROLLEY JACK AND AXLE STANDS

If you wish to remove a wheel or wheels, other than in an emergency, an hydraulic trolley jack and axle stands should be used.

Procedure

1. Position the vehicle on firm, level ground.
2. Unload the vehicle.
3. At least one of the wheels which remain on the ground should be chocked against ground movement in either direction.
4. Push the jack under the vehicle and make sure that the saddle is placed under the correct load-bearing point on the vehicle, that is, the axle case, cross member or subframe.
5. Raise the vehicle.
6. Place the axle stands under the load-bearing points and as near to the side of the vehicle as possible.
7. Lower the jack slowly until the weight of vehicle is taken by the

stands. Check that the stands are upright and stable.

8. Leave the jack under the vehicle if it is not required for jacking other wheels.

Additional Notes

Axle stands can be purchased from car spares shops at very reasonable prices. Under no circumstances should bricks be used as a substitute; they are brittle and may crack or be crushed under the weight of the vehicle. Hydraulic trolley jacks may be purchased, or hired, from many of the big DIY superstores.

When you obtain your car, you may be unsure where the jack and axle stands should be placed. Wrong positioning of either could result in damage to the vehicle underbody, damage to the hydraulic breaking circuit or damage to the engine or transmission components. So, ask for expert advice. Talk nicely to your local garage mechanic and show a genuine interest. It works wonders!

David Bramhall

Next month David will be looking at the important points of general vehicle maintenance, including checking the oil and battery and the law regarding tyres. So, look out for the third, and final, part of the series.



Britt Richmond and Iyadunni Obasa get to grips with the spare wheel.



With the jack safely in position Britt sets to work loosening the wheel nuts with the wheel brace.

Waddow
Clitheroe, Lancs BB7 3LD
Tel: (Clitheroe) 0200 23186

JULY

- 1-3 Commissioners
8-10 Cleveland
15-17 1. Leaders from Venture,
Ranger and Joint Units
2. Placid Water Skills I
19-26 Holiday Time

AUGUST

- 5-12 Walking at Waddow
16-25 Waddow Holiday Time

SEPTEMBER

- 2-4 Lincolnshire North and
Humberside South
9-11 North West England
16-18 Norfolk
23-25 West Yorkshire West

OCTOBER

- 30 Sept- Working the Programme
2 Oct with your Unit
7-9 North Yorkshire South
14-16 Midlands
21-23 West Yorkshire South
28-30 Lancashire Border

NOVEMBER

- 4-6 Durham and South Tyne
11-13 1. Tutors
2. International
18-20 Lancashire North West
25-27 Arts

DECEMBER

- 2-4 1. Prospective Trainers
with their tutors
2. Experienced Trainers

GLENBROOK

Glenbrook
Bamford, Nr Sheffield S30
2AL
Tel: (Bamford) 0433 51567

JANUARY

- 22-24 Instructors

MARCH

- 18-20 Advanced Walking Safety

APRIL

- 8-10 D of E/Queen's Guide
Enterprise
Part II Expedition/
Exploration Training

MAY

- 13-15 Exploring Derbyshire

JUNE

- 24-26 Intermediate/Advanced
Walking

JULY

- 8-10 Canoeing/Climbing/Caving

SEPTEMBER

- 16-18 Canoeing/Climbing/Caving

OCTOBER

- 14-16 D of E/Queen's Guide
Enterprise
Part I Expedition/
Exploration Training

NOVEMBER

- 18-20 Advanced Walking Safety

DECEMBER

- 2-4 Trainee Walking
Instructors

BURSARY HELP AVAILABLE

For full details of how to apply, and who is eligible, District Commissioners should write to the Training Secretary, CHQ (Scottish Commissioners should apply to Scottish Headquarters). Applications must reach CHQ at least two weeks before the date of the Training. Bursaries cannot be issued in retrospect.

THE FEE BURSARY entitles the Guide to £3 for a two-day weekend and £1 for each additional day. This is deducted from the fees at the Training Centre.

THE FARE BURSARY (available only for travel to the nearest Training Centre) carries a rebate of a Guide's travel expenses in excess of £3. This is paid at the Training Centre. These cannot be issued for Regional weekends at the Training Centres or for courses at Glenbrook.

THE CHQ TRAINING CENTRES BURSARY entitles Guiders to two-thirds of the fee for a two-day weekend training at Foxlease, Waddow and Glenbrook. The bursary is deducted from the fees at the centre.

THE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES BURSARY is available to Guiders, Rangers and Young Leaders attending training/assessment courses to achieve national qualifications.

FEES

FOXLEASE AND WADDOW

Shared room per day £9.50
Double room per day £10.00
Single room per day £10.50
Deposit of £5.00 cheque or
postal order only.

FEES AT GLENBROOK

Shared room (for weekend
course) £17.00
All activities, equipment and VAT
are included. Optional activities
extra.
Deposit of £5.00 cheque or
postal order.

TRAINING CALENDAR 1988

CAMPS and HOLIDAYS

For applications and details of all camps and accommodation at the Training Centres write, enclosing a sae, to the Secretary of the appropriate centre (addresses are found on the Training Calendar). Suggest dates and state approximate numbers.

Netherurd

Camp Sites

Applications for equipped sites (four) will be considered in January 1988

Brownie House

Bookings for the Brownie House for Easter 1988 onwards are being accepted now. During Scottish school holidays priority will be given to Scottish Packs.

Ranger Bothy

The Bothy is equipped for eight Rangers and two Guiders. One Camp Site, the Brownie House and the Ranger Bothy, are suitable for handicapped members.

Lorne

Lorne will be open as a holiday centre during July and August 1987. In pleasant grounds with lovely views and quiet surroundings on the shores of Belfast Lough, Lorne is only six miles from Belfast and is a good centre for sight seeing tours. Special terms for parties of Guiders taking the house and wishing to do their own catering.

Camp Sites

Lorne offers fully equipped or unequipped camp sites with solid shelter. Calor gas available. Applications should be sent to: Miss Cynthia Mayne, 8 Kilmakee Park, Belfast, BT5 7QY. Tel: Belfast 792457.

Irene McKibbin Memorial Cottage

A cottage available for Ranger holidays; for details apply to: Guider-in-Charge, Lorne.

Glen Road Camp Sites (Nr Lorne)

Fully equipped for campers (one large or two small camps). Excellent hut for solid shelter with electricity. Bookings should be sent to: Mrs Christine Gaston, 127 Harberton Park, Belfast, BT9 6TX. Tel: Belfast 669391.

Magilligan Camp Sites

Three fully equipped sites with double Calor gas stoves for 24 to 30 campers. Two miles of sands. Large three-room hut with an open fireplace. For details apply to: Mrs J Gibson, 61 Station Road, Portstewart, Co Londonderry. Tel: Portstewart 2546.

Broneirion

Holiday flats are available all the year round for family holidays or for parties of up to 12 Rangers with their Guider. Self-catering, fully equipped, with metered electricity.

Camp Site and Brownie House

Applications for camp site and Brownie House for Pack Holidays may be received from 1 September for the following year. The Brownie House may be used by Guiders and Rangers outside school holidays.

Ynsgain

Criccieth, North Wales.

Ty Ni

Brownie Pack Holiday House, available for other sections when not booked for Brownies. Max 12 girls and 4 adults.

Ysgubor Hir

Long Barn. Suitable for handicapped people, 10 and 3 adults.

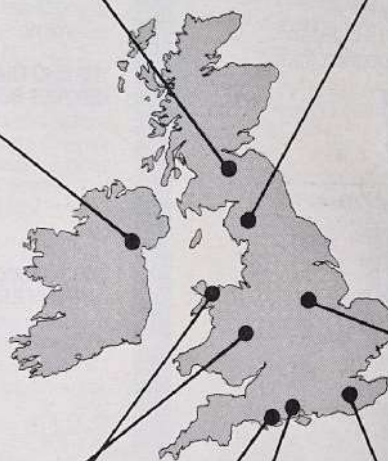
Y Bwthya

Ranger/Young Leader Cottage, 8 and 2 adults. All houses fully equipped except for bedding.

Camp Sites

Three camp sites, two with flush toilets. All have solid shelter and altar fires. Unequipped. Showers available.

Contact: Mrs J P Griffith, Cefnfaes, 23 Carreg Felin, Llandegfan, Anglesey, Gwynedd, LL59 5YB. Tel: (Menai Bridge) 0248 713134, enclosing an sae.



Brownsey Island

Eight sites are available for Guide and Scout Camps from Easter to 1st October plus South Shore Lodge sleeping 18 plus leaders. For details apply to: Miss Muriel Hunt, 5 Alderbury Close, Swanage, Dorset BH19 2SN.

