

# GUIDING

JANUARY 1991 £1

**GAMBLING  
FEVER  
HITS  
TEENAGERS**

**WEE  
BETTY'S  
RANGERS  
ON  
PARADE**

**INDIAN  
EXPERIMENT**

**CELEBRATION '91  
SPECIAL ISSUE**



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## GUIDING

VOLUME 80 NUMBER 1  
JANUARY 1991 £1

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# front PAGE



## COMMENT

This year the Association is proudly celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Ranger section.

Special events are planned to take place throughout the year and much of the January edition of *GUIDING* is devoted to their views and activities.

I have extremely happy memories of my years as a Sea Ranger. Back in the Fifties I was a member of the crew of the *SRS Adventurer*.

It didn't seem to matter that I lived 80 miles from the sea. Instead we went rowing on the local river.

I'm sure it was the exciting programme provided by our enthusiastic and imaginative Guider that kept me in Guiding and, eventually, led to my becoming a leader.

For some time we have been investigating ways of making sure that adventurous and imaginative Guiding is available for all the 14 to 26 age group.

We must always remember that today's senior section, whether they are Rangers, Young Leaders or both, are our future. From their ranks will come many of the Association's future leaders.

A recent meeting of the Junior Council I attended reminded me just how capable our younger members are. They have a wealth of skills, ability, energy and enthusiasm.

Sometimes I wonder if we older Guiders are encouraging them to make the best use of their undoubted talents and strengths.

The logo chosen for this celebration year was designed by Morag White, a Ranger from Scotland. She chose it to represent 'a fun loving caterpillar emerging as a confident and purposeful adult into her own community'.

We believe that their time in the senior section helps our girls to become confident and purposeful adults. Have a wonderful year!

JANE GARSIDE  
Chief Commissioner

## FRONT COVER



Featured on our front cover this month are Sarah Goodman (left) and Alison Thakey, both aged 16 and dressed for action. The back cover shows two other Rotherham Mount Unit members, 14-year-old Andrea Watson (left) and 17-year-old Carolyn Yemm. The girls recently wielded brushes and rollers to brighten up their meeting room at the local Guide Divisions' HQ with a lick of paint.

KIM TONELLI AT SCAMON'S STUDIO



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# Round UP

## PRICKLY PALS

◀ Handling hedgehogs is all in a day's work for Elaine Drewery (right) and Nigel Brocklesby (left). They run a Hedgehog Care Centre, near Louth, Lincolnshire, which looks after injured, sick and orphaned hedgehogs.

Some of their prickly friends came along when they gave a talk about their work, to the Welton Guides, Brownies and Rainbows, who were amazed at how tame and friendly the animals were.

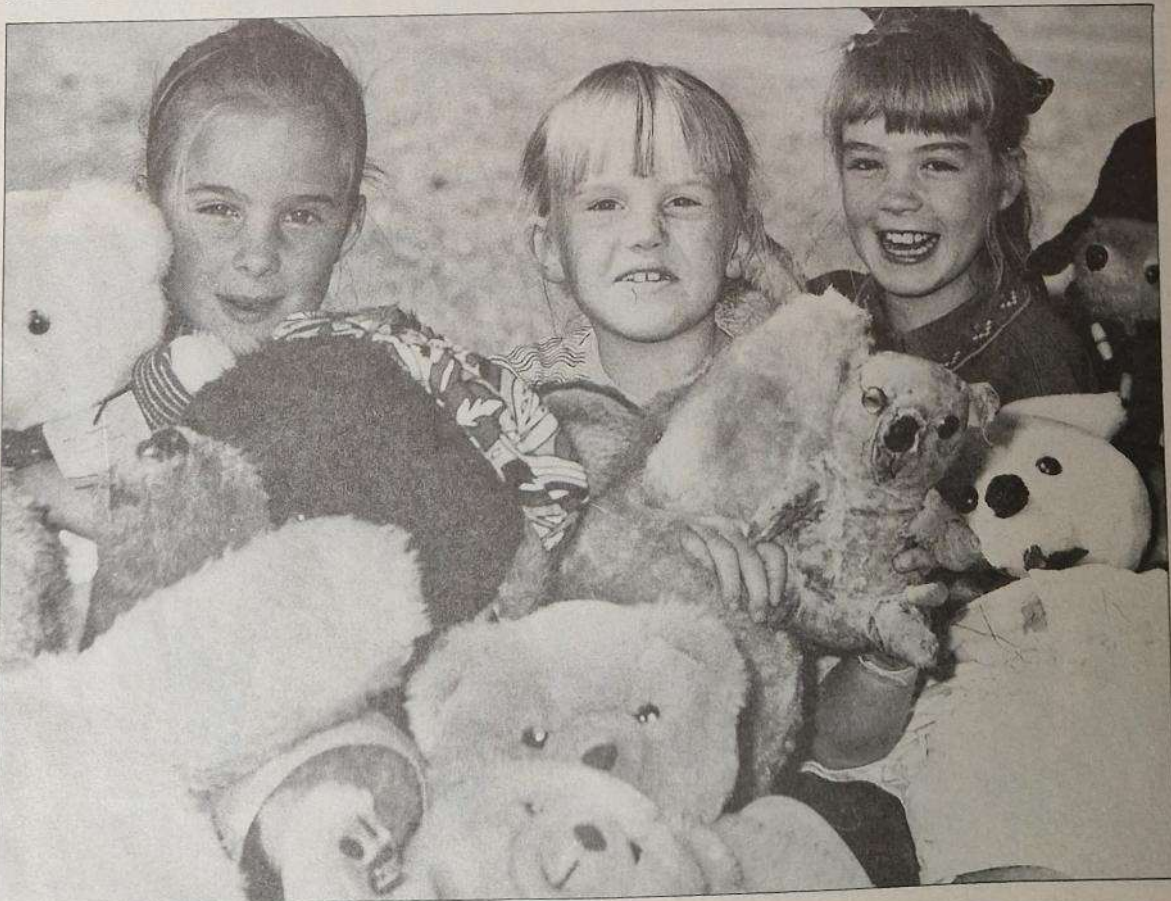
Instead of taking along their weekly subscriptions, the Brownies and Guides brought a tin of cat or dog food to give to the Hedgehog Care Centre.

## FURRY FRIENDS

▼ Highlight of a day of Revels for the Brownies was the teddy bears' picnic.

Over 30 Brownies from Keighley West District, gathered for the annual fun day. Non-stop activities on offer, as well as the picnic, included an obstacle course and board games.

LINCOLNSHIRE ECHO



KEIGHLEY NEWS



# Round UP



WINCHESTER GAZETTE

## RECORD BREAKERS?

▼South Fife Guides are wondering if they have set a new record. Since Thinking Day last year their Division Commissioner has presented

no fewer than eight Baden-Powell Trefoil badges — all of them to girls with Guider mums in the same Division. Is there anyone out there who can beat this — we'd love to know?

## WINCHESTER WONDERS

◀Over 200 lively Guides were given the chance to show off their skills in an all-day Guide Challenge at Winchester. Organised as part of the drive to recruit adult leaders, the Guides aged from ten to 14, demonstrated their expertise in many different fields.

Events ranged from canoeing to an assault course, archery and tent-pitching. Less strenuous pursuits included quizzes, nature trails and demonstrations of camp fire cooking.

At the end of an exhausting day the 1st Winchester City Company walked away with the trophy for the unit with most points.



LEICESTER MERCURY

## CANOE CAPERS

▲Hoping not to make a splash are some of the Leicester Guides who took to the water on a special County canoeing course.

The water activities were part of a weekend camp, which takes place every two years. Over 180 Guides were

taught basic canoeing and safety skills on the first day and then took part in races on the second.

County Outdoor Activities Adviser Mrs Irene Steele said: 'It was a lot of hard work but everyone had a terrific time, so it was all worth while.'



ROBERT MACKIE



The letters GOLD stand for Guiding Overseas Linked with Development. Guiding overseas could mean an international camp, expedition, holiday, conference or seminar, but GOLD is much more. The key words are 'linked with development'. Whenever 'development' is mentioned, it refers to the improvement in the quality of life for the individual, the community, the nation, the world.

Through the medium of television we have the opportunity to see what is happening in other parts of the world and to observe some of humanity's needs as we survive famine, drought, disaster and many other difficulties that beset the globe's inhabitants.

Those few emotional seconds on TV, however, do not illustrate the scale of the needs of people in the developing world. UNICEF has estimated that almost 900 million people — approximately one sixth of mankind — are, or soon will be, below the 'absolute poverty level'.

This means that for these people their income will not provide a minimum



PAULINE MCKIE

#### **Tender loving care for a six-year-old girl**

nutritionally adequate diet and other essential requirements. In coming up with these figures UNICEF has used social indicators such as: the under five mortality rate; life expectancy; adult literacy rate; and the proportion of children suffering malnutrition, in order to measure the plight of the world's poor.

Most of us don't need a UN report to persuade us to take action. When we see a series like the BBC's *All Our Children* last year, we want to play our part — but *how* do we go about it?

Rangers, Young Leaders and young Guiders will get opportunities through GOLD.

Currently the GGA is working with Guide Associations in other countries to plan co-operative projects. Eventually there will be a variety of different projects on offer, these could include: primary health care, literacy, income generating, English teaching, food production and nutrition projects.

It is intended that GOLD will be

# GOLD

## THE CHALLENGE OF THE 1990S

*GOLD is the GGA's newest and most exciting international project. Its aim is to offer a unique and challenging experience to those members who are over 16 years of age... and under 30.*



Sri Lankan pre-school teachers and family health workers train in primary health care

launched in 1991 with at least two projects: one in an Eastern European country and one in a developing country.

Any Ranger, Young Leader or young Guider can apply for a place on a project. No formal qualifications are necessary but there are three requirements. You must:

- have a strong interest in Guiding
- be prepared to fund raise to finance the visit
- participate in an International Opportunities Weekend (INTOPS).

Those who've experienced living and working in a project area will tell you that it was 'the experience of a lifetime'. Then add that conditions are often basic and that working in a different climate and environment can be taxing. The INTOPS weekend will attempt to reflect this and, because places on projects are limited, there will be an element of selection.

There will be two INTOPS each year. In 1991 the first takes place on February 2 and 3. There will be another weekend later in the year from November 1 to 3. Both weekends will be in the Brownie House at Waddow.

More information about INTOPS and an application form can be obtained from: The International Secretary, Guiding Activities Division, The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

At INTOPS you will also find out about community development, development education, international Guiding and the GGA's projects.

Training, through independent learning packs and another weekend, will be given to those taking part in the projects to prepare them for the task in hand. And there will be advice to help you with your fund raising and personal preparations.

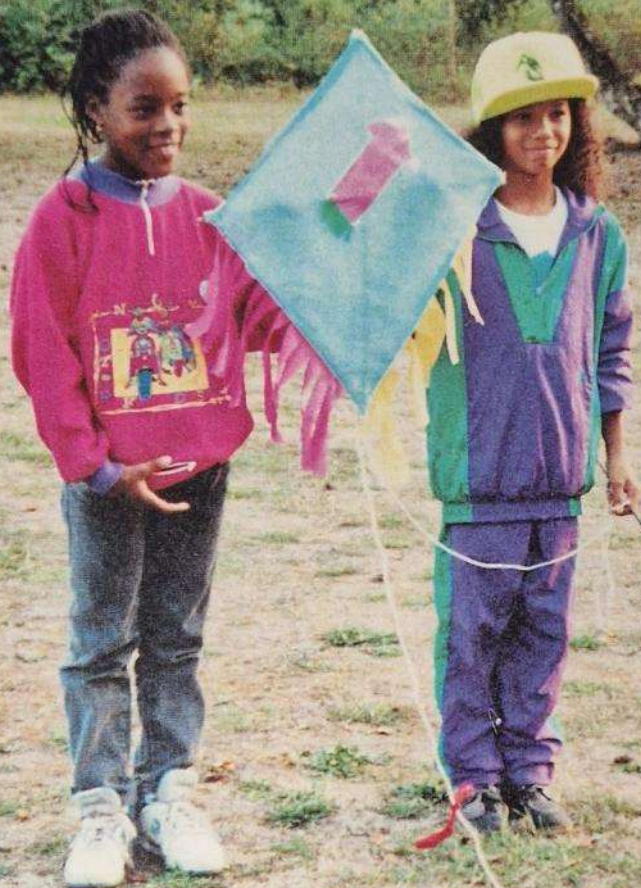
Through taking part in GOLD, you could:

- work with local Guides and community leaders to encourage development
- learn about other cultures, traditions and lifestyles
- promote international friendship
- experience international Guiding at its best
- improve your own personal skills
- take action as a citizen of the world.

**GOLD is your challenge.**



# Girl



Give a bunch of kids a treat and you can bet the ice-cream money; there'll be a moment of spontaneous magic that will stick out above the rest. When Dorset Rangers and Venture Scouts ran a camp for underprivileged children, it happened on a visit to the seaside. Two overjoyed youngsters ran shrieking into the sea fully clothed. What made that special? Simple. These two had never seen the sea.



The water's lovely at Studland Beach



# ding in action

The 18 youngsters — aged between seven and nine — spent five days at Carey Camp, Wareham, five days packed with excitement and discovery. Take day three, for example. That was when Dorset's Worbarrow Bay joined the space age and became the setting for Hunt the Space Capsules. The youngsters searched every nook and cranny for four missing space craft which, according to reliable eye-witnesses, resembled brightly-painted toilet rolls and cardboard boxes.

The hunt was only one of many games and competitions organised by the four adult leaders and 12 Ranger Guides and Venture Scouts from different units in Dorset as part of the Space '90 theme.

The helpers arrived a day before the children and tried to use nearby facilities wherever possible, in keeping with the theme. Each Ranger or Venture had one or two children to look after during the week and they were certainly kept busy once the children forgot their initial shyness and their sense of fun shone through.

And, judging by the fact that some of the children had to be put bodily on to the coach when it was time to leave, they certainly enjoyed every exhausting minute.

Favourite activities included kite making and flying, building spacemen and landscapes out of cereal boxes or egg cartons and a well-fought 'It's a Knock-out' competition.

Sweatshirts and T-shirts with a Space '90 design of a man on a rocket were presented to the children, all from the Bristol area. When the excitement had settled down, one sullen-looking little boy walked purposefully up to one of the leaders, Mrs Diane Traves, and said, 'Miss, this is great!'

And a girl insisted that she wanted to live with Diane so that she could 'come back next year'.

Their luck was in when it came to accommodation at the camp. They stayed in tents which had already been put up when they arrived and did not need to be dismantled when they left, thanks to the local education authority



which runs special camps on a regular basis. There was only one wet day and that didn't interfere with all their well-laid plans.

As the week went by, the organisers were able to see how ideas discussed months earlier actually worked out — discovering which were successful and which didn't captivate the children's attention for long.

The games that didn't work required sitting quietly for long periods or attention to small detail, such as pebble painting or badge making.

If there is one thing likely to grab a child's imagination, castles on hills and soldiers should do it — Corfe Castle, a ruin which sits on a steep hill, was a big hit with the children. They were intrigued by the mystery of the ruin, asking many questions such as 'How did the soldiers defend it?' and 'How did it fall into ruins?'

The organisers received many donations to fund the camp and provide activities for the children. Among the donors were Ranger Units, Rotary clubs and a local TV station.

A considerable amount of teamwork

was involved in dreaming up activities which seven to nine-year-olds would enjoy. A trip to the seaside at Studland went down a treat as did swimming at the local sports centre. However, some of the children needed a lot of supervision — or they might have disappeared.

And that is precisely what some tried to do when it was time to leave. The hunt was on when the youngsters attempted to hide in the woods so that they would be left behind to continue the fun.

When the 'escapees' were rounded up, all the children announced that they had enjoyed themselves very much and were coming back again next year.

Tears were shed by children and helpers alike as the coach left to take them back to Bristol. After the children had gone the helpers felt so sad that they decided to meet up again at Christmas, hand over gifts and talk about memories of the camp.

ELIZABETH TRAVES and  
LORRAINE TURNER 9

On top of the  
world — well,  
Corfe Castle



# ANNEKA'S CHALLENGE



Woe Bet's Rangers obviously can't resist a challenge. So, when television's all-action ex-Guide Anneka Rice wanted help with an instant children's party in Northern Ireland, it was Woe Bet's Rangers — or Ormeau Rangers to give them their official title — who stepped in. For them it was one further chance to show millions of television viewers what coaching is really about.

The team, as Anneka Rice explains, may not be large — ten members in total and two recruits waiting in the wings. But the tasks are extremely enterprising.



'Wee Betty's Rangers' are famous for two reasons: we are the most active Unit in the Division, and we are the only Unit in the Division!

And, for a small Unit we've done our bit to give Guiding a high profile.

Whether we're pony trekking in the dark, cooking our own vegetarian Christmas dinner, or holding a midnight investiture in an open-air chapel, there's not much we haven't tried.

While we do have a lot of fun we also remember our Promise. So every year we choose a charity project or some way in which we can be of service to the community. In 1988, for example, following a talk from a social worker from the NSPCC, we bought Christmas presents for older deprived children, who tend to be forgotten in the seasonal concentration on the very young.

Last year, through car washes, cake sale and sponsored ten-pin bowling we sponsored a dog at our local Canine Defence League. This means that for a small sum we can pay for the upkeep of a dog (which would, otherwise, be put down), enabling the kennels to keep an animal while they find a new home for it.

Of course, we don't concentrate on our chosen project to the exclusion of all else. We're ready to leap in where we're needed. That's how we became TV stars.

We answered an appeal on Radio 1 for helpers at a children's party organised by Anneka as part of her *Challenge Anneka* series. This involved spending the day at the Transport Museum, Cultra, where we erected a marquee or two. We also blew up an endless pile of balloons, handed out ice-creams, toys and books and generally helped out with the kids.

Anneka's challenge was to organise four simultaneous children's parties in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland for handicapped and underprivileged children. There were around 2,000 children at our party alone.

Being on TV — the show went out last November — was the end of a successful season for the Unit. We've had teams which were runners-up in the Belfast area Captain Ball finals; fourth in the Northern Ireland Ranger cookery competition; and third — by a small margin — in the Belfast Road Safety Quiz. We were the only Ranger team ever to enter the competition and

the other competitors were about twice our age.

We even find time to do the odd badge! We've just had our two first Queen's Guide successes, with four more on the way. Every member has a Ranger Star I or II and, at the moment, most of us are working for our camp permits. Three members have recently gained camp craft certificates. And three of us are on the verge of completing our Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, after enduring a very testing expedition.

When we're not trekking up and down mountains we like to travel further afield. We have sent representatives to international camps in Ireland, England, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Austria, and Mexico. We also sent the only female Northern Irish representative to the World Scout Jamboree in Australia!

So, we don't do so badly for a small Unit. Of course we are indebted to 'Wee Betty' herself, our leader, Miss Betty Lennon, for all her support and enthusiasm. Congratulations on your recent promotion to Ranger Consultant for Northern Ireland, Betty, and thanks — you're one in a million!

TRACEY IRVINE

◀ Watch out! Rangers crossing



Singin' and dancin' in the rain





When young Tracy Barlow rebelled by spending lunch-hours feeding fruit machines in ITV's *Coronation Street*, her mum, Councillor Deirdre Barlow, launched a one-woman crusade against schoolchildren hanging around slot machine arcades. But are young people really at risk from playing the one-arm bandits? Lorraine Turner investigates for *GUIDING*.

## BET THEY LOSE

Slot machine addiction among youngsters has become a serious problem in recent years, in spite of the Gaming Act 1968, which makes gambling illegal for anyone under 18. Take the case of a nine-year-old boy from Swindon, Wiltshire, who spent an incredible £25,000 on fruit machines. Regularly shoplifting household goods to pay for his habit, he would skip school and travel up to 60 miles a day to reach amusement arcades.

In Yeovil, Somerset, a youngster spent £70 an hour feeding his habit. It was a compulsion he could not afford and so he was driven to crime.

And another disturbing case involved a youth addicted to slot machines who was desperate to pay off debts to loan sharks. Believing he would inherit the family home, he battered his mother over the head in an attack he had 'planned for a week'. He was given an 18-month sentence.

But why has this problem escalated over recent years — especially among the under-18s?

Surveys carried out by the National Housing and Town Planning Council and the Children's Society point to the cause of the problem being the thousands of fruit machines flooding into areas accessible to children. Formerly only sited in amusement arcades and 'adults only' places such as pubs and bars, they can now be found almost anywhere within reach of youngsters — fish and chip shops, railway stations, coffee bars, shops and cafes.

### BECOMING HOOKED

This is because, although amusement arcades need a local council licence for fruit machines, renewable every one to two years, there is no control over proprietors of other premises, such as cafes. The effect, according to the reports, is that these machines are falling outside legislative controls and children of all ages are becoming hooked at an alarming rate.

One local authority, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, is so concerned that it has banned fruit machines from shops, schools and youth clubs to

prevent youngsters from becoming addicted.

Carrying out a spot check, I called in to an amusement arcade near Victoria Station and saw no-one there who seemed under 18. However, in a North Finchley newsagent I spotted three young boys, probably no older than nine or ten, hunched over fruit machines at the back of the shop.

Just how many youngsters are at risk? In 1988, a National Housing and Town Planning Council survey showed that, out of 10,000 children around the country who answered the questionnaire anonymously, nearly two-thirds used fruit machines. More than half — 58 per cent — visited amusement arcades and 48 per cent used fruit

machines in other places, such as cafes and shops.

### URGE TO GAMBLE

Overall, seven per cent admitted stealing, 17 per cent had spent their dinner money; six per cent had missed school and 35 per cent had borrowed money... all in order to gamble.

Just over a fifth of the children had started to gamble before they were nine years old.

Most children are not aware that they are gambling when they play the machines — neither do they realise they risk becoming addicted if they play them regularly.

Dr Emanuel Moran, Consultant Psychiatrist and Chairman of the National





Council on Gambling, is convinced that being addicted to slot machines is just as strong a compulsion as, say, drug or alcohol addiction.

Dr Moran says these machines exploit psychological principles of learning known as 'operant conditioning'. In other words, the more you play, the more you want to play.

Buttons, flashing lights and machines which actually talk to passers-by, all encourage them to play. An illusion is created that the player can 'learn' the machine and thus win.

'That's why they are known as one-armed bandits. It is an easy way of taking money,' he said.

Paul Bellringer, Chairman of the UK Forum on Young People and Gambling, which was established in 1988, said: 'Many young people are getting into varying degrees of difficulty through gambling, principally, but not exclusively, on fruit machines — and this can lead to heavier forms of gambling as adults.'

## FEMALE ADDICTS TOO

He added that more boys become hooked than girls. One of the reasons for this is that often these machines display 'heroic and aggressive postures', which appeal to boys more than girls. However, this problem was by no means confined to males. 'Females become addicted too,' he said.

Last year in a television programme on gambling the first addict to be featured was a girl.

Media stories of young people attempting suicide to escape their compulsion to gamble or committing violent crimes to obtain money to feed their habit tend to be dismissed as 'extreme cases'. It is often claimed that the young people concerned were 'mentally disturbed' and would have turned to some other form of potentially damaging activity had gambling been inaccessible to them.

But there is no doubt that fruit machine addiction can ruin lives. Last year a police inspector from Braintree, Essex, was jailed for 15 months for stealing £2,120. The court heard how he became addicted to a fruit machine in the police bar after over 20 years in the force. All his money went into the machine.

If this can happen to an adult in a responsible job, how much more vulnerable are young people.

## MASSIVE PROBLEM

Len, a senior member of Gamblers Anonymous for 22 years, told me: 'Gaming machine addiction relating to youngsters is now a massive problem. Over the past 10-15 years the problem has been exacerbated because gaming machines have multiplied. They can

now be found everywhere, including places where children congregate. We receive a huge amount of calls — hundreds of thousands must be affected.'

Len explained that, although Gamblers Anonymous tend to receive more distress calls from boys than girls, there were, nevertheless, female addicts too. 'Children of all ages are vulnerable,' he said, 'and that would include Guides, Rangers and their friends.'

Di Stubbs, Outreach Officer for the Samaritans, confirmed they receive many calls for help from worried parents or youngsters hooked on fruit machines. She added: 'There are many more of these machines around than there used to be.'

The odds are loaded against a player when it comes to beating a fruit machine. Manufacturers fix them to pay out no more than 30 per cent of any money fed in, and some arcades adjust them to pay out even less. By law, the maximum prize anyone can win on a fruit machine, which usually has a minimum 10p stake, is just £2.

## LOAN SHARKS STEP IN

According to experts, most of the 500,000 people who play the machines daily already know that the odds are stacked against them. But they play anyway. Addicts often get into debt through gambling, turn to loan sharks to settle these debts and are left with a worse burden.

As one young addict said: 'In the beginning, because I won money, I was playing machines to win cash. But, after that, it was just to play the machines. The money wasn't important except to play the machines.'

Youngsters who hang round arcades playing the machines don't just risk losing their cash or becoming addicted to gambling. A survey conducted by the Children's Society revealed they face other dangers.

The report stated that, out of 634 Birmingham pupils aged between ten and 16 who completed the survey, 64 per cent had gambled. More than 100 had been approached by money-lenders and 21 had been offered drugs in arcades. And 110 children aged between 11 and 12 confessed to having been sexually approached by strangers while gambling.

In response to public pressure, the Home Office carried out its own research, which admitted there was a problem relating to young people and fruit machine gambling. However, it was felt that the incidents were too few to warrant tighter legislation. The Home Office recommended that — instead of local authorities — teachers, social

workers, parents and arcade managers should deal with situations as they arose locally.

## LESS THAN TRUTHFUL

Opponents criticised the Home Office report and queried how many youngsters made up a 'few'. It was argued that the Home Office figures, obtained by a market research company, were unlikely to be accurate because its survey required children to give their names and addresses. As the young people were named, critics suggested that many might have given less than truthful answers. In other surveys, where children had been able to remain anonymous, figures differed widely from those given in the Home Office report.

