

GUIDING

MARCH 1989 75p

30
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WHITNEY/WHITNEY LOVELL

**NICKY
FINDS
HER
VOICE**

**TAKING
KNITTING
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GUIDING

VOLUME 77 NUMBER 3
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COMMENT

This month I have two subjects to air so I hope you will bear with me. The first is why I feel our girls' magazines are vitally important.

A Guider said something the other day which made me both glad and sorry. She was telling us that all four of her Patrol Leaders were new, young and inexperienced — 'They're short on ideas,' she explained, 'but they'll soon get used to using *TODAY'S GUIDE* and trying out the suggestions there.' She went on to explain that each Patrol had a copy of the Guides' magazine, which they bought out of Patrol funds and that her previous Patrol Leaders had used the ideas in the magazine a lot.

You can understand why I was pleased. I think *TODAY'S GUIDE* and *BROWNIE* are excellent magazines, full of interesting and exciting things which the girls can plan and do. Remember we proudly boast that Guiding is a self-programming organisation and that our small groups, Patrols and Sixes, are encouraged to work together on their own wherever possible. These two magazines are specially planned and designed for the girls themselves to use. The reason why this Guider's remarks also made me sad was because I know that many, many Brownies and Guides just don't get the chance to do this. They won't know about *their* magazines unless their Guider tells them and unless you encourage them to buy them from Patrol or unit funds.

I know it's not always easy to teach girls to be self-determining and self-programming but these two magazines are tools to help you — so let me issue a challenge! Let's see if, in this special year for Guiding, we can aim at one copy of each issue of *TODAY'S GUIDE* in every Patrol and one *BROWNIE* magazine for each Six. I am sure that you will want to read them, too, but remember that the way these magazines look and the things they say, are especially designed to attract and interest our *girls*.

My second topic is adventurous activities, which were mentioned again and again during our market research. Every year I go ski-ing with my husband and, sometimes, the family. We all love ski-ing and find it both exciting and great fun. And that's how the girls should feel about the activities we offer them.

The research undertaken last year clearly established that what our girls want is more adventurous and exciting things to do, while the Guiders opted for more singing!

It seems important, therefore, to stress that Guiders don't have to do all the activities with their girls — they just need to make sure that the activities are available. We need to find out who could take the girls to the local dry ski slopes, out in a canoe or rock climbing, for example. If you are in doubt how to start building up a list of useful contacts, why not ask your District or Division Commissioner for some suggestions?

Dr JUNE PATERSON-BROWN
Chief Commissioner



The feature on Waddow Hall scheduled to appear this month will now appear in April's *GUIDING*.

FRONT COVER

With Mothering Sunday on March 5, 1st Welwyn Company Guide, Charlotte Brooks, shows her 'other Mother', Guider Christine Thompson, the sort of present any Mother — or Guider — would be delighted to receive.

MICHELLE SMITH

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Olave, Lady Baden-Powell GBE
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Veronica Lupton Hird
Editorial Manager and Editor
Nora Warner
Assistant Editor
Leigh Murphy
Features Editor
Ben Hall

Writer
Justine Chatting
Studio Manager
Anne Moffat
Studio
Gillian Webb
Production Manager
Stuart Bannerman
Deputy Production Manager
Robin Shute

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Jackson-Rudd and Associates
Ltd
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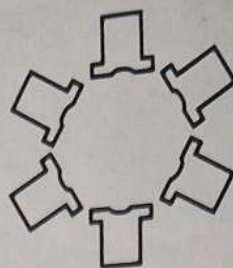
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forgotten WALKS

THE HIGHEST WATERFALL

PETER GILLMAN GOES IN
SEARCH OF ONE OF BRITAIN'S
BEST-KEPT SECRETS

Here is a good question for *Trivial Pursuit*: name the highest waterfall in Britain. The answer is the Fall of Eas a Chual Aluinn. It lies in the far north-west of Scotland in what was the county of Sutherland before the Highland Region swallowed it up.

The Gaelic name means the Splendid Waterfall of Coul. At 685 ft, it is twice the height of its closest rival, the Falls of Glomach, 100 miles or so to the south. Its remoteness and isolation help explain why so few people have heard of it.

But it has the virtue of being accessible for anyone with a pair of stout shoes and enough puff to manage a round trip of about six miles, following a good path for most of the way. It has one of the most dramatic denouements of any walk I know.

The path begins where the road that heads north from Ullapool towards Cape Wrath dips down to the Kylesku Ferry. To the west is Quinag, an isolated mountain once part of a great range that rose here in aeons past.

I made the walk with my sons, barely teenagers at that time. They enjoyed the first eastward stretch following the saffron margin of Loch na Gainmhich, where our boots scrunched in the coarse-grained sand. The loch is fed by a burn that twists and tumbles from a col set in a ridge 700 ft or so above. After a steep climb, the path levelled out just below the crest of the ridge at 1,450 ft. We stopped to regain our breath beside a smaller loch ringed by sombre rock walls and the boys tossed stones into the water.

A short way above we passed through the narrow defile that forms the col. When we emerged, it was as if we had crossed a frontier into a strange new country. We found ourselves on the edge of a broad plateau, with clusters of gleaming white rock outcrops among a patchwork of tiny blue lochans (loch). On the far side there seemed to be a

drop, with high mountain tops beyond. Our waterfall was nowhere to be seen but at least we were still on the path. We followed its descent to the plateau and threaded our way among the lochans.

Then we came upon a stream wandering across the plateau. Gentle at first, it gathered strength bubbling through clefts and over rock steps. This, we decided, must be the burn of Eas a Chual Aluinn. We walked along its bank in search of our waterfall. Almost unawares, we were at the plateau's edge. The burn surged through a niche in the rock, formed a sensuous downward arc and disappeared. From somewhere below we could hear a subdued roar. Here surely was our goal.

We wondered if it would be like the Falls of Glomach, which stay stubbornly out of sight for the visitors who have toiled up from Glen Shiel. Looking for a vantage point, we retreated for a short distance and then struck south along the lip of the plateau.

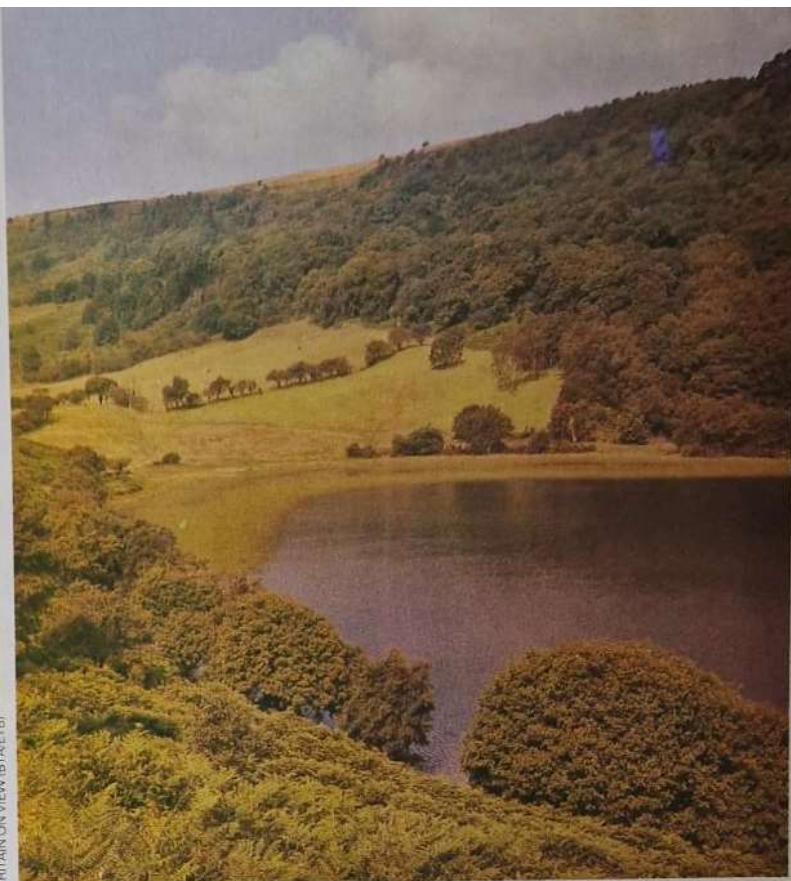
Each time we ventured to the edge, we glimpsed only a sheer drop to the rocky floor of a glen 1,000 ft below. Then we found a more inviting place to descend and picked our way down a series of slippery grass terraces. Ahead lay a ledge that culminated in a natural pulpit of moss and rock. We clambered into it and before us at last was the splendid waterfall of Coul.

From the niche we had last seen from above, a column of water soared clear of the mountainside to fall in one single awesome arc onto a rocky font hundreds of feet beneath. It exploded in a curtain of spray drenching the undergrowth clinging to the cliff alongside. Then it formed a second parabola that crashed into the grey scree at the foot of the cliff, finally fanning out into a gleaming white delta that fed the river dividing the glen below.

It was a magical place. We stayed for the best part of an hour, trying to comprehend the elemental force of the water and admiring the range of mountains that rose on the far side of the glen, or down to the head of Loch Glencoul, shimmering blue in the unwonted Scottish heat. Reluctantly, we made our way back to the plateau and the burn where we drank the pure, cold water from cupped hands. As we set off back through the outcrops and lochans, we looked back several times. The waterfall had gone, of course, becoming instead a memory to be savoured in years ahead.

It was evening by the time we reached the road, with the shadows of Quinag moving inexorably towards us. We had seen no one else all day, a testimony to one of Britain's outstanding forgotten places that you too can share.

BRITAIN ON VIEW (BTA/ETB)



Loch on Eilean,
remote and
beautiful in the
Scottish
Highlands.

KNITTING TO NEPAL

As with all good stories there is a beginning, a middle and end, laced with a whiff of adventure and a touch of sentimentality. The tale of Cumbria South Guides expedition is no exception, as Ben Hall relates.

The moment when the first seeds of the idea lodged in the minds of Cumbria South is firmly etched on the hearts of each and everyone of them — 11.15am, August 15, 1986.

That was when they met Mrs Ann Harrington at the Wools Week Exhibition at Dent in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales.

Mrs Harrington was demonstrating a simple frame knitting machine. She had taken some machines to a Tibetan refugee camp in India, where she had taught some of the women to use them. The machines are simple to operate and don't run on electricity but, although basic, they can produce garments far, far quicker than by hand knitting.

It didn't take long for Cumbria South to decide that, come what may, they *must* get some of the machines to people who really needed them.

They tentatively approached the Tibetan community in London who arranged for the representative of His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, in Kathmandu to contact them.

The Guides subsequently made a firm offer to take knitting machines to refugee camps in Pokhara, Nepal.

The team was selected and consisted of Young Leaders Diane Mitchell (17), Ruth Metcalfe (17), Dawn Nicholson (17), Rangers Jane Bingham (17), Lesley Cashell (18), Assistant Guider Dawn Anderson (18) and ex-Guide Rebecca Radley (17). Leader of the group was Young Leader Jan Sayer (34), Adviser for South East Cumbria, and her assistants were Assistant Guider, Liz Maxted (26) and Cumbria South LINK Secretary, Sally Johnson (23).

Also with the team as an assistant Leader was 25-year-old Nick Howarth — well, there are always times when a man can be useful! Nick has extensive travel experience and is also a medic and photographer.

The party spent ten long months learning how to use the knitting machines and raising funds for the trip. Fundraising events included coffee evenings, a 'blind' auction —

8 where items to bid for are wrapped



Terracing on the Kathmandu/Pokhara Road.



Tashi Ling children perform a traditional dance.

Guiding

up so you don't know what you're bidding for — and, of course, the obligatory raffle.

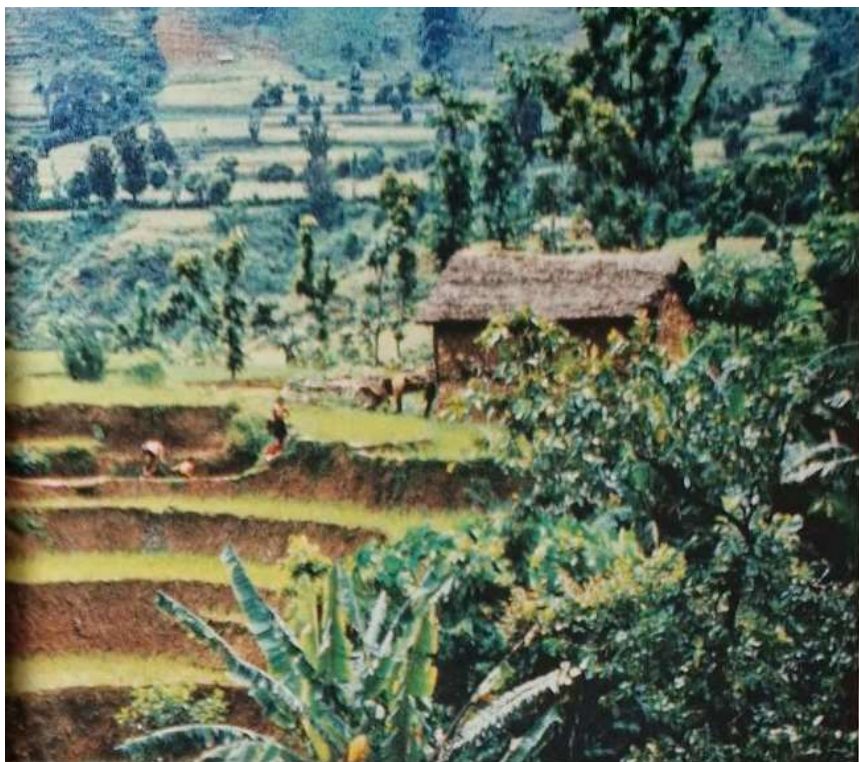
The team had calculated that they would need £10,000 to make the trip viable.

Each member was asked to contribute a minimum of £300 towards the trip.

The main party flew out to Kathmandu on July 24, 1988. Three months beforehand a preliminary visit had made contact with the Boy

and Girl Scout Organisation of Nepal. This was to prove very useful.

On their arrival, the party stayed initially at the Nepalese Associations' Headquarters. This gave the team a safe haven from which to start their stay. It also provided a perfect opportunity to learn a little about the Boy and Girl Scouts' service projects. These ranged from tree planting and health care to training programmes for young people who, for various reasons, were unable to complete



Learning to knit.

in action

their education.

The next few days were spent exploring Kathmandu Valley on somewhat decrepit bicycles.

On the fourth day they made the journey to Pokhara. Although only 200km away from Kathmandu, they were still aboard a rickety bus, loaded with 12 knitting machines, rucksacs stuffed full of knitting wool, art and craft materials and clothes for refugee children nine hours later. Personal equipment was kept to the

bare minimum.

The road to Pokhara is through the mountains and across makeshift bridges. And, because of a monsoon, everything was covered in wet mud.

When the team finally arrived in Pokhara, they divided into two groups. One was to work at a Tibetan refugee camp fairly close to the town itself, while the other had the less enviable task of walking along a muddy track for a couple of miles — which took about an hour — to another camp.

The two groups were to exchange places after a week.

Time in the camps was described by team members as 'strenuous but exciting'. During the day the group supervised the knitting — the Tibetan women were very quick to learn — or taught in primary schools.

The Tibetans were also anxious to have lessons in first aid.

The children were enthusiastic and loved learning songs and improving their English.

Even in the evenings the group worked on — thinking up lesson topics for the next day, preparing craft materials and practising musical items.

Music and dancing proved to be a great help to the group. Whenever communication broke down — as it inevitably did from time to time — songs and dances bridged the gap.

The Tibetans and Nepalese were especially keen to show off their traditional dances and costumes.

The Guides were also able to persuade them all — adults and children alike — to join in the action songs.

On such occasions the plight of the Tibetans was almost — but not quite — forgotten. They have a special spirit, the Tibetan people, which helps them to smile, despite their cramped conditions, poor food, lack of clothing and the unbearable sadness of a race who have, for 25 years, been waiting for peace to return to their country so that they can go home.

After the two weeks at the camps, the British visitors were given the opportunity to teach at Nepalese schools.

The party also found themselves invited to plant trees everywhere they went — they were even invited to a blessing of a site where 2,000 trees had been planted. And there they encountered the first real disappointment of their trip — the Crown Prince of Nepal was due to attend the event, but the monsoon prevented his helicopter from landing on the slippery, mud-covered slope.

The group members all found time to complete their own projects. These included studies on conservation, butterflies and the effects of Buddhism on family life.

The highlight of the expedition was, of course, delivering and helping to set up the knitting machines, but other unforgettable moments included: drinking yak bitter tea in one go — eating goat curry and coming face to face with a live snake!



Angela, Nicky and her magic machine

A 'magic machine' weighing just 5lbs and not much bigger than a copy of *GUIDING* has changed the life of 12-year-old Nicola Treen. For her Touch Talker has given Nicky a voice for the first time.

Her mother, Angela, Brownie Guider with the 8th Tunbridge Wells (St. Augustine's) Pack, wrote to *GUIDING* about Nicky and her machine.

She explained that it cost almost £3,000 to buy Nicky's Touch Talker and over a third of the cost — £1,030 — was raised by Brownies and Guides in Tunbridge Wells Division.

Angela continued: 'We should like others to hear how our local Division has helped our speech impaired daughter.'

So *GUIDING* went to meet Angela, Nicky and the magic machine at their home in Roundhill Road, Tunbridge Wells.

Nicky wasn't too sure she wanted to be a celebrity and hastily tapped out 'Bye Bye', as our photographer swooped in for a good shot.

Then she shot off to the kitchen to get on with the ironing for her Mum while Angela talked to NORA WARNER.

'Nicky suffers from cerebral palsy and acute dyspraxia,' Angela explained. 'This means that messages from her brain to her vocal chords do not co-ordinate and consequently a sound comes out instead of words.'

Until last summer Nicky relied on Makaton sign language — a variation of the British sign language that uses whole movements rather than finger spelling.

Then they heard about an American technological advance: a portable, computerised machine that could speak for the operator.

Nicky was assessed and it was agreed that she could cope with and benefit from using the Talker.

The next step was raising the cash. Family, friends and members of

the local Catholic Church started fund raising but it was the Brownies, Guides and Guiders who really took up the challenge.

There were lots of sponsored events like building a baked bean tower, a sports evening and — particularly appropriate — a sponsored silence. Some Guides served refreshments at a police open day, while Guides and Brownies circled a local church with coins.

Nicky's machine, which looks rather like a portable typewriter, has a display board (keys) with 128 icons — pictures — all of which have several meanings. The Talker can be programmed to handle up to 6,000 words, which are built up over a period as the user's skills grow. Once the words are stored, they can be recalled when needed by pressing the icons in a pre-arranged sequence. Words are retained until whole sentences are composed. They are also flashed up on a tiny monitor screen.

When we met, Nicky had already a growing vocabulary chosen with assistance from her dedicated teacher, Sarah, and 'marvellous' speech therapist, Sue, at Chailey Heritage Craft School, West Sussex, where Nicky has been a pupil for nearly four years.

At first the deep, disembodied voice sounds a little eerie but it is quite easy to understand.

Angela pointed out: 'The icon display means the machine can be used by people who can't read or write. But, through using it, Nicky is also learning how to read.'

Her parents are delighted with Nicky's progress. Getting the best for Nicky hasn't always been easy.

The couple was living in Cyprus when Nicky, their first child, was born. It wasn't until she was about six months that they questioned doctors over her apparent lack of progress.

Later a specialist at King's College Hospital discovered Nicky was coeliac — allergic to gluten in her food.

'I was told if we cut gluten out of

her diet our troubles would be over in six months,' recalled Angela.

Another doctor wasn't so sure and, eventually, Nicky was correctly diagnosed. But no one could tell the Treens why their daughter had been affected.

Angela was apprehensive because she was then expecting her second child. But both Jenny, aged ten, and six-year-old Adam are completely healthy.

When Nicky was eight, the Treens were advised that she needed help with her speech that the school in Tunbridge Wells couldn't provide. Finally, they sought advice from the Spastic Society, who suggested Chailey.

'Nicky is very happy there, she loves it,' said Angela.

'She is a super keen member of 2nd Chailey Guides. They are wonderful people who run the Company.'

'Last summer they took them camping for a week at in Surrey.'

'They had a great time. Nicky loved it. They even went canoeing,' added Angela. 'While she was there, Nicky passed her Laundress badge.'

Angela's friends and fellow Guiders agree. They are hard at work raising money to buy a second Touch Talker so another youngster may find her voice.

Nicky 'adores' Guides



COMMONWEALTH news

COMMON-WEALTH CAPERS

The second Monday in March is celebrated throughout the Commonwealth as Commonwealth Day.

It is not long since Thinking Day — a very special one for us this year — when we all directed our activities towards an international theme, but perhaps we can all spare a little time to think about our friends in the Commonwealth countries.

In this month's **GUIDING**, we're featuring some of the reports that have come to us over the last year. You will see that no matter what part of the world they come from, the Guides have joined together to give service and have fun.

MAURITIUS

There can be few more ideal settings for a conference than the lovely island of Mauritius, where the Girl Guides Association hosted a six day Sub Regional Seminar on Community Development.

Delegates from Botswana, Lesotho, Malagasy Republic, South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe attended. The seminar dealt with a wide range of issues from the structure of WAGGGS and the essential principles of Guiding to family life, health and nutrition.

INDIA

The Indian Girl Guides have always been very involved in grassroots community work — literacy classes, working in leprosy centres, promoting health and sanitation and so on. Whole villages are adopted by groups and these projects are carried out on an on-going basis.

An important bridge building exercise took place when the Young Pioneers from the USSR and the Girl



Ivy and Monica, Girl Guides from Goldie College, have found something to smile about!



Lesotho's Chief Commissioner, Evelyn Mohapi, and a Brownie friend at the 26th World Conference in Kenya.

Guides of India pitched camp together at New Delhi. The Young Pioneers were on a nation wide tour of India and were entertained in various states.

GUYANA

The Guyana Girl Guides are running a special project to provide school children from poor families with nourishing lunches. In the past, these children have come to school without breakfast and with only a small snack at lunchtime — or, in some cases, with no lunch at all.

The Girl Guides started feeding projects at two

schools in 1986 and teachers have reported a dramatic improvement in school attendance and student participation as a direct result of this scheme. The meals project has since been extended to other schools.

LESOTHO

The Patron of the Lesotho GGA, Queen 'Mamohata Seeiso, takes a particularly active interest in the Movement. She's begun a monthly town cleaning campaign and, being a working monarch, she regularly rolls up her sleeves and lends the Guide units a helping hand.

One of the highlights of last year was the Pope's visit to Lesotho. The Rangers helped to usher visitors about and assisted Red Cross workers at mass gatherings. Other Guiding members made sure that visitors who were accommodated in local schools were well looked after.

KENYA

About 100 miles from Nairobi lies the Girl Guides' own farm, Emali. Thirty acres of land are under cultivation here: corn and maize is grown, as well as fruit trees.

Guides working on the project invite unemployed youths to work with them over weekends to learn how to do similar planting in their own villages. A vegetable garden and fruit tree nursery are also planned.

AUSTRALIA

The Australian Girl Guides and Scout Associations down under are working hard to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. It's an ambitious project — they're trying to raise \$250,000 to help buy a new aircraft, which is going to be named after the two Associations.

The Flying Doctor service provides both routine medical care and emergency services to the remote communities in the vast Australian outback.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

In September last year, the Girl Guides at Goldie College celebrated their Company's tenth anniversary in style. Their programme included cooking, games and a special service, in which five girls were presented with their Queen's Guide Certificates and three leaders received awards too.

praying for EQUALITY

The battle for equality which is currently raging within the Church of England shows few signs of reaching a peaceful cease-fire. Some leading Church men even fear that the thorny question of

whether women should be allowed to become priests and bishops will cause the biggest split in the ranks of the Anglican Church since Henry VIII repudiated the authority of Rome in the early 16th Century.



Service or demonstration? Controversial feminist, Rev Suzanne Fageol, celebrates an open-air, modified Communion Service at St Benet's Chapel, University of London.

There is no doubt that feelings run high enough to shake that very powerful institution — the Church of England — to its foundations.

Historically, women have always played an active part in the life of the Church and make up the majority of its — dwindling — congregation. Now GUIDING takes a look at the current position.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher holds very definite views about the ordination of women. 'I think there will be women in the priesthood,' she said recently. 'And I do not find it at odds with the Christian doctrine'. Her views are apparently shared by most of the delegates who gathered at Canterbury last year for the Lambeth Conference which meets only once a decade.