Foxlease

Campsites

Applications for sites for 1988 are being accepted now. Camps begin on any day. Some sites are suitable for handicapped people. Four sites for Patrols; and camp shelters equipped with gas, lighting and heating provide opportunities for Rangers and Young Leaders to camp out of the main season. State whether you require an equipped or unequipped site, mark your envelope 'Camp' and enclose a £5 deposit (forfeited if booking is cancelled).

Barn and Beaverbrook Lodge

Applications for the period 1 April-30 September 1988 are being accepted now.

Waddow

Patrol Camp Sites

Two Patrol camp sites both fully equipped and each with solid shelter. Also suitable for Rangers for lightweight camping.

Campsites

Applications for sites in 1988 will be considered in the first week of November. Suggest whether equipped or unequipped site required. Camps should begin on a Saturday. Enclose a 50p deposit (non-returnable).

Ranger Cottage

This self-catering cottage sleeps 15 people in 5 bedrooms. There is a large, fully equipped kitchen including fridge/freezer, a large comfortable sitting room/dining area, two bathrooms, one with shower and three toilets.

Applications are being considered now. Rangers will be given first consideration but the cottage is also suitable for small Pack Holidays, groups of Guiders with Guiders, Trefoil Guilds, Guiders, etc.

Caravan

Why not enjoy a peaceful holiday in beautiful surroundings with your family/friends in Waddow's new caravan?

This is a 6 berth 25 foot long caravan with separate double bedroom, shower and flush toilet, large dining/kitchen area and sitting area. It is equipped with a full size gas cooker, gas fire, electric light and fridge.

Available for bookings throughout the year.

Glenbrook

Accommodation available in the house for 30 or in the flat upstairs for 10. Groups must be self-catering and must guarantee 20 in the house or 6 in the flat. Accommodation in 'Derwent', the purpose built annexe, is for 34 people on a self-catering basis.

There are two large bedrooms/training rooms on the ground floor with two Guider's Rooms leading off. Above this is a fully equipped kitchen with gas cooking and lounge area. A number of activities are available, including canoeing, walking, caving, rock climbing, etc.

Camp Sites

Four camp sites available, two suitable for handicapped members. Situated in partly wooded grounds. All sites are unequipped.

Blackland Farm

Equipped and unequipped sites available in 175 acres of fields and woodland, with swimming pool, simple rock climbing and pioneering facilities (equipment may be borrowed). Canoeing on nearby reservoir. Restrop and Wagtail Lodge, furnished bungalows for 27, the latter specially adapted for the handicapped, are on the site and in addition a six-berth caravan is sometimes available. To avoid disappointment Guiders should apply for bookings by February 1 every year. For details write to The Warden, Blackland Farm, East Grinstead, Sussex, RH19 4HP, enclosing an sae.

A PRACTICAL ALTERNATIVE SNAIL'S PACE

It had been a typical, drizzly July day. Towards evening, the rain which had come down steadily since daybreak abated to a fine misty spray and eventually stopped. It was then that we were glad to escape from the humidity indoors to the cool, moist air outside. It soon became evident that we were not the only ones whose activities that day had been dictated by the inclement weather; as we sat quietly, enjoying the tranquillity, we began to realise that we were not alone. Slowly, silently, from the undergrowth, came the snails.

We may wonder just what relevance snails have to us. After all, we lead busy, hectic, complex lives and snails are, well, snails. However, this month we are using our little gasteropod friends as a reference point. For, perhaps by contemplating these (apparently insignificant) creatures, we may discover a few home truths about ourselves.

HAPPY AT HOME

Snails are generally considered to be fairly low on the evolutionary ladder; they don't exactly make brilliant conversationalists! However, they have remained unchanged for millions of years precisely because they have found their niche, have liked it and have stayed there. Whether they are land snails, fresh-water snails, or even sea-snails they are perfectly adapted to their environment. Similarly, human beings are so versatile that there are few places on earth where they don't live, although most people are happiest in one particular environment. Just as an Eskimo, for instance, would find life in the Sahara hard to handle, so most of us are at our happiest and most productive in one particular set of surroundings. Where do you feel most at home? It's worth thinking about. There's no point, for example, in gearing your life towards the frantic world of the city if you're really a country girl at heart.

CURVE INTO YOUR SHELL

Most snails' shells curve towards the right, but in a few they curve the other way, just as a minority of people are left-handed. It's important to realise that everyone is an individual. One cannot generalise about human beings, nor predict the direction in which they will go. Every person is different; we each have our own special characteristics and our own unique and special selves. Take this opportunity to contemplate yourself; step out of your shell and consider your own curve. Do you like what you see? How

do you relate to others with different curves, do you respect their differences?

FIND YOURSELF ANYWHERE

Snails, as you know, carry their homes around with them on their backs. It is one of the wonders of nature, yet there is nothing to stop you from doing the same. Gather together your Rangers, or a group of fellow Guiders, or just a group of fellow 'snails'; pack a few things into your rucksacks and head for the hills. This could be a refreshing exercise in self-sufficiency, getting away from inessentials, from microwaves to mortgages.

NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT

Snails are equipped with two pairs of 'horns', the shorter pair to feel out their environment and the longer with eyes at

their tips. A snail's eyes have a limited function, distinguishing only light from dark. On your hike, in your capacity as snails, do not take watches with you. Aware only of daylight and darkness you will have to rely on your own body clock. One member may take a watch to look at in an emergency.

SLOW BUT SURE

It's true that snails to our eyes move very, very slowly, but they do cover a lot of distance. Perhaps, as you settle into your snail's pace, you will see the value in this. If you set yourself a target, an objective, and follow it through thoroughly, you will have covered a lot of ground. Your immediate objective may be part of some larger plan, but in the meantime you will have a definite accomplishment 'under your shell'. Slow, as they say, but sure.

TO AVOID DRYING OUT

Snails withdraw into their shells for protection and to avoid drying out. In the constant interaction of our day to day lives, when we are busy with family, friends, our work, we are in danger of drying ourselves out. By going so fast that we do not give ourselves time to finish and to reflect on events, we tend to neglect our inner selves, our thoughts, ideas and dreams. By taking yourself away from the everyday things of life, even for half an hour, you gain the opportunity to withdraw into your shell, to take stock of what is in there and to replenish your energies. Such time on your own is never wasted, because you will emerge fresher, calmer and better equipped to deal with the world outside. You will find your life enriched by thoughts and ideas you have brought to the fore by using your shell.

TO CONCLUDE

Snails like moderate temperatures and when it becomes too hot or too cold, they retreat to the undergrowth and stay there until it's safe to come out again. We do not advocate that you take your snail's pace this far; we draw the line at hibernation! We do think, however, that if you follow this molluscos course every now and again, you will not need to hibernate. You will be fighting fit and functioning at a human pace; but with of course, a snail's eye view!

Stephanie Spicer



When Mrs N W Woodward bought a cottage and its contents from the Church of Scotland last year she made a surprising discovery. She knew that the cottage had been bequeathed to the Church by Mrs Ruth Service MBE, who died, aged 90, in April 1985; but while sorting through the many books and papers she discovered a lot more about Miss Service.

Ruth was a Church of Scotland missionary nursing sister who worked for over 30 years in Lubwa, in what is now Zimbabwe, before retiring to the United Kingdom. Among the papers she left was a report of a Guide rally in the Copper Belt of Rhodesia, as it then was. The report is undated but the rally is possibly the one referred to in the 1943 Annual Report, which says 'To the Copper Belt came over 200 Wayfarer Guides and Sunbeams, several of these from a distance of 500 miles, so much does their Guiding mean to them.'

Ruth Service's report, written so many years ago, begins with the excitement of her Guide Company when they hear of the invitation to the rally. There is disappointment for most girls but delight for the chosen few. Then the preparations begin for the journey, hundreds of miles, to the Copper Belt.

IN THE COPPER BELT



There was feverish excitement that weekend when the chosen Guides were sent home to get their parents' permission. They had many miles to walk. Quickly they returned and while they ground 30lbs of millet into flour they sang joyously. Beans were collected in the cooking pots and dresses were washed and ironed. All their possessions were tied together in their blankets. Complete with bundles on their heads and holding aloft the Union Jack and Company Colours they mounted the small lorry and with great cheer they set off on the great adventure. It was their first adventure into the big civilised world.

The first night they slept in a tin shanty and thought it grand. Rather than wait two days for the mail connection they boarded a smelly petrol lorry which took them a further 110 miles on their journey. After a walk of four miles they arrived at Chitambo looking very dusty indeed, so a good part of the next day had to be spent scrubbing bodies and heads and washing clothes. The day following they mounted the oxen waggon and riding in state they reached the main road and joined the mail lorry.