Financially, gambling is big business. In 1988 there were 180,000 gaming machines. Customs and Excise figures for 1987-88 show that the Government collected over £94 million that year alone from gaming machines licences and received £1,400 million from fruit machine takings.

The British Amusement Catering Trade Association, in response to protests, has issued guidelines which ban under-16s from arcades. However, the code of conduct is open to abuse because it operates on a voluntary basis and relies on the moral ethics of individual arcade owners.

Children with gambling problems often manage to hide the fact from their parents. Having no physical characteristics, gambling is known as 'the hidden addiction'. Paul Bellringer suggested that, if worried about a child, you should first try specialist groups such as Gamblers Anonymous, or, in cases where an offence has been committed, the local Probation Service.

Coming home from school persistently hungry could mean that a child is spending dinner money on gambling. Other signs, such as poor school results; fights over debts; lack of interest in pastimes or family matters; and truancy, especially if the truant is caught hanging around arcades could all be tell-tale signals. Keep track of a child's money and watch for any signs of borrowing.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Paul Bellringer of the UK Forum on Young People and Gambling, Keswick House, Peacock Lane, Leicester LE1 5NY, is happy to give advice to sufferers, their parents or interested adults. Tel: 0533-629514.

Gamblers Anonymous, Blantyre Street, London SW10. Tel: 071-352 3060.

The Samaritans. Tel: 071-439 1406.

LORRAINE TURNER 13



# GOING BATTI!



Celebration '91 fever has broken out in earnest as 23 Rangers from Hampshire North and West Units prepare to meet their Challenge.

At sunrise on August 1 they will set off from Lands End, in two minibuses and a transit van, and head for John O'Groats, which they hope to reach by sunset two weeks later.

Under normal circumstances, of course, a whole fortnight to get there would be plenty of time. But this is a Celebration '91 Challenge and the Hampshire Rangers plan to visit Wales and Northern Ireland en route, as well as the furthest points North, South, East and West on mainland Britain.

Accompanying them on the BATTI

'91 Challenge — that stands for Basingstoke Arnewood and Test Trek in '91 — will be a crew of seven drivers. Lorraine Cripps, one of the organisers said: 'They have special skills apart from driving which might come in handy for the trip.'

For example, one driver is skilled in car mechanics, another is qualified in first aid and yet another is a keen photographer. Their planning, which started last autumn, is impressive.

Their route will take them through seven camps: first to Foxlease at Lyndhurst, Hampshire, then to Hautbois House near Norwich. Across the Welsh border they will travel to another camp at Broneirion in Powys, before heading

for Waddow near Clitheroe, Lancashire and, afterwards, Glenbrook, Sheffield.

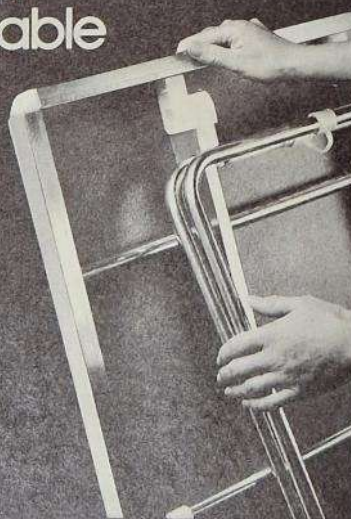
Northern Ireland comes sixth on the trail with a visit to Lorne, in County Down. The final stopover is in Scotland at Netherurd, in Peeblesshire.

The Hampshire Rangers are also hoping to raise £1,000 for their chosen charity I CAN (Invalid Children's Aid Nationwide). They are going to hold a competition to guess the total combined mileage covered on the trip by the two minibuses and the van.

Lorraine Cripps was willing to give readers a clue. 'By the end of the trip, we anticipate that each vehicle will have travelled somewhere between two and three thousand miles.

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**24 HR PHONE** Est. 1973



In the audience one night at the Apollo Theatre, enjoying the tales of Captain Beaky and his band, was a member of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Advisory Council.

Afterwards Jeremy, then better known as co-author of *Are You Being Served?* — a BBC hit series for 15 years, was asked to write the Gospel stories as seen through the eyes of his animal characters.

The result was *The Woodland Gospels*. Later Jeremy was asked to turn them into a play for the City of London Festival in 1984.

Jeremy suggested having a musical version instead. And so the *Woodland Gospels according to Captain Beaky and his Band* was born. It has since been made into a TV special, broadcast on the BBC World Service and turned into a talking book.

Another gang of comic characters absorbed Jeremy during the Eighties. Along with his co-writer David Croft, he was chronicling the adventures of reluctant Resistance hero Rene Artois in the mega-hit *Allo 'Allo*.

The idea of reviving the Captain Beaky show was first discussed early last year at a meeting between Jeremy and management expert Jack Hylton. They decided the time was right. And Jeremy got to work writing some super new songs. The musical, now called *Heaven's Up*, opened at the MI Group Playhouse in London's Northumberland Avenue on December 6.

This all-singing, all-dancing, thoroughly wholesome family show seemed just the sort of entertainment for Association members of all ages. So a special deal has been worked out with Jack Hylton, who has a Rainbow-aged daughter, and Jeremy.

Four Thursday matinees were set aside as Girl Guide specials — December 27, January 3, 10 and 17 — subject to availability, when all seats would be £5.

Please note that a flier included in December's *TODAY'S GUIDE* gave different dates for the shows. The dates above are correct.

You'll recognise a few famous faces among the Woodland folk. Patrick Cargill is Artful Owl; remember his TV series *Father Dear Father* and *The Many Wives of Patrick*?

If you were around in the Sixties, you'll recall Mike Berry as a chart topper. As an actor he was hugely popular as Mr Spooner in *Are You Being Served?* And he makes a dashing Captain Beaky.

Reckless Rat, who keeps getting into trouble and fighting everyone, is played by Jack Wild. After stealing hearts as the Artful Dodger in *Oliver*, Jack found fame and fortune in the United States.

# Beaky's back

*A poem doodled on a dressing room mirror by lanky actor Jeremy Lloyd launched an army of animal characters that charmed both adults and children. The comic verses were turned into a best-selling book with spin-offs that included a hit record and a successful stage show.*



Backed by Batty Bat, Marsha Bland, and Jennie Galloway as Timid Toad, those three likely lads set about coaxing their old enemy, Hissing Sid, out of his wicked ways. And showing the rest of the Woodland folk that being good is much more fun than than being bad.

It's a show that has across-the-board appeal. The original Captain Beaky book, illustrated by actor Keith Michell, topped both the children's and the adults' *Times* best sellers lists.

And leading stars like Petula Clark,

Penelope Keith, Harry Secombe and Noel Edmonds were happy to appear on an LP that figured in the charts. The original Keith Michell record about Captain Beaky was Number One for 11 weeks.

From Monday to Saturday, the show starts at 7.30pm with matinees at 2.30pm on Thursdays and Saturdays. For full details ring the Box Office on 071-839 4401. If you want to take advantage of our special prices, remember to ask for Guidelines.

**A wide-eyed Brownie meets Captain Beaky and creator Jeremy Lloyd**



# Network

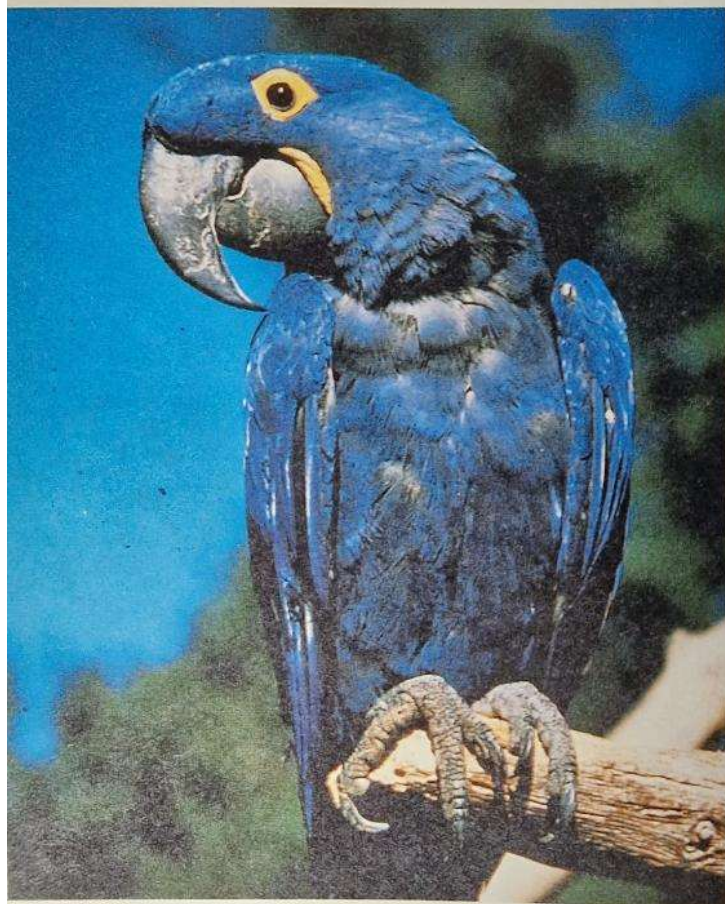
## SPREAD 'N' SLICE

Quick snack? Packed lunch? Picnic? Mattessons spreading pâtés and slicing sausage provide the instant answer. These ever-popular ranges have recently been extended.

The pâté selection now includes three new flavours: Liver and Onion, Smokey Chicken and Chicken Tikka.

And there are two extra sausages: Ham and Harvest (cured pork, turkey and cereals). More varieties — but at the same old good-value prices: 4oz for under 60p.

MATTESSONS



The hyacinthine macaw

## PARROT APPEAL

In its native Brazil, the beautiful hyacinthine macaw is being hunted to extinction — and is further endangered by the destruction of its natural habitat. Today, there are only about 2,000 left in the wild, and numbers are falling dangerously fast.

In a bid to save this magnificent bird — at one metre long, the world's largest par-

rot — the Hyacinthine Macaw Survival Trust was set up last autumn.

Based at Birdworld, in Surrey, the Trust aims to operate specialist breeding units and, ultimately, to reintroduce birds back into the wild inside protected areas. Further information from Birdworld, Holt Pound, Nr Farnham, Surrey GU10 4LD.

## BREATHE IN

Vehicle pollution has increased by 20 per cent in the last decade — as cyclists well know. To make breathing safer, many of them now wear protective masks. RESPRO, on the market since September, is the first anti-pollution mask designed exclusively for cyclists.

Contoured for maximum facial comfort and self-adjusting to ensure an effective seal, the mask incorporates a filter and exhalation valves — which combine to purify and sustain an optimum flow of air.

This hi-tech design won a technology award even before the mask reached the shops — let alone the



MAC

streets. RESPRO comes in two sizes and a range of fashion colourings.

It is completely washable with only the filter requiring replacement every month or so. Priced at £18.99, the mask is on sale at cycling and sports shops around the country. For details of stockists, tel: 071-587 3663.

## WISE HEADS

Once the problem of inhaling the noxious fumes has been solved by the cyclist, she or he still faces the problems of the ever-present dangers of cycling itself. The *British Medical Journal* in 1988 stated that 'pedal cycling is second only to motorcycling as the most dangerous form of travel per mile' and the

hazards for children are especially worrying.

The launch of the Britax Integra range of bicycle helmets and accessories for children could help. Britax have aimed to make the helmet fashionable as well as safe.

The helmet comes in two sizes, and adjustable pads ensure a good fit. An adjustable chin strap is secured with an easy-to-use buckle.

Made from impact-resistant polycarbonate, the helmet is well ventilated, comes in a choice of four fashionable fluorescent colours and has a reflective strip at the back.

The Integra is available from cycle accessory shops at around £35.



BRITAX



## DESTINATION MARS

Take a return ticket into space! This is not science fiction. It could happen — thanks to spaceplanes. A spaceplane is just what it says: a vehicle that takes off from a runway, climbs into space, and returns to the same — or another — runway.

Unlike the shuttle, which is only partly reusable, a spaceplane is ready for take-off again in just a day or two. Find out more at Spaceplanes, an exhibition at the Science Museum until February 28.

SCIENCE MUSEUM



A model spaceplane being carried into the exhibition



## REVOLUTIONARY CHINA

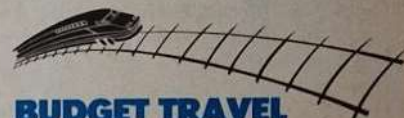
Next time you're visiting the British Museum, take in the Modern Gallery to see a recently-acquired group of Russian painted plates. Their striking decorations — bold and colourful — date from 1918-25, though the plates themselves are older.

Originally plain white, they were made for the Imperial household. However, following the Tsar's downfall and the Bolshevik takeover, factory stocks of these plates were painted with pro-revolutionary propaganda.

The plate illustrated, Petrograd 1921, was one of a series decorated and sold in

BRITISH MUSEUM

aid of the Volga region famine victims.



## BUDGET TRAVEL

The *Campus Traveller*, a useful reference for the young independent traveller, includes hints for a trouble-free trip, details of travel discounts — such as reduced rail fares with Eurotrain — and background information on destinations worldwide, from Austria to Zimbabwe.

The guide is available free from Campus Travel, the experts in youth and student travel. Contact your local Campus Travel shop or phone 071-730 3402.

## CUMBRIA ON TOUR

An exhibition of paintings and drawings by the outstanding landscape artist, Sheila Fell, is currently touring the country.

Sheila Fell was born and brought up in West Cumbria and, although she lived in London from the early 1950s onwards, her native Cumberland continued to inspire her.

By the time of her death in 1979 — aged only 48 — she had become one of the most remarkable landscape artists of her generation.

Not surprisingly, Cumbria features in many of the pictures on show — sometimes in sombre tones, sometimes in a gentler mood.

The exhibition is at the

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, LONDON



Royal Academy, London until January 15, then moves to Ayr (January 26-March 9), Kendal (March 16-April 28), Eastbourne (May 11-June

*Farmyard in Cumberland c 1974, Sheila Fell*

23) and Jarrow (July 4-August 11).

## FOREST FACTS

In *Welcome to my Forest* David Bellamy takes five to ten-year-olds on a woodland journey of discovery. Published by the Forestry Commission, this large-format, full-colour guide introduces trees, flowers, insects and birds, and, looking further afield, discusses the destruction of tropical rainforests.

There are also practical hints on identifying plants, birdwatching, planting trees from seed and building a bird box. *Welcome to my Forest* costs 20p and is available from local Forestry Commission district offices, visitor centres and forest shops.



In today's busy world, we are becoming more and more aware of the problems facing people with disabilities. But how often do we close our eyes and ears to what we see and hear?

Can you answer yes to any of these questions?

- Have you ever got out of bed in the morning with a stiff neck or shoulder?
- Do you feel tired and have sore feet at the end of a Saturday shopping spree?
- Have you said: 'The supermarket was so busy that it took me hours to do the shopping'?
- When abroad, have you felt frustrated when you don't understand what's being said around you?

I'm sure you replied yes to at least one question but problems like these face people with disabilities every day. They may ache and feel stiff from spending hours in a wheelchair, on crutches, or walking with difficulty. Shopping can take all day if they have to cope with a busy shop, a large supermarket or a town that has lots of steps and kerbs. The isolation of not seeing or hearing what is going on around you is something those of us fortunate enough to have our sight and hearing cannot even begin to imagine.

Wheelchairs, white sticks and hearing aids are the things we associate with disabilities. If someone is in a wheelchair, we label them as handicapped. If someone is carrying a white stick or is holding the harness of a guide dog, we label them as blind. If someone has a hearing aid, we label them as deaf... the labels we give them are often their biggest handicap.

Talk to the disabled and they will frequently tell you:

- People will stop in the street and bend down to talk to my guide dog, but they don't even acknowledge that I exist. It's as if he is easier to talk to. They label me as handicapped, and therefore dumb, stupid or a problem.
- They can't take their eyes off my wife, not just because she is pretty, but also because she is using sign language in a public place to talk to me. Just because I am deaf does not mean that I don't like going to a pub for a drink or talking when out shopping.

● When you open a tin and find you are just about to empty a tin of oranges in the beef casserole, you can get very frustrated with companies who change their labels and packaging, or supermarkets that change their layout.

Being dyslexic is a disability that is not obvious to everyone. Like many other disabilities, the people who are affected often keep it quiet and don't

# MY FEET ACHE

tell everyone.

Steps, doors and toilets are obvious hurdles to anyone with physical disabilities, whether in a wheelchair or not. Some public places are just like fortresses to the disabled. These members of our community do not ask for our sympathy. Sometimes they ask for donations to help them to have a quality of life nearer to our own. Most of all they need us to be more understanding about the difficulties they encounter.

It can be very frightening when things are going on around you and you cannot hear what is being said. A young woman, who was in hospital for some tests, was told by her family that she should be going home next day. Next morning the nurse gave her an operation consent form to sign: she protested as much as she could, but no one could clearly explain what was going on.

Eventually they called in a member of her family to explain what was happening, by which time she was very frightened.

Most of us have at one time had to manage to do a task with only one hand, but it is worth adapting this idea and trying to manage a whole meeting with one arm bound to the body, or one hand bandaged into a fist so that no fingers can be used.

Also, try sitting on a chair and trying to pick things up from the floor without falling off. Perhaps older members could try sitting in a chair in a kitchen and trying to make a drink on the worktop.

If a wheelchair can be borrowed, try challenging Rangers to go shopping



## INCREASE AWARENESS

Our young people can be helped to be more aware of these difficulties through awareness exercises. Try some of these activities — joining in yourself. Do set aside time to discuss what was felt by each member after each activity.

Organise the girls to work in pairs: one should try to explain something to the other without speaking. It could be 'Where are the toilets?' or 'Can I borrow your pencil?' or something more difficult. Bear in mind that deaf people can lip read, but are not always able to talk clearly.

with one of them being pushed in the wheelchair.

Awareness and understanding go hand in hand, if we are more aware of the difficulties, then we begin to understand and accept them. To understand the hidden disabilities is more of a challenge.

One last thought — a young teenage boy once said to me: 'My greatest wish is to be like all the other lads. Not to be able to walk but to be acceptable in their eyes as one of them, to be one of the lads.'

MARY WALKER  
Anglia Region



# Making dreams come true



CHARWOOD PHOTOGRAPHIC/LOUGHBOROUGH ECHO

Last year, just over 50 applicants were successful. Here are some of their stories.

Lindsay Gilbert, a Young Leader with the 7th Oakham Guides, started playing the clarinet at primary school. Eight years later she's still playing, and is now in two bands and an ensemble.

For ages she made do with a plastic instrument but knew she really needed a better model so started saving... The bursary made all the difference and, since last summer, Lindsay's been the proud owner of a wooden clarinet. It will be going with her at Easter when she tours Germany with the Rutland Concert Band.

Apart from playing the clarinet and studying for her A-levels, Lindsay is very active in Guiding — but that runs in the family — even if music doesn't. At her enrolment as a Guide in 1984 she had her grandmother's badge from 1924!

Young Leader, Helen Street, from Sutton Bonington, Loughborough, was selected for an international event — a Jamboree in Iceland attended by 1,500 Guides and Scouts. She found sponsors to cover the basic cost of the trip — £1,000 — but still had equipment to buy, including a new rucksack.

Having read about the Bursary Fund, Helen wrote in and asked for a grant. Soon, she was choosing a roomy blue and purple back pack — just what she needed. And it will be going with her to Austria this year and to America in 1992.

Last summer Carolyn Otley spent ten weeks in the USA — her father had

*Once again it's time to think O B-P B F. The Olave Baden-Powell Bursary Fund, set up in 1979, helps Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders achieve a particular project by making grants — up to a maximum of around £100. The grants, allocated in May, are intended to top-up whatever the girl has managed to raise on her own — to provide that little bit extra needed to turn her dream into reality.*

◀ Helen Street, and rucksack, back from Iceland  
Lindsay Gilbert and her new wooden clarinet ▶

a job there. Before she went, she contacted the relevant Girl Scout Council and arranged to join in various activities, including a backpacking trip in the Appalachians.

An enthusiastic photographer, Carolyn wanted to be able to take first-class pictures so that she could share her American experience when she got back home. However, she realised 'that to take good shots without the girls being over-conscious of the camera', she needed a telephoto lens.

Carolyn already had some money from a waitressing job and applied to the Fund for the balance. The lens was a terrific success. She took lots of slides in the USA which have since been shown to local Guide Companies, including her own. Carolyn is a Young Leader with the 9th Lancaster.

Yet another Young Leader who successfully applied to the Fund was Elizabeth Downing, who is with the 1st Norton Brownies. This time last year she'd just been offered a place at college to do a B Ed degree course with art as her major subject — her ambition for a long time.

Elizabeth was also 'trying to buy the necessary equipment'. She got herself a weekend job looking after children, and her family helped by giving her paints and brushes as Christmas and birthday presents.

But it was the money from the Fund that enabled her to buy two larger items: a radial easel and a lay figure. 'Both have been extremely useful,' she says. She's already used the easel for several large oil paintings 'so much better than taping the picture to a table' — and finds the lay figure a great boon. 'Unlike a model it doesn't move



JIM HARRISON

about.'

These success stories illustrate the scope of the Olave Baden-Powell Bursary Fund and show that the project need not be Guide-related — but it must be a genuine ambition, not just a spur-of-the-moment whim. Do you know of a Guide, Ranger or Young Leader who might benefit? If so, tell her about the scheme, which isn't means-tested. Then persuade her to read this article — or the one in February's *TODAY'S GUIDE* — and encourage her to write in for an application form enclosing a sae.

When it comes to filling in the form, the applicant has to present her case convincingly: explain what the project is, why it interests her, how much it is costing and what she is already doing to raise money.

Along with the completed form, a candidate has to send in a letter of recommendation (from a non-Guide person) supporting her application, giving background information about the girl's life outside Guiding.

Applications must be in by April 30 — so think OB-PBF now! Application forms are available from: The Secretary of the Olave Baden-Powell Bursary Fund, The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

Obviously, not everybody who applies will be lucky — but as Lindsay, Helen, Carolyn and the rest all agree, 'You've nothing to lose, so why not have a go!' 19



# Notices

## STAY SAFE

We would like to bring to the attention of all Guiders the danger of leaving girls unsupervised on the back of a bus or coach, especially near emergency exits, while you sit nearer the front.

Girls often lean heavily against doors and windows. This could result in the door opening and girls falling from the vehicle.

At all times, when using coaches or buses, at least one adult should be seated at the back with a clear view of emergency exits. And girls should be warned about the danger of leaning heavily against windows or doors.

## CORRECTION

In November's *GUIDING* in the Getting Out article on Touring in the Tyrol we gave an incorrect telephone number for the company, Going Places. The correct number is 081-891 4400. Our apologies to anyone who has been inconvenienced.

## CATS CAMP

**GUIDERS** — Are you thinking of taking your Guides to camp to gain experience as part of the Camp Training Scheme? Are you apprehensive about taking the first step? They why not bring a group to Foxlease from June 8 to 10, when there will be others doing just the same thing.

Foxlease is the ideal situation in which to run a 'first time' camp. Equipment is available for hire, there are lots of activity opportunities on site and, during this weekend, a team of experienced campers will be on hand to help and advise if needed.

You will run your own camp, plan your own programme and be completely self-contained, but with the advantage of others to share the experience and support you, if necessary, in giving the girls what is reckoned to be the best Guide experience — camping.

Write for more details 20 and an application form to

the Guider-in-Charge, Foxlease, Lyndhurst, Hampshire SO43 7DE.

## BADGE CHANGES

The following amendments have been agreed to Guide badge syllabuses:

**Conservation 1** Discuss with the tester the meaning of the following words: ecology, conservation, energy.

**Water Rescuer** syllabus to be deleted.

**Collective Emblems Service Emblem:** Awarded if you gain Emergency Helper, Accident Prevention and either First Aid, Home Nurse or Lifesaver and two badges of your own choice.

The last section of this section is to be deleted.

**Guide Camp Permit** Before taking this test hold the Advanced Camper badge.

## MRS MURNANE

In November's *GUIDING* we referred to the County Commissioner for Buckinghamshire as Miss Daphne Murnane. She is, of course, Mrs Murnane.

## STAMP SHOW

The Scout and Guide Stamps Club's annual exhibition will be held on Saturday, February 23 from 11 am to 5 pm at Baden-Powell House, Queen's Gate, South Kensington, London.

There is no charge for admission and a wide range of Scout/Guide stamps, covers, postcards and other philatelic material will be available.

## BAND COURSE

A National Scout and Guide Concert Band Course will be held at Gilwell Park from March 28 to April 1. The course is aimed at any Scout or Guide who plays an orchestral, woodwind or brass instrument or a percussionist or saxophone player provided they are aged between 13 and 20. Further details are available from: the Programme and Training Department, The Scout Association, Gilwell Park, Chingford, London E4 7QW.

Please note that applica-

tion forms are due in to the Scout Association by January 31.

## ORCHESTRA COURSE

The National Scout and Guide Symphony Orchestra Course will be held from July 29 until August 5 in Bristol.

The course will include tuition by professional musicians and two concerts. Afternoon activities will also be provided.

Acceptance for the course will be subject to selection. Applicants will need to have reached a good standard of playing and to have had orchestra experience. They must be between the ages of 13 and 25 by July 31 this year.

Application forms are available from: The Programme Manager, The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT. Details of costs and accommodation will be confirmed. Please note applications are due in by January 31.

## BEST SELLER

The *Brownie Fun Book* written by Lynn Hurdwell, Editor of *BROWNIE*, and editorial consultant Deborah Manley, was at Number 5 in the Children's Activity Book section of the bestsellers lists published by *Bookseller* at the end of October. Published by Hippo, it costs £2.50 — have you got your copy?

## THINKING DAY/FOUNDER'S DAY SERVICE

The Thinking Day/Founder's Day Service will be held at 11 am on Saturday, February 23. We were unable to obtain a suitable third venue for the service and, therefore, services will be in Westminster Abbey and St Margaret's Church only.