The Lambeth Conference is a meeting of the world-wide Anglican Communion of Bishops. The 525 delegates come from 27 autonomous 'Provinces'.

The pro-women lobby was delighted when the Conference threw out a call for restraint over the consecration of women bishops.

Instead the bishops voted decisively in favour of a motion which accepted that the ordination of women would go ahead in some of the Provinces.

The motion, which sought to contain the row, gained 423 votes with only 28 against and 19 abstentions.

There have been women priests in Canada, New Zealand and the United States for over ten years.

Last year the Rev. Barbara Harris, a 58 year old black divorcee, was elected suffragan Bishop of Massachusetts for the Episcopal Church of America.

However, within the Church of England women are still banned from becoming priests.

Women have made giant steps forward in the last couple of years. They have been accepted as ministers and there are many hundreds of female curates, who do wear dog collars.

They are allowed to officiate at weddings, baptisms and funerals. But they are banned from consecrating the bread and wine during the Communion service, although they can assist as servers.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, spelled out the position at a meeting of the General Synod last year. He said that the Church would not accept the ministry of either women priests or bishops until the ecclesiastical law is changed.

However, following the Lambeth Conference decision, a Church commission was set up headed by Robert Eames, Primate of All Ireland and Archbishop of Armagh, to look at the complex question of admitting women priests into the Church of England.

The opposition to the move to welcome women in the inner circles of the Church is headed by the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard.

His views are shared by at least 1,500 fellow church men — one in seven ordained priests — who, late last year, took the highly unusual step of signing a public register of protest against the introduction of women priests.

The roll call included the names of 20 bishops and 11 archdeacons.

The register was the brainchild of a retired priest from Windsor, Father Robert Gould. He said at the time: 'This is not a list of clergy wanting to form a rival church. We want to remain part of the Church of England and to point out that it is others who are trying to introduce new doctrine.'

It was a bitter blow for those campaigning for the introduction of women priests, who cling to the belief that the General Synod will vote to allow women to be ordained by 1992. They insist that the majority of congregations and clergy are behind them.

FEMINIST REVOLT?

Trouble flared last year when the Rev. Suzanne Fageol planned to celebrate Holy Communion in London. The Bishop of London ordered the Church feminist group planning the service not to hold it in St Benet's Chapel at Queen Mary College, London.

Instead Rev. Fageol ignored the chilly night air and went ahead with a modified Communion Service in the grounds.

The invitation to preside at the Communion table was issued by St. Hilda's Community, a group founded two years ago by journalist and committed Christian, Monica Furlong, following the Synod's ruling that foreign women priests could not hold services in Britain.

However, groups like Monica's

are not necessarily welcomed by the conventional leaders of the campaign for acceptance of women priests.

One of them, the Rev. Canon Ruth Wintle, claimed that: 'People were prepared to use the Communion service as a vehicle of demonstration to bulldoze through their feminist attitudes. By doing so they were,' she added, 'putting our cause back years'.

It has been estimated that if — or more likely when — women priests are admitted, it could cost the Church of England millions to placate those male priests likely to sue for compensation because they are 'forced to leave' the Church.

The opposition is expected to fight the plan all the way.

The Bishop of London believes that many of the women seeking to be ordained and their supporters are driven by a feminist philosophy.

He told one reporter: 'What I really object to is that if somebody wants to have a religion which is based on feminism, well, let them... What I can't accept is trying to alter the Christian religion to suit feminism and then saying that this is what Christianity ought to be.'

Dr Leonard also believes that the General Synod is no longer representative of the mainstream views of the Church.

However a poll carried by MORI for *The Times* does not seem to support his stand.

Only 27 per cent of regular Anglican church-goers who took part in the survey are opposed to the ordination of women to the priesthood.

A clear majority — 58 per cent — was in favour of women being ordained as priests in the Church of England.

Those who supported the idea of women priests mainly did so because they either believed in equal rights and the equality of the sexes or felt that women could do the job just as well.

Even the one in four regular churchgoers who oppose women entering the priesthood would — reluctantly — accept the arrival of a woman vicar in their own parish. MORI discovered that 53 per cent would continue to attend services and only 35 per cent would change to another parish with a male priest.

EQUALITY FOR SOME

Women have, of course, played an active part in church work for centuries. In the Church Army, the evangelical wing of the Church of England, they are treated as equals.

There are currently 341 officers with the ratio of men to women running at three to one. A spokesman explained: 'Our female officers are marrying younger and leaving the service because of family responsibilities.'

'However, women far outnumber men — by 149 to 38 — among the retired officers, many of whom are still actively involved'.

The Salvation Army has a woman at its head. General Eva Burrows took over in July, 1986, and will hold the rank until she retires. A spokesman said: 'Women have complete equality with men and always have done. We don't keep figures on the numbers of



The ranks of the Salvation Army have always been open to women — its present head is General Eva Burrows.

female officers compared with male, but there are probably more women than men'.

The Baptist Church has been ordaining women since 1922 and currently there are between 70 or so women on the accredited list of ministers.

Pam Neville, an executive with the Ministry Office, said: 'There is no discrimination against women. Sometimes it's harder for women to settle into churches, but that's because that particular church is slightly biased.'

Presbyterian Churches also have women ministers. A spokesman for the Church of Scotland explained: 'The various Churches took independent decisions about when women should be admitted.'

'We have had women ministers since 1968. The numbers of women running parishes are still low — only 60 out of the 1,200 parishes — but women are also actively involved as hospital chaplains, as well as working in prisons and with children'.

Methodists too have had women ministers for some time and they have found that it works very well. One ex-Guide and Ranger interviewed was adamant that she was quite happy to have a service taken by a woman. 'Our women priests can do anything the male ones can do,' she said. 'Anyway, what does it matter as long as whoever is taking the service believes in what they are saying?'

This is something with which Val Douglas, Chairman of the GGA Religious Consultative Panel agrees. 'I'd be very glad if women were to be ordained,' she admitted.

Catholics, on the other hand, appear to feel that women would not make good priests. Peter Verity of the Catholic Media Office said: 'Women will not be allowed to become priests for the foreseeable future. However, in 30 or 40 years time, who knows what the situation will be?'

Last September the Pope published a document in which he dealt with the ordination of women. He said that since Jesus chose only men as His disciples, He was laying down the ground rules on 'what is masculine and what is feminine' within the Church.

But as one Catholic Guider pointed out, people are divided into two sexes. 'Jesus had to come as one or the other so it was the luck of the draw really, but the important thing is that He came as a human being.'

Other religions are quite happy for women to participate in their services.

Rabbi Julia Neuberger is a prime example. She is one of the most influential people in the Jewish community today.

However, even this isn't as simple as it might seem — she is still restricted because of her sex. Only Reform or Liberal Synagogues allow women to become Rabbis — Orthodox Synagogues will not accept them.

'But,' as one Jewish Guider said, 'at the end of the day it comes down to a matter of having the choice. I can go to a female doctor if I choose to, so why not to a female Rabbi? You see, women can be more sympathetic than men,' she explained.

There seems little chance that the 'monstrous regiment of women' will withdraw before the battle is won. Perhaps one Guider summed up the argument when she insisted: 'Women have got more to offer the Church than polishing the brass and arranging the flowers.'

on the road to KALUTARA

Many of you will remember how Guide units around the country rose to the challenge of the joint GGA/UNICEF Primary Health Care Project in Sri Lanka back in 1985.

For the UK girls, the project was primarily an educational one. It involved finding out about conditions in Sri Lanka, the problems faced by

summer:

▲We had hoped that our team would stay in the Kalutara district and work with the local Guides and health workers but, because of certain disturbances in the area, UNICEF felt this would be unwise and advised a last minute change of programme. Fortunately, the Sri Lanka Girl Guides Association was able to arrange an

The pre-schools are just one example of the work being done by the SLGGA. The schools are for the under-fives and the Association takes responsibility for a school for the first five years, by which time it is expected to be self-supporting. Help is given with training, initial funding and equipment. The schools are encouraged, as part of their programme, to run a savings scheme; provide suitable nutrition daily by serving up Kola Kanda, a nutritious dish high in vitamins and iron; promote the immunisation schemes and basic primary health care. They also provide basic education similar to that found in play schemes in this country.

We undoubtedly gained valuable insights into many of the problems and conditions facing health workers in Sri Lanka through the numerous clinic and home visits we were able to make. But of even more benefit was the time spent living in Mawanella, a small village which was the setting of Heenatipone, the Guide training centre we called home for our first three days in the country. Sleeping on camp beds in a concrete hut, sharing one flush loo and one shower (until the pump gave way under the strain), we probably came a little closer to understanding at least two of the problems of rural life in Sri Lanka — overcrowding and poor sanitation.

Although our accommodation gradually became more luxurious as the trip progressed, those first few days in Mawanella helped prepare us for what was to come. It also gave us our first taste of the Sri Lankan generosity and hospitality we found wherever we went. I don't think any of the team will ever forget the cultural evening of song and dance the villagers put on for us — or the family who offered us a shower in our hour of need!

One of the more challenging aspects of our programme was the trainings. We took part in two, one in



developing countries and what is meant by primary health care. There were lots of fundraising activities too: a whopping £115,000 was raised to finance projects in Sri Lanka's Kalutara district — which, in 1985, had the highest mortality rate for children under five in the country. That money is still being used to support the work of UNICEF and the Sri Lankan Girl Guides Association in the area.

Each year, teams of Guiding folk — many of them professionals in the fields of medicine, teaching and training — have gone over to Sri Lanka to assess the progress being made and contribute to the project. Here's an account from MOIRA SUMMERS, Assistant Ranger Guider with the 2nd Livingston Unit, West

14 Lothian, who made the trip last

alternative programme and the team quickly adapted to the itinerary of visits and trainings organised for them.

The initial frustration at this turn of events was soon dispelled as the group began to make the most of its opportunities and, among other things, ran play sessions with the children when visiting pre-schools and Brownie Packs, teaching action songs and games with a primary health care theme. Once the children got over the shock of seeing 14 white females in blue dresses doing daft actions in the midday sun, they happily joined in and even taught us the Sinhalese versions of a few well known favourites. When you can master head, shoulders, knees and toes in Sinhalese, language ceases to be a problem!

the capital Colombo and one in Kalutara. At both we ran sessions on immunisation, oral rehydration therapy, diarrhoea, first aid, growth measurement, and one we were by now all experts in — teaching through songs and games! We were lucky that most of the participants — mainly Guides, Senior Guides or Guiders — had some grasp of English, however rudimentary, and interpreters were generally available to help out. We used a variety of methods to get the basic points across including drama, artwork, small group work and demonstrations.

Many of the projects and clinics we visited were concerned primarily with children. All of us treasure some particular memory of one child or another, either from the orphanage, the malnourished children's clinic, or the Guides at the home for the mentally handicapped. These brought home to us that things are far from perfect and that there is still a lot of work to be done. Immunisation rates could be higher, water supplies still have to be improved and proper sanitation has to be encouraged in some areas. Existing projects *do* make a difference and it is important that their work continues, but there is always room for improvement. It was encouraging to see the way that the Guides are actively tackling issues of local concern, when the community has identified a need.



**Guiders soak their aching feet ▲
Working together on a food garden ►**

It is difficult to convey exactly what we as a team got from the trip, but it would be true to say the project was an experience of a lifetime and I don't think we will ever forget the beautiful countryside, the people, and the friendships made in our four weeks together. ▮



NETWORK

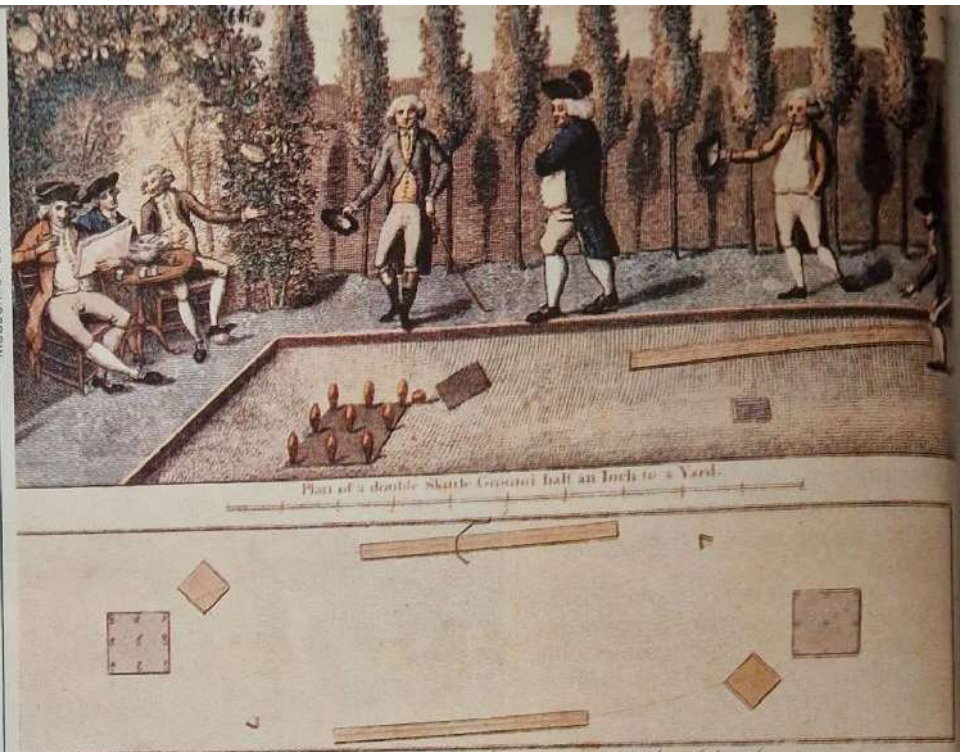
NEW GALLERY OPENS

History lovers can take a trip back to 18th century London by visiting the new gallery at the Museum of London.

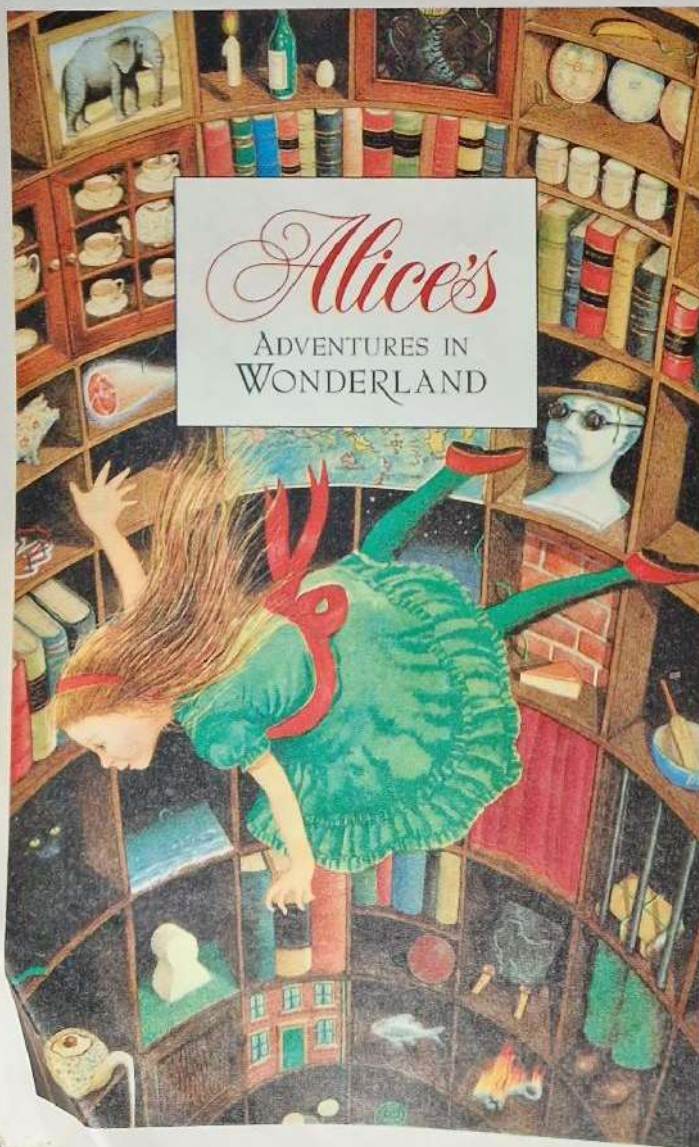
The gallery gives an overall view of life as it was for all sections of society, from the grimness of Newgate Gaol to the dazzling display of Spitalfields' silk dresses.

Eye-catching exhibits include Lady Hamilton's guitar and the sword which was presented to Lord Nelson when he was given the Freedom of the City of London in 1800.

Opening hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 10am-6pm; Sunday: 10am-6pm; Closed all day Mondays. Admission is free.



One of the exhibits at the Museum of London's 18th Century gallery.



Alice's ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND

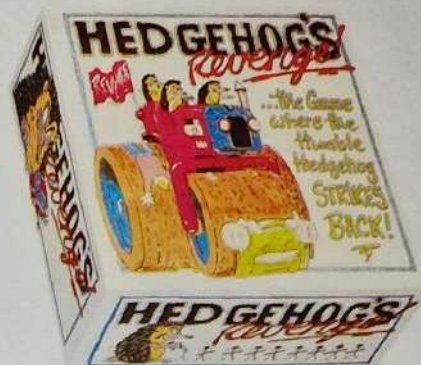
NEW LOOK FOR ALICE

Illustrator Anthony Browne's outstanding interpretation of the Lewis Carroll classic, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, has won him the Emil/Kurt Maschler Award for the second time.

The illustrations are works of art in their own right although

daringly different from the more familiar Tenniel drawings, they capture perfectly the topsy-turvy world of Alice and her bizarre companions.

This edition of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* is published by Julia Macrae and is available at all good bookshops for £12.95.



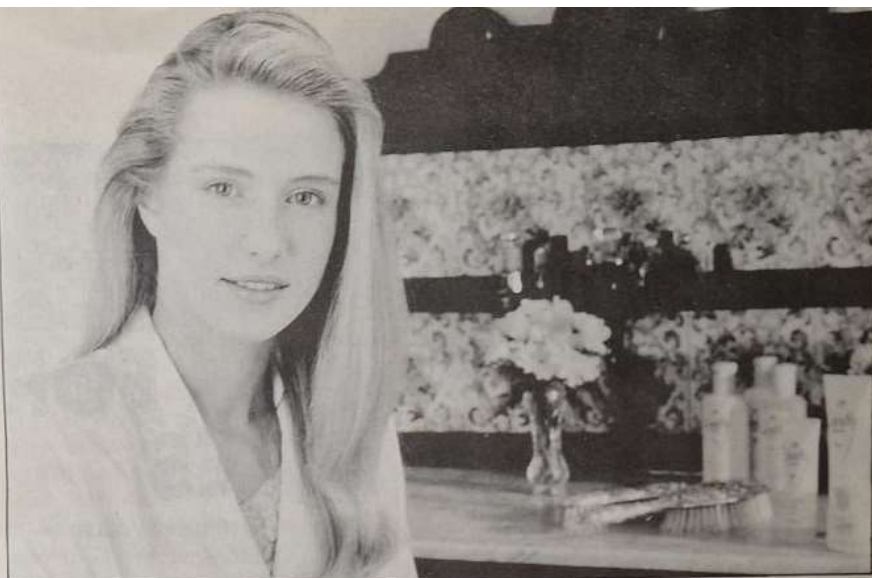
HEDGEHOGS' REVENGE

The hedgehogs of Britain are tired of their Mr Nice Guy image... and they're taking their revenge in the form of a new board game appropriately named... *Hedgehog's Revenge*.

And for every game sold, the Royal Society for Nature Conservation will receive a donation to help wildlife all over the country — includ-

ing hedgehogs of course. Each game includes an RSNK hedgehog survey form, which will help them to gather vital information about our prickly, endangered, friends.

This fun game by BV Leisure is suitable for all the family (ages seven to adult) and for 2-12 players. It's being sold at major retail outlets for about £13.99.



The natural look from Boots Country Born range.

FRESH FROM THE COUNTRY

Boots has re-launched its best-selling Country Born haircare products and introduced a matching skincare range.

Country Born Skincare products are based on natural ingredients and all the products are lanolin-

free and can be used on all skin types.

The Facial Wash Cream (£1.25, 125ml), Country Born Facial Scrub (£1.25, 50ml), Moisturising Cream (£1.75, 70ml), Cleansing Lotion (£1.25, 150ml), and Skin Freshener (£1.25, 150ml) have all been developed in response to the

growing demand for natural products.

New additions to the re-launched haircare range are Sweet Clover and Almond Oil for coloured, permed and damaged hair and Oat and Protein for extra body.

All products are currently on sale at Boots branches.

ENVIRONMENT WEEK

The Civic Trust is holding an Environment Week from Saturday, April 22 to Monday, May 1.

According to the organisers, one of the aims of Environment Week is to make people evaluate the quality of their surroundings.

They'll be running a campaign called *Operation Eyesore* to encourage everyone to improve their surroundings — by making pocket sized parks on unkempt plots, adopting an underground pond and bringing it back to life, repairing broken steps —

these are just some of the ideas which have been suggested.

A free booklet, *Ideas To Get You Started*, is available from the Civic Trust, 17 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AW.

NETWORK

BEAR NEWS

A newsletter called *Bear News* has been launched especially for teddy bear devotees. Teddies are more important than we may realise: the occupational therapy department at Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Sick Children in Hackney, London, for example, firmly believes that a teddy bear is one of the greatest comforts to a young patient away from family and friends.

Contributions flooded in for the first edition of *Bear News*, with stories of special collections, royal bears, flying bears... teddy bears are a versatile lot, it seems.

You can subscribe to *Bear News* by writing to: Art & Design Promotions Ltd., 26 Lloyd Baker Street, London WC1X 9AU. There are three issues a year, costing a total of £5.00. For each annual subscription a 20p donation will be made to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

The hospital is trying to raise money for a much-needed electron microscope for the identification

of viruses in the treatment of leukaemia, chronic gastric infections and bone marrow transplants.

BEST FOOT FORWARD

These new walking boots by Hawkins of Northampton feature the new Ni-Trax rubber sole, which has an environmentally-approved, self-cleaning tread.

The boots have been designed to prevent jarring and fatigue by using an aerated mid-sole of polyurethane. The lining is made of Cambrelle foam which dries quickly after a soaking without hardening. A removable contoured foot-bed is also included.

The Hawkins Langdale and the Hawkins Skelton are available in sizes three to 12 from most good outdoor leisure shops.



GET TAPED!

Carol Babson (left) and Davina Levy met when they were Leaders at the 3rd Elstree Guide Company have joined forces to launch a mail order business selling children's educational tapes.

'We're total newcomers to the business world and it's much tougher than we imagined,' explained Davina. She helped at the 3rd Elstree, where Carol was Lieutenant, for two years.

Carol's husband, Monty,

a musician and producer, came up with the idea and developed the tapes under the name Harvey Osbourne Associates Ltd. The current range of six includes the *Times Table* tape and the *Street Wise* tape, giving information about road safety and avoiding strangers.

They are suitable for three to ten year olds and are already being sold at WH Smith, Early Learning Centres, Toys R Us, Children's World.



LEADERS...



FREE INFORMATION PACK FOR ANIMAL CARE BADGES

A new youth resource pack has been compiled by Pedigree Petfoods Education Centre for Girl Guides, Brownies and Rainbows.

Linked to the 'Animal Lover', 'Friend to Animals', 'Aquarist' and 'Birdwatcher' badges, the material is designed to encourage responsible attitudes towards pet keeping.

Planned in co-operation with Girl Guides Association Award Scheme Officers, the pack contains a whole series of ideas for extending pet related badge work including organising a pet show, charting the regular keeping and feeding of a pet and understanding animal needs and behaviour.