Edward, the coloured driver, took the girls under his wing and looked after them well. 'Can you get us to the railway by 6 am

tomorrow?' we asked him. This we knew meant setting off at 3 am. What a relief it was when he said,

'I'll get you there tonight, if you wish, but it means an extra 90 miles. It will be dark and cold and you will be hungry.'

'Never mind, let's go on,' we chorused.

By the wayside we halted, so as to allow a convoy to pass us rather than become enveloped in their dust. We cheered them on their long journey north.

It was cold and dark when we completed the 500 mile journey to the railway, but alas, the only hotel didn't cater for African girls so they slept on the lorry with a tarpaulin over them. Soon a

goods train meandered along. The girls stood rigid, awe-struck.

'Is that a train? Is that the sort of thing we travel on tomorrow?'

After much excited talk they eventually fell asleep.

At dawn Edward called them.

'Rise, girls, wash and dress. The train is about due.'

The train was bewildering and confusing.

'Is this our house?' they asked when they were shown their compartment. They stood by the window, spellbound and thought that their eyes were playing tricks on them. It was early evening when they arrived at Nkana and walked the four



miles to Mindolo. Here, the District Guide Commissioner presented them with six loaves and some meat. Never before had they seen so many loaves of bread and they weren't sure what to do with them. Captain came to the rescue and cut one in slices and soon they were munching, with evident relish, the new fare.

Having washed and eaten they set off to explore the vast white city bordering them. Rows and rows of white houses looked like a field of mushrooms to them. Was it possible not to get lost in this vast place? Bewilderment and homesickness were soon forgotten when suddenly there appeared forgotten relations and friends from the old home all thirsting for news. There was much shaking of hands and many thank yous as each friend presented her gift of food.

Suitors came too, eager for

marriage, but these we had to chase away.

The waiting days were filled with sewing new ties and headbands, visiting friends, shopping, and practising knots, songs and sketches. Saturday was the great day when from all over the Copper Belt there came excited African Guides who tumbled out of buses in their eagerness to get to corners and change. The popular airs played by the African band excited them more but soon the eight Companies complete with banners marched onto the field. Headbands and ties of red, pink, salmon, greens, blues and yellow interspread with the green and gold of the Sunbeams made a lovely rainbow effect adding more colour and life to an already bright scene. Our modest Company of eight from the wilds felt shy and timid in the Grand March Past. It was the biggest gathering of Africans and Europeans they had ever seen. Soon shyness was forgotten for with zest they entered into the various competitions.

Everyone was amused at the baby bathing demonstration performed by one company. First a doll was bathed in African fashion which looked as if it were a piece of dough that was being kneaded and not a doll being bathed. After this a live African baby was bathed in European fashion. The baby gurgled at everyone. There were great cheers when the Company lifted the basins, etc and sped to their corner. Singing games and country dancing, obstacle races and other competitive games were loudly applauded.

The great gathering concluded with formation marching, repetition of our Promise in various dialects and the singing of the Bantu and British National Anthems. There followed a great scuttling to corners to get supper cooked and eaten and the final preparations made for the campfire. The campfire was the largest our girls had ever taken part in and mercifully they had lost their shyness, and their contributions came off with flying colours. From the adjoining compounds there came my lads carrying tiny lamps which made a kind of halo around us. The moon beamed upon us as we frolicked and danced and revelled in song. Bull frogs croaked loudly, insects squealed and the whole bush world was gay also.

The Commissioner, in her speech, said she couldn't in



fairness give marks, for the talent of each company was so good. What a grand medley it was when 'Taps' were sung in English, and other languages. Repetition of the 'Lord's Prayer' was an appropriate finish to our happy, happy day.

For the Officers there was a short Communion Service in a lovely little chapel on Sunday morning which made us feel more like sisters than ever. Later there was a Church Parade when Company Colours were dedicated. Cameras got busy after Church and then came fond farewells.

We were about to depart when the mother of our most backward Guide appeared with a bundle. First, she presented the two Captains with a sixpence apiece, saying, 'A little parting gift for you. Sorry I've no fowl to give you. Please give these clothes to Dolly.'

We thanked her, saying how much Dolly would love to receive a parcel. Poor Dolly thought she belonged to no one because she was a coloured girl and her mother had forsaken her.

With bundles on our heads and in our hands, and joy in our hearts, we left the great city and turned our faces homewards. At Ndola station we had a long weary wait. The night was inky black and cold, so, draped in blankets or coats, we huddled together on our bundles and pretended we were neither cold nor afraid. Immediately the train arrived we scrambled in, pulled out our bunks and went to sleep but alas at 2 am the Guard's voice was heard dimly, saying, 'Time to rise, girls. Next stop is yours'. The train jolted to a standstill and shivering with cold and staggering with sleep we managed to jump down and retrieve all our luggage. We would have stumbled more had not the moon shone down upon us, cheering us on our way. Until dawn the girls had to

share a tiny shanty with a hundred Africans.

Soon Edward's lorry appeared. He presented them with firewood, saying he knew they would be feeling cold. A fire was lit and breakfast cooked and then we boarded the mail once again. The first night we spent at a Rest House where there was no accommodation for African girls so Edward suggested that the girls share his one-roomed house; he sleeping on the bed and they on the floor. In the middle of the night there came a knock at the door. 'I want my sister,' the voice said.

'Go home', Edward replied. 'These girls are all my sisters so you can't have one.'

The next morning we reached Chitambo road end and found the oxen waggon and two bicycles awaiting us. In another hour we reached Chitambo where many years ago Dr David Livingstone died. Here we spent a happy week. A campfire was held on the last night. It was supposed to be for girls only, but curious school boys thronged the yard and joined in the revels. They were amazed to see an African girl taking full charge and acting in many of the scenes. This was something new to them and they were amazed and very surprised that there were no hitches. The happy evening concluded with Vespers and Prayers in Obibemba.

Once again we boarded Edward's lorry and two days later reached Lubwa, thrilled to be home again. In relating all our experiences, we realised afresh what a grand Sisterhood the Guide Movement is, and how much it is helping in the developing of the African girl in the backwoods. The two Captains felt exceedingly grateful to Headquarters, whose generosity had made the Rally a possibility for us.

Ruth Service

Lubwa, Chinsali, N Rhodesia



KURBIS'87

Attempting an International Camp is the wish of many Guides, Rangers and Guiders. In October 1986 an invitation for three Rangers or young Guiders to attend a camp in Austria was given to British Guides in Germany. The announcement was made during a training session at Cappenbergsee near Darmund. Sue Sanderson and myself were both there and, being under 25 years old, applied immediately. The third applicant had to withdraw. As both Sue and I lived in Munster, making plans for Kurbis was easy.

The camp was not due to start until Friday June 6, but due to the distance we would have to travel, and the fact that Friday was a public holiday, we arranged with the organisers to arrive on Thursday instead.

We left Munster at 0800 hrs and about an hour later it started to rain and continued to do so all day. This slowed us down considerably especially going through the Alps and we didn't arrive in Leibritz until 2100 hrs,

two hours later than expected. As the camp was not due to start until Friday there were no direction signs to the camp site and we resorted, after half an hour searching, to seeking help from the police. We arrived at the camp site at 2200 hrs with a police escort!

It was still raining heavily and pitch dark so we were invited to sleep in one of the marquees. We accepted gratefully as by now we were quite tired.

Friday dawned as wet as Thursday had ended. We pitched our tent and ate breakfast in drizzle. We also put up our flag pole so that everyone would know where we were.

Sue had forgotten her wellies and by now had soaking feet. After touring several shops we found a reasonably priced pair. As soon as the money went on to the counter the sun came out and continued to shine for the rest of the weekend. The wellies returned to Germany without ever being worn!

After lunch we visited Schloss Seggau which overlooks Leibritz. The Schloss has its own

vineyard and wine cellar. We had a small taste of the local vintage and bought some to take home. The walls of the cellar are covered with a tarry substance into which visitors have pressed groschens; small Austrian coins. I found an English penny and added it to the collection.

Campers arrived all afternoon. The whole site was split into small Dorfen (villages). The 850 campers would live in groups of about 40. Our village was called Wundschuh and the majority of the campers came from Vienna. There was also a PTA (disabled) group from Graz, four of whom were in wheelchairs and two on crutches. PTA stands for Pfadfindern Treffen Allen, or Guiding and Scouting for everyone.

That night the Festzelt (Festival tent) opened. As Austrian Rangers and Rovers are aged 18 to 25 years, alcoholic drinks are available from a bar at such events, to cut down on the litter problem. In the tent we met Willi, he was 'Burgomeister' of the next Dorf. With him were Mario, a group Scout Leader

aged 27 and his friend Flippy who was not a Scouter but just loved camping. They were from the Vorarlberg Mar lake Constance and had travelled nearly all day to reach the camp.