Admission to the services will be by ticket only, obtainable from your Country/Region Headquarters. Do not apply until you have been informed through the usual channels of the proce-

dures to be adopted by your Country/Region.

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

The following hymns will be sung during the service:

*Tell out my soul, Make me a channel of your peace, Come sing and praise Jesus, When I needed a neighbour.*

They can all be found in *Hymns for Today's Church*.

## HAM HELP

It is expected that the new Amateur Radio Novice Licence will be launched any time now. Beginners of all ages may study for this licence. It is hoped that young people of Guide and Ranger age will be particularly interested, but Guiders may also take part.

The courses will be run only by registered instructors. The maximum number of students will be four per instructor. Courses will last about 30 hours, and afterwards there will be a multiple choice type of examination. Those who wish can also study morse code and take an extra test for this. Guides who have passed their Radio Communication badges should have a good basis for the course.

It is hoped that the first licences will be awarded this spring. It would be excellent if some of the new licencees were members of the Guide Movement. To find out more ask your local amateur radio club or contact Clive Trotman GW4 YKL, 19 Park View, Dolau, Llanharan, Mid-Glamorgan CF7 9RZ, tel: 0443 226198. Jennifer Jackson, TDOTA Co-ordinator may also be able to help.

Calling all Guiders with Amateur Radio Licences. It is hoped that some of you will apply to be registered as Novice Licence instructors. Only registered instructors are allowed to be responsible for teaching students preparing for the examination. If you are hoping to teach your Guides yourself you must be registered.



## DOORS OPEN ON NEW GUIDING HOME

When The World Chief Guide visited Guides all over the world she was often asked to open a new building. She would give a donation towards the doors as a symbolic gesture that the doors of Guiding are open to girls and leaders everywhere to enter to prepare them for the wide world outside.

It was therefore a great delight when Gillian Clay, the grand-daughter of the Founder and the World Chief Guide suggested that the present family should contribute towards the front doors at Pax Lodge.

There were 11 members of the family present on September 29 when Natasha King, the grand-daughter of Olave, Lady Baden-Powell's elder daughter, Heather, formally 'opened' the doors by untying a large blue and white ribbon.

The ceremony took place during a weekend for the Friends of Pax Lodge. Many of them brought Brownies, Guides, Rangers and Young Leaders along. While the Friends' meeting was held, the young visitors were entertained to a variety of activities from around the world, organised by the house assistants. The highlight of these activities was the making and demolishing of a Mexican pinata.

The afternoon started outside the Olave Centre with the raising of the special Pax Lodge flag beside the World flag. When the doors to Pax Lodge had been 'opened', everyone went through into the conference



Natasha King — Olave, Lady Baden-Powell's great grand-daughter.

room. There they were greeted by the staff of Pax Lodge singing the new Pax Lodge song. Representatives from 14 countries attended and each one was asked to light a candle and to lead the renewing of the Promise of their

Association.

It was a very simple but moving reminder that Pax Lodge is indeed a home where Guides from around the world can meet together.

PN

## STILL TIME TO GIVE

**This is the last month of the Christmas Good Turn '90 Appeal which ends on January 31. So, if you haven't yet done anything to help, there's just enough time for some last-minute fund raising. The GGFF is counting on you.**

Remember, any contribution, no matter how small, will be welcome and used to bring a little bit of sunshine into someone's life.

Last year the British Diabetic Association received £7,500 to provide 'learning-to-cope' educational holidays for children and the National Playbus Association was given £2,000 as a result of your greatly appreciated support. It was a first-class effort but this time, with inflation rearing its ugly head again, we must do even better.

Over the past few months *GUIDING* has focused on the sterling work of the two charities chosen to benefit from our '90 Appeal, SENSE — the National

Deaf-Blind and Rubella Association — and the Sick Children's Trust Home From Home Appeal.

If you read how SENSE helps deaf-blind children, young people and their families through special teaching, therapy, residential care and sheltered workshops, you will agree that this splendid charity deserves whatever help we can give.

And similarly with the Sick Children's Trust, whose work we have also described in some detail. December's *GUIDING* told how a family from Lincoln, with a baby girl fighting for life in London's Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, had found a haven in one of the Trust's homes in their hour of crisis.

Acutely-ill, small children need the presence of their parents but, all too often, the parents have to 'camp' in hospital wards under conditions that can only add to their stress and anxiety. That was why the Trust was formed to set up homes where parents

can stay, while being within easy reach of their sick child. The Trust has two homes serving Great Ormond Street, one for St Bartholomew's, and another which they hope to open soon for patients at Moorfields Eye Hospital, in London.

Even if they were able to find hotel accommodation near enough to the hospital, many parents would be unable to afford it. They can stay at a Trust Home from Home free of charge for one month. The scheme has been so successful that the Trust now plans to extend it to the North of England, which is another good reason for us to help them.

Guiders, we know, are very busy people. You and your girls support many worthy causes during the year but it is important that everyone supports the GGFF, too.

So, PLEASE, if you and your girls haven't already done your bit for Good Turn '90 — get cracking right NOW! There isn't a moment to spare.

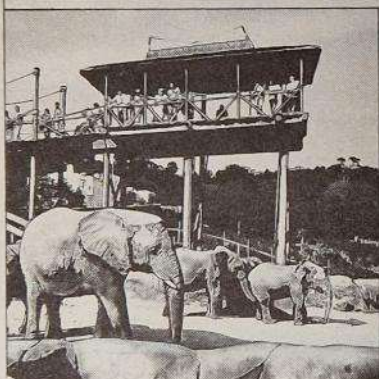
PAX  
Lodge

GGFF



# GUIDES ON SAFARI WINDSOR SAFARI PARK

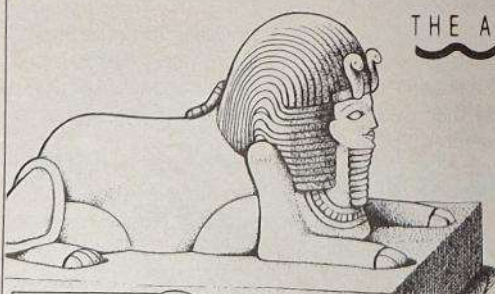
Why not venture into deepest Africa with your club, families and friends to enjoy a day at Windsor Safari Park.



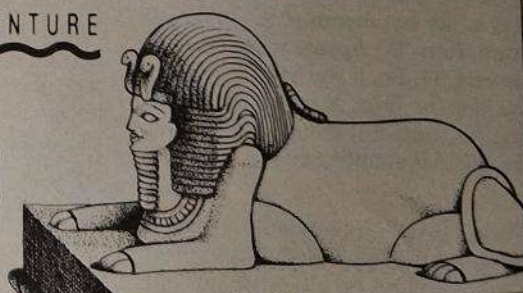
Enter the Park past sphinxes, pyramids and through a Moroccan Courtyard. Journey through the reserves on one of our new Safari Roadtrains to come close to some of nature's most magnificent animals. See a herd of seven African elephants from the 'Tree Tops' lookout, or even join in Windsor's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday celebrations. Travel down the Congo river on the African Queen Riverboat Ride. Everyone is invited to enjoy the 'African Adventure' at a special all-inclusive price of £4.95 for both adults and



children. Normal admission will be £8.95 adults and £6.95 children. This special rate only applies on a pre-payment basis for a minimum of twelve people in one vehicle. For more information please call the Party Booking Office on (0753) 830886.



## THE AFRICAN ADVENTURE



GIRL GUIDES ON SAFARI - APRIL 27TH, MAY 11TH,  
JUNE 8TH & SEPTEMBER 21ST 1991

GROUP NAME

DATE OF VISIT

ADDRESS

(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

LEADER

TELEPHONE NO.

TOTAL IN PARTY

(

ADULTS

CHILDREN (4-14))

TOTAL AMOUNT OF CHEQUES/POSTAL ORDERS ENCLOSED

WINDSOR SAFARI PARK, WINKFIELD ROAD, WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE SL4 4AY





The start of a new year always brings a time of reflection. Did we achieve what we had hoped to in the year past? What do we want to achieve in the year to come? I arrived at the conclusion some years ago now that there was no need to define New Year resolutions. People find them hard enough to keep, and choosing them is even more difficult.

I like to think quietly about some of the special things I want to do and the general direction I'd like life to follow for the next 12 months. But, of course, as we all know, it never works out the way you plan.

Last year saw my 30th birthday and I felt grown up at last. However, a strong yearning for inflatable castles at the fair still hankers, let's hope that continues to be an important part of growing up!

So this month I'm sure you'll understand why I'm being more serious than usual. After all, when we stagger home after our unit meetings, having probably dashed there directly from work clutching a heavy bag of gadgets and whatnots, we fall into our armchairs and our immediate thoughts are always of our girls.

We all get a lot of pleasure and fun from our girls, they share so much of their lives with us. Even when they move on to new things, we think of them fondly many years later. While

we remember the entertaining moments, we also remember the tears and sadness too.

Nearly ten years after she skipped through my life, I still think of Clare. A very skinny, pale child but pretty with long dark hair and big brown eyes. She appeared one evening in May with her mother, equally pale and thin but with a world-weariness in her eyes. Clare stayed that evening and returned regularly through the summer term.

At the end of July the Brownies were busy packing for the annual Pack Holiday and Clare wistfully asked to come too. I didn't hesitate before saying: 'Yes, come with us.' She arrived the next morning to meet the coach — no luggage, no coat. Understandable perhaps as her mother had earlier confided that they lived in bed and

breakfast homeless accommodation.

Clare had the most wonderful week away! Every time we played outside in the sunshine on the soft grass, she was busy practising her somersaults and handstands. As days went by Clare grew tanned and relaxed. She was an absolute joy to be with.

I never saw her again after the summer. Her family moved on and were untraceable. But I do still think of her and wonder what she's doing now.

Guiding brings us into contact with so many new friends and the opportunity to share new experiences we might otherwise never have encountered. So let's resolve to enjoy another fulfilling and fun year of Guiding in 1991 and to grow from the challenges with which our girls present us.

# swallow's TALES



Quite a few of us may have dreamed of the glamour of a job with the BBC. One ex-Ranger, Jane Thompson, has had the chance to realise her ambition with a career as a radio studio manager. However, this mature 24-year-old is unlikely to let the excitement go to her head, as Jo Cox found out, when she went to talk to her — and to gawp at the radio stars.

It's difficult for an incurable Radio 4 addict to visit Broadcasting House without feeling a flutter of excitement. I was fascinated as Jane Thompson led me expertly through the warren of corridors and tiny studios, showing me the radio presenters at work, so that I could fit faces to the famous radio voices.

# HOOKED ON RADIO

side of the glass, I asked her to describe her job.

'Studio managers are in charge of the technical quality of a programme. We're in the middle, between the broadcasters and the technicians. I often say to people who ask about my job, "You know Steve Wright? Well, I'm one of his Afternoon Boys." We're the

education with a job... at Waddow Hall, the Guiding Training Centre in Lancashire.

'I've been the lot — Brownie, Guide, Ranger, Young Leader and Assistant Brownie Guider, in my mum's Brownie Pack,' Jane explained. So working at Waddow came naturally. Jane's mum is Margaret Thompson, a well-known Guiding figure from Bolton — a former Training Advisor for North West England and, at present, an Assistant Division Commissioner, among many other Guiding posts.

As a junior at Waddow Jane 'cleaned the toilets, worked in the kitchen, everything'.

She is grateful for the experience the job gave her. 'It taught me diplomacy,' she said with a grin. 'Until then I hadn't been very good at biting my tongue. And that was certainly a valuable lesson for this job. I learned tolerance. And I made a lot of good friends.'

After Waddow Jane went to the City University in London to take a music degree.

It was a course with a very practical emphasis, including sound recording. It was then that Jane's desire to work for BBC radio really crystallized, and the Beeb accepted her as a trainee.

'I had thought vaguely I'd like to work with music — but I came with an open mind, and I think I've found my niche,' she said. And that's news and current affairs.

'I've worked in drama, which can be an absolute hoot — or an absolute nightmare. You have to be very methodical and organised and together for drama — and I'm not.

'With news what appealed to me is that it's live: it's gone and that's it. It can be very stressful. You've got to react quickly. There's no time to stand there and say, "Well... maybe we could..." You're flying by the seat of your pants.

'Sometimes you wish you had more time. You'll be mixing two or three packages on the air, and you have to get it right first time. You may wish you'd done it differently, but you have to learn to live with that. When you do



Jane in action  
at the Beeb

For Jane, of course, this is all in a day's work. Her two years at the BBC and her good-humoured and mature approach to her career ensure that she is by no means star-struck.

'You can meet anyone in this job,' she said. 'Craig McLachlan was here the other day.' She wasn't noticeably overawed by the brush with a *Neighbours* star.

It's not that Jane is blasé about her encounters with the famous — 'Things like that are fun' — it's just that she appreciates everyone's contribution to the team. As we sat in a control studio, the news being read out on the other

people you never see. But we're there, and if something goes wrong it's usually because of us.'

Most of the time, however, when everything goes right the studio managers have played their part well.

What was Jane's route to the BBC? Had she always wanted to work there?

'No — until I was 18 I wanted to be a doctor. It was actually my bassoon teacher who suggested it. I'll always be grateful that he put the idea in my head. The rest of the school's attitude was "Sound recording — that's chappies with long hair and jeans, isn't it?"'

After A levels Jane took a break from



something wrong, you have to get yourself out of the hole and carry on. There's no time to cry over spilt milk."

Jane sounded pretty organised and together to me. As studio manager you have to be the one who's in control, she conceded.

"It can be very hectic when a story breaks and, if you panic, it's all going to go wrong. ... I do seem to be painting us as the heroes saving the day," she said, smiling broadly.

With news happening 24 hours a day, Jane's job is no nine-to-five affair. She has a very irregular working week — including night shifts.

She is philosophical about this lack of routine.

"In some ways it's nice. You can get your shopping done when the supermarkets aren't full of other people."

Of course, it also creates problems. "You have to have understanding friends. I have lost some. My boyfriend works for the World Service at Bush House, and sometimes the shift work can mean we don't see each other for well over a week."

"If you're not careful you find that you only see BBC friends because they understand. And, if you only see BBC people and can't talk about anything

else, it gets very boring. You need to stand back and put it all in perspective."

Which is where Guiding comes in. Jane is hoping to get back into active Guiding, despite her erratic working week — "if I can find someone who's prepared to put up with me."

*'Guiding gives  
you the  
confidence to try  
things you  
wouldn't  
otherwise try.'*

She is a strong advocate for keeping Guiding for girls only.

"People sometimes ask me if I wouldn't have preferred to be a Venture Scout rather than a Ranger. But no. It's better to get away from boys occasionally — from all that competition."

"So many girls go to mixed schools now that it's good for them to be able

to get together without the boys pulling their pigtails. The difference in their self-confidence is incredible. A Joint Unit is good. But if you want to go rock climbing without getting laughed at, or canoeing without being called a girlie, you should get the chance."

She continued: "People here tease me unmercifully about Guiding but I don't care. I got my Duke of Edinburgh Gold while I was with the Rangers. Guiding gives you the confidence to try things you wouldn't otherwise try."

Jane's decision to try a career with the BBC has certainly proved the right one. Her continued training will take her on to gain experience in television.

"I think I'm a radio person, though," she says. "In my job you're more centre stage here. The sound is the programme in radio."

So, what are her ambitions? Does she burn to be a producer, an announcer, a presenter, or a journalist? Others have made this journey. Jane seems very happy with the job she does now. She keeps an open mind about the future.

"I wouldn't mind producing, maybe, but I'll confess my real ambition."

I listened attentively. "I'd love to read the shipping forecast."

'We're no Squares,' was the verdict of a group of 20 Rangers and Young Leaders, who spent five days at Netherurd, the Scottish Training Centre.

They were asked to come up with an advertisement to persuade other youngsters to attend future events.

Their approach was to start by suggesting that only squares joined the GGA because it was 'boring' — and then prove just how wrong that idea was.

"We had a great time burning cakes; making new friends; falling in rivers and off swing boats; posing for (or avoiding) photographs and videos;

learning how to make flowers from old tights or crêpe paper and wax; glass engraving; macramé and quilting; putting tents up blindfolded or with some other handicap ... to name but a few," they said.

At Netherurd, they added, you could 'cook out-of-doors, make your own video, go gorge walking, develop craft skills, take and develop your own photographs, build a scaled-down suspension bridge, sleep out-of-doors in a shelter you made yourself, go on a visit to the Dome of Discovery in Glasgow ... all in beautiful surroundings

**WELL-ROUNDED  
FUN**

with a friendly atmosphere."

The overall impression? Exciting, adventurous and definitely fun. And as they said afterwards: "You don't just make friends at Netherurd, you make friends of people you have just met!"

Larking around  
at Netherurd





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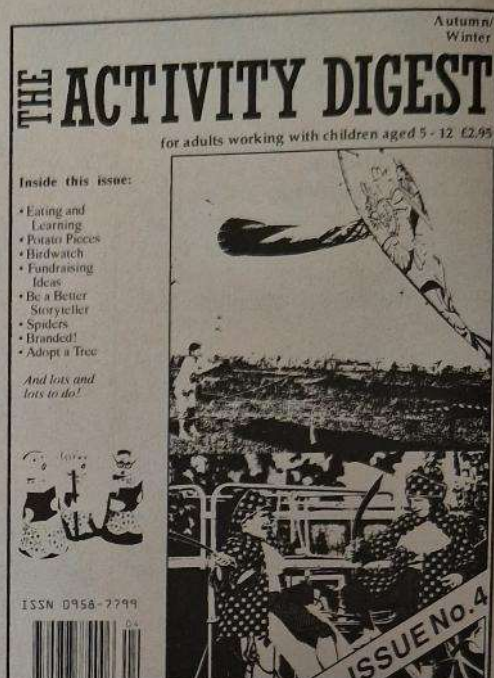
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# YOUTH FOR EUROPE

**As 1992 approaches, heralding the prospect of a united Europe, it's time to start thinking about the implications that this union will have on young people.**

**Catherine Harle, a Young Leader with 4th Droitwich Guide Company, and a member of Droitwich Rangers recently attended the fourth European Youth Seminar in London, which focused on this very subject.**

**Representing Worcestershire Guides, Catherine was surprised to find that she was the only GGA member there. As she felt it was a good opportunity to learn about this important subject — and make friends — Caroline sent us her views.**

The seminar was held to enable young Europeans to come together and discuss the implications, problems and benefits of a united Europe. It also gave those involved a chance to get to know one another, thus providing a better understanding of each other's cultures and backgrounds. And, hopefully, to form links at grass-roots level which will help to build a united Europe.

Aimed at 16-19-year-olds, delegates attended from Germany, Switzerland, France, Italy, Spain and the UK. Of the UK delegation six of us came from England and I hope that more GGA members will be inclined to take part in next year's event.

During the week we were divided into eight groups of mixed nationalities. In these groups we discussed various topics and worked at certain tasks.

In the morning we covered issues of interest to young Europeans with presentations being given by various countries, usually chaired by a visiting expert.

## BRITISH EDUCATION

The week began with a discussion on education. After outlining our system we decided that British education is deeper and narrower than the systems used in other European countries. We concluded that if there are to be increased job opportunities abroad

and a truly united Europe, then the education systems must be brought closer together while still remaining individual.

When we talked on Tuesday about the problems facing young people — drugs, suicide, racism, the difficulties of getting a place at school or university — it became obvious that the same pressures existed across Europe.

On Wednesday we concentrated on job opportunities in Europe. Although the qualifications required in law, engineering and accountancy were basically the same, clearly the fact that you have to pass various tests and, in some cases, join a European body, acted as quite a big barrier to European unity.

As we were talking about music across Europe on Thursday, we were taken that morning on visits to recording studios. I went to Virgin Olympic studios at Barnes. We walked where the stars have trod — but, typically, there were none that day.

After realising how much it costs to hire a recording studio I shall not begrudge paying for an album again!

## SPORTING STARS

One of the organisers from the World Student Games, due to be held next year in Sheffield, talked to us on Friday.

*'Much work  
needs to be done  
if Europe is to be  
united...'*

Sport is one way in which young people from all over Europe can come together, and we can expect to see the sports stars of the future at the games.

During the afternoon sessions we visited various institutions to look at the way they are tackling problems faced by all Europeans.

Our first outing was to Shell International to learn how they handle environmental issues. We felt that they glossed over certain things and weren't

specific enough. Although they tried hard to convince us, we felt that they exploited the Third World and weren't doing enough for the environment. Their approach seemed to be that accidents inevitably happen, which wasn't the right attitude for a huge multi-national company.

On Tuesday we took tea with the Lord Mayor of London.

Wednesday found us carrying out a street survey on the EC and German reunification. We found that older people felt threatened by Germany becoming one nation. We also discovered that there were fears that Germany would dominate a united Europe. The British emerged as generally very anti-European.

## MEDIA STORIES

A French journalist working for the BBC joined us on Thursday afternoon to discuss the media's influence on European youth. We concluded that the media can have a great influence and often change people's lives through just one story. The only way we can stop the media interfering in people's private lives is by not supporting the papers that print such stories.

The week ended with a mock European Parliamentary debate being staged. We were divided equally over nuclear power and all but one were in favour of German reunification, although the majority felt the process should slow down.

During the week we heard about and discussed a wide range of issues which relate to European unity and the future of Europe. Much work needs to be done if Europe is to be united to bring countries closer together, while, at the same time, maintaining each country's national identity.

Most of the delegates at the seminar were supported not by a youth organisation as I was, but by their local authority. It is our generation that is going to change Europe and, if we are to do it successfully, I feel that we need more seminars like this one with more people attending, sponsored by a wider range of organisations within the community.

In this way, we shall be able to change Europe for the better, not worse, and make it a finer place for future generations.





The island  
investiture

MARGARET COURTNEY

# RANGERS FILL THE GAP

*The Plumstead District Rangers were lucky. After all, it's not every newly-formed Unit that is invested on Brownsea Island in Dorset, site of the Founder's first, experimental camp way back in 1907. And, considering that they set off on Friday 13th, it went off without a hitch. Well, almost...*

'We did get lost on the way,' explained Carol Walker. 'We lost the car that we were supposed to be following and had to ring someone to find out the address of the camp. But it turned out OK for us,' she added, 'because the others had started putting the tent up.'

Carol was one of seven Guides who had 'come of age' in March last year —

at 14 she felt too old for Guides and was too young to start the Young Leader Scheme.

There wasn't a Ranger Unit nearby that they could join. We had to do something because we didn't want to lose them,' explained Margaret Courtney, their District Commissioner. They could still go along to Guides to help

out or wait and do a Young Leader course, but they decided that they wanted more than that.'

So, with Margaret's help and encouragement, they put their heads together and decided to form a Ranger Unit. But that was easier said than done.

Ranger Guides form the smallest section of the Movement. This is often



attributed to girls getting snowed under with schoolwork and GCSE exams between 14 and 16 and having to sacrifice Guiding as a result.

The Plumstead Rangers are living proof that Units can find a way around this problem. By meeting once a fortnight they can give Rangers — and their homework — the time they deserve.

They did have a few teething troubles. They had no Ranger Guider at first but Margaret helped out, while a Ranger Guider was trained. Two 'trouble makers' apparently did their best to disrupt the Unit but, once they had left, it was plain sailing.

'Once you've formed a group and it's been going six months, if it's viable you can then register and keep it going,' said Margaret. 'If the girls hadn't shown so much interest we would have disbanded,' she added.

As Margaret points out, no Unit can survive without its life force — enthusiasm. And the Plumstead Rangers have plenty of that. 'They get involved in everything,' says Margaret.

Letting the girls decide their own programme seems to keep spirits up and attendance high. Jenny Young found that the transition between Guides and Rangers gave her independence. 'At Rangers we can arrange everything ourselves. We decide as a group what we want to do and then take it in turns to plan it out,' she said.

The girls weren't tempted to join Venture Scouts instead of Rangers — they feel that being in a single sex organisation has too many benefits to ignore.

'All-girl groups are better for personal things,' says Carol. 'If you're with loads of boys you can't guarantee that, when things go wrong, they're going to be understanding. But when there are just girls you can talk openly about things.'

Carol added: 'Girls are much more tolerant than boys. When we played tennis at Rangers I only hit the ball five times in the whole hour and no one got fed up with me. When I missed the ball we just laughed about it — but boys would probably get fed up really quickly.'

She feels that being with girls boosts her confidence. 'Sometimes boys can go over the top. They'll take the mickey if you can't do something and that makes you feel more nervous!'

Margaret, a Guide Guider herself, recognises all the benefits that Ranger Units offer the girls and feels that perseverance and flexibility can iron out many of the problems that they may encounter.

'If girls want to stay in Guiding, there is nothing to do between the ages of



Two of the Plumstead Rangers explore Guiding's past at CHQ.

14 and 15 and this is the age group the Movement seems to be losing,' explained Margaret. 'They need something for themselves. Rangers can fill this gap.'

Rangers is an important stepping stone — it helps the girls make that all-important leap from Guide to Guider. Both Carol and Jenny have every intention of staying on in the Movement and putting back in as Guiders all the knowledge and experience they have gained from being Brownies, Guides and Rangers.

Jenny hopes to become a Brownie Guider. She's not old enough to start a Young Leader Scheme so, in the meantime, is enjoying Rangers. Carol finds time to help out at the 2nd Abbey Wood Brownies and Guides and still

keep up her commitment to Rangers, though she admits she doesn't know how she does it. 'I've just about got time to sleep!' she said.

I met a few of the Rangers while they were helping out at CHQ during their summer holidays. As tour guides, they gave visiting units, many from abroad, a blast from the Guiding past, showing them relics and artefacts and bringing alive the history of Guiding.

Since then, months have passed and their enthusiasm for Rangers is far from flagging. Numbers are swelling, and though new recruits may have missed out on that special weekend at Brownsea Island, they are bound to enjoy the 'easygoing Guiding' that the Plumstead Rangers can provide.