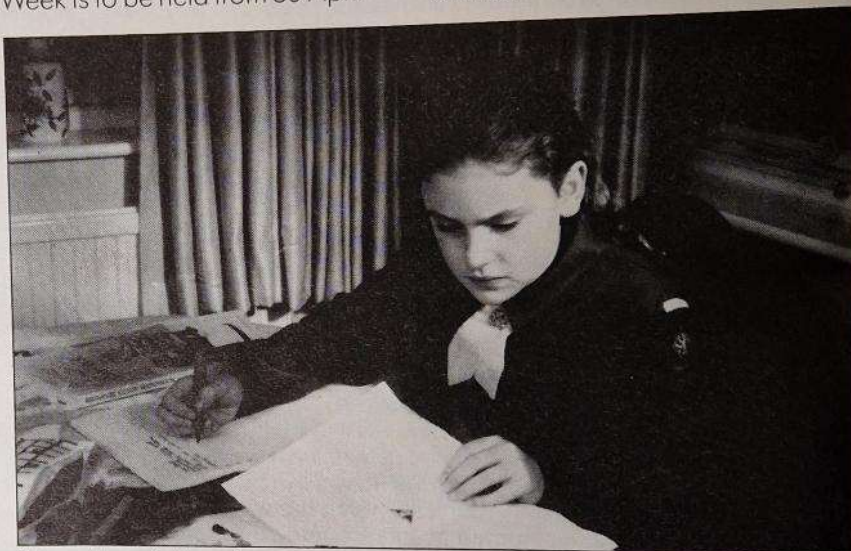
In addition, there are posters, pet care leaflets, games, a certificate plus 'Creature Feature' articles by Terry Mills printed in recent editions of Today's Guide and Brownie magazines. Details

of the free loan film and video cassette service are also included.



The UK's first ever National Pet Week is to be held from 30 April —

7 May, so to prepare yourself why not write off now for your free pack? This unique event will involve all the major charity and welfare organisations and will feature a variety of events concentrating on the companion animal.



This pack is available to Group Leaders. Send the form below Freepost (no stamp needed) to Pedigree Petfoods Education Centre, PO Box 77, Freepost, Burton-on-Trent, DE11 7BR

APPLICATION FORM

PEDIGREE PETFOODS EDUCATION CENTRE MATERIAL

This pack is available to Group Leaders only. Write to Freepost (no stamp needed) to:

Pedigree Petfoods Education Centre, PO Box 77,
Freepost, Burton-on-Trent
DE11 7BR



LEADER _____

NAME OF GROUP _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

I was saddened but not surprised to read in Letters that some Guiders still feel they are suffering in a vacuum of non-communication. I have had the same problem in the past and found that a frank discussion, followed if necessary by a formal complaint to the next Commissioner along the hierarchy line, has worked for me. This is one of the things that rated on my list of pros and cons when deciding whether to accept the role of a Commissioner. I am very lucky now with a friendly District which is geographically compact. We do a great deal as a District (but not much at all as a Division). I hope that my Guiders know me well enough now to tell me when they want a break from the long programme of events we usually plan.

I recently had the pleasure of presenting my two newest Guiders with their AL Certificates — they work with a linked Pack and Company and are already into joint activities which help with the gap between Brownies and Guides. The Brownie Guider, who returned to the Movement after University and a career change already has the Brownies eating out of her hand. The Guide Assistant was new to the Movement and is re-energising us all with her enthusiasm.

I'll be visiting my first Pack Holiday of the season at Easter, as one of my Guiders is taking her Licence test. If work volume has anything to do with it she will pass with flying colours, as bright as any on those charts the Brownies help to make.

I'm Assistant at Brownies again covering for maternity leave. It was swimming last week and I did warn the Guider about lost underwear. She didn't believe me until we had all the pool staff helping in our search. I dread to think what this week will bring with me in charge of the gluepot finishing Mother's Day gifts.

diary of a DISTRICT COMMISSIONER



All this at the same time as practising for our annual drama competition. The Brownies seem in a real muddle but the other Packs say theirs are just the same and it will be all right on the night. I do hope so, as Brown Owl and new baby owl will be in the audience.

I must admit to having some trouble persuading the Guide Guiders to go on the County camp training. They feel that with a Licence they

know everything already and, to be honest, most trainings in the past have been geared towards new people. However, we have a new Training Chairman, a friend of mine (I'm not biased in her favour, honest) who has great plans to include something in trainings for more experienced Guiders. Some of them did succumb to my persuasive charms in the end and I look forward to their comments.

Switzerland **adelboden** Bernese Oberland Group accommodation facilities for adults and children

Adelboden nestles in a picture-book setting that tempts the visitor to go walking, to linger and to look. In summer and winter the facilities are many and varied.

In spring and autumn, too, this trim mountain village (1400m) with its old farmhouses, loses none of its charm.

For information and list of group accommodation facilities contact the Tourist Office CH-3715, Adelboden, Switzerland.



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TALKING POINT

REBELS WITHOUT A HOPE

Ask anyone over 35 to describe a student and they'll probably come up with the stereotype jeans and message T-shirt image. This could be because when they were young in the '60s and '70s, students were thought of by many as subversive. They were — according to the media of the day — young people of working age who had far too much time on their hands.

They were also the first post-war generation who were not called for National Service.

To be fair, many students were radical demonstrators involved in marches and 'sit ins'. This, however, merely gave the older generation a golden opportunity to criticise the students.

Being a student was also seen as a

time for experimenting — in relationships and with drugs and alcohol.

So has anything changed? According to figures released by the *Daily Telegraph* and *Gallup* the answer is — yes. Today's students — or at least those who took part in the survey — are more likely to see themselves as hardworking than rebellious or radical. In fact a whopping 73 per cent considered themselves to be industrious with 40 per cent claiming to put in well over 20 hours of private study a week. Compare this to the mere ten per cent who say that they are rebellious or radical.

Definitely part of Thatcher's Britain, the students questioned saw themselves as caring, responsible and ambitious — and 15 per cent had bought stocks and shares.

Despite — or maybe as a result of this — there is still a difference politically between the student population and the population as a whole — 40 per cent of students said they would vote Labour and 35 per cent Tory compared with a national population figure of 44 per cent Tory and 38 per cent Labour.

Students still seem to experiment with sex, drugs and alcohol. On average they have 2.3 sexual partners during their time in higher education and nearly a quarter of them admitted

using soft drugs such as cannabis. Alcohol is also widely used which is hardly surprising as it's readily available at most universities, colleges and polytechnics. Beer or lager is drunk by 84 per cent of male students who took part in the survey — 12 pints (24 units) a week is their average weekly intake. This is three units higher than the risk threshold for men generally which, experts say, starts at 21 units a week.

It could conceivably be said that students are unconcerned about the long term future. Not only do they drink, but they also smoke despite decades of bad publicity. It seems 25 per cent of the country's brightest young people still smoke an average of 13 cigarettes a day — women smoke more than men, the survey says.

But the survey also reveals that being a student is quite stressful — nine per cent of the students questioned had sought professional advice for anxiety or stress since starting college. Perhaps they had money worries — a whopping 50 per cent of students who took part in the survey are overdrawn to an average of £257!

What do you think? Are students representative of all young people in your age group or not?

BEN HALL



An occasional series outlining various career opportunities. We are most grateful to Collins for allowing us to reproduce extracts from their excellent book, *The Daily Telegraph Careers A-Z*, which is available from all good bookshops price £2.95.

ESTATE AGENT

An estate agent may be concerned solely with the buying, selling and letting of property, perhaps exclusively residential, or with commercial and industrial development, estate management, valuation, leisure development, structural surveys or town planning.

There are various qualifications for estate agents; there are also many successful estate agents practising, mainly in the residential property market, with no

professional qualifications at all.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers are the two main professional bodies for estate agents. The minimum entrance qualifications of the RICS are three O levels or GCSEs (grades A-C) and two A levels, and of the ISVA, five O levels or GCSEs (grades A-C); English language and maths must be among the passes. Both full-time and part-time courses are available and there is a practical experience requirement for qualification. Some estate agents, particularly those in local government, study for membership of the Rating and Valuation Association, for which four O levels or GCSEs (grades A-C) and one A level are required (again, including English language and maths).

Further information is available from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, Careers Information, 12 Great George Street, Parliament Square, London SW1P 3AD; the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers, 3 Cadogan Gate, London SW1X 0AS, and the Rating and Valuation Association, 115 Ebury Street, London SW1.

ZOO KEEPER

There are a number of zoos and wild life parks throughout the country which employ keepers and helpers on permanent and seasonal terms. No educational qualifications are usually specified, although a background in the natural sciences is obviously an advantage. Keepers also need compassion and respect for animals, commonsense, a good physique, and to be capable of answering questions put to them by the public. Vacan-

cies are limited and training is provided by individual establishments.

The Zoological Society of London provides a training scheme for their own keepers which is an integral part of the career structure at London and Whipsnade Zoos. Those working in zoos can take a correspondence course run by the National Extension College, in preparation for the City and Guilds Certificate in Zoo Animal Management.

A careers leaflet is available from the Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland, Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY. Those interested should also read COIC's *Work with Animals*. Comprehensive information on zoos in Britain and abroad is contained in *The International Zoo Yearbook*, produced by the Zoological Society of London.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE?

London and South East England is the only Region/Country not to have a Regional Junior Council. Why? It's not because no one has thought about it or bothered to get one started. For a number of years we, the Region's representatives on the Association Junior Council, have been trying to get one organised. However there are several arguments against the idea.

A Junior Council at any level is a 'select' group allowing only a small percentage of available young Guiders, Rangers and Young Leaders to participate and gain experience from it. This is especially relevant in such a large Region as ours.

It could be said that a Regional Junior Council cannot be fully effective without every County having a Junior Council input into the Regional Junior Council. But such a 'network' of Junior Councils would conflict with efforts being made to improve communications through the 'proper channels' within the Region. In fact a member of a Junior Council is supposed to represent her own views and not those of any particular 'body' of people and so a 'network' such as this is unnecessary; however it would provide a chance for more Guiders to be involved. Besides, the Association Junior Council functions well without every Region feeding into it via a Regional Junior Council.

Why should we have a Junior Council just because all the other Regions do?

But, the Region does regard the aims behind a Junior Council — to allow discussion and promote participation by young Guiders — as being important. After discussion with the Region's Executive Committee, the idea of a young Guiders' conference developed. This was to involve two participants from each of the 151 Divisions, allowing up to 302 Guiders to attend.

YGG '87

This was how the idea of the Region's first Young Guiders' Gathering (YGG) began. We were members of the planning committee set up in 1986 and tried to put as much as we could into the organisation of the day. Eventually the venue, date and format of the Gathering were decided.

It was to consist of speakers and informal discussion groups. Each group would be made up of about

twelve Guiders, including a group leader who had been briefed beforehand to ensure the discussion ran smoothly and hopefully involved every participant.

The aims of the first YGG were to:

1. Encourage young Guiders to evaluate their contribution to the Movement.
2. Provide young Guiders with an opportunity for stimulating discussion with others from the Region.
3. Provide a chance for Guiders from all Divisions in the Region to meet together.

The morning session consisted of a talk on 'The Young Guiders Today' followed by discussion in groups. The feedback was recorded by each group writing out the main points of their discussion — based on set questions — on large 'posters' and pinning them up for all to see. This was later brought together and recorded. The afternoon's discussion was in County groups, with the County Commissioner, to allow subjects more relevant to each individual County to be raised: followed by a thought-provoking talk on 'The Promise'.

187 PINK SHEETS LATER...

In order to evaluate the day and see if it would be possible to continue with similar 'Gatherings', everyone was invited to fill in a questionnaire — which was bright pink to match the rest of YGG '87 correspondence! We read all those returned and worked out pages of percentages, eventually coming to the conclusion that the day had been a success, although there were, of course, some criticisms which will be taken into account in future planning.

We produced a report on the day which was discussed with members of the Region's Executive Committee. We were very pleased to hear that it has been agreed that a similar Gathering should take place every other year, commencing in Autumn 1990.

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

The next Young Guiders' Gathering will be in eighteen months' time. What's happening now?

By the time this is published, there will already have been the first meeting of the Region's NEW YOUNG GUIDERS' FORUM. The idea for this was discussed along with the results of YGG '87. We felt there needed to be some sort of background to the Gathering, to organise and discuss

arena

WATCH THIS SPACE

suitable topics for them as suggested by young Guiders themselves.

The Forum will consist of one Guider from each of the Region's 19 Counties, the Association Junior Council representatives being ex-officio members. It will meet not more than twice a year to discuss topics suggested by the Association Junior Council representatives or the members and also to consider the programme content of future Gatherings. All the representatives will be under twenty-six and serve for not more than four years.

But hold on a minute... this all sounds familiar. Doesn't the Young Guiders' Forum seem very similar to a Regional Junior Council? We thought so too!

BACK TO THE FUTURE

So now London and South East England has a Young Guiders' Gathering every two years. As well as events at Regional level, there has also been activity in the Counties and we know of at least one (Surrey East) which has held a County YGG.

If you want to get involved in the Forum or the next Gathering, or if you want to see something similar in your County, speak to your County Commissioner or get in touch with us through Region HQ. We know there are problems in getting information from any Region HQ down to Guiders themselves. This limits the number involved in any activity at Regional level, not just those mentioned. We're asking YOU to speak out and find out what there is available for you as a young Guider to get involved in. We've tried to make the opportunities available for you to make your point and participate, now it's up to you to take them up.

Finally we would like to thank all those who have helped us get the Young Guiders' Gatherings and Forum underway, especially the Region Executive Committee and past Association Junior Council members.

Susan Laidlaw Marie Gascoigne
Christine Hebborn Catherine Thom
JUNIOR COUNCIL 21

THE SILVER FISH

The Award of the Silver Fish to Dr June Paterson-Brown, the Chief Commissioner of the Association and of the Commonwealth, will delight all her many friends. The Silver Fish is the Association's highest Award, given for exceptionally good service to the Guide Movement as a whole.

June first held a Warrant as District Commissioner in her home Scottish Borders' town of Hawick. Other appointments followed, including that of County Commissioner, not only for Roxburghshire but for Peeblesshire too. She served as an elected member of the Council and of the Executive Committee, until her appointment as Scottish Chief Commissioner from 1977 to 1982. She helped to set up the Association's Junior Council and was a member of the Forward Planning Group. She became Chief Commissioner of the Association and of the Commonwealth in 1985. In 1987 she led the United Kingdom delegation to the World Conference in Kenya.

Her many fine qualities include a charming manner and friendly and



HRH Princess Margaret places the Silver Fish Award round the neck of the Chief Commissioner, Dr June Paterson-Brown.

approachable personality, coupled with her wide experience and Guiding abilities. She relates well both to the young and the not-so-young alike.

Despite a demanding schedule, she always finds time for people — especially her own family.

Her widespread influence is not confined to Guiding. Her considerable youth and community work earned her the rare distinction of being chosen Scottish 'Man of Year'. She was County Medical Officer for the British Red Cross Society in Roxburghshire and Chairman of the Scottish Standing Conference of Voluntary Youth Organisations.

Until 1986 she was Chairman of a local Duke of Edinburgh's Award Committee and is a Trustee of the MacRoberts' Trust and Director of Border Television.

She is also very actively involved with the Prince's and Royal Jubilee Trusts. In 1983 The Prince of Wales appointed her as a Trustee and Vice Chairman of the Prince's Trust. She also accepted his invitation to become a member of the Jubilee Trusts' Administrative Council from 1984-1987.

We offer June our warmest congratulations and are thrilled that her outstanding contribution to Guiding — and to the community — has been recognised.

ANNE DUNFORD
Deputy Chief Commissioner



AUDREY BICKERSTETH

Miss Audrey Bickersteth, a Former Vice-President of the Association and Anglia's first Chief Commissioner died in November. The following tribute has been written by Mrs Owen Walker, a former Chief Commissioner.

Audrey Bickersteth lived her Guiding throughout her long and active life. She was a natural giver and loved, with simple warmth and total loyalty, all of us who shared her belief in

Guiding as a tremendous power for good. Always the same, she was excellent company, an amusing raconteur and a deeply interested listener.

Her appointments were many and varied — inevitably, because she was such an outstanding character, she was in constant demand. She was, for different periods, Tawny Owl, Guide Captain, Captain of a Ranger Company and of Post Ranger Guides, Badge Secretary, Camp Adviser, District and Division Commissioner and County Commissioner for Essex West before she was appointed Chief Commissioner for Anglia when England was regionalised in 1970. She held a Green Cord Diploma and was awarded the Beaver.

During the Second World War, Audrey served with the Guides International Service and led a team, including two doctors and four nurses, to Holland where they set up four small hospitals and were responsible for their administration.

Audrey was Anglia's first Chief Commissioner, and on her retirement she became Chairman of the Management Committee of Anglia's Region Headquarters. She was a Region Vice-President and a member

of the Trefoil Guild's National Executive. For a time she served as Vice-Chairman of the Association's Executive Committee, and later became a Vice-President of the Girl Guides Association. She brought kindness, common sense, humour and humility to every appointment.

Audrey enjoyed a variety of other interests and these gave her the broad vision which so greatly enhanced her Guiding. After the war, she took a BA degree followed by a Dip Ed (Psych), then worked for many years as officer-in-charge of Special Schools for the Handicapped in Essex. She was a Governor of three special schools and worked tirelessly in her local community. She loved to say she was Secretary of the Ugley Women's Institute, for she herself had the beautiful smile and inner radiance of a selfless serenity.

Over the years, a little bit of Audrey's wonderful character must have brushed off on to thousands of girls and Guiders, and her influence will continue to spread as it is passed on to those who follow. She gave so much to us all and all Guiding was enriched by this very special lady. She will not be forgotten.

THE CHEERFUL ARMY

Walk along any high road at a weekend and the chances are a cheerful Salvation Army brass band will be there playing rousing hymns. The Army has been affiliated to the GGA for 30 years and its commitment to youth work goes back many more years.

The Salvationists' navy blue uniform is respected everywhere. But in Victorian times when it was newly formed, the founder, William Booth, and his soldiers were regularly assaulted on the streets.

Booth was born in Nottingham in 1829. After working in a pawnbroker's shop he lost his job at 20, moved to London and found work at another pawnbroker's.

From 1854 to 1862 he served with the Methodist New Connexion Church until he became a travelling revivalist. He and his wife, Catherine, preached to huge crowds throughout the country.

He established The Christian Mission, as it was known for the first 13 years, in 1865. Places of worship included a dancing academy, a skittle alley, a stable and a disused public house. After 13 years he had 50 stations and 88 evangelists.

It was while he was reading the 1878 report that he decided to introduce the word, salvation, and the Salvation Army was born. Stations became corps, members became soldiers, evangelists became officers.

Today, 25,000 officers worldwide bear the ranks of Lieutenant, Captain, Major, Lieut.-Col., Colonel or Commissioner. The General, currently General Eva Burrows, is elected by the High Council, a body of leading officers.

In his best-selling book, *In Darkest England and the Way Out*, published in 1890, Booth revealed the findings of his research into the needs of the poor and his plans to help solve their problems. He discovered that one-

tenth of the British population lived below the standard of the London cab horse.

He had opened a soup kitchen in 1866 and his first hotel for 'down and outs' in 1888. The book was a blueprint for a social service enterprise greater than anything the world had ever known, and Booth always practised what he preached. The Salvation Army's labour bureau opened 23 years before the British Government introduced its first employment exchange. By 1895, 69,000 men had been found work.

In 1891 Booth opened a safety match factory in London with comparatively high wages for the 100 employees and model working conditions. It was his way of protesting against the exploitation of match workers. In those days matches were made of phosphorous, which caused a disfiguring disease called necrosis.

The Salvation Army campaigned nationally against the exploitation of match workers and, once non-poisonous safety matches were widely accepted, Booth closed his factory.

Today the Salvation Army works in 89 countries providing more than 500 hostels for the homeless, more than 25,000 beds nightly and 16 million meals a year. Over 7,000 missing persons are traced each year and over two million people are given emergency, disaster or general relief.

When Booth died in 1912, aged 86, he passed his responsibilities to his son, Bramwell, and the Army's youth movement, formed in 1886, was flourishing.

The Life-Saving Scouts, founded in 1913 and modelled on the Scout Movement, began to prosper in 1920. Bramwell Booth's wife, Florence, inaugurated the sister movement, the Life-Saving Guards, now Guides, in 1915. Junior organisations, called Chums, now Cubs, and Sunbeams, now Brownies, followed in 1917 and 1921.

Units were formed in other countries where the Salvation Army was active and, by 1939 were established in 50 countries.

After the Second World War a separate programme for Senior Guards was introduced and, in 1959, the Life-Saving Guard Movement was affiliated with the Girl Guide Association, though the Guards in the United States and Australia chose to continue as Girl Guards.

Guiding is still very much part of the youth scene in the Salvation Army. In keeping with other affiliated societies, they have a National Direc-



Julie Bolland, aged 23, Ranger Guider with the 22nd Batley (Salvation Army) Unit in West Yorkshire, and her brother, Darren, aged 21, Unit Scout Leader, receiving their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards in December.

tor, while 25 Area Directors, many of whom are wives of Salvation Army Youth Officers, liaise with local Guiders and Commissioners. Events are organised for Salvation Army Guides and Brownies but the emphasis is on total integration within the Girl Guides Association District and Division.

All Salvation Army Guide units are open and can be identified by the Recognition badge worn by all members of its sponsored units. The only other award that is made is the General's Guide Award which can be won by any Salvation Army Guide over the age of 12.

Salvation Army Guiders work in all sections of the Movement and at all levels, making a worthwhile contribution to both movements. Just now, in many areas, Rainbow Guides are being recruited.

Over the years, Guiding programme concepts have evolved, uniforms have changed and new methods have developed. But the original objective found in our Promise remains the same.

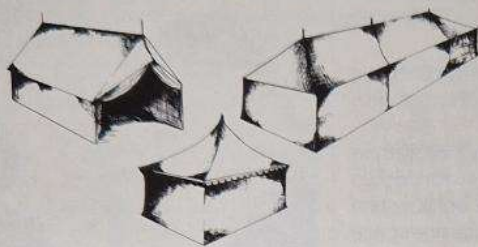
RUTH HOLLANDS

National Guide Director
Salvation Army

● Further information can be obtained from the Schools Information Service, National Headquarters, 101 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4 4EP.



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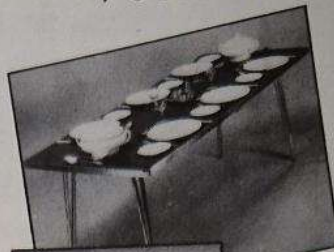
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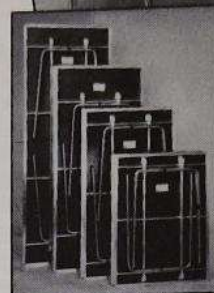
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THINKING DAY ON THE AIR

MARCH 18-19, 1989

Those taking part are reminded that they should send their report as soon as possible after the event to: Jennifer Jackson, Castle Lodge West, Halifax Road, Todmorden, Lancs OL14 5SQ.

TRAGEDY AT LOCKERBIE

The tragic air crash at Lockerbie shocked the whole nation but Dumfriesshire Girl Guides were particularly saddened because two of their Guides were killed.

The Assistant County Commissioner for Dumfriesshire, Mrs Jean Bannerman, writes:

It is with great sorrow that Dumfriesshire Girl Guides record that on the fateful night of December 21, 1988, Joanne Flannigan and Lyndsay Some-

ville, along with their parents, were killed. When the Pan Am Flight 103 crashed on the town of Lockerbie, their homes in Sherwood Crescent were completely destroyed.

Both girls had been members of the 2nd Lockerbie Brownie Pack. Lyndsay joined in May, 1985 and Joanne a month later. After three years with the Brownies, they left to join the 3rd Lockerbie Guides in September, 1988.

We are deeply saddened by their untimely deaths. They were such delightful girls, always pleasant, cheerful and full of fun! A joy to be with, we shall miss them very much.

A donation has been sent to the Lockerbie Disaster Fund. We have asked that it should be used to plant trees, not only in their memory, but also for the Brownies, Guides and Guiders of Lockerbie where

the spirit of Guiding is strong and will never die.

Guiders in Dumfriesshire responded magnificently to the tragedy and helped the rescue workers in many ways. Guides were on duty at the memorial service handing out Orders of Service.

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TRUST FUND

On November 30, 1988 the value of a share in the Scout and Guide Trust Fund was:

For selling purposes 197.37p
For buying purposes 207.31p
Income Yield 3.62 per cent

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

CHANGING PLACES

From February 27, Ulster Girl Guides Association will have a new address. Both the headquarters and the equipment department address in future will be: 38 Dublin Road, Belfast BT2 7HN. The phone numbers remain unchanged — 0232 322543 and 0232 326023.

CHQ SHOP

Refurbishing work on the CHQ building in London is due to start shortly and will continue for several months. During this period there will be a number of disruptions to our shop location which may cause some inconvenience to our customers.

We apologise in advance for any difficulties which may arise and steps have been taken to minimise the effect of this situation.

While we regret that it may not be possible to hold full stocks of all our range of merchandise, we

will of course endeavour to retain stocks of essential publications, uniform and badges. Where seven to ten days notice can be given, we will be pleased to reserve goods for collection.