On Saturday June 7 the last few campers arrived, mainly those who worked and could not get time off on Friday. The other campers made the final arrangements to their sites, such as hanging flags from trees, moving from one village to another. We attracted some attention and had our photograph taken a few times. We were befriended by Barbara from Graz who took us on a tour of the other villages.

The first meal provided by the Burgomeister was Shirische Salat and Kurbis Brot. The salad was a mixture of butter beans, onion, ham, cheese, and peppers all tossed in pumpkin oil, which is green. The bread was also made from pumpkin and was green too; bright green bread! It wasn't nearly as bad as it sounds.

The opening ceremony was brief and simple. The Pfadfinder sang their national Scout and

Guide song as all the Country, Regional and Scout and Guide world flags were raised.

There were several games after this to get us to mix together. Everyone was divided into groups according to the region where they lived. The European group was smallest consisting of Sue and I, 12 Scouts from Germany and five Scouts and Guides from Hungary. In fact Sue and I were told that we were the most 'exotic' people there.

After the games we returned to our villages to prepare an entertainment for the 'Dofferfest' later that afternoon. Each village had to make a large banner, a slogan to fit into badges and a short entertainment about the name of the village. Some of the sketches were very funny.

We then played another game to show how disproportionate world food distribution is. All 850 campers were divided to represent the mass. Then 850 apples were given out according to the percentage of food each area eats. We were in Eurasia and received two apples each. The Africans had 10 apples between 57 people and the Japanese had 50 apples for 10 people!

The groups from Vienna offered to cook our chops that evening on their barbecue. They were extremely peppery. We then chose our activities for the next day at the Atcher Bazaar. There were about 60 activities to choose from but many, especially those about ecology, were out of the question as our German just wasn't good enough. We could make ourselves understood but really it was like someone from Devon talking to a Glaswegian. The Bazaar was actually a chaotic fray, in which the best man or woman won.

On Sunday we were woken bright and early by 'Skippy', one of the organisers driving round the camp playing 'Here Comes the Sun' over loud speakers on his car. It was already hot and sunny at 0700 hrs, and it got hotter and hotter all day. Sue got sunburn on her scalp. In the morning we made stone men, some ideas were really original.

After lunch we drove up into the mountains with some of the 'Bierbaum' campers, Willi, Mario, Flippy and a few others including the Austrian Chief Guide. We visited a mountain inn to sample their wine and food. It was a lovely afternoon.

On our return we had pumpkin Goulash; although it didn't taste too bad, it made a few people feel very queasy afterwards.

Sunday Night ended with the Kurbus feast. A band played mostly sixties music, people who had practised Austrian folk



dances in the workshops performed them, as did two bands formed during the workshops. The drinking, singing and dancing went on well into the night.

On Monday we were woken by 'Here Comes the Sun' again. After striking camp and swapping badges and scarves, we presented the organisers with a gift, said our goodbyes and left at 1030 hrs. The camp was great fun and will be remembered by us for years to come.

We learned a lot about the Austrian Scout/Guide Movement. Their problems are not so far removed from our own. They are still, though, quite a young movement. They have a problem with falling numbers and a lack of leaders. They have now combined the Movements at all levels except Wchlinge and Wofflinge (Brownies and Cubs). The mixed sex groups appear to work very well. Their age groups are also very different, the responsibility of leadership not being taken on until the age of 25, thus allowing more freedom for 18-24 year olds to experiment and learn new skills; complete studies; learn new trades and develop themselves before passing on their skills to others.

The Chief Guide and Scout both camp and join in actively with their Movements; both posts are elected and they are renewed every 5 years.

In conclusion, if you ever get the chance to camp abroad — Go for it! There is so much to gain.

Jackie O'Sullivan
Ex-Guider Munster Coy

MAKE YOUR OWN

CANDLES

Idea from **Miss P Wyatt**
Series arranged by **Sheila Edwards**

You will need:

Paraffin wax
Candle wick
Dye discs for producing the colour required.
Stearin is an additive for dissolving dye. It also hardens the wax, aids release from the mould and produces a longer burning candle.
Mould Seal for sealing the wick hole.
Small sticks, eg lolly sticks
Simple moulds, eg disposable cups, yoghurt cartons, mousse dishes
Wax pots, eg old saucepan, clean tins
A long needle

Method

1. Secure a stick to the end of the wick and thread the wick onto the needle and pass it through the mould (fig 1) until the stick rests on the outside of it (fig 2).
2. Secure the wick using the mould seal in the centre of the mould and cut off any excess (fig 3).
3. Pour sufficient wax into the pot to fill the mould; as a rough guide twelve level teaspoons make a candle 2" x 2". Melt the wax slowly over a low temperature.
4. In an old saucepan, dissolve $\frac{1}{16}$ of a dye disc and 1 tablespoon of stearin. Do not allow to smoke as overheating will spoil the dye. When every trace of dye has dissolved add this mixture to the paraffin wax.
5. Pour the wax carefully into the prepared mould, leaving a little in the pan for topping up.
6. Leave the candle to stand until a small dip has formed on the surface of the wax.
7. Reheat the remaining wax carefully and top up the candle. Take care not to overfill the mould as this will cause a crust to form on the bottom of the candle. It may be necessary to top up more than once.
8. When the mould is completely cold, the candle should be set hard. Remove the mould seal, turn the candle upside down and tap on the palm of the hand. When the candle is ready it should slip easily from the mould. If this fails to dislodge the candle, place it in the fridge for half an hour and try again.
9. Cut off the stick from the bottom and your candle is ready for use.

There are many ways to vary the look of your candles. White candles dipped in various colours may be carved back to produce a rainbow effect. Plain candles may be decorated with transfers or dried flowers; candles can even be painted using poster paints mixed with a little washing up liquid. A combination of any of these methods can produce startling effects. Why not try to design your own Unit candle? All the materials mentioned, including candle moulds, may be purchased at all good craft shops.

When using a rubber mould

Do not use stearin as this will eventually rot the mould. When removing the candle from the mould, rub a little washing up liquid over the outside then roll the mould gently back.

Candle making is an activity which can be done by both Brownies and Guides, with adult supervision, and it can be very useful when raising funds.

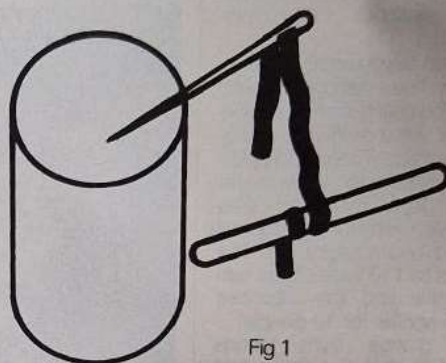


Fig 1

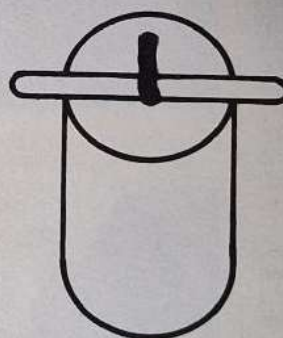


Fig 2

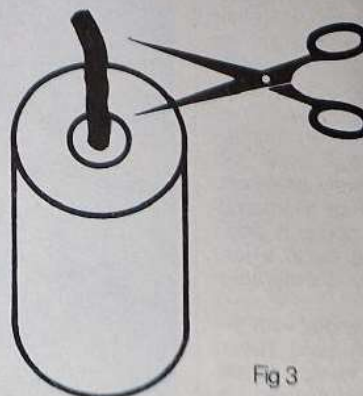


Fig 3

THE EIGHT POINT PROGRAMME

BROWNIES — GETTING TO KNOW PEOPLE

To help Brownies to get to know each other, you could organise an autograph hunt in your Pack; or challenge each Brownie to find out how many of her friends have, for example, a middle name, have been on a train, or own a bicycle.

BALL INTRO

A game to introduce new Brownies to the Pack.

All the Brownies stand in a large circle, with the Brownie Guider standing in the centre with a ball. She throws the ball, and as it is thrown to each Brownie in turn, the receiving Brownie calls out her name, returning the ball to the leader each time. After a while, change the sequence so that the ball is thrown across the circle from Brownie to Brownie; as the ball is thrown, the thrower calls out the name of the receiving Brownie.

GETTING TO KNOW THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

A good way of doing this is to visit the elderly; you could arrange for the Brownies to visit the local Women's Institute or Derby and Joan Club. Learning new skills, such as knitting or sewing, weeding or hoeing, with which they could make themselves useful, would make the Brownies' visits even more worthwhile. There is always Christmas Carol singing, which is a perennial favourite.