# Small is beautiful

*These days 18-year-old Nicola Hulse hasn't much time to play electric guitar in a band; she's too busy studying for maths, physics and economics A-levels — and is getting very fed up with filling in university application forms. But Nicola, a Ranger with Crowthorne Unit in Berkshire and a member of the Central Planning Team for Celebration '91, found time to pass on some useful tips on running a small unit.*

I have been in Guiding since I was seven and a cute little Brownie. This year I have been chairman of our Ranger Unit. In that time our numbers have risen from four to 24 and are now back to ten.

At the moment on average about five Rangers turn up for a meeting. Many Ranger Units are this size, which presents problems.

You may feel that being a small Unit must mean that activities can't be as 'wild'. Why not? After all, small is beautiful — and easier to organise. Admittedly, larger groups may be able to negotiate price cuts, so why not join with another group, older Guides, Venture Scouts or all invite a friend along to qualify for group discounts.

Inviting a speaker is a popular programme item. It can be a bit embarrassing having organised a speaker to find they have to talk to only four people.

Avoid the embarrassment by preparing the ground. Be pessimistic and you may be pleasantly surprised. Explain how small an audience you could have



— you'll find most people prefer talking to small groups. It has the advantage of being more friendly, informal and there are more biscuits for everyone!

Or you could try to pick a topic or speaker everyone is interested in or concerned with. Be adventurous — remember local businesses are always ready to talk. It is in their interest as future employers to let youngsters know who they are.

Try firms like the Body Shop; environmental activists; and colour consultants who advise on make up and clothes. Or, better still, why don't you go to them. It takes a little more organisation but some companies welcome visitors.

Keep a record of all contacts or activity ideas in your County; include them in a news-sheet. People are always ready to say Guides don't do enough outdoor activities. That's rubbish. Perhaps we do have to fill in permission slips but that's no problem — photocopy them. In each Guiding County there are many Advisers and instructors ready to help with activities. Often, if they are too busy, Scouters can help out.

Money can be a problem for a small Unit as there is not much money coming in, while fixed costs like rent are high. You can always lay on the usual fête-type things, but investigate sponsorship. Try for backing for one specific event, if not for the whole Unit programme. Recycling can bring a source of income and also provides a service. Write to your county council — ours was extremely helpful.

Time is an enemy. Rangers can choose all sorts of activities but they have to be organised. Most of us have GCSEs or A-levels coming up, which take up huge amounts of time. Small Units especially suffer because there aren't many people to share the jobs.

One answer is to try to build up the numbers. Stay in close contact with existing members and, if someone

doesn't come for a while, find out why. Communication is a key word. Make sure no one is left out and everyone knows what's going on. Photocopy programmes. Young Leaders are welcome to all Ranger meetings but don't often realise it — give them a programme and make personal contact.

Unfortunately Guides don't automatically decide to be Rangers. Publicity is needed to combat this.

My Unit staged a wide game for all 13-plus Guides in the area. It was a great success. We are planning to visit each Guide unit and run a meeting for an evening, or make a video to show. Target older girls taking their Baden-Powell Trefoil.

Get as much publicity as possible — in newspapers, on radio or at local events like fêtes.

Joining up with Venture Scouts is not the complete answer but can help. It increases numbers and brings variety and new ideas.

Then there are the leaders. Can't live with them, can't live without them! Every Guider is a volunteer. We ought to remember that if it wasn't for them there would be no meetings at all.

They are usually very busy women but are obviously interested in you or they wouldn't stay around. You may think you know more than they do but



many Guiders know an awful lot — use that knowledge.

In the '90s Guides and Rangers have so much competition. Accept you aren't in the same league as flashy discos, night clubs or pubs. Offer instead a different, more varied range of activities. Don't meet on a Friday though, it is a serious party/pub night.

I know Guiding has an 'untrendy' reputation but, by the time you are Ranger age, it doesn't seem to matter. If you are worried, no one need know — you could be a closet Ranger! There are plenty around. You may have to stand up to peer pressure but be determined. Do what you want to do.

Guiding is such an amazing organisation. It has so much potential and offers back-up for whatever you want to do. Be proud to be part of it and make it work for you.

**NICOLA HULSE**



When we read these comments on adolescence in the *Yorkshire Post*, we asked the Editor for permission to reprint the piece to see if you agreed with the author's views.

## NOT QUITE ADULTS

Do you recall your adolescence? That indistinct territory when one is neither child nor fully adult? I place it between the ages of 12 and 15.

It was never an easy age. But today it is harder than ever because, while we heap pressure upon young teenagers to behave and look like adults, we live in a society which does not actually allow them to be adults at all.

I refer in particular to how our precious 12 to 15-year-olds spend their time. They can buy slinky outfits for night-club visits, but they cannot visit night clubs. They can buy T-shirts emblazoned with rock stars' faces, but they are unwelcome at rock stars' concerts. Their clothes are literally miniature versions of adult attire, but adulthood will elude them for quite a few years yet. Frustrating? Anyone who has lived with a teenager will know that frustrating is hardly the word.

## CHILD HATERS

The problem with Great Britain is that it does not really like children very much. Especially when they are aged between 12 and 15. While advertisers can make lots of dirty money selling designer-labels to adolescents, the average adult does not wish to enjoy his or her cocktail with a 12-year-old perched on the next bar-stool.

Read teenage magazines (there are hundreds to choose from) and you will notice how the pursuit of adult lifestyles is advocated on every page. But it is skin-deep sophistication and, in their

hearts, most teenagers know it. Hence such a widespread sense of belligerent protest by young people at this difficult age. They are being led up the garden path towards adulthood, only to have the door shut in their faces.

In short, there is almost nothing, entertainment-wise, for 12 to 15-year-olds to do. So they roam the streets in packs, boys and girls alike, literally all dressed up with nowhere to go.

The young males of the species lope lankily along, hands stuffed in fashionable pockets, hair cleverly clipped, looking for some kind of action if only they knew how to recognise it.

## DISAPPOINTED

The girls do not really walk. I have noticed: they prefer to stand in chattering groups on street corners, like bowls of milk put out for the cat. Hair stiff with hair spray, hearts full of expectation fuelled by salacious TV programmes... and almost certain to be disappointed.

Television, of course, gives them a constant diet of sex and gore upon which to base their expectations. But, suddenly, when they want to see the same pulp at the cinema, they are told they have to be 15 or over. So Saturday night at the pictures is most definitely out.

Where next, then? Restaurants? No way. Most of the nation's eating houses are either too stuffy or too expensive — and almost none of them welcomes adolescents anyway.

# a personal VIEW

## NIGHT EXILE

How about bars? Well, if they are wine bars you have the over-18 problem and, if they are coffee bars, they invariably close by early evening. And yet I fail to see why adolescents should be exiled from these places at night. The whole of the rest of Europe manages to make a success of catering for drinkers and non-drinkers alike... so why cannot we? By segregating alcohol, we merely make it more appealing.

Given that on public transport young people are easy prey for supposedly fully-grown adults, who tend to get drunk and hit each other on the way home, even travelling is an out-of-bounds business.

No surprise, then, that we have what the Americans call an attitude-problem on our hands. We sophisticate our youth so that they hold Guide camps and youth clubs in contempt, then pretend we do not see while they swig cider in shop doorways and despise us for excluding them from adult social life.

By the time our young people are 16, we start to treat them almost like human beings. But the damage may already have been done. During their vital, formative, adolescent years, they might just have developed a lifestyle not only beyond our gaze but also beyond our darkest fears. I would prefer to have them alongside us any day.

● By Courtesy of the *Yorkshire Post*.

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.

What a bright bunch you are. Readers had no problems answering the three questions posed in our September's camera competition.

We asked which year the first camp was held on Brownsea Island; the date when our President, Princess Margaret,

was born and when the World Chief Guide died.

Out of hundreds of entries, the first eight chosen who answered 1907; August 21, 1930; and June 25, 1977 won the Ricoh L-20 Date cameras.

They are: Mrs Naomi Benson, Harrow,

Middlesex; Mrs Susan Young, Chelmsford, Essex; Anne Knight, St Agnes, Cornwall; Mrs J M Johnson, Poynton, Cheshire; Mrs Eileen Harvey, Newthorpe, Nottingham; Miss Katie Paynter, Silsoe, Bedford; Marjorie Marks, Gillingham, Kent; and Mrs A Molyneux, Cheshire.

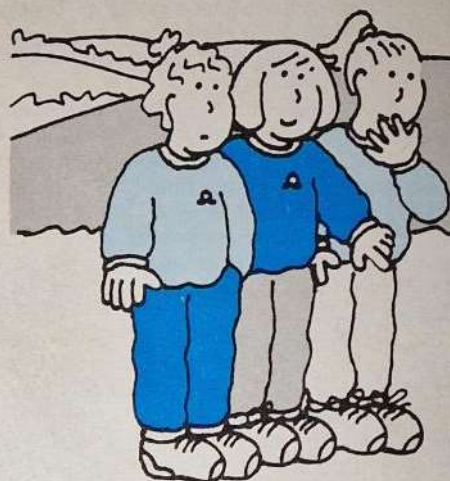


# AND SO THIS IS RANGERS

*A 'Ms Pepys' from Swinton Ranger Guide Unit chronicles some of their misadventures*

My diary for 1991 is still almost unblemished. There's a big star by my birthday, of course, and a few other dates are marked with a cryptic message. There's a ten-day block in August that looks important, but I can't

produced. But it's still subject to changes, approved or otherwise. 'Meeting, 7.30pm' usually means 'Meeting somewhat nearer 8pm'. As we meet on a Thursday I suppose no-one can bear to miss any of *Top of the Pops*,



remember why. Something to do with camping, I think!

The great thing about having a nearly empty diary is that it looks so lovely and neat. Glancing back over last year's diary I can't see the pristine pages lasting very long like that.

There's so much to cram on the pages that even the barest notes on the Rangers' programme soon make it look untidy.

Strange that we really do so much when the committee always claim to have an impossible time trying to plan a programme and everyone in the Unit looks blank when asked to suggest activities that they might like to try.

We've generally got over being tongue-tied by the time the programme for the coming term has finally been

however terrible the week's charts.

Altered or not, the official programme of Ranger activities conceals so much. Even the Unit log-book of past events, complete with all its horribly embarrassing photos which one would prefer to forget, cannot tell the whole story of what we did as Rangers. The triumphs, the disasters and the little dodges, like Natalie managing to wangle herself seven hotdogs instead of just one after the County Ranger competition. She ate them all too!

It was also Natalie who exclaimed, when our leader was telling us about this year's Thinking Day service in London, where it was hoped that Cliff Richard would speak: 'Oh, wow! Will the Young Ones be there?' But you can be assured that Natalie isn't the only

larger-than-life character in the Unit. Most of us have our share of little idiosyncrasies.

For instance one of our leaders loves loud and dramatic classical music, which she has blaring out from her car stereo. Her passengers tend to start feeling insecure — as well as deafened — when Evelyn begins to conduct the orchestra, while simultaneously playing the steering wheel as if it were a piano keyboard.

The other transport options aren't perfect either. Pat's Land Rover is a conversation-killer, if ever there was one, and Charlie, Louise's Mini, is rather cramped for more than two passengers.

Even without their troublesome modes of transport, our leaders have





their misfortunes (no, the Rangers are not one of them). Pat's legendary disaster involved mounting a horse to go pony trekking. Unfortunately someone with a well-developed sense of humour hadn't done up the horse's girth strap tightly enough. As Pat mounted, the saddle slowly slid around the pony's middle. Pat glided gracefully towards the ground, arriving with one foot still in the stirrup and her rear end gently resting in a smelly puddle.

Pony trekking is just one of many activities that we try as Rangers. There are activity camps which encompass everything from abseiling to candle-making and special events like the sedan chair race. That's when Ranger and Venture Units build their own sedan chairs, basing their costumes and chair decorations on a theme. The chairs, plus passenger are then raced round a very muddy course. Our latest entry was an environmentally-friendly Greenpeace ship, *Rainbow Warrior*.

Louise, our ozone-friendly aerosol can, was much perturbed by being repeatedly asked why she had a wastepaper basket on her head. Any fool could see it was her lid. Perhaps it was because we were so totally lead-free that the teams of hulking great Venture Scouts kept sprinting past us with their chairs on their shoulders.

Along with fun activities we do attempt to serve others, but even then we still manage to have fun. Last summer part of the Unit was on the service team at a Guide camp, Waddow Adventure Week. Being quite a large-scale event there was a lot of ballyhoo about the official opening ceremony.

The Rangers were set to work blowing up balloons with gas for the opening ceremony. Each sub-camp was to have a different colour balloon. In opening the canister some gas was lost, so we ran out before all the balloons were inflated. That meant blowing up the remaining balloons ourselves.

Unfortunately the desired effect was rather spoilt when all the Guides simultaneously released their balloons. Instead of floating off into the wide blue yonder, all one sub-camp's balloons sank gracefully to the grass and stayed there.

Camping, of course, has its own peculiar set of endurance tests, such as chocolate pudding which simply refuses to set, and the all-pervading odour of scampi fries eaten inside the tent. If you can live with that smell, how about the other people in your tent who omitted to choose swimming or rafting as one of their activities and consequently haven't had a wash since they left home!

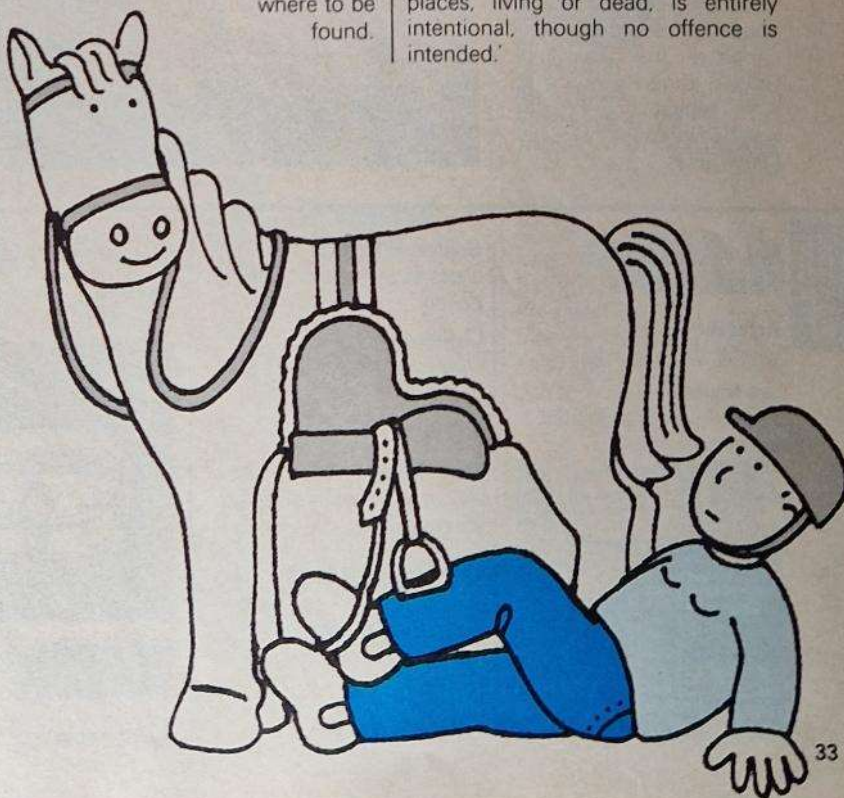
We nearly always manage to have fun with Rangers, particularly when there's a children's playground or a bouncy castle anywhere to be found.

Kids had better watch out when Swinton Rangers are about.

When you consider what a good time we have together, then it's somewhat surprising that some people occasionally seem reluctant to join in. We have some masters in the art of avoiding volunteering. If making a detailed study of the ceiling doesn't work, then a certain pair of twins can always call on a very deserving grandmother who hasn't been visited for ever so long to give them an alibi.

It must be human nature: people being reluctant to commit themselves to one thing or another. And really, though we Rangers may seem like veritable little angels at times, we are only human. I suppose that could go some way to explaining why we have a 'food night' at least three times a year!

PS. Any resemblance to people or places, living or dead, is entirely intentional, though no offence is intended.





## Open Door

### DON'T GET THE NOBODY HABIT

At last the carpenter had finished building cupboards in the spare bedroom and on the landing. Thankful to be seeing the back of him — he was, of course, weeks behind schedule — I went upstairs to say how lovely they looked. They did, too — until I noticed the knobs.

We had agreed on ceramic knobs, to match the door furniture throughout the house. This had happened in the bedroom but on the landing — in spite of doors

all around with ceramic fittings — the cupboard knobs were in clear acrylic.

I pointed out this discrepancy. The carpenter, unperturbed, explained there'd been a supply problem, then added cheerfully: 'It doesn't really matter, nobody will notice.'

Nobody? I'd noticed. Surely my home is for me, not my visitors? But that got me thinking about 'nobody'.

It's a common excuse, isn't it, for taking short cuts. Nobody will know about the buttonless skirt held together with a safety pin; or the

window left uncleaned, because that's the one the sun never shines through; or the scrambled egg eaten out of the saucepan it was cooked in... And why not take short cuts — especially when most of us are trying to cram a week into a day!

There must be a danger, however, in letting 'nobody' become a habit. If we're always saying to ourselves 'it doesn't matter because nobody will know/notice/realise'... then aren't we undervaluing 'ourselves'? If we always equate ourselves with 'nobody' then our self-

esteem and self-image must surely suffer.

So just occasionally, to make up for all the times when we use 'nobody' as an excuse for what we haven't done, why not make it a reason for doing something special — tell yourself it's just for you. Instead of eating that solo supper out of the cooking pan for instance, why not turn it into an elegant dinner for one — and put on some favourite music for company or that video you've been meaning to watch for weeks — nobody will know!

## News Focus

### A COMPANY OF WATER SPORTS

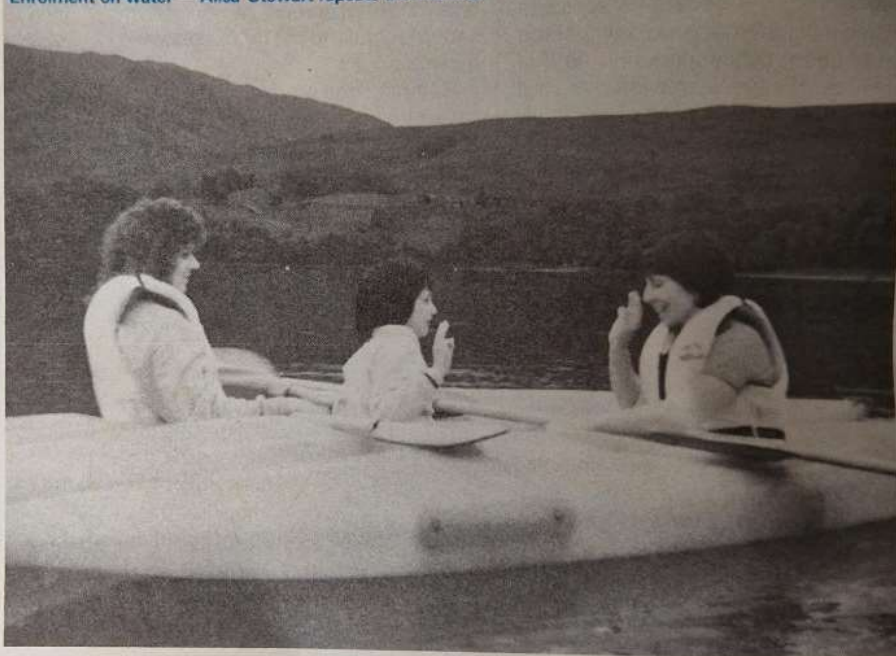
Plucky Laura Lawson of the 2nd Crieff Guide Company soon got the hang of using a two-bladed paddle when her unit went canoeing on Lake Earn, Perthshire.

It was the first time Laura, who only has one arm, had been in a canoe.

Teaching her the techniques to use was Scotland's Water Activities (Canoeing) Consultant Maureen Pennie, who is District Commissioner for Crieff and Comrie.

Another member of the Company, Ailsa Stewart, chose to be enrolled in a canoe on the lake. Guide Guider, Irene Harley, heard Ailsa repeat her Promise watched by Assistant Guider, Elaine Ness.

Enrolment on water — Ailsa Stewart repeats the Promise



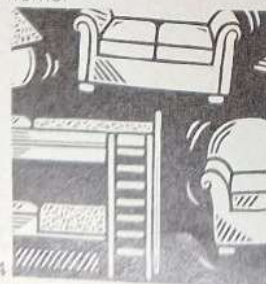
MAUREEN PENNIE

## Coming Next

### IN GUIDING FEBRUARY

**Achievers:**  
we talk to a top cop

**Live Issues:**  
how safe are you in the home?



34

**Guiding in Action:**  
Moss Side Brownies meet police

**Challenge '91:**  
emergency boxes at the ready

**A Quiz to Try**

**Stoke Mandeville:**  
records broken in disabled games

### IN TODAY'S GUIDE FEBRUARY

**Hot Topics**  
tackles bullying  
**Pancakes to Make**

### Valentine's Day Quiz

**Get Smart:**  
bags of style



### IN BROWNIE JANUARY

**Board Game**

**Shape Up Sixes**  
keep fit

**Spot the dangers in the playground**

**Puzzle it out:**  
computer puzzles

**Coppelia:**  
the ballet story





## HIGHLIGHTS

### TRAINING FOR TRAINERS

**FOXLEASE:**

**February 1-3**

**Trainers:** CHQ Training Team, F Lamb

This weekend will provide a chance to refurbish your training skills and to experiment with using a video camera as an evaluation tool. Working from the basic outline of training methods in Elizabeth Carnegie's book, you will be able to recharge your batteries.

### SIN: STIMULATION, INNOVATION & NAVIGATION

**FOXLEASE:**

**February 1-3**

**Trainers:** R Boocock and team

This training is aimed at experienced Guiders. It will provide an opportunity for you to look at the Programme and ways in which you can revitalise what you are offering the girls in your unit.

You will be encouraged to look to your local community to find contacts and use the people resources there. All this will lead to your unit having more sources to draw on with the necessary expertise to undertake whatever projects are planned.

### INSITE

**WADDOW:**

**February 22-24**

**Trainers:** J Morris, A Anet, M Clarkson, H Cooper

This weekend is designed to give leadership training to Ranger Guiders at the same time as giving Rangers an opportunity to learn how to run their own Unit with Programme planning, Unit management and so on.

If you are struggling to get self-programming to operate effectively in your Unit or experiencing frustration at having to start all over again because a group has just

left the Unit, then this training is for you. It will provide an opportunity for you to work together to extend your Unit's programme in addition to helping you explore the working of a Unit executive committee.

Guiders will be able to observe and learn from seeing Unit members planning, discussing, organising and developing in confidence to use the skills acquired. There will also be time to share experiences and problems with others.

Treat yourself to a fun weekend.

### GAMES WITH A POINT

**WADDOW:**

**March 22-24**

**Trainers:** J Thompson, J Shoebridge, E Bird

This weekend will provide an opportunity for Brownie and Guide Guiders to look at the use of games in the Programme. Included in the training will be:

- games for teaching skills
- games enabling small groups to work together
- games encouraging leadership
- games based on the Eight Points
- action games
- ways of adapting games to your meeting place plus many others.

Time will be given during the weekend for you to make equipment cards and so on to take back to your unit.

### PRODUCTION ON A SHOESTRING

**FOXLEASE:**

**February 15-17**

Ever felt you would like to use your interest in music, dance, drama or craft to produce an item for your unit, District, Division, etc? This weekend aims to help you do just that — without involving great expense.

There will be various sessions including how to:

- choose a theme
- co-ordinate a production team
- plan a rehearsal
- provide simple costumes, scenery and props
- publicise the event

Whatever the occasion in mind, this training will enable you to plan for the enjoyment of your team and performers. If you already have a team, come together!

### LOOK AFTER YOURSELF

**FOXLEASE:**

**January 11-13**

**WADDOW:**

**March 22-24**

**Trainers:** CHQ Training Team

These training weekends are open to anyone in Guiding.

This new exciting opportunity will be run by an expert from the field of health education and aims to encourage a healthy lifestyle through safe exercise, sound food choices and simple relaxation techniques.

This approach will prove beneficial for anyone in Guiding and can count as part of the Adult Leadership Scheme Stage III (Extending Your Guiding Skills).

### DEVELOPING THE PROGRAMME WITH YOUR UNIT

**FOXLEASE:**

**February 8-10**

**Trainers:** D Yates, A Munday, S Westwood, A Barrell

This weekend will be suitable for Guiders of any experience working with Rainbows, Brownies or Guides. The more experienced Guiders will be given the chance to share their knowledge, enabling those new to Guiding to extend their understanding. There will be new and different ideas for everyone. Having fun whilst working within the Five Essentials of Guiding

and covering the Eight Points will be looked at.

### ADVANCED WALKING SAFELY

**GLENBROOK:**

**March 8-10**

**Trainers:** A Beard, J Simpson, J Adams

This training is open to any member of the Association aged 18 or over and any other adults who wish ultimately to lead groups walking in upland areas.

This course will be tailored to meet the needs of individual trainees and will cover the appropriate clauses of the Advanced Section of the Walking Safely Training Scheme.

Applications are welcomed from Guiders with no previous experience of hillwalking who wish to learn basic hillwalking skills, as well as those with previous training and experience who wish to practise and extend their skills.

### ASA/RLSS LIFE SAVING COURSE

**FOXLEASE**

**April 26-28**

**September 27-29**

**Trainers:** V Morey, M Beaumont, V Boatman, P Fry, S Mabbett

The aim of this weekend is to gain the ASA/RLSS Life Saving Certificate which is the minimum GGA requirement for life saving in public or private swimming pools where no official life-guard is provided.

The course is intensive and physically quite demanding, but good fun! The exam fee is included in the cost (details will appear in due course) and there has been 100 per cent success rate to date.

If you enjoy swimming and could use this qualification in your Guiding — come along and have a go.