Bulk orders can of course be ordered direct from our Trading Service, Atlantic Street, Broadheath, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 5EQ.

We do hope that you will continue to shop with us and will bear with us during this difficult period.

KEEP 'EM COMING

Miss Barbara Hunt wishes to acknowledge with thanks the very good response to her appeal for stamps for The Cheshire Home, St John's Road, Hitchin, and looks forward to a further supply in 1989, trimmed but leaving a small border. Please keep up the good work.

S Barron (Mrs)
Trefoil Guild (Extension)

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Now available — *The Life and Times of Olave Baden-Powell, 1889-1977.*

An information pack published to mark the centenary of the birth of the World Chief Guide, containing A3 posters and A4 fact information sheets showing the life of Olave, Lady Baden-Powell. Available now from the Trading Service and Guide Shops, price £1.95, code 64329. More details in next month's *GUIDING*!

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GIRL GUIDES On Safari at Windsor Safari Park

April 22, May 20,
June 17, 1989



Last year nearly 10,000 Guides, Brownies, families and friends enjoyed a fun-packed day at Windsor Safari Park. This year as usual, we are pleased to be able to invite you all to join together to come along on safari on any of the three dates above.

Normal admission price will be £6.50 adults and £5.50 children, but Girl Guide Association members and guests are offered the very special all-inclusive price of £3.50 for both adults and children (under 4's admitted free of charge). This special rate only applies on a PRE-BOOK, PRE-PAYMENT BASIS.

Windsor Safari Park is undergoing a change of image. We are creating an African experience for our guests. The alterations are well underway and many will be ready for the summer season. If you have visited us before, you must come again to experience the NEW WINDSOR SAFARI PARK.

Minimum of twelve in one vehicle for this special rate. In addition WINDSOR SAFARI PARK undertakes to make a contribution of 25p per head towards GIRL GUIDES funds.

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THE CONSUMERS' CRUSADER

The rebel in Anne Ferguson that refused to comply with Guiding rules to tie back her long hair for formal Guide occasions has never completely disappeared.

She also refused to conform at her school by following the expected route to a teachers' training college, opting instead for a university course on ergonomics and cybernetics that was a mystery to everyone — including herself.

She has yet to marry the man with whom she has two children, though she thinks they will probably get round to it one day. At work, she channels her rebellious energies into fighting for the rights of consumers. And for this work her university course was perfect training.

Sitting at her desk at the Consumers' Association overlooking London's Regent's Park, Anne laughed when she remembered how she chose her career while at Wallsend Grammar School, near Newcastle, where, she said, sexism ruled.

She added: 'If you were bright, boys went to university and girls to teachers' training college. I would have done that, but my uncle insisted I tried for university. Then I looked up a prospectus and saw these two words I'd never heard of. They sounded wonderful so I chose them.'

Anne discovered the two words related to many areas of everyday life. Ergonomics, still a young science, is the study of the relationship of a person to his or her work in which psychological and physical factors are taken into account, in the design of machines, for instance. Cybernetics is the study of communications and control between people, machines and organisations. It is becoming increasingly relevant as more and more factories become fully automated.

In Anne's first year, she was one of 200 women among 2,000 men at Loughborough University. She studied human biology, physiology, psychology, logic, linear circuits, computing and technical drawing. 'I even did my bit of turning on a lathe,' she added. She ended up attaining an impressive MSc.

She knew David Rumens, a fellow student, as 'my best friend's ex' and it was some time before they grew closer. Anne recalled two attempts to get married that somehow failed.

They gave it more serious thought after deciding to have children, then reached a compromise. A boy would have David's surname and a girl, Anne's. They have one of each.

Anthea Dawn Rumens Ferguson, who is seven, and Guyon Timothy Ferguson Rumens, aged two.

I must admit I do sometimes refer to Dave as my husband. I caught myself out on TV recently when I heard myself saying: 'I always buy my husband's underpants'.

The TV appearance in question was a regular consumers' advice programme on Anglia Television, called *Checkout*, on which Anne is co-presenter. Anne has been crusading for the Consumers' Association since 1981 when she joined the Public Affairs Group on returning from maternity leave. Before that she was a Projects Officer, writing reports for *Which?* magazine.

I was appalled by the quality of nursery goods after suddenly becoming a consumer myself. The users can't do anything about shoddy goods — only their parents. I got child safety on the agenda here and I was given £10,000 to go away and stop going on about it.

She became the Association's representative on several Standards committees and a subsequent CA safety campaign resulted in the introduction of tighter British Standards on pushchairs. Together with the Child Accident Prevention Trust, CA pressed manufacturers to increase their awareness of the need to apply ergonomics to potentially hazardous nursery goods.

The message has been absorbed and should result in better and safer designed nursery goods, Anne said.

Her next campaign centred on playground safety from which a report was published.

It became so widely discussed that local authorities can no longer say they didn't know. This is what the Consumers' Association works for — greater awareness, Anne added.

She remembers her Guiding years vividly. She was a celebrity in Wallsend when she gained her Queen's Guide at 16 and she still has the local Press cuttings of the presentation.

My mother was in the Trefoil Guild so Brownies was inevitable for me. I was a Leprechaun in the 5th Wallsend at St Luke's Church,' she recalled.

But her mother's health deteriorated after she gave birth to twins who died. Then, the birth of a son — a 'blue baby' — further affected Anne's mother's health. Anne was 14 when her mother died. The task of looking after her father, a carpenter, and brother fell to Anne, but she still found time to join the 1st Wallsend Guides.

arena

BEHIND THE SCENES



The sort of things I find most useful from those days are the camping experience because we've had camping holidays since. I can't say I'm particularly good, but if you've put up a Stormhaven with six tiny Guides at Whittonstall, which is on a hill and is extremely windy — erecting a modern tent is a doddle,' she said.

One of Anne's many badges was Friend to Deaf People, which she gained because she had been used to communicating with her mother's parents who were both deaf. Later, at CA, she used her knowledge during the International Year of the Disabled, assessing the contribution the association could make to the needs of disabled people in their reports. From this involvement she served on a steering committee evaluating aids for disabled people.

Anne feels her career should now come second to her children's needs for the time being and 1989 marks a change of direction.

She has decided to sever her permanent connection with CA to work as a freelance from her home near Teddington.

I think it's time my daughter joined the Brownies. I'll have time to help her along the path I took. I know she'll enjoy it,' she added.

CELIA CURTIS 27

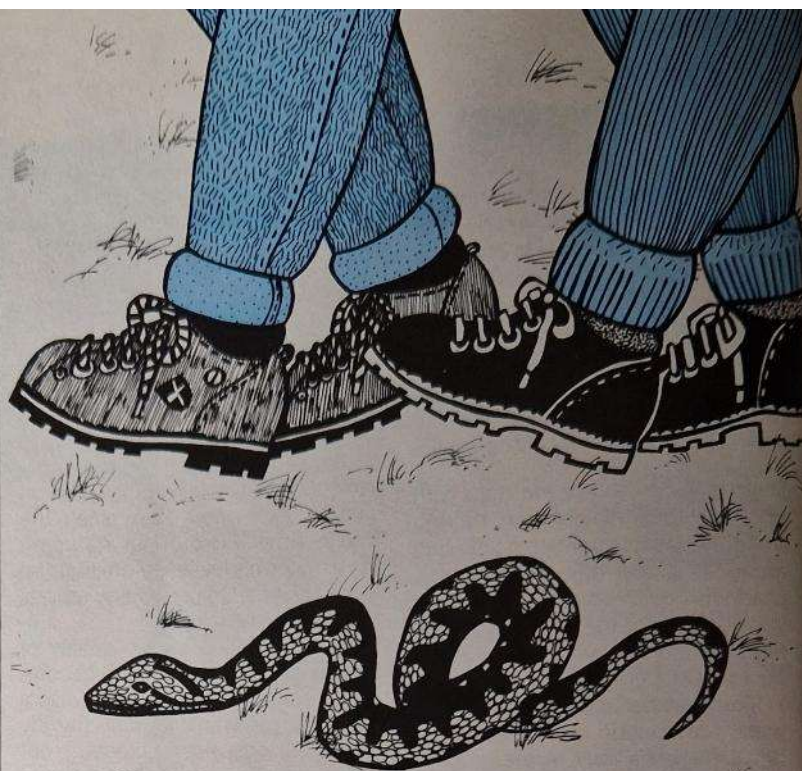
A MUCH LOVED COUNTRY

SNAKES AND HOW TO LOVE THEM

As Leaders of Guide units you may well spend a lot of your time out in the countryside. In the West Country and places where there is open moorland, dry heath, or bracken woodland, you may come across notices which say: 'Danger — look out for adders'. Now this tends to put people off snakes. I think most people have an inherent fear of being bitten and poisoned but, in fact, the adder is the only poisonous snake in the British Isles and it is very rare for anyone to be bitten — let alone die — from adder bites. Snakes have a very bad Press and many are killed every year by people out of ignorance.

Adders have dark zig-zag markings down their backs, which are usually grey or brown. They're also recognisable by a very pronounced black 'V' on the back of their heads. They grow up to about 65 centimetres and are active from late spring onwards. If you are hiking or camping in an area where adders are found, the only real precautions you need to take are to wear sensible footwear and although you don't have to make a lot of noise moving along, it is as well to make your presence felt. Because adders are very sensitive to vibration, the sound of humans coming along a path will soon disturb them and being timid creatures they will wriggle away.

There are two other species of British snake, the smooth snake which is found only rarely now in the southern heathland of Dorset, Surrey and Hampshire and the more common grass snake. The grass snake is much longer than the adder, growing up to a metre long, with a bright yellow collar at the back of its head. It likes water and is frequently found in marshes, ponds, rivers and even canals. I've seen grass snakes swimming in the Grand Union Canal in London! The grass snake is absolutely harmless. It is perfectly safe to pick it up and handle it and many people



keep them as pets. While adders bear their young live, grass snakes lay eggs, normally in piles of rotting leaves, compost heaps, manure heaps and so on. Modern agricultural trends mean that there are no longer large heaps of manure lying around on farms and so there are fewer places for grass snakes to lay their eggs and, sadly, fewer grass snakes.

Not everyone is afraid of snakes. One autumn morning, when I was still a policeman, I was carrying out my regular inspection of Horsenden Hill when my interest was aroused by the sight of a smartly dressed middle-aged man alighting from his motor car at the car park entrance. In his hand he carried a rusty tin can. Wondering what he could be doing I went up to him. In the can he had a fully grown grass snake curled up under some leaves. He told me that he had dug up the snake while working in his nearby garden and, not wishing to do the creature any harm, had taken the trouble to bring it to Horsenden Hill where he intended to rebury it and allow it to continue its hibernation. Of course, I helped him and we parted company. But I was considerably moved by this man's respect for the life he had recently disturbed and his concern that it should be allowed to survive.

An animal that is frequently mistaken for a snake is the little legless lizard or slow worm, which is neither slow nor a worm. Slow worms grow up to about a foot long and they do resemble very small snakes. Their food consists of small invertebrates like slugs and other small insects which they find in the soil. Slow

worms bear their young live and the young slow worms look like very thin, wriggling copper needles. As cold blooded animals they need to warm up in the morning before they can hunt, so they go under things like sheets of iron which get hot quickly in the sun in order to absorb the heat.

Slow worms are frequently mistaken for snakes by the uninitiated and, as a police officer, I often used to get called to these dangerous creatures in people's gardens with ladies quite often standing on chairs having hysterics over them. By picking them up and handling them and showing the people that they were not dangerous, I feel I did the slow worm a service.

When handling slow worms you must be very gentle. Their only defence against predators is their ability to snap about the first two inches of their tail off and wriggle away leaving a small morsel of themselves behind. If you find slow worms in the early morning before they have had an opportunity to warm up, they will lie quite contentedly in the palm of your hand absorbing the heat from you and only begin to move a minute or so later, so you have enough time to observe them before they become active.

If you can introduce your Brownies or Guides to the various members of the snake and lizard family in this country and enable them to conquer any fear they may have of them, you will also be doing a good deal towards helping to conserve these much maligned creatures.

JOHN ALDEN

I have a young friend with whom I have shared a tent at various camps over several years. It began when she was at college and I heard about her anxieties over passing her final exams, her problems in getting a permanent job, her impending marriage and, eventually, how unhappy that marriage was and the awful sense of failure and rejection when her husband left her and she was divorced. Through these years she continued her Guiding, running a unit, working in her Division, the County and sometimes further afield, giving freely of her time and talent (which was considerable).

Some time after her own divorce she heard that an ex-Guider of her acquaintance had separated from her husband and, feeling very sympathetic, she wrote to both husband and wife to say how sorry she was. Shortly after this she met the husband by chance in the street and went to have a cup of coffee and a chat. The two of them began to see each other regularly. She was no longer married and did not consider

a personal VIEW

her new relationship to have contributed in any way to the break-up of his marriage because his wife had already left him of her own choice and did not wish to go back to him.

If she had been seeing a man whom no-one in Guiding knew, it is extremely unlikely that anyone would have known about the affair, let alone take any notice. But because the man had been married to a former Guider, he was well known in Guiding circles and the affair became a matter for gossip. Also, his separated wife complained to the County Commissioner that a Guider was seeing her husband.

No attempt was made to discuss the matter with my friend. She was not asked for her Warrant. She received a telephone call from her Division Commissioner to say that her appointment as a Division Adviser was at an end.

She was not a Division Adviser because of her moral suitability but

because she had certain talents and expertise. She could have held that appointment without being a member of The Girl Guides Association and, therefore, her behaviour in her personal life had no bearing whatsoever on her suitability for the job.

Her talents are still being used, of course. She is too good at what she does to be forgotten but she is not allowed to 'represent' her Division. In my experience an Adviser seldom 'represents' anything or anyone, she works very hard within the Association promoting her speciality. If my young friend is such a reprobate why is she still running a unit? If her morals are so low that she must not be seen to 'represent' a Division, why is she allowed to be in charge of young, impressionable girls?

She could have been lazy, incompetent, untalented, unsuited to work with adults, ambitious, unscrupulous, bossy, rude, sarcastic, mean and unhelpful. None of these would have cost her her appointment. But because she was lonely and unhappy and took comfort where it was offered, she received the Pharisaic cold shoulder.

Isn't it time that in Guiding we took trouble to look behind the obvious 'sin' and offer support and care, rather than cold disapproval, when Guiders are unhappy?

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

The views expressed in this article are not necessarily those of The Girl Guides Association nor endorsed by it. The Editor reserves the right to edit any item received for publication.

HOME FROM HOME

In July last year the Accommodation Scheme devised by the GGA and the Trefoil Guild was launched. Trefoil Guild members undertook to help young members of the Movement, between the ages of 16 and 25, who needed reasonably-priced, secure accommodation while attending interviews, starting a new job and so on, probably miles from home. Here *Diana Grounds* describes how the scheme worked for her:

Early in September, I was asked if I could take my first guest, a young Guider, a civil engineer from Derbyshire, who was being

transferred by her company from Shrewsbury to North London.

After a couple of telephone calls, arrangements were finalised and Jo arrived on a Sunday evening ready to start work the following day. She lost no time in looking for more permanent accommodation and, by Wednesday evening, she and four colleagues had found a furnished house near the office to move into at the weekend.

Jo was quite the easiest person we have had staying with us and I am sure that being members of the same Movement made all the difference. In the short time that she was with us, we were able to exchange much news and information about the Trefoil Guild and Guiding.

I put her in touch with the nearest LINK and also the local District Commissioner, as she is anxious to join a Guide Company during the year she is to be in the London area.

I was very sorry to say good-bye, but we have promised to keep in touch. I now look forward to receiving my next guest.

As the administration of the Accommodation Scheme has changed slightly, I feel that a second look at the arrangements would be helpful:

A National Accommodation Secretary has been appointed who will keep a register of Trefoil Guild members throughout the UK who can offer accommodation.

Trefoil Guild Members wishing to participate should

contact their County Chairman who will pass on the information to the Accommodation Secretary.

Guiders, Rangers and Young Leaders aged between 16 and 25 needing temporary accommodation will contact their County Ranger/Young Leader Adviser who will pass the requests to the Accommodation Secretary.

I would emphasise that the scheme is intended for short stays only — a maximum of two weeks unless a private arrangement is agreed by both parties and the following minimum charges have been agreed:

Bed & Breakfast: £2.50 per day

Evening Meal: £2.50

Laundry and so on: By arrangement

ROUND UP

JARMAN CENTRE

The Chief Commissioner, Dr June Paterson-Brown officially opened the £250,000 Jarman Centre in Newmarket.

The outdoor centre was named after Miss Marjorie Jarman, a lifelong supporter of the Girl Guides Association, who bequeathed £30,000 to start the project. The rest of the money came from grants from the local council, the Department of Education and donations from local industry. A further £30,000 was raised by local units.

The facilities at the centre, surrounded by six acres of woodland, are also available to school and other youth groups. There is accommodation for 36 youngsters and six adults.

SKIPATHON

An afternoon of sponsored skipping by the energetic Oxsholt Brownies and Guides raised a bumper £308 during the Jump Rope for Heart Fitness Campaign.

The 1st Oxsholt Guide Company and Brownie Pack and 2nd Oxsholt Brownie Pack skipped for one-and-a-half hours. Of the money raised, £230 went to the British Heart Foundation and the balance to their own funds.

OPEN THAT DOOR

Mrs Anne Dunford, Deputy Chief Commissioner of the GGA, recently opened the new Luton Division Training Centre, Woodcroft.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Mayor of Luton, Coun. Audrey Bush, Anglia's Chief Commissioner, Mrs Margaret Johnson, and Lady Margaret Howard, Bedford County Commissioner.

This is the second headquarters for Luton Division which is shortly to be split into two Divisions with the Havering Training and Camping Centre serving Luton South and Woodcroft serving Luton North.

The ground was donated by Mrs Betty Robinson, a former Brownie Guider.

A round of applause for the Chief Commissioner as she opens the Jarman Centre.

JENNY CARRIES ON

Jenny Dewar has just celebrated 53 years in Guiding by retiring from one job and taking up another.

A rare sighting of past and present Paisley Division Guiders gathered recently for a dinner to mark Jenny's retirement after a decade as Paisley Division Commissioner.

But, it seems, she is not the retiring type. No sooner had she stepped down than she accepted a new post as County Ranger Coordinator. 'As long as they'll have me I'm only too happy to carry on. I love Guiding,' she said.

Jenny started out as a Brownie at Lylesland Church Hall in Paisley and went on to the 22nd Paisley Guides, also at Lylesland Church.

In 1946, on her 18th birthday, she became Lieutenant of the 22nd Paisley Company and progressed to Captain in 1952.

Her years as a Trainer began when she took over the 1st Renfrewshire Cadet Company.

In 1972, Jenny took to the roads as a full-time Scottish Guide Trainer. For a year she visited outlying corners of Scotland, including the Outer Hebrides. This period, she remembers with joy. 'Trainees thought nothing of travelling up to 60 miles and we always had a good time — even when the weather was cold and wet,' she recalled.

At her farewell dinner, Paisley Scout Council presented her with an inscribed glass bell. She received a colour TV and a lawn mower from her Guider colleagues. It might be quite a while before she has time to use her gifts.

SONG AND DANCE

To mark the first official visit to Wigtownshire County by the Chief Commissioner for Scotland, Mrs J-C Schaw Miller, recently, all 18 Brownie Packs and 16 Guide Companies presented a festival of Song and Dance after the County's annual general meeting in Newton Stewart, Dumfries and Galloway.

A record attendance presented the County with a problem: to find a venue sufficiently large to hold 500. The solution was Penninghane St John's Church. Later, an appreciative audience watched the Brownies stage their Song and Dance in the hall at Douglas Ewart High School and the Guides' performance in the school gymnasium.



CAMBRIDGE EVENING NEWS



JOAN JAMES

KNOWING OR GROWING?

Guiding is not specifically 'religious', but it does contain elements which can be found in many of the world's religions. The things which are special about Guiding — the Patrol system, the support for each girl and leader by a leader or team of leaders, the world she meets through Guide activities, the encouragement to make her own choices, the commitment to a set of standards — all these help a girl or woman in her own spiritual development. And this, in turn, can find an expression in her involvement in a particular religion.

However, religion isn't like first aid, with step-by-step procedures; nor like craft, with a finished product. You can repeat prayers, know facts and worship regularly, but religion is much more than this. Most religions ask their followers to live in a certain way all the time — not just on holy days — and often religious teachings influence the food people eat, the clothes they wear, the way they treat others and every other aspect of their lives. Religion is much more than a one-to-one relationship with a God 'up there somewhere'!

In Guiding there are badges which deal with aspects of religion, although it's not something which can easily be covered in a series of ticks. Apart from Quest, they are run by existing religious bodies and are all aimed at girls who are already committed to a religious community.

● **Quest** — primarily Christian-based, but adaptable for all Brownies and Guides (in fact it is used by Jewish Brownies and Guides) — offered by the GGA

● **Church Army Badge Scheme** — for Brownies, Guides and Rangers in Church Army-sponsored units

● **Ki-Ro Scheme** — for Catholic Brownies and Guides, offered by the Catholic Guide Advisory Council

● **Religious Knowledge Badge** — for Baptist Brownies and Guides, sponsored by the Baptist Missionary Society and the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The Brownie Quest syllabus can be found in the current amendment leaflet to the *Brownie Badge Book* and the Quest syllabus for Guides and the Ki-Ro scheme for Guides are available from the Trading Service. Details of all the others are available from the Secretary of the appropriate scheme, c/o the General Secretary's Department at CHQ.

Despite closer ecumenical ties between most of the Christian churches in the United Kingdom, there are three 'denominational' badges. Yes, there are some religious differences between churches in some parts of the United Kingdom, but surely we shouldn't emphasise them by creating separate 'boxes'? You might argue that girls should learn about their 'own' faith — but Guiding isn't Sunday School! Bear in mind that B-P, in his original *Scheme for Girl Guides* wrote: 'The religious training will be similar to that for Boy Scouts, *entirely unsectarian*' (my italics).

It is also very unfortunate that none of the syllabuses (not even Quest) includes any requirement to find out about aspects of faiths other than a girl's own. ('Prepare and share with your Patrol a food associated with a different world religion' is just not good enough — especially for older Guides, at whom it is aimed.) Guiding is multi-faith, encouraging girls to understand and tolerate faiths which are different from their own — that's one of its greatest strengths. Surely a badge dealing with 'religious knowledge' could ask a girl to find out something about a different religion as well as her own?

Looking through the existing syllabuses, they read rather like schoolwork — 'Prepare a folder', 'Choose and learn', 'Read two books of your own choice'. Quest is more active: 'Help to plan and carry out worship', 'Tell the tester about a good turn you have done', 'Carry out a job that needs doing'. There's still a fair bit of draw, choose and write, but neither the Brownie nor Guide Quest requirements are quite as academic as the others. They look much more like normal Guiding activities, which is

the failing of the denominational schemes. Religion isn't just about knowing the contents of a holy book, set prayers and 'rules of life'. Jesus didn't say: 'I am come that you may have religion, and more of it', but 'I am come that you may have life and have it to the full!' Religion is about living and so is Guiding.

How should a 'religious badge' show this? Here are a few thoughts:

A religious badge should:

● **be open to all** — adaptable to all faiths, but every girl should be following a roughly common syllabus and having to make about the same amount of effort;

● **follow Guiding methods of working** — 'learning by doing';

● **encourage girls to discover that 'religion' isn't any use unless it is put into practice in everyday life;**

● **be activity-based** — even if that 'activity' is sitting still trying to pray;

● **encourage girls to understand different worshipping communities;**

● **be available to all** — in the Badge Books like any other badge; so that girls can see what is involved for themselves;

● **voluntary** — there should be no question of 'Tonight we're going to do our Religious badge'.

Quest is a step in the right direction — but perhaps not far enough. A Quest open to all — with details according to different faiths, but broadly the same for every girl — could surely be produced. So that when you see a girl wearing the Quest badge, you know she is on a road to God — not necessarily in the same way as you are — but searching just the same.

What do you think? Have religious badges any place in Guiding in this day and age? Are 'denominational' badges a good idea in an Association which is open to girls and women from all faiths? How should a religious badge work? Write and tell us what you think. All letters will be passed on to the Religious Consultative Panel for their consideration.

Note: The author is a Christian Guider and a catechist working with young people at her local church.



PETER FARR, OXFORD TIMES

Rosalie Brown

the unsinkable **ROSALIE BROWN**

ARTIST, AUTHOR AND HONORARY GURKHA

This year, as Brownies celebrate their 75th anniversary, *GUIDING* proudly features one woman whose life has been intertwined with the Movement for more than 60 years, distinguished artist and calligrapher Rosalie May Brown.