LOOKING FURTHER

This is an activity for Brownies in their Sixes, which will take approximately 10 minutes per week for two to three weeks. Give each Six a travel brochure, or, even better, a foreign magazine, and some paper so that each Six can produce a display on a different foreign country. Encourage them to find out as much as they can about their chosen country, so that they can talk about it as well. When they are ready, hold a Travel Evening, and let each Six travel from country to country!

GUIDES — GETTING TO KNOW PEOPLE

Getting to Know Your Patrol

Find out ten different things about each member of your Patrol (this could be included in the Pre-Promise Challenge) and make a display, or compile a small scrapbook of photographs, handprints, hobbies etc.

GAME AS A PATROL

One Guide leaves the room and each of the remaining Patrol members places two or three personal objects on a table. When the first Guide returns to the room, she has to try to return as many of the items as she can to their rightful owners.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR COUNTRY

Compile a national recipe book, aiming to include as many county recipes as possible. You could include such things as Yorkshire Pudding, Dorset Knobs etc.; then see how many of the dishes your Patrol can cook!

HEADS OF STATE QUIZ

Collect as many different photographs as you can of the Royal Family, or of foreign Heads of State, and write the relevant names on pieces of card. See how many of the names and faces the Guides can pair correctly.

ROYAL FAMILY TREE QUIZ

Write the names of the members of the Royal Family on cards. How much of their family tree can you complete? Each member of the Patrol could then draw up her own family tree, or the Patrol could get together to compile a family tree of a particular Guide and illustrate it.

INTERNATIONAL GAMES

Have a series of international uniforms and badges mounted on pieces of card. Place all the cards face down on a table, and have the Guides take turns in picking up two cards and turning them face up. If a uniform and a badge card form a matched pair, then the Guide keeps the pair and has another turn. If the two cards picked up do not form a matched uniform and badge set, they are then turned over and returned to their place on the table. The girl who collects the most matched pairs is the winner. Are any of the Patrol members bilingual? Would they, or any of the others, like to talk about their experiences in other countries? How many languages can the Patrol members say 'Hello' in?

RANGERS — RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE

Me As You

The Rangers form pairs. One Ranger in each pair has three minutes in which to talk about herself: her family, her work, her weight, height, interests; anything at all she thinks is important. Her partner then has three minutes in which to do the same thing. This pair (pair A) then join up with a second pair (pair B). One member of pair A then pretends to be her partner, and tells pair B all about 'herself'. Her partner, meanwhile, listens too and she hears (if her partner is accurate), what she, herself, is like. Each girl does this in turn. This activity should be fun and light-hearted and also a test of listening skills for both parties. How attentive was each girl whilst her partner was talking: was she being a 'good lis-

tener'? How does each girl feel about hearing someone else pretending to be her? Does she like what she hears? Does this reflect more upon her or upon her partner? An interesting activity for all concerned!

A variation on this activity is when two pairs get together and one Ranger starts to tell the Rangers about 'herself'. However, she could either be herself, or she could be pretending to be her partner. Can the others tell which one she is? Within an established Unit, this game will highlight which aspects they do, and don't know, about each other. With a new Unit, it could be more of a challenge and quite a revelation to discover who is actually who.

CASE STUDIES

Present the Rangers with a family case study. Using pictures from magazines, papers, or the family album, give an outline of a family with, for instance, father, mother, brothers and sisters, cousins, uncles, or step-parents; a family with, say, four main characters. Then create a profile of each main character. Father is of such and such an age, he could be tired of his job; perhaps under threat of redundancy; suffering an illness (though hopefully not all of these!). The mother could be frustrated with him, or too protective of her family; or just very busy with her career. The daughter might be unemployed; in trouble with the authorities, or under pressure from her boyfriend. The son could be mixing with a group who are into drugs; perhaps he can't be bothered to study at school, or is just bored with his life. The possibilities are endless!

When you have presented the family outline, tell the Rangers that they are to form an advisory group. Over a period of, say, four weeks, they are to consider this family, taking one member each week and trying to find ways in which these people could be helped. What advice would they give them? Where could these people go for help with their various problems?

The Rangers will need to explore the various social services and self-help groups available to the public, for example, the Marriage Guidance Bureau; Family Planning Association; Drug Counselling Service; the local sports centre; the Citizens Advice Bureau; the DHSS; the Samaritans; the Job Centre; Youth Leaders; teachers etc. The list is as endless as the problems encountered.

This project will involve research by the Rangers outside of meetings. Encourage them to take these case studies seriously. You might want to split up the Unit, depending on its size, so that every 'counselling group' can explain to the others each week the case they are working on and their advice for the family.

(This is not an original idea, we are sorry to say; but we can't remember where we first heard of it. So apologies to the originator; and thank you for the idea!)

PS
Incorporating ideas from South West England.

ADVENTURE DAYS

HOT AIR BALLOONING

1st Herstmonceux Rangers

Continuing our 'Adventure Days' series, we feature a report from Emma Crittenden, Chairman of the 1st Herstmonceux Rangers, who last year went up, up and away—hot air ballooning.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JULIA DANN AND D CLIFFORD



Have you ever contemplated going up in a hot air balloon? If so, you might have felt frightened, nervous, or perhaps just excited. Going up in a balloon gives you a feeling of exhilaration that is indescribable to anyone who has not experienced it.

To begin with, weather conditions have to be perfect; too much wind or rain makes a flight very difficult. We had to put a week aside for our flights, to ensure a good evening's weather until, finally, Monday July 21 1986 provided us with the right conditions. Three of us were going up: myself, Sarah Clifford and Julie Dann. We arrived at picturesque Bodium Castle at about 7pm for a picnic supper with our entourage of friends and relatives. Our balloon arrived later with our instructor Dennis Foulter.

The process of preparing a balloon for flight isn't as easy as you might think. The canvas has to be taken out of its surprisingly small bag and unrolled correctly. The basket must then be fitted with enough propane gas cylinders for the flight and the radio and the altimeter must be checked. The supports for the burners are fixed into place and an assortment of ropes attached to the burner frame once it is erected. The canvas

is first blown up with air, then filled with the gas.

As the balloon started to fill up and rise, Dennis jumped into the basket to stabilize it. I was nominated to be next and climbed aboard, camera in pocket. Sarah and Julie were last in, squashed between the gas cylinders. After final goodbyes and frantic waving, the basket lifted gracefully into the air. Bodium Castle receded slowly, along with the figures running towards their cars as they realised that they had to follow us.

There is no feeling of movement or height when you're in a balloon and figures on the altimeter mean little. The cloudless evening provided us with fantastic views, along the coast to Dungeness, and inland to Ashford. We flew over Lamberhurst and Tenterden with the back-up truck and a stream of cars in pursuit, snaking their way along country lanes, trying to predict where we would land.

There were wonderful opportunities for photographs. We floated over some lovely country homes, complete with swimming pools which, to us, appeared as small turquoise blue rectangles, while at other times we were so low that we could talk to people on the ground.

Dennis decided that we should try to land just beyond Tenterden. When a suitable field came into view, we were instructed to hold on tightly to hand holds in the basket and to bend our knees. We lost height rapidly and I began to wonder whether we

would clear the final hedge. In fact, we brushed through the top of it and the balloon toppled and came down on its side. We had instructions to stay where we were, clinging to the basket, until all the gas had been let out. Then there was a mad scramble as the three of us all attempted to crawl out of the basket at once.

A brief conversation on the radio brought the back-up crew and the others onto the scene. Everyone helped to pack the balloon away and as darkness set in we made plans for a second trip, the following evening, for the other three daring Rangers: Nieda Fox, Clare Ardouin and Lynette Simes. These three had been invested at Bodium Castle, plans for an in-flight investiture having been abandoned when it was realised that a second balloon would be needed for our Guide!

The second evening was just as enjoyable as the first and this time we were allowed to travel in the back-up truck and experience the difficulty of making instant decisions about which road to take.

Ballooning is a fantastic experience. It is a must for keen photographers, lovers of the countryside, and even those who simply like a bit of fresh air (it isn't even as cold up in the balloon as you might think). If you ever get the chance of a flight in a hot air balloon, I strongly recommend that you take it. We did, and consequently we are planning to go again next summer.

1st Herstmonceux Rangers

And a year on, the Herstmonceux Unit have been ballooning again; and will no doubt be going again . . . and again . . . and again!



THEME EVENINGS

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD

Incorporating ideas from Beryl Rooke

A theme evening on food should give you full attendance at your meeting!