# TRAINING DIARY

## TRAINER TRAINING ON THE FIVE ESSENTIALS

WADDOW:

February 1-3

Trainer: M Thompson

The Five Essentials are the basis for all Guiding and training. This weekend is intended for all trainers, whatever their experience or expertise. Practical ways of presenting the Five Essentials in trainings for Commissioners and Guiders of all sections, through a variety of training methods, will be covered. There will also be time for discussion and the sharing of ideas.

There will also be an exploration of the Five Essentials in the context of the Core Curriculum for the Youth Service to see how they match up to its contents and expectations.

## BCU PLACID WATER SKILL 1

FOXLEASE:

April 26-28

Trainer: J Chittock

Here is an opportunity to gain an introduction to placid water canoeing. On the course a complete beginner should be able to achieve the Skill 1 Award, which will introduce the basic strokes and a knowledge of safety and access.

The cost of the course is £50 per person for the weekend. This includes course fees, food and accommodation. The weekend is open to any Ranger/Young Leader/Guider who can swim 50 metres and stay afloat for five minutes in clothes. Bursaries may be available, apply to Training Manager, CHQ for details.

Places are limited, so early application is advisable.

## THE PROMISE IN ACTION

FOXLEASE:

March 22-24

Trainers: Father R Barralet, J Lewes

Guiding's greatest asset is the Promise.

36 This weekend for Com-

missioners, Trainers and Advisers will make the Promise live and develop our understanding of its relevance for Guiding and for the rest of life.

## INTERMEDIATE WALKING SAFELY

Including Rangers, QGS and D of E

GLENBROOK:

May 3-6

Trainers: J Simpson, A Ault, A Southall

Are you a Ranger or Guider working on your Queen's Guide Award, Duke of Edinburgh's Award (all levels) or Intermediate Walking Safely Training Scheme.

If so, why not attend this training weekend, which will be specially tailored to your individual needs? There will be sessions covering

- clothing and equipment for walking/back packing
- lightweight camp craft
- route planning
- casualty code
- planning and purpose of expeditions

Every day you will have the opportunity to walk in a variety of areas to build your experience in:

- practical map and compass work
- navigation (good weather/poor visibility)
- party organisation and management
- safety

There may be the chance for Rangers to plan and carry out a practice expedition.

## TOWARDS 2000

WADDOW:

February 1-3, 1991

FOXLEASE:

September 27-29, 1991

Trainers: CHQ Training Team

These weekends are for Young Leaders and Guiders in the 16-30 age group to look at the next ten years.

This is an opportunity to get away from all the pressures, to look at ourselves and identify our strengths. We will work in small groups to improve our leadership skills.

The weekends will include

an exchange of craft ideas and activities.

## ON TOP OF THE WORLD

WADDOW

March 15-17

Trainers: Sue Taylor and team.

We are part of the world's largest international organisation for girls and women — WAGGGS — but do we really make the most of the tremendous opportunity this offers?

This weekend is a chance to find out more about WAGGGS and discover how to make 'international' a real part of the programme in your unit, District and County.

For full details of future trainings please send a sae to the Guider-in-Charge of the appropriate centre. Applications to attend any of the trainings mentioned should be made to the Guider-in-Charge of the appropriate centre, enclosing an £8 deposit and a sae.

## TRAINING DATES

### WADDOW

#### MARCH

- 5-7\* Leading your Team  
22-24 1. Games with a Point.  
2. Look after Yourself  
28-April 1 A fun weekend at Waddow

#### APRIL

- 12-14 Leadership in the Ranger Section  
19-21 Let's make Music

#### MAY

- 10-12 1. Science and Technology. 2. Trefoil Guild local history and Walking  
17-19 Getting to know your District  
24-27 First Aid Course  
21-June 2 1. Assertiveness for Guiders. 2. Making the Five Essentials Work

### FOXLEASE

#### FEBRUARY

- 1-3 1. SIN. 2. Training For Trainers  
8-10 Developing the Programme with your Unit

#### MARCH

- 28-April 1 Easter working weekend

#### APRIL

- 5-7 Developing the Programme with your Unit  
12-14 1. Ranger Guiders. 2. Making the Five Essentials Work  
16-18\* Leading your Team  
26-28 1. BCU Placid Water Skill 1. 2. First Aid: Renewal of Standard Course

#### MAY

- 10-12 1. Build on your training Skills. 2. International  
14-16\* Developing the Programme with your Unit  
17-19 Getting to know your District  
24-28 Family Period

### GLENBROOK

#### MARCH

- 8-10 Advanced Walking Safely

#### APRIL

- 12-14 Trefoil Guild walking, exploring and Natural History

#### MAY

- 3-6 Intermediate Walking Safely

\* — Midweek Training

### GLENBROOK

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

### FOXLEASE

Lyndhurst  
Hants  
SO43 7DG  
Tel: 0703 282638

### WADDOW

Clietheroe  
Lancs  
BB7 3LD  
Tel: (Clietheroe) 0200 23186

### NETHERURD

Blyth Bridge  
West Linton  
Peeblesshire  
EH46 7AQ  
Tel: (Dolphinton) 0968 82208

### LORNE

Craigavad  
Co Down  
Ulster  
BT30 0BS  
Tel: (Holywood) 02317 3180

### HAUTBOIS

Great Hautbois Road  
Coltishall

Norwich  
Norfolk  
NR12 7JN  
Tel: (Norwich) 0603 737357

### BRONEIRION

Llandinam  
Powys  
SY17 5DE  
Tel: (Caersws) 0686 688 204

### BLACKLAND FARM

East Grinstead  
Sussex  
Tel: (Sharpthorne) 0342 810 493



# RAINBOW GUIDERS

A few months ago my son spent a morning at playgroup tasting different kinds of fruit. This led me to think about using fruit as a theme for a Rainbow meeting.

## TUTTI FRUTTI

Start off by tasting some pieces of unusual fruit — it may be educational for the Guiders as well as the girls. Try lychees, kiwi fruit, fresh figs, mangoes, passion fruit, pineapples, pomegranates or kumquats.

Many supermarkets stock a much wider range of fruits than was once the case and as you only need to offer a small piece of fruit to each child, you won't need to buy very much.

## PIP PLANTS

This is something that you can start off at a Unit meeting, but the girls can take their pip plants home to look after them.

First of all, you will need some pips — orange and grapefruit ones are the best. You'll also need a collection of yoghurt pots and some compost.

Fill the pots with compost almost to the top, then the girls can just pop a pip in the pot a few centimetres down. Once the pip has been watered, put a plastic bag over the pot and secure with an elastic band. Once the pip has germinated, the bag can be removed. You may need to enlist parents' help to watch over the plant until the bag can come off.

## FRUIT SALAD

Give half the girls the name of a fruit, each girl having a different name. Then give the other half the same names. The theory is that there should be two girls who have the same name and the idea of the game is that each girl has to find her 'fruit partner'.

## STORYTIME

How about one of the 'Munchbunch' stories to fin-

ish off the fruit theme, a poem about fruit or, perhaps, you could make up your own story.

## GAMES GALORE

This is an appeal! In June's *GUIDING* we intend to devote the Rainbow page to games, and we need your help.

The intention is to include games that we know are popular with girls of Rainbow age so that the ideas can be of real help to Guiders. If your Unit has a favourite game, would you write and tell me about it? We would be very grateful for any help you can give — please send your ideas to *GUIDING*.

June may seem an awfully long way away but magazine copy dates are always some time ahead — in fact, the June deadline is in March. So, if you are able to send in your ideas in the next two

months, we will be able to include them. Thank you for your help.

## UPDATE

In November's *GUIDING* last year, we reviewed a number of books. You may recall that space was given to two story books from Ladybird for five and six-year-olds.

Ladybird have recently published *Storytime for 7-year-olds* by John Grant. There are five stories featuring a space ship, a yeti and the genie of the juke box.

At £1.20, this seems good value and the stories will be enjoyed by the older girls in the Unit.

*Storytime for 7-year-olds* Ladybird Books ISBN 0 7214 1347 1 £1.20.

Another book which may be of interest to Rainbow Guiders is *The Puffin Book of Prayers* compiled by

Louise Carpenter. There are prayers for all kinds of situation. A lot of the prayers have been written by children who come from many faiths.

*The Puffin Book of Prayers* Puffin Books ISBN 0 14 034348 2 £2.50.

GILL PAWLEY

Betty Stevens, the Association's Adviser for the Rainbow section has news of a special contest:

How good it has been over the last few months to hear that the Rainbow section has grown so much. I have been associated with Rainbows since 1986 and, at one time, many people did begin to wonder whether we would ever see a pre-Brownie section within the Association.

The success of Rainbow Guiding is wholly due to you, the Rainbow Guiders. And I want you to know the way in which you have attended trainings, made equipment and generally prepared yourself for running your Units, has been exemplary.

I have visited many very happy Units where girls are not only enjoying themselves, but undertaking activities which are totally suitable for their age group.

We now feel it is time that, like all other sections of the Movement, Rainbow Guides should have a national song. We want you to submit songs with appropriate words and, preferably, to an original tune.

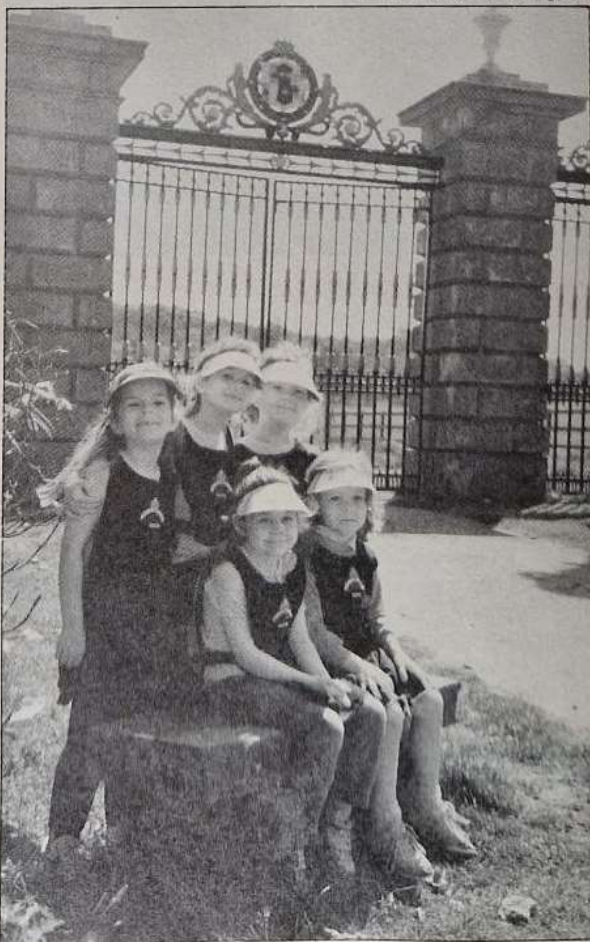
Anyone may enter, so please spread the word. Entries may be either written or on cassette and sent to Miss Karen Rogers, Programme Section, The Girl Guides Association, 17-19 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0PT.

The closing date for this competition is February 28, and it will be judged by Mrs Margaret Venables, Assistant Arts Adviser (Music).

Happy Rainbow Guiding!

BETTY STEVENS 37

1st Ellon Rainbows having fun



ELAINE MOFFAT



## HOW TO DO

# BLOOMS TILL DOOMSDAY

Nothing brightens a room better than a stunning flower arrangement. The only problem is that it doesn't last very long. Flowers tend to droop in our centrally-heated homes. One way around this is to create a display using dried flowers instead.

Flower drying and arranging is in fact, an ancient art. Thousands of years ago the Egyptians were practising it — they laid garlands of preserved flowers in the tombs of their dead.

Medieval monks also harvested and dried flowers for medicinal purposes. And their method, of hanging flowers upside down, is still used today.

More recently it was a popular art with the Victorians. No well-bred Victorian lady would have been without her skills in floral handicraft.

Today dried flower arrangements are enjoying a fashionable comeback. They are very easy to buy but they do tend to be pricey. The beauty of doing your own is that not only is it simple — it's also much cheaper.

So, how do you get started? There are two basic methods when it comes to drying flowers. You can either expose them to heat and air or surround them with a desiccant (like sand), which absorbs moisture from the plant cells.

Some plants can be preserved by standing them in a solution of diluted glycerine or anti-freeze. While there are tried and tested techniques for certain flowers — roses, for example, should be dried in a desiccant — experimenting can produce some strikingly unusual results.

### AIR DRYING

Air drying is probably the simplest method — no special equipment or techniques are involved. You need to choose a suitable room; it should be warm and dry but

not in direct sunlight or the plants will fade. Small bunches of flowers are tied together with a piece of string and hung upside down.

Kitchens should be avoided as they are too steamy. The best flowers for air drying are everlasting ones. They include straw flowers, heliotropes and xeranthemums, which originate in hot countries.

Other suitable candidates include seed heads such as honesty, garden chives,

use a light, fine grained sand, borax, yellow cornmeal or even washing powder as a drying agent.

Whichever one you choose, it should be heavy enough to keep the petals in position but light enough not to crush them. They can be re-used but should be sieved first to remove dead petals. Suitable flowers for this method include roses, daffodils, carnations, marigolds and pansies.

They should be in perfect condition when picked and

leathery texture. Air dried flowers retain their natural colours, whereas those treated with anti-freeze change colour completely.

Only perfect leaves should be used and the stems inserted into the solution as quickly as possible. The anti-freeze should be diluted with boiling hot water, use equal parts of water and anti-freeze which also softens the stems.

Place them in a narrow container — a jam jar would be perfect — and top up the liquid regularly, making sure they never dry out. The leaves are ready when they feel smooth and have fully changed colour.

### FLOWER ARRANGING

Once your flowers are ready, there are dozens of interesting and unusual ways to arrange them. Some people seem to have a natural instinct for arranging a bunch of flowers into an attractive display and others have to work at it.

The answer is not to be too ambitious. Leave your arrangements looking as informal and natural as possible. Don't stint on the flowers, add plenty of colour and variety and use your imagination to display them.

Dried flowers arranged informally in a basket for example, make a spectacular and colourful table centre piece. They also work well as hanging decorations. If you want to try something really unusual, use shells as a base.

Dried flower arrangements are always acceptable as gifts. Or your unit could prepare a selection to sell at your next fundraising event.

A really good book that's filled with practical advice and illustrations is *Dried Flowers*, by Susan Conder. Published by Merehurst it costs £12.95p.

SANDY SULAIMAN



onions and leeks. Or you could use cow parsley, Queen Anne's lace, angelica, fennel, mullein and hollyhocks. Grasses — both wild and ornamental — are also ideal for air drying.

When harvesting your flowers make sure you choose a dry day as any damp clinging to the foliage causes rot. Drying times vary considerably from one week to several months. It depends on the type of material used and the humidity of the room.

### DRYING IN DESICCANTS

This is the least predictable method of preservation, which is why flowers needing this treatment are the most expensive to buy. You can

placed immediately into the desiccant. Cut the stems down to an inch. Then line a plastic box with one inch of the desiccant. The flowers should first be coated and then placed on the desiccant. Finally, it should be gently sifted over them until they are covered an inch deep.

### GLYCERINE AND ANTI-FREEZE

Mature foliage like beech and eucalyptus are traditionally preserved in glycerine. As this works out very expensive, you could use anti-freeze instead, although you won't always get such good results.

However, the plants treated this way will last indefinitely — the leaves take on a



## BROWNIE GUIDERS

It's easy to succumb to the post-Christmas blues at any age. So, if your girls are feeling sluggish and shivery in a chilly hall, we've got just the tonic they need — some lively games to get their blood racing and their spirits surging. And, if you are suffering from post-Christmas brain fade, these simple-to-organise games will get the year off to a thoroughly good start.

## TRAFFIC LIGHTS (FROM THE USA)

The traffic cop stands at one end of the room, her back to the rest at the far end.

When the cop calls, 'Green light', the others run towards her. When she calls, 'Yellow light', they freeze. When she calls, 'Red light', they all sit down.

After each call, the cop turns quickly. If she sees anyone moving on 'Yellow', that person returns to the starting line. The last person to be seated on 'Red' also goes back.

The first Brownie to touch the traffic cop takes her place for the next round.

## RABBIT WITHOUT A HOUSE (BRAZIL)

Brownies form groups of four. Three members of each group make a 'rabbit in a house' by two girls making an arch and the third (the rabbit) standing under it. The fourth Brownie is the homeless rabbit. The leader calls, 'Rabbits, move house!' All rabbits change houses; while homeless rabbits try to slip in first. Those left without houses become the homeless rabbits. Make sure that all Brownies get a chance to run — the girls acting as 'houses' should swap with the rabbits.

## DASH AND DODGE (USA)

This game is played with a large softball and two equal teams. Divide the room into

two with a team in each half. Teams take turns to have the ball first.

The aim is to send opponents to the North Pole — the far ends of the hall — by hitting them below the waist with the ball bounced across the dividing line. The ball must bounce first.

If it then touches a girl below waist height, she goes to the North Pole.

If the ball is caught before it bounces, or if it hits anyone above waist height, the thrower also goes to the North Pole. If girls in the North Pole catch the ball and can hit their opponents, they may rejoin their team.

A team wins when all the opposing team is at the North Pole or by having most players left after an agreed time.

## BEAT THE BALL

Two equal teams compete. Throwers stand in a circle, runners waiting in line. One Brownie in the circle — the starter — holds a large softball. A runner stands at her side. At a signal, the runner runs round the outside of the circle, while the ball is passed from hand to hand inside. If the runner can touch the starter before the ball does, she gains a point for her team. Repeat until all have run, then teams swap.

For the less energetic here are some pencil and paper games.

## COPY-CATS

The leader needs a large sheet of paper or a blackboard. Brownies each have pencil and paper. The leader quickly draws six simple objects, for example a house, ball, cat, tree, star, flower... while Brownies watch. When the last one is finished, the drawings are covered. Then the Brownies try to reproduce them as closely as possible. This can be a real test of observation.



## STAR POEM

Give each Six the name of a popular singer or TV star, and four simple rhyming couplets. Ask them to write a poem to — or about — that person, ending the lines with the suggested words. Allow plenty of time and do read out the poems!

To help here are some rhyme suggestions: High, fly, why, sky, dear, here, hear, clear, state, great, wait, date, thing, sing, bring, wing, more, door.

Guessing games are always popular.

## MY GREY DONKEY

Everyone except the donkey man sits in a circle, numbered alternately one and two. The donkey man goes outside. The leader chooses a word with two distinct meanings — it may or may

not be spelt differently but it must sound the same, for example bare and bear, or ball (football) and ball (dance). The leader tells the ones to think about one meaning, the twos to think of the other.

The donkey man returns and asks questions to try to discover what the word is and the Brownies must give suitable replies, remembering their particular meaning.

For example if the word was pain/pane, the donkey man could ask a Brownie: 'What is your grey donkey like?' The Brownie might answer 'My grey donkey hurts me.' The donkey man would then question the next Brownie and her answer could be 'I can see through my grey donkey.' Other replies might be 'I went to the doctor when I had my grey donkey', 'My grey donkey is made of glass.' When the donkey man guesses the word, she changes places with the last person to answer.

## WHO AM I?

One Brownie goes out. The others decide which well-known person she should become. When the girl returns she asks each Brownie a question, which can only be answered yes, no or don't know. She might ask questions like 'Am I a singer?' or 'Am I over 20?' but not 'What is my job?' or 'How old am I?' When the Brownie guesses who she is, another girl has a turn.

The international games above can be used as a build-up to Thinking Day, or for the Friendly clause of the Footpath.

GILLIAN ELLIS

Don't forget to order **BROWNIE** from your local newsagent for your girls. The magazine is a supplement to their handbook.



## GETTING OUT

# GET AWAY — LESS TO PAY

Cheap travel abounds for the under-25s and is available on most forms of transport, including road, rail, sea and air.

It is worth shopping around locally, just to see what bargains are available in your home town. But here are some tips on how to get the best deals on national and international travel. You may find you are eligible for discounts that you didn't even know existed.

The only drawback to discount travel is that you often have to make your journey at times stipulated by the coach, rail or air company involved. This is only a minor setback, which can easily be overcome by meticulous planning on your part.

### PLANNING

Decide well in advance, where you're going, how you're going, and who you're going with. Then work out which cheap travel option will suit you best. Whether you are travelling as part of a group, with your family or on your own, there should be something to suit you.

If, for example, you are aged 16 to 23 — or a mature student — you could qualify for a discount coach card. These are operated by National and Caledonian Express coaches and the card, which costs £5, entitles you to a third off the full fare. It's valid for a year and you can get it at any National or Caledonian Express agent. Don't forget — proof of age or student status will probably be required.

Travelling with a group of Guiding friends can be a lot of fun. It can also be much cheaper. If there are over ten of you, then you may be eligible for group travel discounts, which offer up to 25 per cent off.

Those under 16 or 17 will only be charged the child fare and still qualify for a 25 per cent discount. The only stipulation is that you must

sit together as a group throughout the journey. It is advisable to book in advance: as it is not possible to travel on some trains without making a reservation.

### YOUR NEEDS

Before deciding what type of discount to use, consider carefully what your needs are. Are you just using transport as a means of getting from A to B? Or do you want

this particular journey to be more than that — a sight-seeing trip perhaps? If that is the case you might want something more flexible.

British Rail offers tourists a Rail Rover. You pay a set amount: £150 for an All Line Rail Rover, which offers unlimited travel for a week, right across Great Britain, which includes the sea trip to the Isle of Wight.

If you find the idea of

travelling around the whole of Britain too daunting, you can opt instead for a Local Rail Rover. These cover most parts of the country and are the perfect solution if you just want to concentrate on a specific area. You could, for example, just visit Shakespeare country or the beautiful Cotswolds.

### FAMILY UNIT

Family Railcards are another

**JEKA**  
Group Holidays  
YOUTH GROUP SUMMER HOLIDAYS 1990  
Aged 16-23 or a mature student  
Get about a third off this and the next for a £5.00  
DISCOUNT COACH  
Incorporating Student Card  
YOUNG PERSON RAILCARD  
CHILD FARES FOR UNDER 18's  
Leaflet valid from 15 May to 30 September 1990  
FAMILY RAILCARD  
1/4 Off most leisure fares  
FROM 1 NOVEMBER STILL



way to travel very reasonably, and you don't even have to be part of a family to qualify. The adults and children who make up a 'family unit', are entitled to a 25 per cent discount, even if they're not related to one another.

The smallest family group must include a child paying £1 flat fare and one of the adults named on the Railcard, to obtain the Family Railcard discount fare.

Up to four children can travel on a Family Railcard, each child paying a £1 flat fare, in addition to two named adults and two accompany-

ing adults. The family group must stay together throughout the journey.

The cards cost £20 and, like all rail discounts, can be obtained at most principal British Rail stations. They can be used in conjunction with other British Rail travel schemes for discount on cheap day returns.

Even if you are travelling alone on a train you could still be entitled to discounts, by applying for a Young Persons Railcard. It costs £16 and, just like the coach card, is valid for a year. Anyone aged 16 to 23, or mature students in full-time education, can get one third off Standard Class rail tickets with the railcard.

## AWAY DAYS

With a Young Persons Railcard you are also entitled to one third off Savers, Network Awaybreaks, cheap day returns, standard singles, returns and Rail Rovers.

Having a disability should not put you off travelling. You may also be eligible for discount travel. For £12 you can apply for a Disabled Persons Railcard — this price qualifies you for a number of discounts.

These include travelling for a third off on Saver and Network Awaybreaks, half price on cheap day returns and a third off standard returns, singles and day returns. In addition you can buy tickets on the London Underground at reduced rates after 9.30am.

To qualify for the Disabled Persons Railcard you must be either registered blind or partially sighted or entitled to Attendance, Mobility or Severe Disablement Allowance. See the British Rail application form for full details. Your application will need to be certified at the post office, but a friend or relative may do this for you.

## EUROPE

Travelling needn't be restricted to Great Britain. Often it is as cheap and quick to visit Europe. One good way of doing this is by going with friends on an organised

holiday, aimed especially at young people.

Jeka Group Holidays specialise in organising holiday trips to Europe for Scouts, Guides and youth groups. It's a wonderful way to visit other countries, while having the security of your Guiding companions around you.

The normal minimum group size for a Jeka package is 20, although it is sometimes possible for them to accommodate smaller groups. They have centres in four different European countries.

Group travel, however, does not suit everyone as it does not offer much flexibility. If you feel independent enough to go it alone or with a friend, then you could try an InterRail pass.

For just £155.00 you get one month's unrestricted travel in 22 European countries, which this year includes Czechoslovakia and parts of Turkey. The InterRail pass also entitles you to discount rail travel in Britain and on most ferry services to mainland Europe.

To qualify you have to be under 26 and resident in Great Britain or Northern Ireland for a minimum of six months. If you think your journey will include more than one sea crossing, it is a good idea to spend £25 extra on an InterRail and Boat card.

This offers all the facilities of the InterRail card plus

SNCF, the French railway company, has special youth group rates. These allow ten young people or more under 18 to travel at half price and they do not have to pay reservation fees.

Parties of children between four and 12 qualify for 75 per cent off the adult fare. There are reductions too for adult leaders depending on the size of the group.

Bookings can be made through the company's London offices. Contact the French Railways Group Travel Section at 179 Piccadilly, London W1V 0BA or ask for a written free quote by ringing 071-499 2153.

travel on some Mediterranean and Irish shipping lines. InterRail passes are available at main stations and many travel agents.

If you don't fancy a grand tour of Europe and just want to visit a couple of countries, go by Eurotrain. It offers anyone under 26 discounts of up to 40 per cent for more than 2,000 destinations in Europe and North Africa. You can travel direct or stop off along the way. For further details contact Eurotrain on 071-730 3402.

## BASICS

Before you start globetrotting abroad don't forget to sort out your passport. If you need a new one make sure you apply for it at least six months before you plan to travel. Application forms are available from any post office, or you can contact the main passport office direct at 70-78 Petty France, London SW1, Tel: 071-279 3434.