At 76 Rosalie is still working. She gets up at 5.30am so she can catch the morning light. 'My eyes work best in the morning,' she said, making light of the reason... she has cataracts forming in both eyes and knows an operation will eventually be needed.

In her workshop — dominated by two self-portraits — she is planning yet another book to help youngsters share the fun and satisfaction she has found through Guiding.

Spending a day with Rosalie in her ground floor flat in Botley Road, Oxford, is a sheer delight. She glows with pleasure as she talks of meeting the Olympian figures of the Movement and recalls when many of today's high-ranking leaders were nervous new Guiders.

She is reluctant to talk about her many achievements. Rosalie's only vanity seems to be her claim — fully justified — that she looks younger than her years. She has a shock of white hair, clear skin, sweet smile and puckish sense of humour. Yet she has faced up to disabilities and health problems that would have defeated less unquenchable spirits.

Born in Oxford in 1912, Rosalie was one of seven children, whose father was a chef-turned-shopkeeper. Sadly she was born deaf. Two years ago doctors also discovered that she had been born with a crooked spine.

She recalls vividly just how she came to join the Movement: 'My Aunt Rose came in one day and sat me on her knee, then she told me the story of the Brownies and asked, "Wouldn't you like to be a Brownie?"' Rosalie replied: 'I am a Brown(y)!'

But the seed was sewn. Her sister, Margaret, who was only a year older also wanted to join but they couldn't find a Brownie Pack — there were only a few at the time, the GGA was still a very new Movement.

Then, one day, my sister ran round a corner when she was doing an errand and bumped into another girl dressed in blue — in those days Oxford Brownies didn't wear brown — with a Brownie neckerchief,' recalled Rosalie.

Asked about her uniform, the girl

explained: 'I'm a Brownie and told the sisters about her Pack, which hadn't been in existence for long. So that's how, in 1918, Rosalie and Margaret joined the 3rd Oxford. They were enrolled together the following year.

Rosalie said: 'Gladys Smith, the Brown Owl there, was very kind. She understood me being deaf and put her arm round me and took me into a corner. I learned everything from her, she was wonderful.'

Rosalie still recalls vividly her first glimpse of B-P. It was at a World Commonwealth Conference held in Oxford in 1920.

Rosalie was standing by one of the exhibits when the Chief Scout and the Chief Guide came round on a tour of inspection, Baden-Powell



Rosalie (first row, far left) in 1919 with five other Brownies from the 3rd Oxford Pack pose with the 3rd Oxford Guide Company.

spoke to her but 'being shy and deaf I looked down at my toes and missed what he said. But my friend explained. He put his hand on my shoulder, lifted my chin and said: "I understand". Then he patted my cheek,' said Rosalie.

Margaret and Rosalie both went on to join the Guides. Tragically Margaret died in 1923 from blood poisoning.

This meant Rosalie forged a closer than ever bond with the baby of the family, her brother, Arthur. There was a six year age gap but brother and sister were devoted to one another.

Neither married and it was to be with her brother that brought Rosalie back to Oxford in 1976. She nursed him during his last illness and clearly still misses him dreadfully.

Rosalie recalled that when she went to school deafness was not always recognised and children with hearing problems tended to be classed as dull, even stupid.

It was many years later that Rosalie found out she didn't 'speak properly', failing to pronounce the ends of her words. However, I had no problem understanding her — a Guiding colleague ironed out her speech troubles years ago. Rosalie revealed: 'At school we had to read out loud and I hated it because everybody stared and laughed.'

Her mother used to get Rosalie to stand on a chair close to her so that Rosalie could understand what she was saying — that was how Rosalie practised reading. She even learned her part as Peasblossom in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* that way.

What Rosalie liked to do best was to paint — amazingly she's still got all her school work — and that was to prove her salvation. She had been drawing with her finger on the frosted glass at school one wintry day and a friend of the headmistress who was visiting the school spotted the pictures.

The friend was a member of the Royal Academy and recognised talent. She suggested that Rosalie should apply for a scholarship to the Oxford City School of Arts and Crafts.

'I was 14 just two days before the exam,' recalled Rosalie. 'Mother wrote a letter explaining about my deafness. They were very good and made sure I sat in front so that I understood everything. I was the only one who got the work finished because I wasn't looking around and blethering with the others... I came top.'

When the news came through that Rosalie had won a coveted

place her mother took her to see the principal, who was in a wheelchair. 'He said: "You're deaf, I'm deaf — we'll get on fine together",' said Rosalie. And they did.

While a student, she won a prize for an 'illuminated' book... 'a talent that she was to develop with stunning results.

By the time she left college, Rosalie was running her own Brownie Pack at Headington.

An early job was to clean up and colour old prints, maps and plans for Major Melville Lee, of Headington, who worked for the Medici Society. From there she went to Oxford University Press as an illustrator.

In the '30s tragedy hit the family. Rosalie's mother and sister died and, as the only woman left in the family, Rosalie had to give up her job to look after her sick father.

He died a month later. Rosalie received a letter from her boss telling her her desk was waiting for her. It hadn't been touched since she left.

The outbreak of the Second World War found Rosalie and Arthur happily sharing a home. She applied to join the ATS but ended up in the Land Army.

At first Rosalie was sent to a farm at Banbury where she learned milking. However, her fingers became so swollen that she was advised to quit if she wanted to continue as an artist after the war.

Instead she got a job working in gardens at Stow-on-the-Wold. 'One of the people I worked for was a dentist who had wonderful books about wood carving. He got me to help in his workroom and that's where I picked up another skill... making picture frames,' explained Rosalie.

By chance Rosalie was asked to transfer to Scotland, beginning a very happy period in her life.

Her first job in Scotland was working for a farmer called Clark on Tayside. Their first meeting was a bit confused. He greeted her with: 'Miss Green are ye?' When the colours were sorted out, they were soon friends.

On the Clark's farm she learned a new accomplishment. 'I worked in the fields spreading dung. I was very good at it,' explained Rosalie. But, one day, a cobble got caught up in her pitchfork, flew into the air and struck her on the right ear. It started up a mastoid condition which was to make her deafness worse.

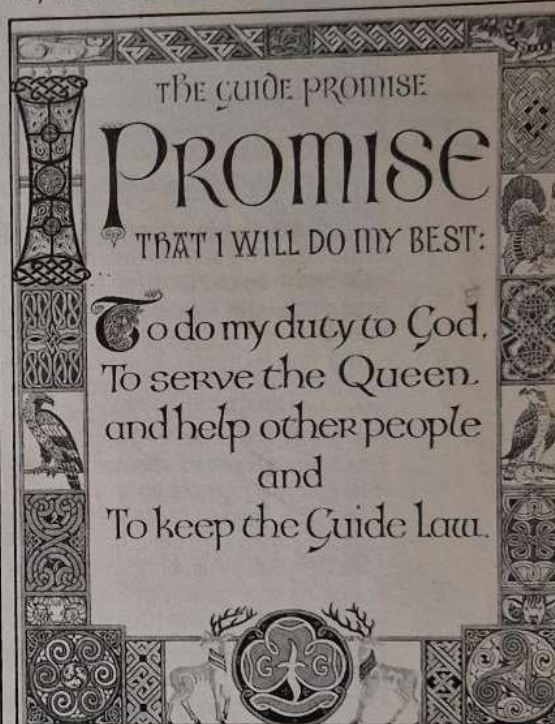
Eventually her doctor ordered Rosalie to quit the farm and take a lighter job. Instead she went to

Inverary House in Perthshire to look after evacuees from Clydeside. Naturally she introduced them to Brownies and Guides.

After an ear operation, Rosalie returned to the farm to recuperate. Her farmer friend asked her to write out for him an illuminated copy of the King's Speech.

It was proudly displayed on the Clark's wall where it was spotted by a Lieut Col Borrowman, the local Master of Horse, who called there when he was riding in a drag hunt.

By this time Rosalie was well again and had joined the staff of a private school started by Lady Drummond-Hay in the Carse of Gowrie.



The original painting for the illuminated Guide Promise now hangs in the headquarters of the Girl Guides Association (Scotland).

At Col Borrowman's suggestion, Rosalie was asked to produce a Roll of Honour for the 4th Prince of Wales' Own Gurkha Rifles. That kept her busy for a whole year and can be seen at the regiment's Memorial Gardens at Stoke Poges.

Rosalie is an honorary member of the regiment and still keeps in touch with them. It is her responsibility to keep the officers' memorial book in order.

For a time she lived in Dunkeld with her brother, working as a freelance illustrator. She also ran a gift shop.

Her other major non-Guiding Scottish commissions include Rolls of Honour for the City and County of

Perth and the ceremonial illuminated scrolls for honorary burghesses including one for former Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden.

At the same time she was deeply immersed in Guiding work, producing illustrations for the magazines as well as designs for badges, cards, stationery, stamps, County and City colours, banners, publicity material and special requests for important occasions — an endless list of highly-prized work.

It must be difficult for Rosalie to pick out Guiding work that has given her the most pleasure. She rates highly designing a birthday card for the Queen, programme covers for Princess Margaret and, of course, the illuminated Guide Promise that hangs in the Council Chamber at CHQ. The original painting now hangs in the Headquarters of the GGA (Scotland).

But, perhaps, the greatest thrill of all was seeing the Scroll she'd written to commemorate the opening of the World Bureau in 1985 hanging between the pictures of her hero and heroine — the World Chief Guide and B-P.

Her first triumph came when she was an 18-year-old Ranger attending a World Conference at Foxlease. Her design for the cover of *The Council Fire*, a magazine, was selected against international competition.

In 1959 Rosalie received the Oak Leaf for services to Guiding.

As a Brownie Trainer Rosalie visited Packs in every county in Scotland. 'I was the first Specialist (Crafts) Trainer in Scotland and was the first person to take a Brownie Pack on holiday in Perthshire,' said Rosalie.

As part of the Extension Branch, Rosalie ran a Brownie Pack and Guide Company — the 3rd Scone — for girls from the Glebe, a special school. She tells wonderful tales of how she used her handicraft skills to teach the Promise to children who couldn't speak.

She took them on Pack Holidays and taught them skills their own mothers couldn't impart. 'My own trouble helped me to help them.'

In 1964 Rosalie volunteered to help with a party of visiting disabled Danish girls. It was a kind gesture that was to bring her a lot of pain... and a new career.

On a walk through a park, one of the girls asked to go on a roundabout. Rosalie got on too and was pushing with her leg to make it revolve, when she felt 'a thud'. When she tried to get off, she couldn't move.

The local doctor diagnosed a sprain but her own doctor wasn't

satisfied. In fact Rosalie had torn a tendon.

The first two attempts to repair it were not successful and, finally, she went into hospital in Edinburgh for another — more serious — operation to repair the damage.

Lying there, immobile, Rosalie refused to just give in and that was when she wrote *Brownies Make Things*. The book was the first of



Rosalie's illuminated manuscripts are now in the Bodleian Library at Oxford.



many handcraft books, which are still immensely popular with girls and Guiders.

In the Sixties too she was badly hurt in a car crash. As ever she turned adversity into opportunity: trying to get back the use of her right arm with physiotherapy, she graduated from finger-painting to wood carving. And yet another skill was added to her quiverful of talents.

'I'd always liked whittling and I was blown if I was going to be crippled,' she insisted.

Sets of X-rays taken at the time revealed the onset of osteoarthritis but Rosalie says the remedy prescribed — eight aspirins a day — seems to have cured the condition. So that even when later she fell and broke her wrist in three places, it healed easily and did not affect her work.

Examples of her talents are prized by experts and leading academics. Over the years she has done a lot of work for the church of St Michael at the North Gate in Oxford, including an illuminated history.

Two examples of her illuminated scripts are kept at the Victoria and Albert Museum — *The Book of Ruth* and an *Alphabetum* showing letters of the alphabet dating from the 8th Century to modern times.

London University library houses her illuminated copy of the *Decalogue* (Ten Commandments).

Perhaps some of the finest examples of her work are now in Oxford's famous Bodleian Library.

Her brother helped her trace references to birds, animals, 'strange fellows', flowers and trees in Shakespeare's works, which she then illustrated with — according to the Librarian — 'all the wit and skill of a mediaeval illuminator'. The Librarian is also preserving wild flower sketches Rosalie did as a student in 1929.

Rosalie is a walking directory of the Girl Guide Movement. She remembers the great days of the Movement and has tales to tell about visiting royalty. Like the day when Princess Mary* decided to visit the kitchens after lunching at Netherurd to thank the cook — Rosalie was deputising — and the place was a mess. Dirty dishes were promptly hidden in the oven while Rosalie enjoyed a 'wee chat'.

Naturally Rosalie resumed her links with Guiding in Oxford when she returned to the city. She is President of West Oxford District and a County Vice-President. Rosalie enjoys the friendships she's made through the local branch of the Trefoil Guild.

Browsing through her souvenirs, we came across a World Cub badge and the insignia of a District Commissioner — for the Scouts. But that's another chapter of the Rosalie Brown story...

*Princess Mary was the daughter of King George V and Queen Mary and President of the GGA.

IN FOCUS

A WORKING WEEKEND

If the prospect of a weekend in peaceful surroundings, with good company — and a little hard work — appeals to you, why not join the Friends of Foxlease this Easter?

Volunteers may stay in Beaverbrook Lodge or, if they prefer to come with their families, it's possible to camp. The working part of the weekend involves specific projects around Foxlease House and the estate.

According to Alison Robson, one of the helpers last year: 'We spent some time down on the lake in boats, cleaning voracious weeds and having fingers nibbled by fish.'

Everyone helps out with catering which includes pub lunches, barbecues



A working weekend at Foxlease

and enormous 'come and get it' buffet salad lunches.

Interested? Then write to Alison Robson, 13 Sheen Court, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 2FQ, enclosing a SAE, or telephone: 091 271 5963.

OPEN DOOR

I want to share with you a prayer written by a Guider in one of my training sessions last autumn, in response to the challenge: 'Choose a picture and write a thought or prayer to go with it'.

She chose the picture of the little boy from, I think, July's *GUIDING* under the heading 'Wanted for Murder', introducing the Cold Chain Challenge, and this is what she wrote:

With my eyes I implore,
My starving plight not to ignore.

Give of yourselves, O world out there,
Show me that you really care.

Thank you, Lord, for each new day,
Give me a chance is all I pray.

COMING NEXT

IN GUIDING APRIL

Your Verdict:

Results of our TV violence survey

Guiding In Action:

Rangers help with Riding for the Disabled

100 Years Ago:

How women lived when Olave, Lady Baden-Powell was born

IN TODAY'S GUIDE APRIL

Hot Topics:

Adoption

Mouth watering recipes for outdoor cookery

Get Smart:

Fluorescent fashion

IN BROWNIE APRIL 6

Tap out messages in Morse code

All about ponies

APRIL 20

Learn about garden flowers



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PROGRAMME DIARY

FUTURE TRAININGS

PORTFOLIO

WADDOW:
March 31-April 2
FOXLEASE:
October 13-15

Portfolio is now established as one method of training within parts of both the independent voluntary and statutory sectors of the Youth Service. The GGA has piloted this as a method of helping some members gain a Training Licence Qualification, and will continue to explore the value of the approach with this, and other groups involved in undertaking training.

This weekend is aimed at County, Country and Region Programme and Training Advisers/Chairman, Trainers, Tutors and those working in a supervisory role in voluntary youth organisations or the statutory sector and will provide an opportunity to explore more closely the building of a 'Portfolio' over a weekend.

During the weekend you will find out about the 'starting from strengths' approach to training, to have experience of starting to build a 'Portfolio', to look at materials produced to support the approach, to discuss ways in which a 'Portfolio' approach can be developed in a variety of settings and to share the experience with trainers from other voluntary youth organisations and the statutory sector.

LIFE SAVING COURSE

FOXLEASE:
May 19-21
TRAINERS:
 V Morey
 S Mabbett
 J Boatman
 M Beaumont

Following the successful pilot course for the ASA/RLSS Life Saving Certificate,

a further course is to be run on the above dates. For further details see February's *GUIDING*. The cost will be £25 and candidates can apply for an Outdoor Bursary. Applications should be made no later than April 17, and should be accompanied by a large SAE, as well as the usual £8 deposit.

FIRST AID COURSE

WADDOW:
April 7-9
 (Renewal Course)
May 26-28
 (Standard Course)

Both courses will be run by the Lancashire branch of the British Red Cross Society.

RENEWAL COURSE

Guiders wishing to renew their British Red Cross Standard First Aid Certificate are invited to apply for this course, whether they originally gained their certificate on a GGA-based course or not.

Using the latest techniques and training materials, the Red Cross Instructors will provide a challenging weekend, leading to renewal on the Sunday.

The cost of the course will be £25 + VAT plus the usual residential fee for Waddow.

STANDARD COURSE

Have you ever thought that there must be an easier way of gaining the qualification necessary to take your unit away to camp than attending two hour lectures once a week for eight whole weeks? Well, at last there is! You can follow a four-day intensive course using the latest Red Cross films and take the examination before you go home. Successful candidates will receive the British Red Cross Standard

First Aid Certificate which is valid for three years, covers the GGA requirements and also the requirements of the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981, which means that holders can act as first aiders at work.

Applicants should consider applying for a CHQ Training Bursary and enquire about other help locally or from their employers.

The cost of this course will be £42 + VAT plus the usual residential fee for Waddow.

RANGER ADVISERS

WADDOW:
April 7-9
TRAINERS:
 W Goodhind
 C Rogers

A weekend for all Ranger Advisers to come together to examine their role in Rangering both now and in the future. This is an opportunity for you to ask for help with your job in Guiding; to find out how others organise theirs; to gather new ideas and to get away from the telephone for the weekend!

The next two years are going to be an exciting time for Rangering — exciting and challenging for all of us. Ranger Advisers are going to play a critical part in this — join us for this weekend so begin to make a positive move towards your part in it.

PLANNING FOR THE OUTDOORS

WADDOW:
June 30-July 2
TRAINERS:
 W Goodhind
 P Checketts

The Programme of all sections takes it for granted that Guiders will take their

girls outside the regular meeting place, for anything from going to the local park to a full-scale expedition. This involves getting permission, planning, liaising with parents and perhaps others, making sure that equipment is right and safety precautions are adequate.

If you feel that you don't know where to start, or if your last attempt didn't quite go according to plan, or it was such a success that you want to try something more demanding, come along and find out about all the practicalities you need to know. You may even get ideas for outings you never thought of!

WORKING THE PROGRAMME WITH YOUR UNIT

WADDOW:
April 28-30
 (Brownie and Guide Guiders)
September 8-10
 (Brownie, Guide and Ranger Guiders)
FOXLEASE:
September 8-10
 (Brownie Guiders)
September 15-17
 (Brownie and Guide Guiders)

Run out of ideas to introduce to your Brownies, Guides and Rangers? Having difficulty with some of the skills relating to the Programme?

Why not come to a Working The Programme With Your Unit? There will be an opportunity to try your hand at a large number of different activities with prepared notes and instructions for you to take away.

There will be lots of help for everyone and a chance to exchange skills, ideas and problems whatever your experience.

DISTRICT TEAM

FOXLEASE:

June 9-11

October 20-22

WADDOW:

May 12-14

June 16-18

These training sessions will concentrate on the District Team dealing with the benefits that can be gained from working together and looking at the support members of the District can give one another.

Help will be given in understanding how the Programme develops from Brownies to Guides and on to Rangers. The sessions will also look at how District events can be used to encourage self-programming at all levels. It is an ideal opportunity to get to know one another 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 of its own, why not invite a Ranger Guider of a Unit which serves your District?

HOLIDAY PERIOD

FOXLEASE:

August 8-17

Have you always wanted more time to explore when you visited Foxlease? Here is an opportunity to spend time walking, swimming, reading or just chatting with friends in a holiday atmosphere. You may come for a minimum of 24 hours or, if time allows, you can stay for the whole ten days. The holiday is open to any adult member of the Movement; there is also limited space for husbands or mothers.

FAMILY PERIOD

FOXLEASE:

May 26-29

Do you have difficulty leaving your family for a weekend training? Does your family wonder what you

get up to at a Training Weekend? Why not bring them to Foxlease to find out? Guiders with their families will be welcome over the Bank Holiday weekend. The mornings will be spent in training sessions while fathers look after the children, afternoons will be free for family outings and so on. Evening activities will be organised for everyone. Children 3-13 welcome.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FOXLEASE:

November 17-19

Does your Unit programme reflect the present technological age? Does the present speed of change worry

you? Have you ever wondered what happens when...?

Finding out and solving problems is fun... Science is all about discovering, using eyes, hands, ears and nose.

We use these senses already in our Programme, but do we use them to find out why something happens?

A camp gadget is a technological structure; a tree survey is a biological study; star gazing is the beginning of astronomy... would you like to find out more?

To apply for any of the trainings mentioned on this page, apply to the Guider-in-charge of the appropriate centre, enclosing an £8 deposit and an SAE.

FOXLEASE

Lyndhurst
Hants
SO43 7DE
Tel: (Lyndhurst) 042 128 2638

GLENBROOK

Barnford
Near Sheffield
S30 2AL
Tel: (Barnford) 0433 51567

WADDOW

Clitheroe
Lancs BB7 3LD

Tel: (Clitheroe) 0200 23186

BRONEIRION

Llandinam
Powys
SY17 5DE
Tel: (Caersws) 068 684 204

HAUTBOIS

Great Hautbois Road
Coltishall
Norwich
Norfolk
NR12 7JN
Tel: (Norwich) 0603 737357

LORNE

Craigavad
Co Down
Ulster
BT30 0BS
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RAINBOW GUIDERS YOU ASK...

We are still learning about Rainbow Guides and, as new Guiders come forward, they are asking questions — often very similar questions — so we hope we've provided you with some of the answers to questions you may have been asked.



Is there a ceremony for making a Promise — shouldn't there be?

At present there are no 'set' ceremonies in the Rainbow Guide Section, so each Unit can make up their own and maybe share them with others at training. One thing will be the same, when a Rainbow Guide is ready to make her Promise the whole Unit will say it with her.

Can we take in girls who will be five during the term?

The minimum starting age is the current statutory school starting age.

This varies in each Country of the United Kingdom. For further advice contact your own Country/Region Headquarters, or BGIFC Office at CHQ. The finishing age is seven with a maximum of seven-and-a-half years.

If there isn't room in the Brownie unit can we keep the Rainbows a little longer?

The moving-on age is seven but, if there are difficulties in finding room in the Brownies, you can keep a Rainbow until she is seven-and-a-half.

Our Brownie Packs are also full with long waiting lists. What chance will the Rainbows have of joining Brownies?

We are advised in the Starter Pack to make certain

that parents know that it isn't an automatic transfer from Rainbows to Brownies. To enable them to put their daughter's name on the Brownie list by supplying the name and address of the Guider and unit if they wish the girls to go on in the Movement... most will. This doesn't answer the problem of large units merely getting them on the waiting lists and the pressure of the numbers is something which needs addressing at the District meeting, but it isn't easy.

What colour tabards can we have for our Units?

Are there only red, yellow, blue or green tabards?

Tabards can be in any colour of the Rainbow giving seven colours to choose from. They are available from Association shops in red, yellow, green and blue. A unit should wear *all* the same colour, and even the binding on the tabard should match and not contrast. If a Unit buys fabric to make up themselves it should be hardwearing, plain and easily washable. A pattern can be purchased from Association outlets.



As the Promise badge has to be sewn on the tabard, how do we manage this as we keep the tabards at the end of the meetings? Will it be messy to keep sewing on badges?

We hear that many Units collect tabards in at the end of the meeting however, whether you do or not, a good system which is working well is to have two or three 'extra' tabards in the Unit, which do not have a badge sewn on to them. These can be worn

by new members before they make their Promise and are exchanged for one with a badge sewn on — centre top touching the binding at the neck — and the Rainbow Guide is given her badge to take home... maybe on a card or in some special way.

Can the Leaders wear tabards too?

Yes, but only in the meeting. It is a good overall and helps to create a feeling of unity.



Our District is having a Thinking Day Service in the church. Can we take Rainbows along?

It will be good to let everyone know that Rainbows have arrived. The District Commissioner will welcome their arrival but they should meet the others by the door. Rainbows are not permitted to march or take part in any parade (see Notices, February Guiding).

Can we invite the Rainbows to Brownie Revels or shall we arrange something else for them?