COSTUME IDEAS

The catering department of a large auditing firm wanted to encourage the staff to use the company restaurant. So the catering staff came up with an idea for creating a jolly, relaxing atmosphere and generally brightening up everyone's lunch-time. High-flying accountants, going in for their lunch on a particular day, found a human-sized tomato serving up the main course, aided by an equally large gherkin, with an orange on the desserts counter and a banana helping at the cash desk. A good time was had by one and all!

You could follow this example for spicing up a meal by encouraging your Unit to dress up as their favourite foods. Tell them well in advance so that they have plenty of time to prepare their costumes.

SHOPS

Patrols sit on the floor at one end of the room, while at the other end three chairs are placed well apart from each other and facing the girls. Tell the girls that each chair represents a shop, for example Greengrocer, Butcher, Confectioner. Each girl in the Patrol is given a number between one and six and they all have to remember which chair represents which shop. The Leader then calls out, for example, '3 Lamb Chops' or '4 Apples'. Girls whose own number corresponds to the number of items called, rush to sit on the correct chair and the first to get there and sit down wins a point for her Patrol. It is essential to take time beforehand to draw up a list of items to be called. The first Patrol to gain 10 points is declared the winner.

RECIPE JIGSAWS

Give each Patrol a list of ingredients for a specific recipe. Write the method for making up each recipe in short sentences on pieces of card. Cut the card into strips so that each strip contains one sentence of the method, and scatter these around the room. Each girl must then bring back one sentence which she thinks will be part of her Patrol's recipe. The girls must then decide between them in what order to put them.

At the end of a specified period, each Patrol reads out to the assembled company the name of their dish, the list of ingredients and what they think the correct method is. Choose recipes which the Guides will be familiar with, such as recipes which they might be served at home.

FOOD TASTING

In their Patrols, the girls are blindfolded with the exception of the Patrol Leader, who passes around items of food for them to taste. Suggest about ten different types of food, for example salt, sugar, dry mustard, herbal tea (what flavour is it?), a piece of fruit, a type of cheese, etc. Do the Guides guess the type of food by taste alone, or in other ways as well, such as by smell or texture?

If you need to make this activity easier, give the Patrol Leader a list of the items to be used, to be read out to the Patrol before they start.

PIZZA-MAKING COMPETITION

Challenge each Patrol to make their own pizza; this should be planned well in advance. You may be able to prepare a base beforehand for each Patrol, or you could buy them, or have one member of each Patrol nominated to bring one in. Either you or the

Patrol members could supply the rest of the ingredients, as they strive to produce their own 'ultimate' pizza. They will probably come up with weird and wonderful creations without much need for encouragement from you, but you could suggest that each Patrol member gets to pick at least one of their favourite toppings. The Patrols then share each others' pizzas and vote as to which was the best. The winning Patrol could be awarded an all expenses paid trip to a local pizza restaurant as a prize.

CALORIE COUNT

The Patrols are lined up at one end of the room, while you stand at the other. Each Patrol member should be given a 'calorie count', for example '100', '50', or '10' and each should have a sticker to indicate their allotted calorie number. Prepare a list beforehand of different food items and their respective calorie contents and make sure that they correspond to the 'calorie count' given to the girls either individually or collectively. When you call out one of the food items, for instance 'apple', each Patrol must send you the girl or girls with the correct 'calorie count'. On your list it should say that an apple contains 80 calories, so the first Patrol to send up a '50' and three '10's wins a point. Calling out 'a pizza' should get the whole Patrol racing up!

OTHER FOODS

Popcorn is a must, whenever you are including food in your evening and want some extra fun!

Another idea for a fun-filled food evening is to organise a barbecue, or to enlist the help of your Ranger/Venture Unit to help out. It shouldn't be too expensive if the Guides each bring along a beef burger, or a couple of sausages, but do remind the Guides to check at home to see that the items are there for them to bring. Alternatively, buy all the food yourself and ask for a donation from each Patrol's funds. The Patrol Leaders can decide which method would be best. Don't forget the relish!

SING FOR YOUR SUPPER

The following songs about food are to be found in these books available from the GGA Trading Service: 'Bread and Fishes', 'Peanut Song', 'Songs for Tomorrow', 'Mango Walk', GGA Songbook 2; 'Gustaf's Toast', 'Back of the Loaf', Musical Fun with the Browne Pack; 'Graces' Diamond Jubilee Songbook.

PRAYER

As everyone quieters down towards the end of the evening, you could discuss with the Guides how fortunate we are in this country to have food to eat and to enjoy and to consider the people throughout the world for whom food is scarce and every meal a necessity for their very existence.



NEW FROM TRADING

TEASER — A CARD GAME FOR GUIDES

Have you ever longed for a game Guides can play on their own, in small groups or as a whole Company? A game girls will really enjoy, but which teaches them all about Guiding at the same time? Teaser is that game. It's a pack of 44 brightly-coloured quiz cards crammed with questions on four Guiding topics: History, General Knowledge, the International Movement and Badges. It makes the perfect Christmas gift.

The pack comes complete with full instructions for making two boards for the Arrows and Points Games. And it includes rules for four more games: the run-around ABC Game, Guiding Twos, based on Pelmanism, Team Quiz and Quiz Games.

The authors of Teaser, Carole Chadderton and Nancy Bowker of Greater Manchester County, have tried out all six games in Company and District meetings, as well as at trainings. Manchester clamoured for a printed version. 'There seemed to be a definite interest, so we went on to the Training Department at CHQ. Yes, they were interested, and so the idea became a reality.'

Teaser is now available all over the country from GGA Shops and the GGA Trading Service, priced at £2.95.

Don't let Teaser stump you — buy a pack or two for your Company!

The following article was written by the Reverend Roger Royle and first appeared in *Woman's Realm* in June of this year. Roger Royle is an author and broadcaster, both on radio and television, and a regular guest on television chat shows. He has definite views on the attitude of the majority to the young. See what you think...

The Royle Mail

I am often amazed at the variety of places I find myself in. A few weeks ago I was asked to speak at the Annual General Meeting of the Trefoil Guild, at their headquarters above the Girl Guide shop in Buckingham Palace Road in London. Having got the invitation, I felt it was my duty to accept. My mother had been an ardent Guide and when she gave up active Guiding she became a member of the Trefoil Guild, which is an organisation for those who are no longer active in day-to-day Guiding, but still want to support the Movement. At the start of my talk I told them that as 'old girls' they could be either blessings or nightmares. And this is true of all old-girl—and, come to think of it, old-boy—associations. They can either give very worthwhile support to those who have stepped into their shoes or they can use that most negative cry, 'It wasn't like that in my day'.

Some former Girl Guides thought the end of the world had actually arrived when, on a recent Girl Guides Songs of Praise from Chelmsford Cathedral, one of the trendy Guides interviewed had a ring through her nose. Sadly, they were so bothered about this ring that they didn't listen to a word she was saying. And talking of rings, I know some parents who have gone into absolute panic just because their son has decided to wear an earring.

The younger generation need support from those who are experienced in life. This means encouragement and advice, not thunderbolts from on high, like 'You do what I say or else!' The young all need—and are entitled to—some protection, but they also need the space in which to make their mistakes and learn from them. And when they make those mistakes, it is no use to God, man or beast to say 'There, I told you so!' They will make sure that they don't come to you for advice again.

We should all be interested in those things that have been part of our past. Obviously we can't support everything, but that's no reason for not supporting anything. We are very ready to criticise but are we so ready to help? The Baden-Powell Movement is always in need of leaders. It is a heavy commitment, turning out each week for Guide, Scout, Brownie or Cub night. And on top of that there is often a week's camp to be coped with. If you are not prepared or able to do it, it is your duty to encourage those who do. They are looking after our children, giving them both spiritual and practical help. That, I believe, is worth a cheer, not a carp.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF WOMAN'S REALM



EVERY GIRL'S GUIDE TO EASY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Will you be caught on the hop again this Christmas, dashing around the shops for last minute ideas? Not if you think ahead, everything is available through mail order, so why not start choosing a few gifts now from the selection below. There's no time like the present to be thinking of Christmas.



☐ **71365 Brownie Annual** £3.75

This year's collection of stories, crafts, cookery, competitions and features would make a popular present for Brownies of all ages.

☐ **70003 Brownie Diary** £2.25

Puzzles, crafts and ideas for things to do, linked in with the Brownie Programme, combined with the usual diary pages.

☐ **70813 Guide Annual** £3.75

This year's collection of stories, crafts, cookery, features and competitions would make a popular present for Guides of all ages.

☐ **70227 Guide Diary** £2.50

Ideas for things to do in and out of Guide meetings combined with the usual diary pages in an attractive slim format.