A full passport costs £15 and is valid for ten years. However, for trips to most European countries you need only apply for a visitor's passport. It is valid for one year and costs £7.50.

One last word of advice before you head for the travel agents. If you're going abroad, don't stint on insurance. Take out a policy that covers loss of baggage, medical expenses, personal accident, accidents to someone else and, last but not least, cancellation charges should you suddenly find you can't travel.

Shop around for the best insurance policy. They are available from high street travel agents, insurance brokers and banks. Expect to pay at least £15 for three weeks' cover in Europe.

However, the GGA has its own Insurance Manager, Mrs Marion Denholm, who will arrange cover for either groups travelling together or for private individuals.

Write to her at CHQ or give her a call on 071-834-6242 ext 242 for details. Winter sports holiday policies can also be supplied.

Happy travelling!





# PRACTICAL PAGES

## GUIDE GUIDERS

This is to be a very special year for the Ranger Section — if you don't already know, the Rangers are celebrating their 75th birthday. There will be special Ranger events taking place all over the country throughout the year, creating golden opportunities for you to increase your Guides' awareness of, and interest in, Rangers and Young Leaders. Be sure you know what is happening locally and ask your Ranger Guider if some of your older Guides can be invited along.

### STEPPING UP

This year also sees the launch of Action Plus (see Ranger Guiders, p43). An additional scheme of programmes for older Guides, it is designed especially to help them make the step from Guides to Rangers/Young Leaders. If you haven't heard much about it yet, do make sure you find out all about it — your older Guides will probably enjoy being among the first to try it out.

Spare a thought for your older Guides. Why do they continue to belong to the unit? What is it that they enjoy about coming to your Guide meetings? Are they working enthusiastically towards their Trefoils and Interest/Service Badges? What do they contribute to the unit? Is it time they were starting to think about moving on? Have you already sown the seeds?

It may be worth suggesting that the older Guides may like to form their own Patrol. There are several advantages to having an older Patrol:

- They can pursue the kind of activities more suitable to their age and ability.
- They can work towards their Red, Blue or B-P Trefoils sharing opportunities more easily within the Patrol.
- They need not feel especially responsible towards younger and newer Guides, and can get on more quickly with the 42 activities they want to do.

Of course, there are advantages for the Guider and the rest of the unit as well:

- It gives younger members of the other Patrols a chance to accept responsibility and take the lead.
- The older Patrol is more likely to move off to Rangers together, having already

Patrol Leader at all, agreeing instead to share all responsibilities.

### IDEAS BANK

Most older Guides are quick to find new and exciting activities to carry out once they get used to the idea. But a newly-formed Patrol

- Tower-building from a given set of materials. Could the tower be illuminated?

- Craft activity — something very different, unusual or, maybe, international.

- Fun sports or games night.

The Patrol Pages in *TODAY'S GUIDE* should give the older Guides plenty more ideas for this kind of activity, and will probably inspire them with many other suggestions for things they can do together.

**Fashion Show:** If your local Ranger Unit is willing to lend you some new uniforms and equipment, plan and stage a Ranger/Young Leader fashion show, together with a fun presentation of what being a Ranger is all about. An item like this could provide a useful link between the Guide and Ranger units.

**Adventure, Excitement and Weekends Away:** Challenge your older girls to find out about what the Rangers are doing and to see if they can get themselves an invitation to join in. If you don't have a local Ranger Unit perhaps you could consider organising a weekend especially for the older Guides in your District/Division. Suggest the idea at the next District meeting.

**Show Time:** The kind of girls who are still coming along to Guides at the age of 13 and 14 are girls with strong personalities and a sense of adventure. Challenge them to present an end-of-term show for the rest of the Company. If there is to be a variety of acts (see the syllabus for the Entertainer badge/Pennant), it will keep your older Guides occupied for weeks on end, and will round off your term's programme nicely.

Provide your older Guides with plenty of challenge and opportunity. Allow them to plan, organise, or just have fun together and be happy to say goodbye when they are ready to move on.



acquired a taste for doing things as a team.

- The older Patrol may be prepared to plan and organise special evenings for the Company. This gives the Guider a quiet evening off centre stage and gives the older Guides a taste of what it is like being a Young Leader.

Choosing a Patrol Leader for the older Patrol need not be a problem either. Perhaps they could take it in turns, an evening or a month at a time, or even not appoint a

may need a nudge or two in the right direction. Be ready with some of these suggestions, and be prepared for your older Guides to take you up on them, or think up even better ones.

**Get Out of That:** Plan and organise a special challenge night for the rest of the Company, trying to make it something very different. Perhaps you could organise:

- Tin-lid cooking: up-turned tin, candle for heat, mini-pancakes cooked on top.



# RANGER GUIDERS

Welcome to Celebration '91, and all the festivities that the year will bring, whether within your own Unit, Division, County or Country. Start the year well by taking a complete list of Celebration '91 events to your first meeting, to avoid double bookings.

## DON'T FORGET

Make sure that events which happen every year without a lot of pre-planning don't get overlooked, risking disappointment for those outside the Unit who might normally want to join in.

Check that there are events for those who are Rangers, those who have been Rangers — not just in your Unit — and those who might be on the brink of joining.

There are so many dates to remember that time should be set aside for the girls to enter the dates in their diaries. Check that you have a plan of action ready for those new members who will be drawn into the Unit as a result of all the publicity that you are all going to generate throughout the year. Will it be possible for incoming members to join in with all the activities you are planning? How will the Unit be able to cope?

## ACTION PLUS

Later in the spring, start looking out for Action Plus — this could be the very thing that you are looking for to maintain the enthusiasm of the new, younger members.

If you haven't been able to find out about it from your nearby, friendly Ranger Adviser or Trainer, read on. During the past five years we have been asking girls and young women what they would like in their Programme. If your Rangers were involved in the consultations, they may recognise some of the suggestions they made in parts of the Action Plus package, contained in a super A4 book

which will be available to everyone in the spring.

Action Plus is a packaged programme, crammed full of ideas that individual Guides or Rangers can take and try, or that a group can use together. It is designed for the older girls in a Guide Company, and the younger girls in a Ranger Unit. However, some of the trials indicated that all the Unit might well want to be involved with some of the activities. It is really a good, linking package. As such it gives you an opportunity —

It encourages the girls to search out people who might be able to help them do the very things they have been hankering after for a long time, in a safe and an appropriate way.

Action Plus takes the programme into four areas:

**Adventure**  
**Community**  
**Creativity**  
**Wider World**

providing a different perspective on the Programme.

As Ranger Guiders working within a Programme where there is always an

Then push the Rangers to go further, to achieve just that bit more than they have been doing so far.

If, however, they begin to discover ideas and ways of developing an idea that is new to them, let them get on with it. They have understood Action Plus.

## SUPERWOMAN

If you are Superwoman they may keep turning to you for advice and assistance, which you might be tempted to give, but be careful.

If, however, you are a



GEORGEY STURDY

- to work alongside the Guide Guiders with a common Programme
- to involve those Guides who are dithering about joining Rangers
- to give newcomers an exciting introduction to Guiding, without actually committing themselves to one particular section.

## WIDE RANGING

Action Plus gives girls the chance to go outside the confines of their Unit and actively involve other people in their Guiding experience.

alternative, you may find that many activities are familiar to you — if not to your Rangers.

You could use the package as just a resource for yourself, plucking ideas from it and introducing them piecemeal to the Unit. But such an approach would defeat the object of the package.

Instead, buy the book and hand it over to the Unit. If their response is that they do ALL that is included already, then pat yourself on the back and pass the book on to the Guide Guiders.

fairly normal Ranger Guider, then the Rangers will discover your limitations. Then they will use you as only one of the many resources that they are going to need.

The girls have the chance to choose from a variety of activities styled to suit their age range.

So, in between celebrating and getting ready to survive the rigours of boating on the Serpentine — you know all about that — look out for ACTION PLUS later in the year. It is for everyone between 14 and 16.



# SPEECH THERAPY

**Catharine Kendall, a former member of Kings Langley Rangers, Hertfordshire, is currently taking a speech sciences course. She is Guide Guider with the 3rd Abbots Langley Company and Young Leader Adviser for Kings Langley.**

**Here she talks about the role of the speech therapist and ways in which leaders can help anyone with communication difficulties.**

If you — or someone you know — have a communication difficulty, you are not alone. According to the College of Speech Therapists, the speech therapists' professional body, about 2.5 million people in the United Kingdom have a speech or language disorder.

The statistic which concerns me most is that 800,000 of these have a severe communication problem, which prevents them from being understood at all.

To a large extent it is a hidden and silent problem, which may affect their everyday lives. Another concern is the limit in resources and number of therapists.

As a final year student on a four-year speech sciences course, I seem to spend a lot of time explaining to people I meet that speech therapy is not synonymous with elocution. Despite the name speech therapist, speech is only one part of the complex act of communication with which we are concerned.

The course is run jointly by University College, London, and the National Hospital College for Speech Sciences, and leads to an honours degree. Having graduated, providing its separate requirements are met, one can apply for a licence to practise from the College of Speech Therapists.

As I see it, variety certainly seems to be the keyword in speech therapy. For a start, the course draws on aspects

of science, medicine, education, arts and therapeutic competence in both academic and practical ways.

Once you have qualified the variety continues with work taking place in many different settings and for different lengths of time, with groups or individuals, their carers and other professionals.

There is a small private sector but most speech therapists work for the NHS in community clinics, hospitals, schools, special schools and adult training centres. Others work in the client's own home, for social services and for charities.

## DIVERSE

The client group itself is diverse, ranging from the newly born to the very old. The difficulties may range from simple to complex, with physical, mental, social, emotional and other factors. This means that the nature of difficulties may be very different, for example from an infant having problems acquiring language to an older person who loses the ability to communicate.

Communication is a very complex business. We communicate in many different ways, for example by conversation, writing, tone of voice, body language... Communication is basic for everyone in relationships with family, friends and for work and leisure. We are able, not only to express our own needs, wishes, and personality, but also to understand those of others.

Most of us take these skills for granted as they are something we do so automatically and easily. Just consider how isolating, disheartening and mutually frustrating it could be for people with communication difficulties to meet those who lack empathy. Everyone has a role to play and this includes being patient and showing encouragement but, most of all, being willing to

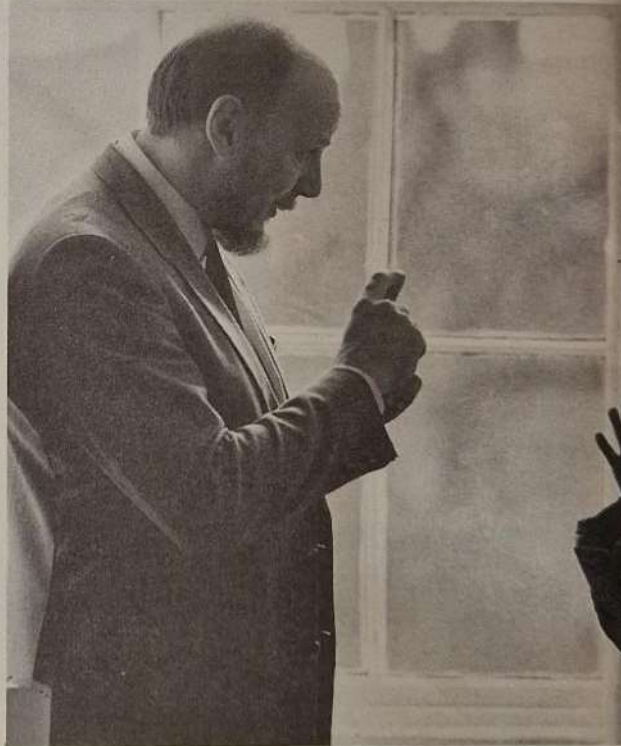
listen and giving time to talk.

The use of appropriate language is an integral part of our everyday life, and there is a separate professional field concerned specifically with this.

Speech therapists are independent practitioners who specialise in the assessment and diagnosis of all communication problems. They will then devise and carry out an appropriate individual treatment programme and monitor progress. They aim to assist an individual to achieve her maximum potential and so live as normal a life as possible.

with learning difficulties; and those with impaired hearing, voice disorders, or stutters. Also people with acquired problems caused by head injury, stroke, conditions like Parkinson's and multiple sclerosis, and people who have had their tongues removed because of cancer.

Clients may have only slight problems such as when one or two sounds draw the listeners' attention away from what is being said, to how it is being said, to more extensive difficulties, when the development of non-speech methods of communication is necessary for those who



Referral for speech therapy can be made by people themselves or relatives, carers, GPs and health care and educational staff.

## BENEFIT

People who benefit from speech therapy involvement may include children with delayed or disordered speech and language, or with cleft palates; children and adults

are unable to speak at all.

Children will often visit the speech therapist because of speech and language difficulties. Even though hearing may be intact and thought processes normal, their spoken words may be difficult to understand. If the child has an overall language problem, she or he may also have difficulty understanding the written word at school. Speech therapists may be



consulted by teachers to consider different approaches to these and related problems.

## VOICE LOSS

Some people, like teachers and singers, may suffer from voice problems. This may involve complete loss of, or change in, vocal quality. This could be caused by stress and/or damage to the vocal chords. The therapist and client can consider ways of using the voice, so as not to damage the voice box.

Clients with learning difficulties may be referred in infancy or later as difficulties become apparent. The speech therapy involvement may well continue into adulthood, although the difficulties faced will vary tremendously

ing difficulties may occur at any age, for example babies sucking and adults swallowing and chewing.

Sometimes it is not possible to contemplate work on higher levels of communication until the basic skills have been acquired. For instance much work may take place concentrating on the maintenance of eye contact — when the speaker and listener look at each other — smiling and attention span.

Such social skills are an essential part of all good communications. The training in these skills and many others may take place to a varying degree with a whole range of clients, for example those with learning difficulties and the mentally ill.

For some clients it will be obvious that 'normal' sounding speech is just not a realistic goal. If this is the case the speech therapist may suggest appropriate alternative and augmentative means of communication.

For some, computer technology may be appropriate. This is an area where a great deal of development is going on, for example improving the suitability of speech synthesisers so they are not all male and American sounding! For others gesture, signing, symbols, communication boards and mechanical devices which display and print words and phrases may be suggested.

As communication is a two-way process a crucial part of a speech therapist's role is to involve, counsel and give advice to family and friends as appropriate, on how existing communication skills can be maximised and the inevitable difficulties minimised. This will often lead to a more communicative - conducive environment. This may, in turn, make things easier for the client. The therapist will also maintain close links with members of other professions who are involved with the client.

## BODY TALK

You probably know someone with some degree of com-

munication difficulty, however slight, and they may well be from your Unit, Pack or Company. We can often understand those we know well much better than strangers. This is for reasons that include body language as well as speech. Hopefully, this will be the case when we get to know each other in the unit better.

Can you or your group learn more about this area and the wider issues of special needs with activities and theme evenings? Perhaps you could extend 'Cap-handi' events to include communication difficulties? Hopefully, this will increase awareness and lead to a more constructive attitude and approach.

We can do many things to make things easier in our units as described so clearly in Kate Harding's article, *Special Learning Needs* in June's *GUIDING*, but there are some extra things we can do for those with communication difficulties:

● **Conversation and instructions can be made much clearer if they are delivered a little more slowly with additional pictures, writing and gestures like pointing.**

● **Remember background noise levels/distraction — communication is often harder for all of us in groups or noisy environments.**

There are many organisations which operate on limited funds to support the interests of those with communication difficulties and their carers. They often produce publication lists and leaflets. Some provide activity and discus-

sion packs designed especially for young people.

Libraries, local and national organisations would be a good source of information and some may be able to suggest speakers. You may be surprised at what you find out.

The Association for All Speech Impaired Children (AFASIC) helps children and young people with specific speech and language disorders. The organisation runs activity weeks, during the summer and is looking for volunteers over 18 to help on a one-to-one basis. Apply now to AFASIC at 347 Central Markets, Smithfield, London EC1A 9NH — 071-236 3632/6487.

### Other useful addresses are:

The College of Speech Therapists, 6 Lechmere Road, London NW2 5BU — 081-459 8521/2/3.

The Spastics Society produces an activity pack and video *The Land of Droog*. Write to 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ 071-636 5020.

The Royal National Institute for the Deaf, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH — 071-387 8033.

Action for Dysphasic Adults, Northcote House, 37A Royal Street, London SE1 7II — 071-261 9572.

Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied Club (PHAB), Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HX.

● **Since this article was prepared a decision has been taken to change the name of the CST to College of Speech and Language Therapists.**

Speech therapy — opening the doors of communication



over time.

The ability to communicate, just like the ability to walk, is controlled by the brain and can be lost or disturbed when illness or injury causes brain damage. Mostly this happens to older patients and may be caused by strokes, infections, tumours, head injury and progressive neurological diseases like Parkinson's disease. Feeding and swallow-

1991! TIME YOU CAMPED AT

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## YOUNG LEADERS

This month we are going to concentrate on Part 2, Clause 4 of the Young Leaders Scheme with the help of some ideas supplied by South West Region.

### OVER TO YOU

How often does your Guider turn to you and say 'Could you organise a game for me please?'; 'Can you bring an activity based on being outdoors?'; or 'Do you have a prayer we could end the meeting with tonight?'

While you will have a few ideas, you'll find it so much easier if you start to compile a games book, song book and prayer book. They will prove very useful resources and it will mean you are always prepared to cope with the unexpected.

The books can be designed in whatever style suits you, but it is often convenient to keep the material in loose-leaf files, making it easy to add to them. You may find the back of the Young Leader File suitable. Alternatively, buy a file — or some loose file rings and, using some stiff card, make your own. Don't make your books too cumbersome — you need to be able to take them around with you.

You will need to think about numbering the pages and indexing so you can find the entries quickly. Try to make the books attractive by adding your own illustrations or cutting up and sticking in some appropriate pictures. Leave some pages blank so that as you spot a good idea you can easily write it down.

### PRAYERS

Compiling the prayer book can be done with the girls' help. They will enjoy writing and decorating prayers on a given theme. If your unit is made up of girls with different religious faiths, it is important that they should all feel they belong and that their religion

has a place within the Programme.

Do remember that Christians, Jews, Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs all believe in God as creator of the world and father of all mankind. Therefore, when people of more than one faith are praying together, prayers should be addressed to God (Creator, Father, Lord) so that everyone can participate.

Once you've made your books, keep adding to them and jot down comments about how activities worked and how you might need to adapt them for another occasion. Useful thoughts crop up in all sorts of places, so keep your eyes open all the time. Here is a list of some of the places you may find suitable material:

- prayer books, GGA publications and others
- poetry books
- quotations
- snippets from magazines, newspapers, cards and so on.

You may find the following ideas useful. Cut them out and use them to start your books or add them to your existing collection. Remember, any idea can be adapted to suit the age group with which you work.

### LEND A HAND

- 1 Brownies draw round their hand on a piece of coloured paper.
- 2 Brownies cut out the hand shapes.
- 3 At Pow-wow, identify different sections of the Promise and Law and discuss ways in which we fulfil them.
- 4 Brownies fill in a finger for each topic and then write a sentence/poem/prayer in the palm of the hand.
- 5 Stick the hands in a scrap book to use at other meetings.

I	Promise	that	I	will	do
my	best	to	do	my	duty
to	God	to	serve	the	Queen
and	help	other	people	and	to
keep	the	Guide	Law		

### PROMISE-A-LOT

Copy the above chart, on a larger scale, and cut it into individual squares. Put them into a bag. Each player will need pencil and paper and a record card. One person acts as caller. She picks one card out and calls it out.

The first member of the Patrol to say the *next* word in the Promise after the one called can write the caller's word in her record card. The word is then returned to the bag. The game continues until one player has the whole Promise written down, and she then reads it out.

*Does a good turn every day*

*Thinks of others before herself*

*Queen and other people*

*Duty to God*

*The Promise and Law*

### MATCHING

Put a few gummed shapes on a piece of card. Rainbows go out and find natural objects as near to the shape on their card as possible. (It does not have to be the same colour, and make sure you remember the Country Code.)

### WORD RACE

The Brownie Law is written on a different piece of coloured card for each Six. Cut into single words and place in middle of room. At 'Go' Brownies from each Six (one at a time) collect pieces of their own colour and bring them to their home. While Brownies are waiting for their turn, they put the words in order. Finally they

can act, mime, or tell one way to carry out the Law.

### PRAYER CIRCLE

End a meeting with a prayer for each person. Begin by explaining that for a week everyone is to pray for the person next to her. Then going in a clockwise direction, start them off by saying: 'I shall pray for Susan'. Then Susan says: 'I shall pray for Jane,' and so on until the last girl says who she will pray for.



# WORD FOR WORD

At the time of year when the words peace and goodwill have been mentioned in messages on many millions of Christmas cards, it seems an appropriate time to take a closer look at the real meaning of many of the words we use every day.

The suggestions we make are merely meant as a springboard to start you thinking up theme evenings on various aspects of language. If it is at all possible, use the opportunity to involve the community in which your Guides live by bringing in someone who doesn't have English as a first language to speak to the girls, thus widening their experience and spreading the message of Guiding.

Use the opportunity to break down some language barriers. The girls will happily learn some simple phrases: greetings; compliments; Christmas words and so on (see also November's issue of *TODAY'S GUIDE* for instructions of how to make a Christmas Nisse).

## WORD GAMES

Give your girls a foreign language experience with the help of a linguistic Ranger or an obliging mum or adult helper with a talent for acting. Don't underestimate your Brownies — this is an exercise at which they will excel.

The object of the game is to find out as much about the 'foreign' visitor as possible: personal details, likes and dislikes, Guiding in that country, family, daily routine and so on. Much of this can

be done with the help of a community whose first language is not English. Or your visitor could simply invent a gobbledegook language for the evening. The most important factor is that she pretends that she cannot understand a single word of English.

## YOU SAY TOMATO...

And I say — 'tomato'. If you can get hold of a recording of this song, play it as an introduction to the following activity. Continue with a discussion about Americanisms and Australianisms to illustrate how the same language is often not the same language at all. Here are a few examples to start you off.

English (GB)	English (USA)
trousers	pants
handbag	purse
lorry	truck
toilet	bathroom

Then shuffle the cards and set the task of grouping the words according to their meaning.

bread roll	bap, batch, bun
newt	waterswift, esker, effet
girl	lass, maid, wench
trousers	keks, breeches, trews
love	hinny, pet, chuck
alley	passage, cut, snicket

If yours is a unit of girls from widely-differing backgrounds, find out what they call the pastime of knocking on doors and running away; what they call the game of 'tag'; how many different ways there are of calling someone a fool; how they announce that they're going to give someone a thrashing; and how they make a cup of tea.

# Seasons Greetings

## FESTIVE LISTS

See who can compile the longest list of Christmas-associated words within a given time, say ten minutes. The lists can then be sorted into smaller family groups, for example Christmas tree words, Christmas story words, Christmas present words and so on. One group then chooses a word. The other groups have to guess the word chosen by asking questions in turn that can only be answered with a yes or a no. For instance is it a party word? Is it fragile? Does it make a noise?

## SANTA CLAUS

We know the cheery chap in white whiskers as Father Christmas or Santa Claus but others call him Nisse, Tomte or Saint Nicholas. Could you find someone who could talk to your girls about the person who brings the gifts in another country?

NEW YEAR  
HAPPY

be done with the help of resources and plenty of paper and pens. Helpful items are: world maps, atlases, *Trefoil round the World*, uniform charts, appropriate language dictionaries, mail order catalogues...

Your foreign visitor could be someone who speaks a foreign language that many of your Guides are already learning. She could be a member of the local com-

tap	faucet
petrol	gas
motorway	freeway

But you don't have to go overseas to discover that words don't always mean the same. Just moving from county to county can reveal some quite dramatic changes. Copy the words from the right hand column on to separate cards (one set per group). Copy the words from the left hand column on to separate cards.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU

Here are the beginnings of another language guessing game whereby the phrase has to be matched with the language name. Add to the game by including the other languages spoken by any of the girls in your unit.

Italian	Buon Capodanno
Spanish	Feliz Ano Nuevo
German	Gutes Neues Jahr
Dutch	Gelukkig Nieuwjaar
Norwegian	Godt Nytt Ar
French	Bonne Année

Follow this up by finding out about and exploring different ways people celebrate the New Year.

HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS

Peace & goodwill



# essay competition

*Did any girls in your unit enter the 1989/1990 Royal Commonwealth Society Essay Competition? It's an annual event, regularly supported by members of the GGA. If not, have a go this year — perhaps one of your girls will scoop one of the top prizes.*

## RULES

**1** Entries must be sent to Guiding Activities Division (International Department) at CHQ, accompanied by the coupon, which must be signed by a Guider, to arrive not later than Friday, February 1, 1991.

**2** On the front page of the entry please give: Name, Date of Birth, Unit Title, Home Address, Age Group, Essay Class, Length of Essay.

**3** Essays should be handwritten, with a wide margin on the left-hand side of each page. (A disabled girl may type her essay, but an explanatory letter must be enclosed.)

**4** A list of books read for information must be given together with details of any other sources of information used.

**5** The essay may be supported by diagrams, maps or illustrations, but remember that it is an essay competition and the judges will concentrate on the written material.

**6 NO ENTRANT MAY SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE ESSAY.**

A small prize will be awarded by Commonwealth Headquarters for the best essays submitted in each class. Up to six essays in each class will then be sent to the panel of judges appointed by the Royal Commonwealth Society.

For an essay to be accepted, the date of birth must be included in the entry particulars and the entrant must have been born:

**for Class A, in 1972, 1973 or 1974**

**for Class B, in 1975 or 1976**

**for Class C, in 1977 or 1978**

**for Class D, not earlier than 1979.**

Age will be calculated at December 31, 1990. Entrants who are above the age for the class entered will be disqualified.

## TOPICS

**CLASS A — Approximately 1,500-2,000 words**

**1** Green issues are now among the crucial economic, social and political concerns of the 1990s. What would you include in a Green Manifesto or Programme for your own country? What obstacles do you foresee in such a manifesto being implemented?