It would be a pity to spoil



the fun and thrills for the Brownie Revels by anticipating it ahead of time. Perhaps the District might decide to invite the Rainbows along for tea but do keep some surprises, so think carefully before doing so. Pack Holidays are definitely for Brownies!

Does a Rainbow make a salute?

Something also to wait for

until she becomes a Brownie, along with the left-hand shake.

What name do Rainbow Guide Leaders use?

Quite a range! People have been very inventive and clever but have all thought very carefully whether they enjoy being called the name across the local supermarket. Sun, Cloud, Star, Thunder and Lightning have been met at trainings and some Guiders have chosen colour names or flower names which are linked with colour, for example, Poppy or Bluebell.

If we divide our Unit up into groups for activities should we give them names?

Groups in the Rainbow Movement are very flexible, changing from week to week according to the activity, so naming groups would not be any use and too much like Brownie Sixes.

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BROWNIE GUIDERS

PROGRAMME PAGES

Brownies have always enjoyed playing games. Just for fun, try some of these 1920s' games out on your Pack of 1989.

MAGIC CLOAK

The Brownies move slowly about the room with their eyes shut. When Brown Owl says 'STOP', they kneel

two metres apart, with a cord (tied to two chairs) as a dividing line. A balloon is tossed up in the middle and each team has to pat it over the head of the opponents. A goal is scored each time that the balloon drops to the floor behind either line of players.

Everyone must remain

with a big square drawn on it. They run up in turns and make a house out of the square by drawing doors, windows and so on,



(you should decide beforehand what features the house ought to have). Each Brownie has two or three turns and may only draw one thing at a time.

WHAT'S MISSING?

Brown Owl puts a number of small objects on the floor. The Pack looks at them for a minute and then faces outwards in a circle. Brown Owl takes something away, and when she says 'WHAT'S MISSING?', the Pack jumps round and tries to see what has gone. The first person to see the missing object puts it back and takes another, and the game goes on as before.

THE RAINBOW

For this game, coloured discs are required. They can be painted on cardboard and hung over the Brownies' heads with string. The number of colours depends on the size of the Pack, but if there are enough Brownies a good selection is as follows: six of the colours of the rainbow — red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet, with brown, grey and white added.

The eight Brownies representing the colours stand at one end of the room in a row. The rest go as far away as they can and

stand in a single line, or if necessary, in two or three lines, facing the colours. Brown Owl calls out the name of a flower or bird or tree, or anything out-of-doors such as water, mud or chalk. The Brownies have to run to the disc which is the colour of the thing named by Brown Owl. Sometimes there may be a choice of colour, for instance, a robin would be red or brown. Either is right, but only the first to touch the disc wins. Touching the wrong colour loses a point.

In this relay race from 1929 cream tops were thought to do beautifully for pies, but today's Brownies may find yoghurt pots with a pebble in for weight more practical!

SIMPLE SIMON

The Sixers, each as Simple Simon, stand opposite the end of the room from their Six, facing them. Each Brownie has a 'pie' and each Six a book.

The first Brownie, balancing the book on her head with her 'pie' on it, walks up the room to her Simple Simon. Simple Simon asks her for a 'pie', the Brownie asks for a penny; Simple Simon not having one, she turns round and walks back to her Six, handing over the book to the next Brownie. If she drops the book or 'pie' going either way, she forfeits the rest of her turn, and Simple Simon runs and picks up her 'pie'. The Six whose Simple Simon has the fewest 'pies' at the end wins.

Guiders: Please cut out the Poster on Page 58 and display at your meeting place.



down wherever they happen to be and hide their eyes with their heads on their knees. Brown Owl covers someone with the magic cloak and the others then look and guess who it is.

BALLOON BLOWING

The players sit in two rows facing each other and about

seated throughout the games and the balloon must on no account be handled. When a balloon falls between the lines, the leader on whose side of the cord it falls tosses it up midway.

HOUSE BUILDING

Each Six has a large piece of paper in front of them

JUST HOW JUDGING DISTANCES

Being able to judge distances is a useful skill for anyone to acquire. By knowing your exact personal measurements you

can go a long way to making precise judgements. Take a tape measure and find out your own measurements:

	cms
breadth of thumb	_____
span of thumb and forefinger	_____
span of thumb and little finger	_____
wrist to elbow (also roughly length of foot)	_____
elbow to tip of forefinger (a cubit)	_____
middle of kneecap to ground	_____
a normal pace	_____
a long stride	_____

It is possible to judge distances in four ways:

SOUND

Sound travels at the rate of 365 yds — that's 333m — per second (easy to

remember because it is the same number as there are days in a year). This is slower than the speed of light. That is why you hear

a clap of thunder *after* you see the flash of lightning, or why, from a distance, you only *hear* a cricket ball being hit a split second after you have *seen* it being hit. B-P was able to use this knowledge during the Boer War. On seeing a gun fired in the distance he would count the number of seconds it took for the sound of the gun to reach him. Quick calculation would tell him how far away the enemy post was sited, for example:

Speed of sound
(365 yds per sec) 365

No of secs sound took
to reach him x5

distance between B-P
and the gun 1825 yds

(ie just over a mile). Or, for those who think metric, it's $333 \times 5 = 1,665$ metres.

TIMING

Longer walking distances can be calculated by timing yourself. If you know that you walk at an average of three miles per hour and you have been walking for two-and-a-half hours, you know you have probably covered about seven-and-a-half miles. Of course, you must always remember to allow for time taken for rests.

MEASUREMENT

Once you know the length of your normal walking pace or your own stride, it is possible to measure short distances quite accurately. Try judging the length of the Guide hall, the car park or a playground and then measure them to see how accurate your judgement is. Later try to judge greater

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Yours Gratefully *J. Mansfield*

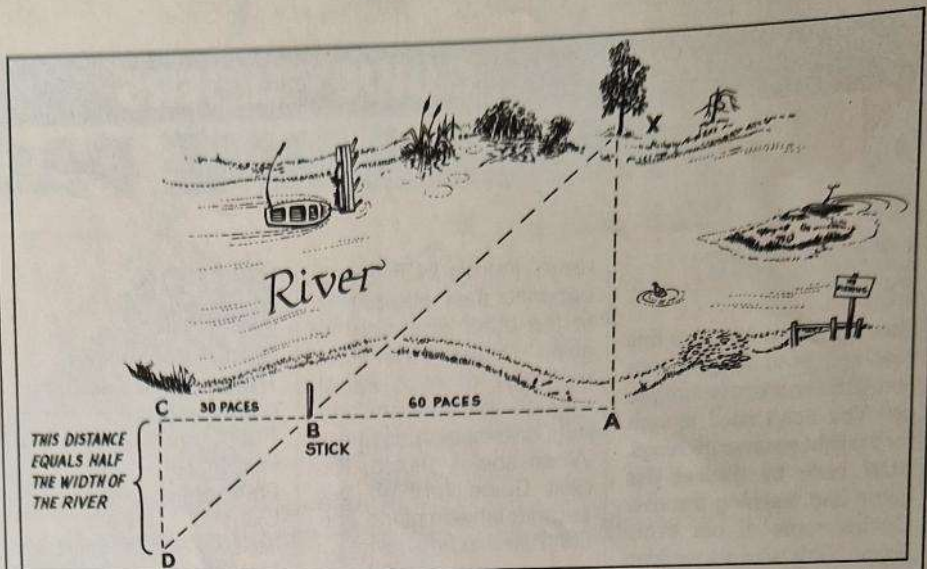
Joe Mansfield, Group Scout Leader
1st Shaftesbury Scout Group

distances: the distances from the Guide hall to the nearest telephone kiosk, for example.

By using your measured pace it is possible to judge the distance from one side of a river bank to the other. (Fig 1). Find a landmark (X) opposite you (A) on the bank on the other side: a tree, or a large rock is ideal. Walk along your side of the bank for a certain number of paces, let's say 60. Put in a stick at this point (B). Walk a further 30 paces (half the original number again) in the same direction and stop (C). Now start walking back inland, counting your paces as you go. Keep walking until, looking back, the stick at B and the landmark on the other side are in a straight line (D). The number of paces between C and D gives you half the distance from A to X.

SIGHT

Try out some of these average distances for yourself and adjust them accord-



ing to your own eyesight:

- 50 yds (approx 45m)**
mouth and eyes of a person can be clearly seen
- 100 yds (approx 90m)**
eyes appear as dots
- 200 yds (approx 180m)**
buttons and jewellery can still be seen
- 300 yds (approx 275m)**
face can be seen
- 400 yds (approx 365m)**
movement of legs can be seen

500 yds (approx 460m)

colours of clothing can be seen.

To judge the distance of someone farther away than 500 yds, pick out a point which is halfway between you and the figure, estimate that distance and double it.

When judging distances by sight it is important to consider the following points as they may affect your judgement:

Objects appear nearer when:

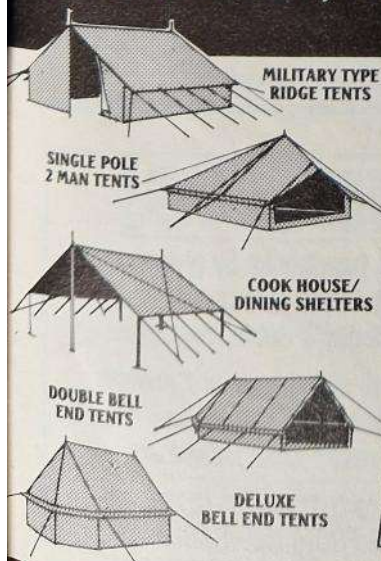
- the light is bright and is shining on the object
- you are looking across water or snow
- you are looking up or downhill.

Objects appear further away when:

- they are in the shade
- they are across a valley
- the background is the same colour
- you are lying down or kneeling
- they are in a heat haze

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GUIDE GUIDERS PROGRAMME PAGES

LABEL THE TENT

Planning to go to camp this year and need to get some tent-pitching learnt before you go? You don't need to wait for the light summer evenings. Start early by playing this game and teaching the new Guides some of our camp jargon. Girls who are working for their Green Trefoils will find this game of particular help. If you have a Young Leader, perhaps she would be interested in making this into a permanent piece of Company equipment by mounting Patrol sets on to card and covering them with self-adhesive film.

Preparation: Photocopy the unlabelled tent diagram enough times for two copies per Patrol. Do the same with the strip of labels. Cut the strips into individual labels and put them into envelopes to keep each set separate. Alternatively get Patrols to cut them up just before you are about to play. Write in the 'labels' on half of the tent diagrams — these will be used as check sheets at the end of the game.

How to play: Place one tent diagram and a set of labels per Patrol at one end of the

room. Patrols sit in a line opposite their equipment at the other end. On the given signal the first members of each Patrol runs to the diagram and puts one label in position. When she is seated, the next Guide runs to put another label in place. The first Patrol to finish wins.

VARIATION 1

Give each Patrol a dice. Only when they throw a one or a six may they run and put a label in place.

VARIATION 2

Use this as a Patrol game: Guides can time each other to see how quickly they can complete the diagram.

FOLLOW UP

When you have played the game take the opportunity to look at a real ridge tent with the whole Company. Get it out of its bag, pass round the different-sized pegs, show Guides how to tie the guy lines, talk about brailing and rolling back tent doors, explain about the ventilator and the dolly. Take the opportunity to talk about how to clean pegs, where to keep the mallet... in fact, all those things that often get forgotten when you're all out on the field actually pitching the tent.

TREFOIL TRACK RECORD

This activity is relevant for Guides working on different Trefoil syllabuses as follows:

Pre-Promise Challenge
Clause 1, Clause 3

Yellow Trefoil Preparation
for when she starts Green Trefoil

Green Trefoil Clause 3biii
Red Trefoil Consolidation
of skills learnt for Green Trefoil

The GGA poster, *How to Pitch A Ridge Tent* is available from GGA shops, the GGA Trading Services and outlets. It's a useful aid in any demonstration on the ins and outs of tent-pitching.

GUIDER'S KEY

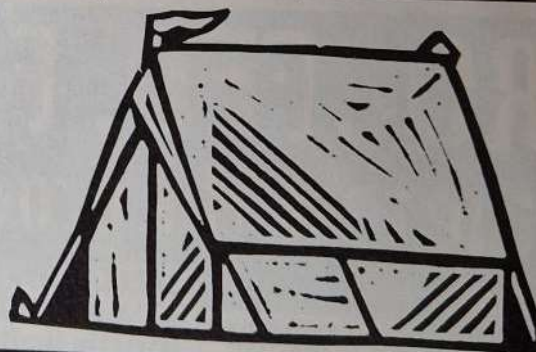
1. Seams
2. Ridge pole (hidden by canvas)

3. Ventilator
4. Dolly
5. Upright Pole
6. Tent Door (rolled back)
7. Brailing tape
8. Sod cloth
9. Large peg
10. Mallet
11. Brailing pegs
12. Medium pegs
13. Runners
14. Wall of tent
15. Roof of tent
16. Main guys

NOTE:

The correct answers — that is, the labels corresponding to the numbers on the diagram — are given in the **Guider's Key** above and are for the Guider's reference only.

Guiders: Please cut out the Poster on Page 58 and display at your meeting place.



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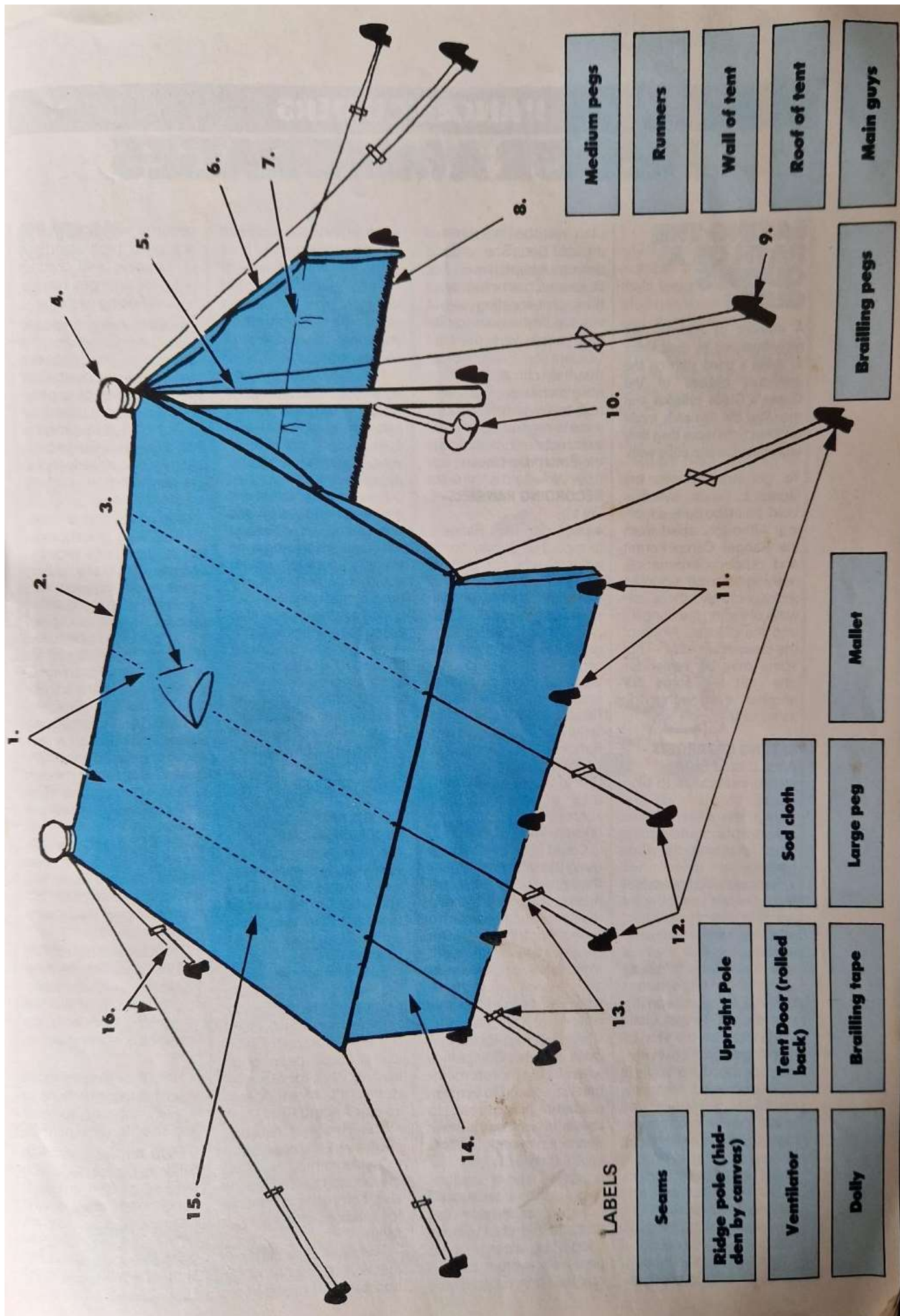
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GUIDERS!

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RANGER GUIDERS PROGRAMME PAGES

EASING THE PATH OF A QUEEN'S GUIDE

A number of Rangers are recommended by their Units to make a good start on the individual clauses of the Queen's Guide syllabus and then find the demands made on them to be more than they anticipated or can cope with.

To go straight into the Queen's Guide syllabus 'cold' could be quite daunting. Although, apart from the Ranger Camp Permit and outdoor experience, nothing can be counted retrospectively, there are ways of easing the Rangers into the clauses. None of the clauses are easy — but some may be easier for one girl — some for another, even within the same Unit.

SETTING UP TARGETS

Aims should be to:

- Help individuals to plan ahead.
- Help the Unit to take account of individual goals when planning the Programme.

Rangers who have come from Guides will now be used to setting up short and long term targets, and working towards them. It may be worth retaining something of this nature in the Unit. Rangers working towards the Ranger Challenge get into the way of doing this — but not everyone does the Challenge. If goals are stated, then they can be taken into account when the Programme is discussed. For example, a Ranger wanting to do her Camp Permit needs to plan ahead, so that there are sufficient members of the Unit available to support her.

Essentially the Queen's Guide candidate needs to

plan over the time remaining to her. She should discuss her plan with her Division Commissioner at their joint meeting — but she would be wise to discuss it first with the Unit Guiders or Executive so that they can be sure that other members will be available to assist, for example, if she is organising a 'team' to complete something for the Enterprise clause.

RECORDING RANGERS

Try to:

- Help individual Rangers to record what they do.
- Encourage the Unit to tell others in the District/Division/County what they have been doing.

There are a lot of suggestions within the notes on the Queen's Guide syllabus about recording/presenting the material. It is not necessary for anyone to 'write a book or two' as one Ranger put it. We need to encourage members of the Unit to record events, minutes of meetings and accounts in methodical but relevant ways.

Could Unit members try using tape recordings, photographs, sketches, computer programmes or video tape recordings to record events in the Unit? Not only minuted meetings but expeditions, social events and service projects as well, can be handled this way.

Do you take the Unit Log Book to Guide Companies when you go on a membership drive? Do you use dramatic productions to share events with other Rangers, Young Leaders or Guiders? Do you use puppets (hand or shadow) to put across information? You may need to point out that the photographs should be clear — help could come from a good amateur or professional

photographer working with Rangers towards the Photographer's Certificate, or from a photographer on the local newspaper who might be persuaded to stay longer next time he or she visits the Unit.

You may need to make sure that the writing is legible — help with printing and advice on the use of colour could come from your Arts Adviser, a graphic designer or a calligrapher.

It is important that the whole account is clear and uncluttered. Try looking at effective advertising one evening, perhaps as an emergency activity if the programme goes awry.

You are the person who will set the acceptable standards — which then rub off on the girls, as they prepare and present their own work. Do it gently so that you don't kill their enthusiasm.

Find all that is good first and praise it. Then suggest ways of improving what is only second rate.

SKILFUL AND SUCCESSFUL

There is a stage when 'dabbling' with new ideas and activities is fun — but it is also fun to become really good at something — to be skilful, to be successful.

Several clauses require the application of skills which could be learnt prior to the recommendation and some of the Ranger Certificates could be a good lead into this, for example, Homecraft, Motor Mechanic or Art and Craft.

The Ranger Challenge offers a very real opportunity to 'try something new' and to work alongside someone else, before trying it alone, for example, decorating a room.

The Enterprise clause is the very obvious one where an interested group might

become very involved in achieving high standards of camping and outdoor skills, for example, navigation, canoeing or riding.

Encouraging Rangers to gain their Camp Permits as soon as they can, not only opens up possibilities for all manner of expeditions totally organised by the Rangers, it also means that a Queen's Guide candidate *does* already 'hold' the permit before starting on the clause.

Remember that it must be held as a prerequisite for the Enterprise expedition, as must any other qualification required, for example, boating qualifications. By encouraging the whole Unit to become skilful in those areas in which they are interested, you may find that a candidate is not disappointed by having to do something which she sees as a less exciting Enterprise, simply because she hasn't enough skilled companions. The really 'exceptional' girl will accept that part of her planning must include assessing the ability of the rest of the group — but that doesn't really allay her own feelings of disappointment.

The clauses do require that the candidate can communicate — with the assessor, those with whom she is working and with the team she is working alongside.

Help the Rangers to tell you what they are doing by actively listening to them and sharing with them.

Help for the Service to Guiding clause — which requires a lot of communication with groups with whom a Ranger may not be in contact — may come via the Young Leaders file. Is there a spare one in the Unit Library?

YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAMME PAGES

IN TRAY

Question: Why do I have to wait until I'm 16 to start Part 2 of the Young Leader Scheme?

Answer: It does not say that you cannot 'start' Part 2 before you're 16. What it does say is that you cannot be assessed for Part 2 until you have reached your 16th birthday.

Of course, if you start working with a Brownie Pack or Guide Company the day after your 15th birthday, you will take a full and active part in their programme and this is how it should be. You will do many of the things that form the clauses of Part 2 and there is no reason why you shouldn't.

But the first, probably even the second time, you do these things, for example: with the help of your own equipment plan and carry out a practical activity designed to interest Brownies or Guides out-of-doors, they are not going to be done to the very best standards which you can achieve. You will still be in a learning situation yourself, trying out new ideas and presenting them in a different way. For this particular clause, what about trying them out under different weather conditions? It is

often said that 'anyone can be a fine weather camper', however, as Young Leader, you should be able to make enjoying being out doors *first class* for every Brownie and Guide... whatever the weather conditions.

Any of the clauses which involve the use of equipment will need practice and working out, whether it is tuning a Guide's guitar, knowing exactly how a Trangia works or how many pairs of scissors are needed for cutting out.

This practice time, the trying out of ideas and the learning of the leadership lessons from these experiences, is the year before you are 16. Then you will still need to try them out several times so you may not in fact be ready to be assessed until you are 17.

When you feel that you are confident, competent and mature enough in outlook to tackle the clause from a leadership point of view then you are ready to be assessed. You will find your 15th year will have long since passed — with only time for a couple of trial runs on each clause if you are lucky.

Clauses such as 4(a) and (b) are definitely not one-off. They should be

started as soon as you become a Young Leader, as you will need to have a large and varied collection of prayers, stories, quotations, songs and games before you can be assessed.

So, 'Good Luck' with Part 2, enjoy your trial runs and know that when you come to be assessed after your 16th birthday that you have achieved the highest standard of which you are capable.

For example, when you say 'Three-Blue', girls with number three will run to their team chair with the blue bottle, take the bottle and place it on their opposite team chair holding the green bottle. The blue bottle is left there, the green bottle is picked up and taken to the first chair, then they run back to their own places and sit down.

Have a TRIAL RUN before you start scoring!

This is a good game



HAVE YOU TRIED?

QUICK CHANGE — AN ACTIVE TEAM GAME

Equipment needed for each team: two polythene bottles of different colours, for example, blue and green. (Bean bags might also be used). Two chairs, chalk or rope circles.

What to do: Have girls sitting on the floor in their teams in files in the middle of the hall with one chair (or circle) some distance in front of each team and the other chair as far behind the teams as your hall will allow. On the front chairs put blue polythene bottles and on the rear chairs the green bottles.

Number the teams, giving two numbers to one person if numbers are not equal. Explain that you will call out a number and a colour.

because everyone has to be alert watching to see which colour is at which end and listening for their own number. Having girls seated makes it easier to see who gets back first.

Would you ask the team leaders to keep their own score or would you have someone beside you writing it down?

Could Brownies play this, or would they get too confused?

Preparing the equipment: Consult with your Guider and see if Guides working on the Pre-Promise Challenge (Service to others) might be asked to bring two polythene bottles, either washing-up liquid or large shampoo bottles are suitable. These can be scoured with wire-wool which gives a good holding surface before you paint them the required colours.