G.G. ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS CARDS

☐ **63776 Christmas Pudding design.** 20p

A delightful card depicting hundreds of Guides, Brownies and Rangers 'packed' in a holly decked Christmas Pudding.

☐ **63784 Brownies Christmas Party design.** 20p

Brownies have Christmas fun with Brown Owl.

☐ **64030 Christmas Card Pack.** 95p

New this year, a pack of five contrasting designs suitable for all sections of the Movement.

☐ **63610 A Good Load.** 20p

A pictorial card featuring a painting by Margaret Tarrant of Brownies collecting holly.

☐ **72918** £2.99

20 Traditional Christmas Carols (Record)

A recording of favourite carols sung by Guides and Rangers, conducted by Susan Stevens, and Brownies conducted by Joan Richards, this record will appeal to those who like a spontaneous, unaffected performance where pleasure is the keynote.

☐ **74732** £1.99

My Own Christmas Fun Book

A book suitable for children of Brownie age full of puzzles, crafts and stories, and including an Advent Calendar and Christmas Crib to make.

Please tick in the appropriate square the items you require. If you require more than one, please write the number in the square. Add 50p (small order charge) for all orders under £10. Allow 14 days for delivery. Money refunded if not entirely satisfied.

Print your name and address clearly in this coupon and send it with your cheque/PO made payable to the Girl Guides Association Trading Service (no stamps please) to the address at right. Full colour catalogue free on request.

Name _____

Address _____



GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION

Girl Guides Association Trading Service, Atlantic Street, Broadheath, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 5EQ. Tel: 061-941 2237. 9.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

These items are also available at any of the Girl Guides Association Shops at 17/19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT, 130 Green Lanes, Palmers Green, London N13 5UN, 5 Ryder Street, Birmingham B4 7NE, 117 St. George's Way, St. John's Precinct, Liverpool 1 and 14 Faraday Street, Manchester M1 1FS, who can supply all your Guiding requirements.

When you buy from the Movement, we all benefit.



HEALTH AND SAFETY

We start off Grapevine this month with news of a video from the British Red Cross. Sheila Mason's *Lucky Day* shows how two young people cope with a serious accident and save a life by using simple life-saving techniques. The aim of the 14 minute video is to encourage young people to take a first aid course. It is available on free loan from: The Customer Relations Unit, CFL Vision, Gerrards Cross, Bucks SL9 8TN. It may also be purchased (£17.25) from the same address. Of course, knowledge of life-saving techniques is vital for adults too. For anyone whose first aid skills are a little rusty there is a new edition of the *First Aid Manual* incorporating changes in technique in line with current medical opinion. Published in association with The British Red Cross Society, St John Ambulance and the St Andrew's Ambulance, the *First Aid Manual* (5th edition), is available from bookshops at £4.95.

Over 600 people drown in British waters every year; many of them could have been saved by people trained in lifesaving techniques. The Royal Life Saving Society has started a new scheme, sponsored by Silver Spoon sugar, to teach water rescue and resuscitation skills. Since its launch in January, over 25,000 people have successfully completed the Lifesaving 1, 2, 3 programme. Any club, school, college or other group can start Lifesaving 1, 2, 3, classes on receipt of the free course materials; a teaching module is also available, essential for anyone teaching lifesaving for the first time. For details of the scheme write to: Silver Spoon Lifesaving 1, 2, 3, RLSS, Mountbatten House, Studley, Warwickshire B80 7NN (Tel. 052 785 3943).



MAIN EVENTS

Just room to mention a few of this month's happenings. Until October 10, you can catch the Leeds Castle Festival in the 'Big Top'. The Castle is in Maidstone, Kent; and the attractions include opera, jazz and children's concerts. The booking office is on 0622 35203/4.

The Horse of the Year Show is taking place at Wembley Arena from October 4 to 10; and features showjumping, a musical drive of heavy horses, and showing classes. The booking office is reachable on 01 533 3332.

October 10 is also the date of the Exeter Carnival and Grand Procession, which should have over 100 floats and 20 bands and majorettes.

Alternatively, you could wait for October 11, which is when the Ashton World

Conker Championship is being held, on the Village Green, at Ashton, near Oundle, Peterborough.

The RSPB is holding its Autumn Fair on October 17 in Brighton, and bird lovers can get further information from the booking office, whose number is 0273 501277.

CAUSE FOR CONCERN

Alcohol and drugs can, as we all know, cause grave damage to health, but it is less easy to know what to do about them. Two new booklets, *Alcohol and Your Children* and *Sniffing it*, tackle the problem and offer information and advice on getting help. *Alcohol and Your Children* tells parents how they can set a good example by their drinking habits and encourage their children to think before they drink. It is available free to individuals from: Alcohol Concern, 305 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8QF. *Sniffing it*, *Sniffing it* deals with the dangers of solvent abuse, including glue



What to do in case of emergency

When you find a sniffer semi-conscious or unconscious

- 1) Remove solvent.
- 2) Check that the mouth is clear and nothing is blocking the throat.
- 3) Lie the person down on his/her stomach with head to the side to prevent vomit from being inhaled. Make sure there is no vomit in his/her mouth and do not leave them.
- 4) Get somebody to phone 999 for an ambulance.

If the user is 'high' (intoxicated):
(that is, staggering or generally out of control)

- 1) Remove solvent whilst being firm and caring. Avoid an argument.
- 2) Loosen tight clothing, especially around the neck.
- 3) Ensure plenty of fresh air.
- 4) GIVE NOTHING TO EAT OR DRINK.
- 5) Someone must stay with the user until he/she is fully conscious (recovery could take anything from 15 minutes to a few hours).
- 6) Tell somebody (e.g. parent or teacher) what has happened.

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sniffing. It shows that any amount of solvent, taken internally, can cause irreparable damage, physically and mentally. Priced at 55p including post and packing, copies can be ordered from: The UK Band of Hope Union, 45 Great Peter Street, London SW1P 3LT.

October is Youth Month for the International Year of the Homeless (IYSH). The aim is to draw attention to the plight of the hundreds of thousands of young people who, having left home, find themselves homeless. There are an estimated 830,000 young people living in bedsit accommodation that is sub-standard or unfit for human habitation. For a free briefing pack filled with information, ideas for local activities and details of events taking place in October, write to: IYSH Youth Month, 57 Charlton Street, London NW1 1HU.

The National Rubella Council has desig-

nated 22-28 November 'Rubella Awareness Week'. They aim to focus national, regional and local attention on the importance of rubella immunisation through special events, displays and video showings. Briefing notes on Rubella Awareness Week are available from: The Co-ordinator, National Rubella Council, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH.

Last year 'Mother Christmas' provided thousands of meals for the elderly and needy on Christmas Day. To do the same again this year, the project needs volunteers willing to give up part of Christmas Day to helping to serve the food. If you would like to give a little time to this project contact: Dr Barbara M Bonner-Morgan, Plas Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, Dyfed, Wales.

NEWS FROM WAGGGS

There will be an Open Day at Olave Centre on Saturday October 31, from 10.30 am to 3 pm. Conducted tours are planned and visitors will have the opportunity to learn more about international Guiding and about the plans for the new Olave House, due to be built at Olave Centre. The address is 12c Lyndhurst Road, Hampstead, London NW3 and the nearest stations are Belsize Park Underground and Hampstead Heath British Rail. For further information, telephone 01 794 1181. Large groups should book in advance.

OUT IN THE COUNTRY

If you have ever been confronted by a 'Private—Keep Out' sign on what you are sure is a public footpath, help is at hand. The Countryside Commission has just published a revised edition of *Out in the Country*, its free guide to rights and responsibilities in the countryside. It contains information on responsibility for rights of way, the powers available to local councils, crop spraying, electric fences and much, much more. For a free copy, write to: Countryside Commission Publications, Despatch Department, 19/23 Albert Road, Manchester M19 2EQ. You are asked to enclose a stamped (20p of 26p), self-addressed.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

If you live in Scotland, you may well be interested in a handbook published by the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations, which contains information on running and making use of a local hall. Scotland boasts over 2000 community halls in all, and this publication covers management, maintenance and equipment, uses of a hall and legal matters. It is aimed particularly at people on local committees and office holders. *Handbook for Community Halls* is available from SCVO, 18-19 Claremont Crescent, Edinburgh EH7 4QD, telephone number 031 556 3882; and is priced at £2 including postage.

PATROL LEADER TRAINING

This month, to round off our series of articles for the Guide Guider, Ann Fulton offers suggestions for mixing the essential ingredients of the Patrol Leader, the Patrol and the Patrol System to make good Guiding.