**2** All countries have an artistic heritage of literature, music, painting, sculpture, theatre, dance or cinema. Is it important that these arts survive in a modern

society? If so, how can they be fostered?

**3** Do recent events signal the end of communism as a viable political system? Is there now no alternative to a return to capitalism and the free market? How can we best ensure acceptable standards of economic development, social welfare and natural justice?

**4** Local and international tourism is a major industry throughout the world. What makes people want to visit other places? Has the impact of tourism in your country done more harm than good?

**5** Write a short story (of not more than 2,000 words).

**CLASS B — Approximately 1,200-1,500 words**

**1** The loss of rain forests has long been recognised as a threat to the global environment. Satellite photographs now

show it to be acute. Bearing in mind all the practical difficulties, discuss what can be done to protect and regenerate the forests.

**2** One mark of a civilised society is concern for its most vulnerable members: children, old people, the sick, handicapped and deprived. Are their needs adequately met in your society?

**3** 'Architecture is the most important art form because we are forced to look at it every day.' Do you think this is true or are other art forms, such as painting, sculpture, music, dancing or writing more important for a nation's well-being?

**4** Crime is a problem in most countries and deprivation of the convicted criminal's liberty is the usual response. Should its main purpose be to punish, to rehabilitate or to safeguard the community?

## PRIZES

### CLASS A

**1st** International air travel and study tour for two in Britain — or in another country if the winner is British.

**2nd** £100 cash and £30 books (Margaret Best Endowment).

**3rd** £75 cash and £25 books.

**4th** £50 cash and £20 books.

### CLASS B

**1st** £250 cash and £50 books.

**2nd** £80 cash and £25 books (Margaret Best Endowment).

**3rd** £60 cash and £20 books.

**4th** £40 cash and £15 books.

### CLASS C

**1st** £80 cash and £20 books (Kenneth Whitty Memorial).

**2nd** £60 cash and £15 books (Kenneth Whitty Memorial).

**3rd** £45 cash and £10 books.

**4th** £30 cash and £10 books.

### CLASS D

**1st** £60 cash and £20 books (Frederick Rapsey Endowment).

**2nd** £40 cash and £15 books.

**3rd** £30 cash and £10 books.

**4th** £20 cash and £10 books.

**Special Prizes:** In each class there is a special prize available for a disabled entrant (Sir Alwyn Ezra Endowment).

**Note:** The values of the book prizes are of necessity approximate.

**CLASS C — Approximately 500-750 words**

**1** Imagine that you are a foreign correspondent for a newspaper or magazine. Write a piece about an event which is quite special to your country.

**2** Your pen friend would like to know about life in your town or village. Describe it in a letter, saying what are the good and bad things about living there.

**3** Write a story beginning, 'When we set off that morning, little did we know what we were in for.'

**4** If you won a really big money prize, what would you do with it?

**CLASS D — Approximately 450-650 words**

**1** You are a tree. Describe yourself and what happens to you in your lifetime.

**2** Make a map of hidden treasure. Describe how you organise an expedition to find it.

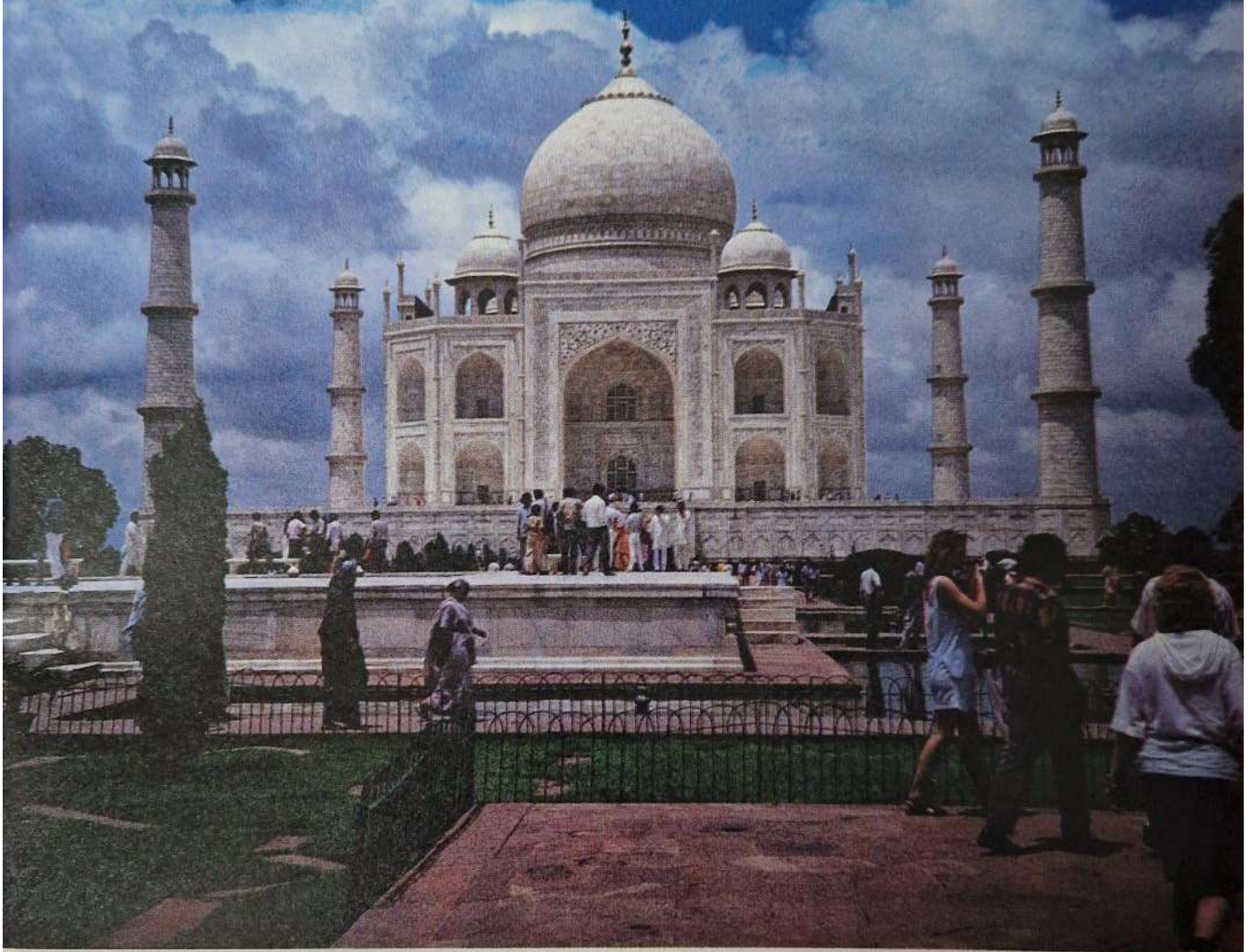
**3** Write an exciting story, with pictures, that you could read and show to a younger brother or sister.

**4** Write a letter to a friend about the day when everything went wrong.

**5** You are thinking about an accident. Use your imagination to describe it. You can write a poem, a play, a story, or any sort of composition. You can illustrate it with as many pictures as you like. (Do not bother too much about the number of words you use.)



The Taj Mahal —  
an Emperor's loving  
tribute to his wife



# DELHI

## DESIGN FOR LIVING

For more than a decade the GGA has been closely involved with the British arm of Experiment in International Living, part of a worldwide organisation spread across more than 50 countries on all six continents. EIL aspires to a peaceful world where all people live in harmony, by sending 'experimenters' to stay with 'host families' in foreign countries. The aim is to form bonds of mutual understanding, respect and friendship in a *home* — the world's greatest educational institution.





# ONE WORLD

But, although EIL was founded in 1932, when the idea of learning about another nation by living with a host family for several weeks was considered somewhat strange, many of its basic concepts remain valid as we approach the 21st Century and the struggle for global survival continues.

Each year the Association sends about

100 selected 'experimenters' on these educational visits abroad. Last August a group of 12 went to India for three weeks. Among them was 18-year-old Toni Greet, a Ranger and Young Leader, who was chosen by Leicestershire County to represent Chamwood North Division.

Toni describes her great personal 'experiment':





After an eight-and-a-half-hour flight we arrived in Delhi but the fully air-conditioned airport was misleading, as we discovered when we walked out into the stifling city air. We fought our way through the crowds to our bus which was to take us to the YMCA — our 'home' until Sunday morning. The YMCA was very comfortable, due mainly to the air-conditioning and showers, essential in Delhi's 43°C.

We did the 'tourist bit' in Delhi: visiting temples, mosques and such places as the Qutab Minar, a five-storey tower built by a series of Mogul emperors. One of the highlights was a bicycle rickshaw ride around the streets of Old Delhi to the Friday Mosque.

We also visited a Guide and Scout meeting. It was great fun and we enjoyed the traditional welcome, with flowers in our hair and a tikka — a red dot — on our foreheads.

This was followed by a display of traditional dances and games performed by the Guides. Later we were able to mix with the Indian girls and teach them some British action songs — *A Pizza Hut* proved popular! They tried to teach us some Hindi songs, somewhat less successfully.

One of our days was spent visiting Agra. The four-and-a-half-hour bus journey was well worth it when we saw the Taj Mahal. It must be the most beautiful tomb in the world and took an amazing 22 years to build — a sign of true love. Emperor Shah Jahan had it built for his wife, the Mumtaz Mahal. Also at Agra is the Red Fort, where Shah Jahan was imprisoned by his son for the last seven years of his life.

On Sunday we flew from Delhi to Bombay and — little did we know it — rain! Three people nearly died on the plane from 'Delhi belly'. At the airport we were welcomed by our hosts, the families with whom we were to stay for nine days.

EIL's warning slogan — 'Expect the Unexpected' — sounded ominous but, on the journey home with my host, Khozem Topiwala, I was soon at ease, chatting with him.

Home was a fourth-floor apartment and the family consisted of ten people — mother, father, their two sons and one daughter, and the sons' wives and children. Each sub-family had one of the three bedrooms. In 'my' family's room, therefore, was Khozem and his wife, Rashida; and their sons, Shayaan, nine; and Adnan, three. They spoke English at all times but Khozem's parents spoke Gujarati. I was welcomed by the entire family and soon felt completely at home.

The apartment faced the Taj Mahal Hotel, one of the most famous hotels in Bombay. Around the corner was the



Toni relaxes with her host's wife

Gateway of India, built to commemorate a visit to the city by King George V and Queen Mary. While in Bombay, I was taken to the island of Elephanta, about 10km from the coast. On the island are caves which are temples dedicated to Shiva, the Hindu god of destruction. One of the carvings there, of a three-faced figure, is said to be among the finest in the world.

We also had a group sightseeing trip around the suburbs of Bombay, which included a visit to a lion safari park. Unfortunately it rained for much

Sangam was lovely, with its arched buildings and relaxed atmosphere. The other people staying at Sangam were all British — a group of Guides and three girls on a Queen's Guide expedition.

A trip to Pune included a visit to the Aga Khan Palace, where Gandhi was imprisoned during the 1939-45 war. At the Leprosy Rehabilitation Centre we were able to see people totally self-supporting, making their own clothes and shoes, keeping livestock and silkworm farming on a commercial scale. It took away any fears we might have had about leprosy which, with proper care, can be cured.

Another trip was to a village called Sonori. As 80 per cent of Indians live in villages we considered this an essential part of our stay.

Another highlight was a Maharastrian dinner, eaten sitting on the floor with banana leaves as plates, wearing Indian dress. Great fun! These visits filled our final five days. Forty hours later, after train journeys and a plane delay, I was home — exhausted but wishing I was still in India!

India, I found, was a country of contrasts — of class, religion and



Lovely Sangam has a relaxed atmosphere

of the day, as it did on most days. Trust us to go in the rainy season!

After attending a Guide party it was our turn to entertain, introducing our hosts to typical British desserts — trifle, shortbread, and Victoria sponge cake — much enjoyed by everyone.

Not even the rain marred the wonderful times we all had in Bombay. One of my highlights was riding pillion on Khozem's motorbike around the streets.

On Tuesday, after some sad farewells, we set off on our four-and-a-half-hour train journey to Pune and Sangam, one of the World Centres.

I think we were all surprised to find that the Guider-in-Charge at Sangam was Danish; her assistant came from New Zealand and the helpers from the USA, Britain and Columbia.

language. The people were so friendly. Everywhere we went we were greeted with smiles and open arms. Some of the happiest we met lived in the slums — children were constantly wanting to shake hands and have their photographs taken.

It was the journey of a lifetime and I would love to go back. Unfortunately my grant, as I study for a chemistry degree, is not quite adequate for a trip to India. Still, one day...

TONI GREET

● 'Experimenters' are being selected now for EIL trips in 1991 to Brazil, Ecuador, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Mexico and Thailand. Interested? Then contact your County International Adviser.





# CLASSIFIEDS

## CAMPSES AND ACTIVITY CENTRES

### BELCHAMPS SCOUT CENTRE

In great demand, open all year round, thirty acres of Essex countryside, adjoining woods of 360 acres, near Southend-on-Sea, with swimming pool ten minutes from site. Several camping fields, two with a small building containing cooking facilities and a few bunks. Purpose built indoor accommodation available, one with six dormitories of eight bunks, with use of nearby kitchen and dining room, and another self contained with twenty four bunks, own invalid toilet and showers.

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S.A.E. (foolscap) for brochure: Resident Warden, Holyoak Lane, Hawkwell, Essex SS5 4JD.

**BRAGGERS WOOD** Scout Camp Site. New Forest — South coast. Ideal for Brownie and Guide camps. Facilities include fully equipped cabin for pack holidays and winter camps. Mains water, electricity, flush toilets, hot showers, disabled facilities. S.A.E. for details to: The Warden, Braggers Wood Scout Camp, Braggers Lane Bransgore, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 8EP.

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40 acres of pleasant woodland, Pack Holiday Centres, Swimming Pool, Climbing, Abseiling Wall, Canoeing, Pioneer, Archery, Confectionery, Souvenirs Shop. COME TO NORTUMBRIA.

Details: The Warden, Gosforth Park Scout & Guide Camp, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 5EP. Tel: 091-268 2572

**BLACKLAND FARM CAMP SITE** 122 acres of fields and woodlands near Ashdown Forest, amid some of the loveliest Sussex countryside. Equipped and un-equipped sites are available. We offer facilities for rock climbing, canoeing, abseiling and archery with instruction. As well as orienteering, nature trail, assault course and heated indoor swimming pool. Restrop and Wagtail Lodge are fully equipped for pack and indoor holidays. For further details apply to: The Warden, Blackland Farm, East Grinstead, Sussex, RH19 4HP or telephone 0342 810493 or 0860 393026

### BLACKWELL COURT INTERNATIONAL SCOUT CENTRE

Set amidst 50 acres of beautiful Worcestershire countryside in the Heart of England, Blackwell Court offers excellent camping facilities for all Scouts and Guides.

The large range of on-site activities include archery, canoeing, pioneering, abseiling, grass ski-ing, shooting range, rafting, grass sledging, heated swimming pool. Instruction available for most activities.

The Campsite offers excellent toilet, shower and wet weather facilities including a well stocked Provender. Also available indoor accommodation, the ideal Centre for Pack Holidays.

Within easy access to all the major motorways and railways Blackwell Court is ideally situated to visit the many nearby popular places of interest including Alton Towers, Stratford-upon-Avon, Worcester, Warwick Castle and is only 2½ hours travelling time away from the centre of London.

Near to Blackwell Court is Pikes Pool set in 50 acres providing ideal camping facilities for the more experienced camper.

So are you interested in using Blackwell Court for your Pack/Troop camp in 1991? Please don't hesitate in contacting us for further information from Blackwell Court International Scout Centre, Blackwell, Near Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 1PX or telephone 021-445-1285. Please visit us at Map Ref: Sheet 139 (Metric) 995 716.

**COASTAL CAMPSITE**, Seaford, Sussex. Sheltered, secluded, access to town, beaches and South Downs. Solid shelter, water, electricity, facilities for disabled, s.a.e. Mrs Simpson, West Winds, Selmeiston, Sussex BN26 6UD.

### Edinburgh International Festival Bonanza 1991

Our site is only 15 miles from the centre of Scotland's Capital city, Edinburgh, home of the world famous International Festival and Military Tattoo. During the Festival period, 11 - 31 August 1991, we are making this special offer available to all Guide Companies and Ranger Guide Units: **stay seven nights in camp and pay for only five.**

We have a considerable stock of Patrol tents etc for hire which can make travelling light. Inverkeithing Intercity station is just over a mile away which means it can be direct, too! Many activities available on-site and nearby. Ask for details.

**National Scout Activity Centre, Fordell Firs, Hillend, Dunfermline, Fife KY11 5HA Tel: (0383) 412704**

**WARWICKSHIRE GUIDE** County Camp Site. Shipston-on-Stour, Stratford 12 miles. Fringe of Cotswolds. Equipped and un-equipped sites. Dry shelter. Details C. Long, 2 Church Terrace, Cubbington, Leamington Spa, CV32 7JX.

**CAMPSITE ACCESS TO LONDON**. Field and woods at Stanmore, Middlesex. Within distance of underground. Equipment for four patrols or company. Camping for 30 girls. Fee 45p head/night. Brochure Miss Berkeley, 10 Allbrook Close, Teddington TW11 8TY. 081-977 6550.

**SOMERSET COUNTY CAMPSITE**, edge of Mendips near Cheddar Wells. Dry shelter. Wood, water, some equipment. For details s.a.e. Mrs A. Weeks, The Forge, Vicarage Lane, Woakey, Wells BA5 1JT. 0749-73596.

**WORCS GIRL GUIDES** county campsite, Blackmore Park, Hanley Swan, Worcs, 5 sites, 1 equipped to sleep 24 guides. Apply Mrs Kittridge, 19 Cleveland, Malvern, Worcs. WR13 6PD.

**BUSHY WOOD**, Hailsham, Sussex. Woodland campsite, solid shelter, flush toilets, equipped for 24. Large s.a.e. Mrs A. Bourne, 6 Great Cliffe Road, Eastbourne BN23 7AY.

**LORD HYDE MEMORIAL** Campsite, near Watford, 8½ acres grass and woodland across unspoiled valley. Fully equipped building with flush toilets. Firewood plentiful, open all year round. Details: Chris Marshall, 40 First Avenue, Watford, Herts WQ2 6PZ.

### CRICKET CAMPSITE

BURSLEDON, HAMPSHIRE

A beautiful campsite set in 407 acres of country park, close to the M27 with good facilities for full troop or patrol camps.

Situated 10 minutes walk from the River Hamble, where canoeing and qualified instructors are available.

Also available: abseiling, archery and rifle shooting. Flush toilets, showers, hot water, pack holiday centre (open to schools).

Write for brochure to:

M. D. VEAL (HON. SECRETARY) ITCHEN SOUTH DISTRICT SCOUT CAMPSITE, C/O 12 BARTON DRIVE, HEDGE END, SOUTHAMPTON, HAMPSHIRE SO3 2FF.

### ASSOCIATION OF METHODIST SCOUTERS & GUIDERS

CAMP FOR SCOUTS, GUIDES 10th-13th August 1991

At Beaulesert Scout and Guide Campsite, near Rugeley, Staffs.

For more information contact Mr Laurie Mitchell, 5 Larch Close, Ellesmere, Cheshire SY12 9PH.

### The Quarries Camping and Activity Centre, Milton Keynes

This "lunderfull" site, ideal for all Scout-ing/Guiding activities, within easy access from M1/A5. Open all year facilities include Pack Holiday/Training Centre, showers, well stocked District Scout Shop/Guide Depot.

Details: (large SAE) P Brant, 12 Ryeland, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes, MK11 1DB. Tel: (0908) 567032

### GUIDES! WADDECAR FOR YOUR SUMMER CAMP

Scout Site in beautiful forest of Bowland with full time Warden. Large camp areas in fields or by riverside. Many activities available. Archery, climbing, abseiling, orienteering, assault course, nature trails, pioneering all with or without instruction. Canoeing and biking off site. Variety of indoor accommodation. Excellent toilet, shower and wet weather facilities. Equipped sites if required. Ideal for off site visits to Theme Parks, Blackpool, Morecambe, Lake District, etc.

For further information send SAE to W. Lancs County Scout Office, Wood Top, Gosonagh, Preston, Lancs PR3 2ER for attention of Camp Secretary.

### BUCKMORE PARK SCOUT CENTRE

Maidstone Road, Chatham ME5 9QG.

Scout camp site. Training ground and Activity Centre. Swimming, Skating, BMX Shooting, Archery, 5-a-side, Tennis, Karting, Climbing, Orienteering, Abseiling, etc. Open throughout the year for Summer Camps, Weekend and Weeks Camps, Pack Holidays, Conference facilities.

Brochure available (large SAE) from: The Warden. Tel: 0634-861295/8. Fax: 0634-844553.

**ILFORD DIVISION SITE**, Chigwell Row, Essex. Fully equipped patrol/unit camping. Solid shelter, flush toilets, on site swimming, orienteering, easy access centre London. Details Mrs Goffee, 081-590 1610.

### ADAMSWELL SCOUT CAMPSITE

Near Tunbridge Wells, Kent

Peaceful rural setting 2 miles from Tunbridge Wells. 15 acres campsite with water and firewood throughout. Also fully equipped building with meeting rooms, kitchen, showers and toilets. Suitable for holidays, events or training courses. For further information contact:


Geoff Robson  
0892 822390

**CHIGWELL ROW CAMP SITE**, Oaklands Farm, Lambourne Road, Chigwell Row, Essex. IG7 6EN. 01-500 2450. Equipped and un-equipped sites available. Solid shelter each site, flush toilets, tuck shop and well stocked canteen, swimming pool, archery. Chigwell is a delightful site set in the Essex countryside within easy reach of London. Families welcome. S.A.E. to Warden for details.

**CAMPING IN THE NEW FOREST**, Avon Tyrrell residential centre offers both self-catering (24) and camping accommodation for organised youth groups. The 43 acres of grounds offer canoeing, archery, outdoor swimming pool, fishing, mountain bikes. Suburb country location, yet close to South Coast beaches and attractions. Further details: Avon Tyrrell, Youth Clubs UK, Bransgore nr Christchurch. Tel: 0425-72347.

**LITTLE TREES DIVISION CAMPSITE**, Crawley, Sussex. 3 Sites with solid fire shelters and water. One large hut with gas lighting and telephone. Brochure available. A5 S.A.E. to Mrs J. Wendall, 8 Manor Gardens, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex BN6 9UG.

**TRADITIONAL CAMPING** on Guider's Farm. Corn dolly making during summer. Mrs Jeanes, Knapwoods, North Curry, Taunton, Somerset TA3 6AU. 0823-490623



## Auchengillan

**A warm Scottish welcome awaits you!**

- \* Auchengillan is a 65 acre International Guide Centre in Stirlingshire with panoramic views of the surrounding hills and Loch Lomond.
- \* There are three indoor heated centres for up to 60 people to choose from available all year.
- \* Many on site activities are available including archery, abseiling, rifle shooting, orienteering, cycle hire and grass sledging on the U.K.'s longest Cresta Run as a supplement to traditional Guide skills.
- \* There is a swimming pool, shop and laundry on site.
- \* The Centre is an ideal base for touring and is next to the West Highland Way.

For information please contact Andy Wilson, Centre Warden, Auchengillan, Blanefield, Stirlingshire, G63 8AU. Tel: (0360) 70266.



# YOUR LETTERS

## SAFETY FIRST

I was very interested to read the Chief Commissioner's Comment in November's *GUIDING*, especially as the magazine arrived on my doorstep the day I had taken 20 of my Brownies to London.

On our coach trip we had six adults, two of whom were sitting in the rear part of the coach. Half way along the M4 our coach driver told me the emergency door alarm was on, and asked me to check it. I have never moved so fast in years.

Three Brownies were kneeling on the back seat looking out of the window totally oblivious that one of them must have knocked the door handle, thus setting off the alarm. I moved the girls and managed to close the emergency exit door.

All was well but it took several minutes for Brown Owl's heart beat to get back to normal.

Just like the lorry driver who had encountered a similar situation on the M25, I would like to, not suggest, but *tell* every Guider please, please, leave the back seat rear emergency area of any coach completely clear.

All I kept saying to myself after our incident was thank God the coach had an alarm system; the consequences do not bear thinking of, do they?

**JOYCE HARRISON**

Brownie Guider  
1st Faringdon Brownies  
Oxfordshire

## HELPING HAND

I'm sure that I can't be the only reader to have been moved to tears by the letter from an 'Ordinary Brown Owl' in November's *GUIDING*. I so hope that this offer does not come too late.

At our last Patrol Leaders' Council, our Guides expressed a wish to 'adopt-a-unit' who were, perhaps, less well-off. The Guides would like to raise funds on a regular basis, correspond with, and visit.

Funds and friendship may not be enough to keep the writer in our Guiding family, but we do hope so... We would like her Pack to be our 'sister' unit.

**SALLY CAMAC**  
(and all the Guides)

1st Milton (St Peter's)  
Worle,  
Weston-Super-Mare

● We would be very happy to put Brown Owl in touch with Sally — drop us a line at CHQ.

## TOURIST OR TRAVELLER

Annette Kitchen, writing in November's *GUIDING*, unfortunately seems to have missed the point of the We and They article on gestures.

I believe the article was designed to encourage us to be sensitive and thoughtful travellers — attitudes which we surely want to support in Guiding.

Many of the traditions that we hold dear in this country are of great interest to others, and participants at international events will want to share them with others.

However, that is different from thoughtlessly or unknowingly behaving in a way which gives offence.

Surely this is one of the attitudes that distinguishes the traveller from the tourist? One is sensitive to traditions and seeks to learn from time spent in another country and the people he or she visits. The other may, at best, just be indulging himself or herself and, at worst, exploiting

the country in which he or she is a guest.