TRAINING CALENDAR 1989

WADDOW

MARCH

- 17-19 1 Prospective Campfire Leaders, Music in the Pack
2 Science and Technology
23-27 Duke of Edinburgh
23-27 Hilite on Patrols
31- P&T
April 2 Advisers

APRIL

- 7-9 1 British Red Cross Renewal
2 Ranger Advisers
14-16 1 Waddow Singing Circle
2 Bradford East Division
21-23 1 North Tyneside
2 Walking/Local History for Trefoil Guild Members
28-30 Working the Programme with Your Unit

MAY

- 5-7 North Yorkshire North East
12-14 District team
19-21 Birmingham
26-28 British Red Cross

JUNE

- 2-4 1 Humberside North
2 International Advisers
9-11 Friends of Waddow
16-18 District team
23-25 1 Music Consultants
2 Guide Guiders and Ranger Guiders
30- 1 International Education
July 2 2 Planning to Go Out

JULY

- 7-9 1 Management

- for Commissioners
2 Rainbow Guiders
14-16 'New Interest' for Adult Leaders
20-27 Holiday Week

AUGUST

- 3-10 Walking at Waddow
17-30 Holiday Weeks

SEPTEMBER

- 2-4 Staff Reunion
8-10 Working the Programme with Your Unit
15-17 Cumbria South
22-24 Berkshire
29- Oct 1 West Yorkshire North

OCTOBER

- 6-8 North West England
13-15 North Yorkshire West
20-22 Sefton
27-29 Manchester

NOVEMBER

- 3-5 Junior Council
10-12 1 Tutors Weekend
2 Camp and Pack Holiday Advisers
14-16 1 'New Interest' for

- Adult Leaders
2 Experienced Guiders (5+ years)
17-19 Clwyd
24-26 1 'New Interest' for Adult Leaders
2 Experienced Guiders (5+ years)

DECEMBER

- 1-3 Prospective Trainers
8-10 Arts Advisers

FOXLEASE

MARCH

- 17-19 Leicestershire
23-27 Hilite on Patrols
31- Working the Programme with Your Unit
April 2

APRIL

- 7-9 Hampshire West
14-16 Kent Weald
21-23 London Over the Border
28- South West England
May 1

MAY

- 5-7 District Team
12-14 Avon North
19-21 Trainers and Advisers
19-21 Life Saving Course
26-29 Family Period

JUNE

- 2-4 Working the Programme with Your Unit (Brownie and Guide Guiders)
9-11 District Team
16-18 Foxlease Singing Circle
22-27 Friends of Foxlease Surrey East
30- July 2

JULY

- 7-9 Middlesex North West
15-22 BGIFC
26- Summer School
Aug 5

AUGUST

- 8-17 Holiday Period
21-22 WAGGGS
25-29 Trefoil Guild Walking

SEPTEMBER

- 1-3 1 Management for Commissioners
2 Rainbow Guiders
8-10 1 Community Development
2 Working the Programme with Your Unit (Brownie Guiders)
15-17 Working the Programme with Your Unit (Brownie and Guide Guiders)

- 22-24 London North East

- 29- Oct 1 Midlands

OCTOBER

- 6-8 Prospective Trainers
13-15 P & T Advisers
20-22 District Team
27-29 London and South East England
3-5 Hampshire North

NOVEMBER

- 10-12 1 'New Interest' for Adult Leaders
2 Experienced Guiders (5+ years)
17-19 1 Science and Technology
2 Commissioners
24-26 Warwickshire

DECEMBER

- 1-3 Partnership

GLENBROOK

MARCH

- 31- Conservation/
April 2 Ecology

MAY

- 12-14 Trefoil Guild Walking/
Natural History

JUNE

- 23-25 1 Canoeing
2 Putting Over the Out-of- Doors

JULY

- 7-9 Caving/
Climbing

SEPTEMBER

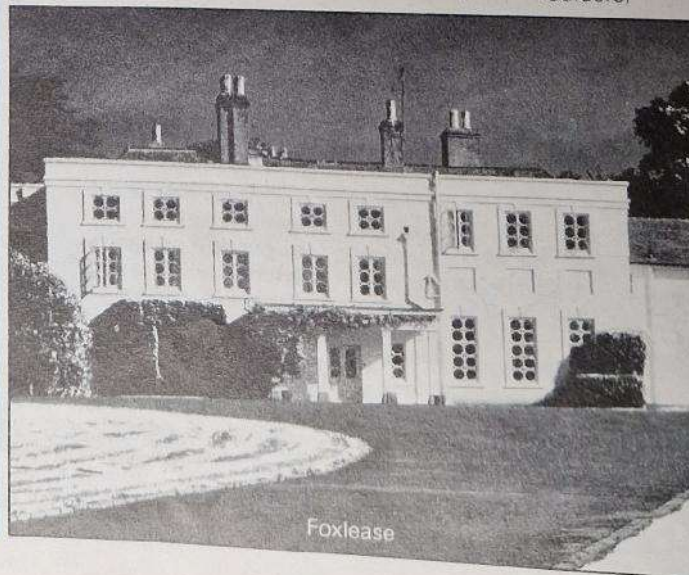
- 29- Canoeing/
Oct 1 Climbing/
Caving

OCTOBER

- 20-22 Young Leaders, their Guiders and Advisers

NOVEMBER

- 10-12 Advanced Walking Safely



Foxlease

COPING WITH... PR TRAINING

A recent survey and report on public relations revealed that many Counties and Regions lacked PR training. Yet PR is widely recognised as the most effective way of getting a message across or 'selling' a product.

It was for this reason that Middlesex North-West decided to organise a public relations workshop. The event was such a success that it could well be used as a blueprint for any Country/Region wishing to do the same.

Dawn Palmer, PRA for Middlesex North-West, was instrumental in setting up the workshop. I am sure more Guiders would take on the role of PR Adviser if they had this training, she said. 'It's unfair to ask them to do the task without it.'

The first thing the Middlesex North-West PR team — made up of representatives from each Division — decided was that the workshop should be conducted by top consultants with absolutely no Guiding connections. This way they would get the most objective advice possible.

The workshop was divided into four sections — Window Design and Display, Photographic Display, Speaking with Confidence and Press — how to get maximum publicity.

The first of these — window displays — was 'inspiring' said Dawn. The secret, she confided, 'of good window displays is not to crowd the windows with too many items. Always use a good variety of items including leaflets and booklets and use more than one example of an item, if it would give a better balance to the display.'

Dawn also pointed out that the best shape for a window display is triangular

— this is because the onlooker's attention will automatically be drawn to the centre of the display.

Photographic display is somewhat different. This section was led by consultants from Marler-Haley (a company which manufactures display boards). The basic idea is that the displays should be sufficiently eye-catching to catch a passerby's attention and make him or her want to find out more.

Dawn was quite surprised to discover that it is quite acceptable in PR displays to mix photos, posters and booklets. The use of spray-mount — an adhesive produced by Scotch which allows for repositioning — has, Dawn explained, 'revolutionised our approach to displays — you can change the position of photographs without damaging anything.' As much of the display material used by Country/Regions is borrowed from Members, this is obviously an advantage.

It's also possible to make displays three dimensional by adding 'micro-dash' — this is a 'velcro' type material bought in strips which can be attached to the back of display items, such as photographs, enabling them to be directly attached on to display boards. This is a simple effect but adds to the initial impact.

Speaking in public is never easy — even the most practised can occasionally 'dry' — but the voice presentation exercises used at the workshop were — according to Dawn — invaluable. 'We all enjoyed making fools of ourselves with the special facial exercises for relaxation,' she said. 'But we also learned how important varying the tone of your voice is — it stops the audience from going to sleep for a start.'

Finally, and perhaps most importantly in terms of reaching the highest potential audience, was the section devoted to getting good media coverage.

The News Editor of the local paper spoke to the participants about his role and the problems of organising reporters and photographers, keeping to timetables and deadlines, yet still being able to follow up any story which may suddenly arise.

The speaker made it clear that, although he liked receiving neatly typed double spaced reports, it is the time factor which concerns him more — old news is no news. At *GUIDING* we have the same problem — while we love hearing what you did during the summer, if we don't receive your report within two months of the event it's very doubtful if we will be able to use it, as we are already working two to three months ahead — making the material at least six months old before it appears.

As with any magazine or newspaper, giving plenty of notice before an event — by telephone if necessary, but preferably by letter — is vital.

The News Editor said that he should be warned about a month in advance with a reminder nearer the date. Background information is also useful.

The participants were then split into Divisions and asked to discuss a list of reports which might be forwarded to the Press. The News Editor went to each group in turn to say which stories he would consider printing.

The message he was trying to get across was that what to 'Guiders in the field' may be a routine event could sometimes be of interest to the general

public. A Brownie taking her First Aid badge or a Guide taking her Crime Prevention badge might offer good photo opportunities, for instance.

Something to avoid when setting up a photograph is a line of people giving or receiving a cheque — the fundraising events held to collect the money may have been exciting, but cheque presentations are *not*. Instead send a photo of one of the girls in action — knitting squares for a blanket, putting on fancy dress, shopping for an elderly neighbour... whatever they did to raise the money. A picture like that has far more chance of being published and is good PR for the Movement.

On the Association's magazines we like reports typed in double spacing if at all possible because it reduces the chances of an error creeping in. But if you don't have access to a typewriter don't worry — just write clearly and make sure that *all* names are written in block capitals. Don't be offended if your report is re-written in any way — this is no judgement on your ability, just an attempt to maintain a sense of continuity of style throughout the magazine.

Photographs too should be of good quality — colour or black and white — but not with vast expanses of floor in front of the subject or sky above. It's the people in the picture in whom we are interested so let's see some faces.

Dawn is adamant that the workshop was a success — at a recent County Day each Division presented a photographic display. The quality was excellent but then, as Dawn says: 'It's easy when you know how!'

In her 70th year, Janet Meikle walked from coast to coast across 200 miles of Scotland's most demanding terrain carrying her tent, sleeping bag and rations in a backpack — for pleasure.

Although she travelled alone, she was one of 250 hardy types taking part in the Ultimate Challenge, an annual 15-day event sponsored by the Glasgow-based magazine, *The Great Outdoors*, and Ultimate Equipment Limited.

Janet, who is Honorary Vice President of Fife Girl Guides, was making her fourth successive trek as part of the Ultimate Challenge. She took different routes each time, but completed them all within the maximum time limit of 15 days.

As a former Guide Diploma Trainer, she believes Guide Guiders and Ranger Guiders would benefit from the experience because of the high standards of preparation required and detailed planning and caring by the organisers.

'I've done it each year as a holiday and travel alone, because I have to go at my own pace. I'm certainly not the oldest person they've accepted,'

JANET'S LONG WALK

she said modestly.

The event is always held in May and up to four people can travel together. Applicants, aged over 18, should apply by September of the previous year, but only 250 are accepted and usually many more apply.

After acceptance, a detailed plan on a route sheet must be submitted. It must include alternatives for foul weather and points from which the walkers can telephone the Finish Control in Montrose, which is manned throughout the 15 days.

Suitably experienced experts check the routes and may advise or comment on them — relating them to the

experience of the walker.

The starting point must be on the West Coast between Loch Torridon and Oban and the finish on the East Coast between Peterhead and Arbroath. Walkers can take two classes of route, low level or high level. The latter includes at least 12 Munros, mountains over 3,000 feet, and/or Corbetts, mountains over 2,500 feet.

Janet remembers that after she had spent an entire day trekking alone, she rounded a corner in Glen Feshie and found a bothy (mountain hut) with welcoming smoke rising from the chimney.

Inside, she found a group of other walkers, all of whom were there by chance on their own planned routes.

'We had the Challenge in common and I was to find that this spontaneous friendliness was what made the main difference for me between the Challenge walk and independent ones.'

There is a £7 fee for the event and applications should be made to the Event Co-ordinator, Rosemarie Evans, 12 Princes Crescent North, Dollar, Clackmannanshire, FK14 7BX.

GGFF

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

From the end of January to the beginning of June each year, when the Girl Guides Friendship Fund does not run a specific appeal, all donations received are put into the Disasters Fund.

This is a reserve which is maintained so that when a disaster occurs, money can be sent to the stricken area without delay. An appeal is then made to raise funds to replace the amount which has been sent.

The first donation from the Disasters Fund was made back in 1965 to help Guides in Fiji replace Guiding property lost through flooding. Since then, many countries have benefited from the Fund.

Flooding has been a major cause of disaster in many Guiding countries including Australia, Hong Kong, Pakistan and Argentina. The World Centre, Sangam, in India, was no exception, when its boundary wall was washed away by flood water.

48 The Disasters Fund was able to help

out in all these cases.

Earthquakes, too, have caused major damage and loss of life in countries like Peru, Mexico, Guatemala and the Solomon Islands. In some parts of the world, hurricanes and cyclones are a constant hazard. Dominica in the West Indies was flattened by hurricanes in 1979 and 1981, which completely destroyed the banana plantations, the islanders' main source of income. More recently, Hurricane Gilbert caused havoc in Jamaica, with serious damage to the Girl Guide Headquarters.

Sometimes, it is illness which strikes. A number of years ago, a new strain of cholera broke out in Pakistan. The GGFF instantly responded to the Save the Children appeal for money to purchase supplies of the new type of drug needed to combat the epidemic.

It is, of course, essential that relief reaches the people who need it; anyone donating to the Disasters Fund can rest assured that the money is correctly used — in most cases the funds are directly channelled through the local Guide Association.

Money can be sent at any time for the Disasters Fund. Over the last 25 years, since the GGFF was founded,

over £15,000 has been given to the victims of disaster. But the Fund can only be as effective as you make it — can they count on your support?

WORLD NEWS

A BONUS FOR PAX LODGE

Construction work is well underway at Pax Lodge — and two new rooms have been named.

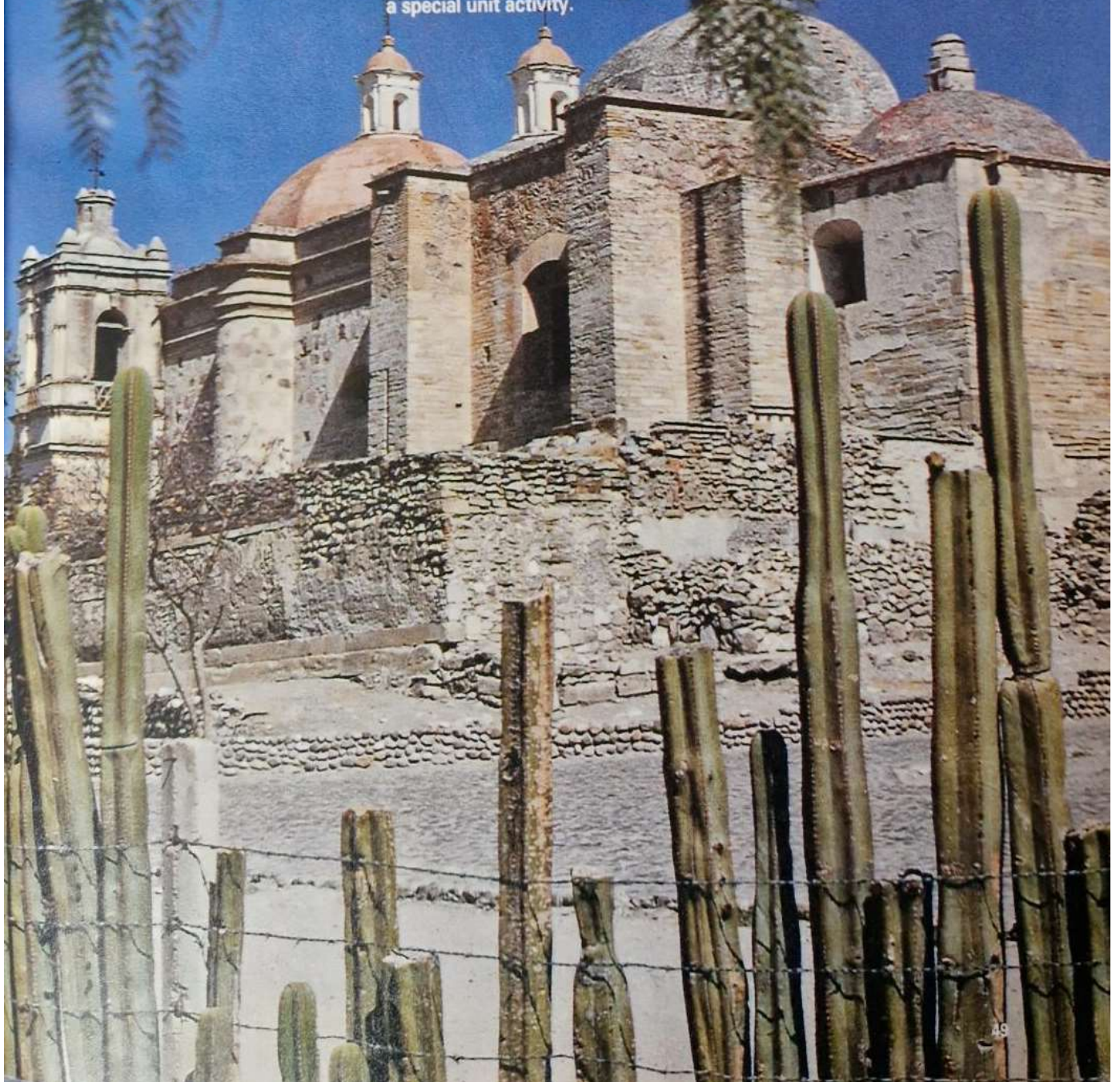
Some time ago, Midlands Region began a fundraising campaign for a room. The sum of £20,000 was raised — £5,000 more than expected — enough to finance the furnishing of the Midlands room.

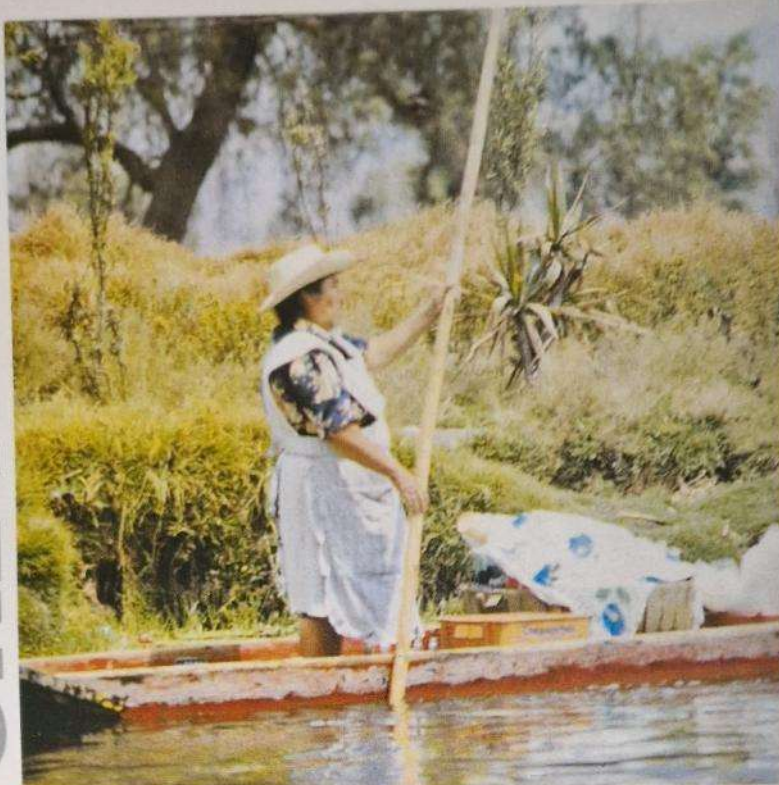
The other room recently named was the dining room. This has been generously donated by Shaika Fatima of Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates to honour her son Shaik Abdullah. Shaika Fatima is an enthusiastic and active supporter of Guiding, not only in the UAE but also at international level.

MEXICO

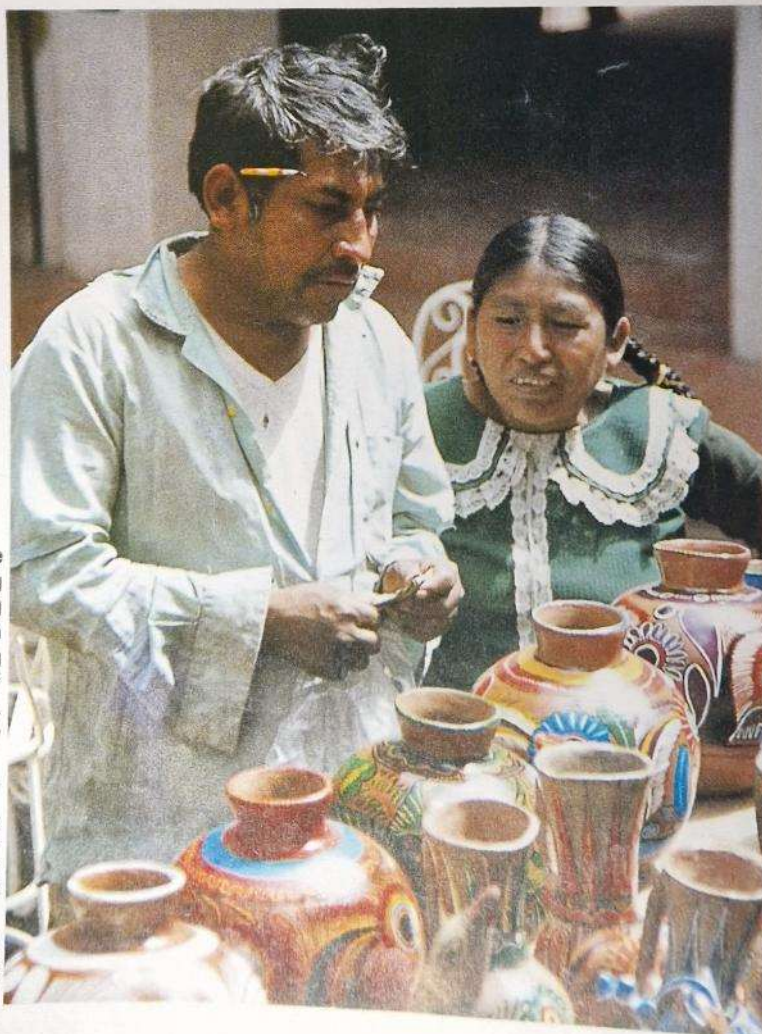
LEARNING THE MEXICAN WAY OF LIFE

Mexico is a very worthwhile country to focus on. It offers a lot of scope for learning about International Guiding and for completing clauses of Journeys, Trefoils and Interest badges. It is unlikely to feature on the school syllabus. So, while you may have to work harder to impart information and iron out misconceptions, there will be a freshness about the topic which will make it a special unit activity.





BARBARA LANGHORNE



BARBARA LANGHORNE

▲ A favourite Sunday outing — gliding through the floating gardens of Xochimilco, Mexico City

◀ Mitla, near Oaxaca, surrounded by a hedge of cacti

► Colourful pottery at a market stall

MEXICO

Because Mexico is firmly on the tourist trail, there is no shortage of guide books and glossy picture books. More children's books are available now and Mexican food is becoming increasingly popular. A very real advantage for Guides is that Mexico is the home of Our Cabaña (see *GUIDING* November, 1988) which gives it a special place in our Movement.

A Mexican evening or project can become a 'visit' to Our Cabaña. Once one is enjoyed, it could be the start of a series of 'visits' to all four World Centres.

The articles in *BROWNIE* (March); and *TODAY'S GUIDE* (April) give some background information and then concentrate on aspects of Mexico which Brownies and Guides could use for badgework. At the end is a list of suggested activities which fit in with the Brownie Friendship badge and with Guide Trefoil work and the International Patrol Pennant. Here are some practical ideas to help you keep one step ahead.

LOCATION

Ask the girls what they associate with Mexico and they will probably come up with cacti, sun-hats, ponchos, chilli con carne and the World Cup. A few older ones may mention the Aztecs (the Incas were in Peru). Not a bad start: the cacti and the clothes suggest it is hot and dry, which is a fair summary of most of Mexico's climate. Chillies are an essential ingredient of Mexican food — they have over 140 different varieties to choose from. The World Cup mascot was a green chilli in a sun-hat.

The Aztecs ruled a great empire centred on Tenochtitlan, forerunner of Mexico City. They were conquered by the Spanish under Cortes, who reached the capital in November, 1519. When looking for library books on Mexico, it is also worth looking in the sections that have material on Aztecs; the Spanish conquest of the Americas and about volcanoes and earthquakes — both of which are, sadly, aspects of Mexican life.