BEGINNINGS

Most of those new Patrol Leaders appointed in September will be beginning to find their feet, but both they and the more experienced Patrol Leaders will still require help and support from their Guiders.

Establishing a Patrol identity is one of the areas where we can give the most direct help. A Patrol needs to have a place with which to identify; its own 'corner' and its own property. Competitions to produce the best Patrol box, log-book, display board, etc, can initiate lively discussion and a shared sense of purpose. In the early stages these ideas will be fed in by the Guider, but it is only a short step from this to the Patrol taking responsibility for its own funds and choosing its own equipment. Expensive mistakes may be prevented by preparatory activities such as arranging in order of importance lists of specific items such as pencils, a compass, string, a first aid kit, and this can lead to useful inter-Patrol discussion; and an appreciation of the expenses involved.

The Patrol Leader needs the Guider's help in establishing her position. Try to make sure that all instructions to the Guides are channelled through the Patrol Leader. She needs to practice passing on information clearly; but equally, the others must learn to listen.

Try 'Dumb Leaders'

Allow the Patrol Leaders two minutes in which to work out a series of signals with their Patrols. They are then taken some distance from the rest of their Patrols and are not allowed to speak until the game is over. They are challenged to get their Patrols into a variety of formations, using hand signals only, for example, single file in order of height, in a circle hands above heads, etc.

or 'Hide the Spill'

The Patrol Leaders are given ten spills, a different colour for each Patrol. The Guider then helps the Patrol Leaders to find ten different places in which to hide them making sure that each Patrol Leader hides a spill at each chosen spot. They then return to their Patrols and describe to a member of the Patrol where one of the spills is hidden. She goes off to find it and on her return a second Guider is sent. The game continues until all the spills have been found.

PLANNING THE PATROL PROGRAMME

Our aim is to help each Patrol to become a self-programming group. In every Unit, Patrols are at different stages of independence and have different capabilities. Nevertheless, each Patrol should have an

aim, whether it be a half-hour activity for the next meeting, or a long-term project such as a weekend camp or coffee evening with music.

Ideas for activities can be found in the Guide Handbook, in *TODAY'S GUIDE* and on PIP cards. The girls should be familiar with these and other Guide publications. An easily accessible Unit Library, available at every meeting with games and quizzes involving reference to these, will help the girls get to know them. Patrols will build up their own collections of materials, *TODAY'S GUIDE* being an invaluable source. In addition, the girls' own special interests will spark off ideas, as will the season, national events, competitions, magazines and newspapers.

Many Patrols launch themselves into some ambitious scheme, only to find that they have attempted too much and that their enthusiasm dwindles until they are left with only a sense of failure. It is helpful to provide a chart at the planning stage so that they can set themselves definite, measurable targets and consider details such as timing and how responsibilities will be shared. The concertina type of chart is useful, as both sides may be used and the card kept folded away in the Patrol box.

THE PATROL LEADERS' COUNCIL

The Guider's regular contact with the Patrol Leaders is usually through an informal chat at the beginning of the meeting, about their plans for the evening. This will reveal any problems and will give you a chance to rescue any scheme which may be floundering because someone has forgotten something! This is also an opportunity to give the Leaders information and draw their attention to the deadlines for such things as badge tests or coming events. The girls will not take responsibility unless they are given it; so we must trust them to act as channels of communication, not be tempted to duplicate their efforts. A girl will not bother to remember details if she knows that you are bound to repeat them at some point during the evening.

More formal Patrol Leaders' Councils are an important part of the Programme and provide a chance for girls to see committee procedures in action. Usually, the Guider will

take the chair and one of the girls will act as secretary. Make sure that the Patrol Leaders know the agenda in advance, so that they can discuss it with their Patrols and represent their views. As regards finance, the whole Unit should be involved in the consideration of Unit income and expenditure. The Patrol Leaders have an important rôle to play in informing and guiding their own Patrols, as well as in advising the Council.

The Patrol Leaders' Council is also the forum for decisions about activities involving the whole Unit. Ideas come from the Guides and the Guiders. It is the Council's responsibility to monitor the progress of individual Guides and they may also set Trefoil Badge challenges. Encourage Leaders to be ready to discuss both successes and failures. A sympathetic hearing from others will increase their confidence. The girls show a great deal of understanding when asked advice about 'problem' Guides, for instance, and often devise useful strategies for dealing with them. They learn from each other and grow in understanding of 'progress', and of the give-and-take of a successful group.

Once a month is sufficiently frequent for such formal meetings, although once per half-term will probably suit experienced Patrol Leaders.

INVOLVING EVERYONE

A Patrol is a group of friends. We expect them to know each other well and we expect the Patrol Leader to know them well enough to monitor the progress they are making. Simple activities can act as a basis for getting to know one another. Try asking the Guides in each Patrol to form pairs and hold a two minute conversation. They are then separated and sit with their backs to each other, while the Patrol Leader or Guider asks twenty questions, such as Did your partner have a pet? What is her favourite subject? Has she any brothers? What colour are her eyes? etc.

Give Patrols simple challenges which involve them working together. For example, chalk A at one end, and B at the other end of the playing area and challenge the Patrol to move from A to B without touching the ground. On a wet night, challenge the Patrols to bring you exactly one pint of rain water. Give them two minutes to produce a tableau representing one of the Guide Laws. To stretch their ingenuity, have cards suggesting places where the tableau could be set: 'In the shops', 'At school', etc. These activities can, of course, be developed into much more complex ones; but they should help the Patrol Leaders to discover which member of her Patrol can draw, who has a good memory, who is fond of acting, who sings well, etc.

Once the Patrol has embarked upon an activity of its own choice, Guides begin to develop their own strengths and discover talents of which they may have been unaware. It is then that the actual leadership of the Patrol may change; the same girl will not dominate concert rehearsals and take the lead when a hike is being planned.

There is no blueprint for a perfect Patrol and no pattern for a perfect Patrol Leader. Nevertheless, every girl gains a great deal from belonging to a lively group and her awareness of others and sense of responsibility will be deepened by taking the lead in such a group.

Ann P Fulton



JULIET BAKER

BROWNIE SIGNAL CHALLENGE RESULTS

Did your Pack enter the Signal Challenge Competition in the May 6 issue of *THE BROWNIE*? Signal challenged Brownies from all over Great Britain to make people smile; not an easy task, but one which none of the Packs who took part failed to achieve.

The Brownies came up with a variety of ideas for fulfilling the Challenge, including a tooth play which was performed at a local hospital by the 4th Dover (St Paul's) Pack, and the construction of an enormous garden for the residents of a home for the elderly, by the 1st Bridge End Pack in the Shetland Isles.

A special prize was awarded to an individual, Philippa Farrimond, 7, who helped a handicapped neighbour to arrange a tea party for herself and her friends.

The overall winners, however, were the 7th Altrincham Pack, Cheshire. They were awarded first prize, after a great deal of deliberation by the judges, for their joke book which cheered up the patients at a local hospital. It is true to say that the patients found that laughter certainly is the best medicine!

A representative from the 7th Altrincham Pack, Dawn Simpson, whose name was pulled out of the Guider's hat, came to London in July to receive their prize, along with her Guider Hazel Brown.

Hazel said that the joke book was definitely the girls' own idea, although she did steer them along the right track once that decision had been made. Each girl wrote down her favourite joke for the book and, according to Hazel, every single one of them was clean and reprintable (at least the jokes for submission were!)

Dawn and Hazel had a lovely day in London starting with lunch at a Pizza Parlour, continuing with a taxi tour of the famous sights of London and finishing up with the prize giving and a tour of CHQ.

The £200 voucher, that they won along with a splendid trophy, will be spent on Brownie tracksuits, which will hopefully make the 7th Altrincham Brownies smile.

The full list of prizewinners were as follows:

FIRST PRIZE
7th Altrincham Pack,
Cheshire

SPECIAL INDIVIDUAL PRIZE

Philippa Farrimond, 7, 1st
Drury Pack, Clwyd

RUNNERS UP
1st Harpsden Pack, Berks
158th Sheffield Pack, S
Yorks

1st Bridge End Pack, Shet-
land

4th Dover (St Paul's) Pack,
Kent

25th Newcastle (English
Martyrs) Pack

1st Avebury Park Pack,
Wilts

1st Llanishen Pack, Cardiff

1st Ringmer Pack, Sussex

Katy Jane Thursby, 2nd Bar-
rowford Pack, Lancs

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6th Fairfield Pack, Cleveland
2nd Royal Crofton (St.
Hilda's) Pack, London



Dawn Simpson and her Guider, Hazel Brown of the 7th Altrincham Pack came to London recently to receive the prize they won in The Signal Challenge, a competition run in conjunction with *THE BROWNIE* magazine.

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