I would hope that in Guiding we are encouraging all our members to be caring, thoughtful travellers, and to be aware of the feelings of all the people with whom they come into contact.

**SUE TAYLOR**  
International  
Commissioner

## NUMBERS GAME

As a Brownie Guider of many years standing, both working alone and with an Assistant Guider, I would like to propose that the maximum number of Brownies in a Pack be increased to 30.

In our District at present, all the Brownie Packs have waiting lists. We have started two Rainbow Units and hope to start another one. The problem, which I am sure is shared by many others, is lack of Guiders, even though everything is being done to encourage more adults in to the Movement.

If the Brownie Packs were allowed to take 30, I feel sure that this would help us tremendously. I may add that during my years I have coped with a full Pack on my own, only recently having the help of an Assistant Guider and a Young Leader.

Obviously, if a Guider is running a Pack on her own, it is an entirely different proposition to a unit with plenty of helpers. Each Guider knows her own capabilities, and, perhaps, we should be allowed to stipulate the number of girls in the unit.

**CHRISTINE RICHARDS**

Brownie Guider  
1st Great Moor  
Cheshire

## SO NAFF

I just had to comment on Mr Stanforth's letter in November's *GUIDING*. It is a matter which is close to my own heart, everything which this man says is so true. Thank you for printing his letter and airing a view which I have long held.

I feel that we should all get out there among the girls and find out what they want. Not what we think they might like, or what we like ourselves. And then give it to them. If we did, perhaps fewer teenagers would feel, like my own daughter, that Guiding is extremely naff.

**C STRAWFORD**

Brownie Guider  
1st Staunton and Corse  
Gloucestershire

## MISSING PEN PAL

I am trying to locate an English pen pal. As a Brownie Patrol Leader I was linked to Barbara Burns, who was also a Patrol Leader.

We wrote to one another throughout Brownies and Guides. The correspondence ended a few years later when her address was destroyed accidentally.

Barbara was born in 1942 and had a sister called Ann, who was approximately three years younger.

Before my marriage I was Patty Fredericks and lived in Ontario, Canada. I now live in the States but hope to visit England with my husband in the next couple of years. I would like to re-establish contact with my old friend.

Anyone who can help please write to Mrs Gene A Ramsey, 12002 W 100th TER, SHWNE MSN KS 66215.

**PATTY RAMSEY**  
USA



## LEARNING PROBLEMS

I am a college student learning to teach people with mental handicaps. I am researching the position of people with mental handicaps in youth organisations.

I am particularly interested in the integration of young people with learning difficulties into 'ordinary' units, rather than segregated units attached to special schools.

I would appreciate hearing from any Guider who has had experience of a Guide (of any age) who had learning difficulties and who feels she could share her experiences, opinions and suggestions for future development in this area.

Our new uniforms are already a great step forward in encouraging people with learning difficulties to integrate into 'ordinary' units. They are so much easier to put on and are more comfortable to wear — congratulations to all concerned.

**MRS JANET BEECH**

Brownie Guider  
1st Mersey Vale Brownies  
Stockport

• Write to Janet at *GUIDING*.

## AIRLIFT

I would be grateful for any unwanted Brownie yellow T-shirts or Guide blue shirts (blouse or T-shirt) to send to Chikankata, Zambia.

I was privileged to attend their meetings recently and was saddened at how few possessions they have. They would really value the 'correct' tops!

I send them in tea-chests that I purchase and take to Zambian Airways. You might question the economic sense of this exercise but it is virtually impossible to purchase goods where these Guides and Brownies gather, so money is virtually valueless to them.

We are faced with  
54 paying extortionate freight

charges and postal costs, but it is the only way for them to own these things.

You might be interested to know that the girls walk up to two to three hours from the bush to attend meetings, and then have the long walk back.

The older girls can frequently only attend as Guides until they are 13, as they have to take on household responsibilities and marry very young. Even the Brownies are accustomed to having their baby brothers and sisters strapped on their backs, though manage to escape on meeting nights!

**(Mrs) JACQUELYNE GOODFELLOW**

Any one who can help should send the garments to Jacquelyne at Highwood Lane, Hayling Island PO11 0LR

## AMAZED

We were amazed to read *A Personal View* in November's *GUIDING*. Who are 'them up there' who say 'no more District events'?

For the last two years we have run a very successful District event similar to the one described, although the Brownies just came for the day to experience the various activities which the Guides do at camp.

County and Division Commissioners were invited and the day was opened by the local mayor. After an early evening camp fire the Brownies went home and the Guides and Guiders slept out under the stars if they wished — there were tents available for those who did not fancy sleeping in a plastic bivvy bag!

A good time was had by all and the site has already been booked for a repeat performance next year.

Where does it say you cannot organise a District event in the new *Guiding Manual*? If it doesn't, then surely you can!

**MANDY BRUCE, SUSAN BROUGH, ANN SIMPSON**

District Commissioner and Guide Guiders  
Chepstow, Gwent

## RIGHT STUFF

How sad that the lovely District Camp-cum-Pack Holiday is not to be repeated because the 'official' edict was, 'Please do not create a tradition of District events.'

In a very recent *GUIDING* the interpretation of rules by our own Betty Clay was, 'If it doesn't say you can't, you can!'

Her father dealt with Scouting similarly, letting boys use their initiative to interpret the message of the Movement in the best and most exciting way they could. Indeed he encouraged them to do so.

Please encourage sensible ventures like this when it is obviously run according to our Guiding guide-lines, or all the glorious freedom of outdoor ventures will be stifled.

**IRENE SMITH**

Ex-Guider  
(of several hats, retired)  
Tudhoe Village  
Co Durham

## ANSWER NEEDED

In reply to Young Leader, Naomi Alderman, in November's *GUIDING*, a residential Young Leader's training was held at Great Hautbois House, Norfolk, in October from Tuesday to Thursday, attended by Young Leaders, not all from Anglia Region.

The problem of residential events is not just confined to girls of different faiths. Many Young Leaders and Rangers work on Saturdays and/or Sundays and it is becoming increasingly difficult to run weekend trainings.

However, running a mid-week session causes its own problems. Half-term and school holiday dates are often different, even in neighbouring Counties. Many Trainers work full-time and, therefore, have to give up their own holiday. Of course, those with young children wish to spend holiday times

with their families, which was very apparent when we tried to find a Trainer for the Anglia event.

Does anybody out there have a 'magic solution' to the problem? I would be interested to know how other Regions cope.

**SHEENA BOOTH**

Young Leader Consultant  
Anglia

## One Young Leader who attended writes

I found it was great fun and I met a lot of new people. As I am a new Young Leader I felt that I learned a lot to help me become a 'good' Young Leader. And now I am able to pass on a lot of information to both Guides and Brownies.

Why not write to Hautbois and see if they are having a Young Leader's residential next year?

**SONYA MALLETT**

14th Ipswich  
(Whitehouse) Guides

## TB PLEA

For many years I was a Guider in Canada and have also been a Ranger Guider and District Commissioner in the UK.

While in India I have become involved with the Delhi Commonwealth Women's Association, especially with the clinic school.

We have recently screened the children and have found that 80 per cent have tuberculosis, many have it in their bones. It costs 1,000 rupees (£30) to treat and cure each one.

We run a voluntary medical centre and school and so desperately need help to raise funds for these children.

I well remember raising money in our units for such causes, so I wondered if any readers would like to help?

We would keep them informed about our work and success in helping these suffering children.

**MARGARET DAUBENEY**

22-A, Aurangzeb Road  
New Delhi-110 003





JUDE HUNT

# HELLO SAILORS!

For six months members of the 1st Cupernham Guides followed the round-the-world adventures of the crew of *HMS Bristol*. Keeping them up to date with the latest news was Assistant Guide Guider, Judith (Jude) Hunt.

Jude's 'foreign correspondent' was her boyfriend, Lieutenant Phil Houghton, who was serving on board the *Bristol*.

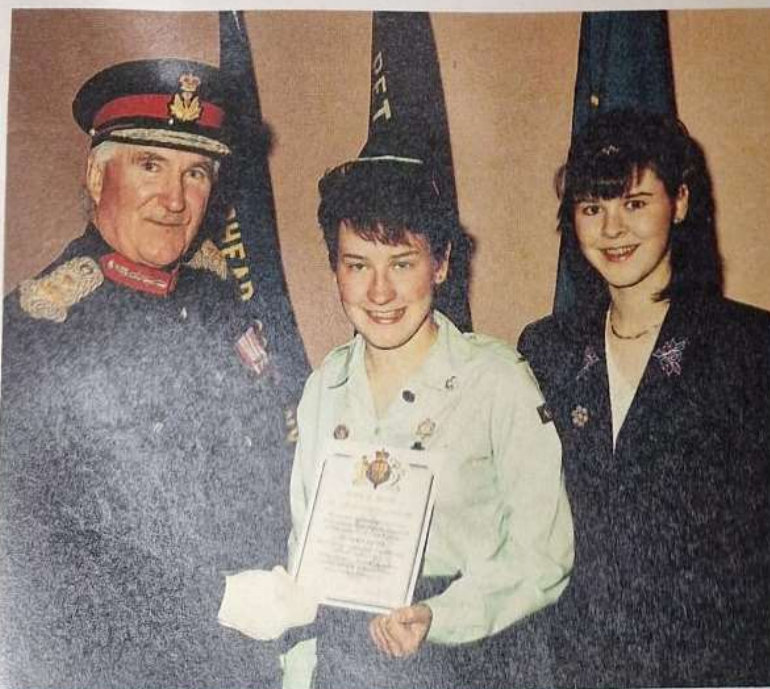
So, when the type 82 destroyer was undergoing maintenance at Portsmouth, the girls were invited to tour the ship.

Guide Guider, Anita Soden, explained that the girls had followed the ship's route on a world map. 'We used it to fit in some international work and learned something about the culture of the places the ship visited,' she said.

The 30 girls travelled from the Romsey area of Southampton to see the state-of-the-art equipment on board a powerful naval warship.

During the visit five Guides — Jessica Maby, Sharlene Beran, Kate Thorn, Laura Prowse and Louisa Windebank — made their Promise in the charthouse.

Everyone wanted to sit in the Captain's chair on the bridge



KEN COME STUDIO

# SISTERS IN SUCCESS

Ranger Moira Fraser was following a family tradition when she was presented with her Queen's Guide Award. Her sister Aileen was the first in Banff and Buchan County to receive the award in 1986.

Aileen, now Mrs Stewart, went along to see Moira — a member of Hatton Rangers — presented with the award by Captain Colin Farquharson, Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire.

It was a double celebration for Moira, who also was presented with her Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

Big sister Aileen looks on proudly while Moira receives her award



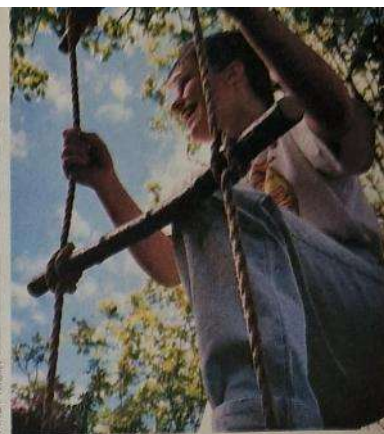
# PEOPLE *and* PLACES

## TESTING, TESTING . . .

► Reach for the sky . . . Ranger Guider Jenny Orr tests a rope ladder at the County of Dundee's Ranger/Young Leader Pioneering Day.

## HANDS UP

▼ The girls with their fingers on the trigger are dressed up for their parts in a Gang Show presented by Brownie and Guide units from Ferndown and Longham in Dorset.



JANET MUIR

£10  
WINNER



BETTY FORD





AMANDA COOPER

## VIEWPOINT

▲ It took just under two days for the 1st Shadoxhurst Guide Company to build this magnificent tent gadget with a great deal of help from some Norwegian Scouts. The girls from Ashford, Kent spent two weeks camping in Norway accompanied by Scouts from a neighbouring village alongside a Norwegian Joint Scout and Guide Unit.

## FESTIVE FUN

► These snowmen came in from the cold to enjoy a Christmas party with other members of the 10th Salisbury Company, who were dressed as Santas — what else!

## CURTAIN CALL

▼ Showing a leg are the girls from 1st Horsell Brownie Pack from Woking. They were snapped during a 'simply perfect' Pack Holiday at Abinger Hammer, Surrey.

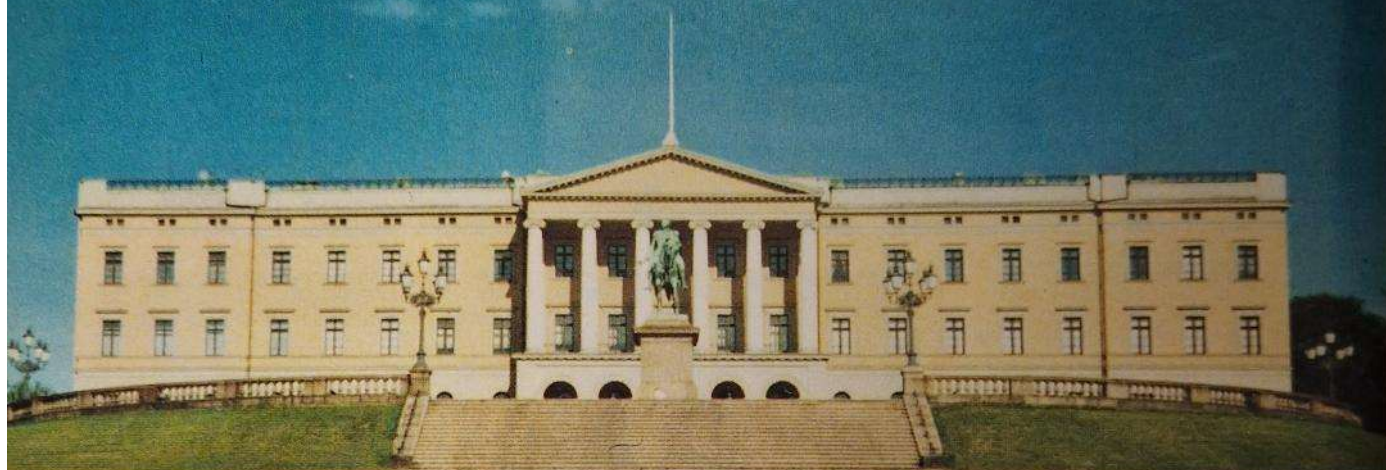
PAMELA SHARP



JOAN COX



# *fairy-tale* JAUNT



King Olav's  
palace at Oslo



The gang's all here —  
Sarah is standing second  
from the right

*Last summer Norway celebrated 70 years of Guiding with an international camp at Noresund, a mountainous area some 60 miles north-west of Oslo. Sarah Webb, of Swinton Division Ranger Guide Unit, Manchester, was among those selected for the UK contingent.*

*D-Day for Sarah was Friday, June 29, but the tedium of the long car journey to Heathrow for her flight to Oslo was broken at precisely 9.55am. On the radio she heard Cliff Richard singing one of his greatest hits, Summer Holiday, especially for her. Her mum had sent in a request to Judith Chalmers for a song to send Sarah on her way.*  
*Sarah takes up the story.*



With the road already shimmering in the heat, it seemed so apt but, of course, little did I know what weather Norway had in store. At the airport there was the usual kind of panic, with 'final calls' and a frantic run to the departure gate, after one girl in the party had been trapped in a coach in the world's largest car park — the M25.

We arrived at Camp Noresund late that night and spent our first night in an enormous white marquee. The next day was gloriously hot. The camp did not officially open until the Sunday, so we spent Saturday performing various tasks — like counting out teabags and frozen sausages, enough for the entire camp of more than 5,000 people.

On Saturday night we met our hostesses from Bergen. I was to stay in Ulset, near Bergen, with another girl from the British party. Our hostess was

*'I knew that this fortnight was going to be a great experience...'*

May-Britt. She was 16 and spoke excellent English. The three of us got on very well and I knew that this fortnight was going to be a great experience and a lot of fun.

Sunday, the official opening day for Camp Noresund 1990, and we expected sunshine. But to say that it rained would be an understatement. You just had to be there — and I was!

Norwegian fairy-tales provided the theme for camp. The main character was Askeladden — the Ash Lad — with the motto, 'Jeg faut, jeg faut', which means, 'I found, I found'. Each morning there was an hour of quiet study in which more of the fairy-tale was revealed — but in Norwegian!

The main camp was split into four sub-camps, each consisting of many smaller camps of people from all over the world. As well as other arranged activities we, in our different camps with our new Norwegian friends, learned how to camp, Norwegian style.

Instead of the horseshoe, for example, the Norwegians start camp by making a log table. If they have to begin from scratch they will do this by felling a few trees, splitting some down to make planks! Then they lash the whole thing together. Before leaving the camp site they plant some new trees.

Every morning each group of Norwegians sang their national anthem as they unfurled their country's flag in

their own small camps.

When, on Sunday afternoon, May-Britt suggested that we build some gadgets, we agreed, thinking of tripods and bedding racks, but nothing so commonplace would do. It had to be a table — four huge logs for the main structure and an enormous ball of bailer twine to lash them together. The gadgets that some groups constructed were amazing. One group built virtually an entire house.

The British contribution to camp fires was country dancing. We danced the *Gay Gordons* in rain and shine, indoors and out, in hiking boots and waterproofs and in trainers and shorts. By the end we had taught most of the camp how to do it.

On the Wednesday we split into different groups for an overnight hike of about six miles. We were transported, via a chair-lift, up the Norefjell mountain from where all groups took pre-planned differing routes.

The idea was to 'bivi out' that night and return to camp on Thursday. My group included three other girls from the UK and five Norwegians. The five Norwegians found a rock for shelter and rushed off to make their bivouac. We four found a very suitable place, dry and sheltered — the veranda of a mountain winter chalet.

Friday, July 6, was celebration day to mark the 70th anniversary of the start of Guiding in Norway — the reason for having the camp — and so special activities were set up. We did things like carving 'knives' from blocks of wood, which caused a lot of hilarity, and sewing cushions, filling them with straw to represent the mattresses the

*'My trip will remain a highspot in my life.'*

earliest Norwegian Guides used to make. We did this while re-enacting stories from the fairy-tales.

Camp ended late on Friday night with the last chorusing of the camp song. The next day we swapped Noresund for Bergen, hoping that we would also swap the rain for some sun. No luck. We took a beautiful scenic route through the mountains and a ferry across Hardanger fjord.

The Norwegians are very proud of Bergen — they call it their cultural capital. Opposite the harbour is an area of the town known as Bryggen. It is a

very old part with buildings still standing that date back to the 12th Century.

No visit to Bergen is complete without seeing Troidhaugen, which for 22 years was home for Edvard Greig and his wife, Nina, and where they are buried.

There we saw his summer house where he composed some of his best-known works. The chalet where he composed *Peer Gynt* is displayed in the Gamle



SARAH WEBB

Bergen (old Bergen museum), which is dedicated to preserving old houses.

We visited many other famous places including Håkonshallen and the Rosenkrantz Tower built in the 12th Century as a royal residence for King Hakon Håkonsson. King Olav has also stayed there on a visit to the city.

The whole area is steeped in history. We visited a nearby church to see a cannon-ball that became embedded in the outer wall during a sea battle between the British and the Dutch in the 13th Century.

Of course, no visit to Bergen would be complete without a trip to the harbour and the thriving fish market on the quay.

Our final day was spent trying to fit clothes, souvenirs and presents into bulging bags.

Then it was the overnight sleeper to Oslo. Not that we did much sleeping on the train but, when we arrived, we forgot our tiredness in our eagerness to look round the capital, visit the King's palace and soak up the sun we had missed for most of the fortnight. We had, after all, survived the worst mud and rain seen in Noresund for 60 years!

My trip will remain a highspot in my life. I made many new friends, both from Britain and other countries. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to visit a very beautiful country.

SARAH WEBB 59

The camp becomes one gigantic muddy puddle after the rain



## Kingsdown International Campsite

A SITE FOR SHORE EYES!

First class indoor accommodation and camping in White Cliffs Country, overlooking the English Channel.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO...  
...go on the crest of a wave...  
...go kledging in to midsummer...  
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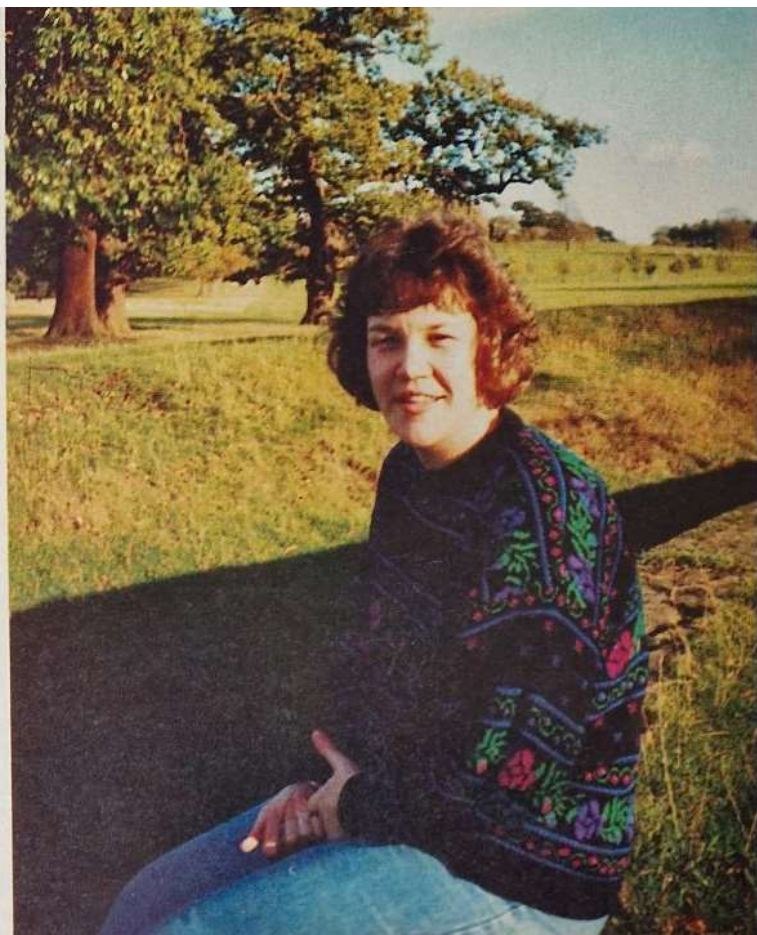
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62. Guide County Commissioner (Signature)

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### **DEBORAH RAWSON FROM BEESTON, NOTTINGHAM**

**Once an unwilling Guide, Deborah is now an enthusiastic and active member of the Celebration '91 Central Planning Team.**

My Guiding career began very reluctantly. I was sent to accompany my younger sister Lorraine, who was longing to join the local Guides. Needless to say, my reluctance didn't last long. The village Company was very small and, after a year or so, it closed. This was a great disappointment but, with our appetites whetted, Lorraine and I had soon contacted the Guider in a neighbouring village.

By this time I was Ranger age and a Ranger Unit had recently been formed. With the support and enthusiasm of our Ranger Guider, the Unit arranged its own programme, so we were all very much involved. We even did a motor mechanics course. Our camps were also very memorable. Rangers fuelled my enthusiasm further and I started working for my Young Leader Certificate with the local Brownies.

After O-levels I went on to do A-levels and made time every week for my Guiding activities. Brownies was a commitment which made a welcome change from academic work. I'm sure

that Guiding greatly increased my self-confidence at this time.

I was lucky enough to be chosen to go to an international camp in Austria in 1986, representing Warwickshire in a party from Midlands Region. It was a wonderful experience and made me very proud to be part of the Guiding Movement. Raising funds for the trip also made me realise just how much genuine interest there is in the activities of young people.

I decided to go on to higher education and, four years ago, started training for a career in teaching. Before I went to college in Derby I had already bought my adult leader's uniform — I was that keen. I think that I had also realised how many opportunities I'd been given in Guiding and wanted to give something back.

I found being away from home very difficult initially. I quickly found a Brownie Pack that needed another leader, and I am convinced that my weekly Brownie meetings helped me to settle down. In a strange way their

# LIFE style

familiarity was very comforting.

I completed my Adult Leader Certificate and was encouraged to share the running of Brownie meetings, working as a team with my Brownie Guider. The Pack, being from the city, especially appreciated the many Pack Holidays which we were lucky enough to go on. From these, I have gained much Pack Holiday experience and hope to obtain my Pack Holiday Licence in the future.

For two summer vacations I worked at Great Hautbois House — Anglia's Girl Guide training centre — as camp secretary and general assistant. Combining Guiding, which I like, with a summer job was ideal and extremely enjoyable. Work was very varied and I made many friends. My sister, Lorraine, also worked there during my second summer, which meant that we spent time together — something that we do less and less now that we're older.

I was very surprised, but also delighted to be asked by Kate Roberts to join the Celebration '91 Central Planning Team. I have been very much involved in the preparation of the challenge, this being only one element of the celebration year. Now that the year has begun I would encourage all young people up to the age of 26 to join in. One aim is to have fun and that is certainly something that I have found through Guiding. I hope that I can give people as much encouragement in the future as I've been given in the past.

At the moment I'm concentrating on my teaching, having qualified last summer. I began my first teaching position at a primary school in Derby in September. I'm really enjoying it. Now living in Nottingham, I don't think it will be long before I am involved in Guiding locally. It's nice to know that wherever you go, the familiarity and welcome of Guiding is never far away!



# 75 YEARS OF RANGER GUIDES

When Rangers spot something that needs doing, they don't just sit around talking about it. They get on and sort it out.

Whether it's decorating a Guide meeting place, like this month's cover girls, or helping the underprivileged like the lasses in Dorset and Ulster featured in our special edition, the girls of the senior section are always ready to leap into action.

To mark the start of their very special year — Celebration '91 — *GUIDING* is paying its own tribute to the Rangers by concentrating on their exploits in this month's magazine.

We're not just highlighting their adventures. We asked the girls to tell their stories in their own words.

And they did ... in typical Ranger fashion.