Mexico lies immediately south of the United States. It is often confused with the American state of New Mexico. Before the war of 1846-48 between Mexico and the United States, the states of Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and California were part of the country of Mexico.

It is said that when Cortes returned to Spain and was asked to describe

what Mexico was like to the King, he crumpled up a piece of paper and threw it down. Mexico is very mountainous, and many of the mountains are volcanoes.

To make life easier (or more confusing) all the mountain ranges are called the Sierra Madre — and these are named in the *Cabaña Song* in GGA books and on tapes. The second step in a project on Mexico could be to learn the song and see what it has to say both in the English and Spanish versions about Mexico and Nuestra Cabaña. The recent article in *GUIDING* will add the local colour of a real visit.

THE FLAG

Drawing flags always seems to appeal. A Six or Patrol can make one large enough to be hoisted on a pole made of canes or drinking straws. At the centre of the green, white and red stripes is the emblem of an eagle-like bird on a cactus with a snake in its beak and talons.

The drawing will tax budding artists, but it is worth the effort because the centrepiece is based on an Aztec legend on the founding of Tenochtitlan, now the site of Mexico City. The story is given in *BROWNIE* and Brownies and Guides could tell it with the flag as their visual aid for either Brownie or Guide Friendship badges.

DAILY LIFE

Our Cabaña is at Cuernavaca (City of Eternal Spring), 53 miles from Mexico City. The capital, 2,250 metres above sea level, is the world's fastest-growing metropolis with more than 18 million people.

The air is so polluted that the city suffers from almost permanent smog — in fact, this year the children are having longer Christmas holidays to encourage parents to take them out of the choking atmosphere. Doctors blame 70,000 deaths a year on pollution-related illnesses. Most of the pollution comes from nearly three million vehicle exhausts and Mexico City is probably plagued with the worst traffic jams in the world. There is an underground train system but that's overcrowded, too. Guides may be amused to hear that in the rush hour there are single-sex carriages 'for reasons of modesty'.

The everlasting traffic jams do provide customers for the thousands of children hawking food, fruit, drinks, and trinkets and those who wash windscreens and offer street entertainment. They may well be the wage earners for recently-arrived families

from the countryside because the parents cannot get jobs. Population growth within the city, plus new arrivals, means that there are nowhere near enough jobs to go round.

Mexico City has more space occupied by shanty towns than any other city in the world. There are over 500 of these 'ciudades perdidas' (lost cities). One, Nezahualcoyotl (Neza for short), is the world's largest slum, with over three million people. As it is not officially part of Mexico City, it could be classed as the country's second largest town.

Some slum dwellers show a real sense of pride, such as Belen de las Flores (Bethlehem of the Flowers). Here, people live in tidy caves and have neat flowerbeds outside the doors. The worst shanty towns are those built literally on top of the municipal rubbish dumps, where the inhabitants scavenge in the stench and sell anything useful that they find.

Any Patrol that wants to make a shanty for the International Pennant could link it very appropriately with Mexico and could consider the factors that encourage families to move from back-breaking work in the dry countryside to a life that seems more like hell than heaven in the city.

CELEBRATIONS

When life is tough, the chance to enjoy a fiesta is a welcome break. Most Mexicans are Catholics, and their holidays are the Holy Days of the Church. Some are international, like Christmas and Easter, while many are linked to local and national saints' days. Veneration of the Virgin of Guadalupe has united Mexican Catholics since 1531. *World Games and Recipes* (WAGGGS/GGA) and the PIP cards have information on Pinatas — and the song is in the *Our Cabaña* book and tape.

MEXICAN FOOD

Chilli con carne means chillies with meat but it is not the only food which Brownies and Guides could try to cook. Look out for Taco kits: simply follow the instructions, add mince, a little grated cheese and salad for a delicious snack. Taco means snack. The 12 tacos in a kit are a feast for a Six or Patrol or a tasty nibble for the whole Pack or Company. You don't even have to have a cooker — they can be prepared on a single-burner camp stove.

Old El Paso, the trademark of the most readily available tacos, also

produce tortilla chips, nachips, tastada shells and a range of sauces and seasonings. Their Mexican cookbook is well worth obtaining. Mexican food will add spice to a Mexican evening in more ways than one and will satisfy the demand to cook a foreign dish in various badge clauses.

Brownies and Guides will also be surprised to learn that we can enjoy turkey, sweetcorn and hot chocolate largely thanks to Mexicans, who introduced the Spaniards to them.

GUIAS DE MEXICO

The basic information about Guiding in Mexico is in *Trefoil Round The World*. Brownies and Guides could learn the motto in Spanish and, possibly, the Promise as both are easy to translate and be 'enrolled' with home-made Mexican badges. With Nuestra Cabaña in their midst, Mexican Guides are used to welcoming their sisters from all over the world and also benefit from visits by trainers.

Service is an important part of Guiding everywhere and the service rendered by Guides during and after the Mexico City earthquake of 1985 brought them praise and recognition. They continue their good work, using the money sent in from all over the world to rebuild a poor community called Delicias 58, Mexico City. More than 70 families are better housed and the children have a playground.

This may seem a drop in the ocean against the problems of Mexico City, but it is an important lesson to all Guides everywhere: it's better to start small and do something useful for someone than not start at all.

Now close with *Taps* in Spanish.

REFERENCES

Old El Paso Mexican Cookbook is available from C Shippam Ltd., PO Box 3, Chichester PO19 1PQ. (It costs 75p in a supermarket). *Trefoil Round the World, Games and Recipes from Around the World and Canciones De Nuestra Cabaña* are all available from GGA.

Mexico in the Time-Life Library of Nations is a bit dated but full of information and does not gloss over the pollution and slums of today or the exploitation by Spain and political upheavals of the past.

For children, look for *'Passport to Mexico'* by Carmen Irizarry published by Franklin Watts — Mexico seems rather too clean and middle-class but this is a lively informative book.

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GIRL GUIDES  ASSOCIATION





53

DIDN'T WE DO WELL?

The historic joint Guide and Scout venture to raise £500,000 for a new ward for sufferers from leukaemia or other cancers and blood disorders at the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital has been a runaway success. This is the triumphant story of the Guide and Scout project.

The tear has dried on the cheek of the Great Ormond Street child. And now the face is a smiling one.

Public generosity has enabled the hospital's Wishing Well Appeal to reach its £42 million target nine months ahead of schedule.

The Government has also given a further £30 million, making a total of £72 million available for the redevelopment of this world-famous hospital.

The Wishing Well Appeal was the biggest charity campaign ever launched in Britain. Guides and Scouts throughout the country rallied to the challenge and came up with some very original — and effective — fundraising events. In fact, their joint contributions were the largest made by any of the youth groups taking part.

The £500,000 project was initiated jointly by the Girl Guides' London and South East England Region and the Greater London Scout Region.

The total represents the largest single contribution ever made to a charity at one time by either Movement. When the target was reached just before Christmas, the Project Committee decided to set up a trust fund to help with the maintenance of the Guide and Scout Ward, to continue the link between the hospital and the two Movements. At present, the trust fund exceeds £150,000.

Many fundraising events over the past year have involved both Movements and have benefited other local charities as well as the hospital project.

The proceeds from a large number of joint activities run by the Scouts have been shared with Sherpa '88, Venture Scouting's birthday gift to the Sherpa people of Nepal.

Some groups and units even raised money for Great Ormond Street to the detriment of their own fundraising needs.

Projects included a sponsored aluminium foil collection: The Guide Dogs for the Blind received the substantial amount of foil collected while the money went to the hospital.



Members of Selsdon District Ranger Unit taking a rest during their Sponsored Bed Push near Croydon in Surrey, which raised £308.

In a sponsored litter clean-up, the local environment benefited as well as the project. Events often involved sponsorship from local businesses or large companies.

Everyone seems to have enjoyed participating and many events were inventive and original as well as great fun. Imagine getting youngsters to save their money in Smartie tubes — after eating the contents! When the tubes were full, the money was dropped into a replica of the Wishing Well. Others went on sponsored bounces on inflatable castles, while budding performers raised funds by staging amateur theatricals. At County level, nearly £30,000 was raised with a 'Leg Stretch' event. Others set themselves up as shoe shiners and asked donors to pay for placing the smile on the by now famous logo.

The logo itself has an interesting background: it came about, like so many brilliant ideas, by chance. Two years ago, thousands of children were invited to submit sketches; one drew a face, which became slightly smudged. Someone noticed that the smudge resembled a tear — it made a perfect symbol for the campaign.

The name of the appeal was chosen by Marion Allford, the Appeal's Director, after archive researchers revealed that a wishing well had been located behind the original hospital building. Her choice of name was also triggered by a department store notice stating 'Wish Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital Well'.

Members of the youth sections of both our Movements are presenting the £500,000 cheque this month as it has been generally agreed that their enthusiasm brought about the success of the project.

The trust fund will be presented to the Hospital Authorities at a reception to be held in June at the Guildhall in the City of London for representatives of leaders and helpers who have supported the project.

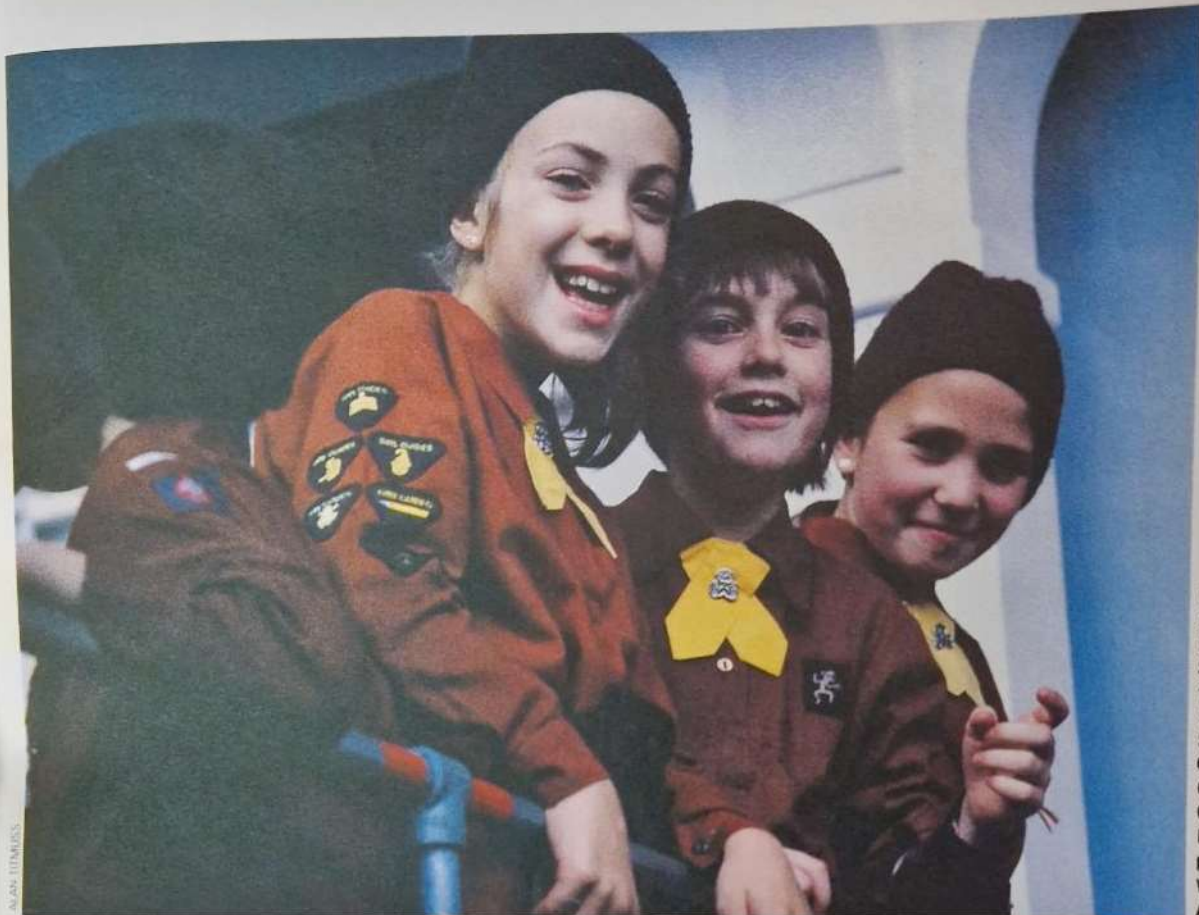
The benefit from this 'Good Turn' to the hospital and to sick children, not only from Britain but from all over the world, can never be fully measured and it will be a lasting tribute to a great deal of sustained effort by our young Members.

To help us finalise the total, any outstanding funds should be sent to: The Project Treasurer, PO Box 103, Croydon, Surrey CR9 5QD. Cheques should be payable to Guide and Scout Great Ormond Street Project. These should be accompanied by an sae, 9 in x 6 in, for a receipt and a special Achievement Certificate. The account will remain open and future contributions will always be welcome to top up the Trust Fund.

The money raised by the Wishing Well Appeal will provide a new building with six operating theatres, an intensive care unit, surgical wards and special wards, including our haematology and oncology ward and facilities for parents. The three-year building programme is due to be completed in 1993.

SHIRLEY STRONG
County Commissioner for
London and South East
and

MIKE GOODERSON
Assistant County Commissioner
(Handicapped)
Great London Central



Brownies enjoying the Lord Mayor's Show in London from the float representing the Scout and Guide Group at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital promoting the Wishing Well Appeal.

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PEOPLE *and* PLACES



CLAIRE WOODHOUSE

RATS!

▲ Will the real town crier of Shrewsbury step forward please? The 'imposter' is Pauline Hughes, Guide Guider of 21st Frankwell Guides who entered her Company in the Shrewsbury Carnival as the Pied Piper and rats of Hamelin. The Guides had a less glamorous role, they went along as the rats.



CHRISTINE WILSON

DANISH INVASION

▲ Danish Scouts and Guides warm their tootsies by the campfire. They joined their Irish Girl Guide and Scout friends at Lorne, the Ulster Guides' Training Centre. Among the 40 campers were ten hand-capped Scouts and Guides.

CONFETTI SURPRISE

▼ Guide Guider of the 4th Gipsy Hill Company, Heather Cole had an unexpected surprise shortly after saying 'I will' to Stephen Barker. As they left the church, the couple was pelted with confetti by Brownies and Guides. The secret operation was planned by Brown Owl, Mrs Jan Heatherington.



CAROL HOWELLS

READY, AIM, FIRE

▲ Ranger Elaine Parry takes careful aim at the Birmingham County Carnival Camp under the watchful eye of air rifle instructor Stephen Howells.

ROOTING UP THE RADISHES

► The two pretty faces in the St Oswald Guide Company's Conservation badge garden are Helen Guest (left) and Rebecca Hall. They're proudly displaying the pick of the season... giant radishes. Anyone for salad?





MUMS *and* DADS

If you want your daughter to get more out of her Guiding, there's a simple solution: treat her to her own copy of **BROWNIE** or **TODAY'S GUIDE**.

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BUT THAT'S NOT ALL

The magazines are also full of stories, games, competitions and fun. Simply pop along to your local newsagent and order your copies. **BROWNIE** costs 50p and is published fortnightly. **TODAY'S GUIDE** comes out monthly and also costs 50p.

YOUR LETTERS

The increase in the 1989 Census fee is still causing concern to some Members of the Movement.

As explained in September's *GUIDING* the annual subscription to Headquarters is £2.75 but some of you are also facing increases in your Country/Region and County subscriptions. One reader suggested budgeting in advance saves last minute panics. Here are some extracts from your letters:

IMPOSSIBLE

We live in an area of high unemployment and one-parent families and we ask ourselves how these families are going to pay £5.40 per child. In some instances a family will have one child in Brownies and two more in Guides — can we in all fairness ask them to find £17.00 in total? To raise the sum requested for all units within our District would be an impossible task.

DUNSTABLE EAST DISTRICT GUIDERS

VERY HARD

I am very upset about this increase. I have no idea where I am going to get the money from. My District Commissioner suggested asking the parents for half the money, but quite a few of my parents haven't got that sort of money.

We are all volunteers but it's getting that all we are doing is asking for money. It's making a job we all enjoy very hard.

MRS LINDA DAY (CAPTAIN)

St Peter's Guides, Bilton

A PROBLEM

There is no real justification for such a large increase. It is not only inner-city units that

find it difficult to be self-supporting, those in the so-called affluent South have exactly the same problem.

MISS HILARY PAINE

Brownie and Guide Guider
7th Hastings Pack and
Company

SECONDHAND

For us in our area (Becontree) the 1989 Census fee means an increase of nearly 60 per cent over that of 1988. We are in an area described as 'deprived' by both the Government and the Church of England's *Faith in the City* report. It is difficult enough to get some of our girls in uniform and we are forced to ask our friends and relations from other less deprived areas to look out for secondhand uniforms at jumble sales.

We feel that these areas should be treated differently to other, more wealthy areas of the country, so that we, the Guiders, can continue running our units for the benefit of the girls. We do not want to be forever having to organise fundraising events to pay the Census fee.

SANDRA BENDAL, THELMA YEAMAN Brownie Guiders
LARRAINE PHILLIPS, JAYNE HOLTON, VAL NEWTON

Guide Guiders, Becontree

LOST GIRLS

I run two Brownie Packs in an inner-city area and money is by far my biggest headache. If I were to raise subs by an extra 11p per week as suggested in January's *GUIDING* in an area noted for its unemployment, I would probably lose some of the girls who are most in need of Guiding.

The reason Guiding is cheap is that everyone gives their services voluntarily, often at personal expense. I run my Brownie Packs because I enjoy them but, while I give hours of my time for nothing, I cannot help but feel resentful that for those at CHQ Guiding is a job and our hard-earned cash provides their salaries.

If increases on this scale continue to incur, the Movement as we know it will be killed off and instead become an elite organisation for those who can afford it. Unless Guiders unite now, Guiding will be a thing of the past.

JAYNE DEAN (MISS)

1st and 9th Smethwick
Brownie Packs

● All the GGA's Advisers, Consultants and Committee members are — like the officers — volunteers. Like all other large charities, the GGA has a staff of salaried professionals to conduct the day-to-day running of the organisation. Many of the CHQ staff are actively involved in Guiding — several run their own units. For almost all of us, Guiding is more than 'just a job'.

This correspondence is now closed — EDITOR.

A few last words on that vexed question of wearing uniform after 65:

STRANGE

On February 22 last year I became 65 and had to come out of the uniform I have always been very happy and proud to wear. A sad day indeed. I have to say it feels unhappily very strange not to be in uniform at Guide functions.

I only learned some six weeks ago that Scouters/Scouts, though giving up warranted positions at 65 years, may continue to wear uniform as long as they wish and I feel very strongly indeed that we of the Guide Movement should have the same ruling, especially in this day of equality of the sexes.

ELIZABETH DIXON

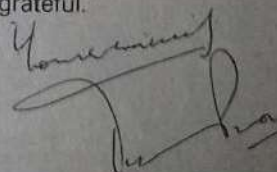
Ex-Feltham Guider,
Middlesex South West

FIT AFTER 60

I agree that 65 is old enough for a unit Guider, but what about all the other 'executive' or advisory jobs? Anyone with good health probably feels better at 60-plus than they did at 45-50!

The Chief Commissioner has received a letter from the Rt. Hon. Lord Prior, Chairman of The Wishing Well Appeal, for the Redevelopment of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. In it he said:

'I write to say how grateful we have been for the tremendous support which has been given to us by the Girl Guides ... since the Appeal was launched. I know well what a great deal of time and effort has been put in on our behalf by so many Girl Guides and we are all extremely grateful.'



Why stop us when we reach the age when 'someone' thinks we're too old to be seen in uniform? Wearing uniform is a great deal of the job.

Consider the fact that BP was still in uniform at the ripe old age of 80-plus and Lady Baden-Powell, who was also well over 80 when she died.

JANETTE WYLIE
CCIA Ayrshire South

PAMPERED

In my experience some of the best of Guiding starts at 65. This is when you see the results.

This is when you go to meetings as a pampered guest or useful tester. The revels and outdoor fun days are all there for you to enjoy, without wondering what mischief Rita will get up to next, or whatever will Angela's mother say? After 65 is

the age for enjoying it all. If you want uniform, why not wear a Guider's sweatshirt, formal with a skirt or activity-gear with trousers. A Trefoil Guild Badge will show your status.

KITSY MITCHELL

North Ealing District

This correspondence is now closed — EDITOR

DOWN UNDER

I was interested to read the article 'A day in the life of' Majorie Nicholson, Post Box Secretary. It was through this lady that I have been writing to a Guide Guider in Australia. Thank you, Majorie!

At Christmas I received a tape recorded message from my pen pal and on one side was a recording of the weekly meeting of 1st Torquay Guides of Australia.

The Guides had

decided they wanted to sing some songs and tell my Brownie Pack what Guiding activities they had got up to.

We listened to an enthusiastic version of *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*, *Waltzing Matilda*, Kylie Minogue's latest single and an account of a Girl Guide and Scout Camp.

But it was their singing of *Taps* that brought home to me how we are all bound together by the friendship that the Guiding Movement encourages and how children enjoy the same things the world over.

KAREN DOOLEY

Brownie Guider
252nd Liverpool
Brownie Pack

NESTS

I was amazed to read in *A Much Loved Country* that it is all right to remove

birds' nests. I would like to point out that many birds use the same nest year after year if they are undisturbed. So please, by all means, look for nests in hedgerows but don't disturb them. Even nests not re-used by the original birds may be used by another pair, either of the same or a different species.

Miss L C HERBERT

Guider 313th Liverpool
Guides

● **Note:** John Alden, who writes this popular series, did point out that only old nests, abandoned by the birds who made them should be removed.

Letters should be kept as brief as possible and the Editor reserves the right to edit any contribution. Letters must carry the author's name, address and, if possible, a daytime phone number, although this information will not be published if requested.

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Sri Lanka SNIPPETS

Last summer 14 UK Guiders spent four weeks in Sri Lanka taking part in the GGA/UNICEF Primary Health Care Project. Here are some of their thoughts on the trip.

◀ Primary health care starts here in the pre-schools.



◀ Wherever we went, town or country, we were overwhelmed by the friendliness and generosity of those we met. The Sri Lankans are by nature a warm and hospitable race.

▶ Each journey on the minibus gave us new opportunities to experience the sights and smells of Sri Lankan life as we wove our way through the mass of bikes, ox-carts, trucks and buses that made up the traffic.

▶ Clinic and home visits gave us an insight into the conditions and problems faced by the health workers.

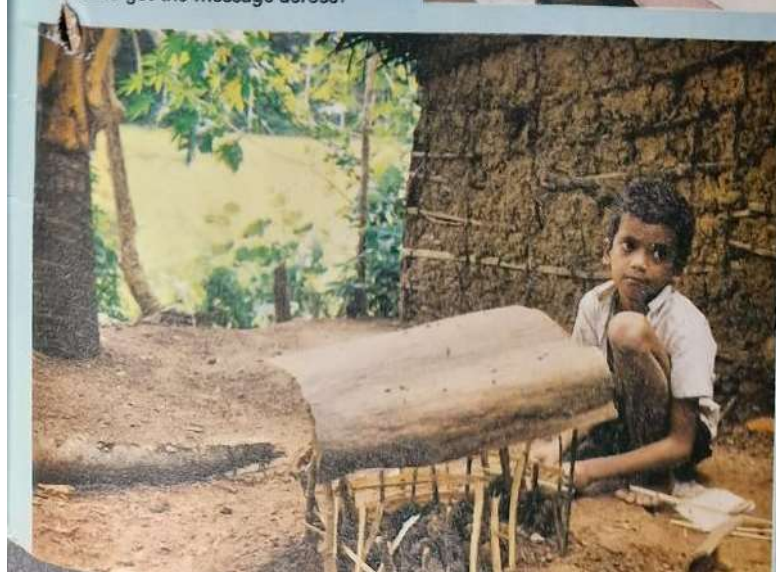


▲ The trainings were a real challenge, but by using a mix of role-play, artwork, demonstrations and discussions we seemed to get the message across.



◀ Although it was hard to leave, at least we could take with us a positive image of the situation and the knowledge that, no matter what, the work would go on.

Sri Lanka is only one of the projects Guiding in this country is involved in. If you'd like to find out more about this aspect of Guiding, then why not come along to the next International Opportunities Weekend at Waddow in April. For more details contact Miss M Dunn, International Department, CHQ, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W OPT.



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